

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Worth fighting for

To the Editor:

In response to Nancy Ellis-Bell's letter in the Willits Weekly of July 11:

In your letter you refer to history (going back to the Greeks) and lay claim to having some understanding of "the truth," but you ignore more recent and pertinent history and distort the truth.

Let us begin with your comment: "People wedged into trees or sitchers while supporters hurl obscenities and feces..." In reading this many would assume that protesters are showing up with buckets of feces and that the feces along with obscenities are flying from all corners.

I've been involved with the people videoing the protests, meetings, etc. around the bypass issue. When we obtain footage of a tree sitter resisting removal by throwing everything he could at the extractors, we were faced with the dilemma of: do we show footage that shows the protesters in a bad light.

Our conclusion was that to represent the "truth" we had to show everything and we have continued this practice throughout our reporting regardless of our personal positions. After checking with others doing the reporting and members of SOLLV (something you might consider, if presenting a truthful representation is your goal), I discovered that, yes, one person, not many or even two, did indeed throw his night soil (feces).

Did he deliberately plan this? Saving up his ammunition to wait for the moment to pelt his opponents or did he throw everything within reach? Remember he had been in this tree for days collecting his feces because his body kept producing it.

Was it wrong and counterproductive to the protest? I personally would say yes, but it was ONE person. There have been no other similar incidents that I have been able to find. And SOLLV, Earth First!, and others involved in the protest have strongly promoted non-violence. In that effort they have been presenting trainings to curtail any counterproductive confrontations.

The obscenities are a little harder to track, and I will give you that there were undoubtedly some, yes from both sides. Would you call it an obscenity when someone stood at the base of a wick drain tower, occupied by a protestor, suspended 60 feet in the air, while shaking the tower and screaming: "We are going to kill you! We are going to kill you!" Yes, both sides have their unruly representatives, and we must be careful not to judge the whole by their actions.

But these misleading statements are not the main objection I have with your letter. I would rather challenge your attempt to become judge and arbitrator as to what issues are worthy, in your opinion, of support.

Your opinions around the bypass seem to be rooted in the conclusion that any resistance is futile, not that the bypass is a good or even acceptable solution. It seems that your philosophy is "only fight the battles that are clearly winnable." So how would you apply this approach to say, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Women's suffrage, black voter rights, slavery, DDT and the environment, the Vietnam War, etc.?

Since all of these issues were at one time deemed to be frivolous, destructive to our "way of life," against public and political opinion, big business and often the law, at what point would you have stepped in to tell them to cease and desist? That they were wasting their time and our money and dividing people over such unimportant or at least, not winnable issues?

Thank God there were those willing to fight against all odds, willing to break the law, to be arrested and even lose their lives in an effort to bring a moral awareness to reluctant minds.

Bill Moyer once said: "Democracy is not some thing you win or lose. It is something you wake up every morning and fight for.

If you are really interested in who these people are and

why they are fighting this particular battle, check out a short video I put together called "Who Are these People?" on my Facebook page "Living Sculpture Studios," or to see democracy in action, watch the Brooktrails board meeting around the bypass, also on my Facebook page. (Be sure to watch the latest meeting since it took awhile before we really began to listen to each other.)

Nancy, you closed your statement with: "we are being polluted ... by noble thoughts taken too far..." I will close by saying when we abandon thoughts we consider to be noble, for any reason, we run the risk of losing our humanity and our democracy.

Ron Woolsey, Brooktrails

Thanks from 'Miracles'

To the Editor:

As co-captains of the Relay For Life team "Miracles In Motion," we want to thank all our supportive friends and contributors who helped us meet our 2013 team goals.

The closing ceremony announced our team was number one in contributions: \$6,100! Charlotte Oeding and Nancy Winters were second and third in total donations! We cannot thank Sarah Van Guilder, manager, Relay For Life, enough for her faith in knowing that the people of Willits would embrace this effort. Sarah is the only paid person from the American Cancer Society; the rest of the Willits event effort is all volunteer with minimal overhead.

That means almost all the money goes directly into research, service or education by the ACS!! The closing ceremony announced a total for Willits Relay of: \$46,816.47, and their goal is \$50,000. Contributions are collected until August 31 and can be made online at www.relayforlife.org/willitsca or given to any team member.

At the Relay, team member Diana Blundell collected names of people interested in becoming volunteer drivers for the Road to Recovery Program through ACS.

Thanks again everyone for helping such a worthy cause.

Ginger Larson and Pat Moeller, co-captains, Miracles In Motion

Support for Parrish

To the Editor:

A letter to District Attorney David Eyster:

I, William J. Ray, have been a resident of Mendocino County for 42 years. I am a retired rural carrier, previously employed with the USPS through a yearly contract to deliver mail to outlying areas of the Willits Valley. I am also a writer, author of two books. My purpose here is to present reasons that the charges against Will Parrish are politically charged and motivated and should be dropped in the interests of the public interest in justice.

Will Parrish is known to me as a person of unusual dignity for one so young. He is a man of simplicity and conviction. My encounters with him left me with the impression that he seeks to live a moral and balanced life, with respect for Nature and generous regard for mankind. He has gone to extraordinary - I would say heroic - lengths to express his loyalty to the Little Lake Valley, currently being disfigured by a huge freeway building project.

His means of political expression resembles that of the nuns and priests who reached nuclear warhead missiles at an Air Force facility and smeared them with their own blood. Their actions were purely symbolic and from conscience, transcending any "trespassing" statute. Just so for Will Parrish. He acted non-violently, in order to warn of the destruction and unjust actions of the State of California in its misguided attempt to violate the balance of Nature and its use of public funds to grossly favor entrenched moneyed interests.

Therefore, I recommend that charges against him be minimized in the interests of justice. In punishing Will

Parrish as a political example, the County of Mendocino will be officially aligning itself with a freeway project that is based on falsified data, unreasonable means, and grossly inappropriate use of taxpayer funds, consequently making him a hero, and the county a complicit villain to the world. The County of Mendocino would also set itself up for widespread negative publicity when the case is forwarded on appeal.

Practically speaking, the sacrifices Will Parrish has endured already, voluntarily, constitute accepting great punishment for his principles. Time served and/or community service would be a just resolution. He is the diametric opposite of a law-breaker, namely, a humble opponent of corruption and misused governmental power.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Ray, Willits

Support for Parrish

To the Editor:

A letter to District Attorney David Eyster:

I am writing in support of Will Parrish, who has acted with amazing courage and is a role model for following one's moral conscience. Will has committed a peaceful act of civil disobedience because it was the right thing to do when faced with the amoral actions undertaken by Caltrans. The destruction of our wetlands is an attack on our water and our natural resources. It is an attack on our health and wellbeing.

Caltrans has misrepresented themselves and their mission for years. They are not concerned with the town of Willits or with Mendocino County. Their goal is to widen Highway 101 and remove all stops for the sake of big business and Homeland Security.

The efforts to stop the destruction of Little Lake Valley have been thoughtful and peaceful. This style of civic disobedience has pulled our country through many difficult controversies and crisis of conscience. The charges against Will Parrish are not in the interest of justice.

Sincerely,

Sandra Mullen, Covelo

Support for Parrish

To the Editor:

Why would a man willingly climb 50 feet into the air on a narrow metal tower in 90 and 100 degree heat and pouring rain, putting himself in danger? To prove a point that most of us want to ignore. Will Parrish is a man with tremendous vision and motivation that we can learn from.

If you look up Will on the internet, you'll see his writings that comprise a far-ranging political analysis of issues of social justice. I encountered him last year when he was working to promote greater understanding between whites and Natives in this region regarding ways that long-ago injuries to Native peoples continue to impact tribal dynamics and their access to resources. Will takes risks to get out of his comfort zone - both socially and physically - to educate the public.

While many people in Willits are exasperated with the bypass arrests and protests, we ain't seen nothing yet. Much frustration is ahead with impacts on noise levels, on water resources that the construction companies are already draining, the streets they tear up, and the disappearance of fish and wildlife we once took for granted as 2,000 trees and 40 acres of wetlands disappear.

The relatively few and temporary local jobs that construction is bringing is little compensation when we think about the long-term picture of what it means to have a 30-foot-high, loud viaduct looming over our valley.

But most of us don't want to think very far ahead, or can't, or simply can't be bothered to speak up and take action.

Will understands these impacts, as do many other protestors. Read Will's analysis about how Caltrans has manipulated our public officials and citizens who are too narrowly focused on their frustrating wait at the bottlenecks.

Will deserves our support, and in the same way, more of us should read deeper into the issues and not let our town continue to be bulldozed.

Kim Bancroft, Willits



The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters from area residents, focusing on Willits issues, activities, events and people, have priority. Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred.

Letters & Commentaries must have a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No anonymous letters will be published.



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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Sheriff's Activities League Ukiah boxer Chris Vadivia, left, and Willits Boxing Club boxer, Jacob Apodaca, hold their "Best Bout" trophies, with Willits Boxing Club Coach Jeff Apodaca in the center

Boxing

"Awesome" exhibition at Willits Community Center

The 1st annual Mike Tobin Invitational boxing exhibition at the Willits Community Center was an "outstanding success," says honoree Mike Tobin, youth karate coach, sheriff's deputy and local hero for his tough fight against cancer. "We wanted 10 fights, we got 21 fights and some boxers wanted more. :)"

Boxers from Santa Rosa's A&B Boxing and the three Mendocino County Sheriff's Youth Activities League boxing clubs (Willits, Ukiah and Covelo) "put on an awesome show of skill talent, courage, heart and sportsmanship," Tobin said.

Event promoter and Willits Boxing Club coach and founder Jeff Apodaca estimated there were 200 people there watching over the course of the day.

Coach Apodaca, a nurse by profession, comes from a boxing family, fought on the U.S.A. Boxing team, and was offered a professional boxing contract. "All my cousins and brothers were boxers; my parents started the first boxing club in Sebastopol, and all my uncles were referees, coaches and judges." Apodaca's own kids: Jemmaly, 4, Jacob, 11, and Jaxon, 12, have followed in the family tradition.

Apodaca went into the military after graduating from Cardinal Newman High School, where he was an All State

wrestler, on the debate team and the chess team, and played football, too. He's been coaching boxing for about 12 years, he said. In Willits, he coached boxing at the old Willits Pulse Fitness location, coached Cougars football at Baechtel Grove Middle School, and now coaches the Willits Boxing Club at Bodyworks, which is affiliated with the Sheriff's Activities League program.

"I'm not trying to make a kid a champion," Apodaca said. "I'm teaching them life skills.... I'm going to give kids - with the desire, dedication and determination to make something out of their lives - that opportunity."

Apodaca's wife, Melissa, offered up this quote from the Santa Rosa boxing coach, Rudy Lemos: "Boxing is the avenue we use as coaches to model a moral compass in which these kids can live by and become a positive asset to our community."

As a nurse working in the geriatrics ward, Apodaca has another kind of insight into the benefits of boxing, especially for girls: "If we strength-train our children, our girls, we will reduce by half the amount of hip surgeries and broken bones," he said. "The kids don't know this stuff, they don't know they're not getting enough vitamin D or calcium; their parents don't exercise; they eat McDonalds - and then they become my patients."



At left: Gavin McFadden, left, and Jemmaly "Butterfly" Apodaca. Both young fighters are with the Willits Boxing Club. At right: A&B Boxing's Julio Bautista, left, and Willits boxer Jaxon Apodaca



Photos by Ron Greystar

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Imagination Station

Preschool/Childcare Center

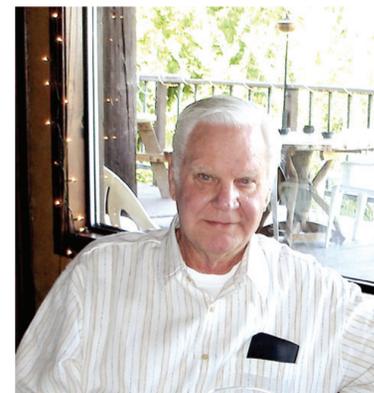
Now Enrolling for Fall
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Condolences Column

DEATH NOTICE | Gerald "Jerry" Joseph Balunis

Gerald "Jerry" Joseph Balunis of Willits passed away on July 20, 2013 at the age of 82. A mass will be held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church on Thursday, August 1, at 11 am.



OBITUARY | David Alan Richards

David Alan Richards, "Dave" to most, died July 17, 2013, from complications following open heart surgery.

Dave was born in Los Angeles on October 26, 1939, and graduated from San Rafael High School in 1957. He enlisted in the Air Force as an Aircraft Mechanic and was stationed in Hawaii for four years. He Dave and his wife, Gail, were married in 1970, and have lived in Willits since 1972. He was fond of saying he couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

His lifelong career with PG&E began in 1962 as a pipeline welder in the Mojave Desert. He spent the next several years traveling the state welding various gas pipeline systems. He switched his profession to Electric Substation Maintenance and travelled all over Mendocino County maintaining and repairing various electric substations. He also spent a few years working preventative maintenance for Humboldt Bay Nuclear Power Plant in Eureka. He was best known as a problem-solver who would always find a solution.

After his retirement, he developed a fascination for computers. Only Apple computers and the Macintosh brand would suffice. He found himself dabbling in programming and designing websites for friends. Unbelievably, nothing thrilled him more than to have someone call with a computer problem, which they could methodically solve together.

Dave is survived by his wife, Gail, children Alan and Lisa, granddaughters Kaylynn and Madison, daughter-in-law Nancy, son-in-law Jim, sister Donna, and two brothers, Jim and Richard.

At his request, there will be no funeral or memorial service. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to Phoenix Hospice.

Submit obituaries and death notices free of charge to willitsweekly@gmail.com

Questions? 707-459-2633 or 707-972-7047

Furry Friends

Hoping for a home

Hello, my name is Maggie. I am a young female Lab mix with a cheerful smile. I came to Mendocino County's Ukiah Shelter with some funky skin, nothing contagious though - and the loving staff have fixed me up, so I am now quite beautiful! You can come and meet me or other adoptable animals at the Ukiah Shelter, 298 Plant Road. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm, and 7 pm on Wednesdays. To view other shelter animals and to see more photos of me, please go to our website: www.pawstoadopt.com. We also have a lot of cats and kittens right now, who are eagerly awaiting homes of their own.



MAGGIE Photo by R. Coats

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Trivia

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Last Week's Answer: Marlboro, Coca Cola, & Budweiser

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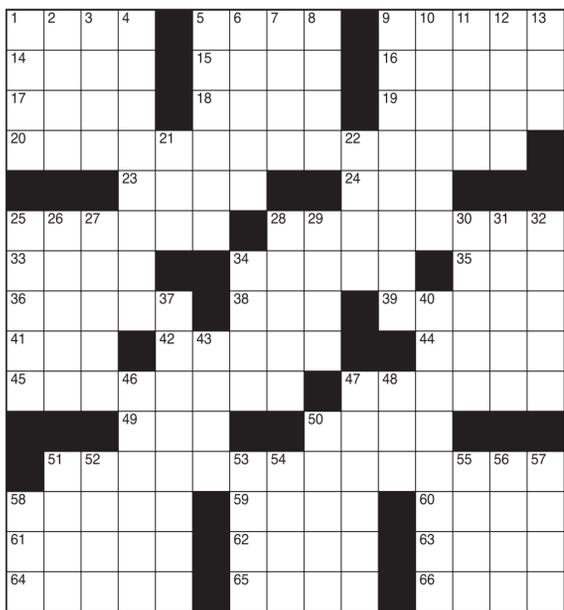
Crossword Puzzle

IN THE WATER WORD SEARCH

M C O F E C O U R S E Y W A S E R G S I D
 A E A W V G M I H Q E R O U E S F M F S E I
 T R V A W W C H N I Q U E U E H Y D Q Q L I
 B R K T E P C H N I Q U E U E H Y D Q Q L I
 U P X E R M E C A P U G L P T B Y Y W Y V E
 T I K I C S W I N G N I L O S S G M U T E
 T F H I C S W I M M I N G S P V O B U S M
 E R B S T R E A D R D W M S O L S P V E K
 R R N Y R A T O R R X D D P S L I K G E B
 F E L D D A P R O P U L S I O N N R R A
 L A L D G E D E U G Q Q I T Q X C H F E T
 Y T L D C W E S R G M E D I O N X A G E H I
 B H P H R C D C T I N C C O G R P N K I
 C I S O C O A C H R T T I N E S D I B N
 O N Y T O F Q L M C O S F L H C P R B R G
 A G K T U L W O A W N K B N C E A B Y H
 S S C I S S O R E E N M E X T E G O O S
 T T F W K L N T T M U G L I C D E A B S U
 M T Y V W L F P X C O G L Y L O A F F I
 L X A Y Q T E D R I L L S E S S M R A T

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| ARMS | CAP | EXTENSION | PROPULSION | TECHNIQUE |
| BATHING | COACH | FREESTYLE | ROTARY | TIRE |
| SUIT | COAST | KICKING | SCISSOR | TREAD |
| BEAT | COURSE | PACE | SPEED | TUMBLE |
| BOBBING | DIVE | PADDLE | SPEEDO | WATER |
| BREATHING | DRAG | POOL | STROKE | WAVE |
| BUTTERFLY | DRILLS | POSITION | SWIMMING | |
| | GLIDE | POSTURE | TEAM | |



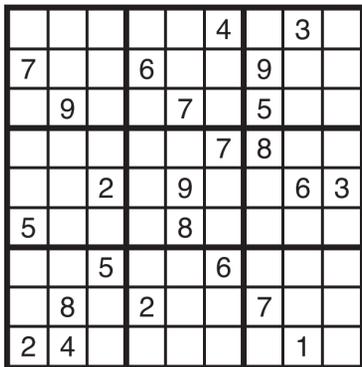
CLUES ACROSS

- Baby or infant
- Common Indian weaverbird
- Walk
- Shiite spiritual leader's title
- Mirish
- Nostrils
- Confiscate
- Powder mineral
- Moss, lace or banded stone
- Doyle detective
- New Rochelle college
- "Case of the Ex" singer
- Rays or devilfish
- Cutting implements for sewing
- Two-toed sloth
- Lightly fry
- Japanese apricot
- Gargle
- Consumed food
- Swats
- Doctors' group
- Baseball learns
- Japanese waist pouch
- Impaired by diminution
- A fixed portion of food
- Gall

CLUES DOWN

- Morsels
- Indian wet nurse
- Cook a cake
- Retired with honorary title
- Conductor's instrument
- Manila hemp
- Yellow portion of an egg
- Curved support structure
- Reasonings
- Molten rocks
- Hillside (Scot.)
- Leases
- Point midway between E and SE
- Mauna ___, HI, volcano
- Leave out
- Wall painting
- Colorful Japanese animation
- Grandmothers
- Fully satisfied
- Billiards sticks
- A citizen of Oman
- Duplicate or copy
- Municipality in Philippines
- Mentally healthy
- Capacities for work or activity
- Able to read and write
- Dark bluish black
- Loudenville college
- Seizure of property by force
- Alias
- Showing no mercy or pity
- Sacred picture
- Hungarian pen inventor
- Hops kiln
- Dull in color
- Upon
- Person, place or thing word
- Sleeveless Arab garment

Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

How To Sudoku:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a Sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Electronic Assistance

Trainers get trained on proper use of e-collars for dogs

It's not as shocking as you think: e-collars, or electronic collars – also known as remote training collars – can be a wonderful training aid for dogs and puppies when used properly.

Classes are in the works to help Willits folks who are interested in learning how to use these collars properly, with Sallie Palmer of Well Mannered Mutts, starting on August 23, 24 and 25. Palmer and Donna Blake of Stay and Play Dog Care in Willits recently attended a workshop with Stacy Ayub, a skilled trainer who focuses on the use of e-collars.

Ayub, of Good Dog! Dog Training in Ventura, lived in Willits in the 1980s and for the past 17 years has been learning all methods of training to help meet the needs of each individual dog she helps.

"I've worked with big trainers from all over," explained Ayub. "But Robin MacFarlean, a trainer in Iowa, really had a great method: she used an electronic collar in a positive way, and was able to train dogs in just two weeks. It was amazing."

The biggest note was that the collar was not used as a punishment, to scare or hurt. Its purpose was to aid the dog in understanding communications, and pairing that good positive response with treats and rewards.

"We want them to be happy and look forward to the sessions," noted Ayub. "Conditioning them to what the collar means and helping the dogs to notice to do something different or regain focus on you is the goal."

Now certified to train other trainers in this method, Ayub is imparting her knowledge to others in hopes of correcting existing methods and starting good habits from scratch, with trainers near and far. She also certified dog trainer Cesar Milan's dog, Junior, as a service dog in February of last year.

E-collar training can be started with puppies as young as 4 months - but Ayub stressed that it is very important not to just go out and "slap on any collar and start trying to train."

"It is so easy for people to unintentionally misuse this tool," explained Ayub. "You need to understand how to properly work it, and use it right to be successful."

Quality collars cost around \$200, include many level settings, and have a low to medium range.

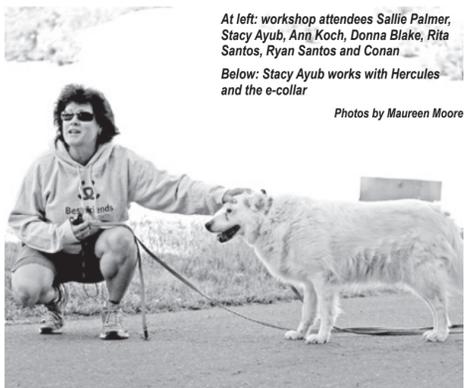
"You want one that has lots and lots of levels, so that you can use only enough to just get the dog's attention, and not overdo it," said Ayub.

"This is the fastest, most effective and least stressful way of training," said Ayub. "It can really be a fun and happy experience for both dog and trainer."

"I am impressed by the improvement the dogs showed in three days," trainer Palmer said. "If the program and process is followed, you can have a nicely trained dog in a short amount of time."

For more info on Ayub's training and credentials, see www.gooddogdogtraining805.com.

To sign up for the Willits class, contact Palmer at 463-DOGS.



At left: workshop attendees Sallie Palmer, Stacy Ayub, Ann Koch, Donna Blake, Rita Santos, Ryan Santos and Conan

Below: Stacy Ayub works with Hercules and the e-collar

Photos by Maureen Moore

Mariposa Market wins women's softball championship

Mariposa Market's women's recreational softball team survived a grueling July 24 triple-header to win the City of Ukiah's Women's Recreational Division Championship.

Play began at 6:30 pm, with a makeup game against Herbs & Cheese Pizza.

Mariposa (7-3 with 138 runs for the season) was tied for second place with Herbs & Cheese Pizza (7-3, 130 runs) and the Anderson Valley Advertiser (7-3, 108 runs). All trailed Passion Parties' 9-1.5 record.

Mariposa's team spoiled AV's chances by handily beating Herbs & Cheese 27-12, placing them solidly in the number two spot, then shut them out 18-zip in the semi-final round.

Despite the warm evening, Mariposa jumped to a 4-0 lead in the top of the first, but Passion Parties fought back with two runs of their own in the bottom of the inning.

Mariposa struck again, adding three in the top of the third, but Passion Parties replied with four in the bottom of the inning.

Mariposa regained the lead in the top of the fourth, scoring another four runs, then put the game out of reach in the fifth with another three. Passion Parties answered with two.

In the top of the seventh, Mariposa added one more run, while Passion Parties staged a three-run rally in the bottom of the inning.

The final score was 15-12.

The combined games took a little more than four hours' play. Mariposa pitcher Amanda Pulawa was named the tournament MVP.

AVA defeated Herbs, 20-6, to take third place.

Willits Weekly - Subscribe today!

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Wowser open house: totally Willits

Just as John Jeavons' Ecology Action and Stewart Brand's The Whole Earth Catalogue helped to focus a generation on going back to the land, now Wowser may help focus the next generation on a new "industrial revolution."

"Can you explain how to safely use hand tools, power tools, or industrial machines?" asks a Wowser hand-out. "Do you have expertise in and know how to teach welding, shoemaking, gear cutting, electric vehicles, woodworking, ceramics, electricity and electronics, industrial fabrication, blacksmithing, or how to make just about anything? Become a member. Share your expertise."

Wowser, the brainchild of Roger and Anna Wilson, Cyndee Logan, Dickey Weinkle and Lila Ryan, held an open house on Sunday, July 28, introducing the community to its vast, 20,000-square-foot facility on Commercial Street, next to the new campus of Mendocino College. The cavernous facility is mostly empty, but Wowser staff and volunteers have been busy cleaning, painting, framing in classroom space and bringing in equipment.

At the Sunday open house, Lila Ryan said that Wowser aims to fill a void created when the secondary schools decided to pursue an ever more abstract, college-directed path. "In traditional schooling, the people who get weeded out are those students who are not strong in abstract thinking. People who are concrete types are not given any credit, whereas those concrete types build what we live in now. They are going extinct," Ryan said. "So our goal is to

provide a place for them to learn the skills they used to be able to learn in schools, or in the trades themselves, for centuries.

Once again, the Wowser brochure says what it's about: "Make stuff. Have you ever wanted to build your own: cargo bike? Tesla coil? Mini-tractor? Brick-making machine? Custom cork-puller? Racing rail hand-car? Pedal powered grain mill? Motorized cooler-mobile and dog hauler? Or any other wacky, cool and/or useful thing? Get on over here! Wowser offers open source design and collaboration in shared workspaces. Become a member. Build that thing."

Membership costs \$100 a year. That money mostly goes to cover insurance costs. Wowser is offering a special introductory offer: work twelve hours on the build-out of the facility and get a year's membership to Wowser free. According to Logan, that deal or something very much like it will be continued for students (14 and up with parental consent) to enable them to participate in Wowser.

Wowser requires that members pass a safety and orientation class. According to the brochure: "Once certified, members, individually or in self-selected groups, are free to choose courses, projects and learning experiences based on their own interests."

People interested in becoming a member of Wowser, either for learning or for teaching purposes, are asked to call 459-9697 or to email dickeyweinkle@wowserilc.com.



Photos by Jennifer Poole

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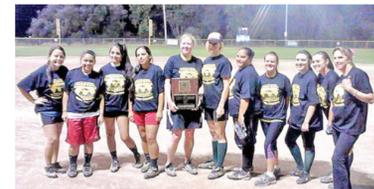
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Softball CHAMPIONS!

The 2013 Mariposa Market Ladies Softball team: Candace Lowe, Kaleigh Lincoln, Jazzmyne Vodolla, Nancy Whitaker, Carrie Burgess, Erin Young, Amanda Pulawa (tournament MVP and pitcher), Shalee Lowham, Erica Aldaco, Kassie Aldaco and Jackie Standley. The Mariposa team won the championship again this year after "three games and four hours of playing ball." Not pictured: Ashley Pulawa



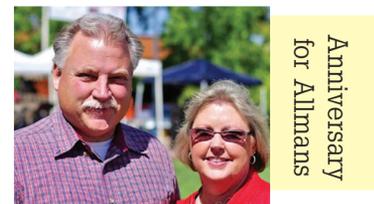
Birthday Boy ARLO

Arlo Steffen will celebrate his first birthday on August 5. Mommy Emmy and Daddy Niko wish him a big Happy Birthday!



Birthday Girl CARLIN

Congratulations to the beautiful Carlin Diamond, who celebrated her 75th birthday on Saturday with a couple hundred friends and family members at a party at the Little Lake Grange, complete with performances by musicians, singers, poets and dancers to honor the occasion, and tables-full of delicious hors d'oeuvres, dinner, wine and desserts.



Anniversary for Allmans

Congratulations to Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman and his wife, Laura, who celebrated 29 years of marriage this weekend with a delightful open-air dinner at home of fresh salmon from Fort Bragg, vegetables grown in Willits, North Coast wines, grilled peaches and homemade ice cream.



Show Car - times 2!

Jacqueline Septon's 1972 Gran Torino won at this year's car show in Fortuna. The same car also won a plaque from sponsor Round Tree Glass at the Chamber's Classic Car Show in Willits this summer.



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What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Thursday, August 1

Redwood Empire Fair: August 1 through 4 at the Fairgrounds, 1055 North State Street, Ukiah, a "Jungle of Fun." Thursday night: live music by McKenna Faith, and motorsports (7 pm): Motor Home Demo Derby, Tuff Trucks, UTV and ATV races. Friday night: live music by The Funky Dozen, and motorsports: (7 pm) Mud Bogs. Saturday: Jr. Livestock Auction (12:15pm); Saturday night: Live music by Il Big, and motorsports (7 pm): Truck & Tractor Pulls. Carnival, wild exotic animal exhibit, and livestock and other exhibitions. Hours: Thursday and Friday, 3 pm to midnight; Saturday and Sunday, noon to midnight. Admission: \$8; \$5 (kids 6 to 12); \$5 (seniors); children 5 and under are free. Parking: \$7.

Willits Library Family event: free showing of the film, "A Veggie Tales Movie! The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything!" (rated G), plus snacking on "gold doubloons and dip." 10:30 am to noon at the library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Paintings by Douglas Volz: "The New Light Show"; August 1 through August 4. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Reception Saturday, August 3, 6 to 9 pm. Gallery hours: Thursday and Friday, 4 to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3 pm. Info: 459-1732. See article on page 8 for full details.

Kinetic Carnivale Volunteer Recruitment Fair: 6 pm at the Mendocino County Museum's Wonacott Room, 400 East Commercial Street. The carnivale needs many volunteers to work the fair in the Rec Grove, the handcar races and the Grand Ball, and for general logistics. This is the opportunity to plug into this year's event, set for Saturday, September 7 and Sunday, September 8. If you can't come but are interested in volunteering, call Volunteer Coordinator Barbara Willens at 459-7822. "With a daytime fair, an evening Grand Ball, a display of steam engine equipment by Roots of Motive Power, and a Kinetic Fly-In on September 8 for Willits Airport Day, this event will draw hundreds of visitors and involves a concerted and coordinated community effort." Lineup for this year's Grand Ball: Sour Mash Hug Band – headliner; Mad Maggies; Shovelman; DJ Tigerfish; Luminesque Fire Troupe;

7 and Sunday, September 8. If you can't come but are interested in volunteering, call Volunteer Coordinator Barbara Willens at 459-7822. "With a daytime fair, an evening Grand Ball, a display of steam engine equipment by Roots of Motive Power, and a Kinetic Fly-In on September 8 for Willits Airport Day, this event will draw hundreds of visitors and involves a concerted and coordinated community effort." Lineup for this year's Grand Ball: Sour Mash Hug Band – headliner; Mad Maggies; Shovelman; DJ Tigerfish; Luminesque Fire Troupe;

ONGOING

Farmers Market at City Park: Summer vegetables, including tomatoes, zucchini, and more from area farmers, plus live music, garden starts, flowers, crafts, baked goods, dinner and more. Every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm.

Kids' Farmers Market at the Willits Library: Produce, flowers, eggs, and more; all grown, raised, and marketed at great prices by Mendocino County kids. Thursdays from 3 to 4 pm, through August 15. Info: Judith at 463-4153.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Fridays. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932

Willits City Pool Activities: Water Aerobics classes (\$6; \$5 for seniors; 20-class pass for \$100) at 11 am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and at 6:15 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Swim hours: Lap Swim: 6 to 8 am, Monday through Friday; Open Swim: noon to 4 pm, Monday through Saturday; Family Swim, 7 to 8 pm, extended to 9 pm if more than 12 people, Monday through Friday. All swimming is \$4/person, with a 20-swim card for \$70. Half-hour swimming lessons (two weeks of lessons) are offered Monday through Thursday, from 8 to 11 am and 4 to 6 pm. Call ahead to sign up for lessons: \$50 for first child (two weeks of lessons); \$45 for second child; \$40 for all remaining. Pool located at Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. Info: Damien at 459-7125 (message phone) or 459-5778 (pool phone).

Open Mic at Shanachie Pub: Every Wednesday at 8:40 pm. Sign-ups start at 3 pm.

Save the Date:

"Artistry of the Guitar," Willits Community Theatre, August 17

Blackberry Festival, downtown Covelo, August 17 & 18

A Garden Party, benefits Willits Educational Foundation, August 24

Brooktrails Fire Department Benefit Golf Tournament, August 24

Dance Brigade, Dos Rios, August 24

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Aerialists: Kara Morris and Ajah Leas; Troupe Satya Bellydance; Dangerous Puppets; Terra Firma Circus - LED show; with emcees Billy Hetherington, Bryan Arnold, and Christopher Martineau, plus a one-of-a-kind Fashion Show Spectacular featuring steampunk fashion from around the world designed by local artists. More information about the 2013 Kinetic Carnivale is available at www.kineticcarnivale.com and www.facebook.com/KineticCarnivale.

Shanachie Pub: original folk, blues, jazz, bossa and pop by Falko. 6 pm. No cover. Falco formed the folk troupe Mudshark in 1974, toured Germany in summer of 1978 as lead singer for heavy metal band Tiffany Axe, and sang for Living Summers on the streets of Bonn, Cologne, Lucerne, Zurich, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Berkeley.

Friday, August 2

Redwood Empire Fair: see Thursday, August 1 listing for general info.

Shanachie Pub: bluegrass / newgrass with The Cherry Pickers, out of the San Francisco Bay Area: "some of the hottest young bluegrass players on the West Coast" play music for dancing or for sitting back and enjoying. 9 pm. No cover.

Saturday, August 3

Walking Tour of Ridgewood Ranch: Home of Seabiscuit. 9:30 to noon. Docent led tours \$20; children under 11 free. Tours are twice a month through October. Info/reservations: 459-5992; seabiscuit@instawave.net, or www.seabiscuitheritage.org/tourschedule.php.

7th annual WELL Farm Tour: meet at the WISC building, 221 South Lenore Street, at 9:45 am, to tour small-scale local farms (map and directions provided). See article on this page for full details.

Benefit Car Wash: for Willits Junior Giants. 10 am at Les Schwab Tires, 1565 South Main Street.

Junior Livestock Auction: at the Redwood Empire Fair. 12:15 pm. Buyer's luncheon at 10:30 am. Sign up to be a buyer right at the fair. Businesses and individuals welcome. See Thursday, August 1 listing for general fair info.

Senior Center Garden Party: at the Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Come enjoy the garden in the cool of the



Madge Strong
Contributing Writer

The 7th annual farm tour sponsored by Willits Economic Localization (WELL) is set for this Saturday, August 3. Those touring should meet at 9:45 am at the Willits Integrated Services Center (WISC) complex on South Lenore (just south of Recreation Grove Park).

The tour is an opportunity to see small-scale farms first-hand and to learn from master gardeners how good food can be grown here in Willits.

Four local farms will be featured on the tour, which ends with lunch at the Golden Rule Garden, plus a bonus fifth in-town garden after lunch. A map and directions will be provided at the jump-off point, and carpooling is greatly encouraged.

To whet your appetite, here are a few details about the farms:

The Willits Community Garden plots at the WISC site are first on the tour. The garden, started in 2007 by volunteer coordinators David and Ursula Patch, is now managed by Mike Adams and other volunteers. The WISC garden has blossomed into a community center that empowers individuals and families to grow their own food and take an active step towards better health. There are 42 individual garden plots as well as supplemental planting space, over a dozen fruit trees, native medicinal plants, and a 10,000 gallon rainwater capture tank. The garden has received grants from North Coast Opportunities and WELL.

Green Uprising Farm is the second stop. Farmers Michael and Sara describe their extended-family farm as: "5 acres of old and new orchard, berry patch, and market gardens. Our passive solar greenhouse supplies fresh greens throughout the winter. Though not 'certified organic,' we use traditional organic methods – no chemical fertilizers or pesticides, care for the soil and the larger environment, and working with nature, not against her.

We've been selling at the Willits Farmers Market for the last four years. In addition, we have a small herd of milk goats. We're plagued by insufficient water, deer, aging trees, and an occasional gopher, but we're learning to cope with each of these." They often enjoy the help of a series of Willing Workers on Organic Farms (WWOOFers), volunteers who exchange work for room, board and learning.

Third on the tour is **Commonwealth Garden**, the Frank R. Howard Foundation's 5-acre garden that is part of the foundation's Medical Campus. This garden grows food for the hospital, as well as for the Willits Senior Center and Willits Food Bank, while also providing local employment opportunities, education, and community involvement in cooperation with the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. The garden is in its second year of production and the orchard, planted 4 years ago, is in its first year of production. The garden has been supported by generous in-kind and monetary donations from the community. (For more information, please contact Ananda at the Howard Foundation, 459-2777 or anandaj@sbcglobal.net).

Fourth is the **Golden Rule Garden**. This farm has been feeding the members of Ridgewood Ranch since the late 1960s. Since 2000, it has been a sister garden with Ecology Action, including research and training in the "grow biointensive" method. This method, a closed system using virtually no outside inputs, has allowed the garden to shrink from a few acres to just under an acre, while still growing enough food to feed its community with extra to share with community services (Our Daily Bread, the Senior Center). Food is also preserved for the winter. According to garden manager Ellen Bartholomew: "Along with our abundant vegetables, we always grow grains: not just lots of 'ordinary' grains, but also unique and

evening: 6 pm, kids' songs with Mac Smith; 6:30 pm, sing-along, 7 pm, dance party in the dining room, with live piano music. Info: 459-6826.

Sunday, August 4

Redwood Empire Fair: see Thursday, August 1 listing for general info.

First Sunday Bingo: Harrah Center, doors open 10:30 am; games begin 11:30 am. Bingo buy in \$10; specials \$2 and up. Snack bar opens 11 am: spinach salad with garlic chicken puffs (\$6); nachos with cheese (\$3), with chili cheese (\$3.75); pineapple upside cake or berry cobbler (\$2). 1501 Baechtel Road.

Pirates vs. Ninjas Community BBQ & Potluck: presented by the Coffee Garden in Brooktrails, 2.5 miles up Sherwood Road. From 3 to 7 pm. Costumes encouraged. Bouncy House for the kids. Music by DJ Tigerfish. Bring your own meat to BBQ and/or a potluck side dish. Info: Coffee Garden at 459-1261.

"Scotland's Music – United!": just back from living in Scotland, duo performers David Brewer, bagpipe player with Molly's Revenge, and Rebecca Lomnicky, Glenfiddich fiddle champion. Willits Community Theatre, 2 pm. See article on this page for full details. Tickets, \$15, at Goods' Shoppe and online at www.BrownPaperTickets.com/event/409907, or by phone 459-0895 with credit card.

Monday, August 5

Pottery Studio in Willits?: Ceramic/clay artists in the Willits area are meeting August 5 in Brooktrails to discuss putting together a pottery studio in the City of Willits. If you are interested, please RSVP to lmhorowitz@gmail.com for address information or call Roq at 456-9657.



Farmer Michael Foley holds freshly picked goods from an area greenhouse



Round Valley Blackberry Festival

The 31st Annual Round Valley Blackberry Festival will be held Saturday, August 17, noon to 7 pm, and Sunday, August 18, 10 am to 5 pm at the festival grounds in downtown Covelo. Admission is free.

The festival, hosted by Mickey the Clown, features arts and craft booths, blackberry delicacies, Mendocino County wine tasting, a climbing wall and children's games. A square dance Saturday night is just part of the line-up of live music featured both days, including: The Hot Shots, Marjo Wilson, The Wild Horses, The Wild Mendohulas, The Blackberry Jammers, The Black Horse Band, Heidi Clare Lambert, Angelo Laiwa, Round Valley Rounders, Steven Daniel Hays, Dusty O'Ferrall, The Prickly Pair, Jordan Feathers and Rick James.

On Sunday morning there will be a 5/10K walk/run followed by a country-style breakfast and an antique car/motorcycle show. For festival or booth information, please visit www.roundvalleyblackberryfestival.com

'Artistry of the Guitar'

Saturday, August 17 at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, features award-winning fingerstyle guitarists Ken Bonfield, Steve Davison and Tim Farrell. One performance only: 8 pm. Plus an afternoon guitar workshop with Tim Farrell. Tickets \$20; \$15 for the workshop, available at Good's Shoppe, or call WCT at 459-0895 for credit card orders, or purchase online at brownpaperickets.com.

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showings. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

"If Not Now, When?" Health & Well-Being Presentation: Tuesday, August 6 at 6:30 pm at the Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Free. Topic: "Emotional and Spiritual Health and Well-Being." Panelists include Dennis Long, BCC, chaplain and director of Spiritual Care for Howard Hospital; Robin Goldner, licensed clinical social works; Maggie Graham, music instructor and community volunteer; and Janice Marcell, facilitator of Nicotine Anonymous. Info: 459-6826.

Thursday, August 8

Willits Library Kids Event: Local Author Shirley Castro brings her new book, "Delly and the Beachtown Alphabet Challenge," for an alphabet adventure with some of Shirley's famous pelicans. Then, creative fun with an alphabet craft. 11 am to noon at the library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Friday, August 9

Dead on the Creek: A one-of-a-kind music festival in the hills outside Willits, August 9 through 12, featuring four days of live music by Della Mae, the Honeycutters, Joe Craven Trio, Wake The Dead, Hot Buttered Rum, and more. Private, limited admission (only 150 tickets are sold) includes camping, parking, kids' camp activities, swimming, libations, snacks, and meals made by a kitchen crew inspired by Mendocino County's fresh-picked local produce, wild-caught fish, and pasture-raised beef, pork and lamb. All-inclusive 4-day tickets: \$500, 3-day tickets: \$400; 1-day tickets: \$150; kids (7 to 16 years old): \$75/3 days and \$100/4 days; kids 6 and under, no charge. More info and reservations, visit www.deadonthecreek.com.

Saturday, August 10

Summer Slam Slowpitch Co-Ed Softball Tourney: Starting at 8:30 am, at the ballfields on Commercial Street. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Willits, to benefit their youth scholarship fund. Concessions provided by Willits Redwood Little League, to benefit their club. Come on down and cheer the team from your favorite local business or organization. Info: Curtis Collicott at 972-3352.

Hot August Night: Benefit fundraiser for the Haehl Creek Trail. 4 to 10 pm at the Rec Grove. Featuring live music by the West Coast Rhythm Kings, danceable rock & blues band out of Ukiah: "Fattened & dressed with warm, hollow-bodied blues guitar, basted with double-bass rhythm & a drummer who can barely



sit down, WCRK features original numbers with a nod to the classics, harmony vocals & a whole lotta rock-swingin', jump- stompin', finger-snappin' music." Also featuring music by the Blue Cactus Choir, Native American dancing by the Round Valley Feather Dancers, a raffle, a silent auction, fun games for kids, and food and drink booths (including Indian tacos offered by the Sherwood Valley Rancheria). Tickets are \$12; kids under 12 are free. Volunteers are welcome, as are silent auction items and donations for the trail project, which are tax-deductible. There are many sponsorship opportunities for the fundraiser and for the trail: for info, call Larry Stropes at 459-1642. Info: www.facebook.com/HaehlCreekTrail.



"Moe's Day!": celebrating the life and art of Moshe Amedeo King. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Downstairs: Art Show, 7 to 11 pm; 8:30 pm, commemorative words, poems and songs before the music; 9 to 11 pm, music by El Radio Fantastique. Dress to dance. Suggested donation \$5. Info: moesday@gmail.com.

Shanachie Pub: Shawn Coleman & Friends, with Adam Manus and John Perez, play rockin acoustic music. 8 pm. No cover.

Sunday, August 11

Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am. Every 2nd Sunday at the Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Pancakes, eggs (any style), bacon, sausage, or ham, orange juice, coffee. \$6 members; \$7 non-members; under 12, \$5.

Scotland's Music – United!

Just returned from living in Scotland, duo performers David Brewer of Molly's Revenge and Glenfiddich fiddle champion Rebecca Lomnicky will be performing an evening of Scottish music which bridges the gap between the fiddle & bagpipe music of Scotland: two worlds united. The duo will appear at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse Sunday, August 4 at 2 pm for one performance only.

Lomnicky and Brewer each have delved into the traditions of their respective instruments, the Scottish fiddle and bagpipes, living and studying in the highlands of Scotland. They have forged their duo in the spirit of merging these two similar but very different worlds to create a new seamless sound which is both kinetic and full of passion.

Brewer is a multi-instrumentalist who has toured with the Scottish super-group The Old Blind Dogs and with Molly's Revenge across the U.S., the U.K., Canada, China and Australia. Brewer has been a special guest of the six-time Grammy-winning group The Chieftains. Brewer accompanies Lomnicky's award-winning fiddling on guitar, the Irish penny-whistle, and bodhran frame-drum, but primarily on the Scottish bagpipes, on which he is unarguably one of the most energetic and charismatic performers of the instrument in the world today. Visit www.davidbrewermusic.com.

Lomnicky began playing classical violin and piano at age 5. She discovered Scottish fiddle music a few short years later, and in 2005 won the Junior Division of the



U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Competition. Following that victory, she recorded her first CD, "The Call," praised by "Dirty Linen" magazine as "technically masterful, and wonderfully melodic." In 2009, Rebecca won the 20th Annual Glenfiddich International Scottish Fiddle Championship held at Blair Castle in Scotland. The invitation-only championship – seen as the Grammys of the fiddling world – is widely regarded as the most prestigious in Scottish fiddle. She has performed in Scotland, Ireland, Italy, China and across the U.S., and in 2009, she recorded her second CD, "Inspired," with David Brewer. Visit www.rebeccalomnicky.com.

Tickets, \$15, are available at Good's Shoppe, 56 South Main Street, or online at brownpaperickets.com/events/418720, or reserve by phone with a credit card by calling WCT at 459-0895.

More fun at the Fair

It's not just about animals at the Redwood Empire Fair; the carnival, building exhibits, nightly featured events and street performers all offer event-goers great entertainment

Thursday, August 1	Friday, August 2	Saturday, August 3	Sunday, August 4
2 pm Fair Opens <i>Brad's World of Reptiles</i>	2 pm Fair Opens <i>Bring Hang Ten Cookies for free fair admission (12-3 pm)</i>	12 pm Fair Opens <i>Bring a Aloha Pie for free fair admission (12-3 pm)</i>	12 pm Fair Opens <i>Bring Luau Cupcakes for free fair admission (12-3 pm)</i>
3 pm <i>The Bird Man</i>	3 pm <i>Jeremy the Juggler</i>	2:30 pm <i>Diaper Dash</i>	2 pm <i>Ukiah Idol Grand Finals</i>
7 pm <i>Motorhome Derby & Lawnmower Races</i>	7 pm <i>Mud Bog Races Ukiah Idol Finals</i>	7 pm <i>Truck Pulls</i>	6 pm <i>Auto & Boat Races</i>
9 pm <i>McKenna Faith Performs</i>	9 pm <i>Sudden Turn Performs</i>	9:30 pm <i>The Funky Dozen Performs</i>	7 pm <i>Wild Cat Show</i>
10 pm <i>Buildings Close</i>	10 pm <i>Buildings Close</i>	10 pm <i>Buildings Close</i>	9 pm <i>Buildings Close</i>
12 am <i>Fair & Carnival Close</i>	12 am <i>Fair & Carnival Close</i>	12 am <i>Fair & Carnival Close</i>	11 pm <i>Fair & Carnival Close</i>

This is just a partial list of many of the events going on during the fair. See www.RedwoodEmpireFair.com for more

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'Come As You Are'

The visionary art of Douglas Volz

A four-day-only exhibit at the Willits Center for the Arts, "The New Light Show," features 12 original oil paintings by Redwood Valley painter Douglas Volz. The exhibit opens today, August 1, and runs through Sunday, August 4, with an artist's reception on Saturday from 6 to 9 pm, with music and refreshments.

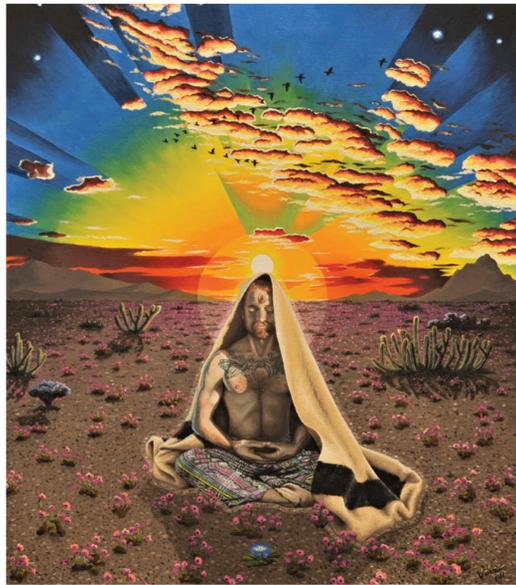
Volz, who moved to Willits in the 1970s and lived here for about 20 years, says his work is in the visionary art tradition. "I've been an artist all my life," Volz said. "I grew up with art. My mother and my grandmother were artists." Volz was co-curator of a 2008 exhibit at the Grace Hudson Museum, "Northern California Visionary Art: A Contemporary Legacy."

Visionary art, Volz said, is a worldwide art form, that has not been accepted in the U.S. at all, which he thinks has something to do with how Americans don't want to look at what's really going on, "the garbage in our back yard."

"There are amazing visionary artists all over the world, who are not being recognized here," he said. Volz characterized visionary art in general as "about assisting people to look at the important things in life."

Volz said he is hoping to awaken people with his art, which he calls "an encompassing form of art that is about waking to spiritual consciousness, and realizing there's another way to live on this earth."

Working as a nurse at the Northbrook care center in Willits, Volz said, "changed my perception about life. In the presence of somebody who is dying, you start realizing what really matters. Paying the bills is important, yes, but is that really what life is all about?"



Three oil paintings by Douglas Volz. At left: "The Dawn of Perception." Below: "Guardians of the Sacred." 2001. Far below: "Light Body," 2006.



"A lot of my paintings are about meditation," Volz said, "because I've learned that meditation is about the most empowering thing that people can do: something that builds up your inner power. That term, 'Know Thyself' – that's what I feel a lot of people have given up on."

Willits Center for the Arts is located at 71 East Commercial Street. Artist's reception on Saturday, 6 to 9 pm. Gallery hours: Thursday and Friday, 4 to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3 pm. Info: 459-1732.

Kinetic Carnivale Work Party

Volunteers, from left: Mark McKey, Janet Rayner (construction coordinator), Josh Tracy and Addison Moore (construction coordinator) take a break from building riser stages, information booths and ale stands for the Kinetic Carnival at last week's work party at the County Museum. Want to help? Attend the Volunteer Fair August 1 at the museum, 6 pm.



Castle of Cans

Photos by Jennifer Poole

Kids attending Vacation Bible School at the Agape Church sit in front of a "castle" made out of the canned and non-perishable food brought in to donate to the Willits Food Bank. Church volunteer Linda Blum, who created the castle, sits in the back. The 85 kids attending had already brought in 550 items when this photo was taken, and that was before the big BBQ banquet finale on Sunday, July 21. "We always have a mission project," said director Suzanne Pope, "and we thought doing a local project would be nice this year."

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A HUGE multi-family barn sale. August 3, 9 am to 4 pm, 1411 Buckhorn Rd. Off Muir Mill Rd. across from Brown's Corner. 1,000-piece owl collection, tools, salvaged doors, cupboards, and more, antiques, appliances and furniture. Drive slow!

Got Bats?

Eliminate your mosquito problems with a quality redwood bat house. Small: 12"x24" holding over 100 bats. \$45. Medium: 24" X 24" holding over 200 bats. \$85. Instructions included, shipping available. 707-274-9196 or johnthewoodpecker@gmail.com

Blueberry Plants

Huge blueberry plants for your garden, covered with berries. \$45 each, or three plants for \$120. 707-274-9196.

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Counseling

It is good to remember: Every physical illness has some mental and emotional aspect. Looking at it, is part of the CURE. Call Wolfgang Ronnefeldt, M.A. 459-2101

Eckankar

Join us for a Community HU Song Tuesday, August 27, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E. Commercial Street. HU is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra and can help you experience divine love and find inner peace. Families and all faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475.

Estate Sale

Estate/Yard Sale: Partial contents of old Scotts Valley - Upper Lake farm including antiques, farm equipment, house and patio furniture, building materials, set of 3 large truck tool boxes, tile setters tools, power mower, compressor, old military clothing, and more. Fri - Sat. 10 am-6 pm, 3535 E. HWY. 20, Nice. ph. 274-9196.

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Gravenstein Apples - 20lb box - \$20
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Potter&Redwood Valley: Deanna/391-7336
Laytonville: Heather/984-7430
Lakeport: Linda/279-8840, Ft. Bragg: Karen/937-4664, Covelo&Brooktrails: Linda/459-6698

Eckankar

Have you had a spiritual experience? You are invited to participate in an ongoing, spiritual discussion Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E. Commercial Street. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475.

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COLUMN | Resendez Reads!



Adventure!

I love that the Harry Potter books broke out of the marketing niche called "Young Adult" to be read by fans of all ages. If you are such a reader, I urge you to take up a series based on a heroine of the same age as young Potter of Privet Drive. Her name is "Jacky" Faber aka, Bloody Jack.

This series by American author L.A. Meyer is as chock-full of adventure as you could ever imagine. Little Mary Faber is an orphan struggling to survive on the mean streets of London in the early 1800s. She takes it into her mind to join the crew of a sailing ship, posing as a boy, because the food and living conditions will be so much better than what she's had to endure. The conditions on a British sailing ship during the Napoleonic wars were pretty frightful, but our Jacky is full of pluck and luck: she manages to pull off the ruse.

There are 10 books in the series so far, starting with "Bloody Jack: Being an Account of the Curious Adventures of Mary Jacky Faber, Ship's Boy," which was published in 2002. Jacky has adventures on the sea and adventures on land, mostly in the area of old Boston Harbor, but as she grows up, she wanders about Europe, about frontier America and to far exotic ports of call. Jacky gets in many tight spots with the likes of pirates, spies and enemies, but she retains her cleverness, her ability to read strangers' intents, and her emotional goodness.

That's not to say that Jacky is an angel, far from it. She can flirt mightily (when dressed as a girl), steal hearts, cheat at cards, tell a good yarn, and play the fiddle in a tavern to earn a few coins. She will steal your heart if you give her a chance!

I recommend reading this series in chronological order, because Jacky gains more experience and skills in each story. The latest, "Boston Jacky," will be coming out in September.

As ever, whether you read electronically, on the paper page, or listen to audio books, please utilize our library system and take advantage of our county's delightful local bookstores, both new and used.

Local poet, Fran Resendez, is retired from 20 years of bookselling at the former Leaves of Grass Books in Willits. Getting her first library card was one of the happiest days in her reading life.

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Honey Peach Sauce

A sauce for grilled chicken or meat, using fresh peaches, in season and delicious right now!

Thanks to the Mendo Hunnies Willits Relay for Life team for this recipe, which was included in a fundraising cookbook the team made up. Mendo Hunnies raised (so far) \$3,406.72 in donations for the 2013 Relay for Life, to benefit the American Cancer Society: more than three times their \$1,000 goal.

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Youth Summer Pass for students 18 years & younger.
Pass good all summer long on all MTA fixed routes.

\$5.00 and a Youth Summer Pass will get you to and from Santa Rosa on MTA's North Coast and South Coast Buses!

INGREDIENTS:
4 medium peaches
2 tbsp. lemon juice
2 tbsp. honey
½ tsp. cracked black pepper
1 to 2 tsp. snipped fresh thyme

DIRECTIONS:
Peel and cut up three of the peaches. Place in blender, and add lemon juice, honey and cracked pepper. Cover and blend until smooth. Transfer to sauce pan and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, and simmer uncovered for about 15 minutes, or until slightly thickened. Remove from heat. Peel and finely chop the remaining peaches and add to sauce. Add thyme and stir.

To use, brush meat or chicken with some of the sauce during the last 15 minutes of grilling. If desired, heat any remaining sauce until bubbling, then transfer to a bowl and serve with the grilled meat or chicken.

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What's 'normal' and why do we care?

In vet school I remember being told over and over again: "You have to know what normal is before you can recognize abnormal." What an important concept, and one most horse people can use to keep their horses healthy. Just becoming more aware of your horses and learning to take every opportunity to look at them will help. It's easy to assess your own horse's normal physical parameters with a little practice and a few inexpensive tools.

Sheri Cronin
Columnist

Sitting on the fence and looking at the horses can reveal a lot. Is everyone up or down? Healthy horses are, most of the time. Is everyone up or down? Horses are vulnerable when they are down. It takes them a long time to get up, and they are clumsy risers. They are heavy and their respiratory and GI tracts have to work harder when they are down. Even so, most horses spend time every day down resting and, if you watch, you'll likely see patterns develop.

For instance, in the winter, groups of horses will often sunbathe during the warmest parts of sunny days. In my herd one horse will often remain up; like a sentry watching for threats to the group. I am concerned if one horse is down alone or if a horse is rolling. I'll wait and see if that rolling horse gets up and shakes - which is OK - or if she goes right back down and rolls again: probably a belly ache, better look more!

Other things to notice from a distance include behavior, lameness, isolation, fencing problems and fighting. A brief but focused glance every time you look at your herd will add up to a lot of knowledge about what is normal for them. Trust your instinct; you are probably more aware of your horses than you think. If you think something's a bit off, investigate further.

It's easy for owners to do a basic physical exam on their own horses. You need a digital thermometer and a cheap stethoscope: \$20 will get you what you need. First, look at the horse's gums, they should be light pink. Press with your thumb on the gum to blanch out the blood and watch the pink return in 2 to 3 seconds. That's called capillary refill time.

Next place your stethoscope behind the left elbow and find the heartbeat. Don't worry; if the horse is standing up, it has a heartbeat, you just haven't found it yet. At rest a normal adult horse's heart will beat around 30 beats per minute. Be patient: yours beats more like 80 to 90 beats per minute.

Next listen to the top and bottom parts of the abdomen on both

Read the rest of **Horses** | Over on Page 11



The Cronin family horses sunbathing last winter

Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



A view of the koi pond in the gardens at Phil and Kathy Shuster's home on Center Valley Road

Photo by Kathy Shuster

A Garden Party

Supporting art, music and libraries in the schools

As summer peaks in Willits, a dedicated group of volunteers prepares for the annual "Garden Party" to celebrate and support art, music and library programs in the Willits Unified School District.

The community has an opportunity to visit the ornamental garden of Phil and Kathy Shuster at 1660 Center Valley Road on August 24, from 4 to 8 pm. Guests at the event will find plentiful parking behind the Shuster home, entering the gardens past abundant vegetable beds of tomatoes, squash and corn. The path guides visitors under a grape arbor that provides a welcome place to sit and enjoy the view, as well as to greet friends as they arrive. Continuing past the grape arbor, visitors enjoy the gardens blooming with colorful day lilies, callas, dahlias, agapanthus and roses.

Water lilies float gracefully on the pond at the base of a waterfall, and koi glide through green reeds banded in black. Walking past the pond, guests are invited to a narrow lawn area adjacent to a small vineyard. Nearby, lavender scents the air and ornamental grasses wave gracefully in the breeze. A trellis covered with a passion flower vine beckons the visitor further into the garden.

Circling the house, visitors find themselves on a driveway that is perfectly suited for entertainment. With a background of roses and wine barrels filled with hydrangea, The Basics provide a background of upbeat

music for dancing. For those guests who prefer to sit and visit, students will be serving small-plate treats, including the popular barbecued tri-tip.

A silent auction and raffle is also on tap. Event sponsors include Sparetime Supply, Sanhedrin Nursery, Willits Furniture, Jerry Myer-State Farm Insurance, Lo Buck\$, Mariposa Market, 101 Burgers & Donuts, the Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Earl and Marette Myers, SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologists, El Mexicano Restaurant, Padula Ranches, Scott's Tanks, Super 8 - Willits, North Valley Bank, Garman Construction Services, Dr. Angus and Emily Matheson, Flowers by Annette, and Adam's Restaurant, as well as Shuster's Transportation.

Because of generous sponsors and an involved community, this event in the past two years has raised \$28,000 for the arts, music and libraries in the Willits Unified School District.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$20, and are available from The Goods' Shoppe, Willits Furniture and Cat's Meow, or from Willits Rotary Club members and Willits Education Foundation members, co-hosts of the event. Tickets are \$25 at the gate. For information or tickets, call John Cross at 485-2274, Sue Bertsch at 459-2030, Kathy Shuster at 459-2659, or Warren Lewis at 459-4429.

Susan Jones
Contributing Writer

The rest of **Horses** | From Page 10

sides. You should hear gurgles that represent GI motility. They should always be present. Stand at the front and to the side of your horse and count respirations: usually about 12 per minute.

Now for the fun part: take your horse's temperature rectally. Be careful if you haven't done this before. You may have to work on it, and it's worth it. Normal horses' temperatures are under 100 degrees F.

Some things about horses change slowly, so we need a different way to monitor them. Weight is an important parameter to keep track of, and I think the easiest way is with some photos. Print them out, date them and stick them somewhere so you can look often. These photos will also help you evaluate coat and body condition. Photos of your horse's feet can also help you and your farrier keep better track of hoof growth and change.

There are many other parameters you can monitor. These include feed and water intake, fecal and urine output, digital pulses, range of motion in all four limbs, and normal limb conformation. Most of the accomplished horsepeople I know routinely watch their horses move before they get on them. They are doing more than watching for normal movement, but that's another story. It may seem like checking all of these things is a full-time job but, really, once you become more aware, it only takes a few minutes to notice your horses in a much more detailed way.

Why bother? Many of the problems horses have are much easier to prevent than they are to treat ... so if you notice a slight change in any of your horses' normal parameters, you might stop a big problem before it really starts. You may save yourself lots of money and your horse much discomfort by being more aware of what is normal for your animal.

When emergencies do happen, you can give your vet lots of valuable information by phone if you can perform a basic physical. I find that the more my clients know about their horses, the healthier the horses are and the more I am able to help them when they aren't.

Also, most of us have horses because we really love them and enjoy spending time with them. Many horsepeople are really interested in horse health issues, so learning to assess their horse's health is a fun and rewarding way to get to know their equine partner better.

Dr. Sheri Cronin has provided mobile equine veterinary care in Mendocino and Lake Counties for 12 years. She has extensive interest and experience in equine dentistry, endoscopy, digital radiology, reproductive care and preventative medicine. She is also the on-site veterinarian for Willits Frontiers Days. Check www.mobileequineveterinary.com for more info, or call Dr. Cronin at 456-6781.

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I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

Puzzle Answers From Page 4

N	C	O	F	E	C	O	U	R	S	E	Y	W	A	T	E	R	G	I	D
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Vandals cited

as city residents help make good pool damages

Police have cited four Willits boys in connection with damages and items missing from the pool grounds at Willits High School.

"Hopefully these folks and their parents make good on the losses we sustained," Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez added that some of the notoriety of the incident helped bring forth information on the suspects.

Police received information about who the culprits might be, and tracked them down. Two 17-year-olds, a 16-year-old, and a 15-year-old reportedly admitted committing the burglary.

Police wrote citations for burglary and trespassing and released the boys, whose cases are now with the juvenile probation department. Around town, fundraising efforts have been underway at Willits

businesses to help recover damages.

For Operation Splash, every penny counts in a campaign to raise about \$1,500 to cover damages the young delinquents wrecked on the city pool earlier this month.

Shailyn Brewer has worked to put more than 20 tip jars around town to collect money for the pool. The tip jars helped bring in, with other donations to the City of Willits, about \$250, with money still being collected.

Peter Mann of TnT Market raised and donated \$500 to the pool fund, with proceeds from not one but two Indian food feasts last Friday. Mann and his crew serve Indian food every Friday night at the market on West Commercial Street.

The city also has set up a trust fund for the pool; checks may be made out to "City of Willits."

The rest of **Sacowicz** | From Page 1

expression, and it should be three minutes of public expression - period."

The brouhaha arose when Sakowicz began speaking about the career of Gordon Elton, who until recently was the City of Ukiah's financial officer. It appeared Sakowicz was critical of some of Elton's actions, but he had only spoken for about 30 seconds when Hamburg said, "I don't know where you're going with this, John."

Second District Supervisor John McCowen then chimed in, saying in his opinion Sakowicz's comments were out of order because Elton's career did not fall under the purview of the board of supervisors.

Hamburg agreed with McCowen and asked Sakowicz to desist. Sakowicz did, saying he would read his statement the

The rest of **Masonite** | From Page 1

seeing the 78-acre site sitting idle.

"To drive by there and to see that location - the prime industrial location in Mendocino County - to see it turn into nothing but crumpled up concrete and weeds - it's not acceptable to me," said Pinches.

Six audience members spoke to urge supervisors not to send the letter; only one spoke in support.

Ukiah Mayor Doug Crane argued sending the letter would have a "very chilling effect" on a number of industrial landowners in the neighborhood, including Mendocino Redwood Company and Mendocino Forest Products. "That tax base is placed at risk by the conversion of industrial land to commercial use," Crane said.

Hal Voegel of Redwood Valley opined building a shopping mall at the site was not in the long-term interest of the county. "The bottom line is 'Shop Till You Drop' will not create a vibrant economy for our area," Voegel said. "For that to happen, you need to make things that people want."

After supervisors Carre Brown, John McCowen and Dan Gjerde spoke against the letter, board Chairman Dan Hamburg apologized for directing county administrative staff to write the missive.

"I suppose I have to apologize to my colleagues on the board. I allowed this letter to go forward based on a consensus that wasn't there. We sent the staff on a research project that maybe took four or five hours, and it landed with a thud," Hamburg said.

Second District Supervisor McCowen said Pinches' letter

The rest of **Caltrans** | From Page 1

Stranke, Madge Strong and Mayor Holly Madrigal voted against extending negotiations for 30 more days.

What would happen next was not clear to council members at the meeting. "If we enforce the 'no fly zone,' work would slow down dramatically. It is not our intention to stop this project," Orenstein said.

Community members filled City Hall and stood in the doorways to listen. The use of city streets by road builders needs to be approved by permit, according to an agreement between the city and Caltrans.

Contractors filed for the permit months ago, but Willits has yet to approve it.

"If we chose to enforce this, how do we enforce this," Madrigal wondered.

Speaking to the council, Freddie Long said a Caltrans spokesman had told her that day the project would be completed by 2015.

"Why would you trust them," Long said, "why would you trust them?"

Willits resident Denny McIntyre told the council he was sympathetic to the challenges of negotiating a deal.

"I know how hard it is to get the big stick to the table," McIntyre said. "These people [Caltrans] just don't drop everything and come to Willits."

Attorney Peter Janiak advised the council to "use the muscle you have at this point."

"Caltrans is like Rommel going through the North African desert," he said, adding the city's power is in the contract. "If not,"

following evening at the Ukiah City Council meeting.

Following Pinches' criticism, Hamburg asked the opinion of County Council Thomas Parker, who agreed with the chairman. "My legal analysis is the county has no jurisdiction over the City of Ukiah," Parker said.

Language on the supervisors' agenda tends to support Parker, McCowen and Hamburg. Under public expression, the agenda states: "Members of the public are welcome to address the board on items not listed on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the board of supervisors... The board limits testimony on matters not on the agenda to three minutes per person and not more than 10 minutes for a particular subject at the discretion of the chair of the board."

showed the dangers of continuing to fail to reach a tax sharing agreement with the City of Ukiah. "Everyone needs to be aware that, in the absence of a tax sharing agreement with the City of Ukiah, there is going to continue to be pressure to permit and build revenue-generating businesses on unincorporated land," McCowen said.

Tax sharing has been under discussion for nearly a decade, but no agreement has been reached.

Pay cuts leave county workers 'on the brink'
Discussion of what to do with the former Masonite site followed a presentation by county employees about how recent pay cuts have affected them.

County worker Jacqueline Otis said two consecutive years of 10 percent pay cuts, plus an increase in the employees' share of health care costs, have brought her family to the brink of financial ruin.

"I've lost about \$500 a month is what it adds up to," Otis said. "We have considered filing for bankruptcy, but we can't afford the paperwork."

Otis, a county employee for 13 years, said she currently cannot afford to pay for her 21-year-old daughter's attendance at cosmetology school.

County employee Jennifer Silkie, a social worker for 18 years, told supervisors the county "has to pay ... employees a living wage," adding "the 12-month probation period is too long."

"You're losing a lot of good employees. They are moving out of the county and taking their skills elsewhere," Silkie said.

he said, "you are serving at [Caltrans] will."

Near the end of the 11 pm meeting, council members talked more about their vote on the 30-day extension.

"I don't believe the negotiations are done," Madrigal said. "I want this to be hard ball."

City Attorney Jim Lance said the city could write a cease-and-desist letter, possibly followed by a court order and a lawsuit. But "I cannot guarantee what the outcome would be," he said.

"I ... you ... are going to fight, fight, and don't weasel when the room clears out," Orenstein told his colleagues.

Burton called the vote a "grave mistake." "I think this is one of the absolutely stupidest things I have seen on the city council in the 22 years I have been here," he said.

Stranke, with Strong and Madrigal, was one of the three who voted down the 30-day extension. "Throw the ball in their court," Stranke said, "and see what they can come up with."

A special meeting is held

At Tuesday's special meeting, the city attorney told council members a contractor's attorney is willing to challenge Willits, citing limitations on the use of city streets as an "abuse of authority."

Held on shorter notice than regular meetings, the special meeting was well-attended by community members.

"From time to time in life things come

up when you need to make choices to do what is right or what is easier, cheaper - whatever," Tim Rice said. "This is one of those times; think carefully about who you are."

Sarah Grusky urged council members to take a stand. "None of this is going to change in another month," she said. "I want to be a part of a community that is willing to stand up."

Madrigal voted against an extension last week, but said Tuesday she was not willing to halt negotiations. "When I voted on Wednesday, that was coming from a position of strength - to bring [Caltrans] to the table," Madrigal said.

Stranke noted the agreement is the only thing the city has in writing from Caltrans.

"I am really concerned about the amount of traffic going down the roads," Stranke said as he explained why he voted "yes" Tuesday.

Orenstein repeated he would like the city to get something out of the deal.

"The best thing we can do is try and avoid the lawsuits," Orenstein said.

Last Wednesday's meeting was the regularly scheduled meeting of the city council; Tuesday's meeting was a special meeting called to discuss a lawsuit with Brooktrails in closed session and to revisit Wednesday's action.

Stranke, Madrigal and Orenstein cast "yes" votes for the extension on Tuesday.

Burton left Tuesday's meeting for a family emergency and did not vote.

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[fuh-tog-ruh-friss]

noun: Maureen Moore: a person who creates fabulous photo moments

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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Above: Bobbi Lippmann poses with Kona and Cayman who all walk in memory of Rick; below: Mike Tobin poses with grandson Connor McCoy; two Relayers share a moment during the pre-ceremony

More photos online at <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/relayforlife2013>



It was appropriately "hot" in Willits for the "Carnival Carnivale" themed Relay For Life, which kicked off at 10 am Saturday at Recreation Grove Park and concluded 24 hours later on Sunday morning. 2013 is only the second year that Willits has done its own Relay For Life, but many Willits folks are long-time veterans of the Ukiah and/or other Relays For Life, and it shows.

By all accounts, participants and organizers alike are impressed and inspired by what the people of Willits have achieved, including the \$46,991.47 (and counting) raised so far to benefit the American Cancer Society. Though the 2013 Relay event has come and gone, those involved are determined to hit their financial goal before the official end of the 2013 event, August 31.

"Our goal of \$50,000 is totally reachable," said Jennifer Sookne, co-chair of the Willits Relay. "We'll just have a few more car washes, bake sales ... get a few more donations from people." Donations can be made directly to a Relay team member or online at the American Cancer Society website: Search for "Relay for Life of Willits."

Despite being in his own battle with cancer, Mike Tobin, member of one of two teams from Body Works gym, won the prize for the top fundraiser, bringing in an individual total of \$2,761.58 (and counting) to add to his team's total of \$5,854.12 (and counting). The top fundraising team this year was Miracles in Motion, which raised \$6,100.05 (and counting).

Cancer survivors kicked off the big event Saturday morning, warming up the track at Rec Grove and "celebrating their victory over cancer" with the always moving and inspiring first lap of the day, the "Survivor's Lap." Breast cancer survivor Carol Duell participated in the Survivor's Lap. "I always enjoy the Relay," she said. Diagnosed and treated in 1996, Duell participated in her first Relay

For Life event the following year.

"I just do the Survivor's Lap now: it was a wonderful group," Duell said of the survivors who joined her for the first lap down at the Rec Grove this year. "I am 76 years old now," she said explaining, as if she needed an excuse, that she is not on a team this year.

With further prodding, Duell revealed that she did, in fact, do more in support of this Relay, and she does do more in her everyday life in support of those battling and surviving cancer.

Duell returned for the Luminaria Ceremony at 9 pm, and "walked a few laps" with old friends. She also "came back and had breakfast" in the morning and "did the last lap" at 10 am.

"My favorite part of any Relay is the luminaria ceremony," she said. "That was really cool."

In her daily life, Duell volunteers for the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino, helping to gather, sort and store the wigs, hats, scarves, special bras and prosthetic devices which CRC has available for cancer patients and survivors. "We provide it free. Take what you need," she said, "That's what I'm doing to help."

Relay co-chair Sookne said she was "exhausted" Monday following the event: "happy exhausted."

"It has been a wonderful ride and an honor to serve," Sookne's co-chair, Jen Miller said. "If you had a wonderful time at this year's Relay, I know you just can't wait until Relay 2014."

Plans are underway already for the 3rd annual event next year, scheduled for July 26 and 27, 2014.

Kathy Tobin and Alice Langton Sloan are stepping up as co-chairs for next year's event.

Relay For Life

Volunteers close to \$50,000 goal



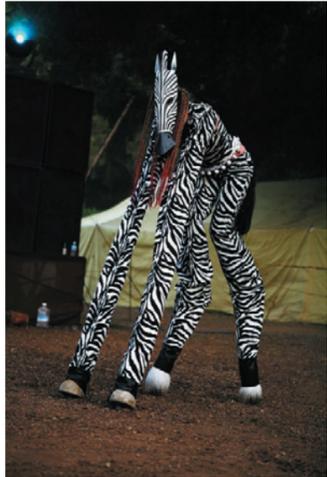
Above from top: Mike Tobin of Body Works gym accepts the Gold Team plaque; one of the teams shows off the quilt being raffled; the Kroh family worked the Positive Prevention booth; Holly and Ben O'Neill walked with Ben's mom Annie in the survivor's lap; two ladies have fun at the "Kiss Cancer Goodbye" tattoo/kissing booth

Photos by Maureen Moore

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