

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

By donation

Thursday, August 15, 2013

Edition No. 16

Council to consider voluntary water use cuts

Zack Cinek
Reporter
zack@willitsweekly.com

An essence of mold-like flavor and the smell of pond water recently greeted Willits water-drinkers turning on the tap.

A Willits lake south of town encountered some algae bloom, causing the foul water, but the city says the water is safe.

"Due to the fact that we really had no late rain, one of our lakes never got full," Water Supervisor J.C. England explained this week. A combination of low levels and hot weather in May and June contributed to the algae, he said.

As water levels have dropped, city council members were set to vote Wednesday on a "Phase I" water emergency in Willits. If passed, it would call for voluntary 10 percent cuts by Willits water customers.

Water levels were at 830 acre feet to start the month, and when city reservoirs drop below 830 acre feet of water at the start of August, "Phase I" is activated, a

Read the rest of **Water Cuts**
Over on Page 9

County homeless rate drops 7.7 percent

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The rate of permanent homelessness has dropped slightly in Mendocino County over the past two years, according to a recently published "Point In Time" report on homelessness presented to the board of supervisors Tuesday.

According to the report, field researchers found on January 24 some 1,344 people were without a permanent place to live in the county. That number included 175 people living temporarily in a motel, halfway house, institution or jail, and 1,169 people who were living outdoors.

The 2013 total was 7.7 percent less than the 2011 total of 1,456.

In addition to performing the raw count, researchers also performed a survey of 418 homeless people. Of those who answered the survey, 293 were "homeless alone," while 56 were members of 27 homeless families.

Sixty-three of those surveyed were male

Read the rest of **Homeless**
Over on Page 9



Enjoying the new teak tables in front of the center

Photos by Maureen Moore



Checking out the Campus

With the first day of school just days away on August 19, a few students eagerly checked out the interior of the new North County Center of Mendocino College, particularly enjoying the spacious learning commons inside and the landscaped courtyard outside.

The center's Grand Opening celebration is set for September 11.

Left: Stephanie Duran reads in the student lounge area; below: Jorge Alvarez, Eva Alvarez, Stephanie Duran, Yasmin Acevedo and Adalyd Gonzalez practice studying in the North County Center's new learning commons



Coho salmon seen in Ryan Creek

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

A small clutch of juvenile coho salmon have been seen in Ryan Creek, a tributary of the Eel River some four miles north of Willits. The coho were observed by Scott Harris, a fisheries biologist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Coho salmon are rare in the Eel River basin, and these few fish could represent the start of a new brood year for the species.

According to data provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service's Draft Restoration Plan for Coho Salmon in the Southern Oregon-Northern California Evolutionarily Significant Unit, fewer than 100 coho salmon currently live in the Eel River basin above the river's South Fork. That estimate is based on data collected between 1989 and 1999.

Harris downplayed his sighting. Currently, "it means absolutely nothing... just because you see a few fish in a tiny creek that flows

Read the rest of **Coho**
Over on Page 9

Candidates set for November election

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

All incumbents for all Willits area board seats up for election this November have decided to run again.

Current Little Lake Fire Department representatives, Patrick Charlson and Tom Herman, have both filed for reelection, and as the only two candidates to file for two seats, will be appointed without an elections contest.

The Little Lake Fire Protection District has placed a tax measure on the November 5 ballot, asking fire district voters to approve an additional \$14-per-unit annual levy to build a new firehouse.

Five candidates have filed for three seats on the Brooktrails Township Community Services District Board of Directors, so that election will be on the ballot this fall. Three incumbents, George Skezas, Tony Orth, and Rick Williams, have all filed for reelection, as have two challengers who have

Read the rest of **Election**
Over on Page 9

A second Willits Cemetery blaze

Cat Lee
Reporter
cat@willitsweekly.com

Firefighters extinguished two small blazes Tuesday, including one in the same part of the Willits Cemetery as a July 13 fire.

Willits, Brooktrails and CalFire firefighters responded to two separate fires at about 1 pm that afternoon, a "suspicious" fire at the Willits Cemetery that threatened a nearby neighborhood, and an apparent electrical fire at a Brooktrails residence.

Pepperwood Road residents reported the new cemetery blaze a month to the day after the first fire.

"Three structures in the [Pepperwood Road] area were threatened, and that's where we put our engine," said Little Lake Fire Department Deputy Chief John Thomen.

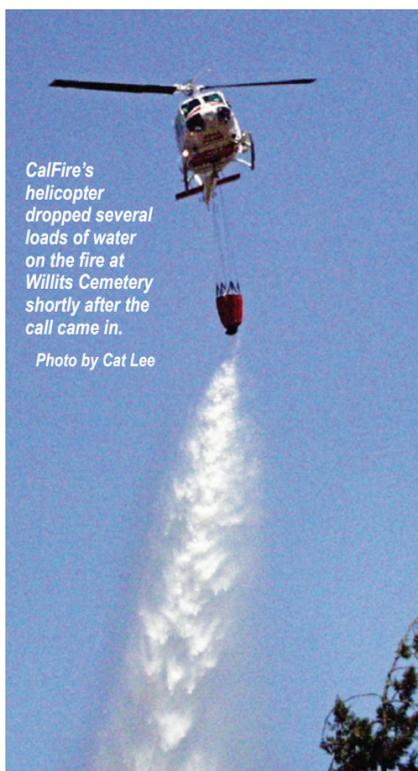
At approximately 1:22 pm, he said, "we received a call for a smoke check," which was followed up shortly by a "wildland fire" call.

Residents of at least two of the three homes threatened on Pepperwood Road called in the incident.

Michele Johnson, reportedly the first to call in the "smoke," said she was "grateful she was home" and able to "catch it early."

Pepperwood Road resident Bob Hall also called in the fire, according to his wife, Debbie LeSeur-Hall, and was told firefighters already were en route. LeSeur-Hall said her husband was ready to make a quick evacuation, but when he saw how quickly firefighters responded and got the fire under

Read the rest of **Fire**
Over on Page 13

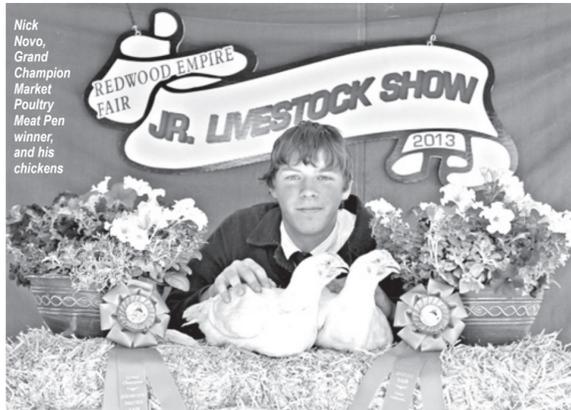


CalFire's helicopter dropped several loads of water on the fire at Willits Cemetery shortly after the call came in.

Photo by Cat Lee

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers



Thanks from a grand champion

To the Editor:

Dear Mr. Dennis Thurston: Words can't begin to express my gratitude, for your purchase of my meat pen poultry hens at this year's Redwood Empire Fair. This is my first year bringing and selling an animal at the fair, although this is my third year in FFA.

Taking care of these chickens has taught me responsibility and the delicacy of life. It makes me want to do this again.

The money I get from selling my hens is going to be saved. I hope to be able to go to Santa Cruz's Junior College. Your contribution to my future is amazing and very significant.

Thank you again for buying my hens and helping me to better my education and my future. I hope you enjoy them as much as I have.

Nick M. Novo, Willits

What will work to stop the bypass?

To the Editor:

I question what we activists are doing – not why, but what we're doing – to stop the bypass.

Don't put me in a box with any appeaser, palliator, placator, or worn-out liberal or moderate conservative – who claim they don't like the bypass but now must make excuses for accepting our fate and the bypass as a fait accompli.

I am against the bypass. It is bad. It is a destroying juggernaut that cares not a pepper-grain for Willits or its traffic-flow problems. The bypass is good only for the big and powerful players who keep taking from the people and the planet in order to accrue more power and wealth for themselves. Think of big corporations and contractors, the Patriot Act-Homeland Security axis, the nuclear mafia, and corrupt government officials (elected and non-elected) who turned a blind eye to predatory capitalism.

For me, the question is: what is the most effective means of shutting down the project now. I'm talking about good tactics for a winning strategy.

Money talks; BS walks. Appeal to those who have a vested interest in the outcome. The Bay Area or Los Angeles need major traffic solutions. There are millions of people who need a bypass a whole lot more than we do. Those are the people our efforts should be directed at. We need to engage and enflame them regarding the misguided use of taxpayer money that could be helping them where they need it most.

Some people are more equal than others: celebrities, when drawn in, can somehow ignite the people to righteous,

collective action. There are at least 50 progressive or forward-looking celebrities who could incite the masses to loud opposition of this boondoggle monstrosity – if only we could get them to speak to the issue.

Since the mainstream media are owned by a handful of corporations (loyal only to the bottom-line and whatever it takes to keep them in power), we cannot count on them as an avenue of outreach to the masses. There are other, more elusive ways of reaching the people. But it takes a concerted, spontaneous, almost magical will of activists to

coordinate these efforts.

Do those who profess to be for this Caltrans bypass care about those who desperately need the \$300 million Caltrans freeway way more than we do? Not a bit.

If Robert Redford or Bishop Tutu or Jimmy Carter came and took a one-hour tour of our valley and then spoke at a town-hall meeting, I reckon it'd do more good than 20 demonstrations of handfuls of local activists waving banners or getting arrested. I'm not against waving banners and getting arrested; been there, done that. My hat's off to civil disobedience activists who walk their talk.

But the world is morphing, and we need to put our activist talents to use in the most effective ways possible. The police – or surveillance – state is becoming more a reality every day. We need to morph our tactics and attune our strategies to match the evolutions around us. It's the only way to keep one's head above water.

So, I encourage all those who understand, support and have participated in the efforts of SOLLV to retune themselves to the realities of today: what will work?! How to align the forces in play?

I am against this bypass with all my heart. It will destroy the beauty and the integrity of our watershed. It will not solve our traffic problems. And, crucially important for me, it will take away forever more than 25 percent of the arable, food-producing acres of this valley. We will need – critically – these acres to feed ourselves in the decades ahead. Anyone who looks ahead and puts two and two together knows this is true.

Since we have not been able to engage more Willitsians to put their bodies and souls between Caltrans and their bypass, I say we must reach out to the rest of the world, with more passionate purpose, and get them to help us. Now. Who has ideas on how to do this?

Lanny Cotler, Willits

Alternatives and Allies

To the Editor:

It was nice that members of the new group the "Acceptors" (of the Caltrans bypass) brought BBQ to the out-of-town contractors who are here working on the bypass. As you may recall, the reason for this nice gesture of providing a BBQ lunch at the work site (besides actually thanking the contractors for their work) was that they'd heard the wick drain installers were afraid to leave their hotel rooms at night, and the Acceptors wanted them to feel welcome in Willits.

Well, I say – harrumph! While I appreciate the Acceptors' thoughtfulness, I can only say that were I a contractor, and had I come to someone else's town to destroy their centuries-old wetlands, and do something I would never

do to land that I lived on myself – I also would be frightfully ashamed to show my face among residents of the town I was helping to destroy. They must be looking forward to getting back home, so they never have to face us or think about us again. All for a paycheck. In the end, it always comes down to money.

But even as the "Acceptors" wrote a letter to let everyone know how kind they were to Caltrans' contractors, in the same paper from members of the same group was another letter continuing the defamatory name-calling against those who favor alternatives to Caltrans' bypass. It truly is regrettable that the name-calling and misinformation given by some of the "Acceptors" continues. There are many emotions that this word "Acceptors" evoke in me, chief among them is fear. Fear of what happens when good people give up or just turn away. How many times throughout history have people decided it was easier to roll over and become an Acceptor of either bad practice by big business, or a government agency backed by a police force – ultimately resulting in the destruction of land, people, entire civilizations?

All too often, being an Acceptor means being an Accomplice. There are other words beginning with A that describe some members of this group, and they are as disturbing to me as Accomplice or Acceptor. For instance, Aspirant (city council members who dream of becoming Supervisor and/or believe that personal success means playing along with Caltrans and the county, and Willits be damned!); or Avoider (it's safer than doing something, and much easier, as long as you don't think about how much doing nothing has done to this world!).

Instead, I choose to think about "A" words that make me feel better, such as Alternatives and Allies. There are several cost-effective, sensible bypass Alternatives that actually meet Willits' needs, unlike Caltrans' destructive and divisive version. As Allies, despite our differences we are united in our love for this community. We need to stop fighting and start talking, the sooner the better. There's an opportunity to do just that next month, at a Town Hall meeting on September 22, at 4 pm, at the Willits City Council Chambers. The topic is "Community Revitalization." Come one, come all. Our future is at stake. As Margaret Mead said: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Mary Burns, Willits

It's a dam shame

To the Editor:

The 7th Day Adventists seem to be grossly mismanaging our hospital. I have heard they have alienated the doctors, moved workers to out-of-town facilities, and sourced-out work overseas. I think the management wants to use this viable profit-making hospital to shore up their other less profitable hospitals. Otherwise "if it ain't broke ... don't fix it." Why get all the doctors in a turmoil? This is bad business. And who, in the end, will suffer? The community, that's who. It's a dam shame!

Another thing, I am just curious to know how many local people found work with all the construction going on with the new hospital, the high school, community college and Caltrans. Also, where does all the wood go from the trees cut down by Caltrans?

Bobbie Recio, Willits

(Editor's note: To answer a couple of your questions: many local contractors worked with facilities director Wayne Bashore on the school bond construction projects done by the Willits Unified School District at school campuses throughout the district, and local contractors continue to donate their time to improve facilities at the high school. Also, we do know that bypass contractor DeSilva Gates has stockpiled logs locally to be given out as firewood, through churches and other community organizations, to people in need. More on that story to come.)

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EST. 2013
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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.

Willits Weekly
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Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 1, Number 16
P.O. Box 1698
Willits, CA 95490
willitsweekly@gmail.com
www.willitsweekly.com
707-459-2633; 707-972-7047

Jennifer Poole, editor and reporter / jennifer@willitsweekly.com / 707-459-2633
Maureen Moore, designer and photographer / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047
Mike A'Dair, reporter / mike@willitsweekly.com
Zack Cinek, reporter / zack@willitsweekly.com
Cat Lee, reporter and features writer / cat@willitsweekly.com
Katheryn McKee, sports photographer

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Education Edition



Tanner, on the left, is going into the 3rd grade at Brookside School, and Taylor, on the right, will be going in to the 5th grade at Blosser Lane!! I am so proud of both my boys and all the hard work they put into school!! Good luck, boys, with the new year!! Love, mom and dad!!



My Sweet Jasmine, how is it possible that you are so grown up and self-possessed already? Yes, my baby girl is going into 7th grade and soon will officially be a teenager! I predict this is the year you will decide which book or story or series or graphic novel you are ready to self-publish ... or who knows where your creativity will lead us? Homeschooling you continues to be a joyful learning and growth experience for me. I hope that it is equally so for you – and then some! Love, Mom



Cooper, I'm so excited as we prepare to launch into your 4th grade year! Your curious soul yearning to know "how things work" makes homeschooling an exciting and sometimes daring adventure. I look forward to exploring your "mad scientist/genius" projects and creations this year, and I'm very proud of the open-hearted young man you've grown into being. Sending out wishes for you to have a bright, shiny, and fun school year! Love, Mom



Photo: Melissa, Siarra and Jeff Bergmann, WHS Graduation 2013



Siarra is heading off to UC Berkeley as a freshman this year! We are very proud of her for all she has done to achieve what she has so far. Good luck, Siarra!

Steph and Essence: So proud of you girls. I've enjoyed watching you guys grow and learn together. You guys have exceeded in sports and school. I'm sad to see you grow up so fast, but I'm happy to see you grow into such amazing young ladies. Keep making good choices. Let's go Cougars! Love, Steph's Mom (Emily)

Letter From ...

the Blosser Lane Elementary School Principal

By Tawny Fernandez

Here is hoping that all of you have had a wonderfully exciting and relaxing summer and are ready to begin this year with Blosser Bear spirit! On Monday, August 21, our doors will be wide open as we expect your child by 8:15 am to begin their year-long journey to uncover the wonders that await them as they experience fourth and fifth grades. The children will be welcomed back by our compassionate and focused Blosser Lane staff, who work diligently throughout the year to support your child as they balance the importance of attaining grade level standards with developing social relationships.

Attendance

Attendance at school every day is crucial. Each day at Blosser Lane is packed with momentous and exciting learning that your child will experience, learn and grow from. At a very early age, the continuity of attending school and participating in the daily activities adds up to the incredible milestones that children make academically, socially and emotionally. Please schedule any appointments for your child after the end of the school day if at all possible. If it does happen that your child is ill, please call and notify the school secretary so that we can make a note of it as well as gather their schoolwork for them.

Basic Information

School begins each day at 8:15 am and dismisses at 2:55 pm every day except Tuesday. Tuesday is a short day, and students are dismissed at 1:35 pm. Bus transportation is provided for students before and after school. Students who walk to school are not allowed to cross Highway 20 at Blosser Lane. Due to the nature of the traffic on Blosser Lane and Highway 20, bicycles, roller blades, roller shoes, skates and scooters are not allowed

at school. Breakfast is served each day at school, as well as a healthy brunch and lunch. Supervision for students begins each day at 7:45 am.

Staffing

There have been just a few changes this year in Blosser Lane staffing. A hearty welcome to all of our returning staff! 4th Grade: Mrs. McNeal, Room 10; Mrs. Tilton/ Mrs. Craighead, Room 11; Mrs. Haschak, Room 16. 5th Grade: Mrs. Snider, Room 17; Mrs. Arkelian, Room 24; Mrs. Colvig, Room 25. 4th/5th Grade: Mrs. Valenzuela-Watkins, Room 13. Special Education: Mr. Harrison, Room 14. SDC-TBD, Room 18. English Language Development: Mrs. Runberg, Room 12. Garden/Nutrition: Mrs. Kanonchoff, Room 32. Office Staff: Lesli Cooke and Sharen Reinier. Librarian: Mrs. Bethany Wilcox.

Stay Tuned

Watch for parent newsletters that will be sent home monthly, as well as notes from the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and the Blosser Lane Site Council. Becoming involved in your child's education is one of the greatest gifts that you can offer them. I encourage you to contact your child's teacher to discuss offering classroom support this year.

The marquee at the front of the school displays important dates, as do the glass cases that are on the wall at the front walkway of the school. The "most important class lists for the 2013-2014 school year" will be posted in this glass case at 5 pm on Monday, August 19.

What a wonderful year this will be!!!! The office staff are already here to answer any questions that you may have. My office door is always open. Here's to a year full of academic learning, soaring to the highest of heights and scaling the mountains of knowledge!



Texting while driving kills:

Herzog documentary

Acclaimed German filmmaker Werner Herzog has made an extraordinary documentary, "From One Second to the Next," in an effort to convince drivers – especially young drivers – to put away the phone while driving.

of accidents caused by texting while driving, as well as two young men who caused fatal accidents.

One, Reggie Shaw, cries as he talks about how he realizes now, looking back, how selfish it was for him to decide "that texting and driving was more important to me than those two men were to their families."

The other, Chandler Gerber, shares that his last text before the accident that killed two young Amish children and their mother (and the horse pulling the buggy they were riding in) was "I Love You" to his wife.

Read the rest of **Pledge** | Over on Page 10

Willits Unified's

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

to traditional classroom learning
Available for K - 12

New Horizons

Attend class two hours a day once per week
1-on-1 teacher to student ratio
K-12 CLASSES
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Letter From ...

the new Willits High School Principal

By Dr. Jeffrey A. Ritchley

to 2004. My beautiful wife, Yuliya, is also an educator and will be working in alternative education.

Yuliya and I have two children: Luka, who is 7 and in second grade, will be attending Brookside Elementary School; and Nikolai, who is 4, will be attending preschool this year.

Comprehensive High School

As we embark on this school year, it is our goal as a staff to prepare your son or daughter to move on to college, occupational careers or the military. Willits High School has an enriched heritage of sending off our students into the real world and of preparing them for college or university life.

This year, we have added a few electives in order to help facilitate student growth and knowledge. We have added a new psychology and sociology class to our curriculum, and we will be starting a new Willits High School Marching Band. As the band grows, I hope to send them off to competitions, and create new legacies at Willits High School.

This year, we are implementing a new discipline system named "restorative discipline." Restorative discipline means making right of your wrong. Our counselors will be working with students and their inappropriate choices during the school day. This new system, along with our new counseling center, will hopefully keep students in school, reduce suspensions and maintain a high level of integrity and equality in dealing with student behavior.

Each month, I will be hosting "coffee with the principal," so all stakeholders will be able to come in and speak with the school administration about what is going on at the

high school. At this time, parents may bring any issues up in an informal setting. The first coffee will be Wednesday, August 28, from 8 to 8:30 am.

New Staff

This year we hired a new football coach, Nick Williamson, and he is in the process of assembling his coaching staff. WHS has a new band teacher, Jared Sherill. This year, he will be building a marching band into the curriculum at Willits High School. Mr. Sherill is joining us from Southern California. In our Special Education Department, we have a new teacher from Ukiah, named Priscilla Dodge.

Let's Be Informed

Parent and community involvement is critical to Willits High School. To facilitate communication with parents, nine newsletters, presented in English and Spanish, are mailed home each year. The newsletters celebrate student success and provide information on how to be more involved in your child's education. The new school website, still under construction, will contain even more timely information, and online grade and attendance information is also available. Check out the Willits High School Facebook page, too. Any parent is invited to sit on our school site council, which I will also be involved with this year.

The first day of school is August 21. If you are considering joining Wolverines football, the season is well underway, however, you can still join the team. Other sports, like soccer, cross country, cheerleading and volleyball, are set to start on the first day of school. Student schedules will be mailed the week before school starts. If you need further information, the Willits High School phone number is 459-7700. Please mark your calendars for Back to School Night on September 24.



Trenton Herrera, we are so proud of you! We knew you could do it. We wish you the best in 6th grade. Love, mom, Frankie and your sister, Mariah



Jordie, have a great year! Love, Dad and Genevieve



Congratulations on starting 3rd grade, Ella! Hope you have a great year. Love, Mom and Dad

Willits High School Principal Jeffrey Ritchley

Photos by Maureen Moore

My name is Dr. Jeffrey A. Ritchley, and I am honored to be selected as the new principal of Willits High School. As I come into this position, each day I learn the traditions, legacy and deep sense of community of Willits High School. As your new principal, I have three simple goals for the 2013-2014 school year:

- **Build Relationships:** With staff, community and stakeholders of Willits High School.
- **Establish Trust:** Open a sense of trust between the administration and the teaching staff, and the community at Willits High School.
- **Learn:** As much as I can each and every day.

Prior to Willits, I was the principal of Needles High School, Needles Middle School, and the Educational Training Center in Needles. You may know Needles as the point where California, Nevada and Arizona meet, and it is where Spike from the "Charlie Brown" comic strip is from.

Originally, I am a native of Chicago, Illinois. The high school I attended had over 1,500 students, and has currently grown to over 3,000 students today. After high school, I moved to Minnesota, where I completed my bachelor, masters, specialist, and doctoral degrees at different universities in the Minnesota university system. During that time, I was a teacher at Richfield High School.

After college, I taught briefly in the San Francisco Unified School District, however, I moved back to Minnesota after two years. Another proud highlight of my personal life is that I served in the Marine Corps from 1996

Superintendent of Schools Pat Johnson and Willits High School Principal Jeffrey Ritchley pose together in the new Media Center at Willits High School



Tatiana Cantrell
Director
Learning Roots Preschool
"Where kids play, learn, and grow!"
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Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Preschool: ages 2 - 5 • After-school daycare: ages 2 - 9
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459-6543

WILLITS CHARTER SCHOOL
DO YOU KNOW?
Willits Charter School is a free public school serving 6th through 12th grade students – any student can attend. It has credentialed teachers for all academic classes and is a fully accredited middle and high school.
IMAGINE A SCHOOL THAT....
• is committed to small classes and averages 15 students per teacher, with a maximum of 24 students in a class.
• sends the highest ratio of students to the state science fair of any school in California.
• allows you to take classes at Mendocino College at no charge and receive high school and college credit for them.
Come check us out! Meet our Director, John Kirchiro, and tour the campus. Call 459-5506 to set up an appointment. During the school year, you can also "shadow" a student for the day.

WILLITS POWER EQUIPMENT | **Flower Lady of Willits** | **Main Street BBQ** | **J.D. Redhouse**
CHECK THE FOLD OF TODAY'S WILLITS WEEKLY FOR THE PUNCH CARD PARTY
WITH GREAT DEALS FROM THESE WILLITS BUSINESSES
Old Mission Pizza | Scoops | Monkey Wrench | Body Works Gym

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LA VIDA CHARTER SCHOOL | lavidaschool.org



Letter From ...

the new Superintendent of Schools

By Pat Johnson

I would like to welcome students, parents, staff and community to the Willits Unified School District's 2013-14 school year. Since my arrival in Willits, I have been amazed at the warmth, community spirit and enthusiasm demonstrated by everyone I have met.

The spirit shown during Frontier Days, the 4th of July parade, the Willits Otters swim team competitions, the Relay For Life campaign, the wide variety of entries in the Redwood Empire Fair, and the repairs to the Willits High School football field are only a few examples of the strength and dedication of the "Willits Family." As the new school year opens, I look toward this community spirit to help us meet the challenges and hard work that face us.

The primary focus of the Willits Unified School District is the safety and welfare of all students. Within that focus we are dedicated to providing rigorous and challenging academic opportunities for all students. Staff comes prepared to move every student forward in their academic, social and personal development to achieve success in school, and in life. As we enter the 2013-14 school year, we will confront some of the same concerns faced in the past, as well resolve the new challenges ahead.

Every day counts for everyone in the Willits family. This means that our staff comes prepared to teach our students the skills necessary to succeed in the 21st century. Willits Unified School District offers a variety of programs and support for our students, families and community. This means that students come to school every day prepared for the day.

When students are absent, they miss important lessons necessary for their academic success. More than two absences a month will identify a student as "chronically absent." Chronically absent students have a greater risk of dropping out of high school, and not succeeding later in life. With the help of our parents, staff and students, let's join together to help our students attend school every day and achieve their personal goals. Indeed, every day does count.

August 21, the first day of school, is approaching very fast. I am confident that the "Willits Family" will continue to show the support and spirit that has become an integral part of our community. I look forward to meeting with you in the coming school year.

Left: Pat Johnson, Superintendent of Schools

Photo by Maureen Moore

Letter From ...

the Brookside Elementary School Principal

By Olga O'Neill

Once again, Brookside Elementary School's staff is eagerly looking forward to welcoming our primary students on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 21. As you may know, this year brings big changes with the addition of third graders at this site. Students and staff have been working on ideas to make this move positive and successful for all.

Our highly trained and dedicated teachers understand the importance of building a strong educational foundation, and this is at the forefront of our curriculum and programs. Everything young children experience during their school day is a part of this foundation, and our goal is to help all students develop academically and socially. Additionally, we hope the children have fun, make friends, and build a positive school attitude!

With the new configuration of Willits Unified there have been many changes. At Brookside, we are welcoming a part-time dean, Gina Danner, who is also the director of special education. She is very excited about working in the district. The teaching staff assignments for the upcoming year are: Kindergarten: Dawna Allen, Carol Brinkerhoff, Cyndi Pfingsten and Kari Rescina. Kindergarten/First Grade Combination class: Marion Morgan. First-grade: Melissa Bergmann, Barbie Gonzalez, Anne Hammond and Joan Thomas. Second-grade: Nancy Millikan, Brooke Moncivais, Ralanya Smith and Marette Myers, who will again job share 20 percent of the week with Bob Lounibos. Third-grade: Lisa Mey and Sandy Southard join Jill Frick, John Haschak and Paula Nunez. Special education staff: Lenore Hansen, Hopie Smith, Jaynie Smith and Devora Yundt, who teams with Trey Grant

in the State Preschool. English language development: Jaynie Smith and Nancy Runberg, each working half-time.

This year we welcome Debra Doering, who will be at our site coordinating and providing reading intervention. We are very fortunate to have secretaries Lisa Koller and Linda Wake, who run the office and support the staff, students and families. Gaye Orvis, health coordinator, will continue to serve students in our district and has her office at Brookside. Bethany Wilcox, the librarian for K-8 students, will be here two days per week. Other classified staff members are instructional assistants, yard assistants, custodians and cafeteria personnel, who all help keep our school running smoothly and assist our students in every way they can.

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) at this school site is exceptionally hard working and active. Participation in the PTO is a great way to become involved with your child's school. Meetings are once a month and childcare is provided. Classroom volunteers also provide much additional help to classroom teachers, enhancing our students' school experience.

School begins Monday, August 21 at 8:25 am. Dismissal for full day kindergarten and first through third grade is at 2:40 pm except for Tuesdays, when school is dismissed at 1:20 pm. Other kindergarten students are dismissed at 11:35 am until January, when they go to a full-day schedule. Students must be 5 years old by October 1, 2013 to begin regular kindergarten. Also offered is a transitional two-year kindergarten program for students born between October 2 and December 2, 2008. This two-year program

Read the rest of Brookside | Over on Page 10

'Colossal Coaster World' at Grace Community Church



Game leader Michael Bates helped the kids, like Stone Nehring, get into the roller coaster. Photo by Jennifer Poole

Kids attending Grace Community Church's Vacation Bible School enjoyed rides on the newly extended 60-foot Coaster Alley roller coaster. The roller coaster – when it was "only" 20 feet long and riding on a truck – won a first prize in the "Tech" category in the Willits Independence Day Parade this year. The Grace crew, including Tom Campbell, made the roller coaster with PVC pipe and lumber, and an olive barrel from Friedman's Home Improvement store served as the roller coaster cart.

About 75 kids also enjoyed games, crafts, music, skits and a bouncy house at Vacation Bible School, July 29 through August 2. During the week, kids were given tickets for the roller coaster and the bouncy house after memorizing

Read the rest of Coaster | Over on Page 10

Miss out on advertising in the first Education Edition? No problem! Another edition featuring the charter schools comes out on 8/29! Get included! info@willitsweekly.com

MAIN STREET SMOKE HOUSE BARBEQUE
BBQ Sandwiches \$6.95 - \$9.50
Pulled Pork | Chicken | Tri-Tip | Brisket
BBQ Plates \$11.75 - \$13.95
Ribs | Chicken | Pulled Pork | Beef | Brisket
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SCHOOL SUPPLIES
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707-459-1214

2013 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TEAM	PLACE	TIME
9/24	TUESDAY	MIDDLETOWN*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
9/26	THURSDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00
10/1	TUESDAY	CLOVERDALE*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
10/3	THURSDAY	FT BRAGG*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00
10/8	TUESDAY	LOWER LAKE*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00
10/10	THURSDAY	ST HELENA*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
10/15	TUESDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
10/17	THURSDAY	MIDDLETOWN*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00
10/22	TUESDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
10/24	THURSDAY	CLOVERDALE*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00
10/29	TUESDAY	FT BRAGG*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
10/31	THURSDAY	LOWER LAKE*	AWAY	5:00 & 6:00
11/5	TUESDAY	ST HELENA*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00
11/7	THURSDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	HOME	5:00 & 6:00

COACH NEEDED! CONTACT WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL - 459-7700

2013 GIRL'S SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TEAM	PLACE	TIME
9/10	TUESDAY	**MIDDLETOWN*	HOME	5:30
9/12	THURSDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	AWAY	4:00
9/17	TUESDAY	**CLOVERDALE*	HOME	5:30
9/19	THURSDAY	FT BRAGG*	AWAY	4:00
9/24	TUESDAY	LOWER LAKE*	AWAY	5:30
9/26	THURSDAY	ST HELENA*	HOME	4:00
10/1	TUESDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	HOME	5:30
10/3	THURSDAY	MIDDLETOWN*	AWAY	4:00
10/8	TUESDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	HOME	5:30
10/10	THURSDAY	CLOVERDALE*	AWAY	4:00
10/15	TUESDAY	FT BRAGG*	HOME	5:30
10/17	THURSDAY	LOWER LAKE*	HOME	4:00
10/22	TUESDAY	ST HELENA*	AWAY	5:30
10/24	THURSDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	AWAY	4:00

COACH NEEDED! CONTACT WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL - 459-7700

2013 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TEAM	PLACE	TIME
8/30	FRIDAY	EL MOLINO	AWAY	5:00 & 7:00
9/6	FRIDAY	UKIAH	AWAY	5:30 & 7:30
9/13	FRIDAY	ELSIE ALLEN	AWAY	5:00 & 7:00
9/27	FRIDAY	**MIDDLETOWN*	HOME	5:30 & 7:30
10/4	FRIDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	AWAY	5:30 & 7:30
10/11	FRIDAY	CLOVERDALE*	AWAY	5:30 & 7:30
10/18	FRIDAY	FT BRAGG*	HOME	5:30 & 7:30
10/25	FRIDAY	LOWER LAKE*	AWAY	5:30 & 7:30
11/1	FRIDAY	ST HELENA*	HOME	5:30 & 7:30
11/8	FRIDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	AWAY	5:30 & 7:30

**HOMECOMING **
VAR HEAD COACH NICK WILLIAMSON 459-7700 ext 1559
JV HEAD COACH RAY BRITTON 459-7700 ext 1559

2013 BOYS SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TEAM	PLACE	TIME
9/6	FRIDAY	URBAN	AWAY	TBA
9/7	SATURDAY	LINCOLN	AWAY	2:00
9/10	TUESDAY	**MIDDLETOWN*	HOME	4:00
9/12	THURSDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	AWAY	5:30
9/17	TUESDAY	**CLOVERDALE*	HOME	4:00
9/19	THURSDAY	FT BRAGG*	AWAY	5:30
9/24	TUESDAY	LOWER LAKE*	AWAY	4:00
9/26	THURSDAY	ST HELENA*	HOME	5:30
10/1	TUESDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	HOME	4:00
10/3	THURSDAY	MIDDLETOWN*	AWAY	5:30
10/8	TUESDAY	CLEAR LAKE*	HOME	4:00
10/10	THURSDAY	CLOVERDALE*	AWAY	5:30
10/11	FRIDAY	INTERNATIONAL	HOME	5:30 & 7:00
10/15	TUESDAY	FT BRAGG*	HOME	4:00
10/17	THURSDAY	LOWER LAKE*	HOME	5:30
10/22	TUESDAY	ST HELENA*	AWAY	4:00
10/24	THURSDAY	KELSEYVILLE*	AWAY	5:30

VAR HEAD COACH NOEL WOODHOUSE 459-7700 ext 1559
JV HEAD COACH DANIEL HALEY 459-7700 ext 1559

*denotes league games

2013 CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	EVENT	PLACE	TIME
9/7	SATURDAY	COUGAR CLASSIC	UPPER LAKE	9:00 AM
9/11	WEDNESDAY	ST H/ FB/ CLOV	ST HELENA	3:30
9/14	SATURDAY	VIKING OPENER	SANTA ROSA	9:00 AM
9/18	WEDNESDAY	PRACTICE MEET	FT BRAGG	3:30
9/25	WEDNESDAY	LU/ MIDD/ ST H	LOWER LAKE	3:30
9/28	SATURDAY	STANFORD INVIT	STANFORD	9:00 AM
10/2	WEDNESDAY	PRACTICE MEET	HOME	3:30
10/9	WEDNESDAY	FB/ KVILLE/ ST H	FT BRAGG	3:30
10/19	SATURDAY	INVITATIONAL	UKIAH	TBA
10/23	WEDNESDAY	CLOV/ C/ L/ ST H	HOME	3:30
10/30	WEDNESDAY	TBA	TBA	TBA
11/6	WEDNESDAY	TBA	TBA	TBA
11/13	WEDNESDAY	CMC CHAMPS	SANTA ROSA	1:00
11/23	SATURDAY	SECTIONS	HAYWARD	TBA
11/30	SATURDAY	STATE	FRESNO	TBA

VAR HEAD COACH DAVE SMITH 459-7700 EXT 1559

Schedules provided by Willits High School and are subject to change

Save the Date:

Willits Youth Football & Cheer Benefit Golf Tournament, Brooktrails Golf Course, August 31

Classical Guitarist Aaron Larget-Caplan, Willits Community Theatre, August 31

Labor Day Parking Lot Sale, Harrah Center, September 2

Kinetic Kick-Off Party, Willits Community Theatre & Shanachie Pub, September 5

Willits Kinetic Carnival, Handcar Races, and Airport Fly-In Day, September 7 & 8

Mendocino College North County Center Grand Opening, September 11

Mendocino County Fair & Apple Show, Boonville Fairgrounds, September 13-15

ATV Rodeo, Willits Rodeo Grounds, September 14

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Thursday, August 15

Final Kids' Farmers Market at the Willits Library: Produce, flowers, eggs, and more; all grown, raised, and marketed at great prices by Mendocino County kids. Today, 3 to 4 pm, is the last Kids' Farmers Market of the season: 3 to 4 pm. Info: Judith at 463-4153.

Shanachie Pub: Solo coastal guitarist Steven Bates, 3rd Thursday of every month. 6 pm, no cover. "When playing acoustic Bates delivers a fast-paced strumming technique that has a rock and roll vibe unto itself." Visit www.myspace.com/stevenbatesmusician

Willits Library Summer Reading Program Finale

Celebration: Come and enjoy one of America's favorite foods: ice cream, with an old-fashioned ice cream social, including some novel ways of making this delicious dessert. Musician Richard Jeske will entertain with his great children's stories and music. 11 am to noon at the library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Friday, August 16

Sweet Moments of Confusion: "original instrumental compositions inspired by folk traditions from many corners of the world, particularly Northern and Eastern Europe," with cellist Myra Joy and accordionist Diana Strong, part of their North Coast tour. 7:30 pm. The Muse, 30 East San Francisco Street. Suggested donation: \$12 (\$10 children) at the door; no one turned away for lack of funds. Info: www.sweetmomentsofconfusion.com or 459-1493.

Shanachie Pub: Reggae Music with Winstrong, "high-energy, conscious singjay style" that "fuses West Indian cultural roots with the dance hall sounds of today." 9 pm. \$10 advance (Main St. Music, the Pub); \$12 at the door. Visit: <http://www.reverbnation.com/winstrong>

Ongoing Events

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

Kinetic Carnivale Construction Volunteers: Work parties on Thursdays from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, and on Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm. Bring your friends and bring your tools to the Mendocino County Museum, 5:30 to 8:30 pm. More info: 684-0738, or <http://www.kineticcarnivale.com/> or the Kinetic Carnivale page on Facebook.

Monday Playgroup: "for all of our little ones." 11 am to 1 pm, at the Rec Grove until fall; organizers hope to move inside after that. Bring a few toys if you like. Tell a friend. Call Olivia at 707-671-6260 for more info.

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

Final Week for Willits City Pool Activities: Open swim through Saturday, 12 to 4 pm. Lap swim through Friday, 6 to 8 am. \$4/person. Water aerobics, 11 am to 12 pm, through Saturday, and 6:15 pm to 7:15 pm, through Friday. \$6; \$5 for seniors. 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 at 3 pm.

Saturday, August 17

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.seabiscuiteritage.org/tourschedule.php

76th Old Timers Baseball Game and BBQ: annual Willits vs. Laytonville competition for the Boomer Kelton Trophy at Bud Harwood Park in Laytonville. Laytonville Lions Club serves BBQ chicken, starting at 11 am; opening ceremonies at 1 pm; baseball game at 2 pm. A benefit for Harwood Park. Raffle with eight grand prizes: four \$250 shopping sprees and four \$100 shopping sprees at eight different Laytonville businesses. Tickets \$5; drawing at the game. Those interested in volunteering or bringing a side dish – or for signing up to play in next year's game – can call LaRae, volunteer coordinator at Healthy Start, at 984-8089. Tonight, there's also an "Old Timers Dance," featuring McKenna Faith, at Boomers Saloon, 45020 Highway 101, on the north end of Laytonville, 9:30 pm.

31st annual Round Valley Blackberry Festival: today from noon to 7 pm, and Sunday, from 10 am to 5 pm, downtown Covelo. Admission is free. Hosted by Mickey the Clown; featuring arts and craft booths, blackberry delicacies and souvenirs, Mendocino County wine tasting, a climbing wall and children's games. A square dance starting at 8 pm Saturday, followed by "Blackberry Reggae Rama" with Keith Porter of the Itals, is just part of the line-up of live music and other entertainment featured both days. Lineup on Saturday: Blackberry Jammers (noon); Wild Horses (1 pm); Marjo Wilson Band (2 pm); Black Horse Band (3 pm); Round Valley Rounders (3:30 pm); Wild Mendohulas (4 pm); Black Iris (5 pm); and Hot Shots (6 pm) Lineup on Sunday: Steven Daniel Hays (10 am); Reverend Feathers (10:30 am); Broken Feather (11 am); Sheila Fetzer & Bob Daley

(11:30 am); Nummelinium Quartet (noon); Blossoming Blackberries (1 pm); Alex Murphy Magic (1:15 pm); Laiwa Live (1:30 pm); Dusty O'Ferrall (2 pm); Heidi Clare Lambert (2:30 pm); Yippie Coyote (3 pm); Marjo Wilson Band (3:30 pm); and Hot Shots (4:30 pm). More info: www.roundvalleyblackberryfestival.com or Facebook.

Noyo Theatre: "sensory sensitive" showing of "Planes" at 12:45 pm, with the lights on and sound lower, for autistic kids and their families. All are welcome. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

"Artistry of the Guitar": features award-winning fingerstyle guitarists Ken Bonfield, Steve Davison and Tim Farrell. Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 W. Van Lane. 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 brownpapertickets.com.

Sunday, August 18

North Street Apprentice Program Showcase: The public is invited to the end of session show/party for the North Street Collective's apprenticeship program, 5 to 8 pm at 350 North Street, "Grandma Mavis' old house." Meet or catch up with these stellar young people and see the work they've produced this summer. We'll be BBQing and there will be plenty of food for all, but if you'd like to bring a dish or something to throw on the BBQ, please do" – Noel Woodhouse, Natasha Hoehn and apprentices: Tim Oslund: entryway bookshelf and display case; Anthony Gonzalez, Mavis shed redesign; Fernando Meza, original portraits for the Willits People project; Katie Stranske, original portraits for the Willits People project; Isaac Sanchez, fire pit and seating from salvaged materials; Stephanie Jimenez, Guanajuato photo project,

original portraits for the Willits People Project and North Street documentation; Tasia Hooks, curator and host. Info: Creekside Realty, 459-4677.

31st annual Round Valley Blackberry Festival: Today features a 5/10K walk/run followed by a country-style breakfast and an antique car/motorcycle show. See Saturday/17 listing for general information.

Tuesday, August 20

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's movies: "Elysium" and "Planes." 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

Textile Skill Sharing: Steam Punk Goggles and Skirts: Tuesdays, August 20 and

27 at the Little Lake Grange. 7 to 9 pm. Mentor Chelsea Rule. Make your own goggles; make a long skirt into a bustle and draped Edwardian skirt; take a collar off a man's shirt to make a 1900 band collar shirt. "Give Chelsea a \$5 materials fee if you want to make goggles, she will buy the materials for us." Sponsored by Grange Women's Association; 459-6362 for more info.

Saturday, August 24

Brooktrails Fire Department Benefit Golf Tournament: annual fundraiser at the Brooktrails Golf Course. Shotgun start at 9 am. Includes other games, a raffle and lunch. Seeking "hole" sponsors (\$75) and raffle prizes. More info: call Brooktrails Golf Course 459-6761.

A Garden Party: to benefit the Willits Educational Foundation, which funds arts, music, libraries and other programs in the Willits schools. 4 to 8 pm, in the ornamental gardens at the home of Phil and Kathy Shuster on Center Valley Road. Featuring music for dancing by The Bassics and small-plate treats, including barbecued tri-tip, served by students, as well as a silent auction and raffle Advance tickets \$20, available from The Goods' Shoppe, Willits Furniture and Cat's Meow, or from members of the Rotary

Club or the WEF. \$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.

Summer Feast: A site-specific work by the San Francisco Mission District's Dance Brigade: "a midsummer's day of dance, taiko, stilt walking, music and political theater at the Dance Brigade's Dos Rios Retreat Center on the Dos Rios Road.

"Featuring over 40 artists, including international groups, the audience will be taken on a two-hour magical journey through the wooded landscape along the Eel River. Taking advantage of the beauty that the land has to offer, these diverse performers will look to the environment for their inspiration and guide the audience through their enchanted world of art, beauty, and sometimes challenging politics." Gates open 2 pm; show at 5:30 pm (arrive no later than 5 pm). Tickets \$25; \$15 youth; at Brownpapertickets.com or 1-800-838-3006. Info: 415-826-4441, www.dancemission.com.

2013 Kinetic Carnivale Grand Ball

Lineup just announced for the Grand Ball, set for Saturday, September 7 in the Engine House of the Mendocino County Museum:

Sour Mash Hug Band: "a cabaret band that combines virtuosic gypsy violin with 1920s hot jazz and Yiddish song.

The Mad Maggies: "danceable Celtic-Klezmer, a funky, soulful, Gypsy-Cajun-Ska mashup, rowdy, quirky, ska-punk with a pirate vibe."

Luminesque Fire Troupe: a multidimensional Mendocino County performance arts and dance group " using fire tools, stilt walkers, aerial dance, and circus arts to weave together dynamic shows."

Shovelman: "a junkyard beatnik, a shovel guitar wielding surrealist folk superhero ... armed with a collection of pawnshop effects pedals and an old barn-shovel turned slide-guitar."

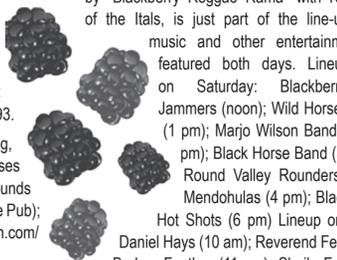
DJ Tigerfish: "Mendocino County DJ who excels at various dance bass genres and has become well-known for his Electro-Swing mixes that get everyone dancing."

Troupe Satya: "Ukiah's premier bellydance troupe since 2000, performing a beautiful style of Tribal Fusion bellydance with Egyptian and Modern Dance influences."

Dangerous Puppets: "challenging the bounds of puppetry for 20 years" with hand carved puppets.

Kara Morris: dance performer, choreographer and teacher with the Mendocino Dance Project and the Flynn Creek Circus "can often be found dancing on the ground or in the air on various apparatuses." Terra Firma Circus Company: a Mendocino County "collective of five uniquely talented performers."

Audette Sophia: Catalyst Arts founder and stilt walker, who creates "extraordinary costumed characters who interact with guests in novel and engaging ways."



A Benefit For Brooktrails Fire Department Golf Tournament

August 24th, 2013 Saturday - 9:00 am

18 Holes of Golf 4 Team Scramble

8:30 am Sign-in • Shotgun Start \$45.00 (\$25.00 with Annual) Games • Raffle • Lunch

For more information Brooktrails Golf Course 459-6761



Necatoca Teatro at the Dance Brigade's Summer Feast in Dos Rios. See Saturday, August 24 listing above



Caleb Lovell, age 7, going into 2nd grade, and Jayden Lovell, age 5, starting Kindergarten



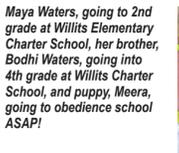
Matthew Green, 19, sophomore at Sacramento State. Good luck, Matthew on your second year at Sac State! Your family is very proud of you!



My big Kindergarten, Porter, we hope you have a fun first year of school. Love, Mom and Dad



Brodey Lamprich is going to pre-school at Imagination Station! We are so proud of you! We love you! Love, Mom, Dad & Rowdy



Maya Waters, going to 2nd grade at Willits Elementary Charter School, her brother, Bodhi Waters, going into 4th grade at Willits Charter School, and puppy, Meera, going to obedience school ASAP!



Sierra Caine, age 10, starting 6th grade! We love you baby girl and are proud of you and hope you have an amazing school year. Love, Mom, Dad, Aidan and Papa



Happy Birthday Rosanna!

So glad we're friends and that you're such a hard-working, fabulous, wonderful franniepant! Thank you for being such a great friend, shennaniger and champagne drinker, and wish you the best picciopini-shaped Happy 28th Birthday ever!

Education Edition

Letter From ... the Alternative Schools Principal

By Tawny Fernandez

As principal of the Alternative Schools, I extend a joyous and heartfelt welcome back to all students and staff comprising the Alternative Schools of Willits Unified School District! We are so very fortunate to offer a plethora of opportunities for students electing to continue their education in a non-traditional manner. From independent study to full- and half-day high school programs to concurrent enrollment in Mendocino College – we offer it all!

Sherwood Elementary School, a necessary small school eight+ miles up Sherwood Road, reaches students of grades K-5. Doors will open at 8 am on Wednesday morning, August 21. Students will be greeted by returning teachers Gina Hirsch (grades 3, 4 and 5) and Luna Valentic (Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade). Students will be greeted by their teachers as well as returning staff members Shauna Martin and Sara Gijon. Kindergarteners will have the option of attending school for a full day this year. School begins this year at 8 am and will dismiss at 12:05 pm for Kindergarteners (not attending full days) every day. Dismissal is at 2:10 pm for grades K-3 and 2:15 pm for grades 4-5, with Tuesday dismissal for grades K-5 at 1:20 pm. The Sherwood office will be open August 16 to assist you with any questions that you may have.

Secondary Community Day School, serving grades 9-12, is now located at the Sanhedrin Continuation High School campus at the north end of town. This year we welcome Luke Kuhns as our new SCDS teacher, who brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience from other academic adventures! SCDS students will begin their day at 8 am and be dismissed at 2:30 pm each day. This program does not participate in early Tuesday dismissal.

New Horizons Independent Study, located on the Blosser Lane Elementary

in an independent, self-directed fashion. Elizabeth Hughes and Dave Smith are our returning teachers this year. The teachers will contact the students regarding time and meeting place of the first class. As with every school in the district, attendance is crucial. With the independent study program, students are required to meet weekly with their instructor, bringing the completed assigned work. Please make sure that your child attends each meeting with their teacher.

Sanhedrin High School, located at the north end of the 101 corridor, serves a small population of students in grades 10-12, ages 16 and older. An alternative to Willits High School, Sanhedrin is a small, community-based continuation high school, offering not only the ability to earn credits necessary to graduate but also to participate in vocational classes and select apprenticeships. Sanhedrin staff work with our students to create a program that will meet students' needs while providing flexibility for work or family commitments. We encourage the students to push beyond what they believe is possible to achieve in their lives and then give them the skills and strategies necessary for them to succeed in whatever areas they desire.

There have been some changes this year with both teaching and office staff. A Sanhedrin hearty welcome to new staff members John Horton and Yuliya Ritchley. They bring with them the heart, knowledge, passion and sense of humor that is an essential component of the Sanhedrin family. School begins at 8:30 am and dismisses at 2:25 pm. Dismissal on Tuesday is at 1:50 pm.

Janele Leal joins the Sanhedrin staff as not only the registrar/secretary but also as registrar/secretary for New Horizons Independent Study and Secondary Community Day School. Her extensive knowledge of all things "secretarial" and her passion for working with students of all ages is a welcome addition to the campus. The school office is now open, and can be reached by calling 459-4801.

So begins the start of what promises to be a magnificent school year! Encouraging students to achieve, pushing them beyond their horizons, taking time to laugh and enjoy the journey while creating lasting friendships and relationships.... That truly is what it is all about.



Charley Lamprich is going into 2nd grade at Brookside School! We are so proud of you! We love you! Love, Mom, Dad & Rowdy



Claire Moyle, going into 5th grade, Cole Moyle, going into 2nd grade, and Hunter Brackett, going into 8th grade.



Gianni Nelson, age 7, 2nd grade at Sherwood School! I am so proud of the young man you've become and wish you the best 2nd grade school year ever! Keep on smiling & shining!! Mom loves you to the moon & back



Rhyana, congratulations, 1st Grader! Love, Mom and Jeremy

Neighbors Helping Neighbors®

FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS

Howard Memorial Hospital is offering FREE sports physical exams to children of all ages enrolling in a sports program.

Food and Fun! Chef Kyle will provide healthy snacks and recipes and there will be fun giveaways.

June 29
July 27
August 24

9:00 AM - Noon
11 OAKS CONFERENCE ROOM
1040 S. MAIN STREET
Please RSVP to schedule an appointment
CALL 707.456.3127
Or email Kristen.McCallum@ah.org

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital
Adventist Health
One Madrone Street • Willits, CA • www.HowardHospital.org

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA
Times for 816 - 822

KICK ASS 2
(R) Run Time 1hrs 43mins

Thurs, Aug 15th: 8:00pm
Daily: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30pm
Sat/Sun Matinee: 1:00pm

ELYSIUM
(R) Run Time 1hrs 49mins

Daily: 3:45, 6:15, 8:45pm
Sat/Sun Matinee: 1:15pm

PLANES
(PG) Run Time 1hrs 32mins

Daily: 3:15, 5:30, 7:45pm
Sat/Sun Matinee: 12:45pm

Sensory Sensitive Showing of Planes on Sat, Aug 17th at 12:45pm with the lights on and sound lower for Audistic kids and their families.
Tight Wed Tuesday film Elysium & Planes with All Shows, All Ages @ \$5

College CLOSE TO HOME at the North County Center in Willits
372 E. Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490

MC

Mendocino College
WebAdvisor Available 24/7
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Fall Classes Begin August 19, 2013

AA/AS Degrees Certificates/Job Skills
University Transfer Self-Improvement

For more information, visit the College website at www.mendocino.edu. For academic counseling appointments in Willits call the North County Center at 459-6224, or stop by our office.

Classifieds & More

The rest of Water Cuts | From Page 1

Community Hu Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? 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.

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

Help a filmmaker
2005 WHS graduate Jillian Cartwell wants your help. Check out "Oh What Big Teeth You Have" on Kickstarter.com, and you can watch her short film preview from New York City. Thanks to all who support the arts.

Love Willits Weekly?
Wonderful! We love community support! Help Willits' only locally owned and independent newspaper continue to grow, and keep offering the quality local coverage you've come to expect! Donate through PayPal online easily at www.WillitsWeekly.com or send a check to P.O. Box 1698 in Willits. Any and all amounts help!!

Consignments Accepted
GAVEL DOWN SALES, located at 1611 South Main Street, is open Wed through Sun, 10 am to 6 pm, and is accepting quality home furnishings for consignment. Contact Kapila at 707.459.1300.

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

Old Cars Wanted
ALWAYS LOOKING for Cars, Scooters & Motorcycles! '40s thru '50s. Show Car to Parts Car. Please call Alan: 489-7165 or email agrossman@pacific.net.

Pinball Machines
PINBALL MACHINES for sale. 459-6372.

Timber Photo Project
Come see the "Mendocino County Timber Photo Project" on Facebook. If you got 'em you can post 'em.

Warehouse Associate
Driving, loading, receiving, stocking, distribution. Good organization and people skills. Compensation D.O.E. Send resume and recent DMV printout to: P.O. Box 838, Willits, or email to: quest70707@gmail.com Open until filled.

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.

The Fruit Group
Bulk boxes of pesticide-free fruit
Gravenstein Apples - 20lb box - \$20
Freestone Peaches/Nectarines - 24lb box \$24, Pears - 24lb box \$21
Tomatoes - 25lb box \$21
Willits: Brenda/459-9335, Ukiah: JoAnn/485-7591
Potter/Redwood Valley: Deanna/391-7336
Laytonville: Heather/984-7430,
Lakeport: Linda/279-8840, Ft. Bragg: Karen/937-4664, Covelo/Brooktrails: Linda/459-6698

report from City Hall stated. City Manager Adrienne Moore said the city would have liked to tell the public sooner about the low water levels, but law requires city council to pass a resolution first. "Hopefully the community will be responsive so it does not escalate to Phase II and III," Moore said.

Centennial Lake, visible to drivers on the east side of Highway 101 south of Willits, looks low, but the city says Morris Reservoir, further south and east of town, is full.

Willits and Brooktrails operate their own water systems independently of each other. "Our water is doing fine; we do not anticipate any restrictions at this time," said Denise Rose, general manager of the Brooktrails Community Services District.

Word of Willits' poor water surfaced on the Mendo BB or Mendocino Bulletin Board, an email-based message board used by local residents who exchange information and trade goods,



The rest of Election | From Page 1

run for Brooktrails board before: Gino N. Zalunardo, to be designated as "retired" on the ballot, and David Paland, designated as "legal researcher."

As it turns out, only three seats on the board of trustees for the Willits Unified School District will be up for election after all.

Four candidates for the three "long term" seats have filed papers for the November 5 election, including incumbents Cynthia Carni, Bob Harper and Chris Neary, as well as challenger Laurie Harris, to be designated as "parent" on the ballot.

But because no challengers filed for the "short term" seat also up for election, incumbent Alex Bowlds, who was appointed in November 2012, will be appointed again to finish off the last two years of that four-year term.

In 2015, the seat currently held by Bowlds will be up for election again, along

from chickens to baby diapers. On the BB, Mayor Holly Madrigal said Thursday she expected problems with the water to clear up in the "next couple of days."

Water treatment, Madrigal said, was still proceeding nicely. At City Hall, it's a busy week for water. In addition to considering a conservation measure, the city council was set to talk Wednesday night about the use of treated wastewater by freeway contractors.

Councilwoman Madge Strong requested the purchase and use of treated wastewater by contractors come before the council.

In communications with the city, Strong said she has asked questions, including how much water has been used in freeway construction, how much will be used for dust abatement, concrete and other purposes, and the planned sources for the water needed to complete the project.



The rest of Election | From Page 1

with the fifth school board seat, now held by Saprina Rodriguez, and the election calendar should be back to the usual "two seats up for election one year, and three seats up for election two years later."

Mendocino County Voter Registrar Sue Ranochak said this upcoming election is "a very important election for local government. This is where you can effect change in your local communities," she said, "and the more people who get out and vote the better."

The last day to register to vote for the November election is Monday, October 21. Anyone wishing to register to vote, or re-register at a new address, including those who will be 18 on or before Election Day, can call the elections office at 463-4371 to receive a form in the mail. Voter registration forms are also available at the Willits Library and at the Ukiah DMV office. Online voter registration is an option, too, at: http://RegisterToVote.ca.gov/.

Douglas fir awaits shipment to China

An exporter of U.S. timber to China has accumulated high piles of Douglas fir logs this summer at a log yard just north of Willits High School.

Bay Area-based MDI Forest Products operates the yard. There are no signs on the property declaring the operation's name, but there are signs of bustling industry on the previously vacant site.

"Land owners are happy," said MDI's Gary Liu. Liu said earlier this year he was anticipating increased volume when he opened up his Willits operation.

Liu's forecast was right: MDI's yard appears to be at full capacity, with decks of logs waiting for the haul to the Port of Oakland. -- Zack Cinek



The rest of Coho | From Page 1

into Outlet Creek." However, it could become potentially significant if more fish are found.

Coho salmon have a three-year life cycle. They spend two years in the ocean and one year in fresh water rivers, streams and creeks.

Currently, the small population of coho in the Eel River basin is concentrated in one brood year; the other two brood years are void of fish. If the juvenile fish Harris saw become established, they may represent a coho population for a second brood year.

Harris plans to conduct a thorough survey of fish-bearing streams in the area this fall, and will have more to say after the survey is complete.

The rest of Homeless | From Page 1

veterans of the armed forces; none of the homeless veterans surveyed were female.

Of the 418 respondents to the survey, 230 suffered severe mental health issues and 261 engaged in chronic substance abuse. Five had either contracted AIDS or were infected with the HIV virus; 59 were victims of domestic violence.

The report cost \$6,500 to prepare, but because it was undertaken, the county received \$1.8 million from the federal government, which it was able to spend on homeless services.

Supervisor John Pinches asked how much of that money went to administering the program that conducts the inventory, and was told

that, as a condition of receiving the funding, a maximum of 5 percent of the money could be used for administration.

Pinches said he was concerned that various programs in the county which offer temporary housing to people with chronic alcohol and drug dependency issues would be, in effect, subsidizing their addictions.

Jackie Williams, executive director of the Ford Street Project in Ukiah, said Pinches' fears were baseless.

"We maintain clean-and-sober requirements for people to be admitted to our facility," said Williams. "They have to demonstrate sobriety before we will consider accepting them as tenants. And we frequently

test to make sure people who are staying with us are not using drugs or alcohol."

Pinches told Stacey Cryer, director of the county's Health and Human Services Agency, he had heard from two sources that funding for Veteran's Services was going to be reduced in the 2014 county budget. However, Cryer informed him that budget was being increased by \$20,000 in the next fiscal year.

The "Point In Time" homelessness survey was conducted by a coalition of agencies and groups, including the Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency, Ukiah Community Center, Willits Community Center, Love In Action, the Hospitality Center and Redwood Children's Services.

Education Word Find

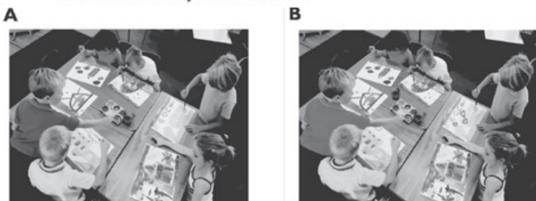
Just in time for school, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

BOOKS CLASSROOM DESK EDUCATION GRADUATE LEARNING LESSONS MATH READING SCHOOL SEMESTER TEACHER

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

What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Difference & Fact ANSWERS:
(See Crossword Answer on Page 13)

Answers: 1. Boy's shirt is purple 2. Missing cloud on picture 3. Two cups on table 4. Hearts on girl's picture

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?
ANSWERS: PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

How they say that in...

ENGLISH: Learn
SPANISH: Aprender
ITALIAN: Imparare
FRENCH: Apprendre
GERMAN: Lernen

Did you know?

THE WORD "KINDERGARTEN" IS GERMAN FOR "CHILDREN'S GARDEN." THE TERM WAS CREATED BY FRIEDRICH FROEBEL FOR A PLAY AND ACTIVITY INSTITUTE HE CREATED.

New word

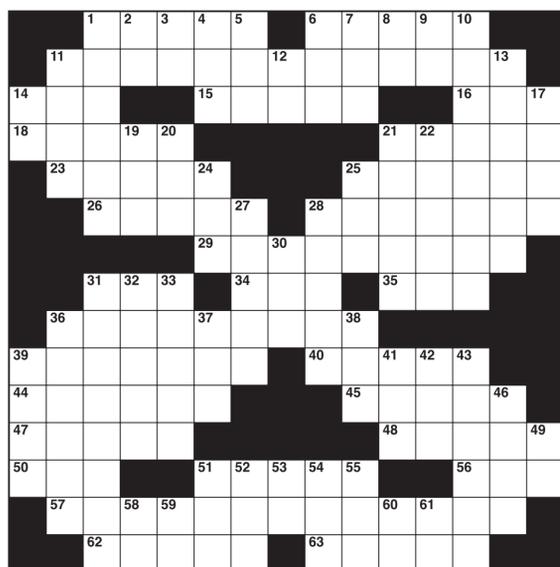
RUBRIC

a statement of purpose or function



AT WHAT AGE DO MANY AMERICAN CHILDREN BEGIN THEIR FORMAL EDUCATION?

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- S.A. grassy plain
- Condemnation
- Twitter or Facebook
- Chest muscle (slang)
- Changed ocean level
- Cause bodily suffering
- Red Jamaican tropical fruit
- 3rd largest Swiss city (alt. sp.)
- Bluish greens
- Billowing clouds
- Duchy princes
- Sarcasms
- Equal business associate
- State certified accountant
- Swiss river
- Winged goddess of the dawn
- Not a jet airplane
- Ethically
- Dark brownish black
- Removed writing
- Skill in an occupation or trade
- Standard unit of length
- Indescribably bad

CLUES DOWN

- Scarred face
- Atomic #89
- Great Lakes state
- Tap gently
- Boxer Muhammad
- Quitting or spelling
- Confined condition (abbr.)
- Expression of sympathy
- The Show Me State
- Expunctions
- Subdivision of a denomination
- Peace Garden State
- One who causes death
- The Keystone state
- Hawaiian garlands
- Cologne
- Large northern deer
- Montana's 5th largest city
- Compound containing NH2
- Small unit of time (abbr.)
- Auto
- Saponaceous
- Gulf of, in the N.E. Aegean
- Golf score
- A disease remedy
- Dark gemstone
- More competent
- Matador
- Not new
- Political action committee
- Microelectromechanical systems (abbr.)
- Woman's undergarment
- Enacted legislation
- A representation of a person
- Large casks for liquids
- Abbr. for 50 across
- Nursing group
- Roman god of the underworld
- Silver
- Group health plan
- The 7th Greek letter
- ... denotes past
- Rural delivery
- Oil company
- Associated Press

Letter From ...

the Baechtel Grove Middle School Principal

by Maria de los Angeles Munguia

At Baechtel Grove Middle School we hope that everyone had a restful, relaxing, and fun summer with family and friends. If you saw the Willits Fourth of July Parade, you might have noticed that our students and staff are excited about our learning, teaching, and about the connection we have made with many local businesses, organizations, and events in Willits! Our float in the Forth of July Parade was to remind everyone that we are educating our future community leaders.

The staff at Baechtel Grove Middle School wants to welcome our sixth-grade families, and welcome back our seventh- and eighth-grade families. What you will find is a Baechtel Grove that is moving teaching toward the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), moving



Clockwise from top left: Colton (6th grade), McKenna (6th grade), Jack (3rd grade) and Ryann (Kindergarten): We are so proud of you and love you more than anything in the world. Good luck and enjoy the 2013-2014 school year... Love, Mom (Shailyn) & Dad (Steve)



learning toward exciting exploratory classes, and moving our emphasis to awareness of our social issues and the career world.

In August 2010, the California State Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt new standards for both mathematics and English-language arts. The new standards are rigorous, research-based, and designed to prepare every student for success in college and the workforce. The standards are internationally benchmarked to ensure that our students are able to compete with students around the globe. Parents, educators, content experts, researchers, national organizations, and community groups from 48 states, two territories, and the District of Columbia all participated in the development of the standards.

This year our teachers will begin adjusting their instruction to address the text complexity, student collaboration, and mathematical thinking required in the CCSS. Parents will have the opportunity to see some of the items on the new Smarter Balanced test that will take the place of the California Standards Tests in 2015, during our Back to School Night on September 11.

Baechtel Grove students will be exposed to several exploratory classes, as well as being provided with academic support. Some of the exploratory classes are: ceramics; health; Spanish; maps and geography; biz world (exploring the business world); guitar; gardening; art; and video and photography.

This year Baechtel Grove Middle School will once again be partnering with our community help organizations and

our local businesses to involve students in a Stand Up Week, dealing with societal issues, and a College and Career Week.

Once again this year we will be involving our incoming 6th graders in the WEB program, where new sixth grade students are partnered, in groups of eight, with two eighth-grade students for the entire year. The eighth graders are trained to help their sixth graders have a smooth transition into middle school and also set the tone of behavior for the rest of the student body, helping to identify and address problems of harassment, bullying, isolation and exclusion. WEB hosts numerous events throughout the year. The first is a Sixth Grade Orientation set for August 20.

At Baechtel Grove Middle School, we believe in every student's success. We want every student to be a leader, so we encourage them to:

- Play with one of our sports teams: volleyball, basketball, soccer, track, wrestling, softball
- Be a member of our Student Council, the yearbook staff, or the Leadership Class
- Get on the Honor Roll or Principal's List
- Be an office aide, a peer helper or a band member
- Be an active member of the Anti-Bullying Group
- Get fit participating in PE
- Receive merits, and stay eligible for the four-week reward activities
- Lead by example, and do the right thing

We begin classes at 8:28 am, on August 21. First period class lists will be posted on Monday, August 19, and students will receive their full schedules during their first period class. See you here!

Fall Classes Begin: Monday, August 19 WebAdvisor available 24/7 www.mendocino.edu Register Now!

Sign Up for Classes at the New Mendocino College North County Center



Sec Name	Class Title	Day	Time	Instructor
ANT-200-0220	Physical Anthropology	Th	5:30PM- 8:20PM	Hardaker Christopher
ART-213-2130	Color and Composition	MW	5:30PM- 8:30PM	Kirkpatrick Kathleen
ASL-200-2020	Sign Language: Level I	M	5:30PM- 8:40PM	Lau Alvin
BIO-202-0084	Human Biology	M	5:30PM- 8:35PM	Vaccaro Erin
BOT LAB*	51/52/55/75/100/104/110/111/102/144	T	5:30PM-8:20PM	Cartwright Tammy
BUS-134-0085	Human Relations in Business	M	5:30PM- 8:40PM	Hixenbaugh Steven
BUS-50-5000	Math Applications in Business	TTh	3:30PM- 4:50PM	Leler Robin
CCS-60-0282	College Success	MW	12:00PM- 1:40PM	Schuman Edwin
CDV-125-0815	Creative Activities	F	9:00AM-11:50AM	Stubbs Janis
CDV-180-0061	Child, Family and Community	T	5:30PM- 8:20PM	Myklebust Martha
CED-195-0912	General Work Experience	TBA		Jenkins Daniel
CED-50-0914	Intro to Work Experience	TBA		Jenkins Daniel
CSC-164-0835*	Electronic Spreadsheets	T	5:30PM-8:20PM	Cartwright Tammy
CSC-201-1011	Computers and Computer Appli.	MW	1:00PM- 3:20PM	Beale Edward
CSC-500-5555	Workplace Software Lab	TBA		Beale Edward
EAS-208-0208	Environmental Geology	T TH	9:00AM-11:50AM	Beale Edward
ENG-10-0202	Basic Reading and Writing	MW	8:30AM-11:20AM	Schuman Edwin
ENG-12-0858	Intermediate Reading/Writing	MW	8:30AM-11:20AM	Timmen Melissa
ENG 60/160/560	Reading and Writing Lab	T	4:00PM- 6:50PM	Schuman Edwin
ENG 60/160/560	Reading and Writing Lab	MW	10:30AM-11:50AM	Staff
ENG-80-0800	Academic Reading and Writing	W	5:30PM- 9:20PM	Kyne Lucy
ENG-80-0859	Academic Reading and Writing	MW	12:30PM- 2:50PM	Stewart Carolyn
ENG-200-0016	Reading and Composition	MW	9:00AM-10:20AM	Hellman Steven
ENG-200-0052	Reading and Composition	M	5:30PM- 8:35PM	Brunner Jeffrey
ENG-205-0251	Critical Thinking	T	5:30PM- 8:20PM	Brunner Jeffrey
ENG-210-0211	Creative Writing	T	5:30PM- 8:20PM	Hellman Steven
ESL-500-0071	ESL: Prep Level	MW	3:00PM- 5:20PM	Hanson Norma
ESL-500-0072	ESL: Prep Level	MW	9:00AM- 11:20AM	Hanson Norma
ESL 5/501	ESL: Laboratory	TTh	8:00PM- 9:20PM	Hutton Dina
ESL 7/9/507/509	Various levels of ESL	TTh	5:30PM- 7:50PM	Hutton Dina
GEL-208-0218	Environmental Geology	T TH	9:00AM-11:50AM	Beale Edward
HLH-103-1300	Women's Health	W	9:00AM-11:50AM	Anchordoguy Rosalie
HLH-50-0501	Community CPR and First Aid	F	5:30PM- 9:20PM	Pettersen Neil
HLH-50-0502	Community CPR and First Aid	F	5:30PM- 9:20PM	Pettersen Neil
HST-203-0133	The United States Since 1865	W	9:00AM-11:50AM	Aguirre Neeka
MTH LAB*	MTH 11/40A/45	TTh	9:00AM-12:20PM	Smith Marius
MTH-55-0555	Elementary Algebra	TTh	5:30PM- 7:50PM	Smith David
MTH-56-0560	Intermediate Algebra	TTh	8:30AM-10:50AM	Bird Charles
MUS-285-2850	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	MTWTh	3:30PM- 4:50PM	Willis Donald
POL-200-0134	American Govt. & Politics	W	5:30PM- 8:20PM	Johnson Lynn Dee
PSY-210-2100	Life Span Dev Psychology	F	9:00AM-11:50AM	Weiss Elizabeth
SPE-200-2000	Intro to Public Speaking	W	5:30PM- 8:20PM	Alto Robert
SPN-100-0200	Conversational Spanish I	W	5:30PM- 7:20PM	Hanson Norma
THE-238A-2380	Jazz Dance: Beginning	MW	4:30PM- 6:20PM	Metzler Sandra

*Indicates self-paced, lab setting. Students are expected to attend regularly to make sufficient progress. For more information, visit the College website at www.mendocino.edu. Stop by the North County Center at 372 E. Commercial or call 459-6224

Redwood Empire Fair Foundation

Created for the preservation and to ensure the growth & Viability and the Heritage of the Redwood Empire Fair

THANK YOU

Michael and Shanna Braught, Danny and Jarred Hildebrand, Kathy and Casey Burris, Taco Bell - Ukiah, JA Sutherland, Burris Family Buyers, Julie Brown, Jennifer Soward and Lucy Burris

to all the sponsors and support for the 2013 Redwood Empire Fair Foundation Steer

SEIGERS' LONG VALLEY MARKET Cut & Wrap donated by Long Valley Market
TACO BELL Purchased by Taco Bell Ukiah
associated feed Feed sponsored by Associated Feeds and Hildebrand Hay and Cattle

Steer bred by Hildebrand Hay & Cattle

Adam's Restaurant

90 S. Main St. Hwy. 101, Willits, CA
707-456-9226

Grass fed beef
Fresh caught fish
Organic Chicken
Locally grown vegetables

The rest of Pledge | From Page 3

Also extraordinarily, the husband and father of the Amish family that Gerber killed in his "second" of inattentiveness and the daughter of one of the rocket scientists that Shaw killed in the accident he caused have both reached out in forgiveness to the young drivers.

The documentary was put up at the iCanWait.com website last week, and has been distributed by AT&T to more than 40,000 high schools, as well as hundreds of safety organizations and government agencies.

iCanWait.com asks teen drivers to take a pledge and share their stories, offers a driving-while-texting simulator, and many other resources, as well

- Jennifer Poole

The rest of Brookside | From Page 5

may also be beneficial for students who are not quite ready for the regular kindergarten program.

Kindergarten students and new students who have not yet registered should register as soon as possible! You may call the office at 459-5385 for more information about any of our programs. Class lists for 2013-2014 will be posted at the office on Friday, August 16, at 5 pm, and Back to School Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 12.

I am honored to be principal at Brookside Elementary and very much look forward to a wonderful year working with this staff and with the families of our community to provide an enriching and positive educational experience.

Former Ecology Action intern killed in Afghanistan

Naquibullah Salik, an Afghani food security activist who spent six months in Willits in 2004 as an intern with John Jeavons' group Ecology Action, was murdered in Afghanistan during the weekend of June 15/16, it was learned here recently.

According to Ecology Action associates Michelle and David Glenn, Salik's murder was political and was likely carried out by the Taliban. In an email to Jeavons, the Glenns wrote: "We heard about the two HLP people who were targeted and killed by Taliban this past weekend. One was your friend Salik." In a subsequent letter to Jeavons, Michelle Glenn wrote: "Seems it was a targeted attack as the driver was not injured. Salik was buried here in Kabul yesterday evening."

After completing his internship with Ecology Action, Salik returned to Afghanistan and established an agricultural training center where he taught biointensive food growing techniques to local people. Many of Salik's students were women. According to Jeavons: "His major project this year was to establish a 20,000-square-foot training center in Badan Bagh specifically to teach women extension workers and women farmers. To further emphasize his commitment to helping the women of his country, he hired a woman with an impressive background in agriculture and administration to be in charge of the training center."

Salik's work in his native country had met with great success. According to a letter written by Jeavons that was distributed in the wake of Salik's assassination, Salik had become the horticulture coordinator for the Afghani Ministry of Agriculture, which had recently been awarded a \$120 million grant from the World Bank in order to establish a series of demonstration and food-raising gardens in 10 Afghan provinces, totaling 50,000 acres. "It seems possible that Salik's role in this ambitious and life-affirming project may have led to his death," wrote Jeavons.

The letter goes on to explain that Salik's widow and their five children are now in need of funds to provide for everyday expenses. Because of the difficulty in sending funds to Afghanistan, and the added difficulty that Salik's widow would have in collecting funds sent to her electronically, an Ecology Action advisor who now works in Afghanistan has offered to deliver locally gathered funds to Salik's widow personally, when she returns to Afghanistan in September.

People who wish to donate funds to help Mrs. Salik and her family through this difficult time may send a check to Ecology Action, 5798 Ridgewood Road in Willits. Be sure to write "for Salik's family" on the memo line of the check.

The rest of Coaster | From Page 5

Bible verses, but on Friday, the last week of VBS, everybody got to line up and ride, in different age groups. Saturday was the big finale, program and BBQ.

The VBS mission this year, said church member Michelle Goforth, was to collect canned food for the Willits Food Bank. "Lots of donations came in," Goforth said. "Besides regular canned foods, we received lots of baby food jars, rice and beans."

HOME FOR SALE
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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits

Exhibiting their best

North county community shows off at Redwood Empire Fair

You don't have to show animals to participate in the Redwood Empire Fair: crafters, artists, cooks, enthusiasts, professionals and amateurs alike all have a chance to display their talents with exhibits at the many display buildings.

Home Arts, Fine Arts, Horticulture/Agriculture, Floriculture and the Junior buildings all were filled to the brim with quilts, jellies, paintings, poetry, fruits, veggies, flowers, gardens, fly tying and cake decorating entries – all made by the community with care.

Willits showed strong with 42 exhibitors winning awards. Heidi Ahders took home a first- and second-place award for two of her decorative paintings entered into the Home Arts building. Keely Ahders won 20 awards in the Junior Building: 15 firsts, 4 seconds and one third. Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman won a second-place award for his rhubarb entry into the Agriculture building.

Connor Basler won two first-place awards in the Junior building for his photography entries, and Cassandra Basler won a first-place award in the Junior building for her jam/jellies entry. Michele Briggs won with 10 of her entries in the Agriculture building, including three first places for her produce characters, five second places for her herb, gardener's delight and unusual shape entries, and two third places for her zucchini and unusual size entries. Peter Byrne won four first-place awards in the Floriculture building for his cut geraniums, hybrid tea roses and scented roses.

Bonnie Cook also won big in the Floriculture building, taking home two first-place awards for her cut dahlia and perennial flower entries, four second-place awards for her dwarf potted plant, cut unusual flower, cut perennial and cut hydrangea entries, and one third place award for her succulent window box. Sarah Coon won on nine entries, including a first-place award for her salsa, second place for dipped chocolate confections, third for her yeast bread, and fourth for a Safari Hat in the Home Arts building, and three firsts and two second-place awards in the Fine Arts building.



Onions and zinnias on display in the Agriculture and Floriculture buildings

Photos by Maureen Moore



Amy Elliott won a first- and second-place award for two of her Home Arts building quilt entries; Caitlyn Forrester won a first- and second-place award in the Junior building; Garren Foster won a first- and two second-place awards in the Junior building; Ella Garman won seven first-place awards in the Junior building; Emma Garman won six first-place awards in the Junior building; Kara Garman won a second-place and a third-place award in the Fine Arts building; Liah Garman won two firsts, a second and a third in the Junior building, and Skyler Goldenghost won two first-place awards in the Junior building.

Richard Harter won a first-place award in the Floriculture building for his cut daisy entry; Michael Hebrard won two first-place awards in the Junior building for his watercolor and acrylic painting entries; Peggy Hebrard won three first-place awards in the Home Arts building with her decorative paintings, and three first-place awards in the Fine Arts building for her mixed media entries. Suzen Ingle won four first-place awards in the Home Arts building for her quilting, green bean and whole tomato entries, and second-place awards for additional quilting entries. Wayne Ingle won two first-place awards for his garlic and onion exhibits entered into the Agriculture buildings, and Rebel Johnston won a first-place award for her cut dahlia and a third-place award for her roses in the Floriculture building.

Jeanne Koelle won four first-place awards and one second-place award for her watercolor entries in the Fine Arts building; Betty Lemmer won a first-, third- and fourth-place award in the Home Arts building for her quilting

Read the rest of Entries Over on Page 13



Photos on display in the Junior building, and ribbons adorn the winning jars in the Home Arts building

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The rest of Entries From Page 12

entries; Kim Lovell won a second-place award in the Fine Arts building for her creative framed presentation entry; Steve Lovell won third place in the Home Arts building for his hot pepper jelly entry; Geraldine Lusnia won four third-place awards for her fruit-based butter, marmalade, syrup and catsup Home Arts building entries, and Rose Mann won second place in the Home Arts building for her drop cookies.

Nicole McLeod-Basler won a first- and second-place award for her Fine Arts building entries; Gretchen Moore won a third-place award for her quilt entry in the Home Arts building; Colleen Pappadakis won four first-place, four second-place and two third-place awards in the Fine Arts building, and Teresa Robertson won first-, second- and third-place awards in the Home Arts building for her decorative paintings and four firsts, three seconds, and one third-place award in the Fine Arts building.

Caroline Salcedo won two first-place and three second-place awards for her quilt entries in the Home Arts building; Maria Schroeder won first-place awards for her decorative paintings and counted cross stitch entries, as well as a second- and third-place award for additional counted cross stitch entries in the Home Arts building; Collin Spackman Rowles won a first-place award in the Junior building; Bruce Sprinkle won five first-place awards in the Agriculture building for his bush beans, tomato, onions, Yukon Gold potatoes and squash; and Patricia Sprinkle won four awards in the Floriculture building: two first-place awards for begonia entries, a first-place award for her succulent window box, and a second-place award for her potted cactus.

Jonas Swearingin won a first-place award and a second-place award for his Junior building entries; Lani Ulvila won a first-place award for her quilt entry in the Home Arts building; Lou Welykholowa won a second-place award for his hard-fruit wine in the Agriculture building; and Joy Wood won four first-place, one second-place and one third-place award for her zinnias, and a second-place award for her cut dahlia entry in the Floriculture building.

Laytonville had 10 winners who entered in the buildings, including Sophia Avila, who won first place in the Junior building for her jam/jelly entry. Kiley Carter won 10 first-place awards and 12 second-place awards in the Junior building; Madison Mae Carter won eight first-place awards, two second-place awards and two third place awards in the Junior building; Joshua Ivaska won a first-place award in the Junior building; Linda Leigh Mardock won four first-place, two seconds and one third-place award in the Floriculture building; Lilliana Peterson won a first-place award in the Junior building; Brianne Sanderson won two firsts, one third and one fourth-place award in the Junior building; Tayla Sanderson won 10 first-place, eight second-place and two third-place awards in the Junior building; Haley T. Whitcomb won three first-place and two second-place awards in the Junior building; and Paige T. Whitcomb won two second-place awards in the Junior building.

Covelo
Covelo winners included Michaela Chavez, who won a third-place award in the Junior building; Ashley Edwards, who won three first-place awards in the Junior building, including the People's Choice and Director's Cash award; and Davna Reynolds, who won seven first-place awards for her mini arrangements zinnias and mixed bouquets, and two second-place awards for her zinnias and mixed bouquets in the Floriculture building. -Maureen Moore



Top: Succulents on display in the Floriculture building

Above: Laytonville's Lilliana Peterson and Cheyenne Jepsen's prize-winning jams in the Junior building

Left: Ukiah's Sheila Brooks' dried arrangement

Below: Ukiah's Ginger O'Shea's entry into the Fine Arts building

Photos by Maureen Moore



The rest of Fire From Page 1

control, he decided to stay home.

"This one was closer than the other one," LeSeur-Hall said, referring to the July fire. Her husband "got wet," she said, during CalFire helicopter water drops on the Tuesday blaze.

"About a quarter acre burned in an area where there wasn't anything around that should have started the fire," Thomen said. "So that's a little bit suspicious."

The July fire, he added, "is also suspicious. It is under investigation with CalFire Prevention."

"There happened to be a strike team" from CalFire going through town when the call for the cemetery fire came in, Thomen noted, "so they were diverted and responded quickly."

"They had the resources on hand," Julie Cooley of CalFire Prevention added, and "by 1:42 they had a line around it."

"CalFire had their air tankers and helicopter on scene," Thomen said, but the tankers were called back because "it wasn't big enough to justify making a drop. The helicopter dropped [bucket-loads of water] several times."

Thomen credits Willits Cemetery and the residents of the nearest endangered home with making the job easier by making sure there was "defensible space" around their sites.

"Luckily the cemetery keeps the grass cut low," he said. "And the nearest house, they did a good job of keeping defensible space."

COLUMN | On the Screen

Film Review: 'The Human Stain'

Film version improves Roth's novel

Most people are familiar with the novels of Philip Roth, and many tend to either love or hate his often self-indulgent, occasionally smug laments about the human condition.

"The Human Stain" is one of Roth's lesser known novels, and its translation to the screen is less of an adaptation and more of an artistic improvement to the original work. Much of that credit certainly goes to director Robert Benton and screenwriter Nicholas Meyer, who mined Roth's novel for all of its hidden gold.

The movie stars Anthony Hopkins, Gary Sinise, Ed Harris and Nicole Kidman, and the actors are perfectly cast. The "stain" leaves an indelible impression on the viewer, both provocative and satisfying despite its not-so-happy climax. Released in 2003, the film garnered AFI Movie of the Year, Black Reel Awards and a Washington, D.C. Film Critics Association Award, along with Academy Award nominations in the acting and screenplay categories.

It all starts with one word – spook. Coleman Silk played by Anthony Hopkins is an eminent professor at a small, rather conservative college whose curriculum he revitalizes. He is outspoken and acerbic, but he is respected until a fatal choice of words lands him in front of the administrative board of directors, which collectively decries his use of the term "spook" in reference to two students who have never shown up to his class. What he doesn't know is that both students are black Americans, and he is accused of racism despite his logical explanation that the word "spook" refers to a ghost or specter, like the students he has never seen.

Outraged at the small minds of his colleagues, he resigns; and while outlining a counterattack upon the college's small minds, his beloved wife drops dead of a sudden heart attack. Silk is convinced that Athena College murdered his wife, and now he is a man without a tether, professionally and personally.

Walking in the woods shortly after his wife's death, he comes upon a cabin where a burnt-out writer, Nathan Zuckerman played by Gary Sinise, is hiding from the world and his own creative failure. The two become fast friends. Silk exhorts Zuckerman to write a novel about murder so foul,

and the viewer is now transported through artfully wrought flashbacks to an even deeper twist to Silk's story.

While his appearance is white and while he is presumed by everyone to be Jewish, the truth is that he is himself a black American who has chosen to live a "white lie." Even his wife had never known his true identity. Through this interweave of back story, we discover that Silk had strong promise as a boxer but chose the academic world instead, abandoning his black roots and family. We learn that his fiancée back then was a white college student who left him after she met his family of color.

Now, flash forward to the present and a chance meeting with a waitress 40 years his junior with whom he becomes involved. Nicole Kidman as Faunia delivers one of her best performances as we learn of her own dysfunctional childhood in an upscale family that wants nothing to do with her. Her stain is her molestation at the hands of her stepfather. The only presence in her life before meeting Silk is a psychotic ex-husband played by Ed Harris, who terrorizes her by always showing up unexpectedly despite a restraining order. Harris is especially malevolent, while at the same time perfectly lucid, as a Vietnam vet whose new war is against the wife whom he blames for the death of their two children in a house fire. Lester blames her, but the truth is much more convoluted. The death of her two young children is Faunia's other stain, even though she was not directly responsible for their deaths.

All three stains – Silk's and hers – become the fabric of their passionate relationship. Closure for Silk, Faunia and Lester takes place on an icy winter road. I won't give away the end, but there is also closure and satisfaction for the viewer, who can now look upon their own "stains" in a different light.

This is a film you can watch over and over again, each additional viewing revealing details and nuances that just one look could easily miss. In this case, film easily trumps book.

Nancy Ellis-Bell is a former professor and current literary agent/author who has lived in Willits for the past 20 years. Aside from her passion for the sharing of ideas, she is also addicted to parrots, Koi and a garden that just won't stop growing.



Left: The CalFire helicopter lifting off after filling its basket with water from the pond across the street from the cemetery. Above: Engines and crews from CalFire and Little Lake Fire Department quickly stopped Tuesday's fire, allowing less than an acre to burn. Little Lake Deputy Chief John Thomen said the headstones closest to the fire were made of concrete, and appeared not to be damaged as a result of the fire.

Photos by Cat Lee

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Puzzle Answer From Page 10

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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Above: Cloverbud members receive their first- and second-year gifts.

At right: Exhibitors who received market and breeding awards pose for a group photo

Below left: 4-H leader Shanna Braught shows off her club's market checks. Below right: Sue Clark hands the Randy Clark Memorial Trophy to 2013 winner Monica Galliani.

Photos by Maureen Moore
See more fair photos soon online at
<http://photographress.zenfolio.com/ref2013>



Exhibitor Awards

Youth recognized for showmanship, animals and more

Sunday on Redwood Empire Fair weekend is the day for relaxing and enjoying the last day of a long week filled with fair-time fun. The auction, showmanship classes, decorating and cleaning of stalls, anticipating, grooming, showing and more are all over, and all that's left is to attend the awards ceremony, break camp and head home.

Awards are handed out for junior building entries, champion market and breeding animals, sportsmanship, clean stalls, and the prestigious Round Robin showmanship winners.

There were two Willits kids who raised Grand Champion market animals: 4-H's Keely Ahnders in rabbits and FFA's Nick Novo in poultry. Willits FFA also won the award for the FFA Champion Market Pen of Three Lambs.

Laytonville's Mady Braught also won for Long Valley 4-H; she took the award for Reserve Grand Champion steer with her animal, who was bred, born and raised on the Braughts' family farm.

Owners of Grand Champion breeding animals also are recognized on awards day, and two of those owners hailed from the north county.

Emma Braught of Long Valley 4-H was the owner of the Grand Champion breeding meat goat, and Grant Forrester of Willits 4-H was the owner of the Best in Show rabbit.

Willits' Sue Clark also presented two special sheep awards during the ceremony. The Windswept Ranch Perpetual Trophy, sponsored by Chuck Ream, went to the Grand Champion market lamb and exhibitor Chayton Johnson of Potter Valley FFA. Monica Galliani of Potter Valley 4-H, the winner of the Supreme Champion Ewe, received the Randy Clark Memorial Perpetual Trophy.

"Randy Clark is remembered as someone who loved his ranch, his sheep, his cattle and the excitement and camaraderie of the Redwood Empire Fair. He participated

as both a member of 4-H and FFA," read the emcees. "His death on February 16, 2002 at the age of 21 leaves a large void in our lives. We thank Chuck Ream for sponsoring this award in Randy's memory."

The Round Robin showmanship results are always the most anticipated of the awards ceremony. There are two categories: Small Animal, which includes rabbit, cavy, pygmy goat, dog and poultry, and Large Animal, which includes beef, horse, sheep, meat goat, dairy goat and swine.

Competitors, all first-place winners in their original species, then must show all the animals in their respective group during Round Robin. The one exhibitor who does the best overall in their division wins the blue ribbon and an embroidered jacket sponsored by Bob and Shirley Dempel.

In 4-H Small Animal, first place went to Colton Pinson of Redwood Valley Calpella 4-H, second to Cameron Ramos of Ukiah Shamrock 4-H, third to Natya Cauckwell of Long Valley 4-H, fourth to Clair Moyes of Willits 4-H, and fifth to Natalie Horrocks of Redwood Valley Calpella 4-H.

For FFA, first place went to Jessica Crowhurst of Potter Valley FFA, second to Arnutto Vargas of Kelseyville FFA, and third went to Esmeralda Espinoza of Anderson Valley FFA.

In 4-H Large Animal, first place went to Caitlyn Forrester of Willits 4-H, second to Julie Brown of Potter Valley 4-H, third to Madison Forrester of Willits 4-H, fourth to Sofia Evans of Anderson Marsh 4-H, fifth to Trenton Williams of Redwood Valley Calpella 4-H, and sixth to Gracie Silva of Long Valley 4-H.

For FFA, first place went to Jessica Crowhurst of Potter Valley FFA, second to Chayton Johnson of Potter Valley FFA, third to Jacob Crowhurst of Ukiah FFA, fourth to Taylor Delbar of Potter Valley FFA, and fifth to Ashley Edwards of

Covelo FFA.

Four members were recognized for their sportsmanship: Tate Campbell, Rhiana Peart, Ashley Edwards and Casey Looney. Campbell of Long Valley 4-H was chosen as the sportsmanship winner.

"Tate's swine did not make weight, so he chose not to bring it," explained the emcees. "However he has been up every morning helping anyone and everyone clean out their pens, sweeping, and doing whatever is asked of him. He has helped the primary members with their rabbits and pygmy goats, and helped get hogs in and out of the arena. He is overall the definition of this award. You are an inspiration to all of us. Congratulations."

Two leaders/advisors who were nominated for 2013 were also recognized at the ceremony, including Advisor of the Year Mike Moore of Potter Valley FFA and Leader of the Year Nadine Boer of Ukiah Shamrocks 4-H.

Willits 4-H Sheep Project was the overall winner of the Clean Stall Award, and also took home species-specific banners for the 4-H Poultry and 4-H Sheep Pens. Covelo FFA won for the FFA Beef, and Long Valley 4-H won for the 4-H Rabbit Pens.

Since many of the shows take place during the week, awards were handed out at the conclusion of those shows. Winners were recognized at the ceremony again and included north county members Natya Cauckwell of Long Valley 4-H for winning Dog Obedience 4-H Novice B and Dog Advanced Showmanship; Caitlyn Forrester of Willits 4-H for winning Champion Mare; Gracie Silva of Long Valley 4-H for winning Champion Gelding; Lilah Garman of Willits 4-H for winning Champion Pony; Gracie Silva of Long Valley 4-H for winning Reserve Overall High Point 9-13; and Madison Forrester of Willits 4-H for winning Overall High Point 9-13.

- Maureen Moore

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