

Willits Weekly

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EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits



By donation

Thursday, August 8, 2013

Edition No. 15

Four school board incumbents all file for reelection

Filing deadline August 9

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
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Five candidates for four seats on the Willits school board have – so far – filed for the November election, including all four incumbents.

Board chair Cynthia Carni, and trustees Bob Harper, Alex Bowlds and Chris Neary have all filed for reelection to the board of trustees. Laurie Harris, who has listed “parent” as her designation for the ballot, has also filed to run. So, with at least five candidates filing for four seats on the board, there will be an actual school board election in November, with voters choosing four candidates to serve on the board.

The list of candidates for all offices in the November election is Wednesday’s draft list, cautioned Assistant Voter Registrar Katrina Bartolomie, and

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

Finance Committee: Sewer funds

should be used to help close deficit

The city should use sewer fund cash to close three funds with a \$542,717 combined deficit left over from the sewer plant project, the City Finance Committee recommended Monday.

Zack Cinek
Reporter
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The city opened funds for an EPA grant, a Small Communities Wastewater grant and USDA money when it earned the EPA grant in 2002, a report from the

finance director stated.

The USDA fund holds a deficit of about \$293,000 in administration and overhead costs charged to the project, according to the report.

The committee also was looking an estimated \$520,000 shortfall in the Small Communities Wastewater grant fund.

City Hall can close out the funds for good if the recommendation passes a full Willits City Council vote. But first, a stray invoice from Willits-based SHN consulting is needed so it can be submitted to the USDA.

“We do not have down to the penny an exact dollar amount,” Finance Director Joanne Cavallari noted.

The committee recommended using the sewer fund’s unrestricted cash. That fund totals about \$2.4 million. But

Read the rest of **Sewer**
Over on Page 11



At left: Willits FFA's Nick Novo shows off one of his Grand Champion poultry pen birds in the auction ring. Below: Willits 4-H's Claire Moyle poses with her hog's buyer, Mike Griggs, Sr. of Sparetime Supply

Battles of the Paddles

Junior Livestock Auction totals over \$500,000 dollars for 242 lots

Below: Potter Valley 4-H's Mady Braught of Laytonville poses with her Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer; right: Willits FFA's Ashley Persico smiles with her market lamb while waiting to show

Photos by Maureen Moore



Prices were soaring at this year's Redwood Empire Fair Junior Livestock Auction, held Saturday at the Ukiah Fairgrounds. Bidders were bidding wonderfully on the sale's 242 lots to help support the kids. This year, the auction total reached \$552,026. An amazing achievement indeed.

One of the highlights was Willits FFA's Nick Novo, who received a check for \$4,000 for his Grand Champion poultry pen. Novo's two birds were the

Read the rest of **Auction**
Over on Page 4



Traffic headache

East Hill Road closed weekdays through mid-October

Jennifer Poole
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Traffic on Highway 101 in Willits appears to have increased noticeably this week since bypass contractor DeSilva Gates closed a section of East Hill Road to through traffic on Monday. Signs went up last Thursday, announcing the road would be closed from 7 am to 7 pm through October 15.

“I think that because East Hill Road is the ‘local’s bypass,’ that’s why we’re seeing such increased traffic on Highway 101,” Mayor Holly Madrigal told Willits Weekly Wednesday afternoon. “It highlights how badly we need another north/south road through town.”

Monday’s southbound traffic backup was expected, as attendees at Reggae on the River made their way home from French’s Camp in Humboldt County. Southbound traffic was backed up well north

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

WPD establishes drop-off box for old medications

Willits-area residents now can drop off old, unwanted prescription medications at a Willits Police Department collection box.

The box “provides a legal and environmentally-safe way to dispose of unwanted prescription medications,” according to Willits Police Chief Gerry Gonzales.

“Leftover medications in the home can be a health risk to children or an invitation to abuse by others,” warns Mike Sweeny, general manager of the Mendocino Solid Waste management Authority, which is co-sponsoring the drop-off program with the WPD. “If flushed down the toilet, old medications and pollute waterways and harm marine life.”

To use the police department disposal box, first empty pills into a plastic bag, Gonzales says. The prescription bottle should be discarded with ordinary trash.

The self-service disposal box is installed outside the police department’s front door at 125 East Commercial Street.

“The old medications will be collected by the HazMobile household hazardous waste program and destroyed in a high-temperature incinerator,” Sweeney notes.

The HazMobile also accepts old medications at its regular collections in Willits and Ukiah. The HazMobile collection schedule is posted at www.MendoRecycle.org,

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

Tax sharing agreement on pause

The board of supervisors probably will hold a workshop on the current status of the tax sharing agreement between the county and the City of Ukiah within the next month, according to Second District Supervisor John McCowen.

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Currently there is no agreement between Ukiah and Mendocino County, although, such an agreement has been sought off and on for the past 30 years, McCowen says.

A tax sharing agreement was very close to being finalized late last year, he noted, after a series of meetings between a county ad hoc committee and City of Ukiah staff.

In fact, following a December 6, 2012, meeting, McCowen thought an agreement was close, but the Ukiah team backed away from it at a December 17 meeting.

Two of the key points of disagreement are what exactly the revenue split will be and what kind of business revenues will be subject to it.

The county wants a 50-50 split on all revenue increases over the base year from both new and existing businesses.

The city favors a 60-40 split on revenues from new

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



Bypass 360:

A 360-degree view down to 101 from the east side of the freeway at the south end of the bypass project. See more on Page 3

Photo by Maureen Moore

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

A bypass acceptor

To the Editor:

I have thought a lot about the bypass. I knew I wasn't against the bypass but what was I? I consider myself a bypass acceptor. I accept that after 50 years of talk and 20 years of planning, the time for the bypass is here. The meetings have been held, the planning sessions have taken place, the public input has been gotten, challenges have been made in court to no avail, the funding arranged, the permits granted. The bypass is here, now.

Does that mean that I think this is a perfect bypass? No. Some other bypass might have been better, but that isn't the bypass we are getting. This bypass is the one we are getting. This one, right now, that Caltrans is building at this moment. It is not going away. It won't be stopped, not with millions of dollars already spent and contracts signed for many millions more.

Willits cannot separate itself from the fact that a major north/south route, Highway 101, shares its Main Street. Elsewhere on Highway 101 north, the clog at Doyle Drive, on the south end of the Golden Gate Bridge, is currently being fixed, as is the logjam at the Novato Narrows. The bypass is not about Willits, except for the undeniable fact that this town is a bottleneck on a major highway. The bypass is about the efficiency of the state highway system. We are not the center of the universe, with every decision based on what Willits wants.

I hope that you will join me in speaking out, if you too are a bypass acceptor. Talk to your neighbors. Write letters to the editor. Speak to your elected officials. One venue I highly recommend is a Facebook discussion group called the "Willits Bypass Open Discussion Group." The individuals in this discussion group are people who truly are interested in knowing what is going on with this bypass. On this discussion group are many individual bypass acceptors and some anti's. We have found fellowship in discussion of the bypass.

Jeanne King, Willits

Hold Caltrans to agreements

To the Editor:

I'd like to correct a misconception that Caltrans has promoted through local news media that they are not required to abide by local noise restrictions. Actually the 2002 Draft Environmental Impact Report states: "The contractor shall comply with all local sound control and noise level rules, regulations and ordinances which apply to any work performed pursuant to the contract (Caltrans Standard Specifications Section 7-1.01(i) "Sound control requirements.")

The county has noise limit standards (Appendix C of the General Plan). I encourage anyone who feels they are being impacted outside these standards to get or borrow a decibel reader for an iPhone and determine if the contractor is exceeding the allowable noise levels. The noise level allowed at night (10 pm to 7 am) is different than that allowed during the day.

This applies not just to pile driving. Back-up beepers, large truck traffic and all-night generators also impact the neighborhood. I can testify that I hear the pile driving and the beepers from my location 4.5 miles west of Evergreen Shopping Center. It is a long and arduous process to have to measure, document and call Caltrans on the excessive noise that is impacting us. Caltrans and their contractors should comply with their agreements without locals having to call their bluff.

I have also heard reports of large truck traffic at night. Obviously the contractors have not done as was promised in the EIR and built haul roads within the bypass footprint. Caltrans did not do environmental studies on the haul roads, designating that job to the contractor who would also design them. This proved a tall order, so the contractor wants to use our city streets. They didn't even send their principles to the table with the city's ad hoc committee until a week before the end of the 90-day grace period the city

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

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kindly gave them.

When the city did not renew the grace period, the contractor's lawyer called the city attorney to threaten to sue the city! Caltrans and their contractors are pushing us to see how much we will let them get away with. Unfortunately an emergency meeting was called within days, and two city council members reversed their decisions and gave the contractor another 30-day grace period. There is no reason negotiations cannot continue without more damage to our streets.

Now I hear that the contractors, DeSilva Gates and Flatiron, have closed East Hill Road during working hours. Apparently the site is within city limits. Did the city give permission to close this street? This is an extreme inconvenience, not just to people in the valley and on Pine Mountain, but to everyone who drives in Willits and who will experience the increased traffic on other streets, especially the 101/20 intersection. The draft EIR and the final EIR promised not only that the contractor would use haul roads, but also that there would be a "Traffic Management Plan." Has anyone seen such a plan and when can the public let our representatives know how we feel about it? It is time now to tell John Pinches (in the phone book: 459-4510) that he needs to step up and advocate for county residents who are being unfairly impacted by the city's willingness to allow this extreme condition.

It is not our job to ensure that the low bidder makes larger profits. It is the job of the contractor to accommodate the community by providing flaggers and working more slowly so that people can get to work and to their commitments in town without more disruption than we are already putting up with.

I encourage everyone to protect our sanity by holding Caltrans, the contractors, the city and the county to the agreements we trusted them to abide by.

Rosamond Crowder, Willits

Thanks for the wick drains

To the Editor:

Last Saturday, a handful of us bypass acceptors (Jeanne King, Stephanie Carroll, Delores Pederson, Kathy Robertson-Brorson, Debra Schwartz, Debbie Boone-Harry and me) served a BBQ lunch to the wick drain crew working on our bypass, as well as four CHP officers on duty at two sites.

We acceptors met online on the Willits Bypass Discussion Group on Facebook, then moved to the Willits Bypass Open Discussion group when we were kicked off the original board for expressing our pro-bypass and/or anti-protest opinions. We call ourselves bypass acceptors rather than pro-bypass because some of us are actually against the bypass, but all of us agree that it is pointless, expensive, destructive and ridiculous for the protesters to continue trespassing and holding up construction, adding millions to the cost of the project.

We were horrified to learn that some of the wick drain workers have felt so unwelcome in Willits that they have been reluctant to leave their hotel (they are a highly specialized crew of experts who install wick drains all over the world). So we decided to show them some Willits hospitality by cooking them a homemade BBQ lunch.

Our wick drain welcome wagon was enthusiastically received by the work crew, their supervisor, the Caltrans representatives and the CHP officers onsite. We got to inspect a few wick drains in the ground and watch a few being installed from a safe distance. Our guide explained that the wick drains will speed up the compaction process of fill spread on the bypass footprint, routing water around it through a layer of sand or gravel.

Bypass opponents have claimed without any supporting evidence whatsoever that the wick drains will "destroy Little Lake Valley," arguing nonsensically that Caltrans hasn't proved the wick drains won't destroy the valley. Wick drains have been used all over the world for the last 100 or more years without any reported ill effects. Here, they will only be installed on 40 acres out of the more than 5,000 acre valley. There is no reason at all to believe the wick drains will cause any problems here. We were happy to see that more than half of the wick drains have already been installed. Bypass construction is moving right along.

We want the wick drain installers, all the other bypass workers, the Caltrans people, and the CHP officers to know that we appreciate their hard work and professionalism in the face of very challenging circumstances—protesters chaining

Lunch with the wick drain crew



themselves to equipment, insulting and swearing at them, and even loss of pay when a crew is not able to work on a particular day because of the civil disobedience.

The CHP officers we met Saturday have to commute from Lake County to guard our bypass construction sites and crews for 12 hour shifts – 14 hours including the commute. They told us the officers on duty Friday had to come up from Santa Rosa. What a waste of everyone's time and money! Hats off to these officers who have kept their cool in the face of sometimes outrageous misbehavior by protesters.

No matter how you feel about the bypass, if you see a bypass worker, a Caltrans worker, or a CHP officer around town, please take a moment to approach respectfully and thank them for their service to our community. It has been a very difficult six months for them, facing constant misdirected hostility from a segment of the population here. Let them know lots of Willits folks appreciate them.

If you want a "Thank You Caltrans" bumper sticker, please e-mail me and I'll send you one (or more): rocvin13@gmail.com. And please let me know if you'd like to participate in the next "Thank You Bypass Workers!" lunch.

Randi Covin, Willits

Renewing Brooktrails Township

To the Editor:

August 9 is the deadline for candidates to file for the Brooktrails Township Board of Directors, and three of the five positions will be contested at the November 5 election. All prospective candidates will be invited to two Brooktrails community open forums held by the newly formed Brooktrails Community Alliance: one in September and one in October, dates to be announced. The candidates will be asked to respond to the Alliance's strategic goals and priorities, as set forth below.

Brian Weller, member of Brooktrails Community Alliance

The Brooktrails Community Alliance

The Alliance is a growing ad hoc group of residents who meet regularly to explore the future of our township. We are not political in the party sense and represent a broad range of opinions within our community. Collectively we have extensive experience in the affairs of Brooktrails and a wide spectrum of knowledge and skills to offer.

Our Purpose – What We Care About and Why

We came together out of a shared concern about the direction of our township and the way it is run. Some residents feel concerned that they aren't heard or responded to well by the board and staff. This was especially true over the board's decision to support the Caltrans bypass in March of this year.

In May 2006, after a substantial period of community work, the Greenbelt Stewardship Plan was submitted to the board. Seven years later it still is waiting to be adopted and implemented. Representing the township can often be a thankless task, and we do recognize and acknowledge the work of the staff and the board. Being a director entails a lot of work for little pay, and reconciling the inevitable conflicts that arise requires focus and dedication. This is why we need to spread the load, and our alliance is willing to help. Despite our many challenges, we realize that if we work and pull together, we can become a truly resilient and prosperous community

Our Emerging Vision and Values

We see our township actively embracing sustainability on all levels. We want more open and transparent communication, better fiscal management and a realistic policy towards growth.

To be secure and resilient for the future, we want greater energy and food independence. We wish to promote a more cooperative and interdependent relationship with the City of Willits. Above all, it is we, the residents, who have to be more active in the affairs and direction of our

Read the rest of [Letters](#) | [Over on Page 11](#)

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Photos by Maureen Moore

A View from the Ground

Work was proceeding in three major areas along the Willits bypass route Monday morning: at the southern interchange area south of town; at the pile driving area north of Commercial / Hearst-Willits Road; and at the Quail Meadows interchange north of town.

About 50 to 60 workers are now out there working.

Work installing square H-piles for bridges has begun; a total of 16 or 17 bridges will be built, including bridges across creeks and streets.

At top, left: A big Caterpillar JJ6J63 grader sits on the closed part of East Hill Road, where a temporary haul crossing is being constructed.

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

About seven scrapers were working Monday morning moving dirt from the hill on the side of Highway 101 near the southern interchange, and dumping it along the bypass route up to East Hill Road.

At top, right: A Bigge crane is installing rebar for a retaining wall along the bypass route.

Left side, top: Another big earth-mover dumps dirt, with a water truck on the right

Left side, middle: Two wick drain stitchers working at what will be the Quail Meadows interchange on the north end of the bypass.

Left side, bottom: one of the fast-moving Caterpillar 657G "scrapers" that loads and dumps dirt from the bottom.

Bottom row, far left: A Flatiron machine holds an 85-foot pile in preparation for loading it into the pile driver.

The next four pictures show a progression in the installation of the piles supporting the columns for the mile-long viaduct section of the bypass. First, 85-foot piles are driven deep into the ground. Next: The piles are outfitted with concrete reinforcing steel. Next: A pile cage assembly is lowered into place. Finally: Concrete has been poured for the bottom of the viaduct columns.



m•pho•tog•ra•phress

[uh-tog-ruh-friss]

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

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NOVO

THEATRE Willits, CA
Times for 8/9 - 8/15

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: 1:00pm

THE SMURFS 2

(PG) Run Time 1hrs 45mins

Daily: 3:00, 5:15 & 7:30pm
Sat/Sun Matinee: 12:45pm

Tight Wed Tuesday film Smurfs 2 with All Shows. All Ages @ \$5 Starting August 9th KICK-ASS 2

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Puzzle Page

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

In the Stars...

ARIES

Mar 21 - Apr 20

Aries, try not to pick sides when asked for your opinion on a dispute between close friends. Giving the impression of picking sides may strain a friendship.

TAURUS

Apr 21 - May 21

Many positive things are on the horizon, Taurus. You just have to get through a few rough spots before it is clearer sailing this week. Pisces is a pivotal player.

GEMINI

May 22 - Jun 2

Challenge yourself this week, Gemini. Now is a great time to take on a new hobby or task and test your mettle. You will be glad you did when you accomplish your goals.

CANCER

Jun 22 - Jul 22

Cancer, trust those around you as they can be a valuable source of support and encouragement. Work to be there for them as much as they have been there for you.

LEO

Jul 23 - Aug 23

Leo, a travel opportunity is just over the horizon, so have your bags packed and ready to depart at a moment's notice. You can certainly use some time away.

VIRGO

Aug 24 - Sept 22

Virgo, once you think you have everything figured out, a few variables get thrown into the mix. You will show your ability to solve problems if you can handle the task.

LIBRA

Sept 23 - Oct 23

Libra, someone close to you puts their faith in your ability to get a job done. Devote all of your attention to completing this task, and it will only enhance your resume.

SCORPIO

Oct 24 - Nov 22

Scorpio, others are quick to look to you for help because of your work ethic, experience and attention to detail. Embrace these opportunities as they can help your career.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23 - Dec 21

Sagittarius, it could be in your best interest to remain out of the spotlight at the next social gathering. You might have a more enjoyable time as a fly on the wall.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22 - Jan 20

Capricorn, tight deadlines at work will have the pressure on you and your coworkers. But stick to the task at hand, and you will reap the rewards in the near future.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21 - Feb 18

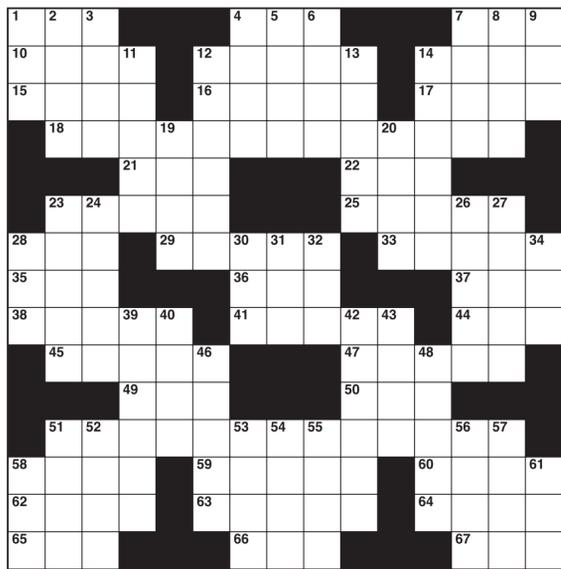
Hard work will get you ahead, Aquarius. Don't shy away from an opportunity that comes your way, even if it seems less than promising at first glance.

PISCES

Feb 19 - Mar 20

Pisces, you may find yourself in a leadership role this week and will be called on to make a lot of decisions. Take advantage of this opportunity.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

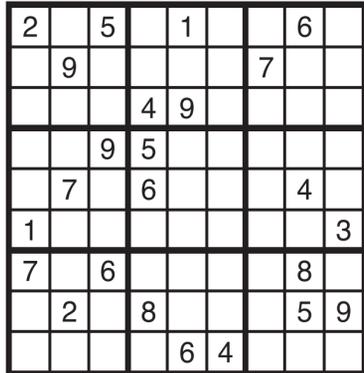
- Droop
- Rested in a chair
- Thai (var.)
- Draw out wool
- Coatis genus
- Taxis
- Beige
- Supplementing with difficulty
- Capital of Norway
- A personal written history
- Cologne
- Australian flightless bird
- Lowest freeman; early Eng.
- 18th C. mathematician Leonhard
- Cabinet Dept. for homes
- Languages of Sulu islands
- More scarce
- Before
- Swiss river
- Actress & director Lupino
- Edges
- Thousand Leaves prefecture
- Soldier hero of Spain El
25. 18th C. mathematician Leonhard
- Cabinet Dept. for homes
- Languages of Sulu islands
- More scarce
- Before
- Swiss river
- Actress & director Lupino
- Edges
- Thousand Leaves prefecture
- Soldier hero of Spain El
45. Gains through work
- To the front
49. (German)
- Price label

CLUES DOWN

- Point midway between S and SE
- Genus of birds
- Personal spiritual leader
- Japanese rice beverage
- Eared owl genus
- Wood oil finish
- Hyphen
- Competently
- Equal, prefix
- Broad-winged soaring hawks
- A collection of star systems
- Be in accord
- Links subject & predicate (linguistics)
- Paddles
- Asian river between China and Russia
- Child (scot.)
- "Aba ___ Honeymoon"
- Disappearing shade trees
- Cricket frog genus
- Union busting worker
- A priest's liturgical vestment
- Previously The Common Market
- Upper left keyboard key
20. Asian river between China and Russia
- Physicists Marie or Pierre
- Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- ___ Dunlap, pageant titleholder
- Made again
- Norse goddess of death
- A waterproof raincoat
- Express pleasure
- ___ Lanka
- Radioactivity unit
- Clay blocks for building
- Linear unit
- Conductor tools
- Whale ship captain
- Queen who tested Solomon
- Good Gosh!
- A gangster's girlfriend
- Unstressed-stressed
- Draw through holes
- Old Italian monetary units
- Musician Clapton
- Ceremonial staff of authority
- Fabrics of camels or goats
- Large body of water
- Basics



Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

How To Sudoku:

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

The rest of Auction | From Page 1

subject of a battle of the paddles between Thurston Auto Plaza and Taco Bell Ukiah, who was the eventual winner. Novo's in-ring grin was priceless.

Across all species, prices were impressive: the 34 steers sold for an average of \$6.20 per pound; the 34 lambs sold for an average of \$11.36 per pound; the 139 hogs sold for an average of \$6.92 per pound; the 21 goats sold for an average of \$12.37 per pound; the six poultry pens sold for an average of \$1,204.17 per pen; and the eight rabbit pens sold for an average of \$746.88 per pen.

Along with Novo, Willits 4-H's Keely Ahders also won a Grand Champion title for her rabbit pen, which sold to Savings Bank of Mendocino County for \$1,700. Willits' Natalie Horrocks, who shows for the Redwood Valley / Calpella 4-H, won Reserve Grand Champion for her poultry pen, which was purchased by Taco Bell Ukiah for \$1,150.

Chapter Champions also included Willits FFA's Casey Hebel, whose FFA Champion poultry pen was purchased by Thurston Auto Plaza for \$500; Willits FFA's Hannah DeShiell, who sold her FFA Reserve Champion rabbit pen to Les Schwab Tire Center of Willits for \$450; Willits 4-H's David Maan, who sold his 4-H Reserve Champion poultry pen to Paul Riley for \$475; Willits 4-H's Aaron Colvig's 4-H Reserve Champion Duroc Market Hog, weighing in at 278 pounds, sold to Sparetime Supply for \$7.50 per pound; and Willits 4-H's Liah Garman's 4-H Reserve Champion AOB Market Hog, weighing in at 266 pounds, sold to Solid Waste of Willits for \$7.50 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Taylor Buzzard sold her 277-pound market hog to White Oak Ranch for \$7 per pound; Willits 4-H's Caitlyn Forrester sold her 1,198-pound market steer to Geiger's Long Valley Market for \$4 per pound; Willits FFA's Rhiana Peart sold her 130-pound market lamb to Safeway of Willits for \$7 per pound; Willits 4-H's Jessica Buzzard sold her 218-pound market hog to Les Schwab Tire Center of Ukiah for \$7 per pound; Willits 4-H's Sarah Compa sold her 298-pound market hog to 101 Trailer and RV for \$6 per pound; Willits 4-H's Hailey Riley sold her 133-pound market lamb to Yokum's Body Shop for \$9 per pound; Willits 4-H's Madison Forrester sold her 93-pound market goat to Geiger's Long Valley Market for \$11 per pound.

Willits FFA's Clayton McGrew sold his 224-pound market hog to Les Schwab Tire Center of Willits for \$5.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Ryan La Count sold his 104-pound market goat to Geigers Long Valley Market for \$9.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Jaden Doak sold his 295-pound market hog to J&M Sheet Metal for \$5 per pound; Willits 4-H's Lucas Branscomb sold his 277-pound market hog to Weathertop Nursery for \$6 per pound; Willits' Megan Horrocks, who shows with the Redwood Valley/Calpella 4-H, sold her 67-pound market goat to Mendocino County Farm Supply for \$12 per pound; Willits FFA's Rockell Rutler sold her 126-pound market lamb to Ted Dawson, MD for \$6.50 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Grace Horgor sold her 134-pound market

lamb to Gravier's Chevron for \$8 per pound; Willits 4-H's Morgan Riley sold her 100-pound market goat to Sky Rock Ranch for \$11 per pound; Willits 4-H's Ian Seymour sold his 1,287-pound market steer to Noyo Trawlers Association for \$3.75 per pound; Willits FFA's Kayla Lyon sold her 140-pound market lamb to Noyo Trawlers Association for \$9.75 per pound; Willits 4-H's Haley Schuck sold her 299-pound market hog to Factory Pipe for \$7.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Kyleena Amador sold her 265-pound market hog to Mendocino County Farm Bureau for \$6 per pound; Willits FFA's Matthew Hendry sold his 256-pound market hog to Chase Vineyards for \$7 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Samantha Arms sold her 150-pound market lamb to Hollifield Construction for \$9.75 per pound; Willits FFA's Kylie Reed sold her 232-pound market hog to Les Schwab Tire Center of Ukiah for \$7.25 per pound; Willits 4-H's Claire Moyle sold her 271-pound market hog to Sparetime Supply for \$8 per pound; Willits 4-H's Halee Reed sold her 237-pound market hog to Sparetime Supply for \$6 per pound; Willits 4-H's Lance Burgess sold his 134-pound market lamb to Grizzly Mountain Ranch for \$9 per pound; Willits 4-H's Sequoia Jones sold her 116-pound market lamb to Savings Bank of Mendocino County for \$10.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Bernardo Lopez sold his 284-pound market hog to Archer Trucking for \$9 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Cody Ramsey sold his 147-pound market lamb to Geiger's Long Valley Market for \$11 per pound; Willits 4-H's Matthew Colvig sold his 273-pound market hog to Willits Redwood Company for \$8 per pound; Willits FFA's Novo Medina sold his rabbit meat pen to Shuster's Transportation for \$500; Willits FFA's Emmy Heiken sold her 264-pound market hog to 101 Trailer and RV for \$5.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Hunter Brackett sold his 276-pound market hog to Sparetime Supply for \$7.75 per pound; Willits 4-H's Eden Hinker-Tye sold his rabbit meat pen to Schmidbauer Ranch and 101 Goat Farm for \$525; Willits 4-H's Taten Heiken sold his 254-pound market hog to Shuster's Transportation for \$6.25 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Elizabeth Rountree sold her 216-pound market hog to Les Schwab Tire Center of Willits for \$8 per pound; Willits 4-H's Justin Verdott sold his 300-pound market hog to J.D. Redhouse for \$7.75 per pound; Willits 4-H's Jacob Compa sold his 293-pound market hog to Taco Bell Ukiah for \$7 per pound; Willits 4-H's Cheyenne Verdott sold her 253-pound market hog to Round Tree Glass for \$7 per pound; Willits FFA's Alyssa Mounts sold her 239-pound market hog to Nor-Cal Recycled Rock and Aggregates for \$7 per pound; Willits FFA's Kris Novo sold his poultry pen to Noyo Trawlers Association for \$450; Willits 4-H's Jacob Arms sold his 303-pound market hog to J&M Sheet Metal for \$9.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Tyrell Hopkins sold his 263-pound market steer to John McCowen for \$6.50 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Ben Branscomb sold his 288-pound market steer to Weathertop Nursery for \$7.75 per pound; Willits 4-H's DJ Buzzard sold his 218-pound market hog to Round Tree Glass for \$8 per pound; Willits 4-H's Bailey Ferguson sold her 289-pound market hog to Nor-Cal Recycled Rock

and Aggregates for \$6.50 per pound; Willits FFA's Ashley Persico sold her 127-pound market lamb to John Gramke for \$12.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Coltin Doak sold his 270-pound market hog to Shuster's Logging for \$7.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Ethan Ferguson sold his 272-pound market hog to Sparetime Supply for \$6 per pound; Willits FFA's Lakota Lebo sold her 250-pound market hog to South Ukiah Rotary for \$6 per pound; Willits' Colton Pinson, who shows for the Redwood Valley/Calpella 4-H, sold his 1,252-pound steer to Mendocino Roofing for \$3.50 per pound.

Willits 4-H's Justin Amador sold his 288-pound market steer to Sparetime Supply for \$7 per pound; Willits 4-H's Thais Reed sold her 137-pound market lamb to Shuster's Logging for \$9 per pound; Willits 4-H's Emma Compa sold her 241-pound market hog to Taco Bell Ukiah for \$7 per pound; Willits FFA's Brook Stroccker sold her 144-pound market lamb to Round Tree Glass for \$11 per pound; Willits FFA's Carolyn Simpson sold her 1,440-pound market steer to Ukiah Valley Rentals for \$3.50 per pound; Willits 4-H's Stetson Burgess sold his 1,268-pound market steer to Grizzly Mountain Ranch for \$6 per pound and Willits FFA's David Wells sold his 228-pound market hog to Intercountry Mechanical and Electric for \$5 per pound.

Laytonville and the Long Valley 4-H also had great attendance at the auction, including Laytonville's Mady Braught, who shows for the Potter Valley 4-H, who won Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer, weighing in at 1231 pounds and sold to Thurston Auto Plaza for \$7.50 per pound. Long Valley 4-H's Garrett Campbell won 4-H Champion AOB Market Hog, weighing in at 230 pounds, and sold to Weathertop Nursery for \$9 per pound.

Long Valley 4-H's Jordan Luna sold her 219-pound market hog to Josh Firks for \$9 per pound; Long Valley 4-H's Collin Spackman-Rowles sold his 228-pound market hog to Weathertop Nursery for \$8.50 per pound; Long Valley 4-H's Wade Sizemore sold his 1,272-pound market steer to Weathertop Nursery for \$4.25 per pound; Long Valley 4-H's Natya Cauckwell sold her 278-pound market hog to Belcorp Ag for \$7 per pound.

Long Valley 4-H's Joshua Ivashu sold his 240-pound market hog to Laytonville Wholesale Lumber for \$7 per pound; Long Valley 4-H's Hannah Whitely sold her 252-pound market hog to Gravier's Chevron for \$7 per pound; Long Valley 4-H's Vincent Gossman sold his 1,187-pound market steer to Rodney Dashiell Construction for \$3.75 per pound; Long Valley 4-H's Emma Braught sold her 83-pound market goat to Anderson Logging for \$26 per pound; and Long Valley 4-H's Haley Whitcomb sold her 110-pound market goat to Long Valley Auto Supply for \$17 per pound.

Covelo / Round Valley
Covelo and Round Valley winners included Round Valley

Read the rest of Auction | Over on Page 11

Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits

For the Foundation

Redwood Empire Fair Foundation raises more than \$20,000 for new equipment

Maureen Moore
Designer & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

The Redwood Empire Fair Foundation was started in 2011 to help raise money to, as per the mission statement, "preserve and ensure the growth & viability of the heritage of the Redwood Empire Fair." All funding for California's state fairs was eliminated from the state budget in 2011.

For the last two years, the foundation has successfully raised money selling livestock and more to help purchase necessities for the fair and grounds.

This year, the foundation auctioned off a steer raised and donated by the Hildebrand Ranch,



Michael and Shanna Braught, Danya and Jarred Hildebrand, Kathy and Casey Burris, Julie Brown, Jennifer Seward and Lucy Burris stand with the foundation steer

Photo by Maureen Moore

Read the rest of Steer | Over on Page 9



Fair board members and award-winners from the Directors' Dinner: front row from left: Ginger Pohlsen, Ruth Valenzuela, Bob Dempel, Gilbert Cox, Ana Cox, Janice Sutherland and Glenna Blake. Back row from left: Mike Anderson, Casey Burris, Roger Coate, Roberto Muniz, Eric Crawford and Jennifer Seward

Photos by Maureen Moore

Directors' Dinner

Willits couple named 'Agriculturalists of the Year'

Maureen Moore
Designer & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

The annual Directors' Dinner, held Thursday at the Redwood Empire Fair, honored those community members and businesses who go above and beyond to support agriculture, the fair and each other in Mendocino County.

Six honorees received awards and a special additional recognition by Congressman Jared Huffman this year, including Ana and Gilbert

Read the rest of Dinner | Over on Page 9



At left: Holly Madrigal, Willits City Mayor, stands with Ana Cox, awarded Agriculturalist of the Year. At right: Supervisor John Pinches helps display the quilt during the auction at the Directors' Dinner, while the bids were flying in

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Congratulations



Luna Valentic received Masters

Sherwood School is proud to announce that teacher, Luna Valentic, has recently received her Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction Specialized in Reading from Concordia University. We are so fortunate to have her teaching our children. Congrats Luna.



Katie & David ENGAGED!

Rick and Kris Pierce of Willits are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie Elizabeth, to David R. McCain, son of Leonard H. McCain and the late Eloise R. McCain of Brighton, Colorado. Katie is a 2001 graduate of Willits High School, a 2005 graduate of Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, and earned her DPT at Northern Arizona University. She is currently employed at Core Balance Physical Therapy in Flagstaff, Arizona. Dave is a graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is currently a graduate student at NAU in Flagstaff. The wedding will take place in June 2014, in Flagstaff.

Furry Friends



Photo by Bob Gardner

Ringo Star is a favorite with staff and volunteers at the Ukiah shelter, as he is so friendly. Ringo is a 1-year old male. He is a very handsome, affectionate and loving cat, and he seems to be fine with the playful kittens in the lobby. He has beautiful Siamese markings, blue eyes and a short tail.

Ringo is one of about 85 cats and kittens at the Ukiah shelter, looking for a loving home: Come see them at 298 Plant Road, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm, and to 7 pm on Wednesday, or visit www.pawstoadopt.com

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Sandy Strong - Watercolor Paintings - 459-0658

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

Kinetic Carnivale Construction Volunteers: Bring your friends and bring your tools to the Mendocino County Museum, 5:30 to 8:30 pm. More info <http://www.kineticcarnivale.com/> or Facebook.

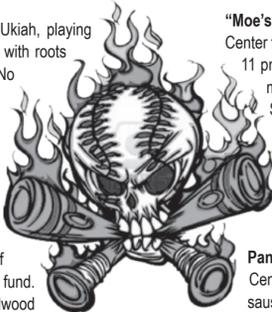
Friday, August 9

Dead on the Creek: A one-of-a-kind music festival in the hills outside Willits, August 9 through 12, featuring four days of live music by Della Mae, the Honeycutters, Joe Craven Trio, Wake The Dead, Hot Buttered Rum, and more. Private, limited admission; more info at www.deadonthecreek.com.

Shanachie Pub: Jojo Way band from Ukiah, playing "both the new and old" in rock and roll, with roots in the blues and dance music. 8 pm. No cover.

Saturday, August 10

Summer Slam Slowpitch Co-Ed Softball Tourney: Starting at 8:30 am, at the ballfields on Commercial Street. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Willits, to benefit their youth scholarship fund. Concessions provided by Willits Redwood



Willits Airport Day: A Kinetic Fly-In

This year's Willits Airport Day, celebrating the 49th anniversary of Ells Field (the Willits Municipal Airport), is teaming up with the Kinetic Carnivale and the Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival for a "Kinetic Fly-In."

The Airport Day Fly-In, set for Sunday, September 8, will feature a variety of aircraft rides, says event producer and airport manager Dan Ramsey. "We've signed up two Cessna aircraft and one Robinson helicopter," Ramsey said, "and we are looking for local sponsors for a Stearman biplane and maybe a WWII trainer aircraft."

Pilots from throughout California have been invited to fly in for the event, which also features antique, vintage and contemporary aircraft on display, food booths, and local exhibitors. There will be a free shuttle from the airport to the Kinetic / Roots events in town, and festival goers can also use the shuttle to visit the airport and see historic aircraft up close.

"We're keeping the flight prices low, but we're also offering an opportunity for three airport volunteers to go flying for free," Ramsey said. To sign up as a volunteer or to find out about sponsoring a biplane or other historic aircraft, contact Ramsey at 841-6252.



Sweet Moments of Confusion

Sweet Moments of Confusion performs original instrumental compositions inspired by folk traditions from many corners of the world, particularly Northern and Eastern Europe. Drawing from classical technique, improvisation and traditional styles, cellist Myra Joy and accordionist Diana Strong weave together complex rhythms and captivating harmonies to create a rich tapestry of sounds, ranging from delicate and subtle to playful and bold.

Sweet Moments of Confusion plays in Willits Friday, August 16, as part of their North Coast tour, also including Fort Bragg (8/15), Sebastopol (8/17) and the Cotati Accordion Festival (8/18). At The Muse, 30 East San Francisco Street, 7:30 pm. Tickets \$12 (\$10 children) at the door; no one turned away for lack of funds; please come and pay what you can afford.

Visit www.sweetmomentsofconfusion.com, or call 459-1493 for more info.

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Little League, to benefit their club. Come on down and cheer the team from your favorite local business or organization. Info: Curtis Collicott at 972-3352.



Hot August Night: Benefit fundraiser for the Haehl Creek Trail, 4 to 10 pm at the Rec Grove. Featuring live music by the West Coast Rhythm Kings (danceable rock & blues band out of Ukiah), the Blue Cactus Choir (Americana / Singer/Songwriter / Bluegrass from Menlo Park - visit <http://www.reverbnation.com/bluecactuschoir> to listen), Native American dancing by the Round Valley Feather

Dancers, a raffle, a silent auction, fun games for kids, and food and drink booths (including Indian tacos offered by the Sherwood Valley Rancheria). Tickets are \$12; kids under 12 are free. More info, call Larry Stropes at 459-1642. Info: www.facebook.com/HaehlCreekTrail.

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

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

Sunday, August 11

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

under 12, \$5. Info: 459-6826.

Monday, August 12

Pie & Ice Cream Social: Every 2nd Monday at the Willits Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Info: 459-6826.

Willits/Brooktrails Community Meeting: Hosted by the Willits and Brooktrails community alliances; the public is invited. 6:30 to 8 pm at the Willits City Council Chambers, 111 East Commercial Street. With guest speakers, including Edna Heidebrink, who has lived in Willits most of her 90-plus years. The meeting will "review the history and present state of our community and then explore ideas for its future direction ... and improving our future." Info: Jed Diamond at Jed@MenAlive.com or 459-5505.

Tuesday, August 13

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. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

Smurfs 2 at Noyo for TWT

Thursday, August 15

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>

Saturday, August 17

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

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 tonight, followed by "Blackberry Reggae Rama" with Keith Porter of the Itals, is just part of the



line-up of live music featured both days, including: The Hot Shots, Marjo Wilson, The Wild Horses, The Wild Mendohulas, The Blackberry Jammers, The Black Horse Band, Heidi Clare Lambert, Angelo Laiwa, Round Valley Rounders, Steven Danial O'Ferrall, The Prickly Pair, Jordan Feathers and Rick James. More info: www.roundvalleyblackberryfestival.com or Facebook.

"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.

"Artistry of the Guitar" Saturday August 17 at WCT



Sunday, August 18

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.

ONGOING

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.

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

Artistry on the Guitar

Saturday August 17

Award-winning finger-style guitarists Ken Bonfield, Steve Davison, and Tim Farrell will perform for one night only at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, Saturday, August 17.

Bonfield, a guitarist known for his inventive use of alternate tunings and exotic instruments built to his own design, will perform several pieces on his Carruth Harp Guitar. He is one of only a handful of American guitarists who perform and tour with a harp guitar

Davison composes on both the 6- and 12-string guitar. His musical career started at age 12 playing the drums in a multitude of rock and roll bands, but At 19 he saw a performance on solo acoustic guitar, put down the sticks and picked up the guitar, starting a life-long journey of discovery.

Award-winning composer and guitarist Tim Farrell rounds out the trio. A highly accomplished guitarist and Grammy nominee, Farrell's fingerstyle playing and original compositions display an elegant simplicity that celebrates the purity of the acoustic guitar.

Farrell is also teaching a "Guitar 101" workshop - things every guitarist should know, plus an extended Q&A - on Saturday afternoon. Bring your guitars and a tuner if you have one.

WCT Playhouse, 37 W. Van Lane, is located behind Shanachie Pub. Concert starts begins at 8 pm; tickets are \$20. Workshop starts at 4 pm; tickets are \$15. Tickets are available at Good's Shoppe, 56 South Main Street; or call WCT at 707-459-0895 for credit card orders; or order online at brownpapertickets.com/event/433134.



Hot August Night!

on Saturday packed with free activities for kids

Willits Multi-Use Trails Coalition's fundraiser to build a trail along Haehl Creek is set for this Saturday at the Rec Grove, from 4 to 10 pm, with live music, Native American dancing, a raffle, a silent auction, fun games for kids, and food and drink booths.

"One of our main objectives for Hot August Night!" said organizer Larry Stropes, "was to make this an event that families with children won't want to miss. After all, when Haehl Creek Trail is built, it will be designed for families - whether they like to bicycle, run, walk or even ride horses."

So Hot August Night! has many free activities for kids - and kids under 12 get in free to the event, too.

The Willits Kids Club is providing an inflated Jolly Jump House, along with hand painting and ring toss games. Members of the Sherwood Valley Tribe are going to be organizing games of disc golf - where individual players throw a flying disc at targets along a course. "The kids will love it," the tribe promises.

Mike Aplet is bringing his slot car set-up, where kids can run powered miniature cars and other vehicles along a figure 8 track. And there will

be plenty of hula hoops for those of all ages to play with, too.

Zumba teachers Rachel Cash and Erin Fitzpatrick are teaching Zumba classes for kids on Sunday, too: Zumba is a mix of aerobics and dance moves, including a little martial arts, set to dance music, including hip-hop, soca, samba, salsa, merengue, and mambo rhythms.

Nurse practitioner Carolyn Wyatt, who organized the kids' games for Hot August Night!, said many of the games were activity-oriented, as well as fun. "We're trying to get the kids excited about moving and getting exercise that's good for their health, as well as having fun playing," she said.

Tickets are \$12 for 12 and up; kids under 12 are free. See www.facebook.com/HaehlCreekTrail or August 10 calendar listing for more info.



Teachers Erin Fitzpatrick, left, and Rachel Cash, right, lead kids Shania Dalton and Lucy Vargas, in front, and Jayden Vargas and Ivan Dalton, in rear, in a Zumba routine. Photo by Jennifer Poole

Garden Party

benefits Willits schools

The annual Garden Party co-hosted by the Willits Educational Foundation and the Willits Rotary Club raises funds that are essential to support the arts, music, libraries and other programs in the Willits public schools. The Garden Party is set for Saturday, August 24, from 4 to 8 pm, in the ornamental gardens at the home of Phil and Kathy Shuster on Center Valley Road.

Funds raised by the foundation have gone to science programs at Willits High School and Baechtel Grove Middle School, and to a "poet in the classroom" project for eighth-graders at Baechtel Grove, with Willits poet Dan Roberts.

All students at Blosser Lane Elementary School enjoyed art instruction from artist and teacher Laura Wiecek, thanks to a grant from the Willits Educational Foundation. The foundation spent more than \$3,000 to fund a set of California Mission books at Blosser Lane, and also bought art supplies and reading books for different levels of readers at Brookside Elementary School.

Sherwood School received garden/nutrition materials, and Willits High School received individual whiteboards, a network printer and magazine subscriptions. The Foundation has also provided seed money for a healthy-cooking club at Willits High School, and also funds to publish original student portfolios at the high school.

Over the last two years, the Garden Party has raised \$28,000 to help supplement school programs.

The August 24 party features music for dancing by The Basics and small-plate treats, including barbecued tri-tip, served by students, as well as a silent auction and raffle

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

Safety Classes:

Get certified to work at the Wowsler manufacturing/educational facility, with these safety classes (mandatory for all working members to take and pass before taking other classes): Saturday, August 10 at 11 am; Sunday, August 11 at 6 pm; Wednesday, August 14 at 2 pm. All classes held at Wowsler, 330 East Commercial Street. Age 14 and up (with parental permission for teens). All safety classes and individual tool safety classes are free. Please RSVP at www.facebook.com/wowslerLLC by leaving a comment.

Fun & Fundraising

The Willits Junior Giants did a lot of sudsing and scrubbing at their annual car wash on Saturday. Coach Jim Hale said there was always a car there to be washed - "never a dull moment," he said. There were about 40 people there to help out, with about half of them kids. The money - \$468 was raised - will be used to rent a bus to take the Junior Giants players down to watch a San Francisco Giants game this Sunday. The group has 64 tickets taken already, and is hoping to get six more. The Giants are playing the Baltimore Orioles, and the kids will enjoy a hot dog and soft drink courtesy of the SF Giants organization. "They take pretty good care of us," Hale said. More donations are always welcome, though: call Hale at 459-6766. The Junior Giants are playing the last two games of their season next Monday and next Wednesday at the ballfields on Commercial Street. Warm-up starts at 6 pm, and the game starts at 6:30.



Left: Kids work together to wash cars in front of Les Schwab Tire Center during the annual event. Photo by Lauren Morris

Save the Date:

A Garden Party, benefits Willits Educational Foundation, August 24
Brooktrails Fire Department Benefit Golf Tournament, August 24
Dance Brigade, Dos Rios, August 24

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.

THANK YOU!

to all the buyers who helped reach the 2013 Junior Livestock Auction total of

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Josh Finks
Keith Thornton
Keith's Family Food Store
Laytonville Gas Co.
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Les Schwab Tire Center- Willits
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Redwood Empire RV's
Redwood Empire Title
Renner Petroleum
Rodney Dashiell Construction
Ron's Quality Construction
Round Tree Glass
Round Valley Indian Health Center
Round Valley Indian Housing Authority
Round Valley Indian Tribe
Safeway- Ukiah
Safeway- Willits
Savings Bank
Schmidbauer Ranch
Selzer Realty | Shuster's Logging
Shuster's Transportation
Sky Rock Ranch
Solid Waste of Willits
South Ukiah Rotary
Spartemite Supply
St. Helena Veterinary Hospital
Stephanie Jensen
Stipp Paving
Taco Bell - Ukiah
Ted Dawson MD, Inc.
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Ukiah Waste Solutions
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Weatherport Nursery
White Oak Ranch
Willits Redwood Co.
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Willatt Resource Management, Inc.
Yokum's Body Shop |
|--|--|---|

2013 Grand Champions

Selected from 242 lots including

34 steers, 34 lambs, 139 hogs, 21 goats, 6 poultry pens and 8 rabbit pens



Keely Ahders of Willits 4-H sold her Grand Champion Rabbit Meat Pen to the Savings Bank of Mendocino County



Tony Zamora of Potter Valley 4-H sold his Grand Champion Market Steer to Anderson Logging



Chayton Johnson of Potter Valley FFA sold his Grand Champion Market Lamb to Thurston Auto Plaza



Jessica Crowhurst of Potter Valley FFA sold her Grand Champion Market Goat to Mendocino Roofing



Nick Novo of Willits FFA sold his Grand Champion Poultry Pen to Thurston Auto Plaza



Scott Dailey of Potter Valley 4-H sold his Grand Champion Market Hog to Thurston Auto Plaza

Additional Thanks

An additional Thank You also goes out to the Mendocino County Farm Bureau and Geiger's Long Valley Market for their sponsorship of the buyer's hats and to the Savings Bank of Mendocino County for all their hard work throughout the event

COLUMN | Well Mannered Mutts



Housemates fighting

Sallie Palmer
Columnist

Several times a year I get a phone call or email from a person with a multiple dog household. They explain that although all their dogs used to get along just fine, all of a sudden they have been fighting, to the point where one of them ends up going to the veterinarian or, worse, the owner has been bitten trying to stop the donnybrook.

What's going on here? Dog trainers refer to this as "housemates fighting" or, if the dogs are litter-mates, "sibling rivalry" (but that's another article).

Please don't get me wrong; there are plenty of multiple dog households where everyone gets along just fine. However, if you are in a household where there is tension between the dogs, it can be a nightmare. It isn't unusual for one of the dogs to be re-homed.

The typical scenario goes like this: A person has a dog. Life is good. The dog and person are living harmoniously. Then one day, the person brings home another dog of the same sex. This dog is usually a puppy or younger dog. All is fine at the beginning, until one day the owner notices that the older dog has growled or disciplined the younger dog. The owner, acting like a human, reprimands the older dog for his behavior. By this simple action, the owner may have started World War III.

In the dog world, it is permissible for the higher-ranking dog to discipline a lower-ranking dog for challenging the higher-ranking dog's position in the dog-human pack. The new dog, as he matures, may challenge the older dog by behavior that will mostly go unnoticed. Simply blocking a doorway, sleeping in the other dog's spot, taking an object that the other dog has claimed or, my favorite, blocking the older dog from the human giving attention (petting, praise) to the offender. We unknowingly add to the problem.

In my household there is my husband, me, my 12-year-old male German Shepherd dog, Skete, and a 4-year-old male black Labrador dog, Trooper. I got Trooper when he was 5 months old. Skete was 8 years old.

As Trooper matured, I starting noticing subtle behaviors that he would do around Skete. Being a dog trainer, I make it a point to watch dog behavior. Trooper would body bump Skete out of the way, steal an abandoned toy that Skete had been munching on (when Skete got up for a drink of water), lie in Skete's bed, and always try to horn in and block whenever I gave Skete attention. The writing was on the wall. If I didn't take action, I would eventually have a dog fight.

So what is it that my husband and I do to keep harmony? We make sure Skete is always treated as the higher-ranking dog. Skete is allowed through all doors first. Trooper has to do a "down-stay" until we tell him he can get up and go.

We always feed Skete first, and again make Trooper "stay" until he is given permission to go to his bowl. If we are giving Skete affection and Trooper attempts to wedge himself in between us, we send Trooper away. He has to wait his turn for our attention, and it is always after Skete. This may seem harsh or oppressive but believe me, it is necessary.

When I first noticed Skete reprimanding Trooper I jumped in and scolded Trooper. I backed up Skete. This sent a clear message to Trooper that he was out of line and his behavior would not be tolerated. It sent another message to Skete: I had his back; he didn't have to worry; I would take care of it. As the leader, that's my job.

I am happy to say that all is well in the household, and the dogs know who outranks who. Although there is still that subtle persistent pushing on Trooper's part, it's a dog thing, which must be dealt with now and again. Trooper will get his turn as top

Read the rest of
Dogs
Over on Page 11

Classifieds & More

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 Cantwell 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.

Computer Help

Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$35/hr. Tutoring \$15/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email macamargin@yahoo.com.

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



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

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The rest of
Steer
From Page 5

as the finale of the Junior Livestock Auction last Saturday. Feed for the steer was donated by Associated Feeds, and Potter Valley's Julie Brown helped halter-break the animal and assisted Fair CEO Jennifer Seward in the show ring. Cut and wrap for the steer was donated by Geiger's Long Valley Market.

Dedicated and long-time fair supporter J.A. Sutherland of Taco Bell Ukiah was the final buyer of the steer at \$12.50 per pound, after an exciting back and forth with Geiger's Long Valley Market. The 1,350-pound steer earned the Foundation \$16,875, which was then boosted another \$2,000 by additional donations given in \$200 increments after the conclusion of the auction.

At the Director's Dinner on Thursday, a quilt made by Linda McCallum of Ukiah was also auctioned off to raise money for the foundation. The big winner was Tony Pierce of B&B Industrial, who bid \$2,100 and took home the beautiful queen-sized quilt.

This year, proceeds from the foundation auctions are planned to be used to purchase a truck for the fair. In 2011, the funds raised went to purchase a forklift, which was gratefully inaugurated into service this year.

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The rest of
Election | From Page 1

may not be complete. The filing deadline is 5 pm on Friday, August 9, and for the school board election, with all four incumbents filing, that deadline will stand.

In other local elections, if all the incumbents do not decide to run again, the filing deadline will be extended for five days, to 5 pm on Wednesday, August 14, to accommodate additional candidates.

Three seats are up for election on the Brooktrails Township Community Services District Board of Directors. So far, only one incumbent, Roy "Rick" Williams, has formally filed, but incumbent Tony Orth told Willits Weekly he would be completing his paperwork and filing to run again. Brooktrails resident Gino N. Zalunardo, who has listed "retired" as his designation for the ballot, has also filed to run. If incumbent Skezas does not file, the filing deadline for the Brooktrails board election will be extended to August 14.

The Little Lake Fire Protection board has two seats up for election in November, currently held by Patrick Charlson and Tom Herman. According to the Registrar's Office's draft list, Charlson has filed to run again, but Herman has not yet filed.

Also on the ballot this fall for Willits area voters will be a ballot measure filed by the Little Lake Fire Protection District, asking for residents of the fire district to approve a new \$14-per-unit annual tax to build a new firehouse.

The rest of
Meds | From Page 1

or at the Recycling Hotline, 468-9704.

"Needles and syringes aren't accepted with old medications because of the special risk they create," Sweeney adds. "Needles and syringes must be properly packaged in a hard plastic container and will be accepted without charge at the Willits Transfer Station, 350 Franklin Avenue."

The rest of
Tax | From Page 1

businesses only.

Both sides understand that having a tax sharing agreement is key to moving away from land use decisions based on the need to increase tax revenues.

At a July 29 City of Ukiah workshop on the status of the tax sharing agreement, City Manager Jane Chambers said she feared the process had become so bogged down the help of an outside facilitator was needed. Mendocino County CEO Carmel Angelo said she was open to a facilitator being brought into the process.

The rest of
Traffic | From Page 1

of town, past the future Quail Meadows bypass interchange, and travelers stopping in Willits for lunch, gas and supplies made overall in-town traffic more congested, too.

But northbound traffic on Highway 101 south of the Highway 20 interchange was backed up, too, on Monday morning, and multiple reports say daytime traffic has been worse than usual since then.

A Caltrans press release Friday had a somewhat different announcement: that East Hill Road would be "intermittently closed to through traffic" from Sanhedrin Circle to Cemetery Lane "from 7 am to 6 pm Monday through Thursday, and from 7 am to 3 pm on Friday," through October 15. Caltrans spokesperson Phil Frisbie said he actually expected the road to be closed during the daytime hours every weekday through October 15, but East Hill Road was reported open Tuesday afternoon.

Bypass contractor DeSilva Gates sent out a notice back in July that East Hill Road would be closed those same hours and days from July 18 through August 9, but the road wasn't closed until this Monday.

The reason for the road closure is that DeSilva Gates is building a temporary haul road over East Side Road along the bypass route. Fast-moving (30 mph) earth-moving machines known as "scrapers" are moving dirt - a half-million cubic yards - from the hill on the northbound side of Highway 101 near the southern interchange, and dumping it along the bypass route. The hill on the southbound side of the highway is also set to come down to become material for bypass construction.

According to documents in correspondence with the City of Willits, DeSilva Gates plans to "build the crossing and leave it in place till sometime during the summer months of 2014," and that East Hill Road will be closed again for construction operations during May, June and July of 2014.

Signage has been confusing, with the sign at Sanhedrin Circle last Thursday at

The rest of
Dinner | From Page 5

Cox of Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese of Willits, who received the Agriculturalist of the Year award.

The Coxes came to Mendocino County in 2001 to start their dairy and cheese business on their north-of-Willits farm, Summer Breeze Organic Farm. The Coxes started raising goats in 1972 and have been making cheese since 1983. They offers a wide variety of flavors and types of cheeses, which "start" and "finish" right there on the farm. The pair enjoys representing Mendocino County at the many events they attend throughout California. The Coxes sell their goat cheese at the Willits Farmers Market every Thursday.

Ross Liberty of Factory Pipe, LLC, a motorcycle exhaust systems company which has grown from a 400-square-foot garage to a 140,000-square-foot facility on the north end of Ukiah, won the Industrialist of the Year award. Bob

first announcing that the closure would start "8/4" (Sunday), not "8/5" (Monday), and with the sign at Center Valley Road on Tuesday morning announcing "East Valley Closed," not "East Hill Closed." DeSilva Gates subsequently corrected the announcement on both signs, but complaints that there aren't enough signs, and existing signs aren't adequately placed are still coming in.

The Caltrans Traffic Management Plan for the bypass project anticipates that Center Valley Road and Hearst-Willits Road will also be closed as the project progresses, with public traffic detoured. Only one local road closure is allowed at a time. DeSilva Gates said the closure of Hearst-Willits Road wasn't anticipated to be as long, as less material will have to be hauled at that point.

East Hill Veterinary Clinic, at 1200 East Hill Road, was not officially notified of the road closure, but staff did see the sign on Thursday and had heard about the earlier closure announced for July 18 through August 9. East Hill Clinic staffer Lindsey Bowlds said the clinic has seen a definite disruption of business. "Many customers have been coming in late," Bowlds said. "They don't realize the road is closed." Others are calling to ask how to get to the clinic, because they don't know how to get around to the alternate routes.

Madrigal said the city is working with DeSilva Gates to get better placement of the signs, or signs that only warn that the road is closed when it actually is closed during the week.

Caltrans also announced the start of night work for the Willits bypass that began Wednesday and will continue, between 7 pm and 7 am, through October 15. This work requires intermittent nighttime closures of Highway 101 one mile south of the Haehl Overhead Bridge, south of Walker Road, and also one mile south of the North Willits Railroad Crossing. "Motorists can expect 10 minute delays at each location."

Dempel of the Dempel Farming Company vineyard business was the Blue Ribbon Award Winner this year, recognized for his lifetime career with the Redwood Empire Fair, starting at age 10, when he showed his first hog at the fair.

Janice Sutherland of Taco Bell Ukiah won the Business Owner of the Year award. Taco Bell Ukiah contributed more than \$240,000 in sponsorships, donations and advertising to the community in 2012 alone and, since 2008, has purchased more than 50 animals at the Junior Livestock Auction.

Ruth Valenzuela, principal field representative for Assemblyman Wesley Chesbro, received the Exemplary Service Award this year for her efforts as legislator's "eyes and ears" in the 2nd district.

After awards were presented to the honorees, event-goers enjoyed a meal by Five Star Catering, and cheered the start of another Redwood Empire Fair.

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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Grateful Gleaners

Harvesting fellowship as well as fruit



At top: A basket of freshly picked pears

Above: Michael Gularte, who started working with the Grateful Gleaners last year, with his grandmother Earline Dykes, who's been gleaned for four years now



The Willits Grateful Gleaners are getting ready for another season harvesting the abundance of local fruit in and around Willits that would otherwise go unused.

"The Gleaners are ready when the fruit is," said Gleaner volunteer Thayer Craig. And with blackberries ripening, pears starting to fall, and apples turning red already, gleaned season is almost upon us.

Growers and homeowners with trees, gardens and bushes with excess pesticide-free or organic fruit (or produce) are invited to call and leave a message at 707-513-9489. A team leader will call back to make arrangements to come out and assess, and then gather a crew to glean.

Volunteers are encouraged to call, too. The team leaders teach ladder safety and the proper way to pick fruit so as not to damage it. "Usually we don't spend more than two or three hours picking," Craig said.

The Grateful Gleaners donate the fruit they harvest (and walnuts and some vegetables) to community organizations like the Willits Food Bank and Willits Daily Bread, as well as to schools and after-school programs. The Gleaners have also been known to harvest for seniors or disabled people who can't do it themselves.

Earline Dykes has been working for the Grateful Gleaners for four years and enjoys picking "the fruits of her labor." "The camaraderie in the Gleaners is so uplifting and fun," she said. But harvesting fruit is not usually "an old person's game," she said. She got her grandson, Michael Gularte, involved at the end of the season last year.

"My granny invited me," Gularte said, "and it was cool, picking grapes and apples and pears. It was a positive experience." Gularte will work with the Gleaners again this year. Craig agrees that the Grateful Gleaners need some young energy - "Most of us are getting to be older," she said - and young people are especially cordially invited to lend a hand - all necessary equipment is provided. To get involved, call the Gleaners message line at 707-513-9489.

At left: Carol Cox, Victor Hanson and Wolfgang Ronnefeldt glean apples

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

the committee also had the option of using money from sewer connection fees, which total about \$593,000.

Mayor Holly Madrigal and Councilman Ron Orenstein sit on the Finance Committee. Monday's committee recommendation meeting next goes before the city council for approval.

In June, the council approved a budget for the fiscal year that contained a projected shortfall of \$400,000. But a report from the city stated that budget may change, depending on the recommendations of an upcoming organizational study.

"We could do a quarterly review; how many positions did we have in the budget that have not been filled yet," Cavallari suggested to the committee.

And "we might be able to see some improvements from construction in town,"

The rest of **Letters** | From Page 2

community.

Our Commitment to the Community

The Brooktrails Community Alliance wishes to serve as a residents' advisory group to support the board with expert knowledge and skills. We will be a community "check and balance" to ensure that big issues are discussed openly before decisions are made and policies are enacted

From time to time we will run facilitated community meetings to gauge the residents' feelings and wishes on important matters and opportunities. We actively support the Brooktrails Property Owners Association.

Our Strategic Goals and Priorities

1. Managing Our District

Managing **Growth** by:

*Setting realistic limits to growth based on our water supply, existing infrastructure, and road capacities.

*Implementing lot merger programs by consolidating small lots into larger lots.

*Supporting a cost-effective second access road along Alignment A to Highway 20.

Managing our **Finances** by:

*Exercising fiscal restraint by providing cost-effective essential services.

*Focusing on maintaining our existing infrastructure by reducing debt, and building our financial reserves.

*Seeking new sources of revenue.

Managing our **Water and Sewer** by:

*Enhancing our water supply by reducing sedimentation in reservoirs and dredging to increase capacities.

*Supporting binding arbitration of the lawsuit with Willits over wastewater treatment.

*Building the solarization of our district's energy system.

2. Protecting Our Township

Enhancing **Fire Safety** by:

*Maintaining all our emergency evacuation routes through annual summer grading, rocking, vegetation removal, driving drills and by distributing route maps to all residents.

added Madrigal.

The committee also looked at writing both a reserve policy and a policy for grants.

For a city employee coming before the council, the fate of a grant proposal can seem like an arbitrary decision, and a policy could help.

"It is about matching funds, and how quick we can be paid," Orenstein said, thinking about rejected grant requests he has seen as a councilman.

Madrigal added government oversight as another factor in the success of a grant request.

"You almost always have to front the money and then get reimbursed," Cavallari said. "I have never seen grant money up front, personally."

*Reducing fire hazard by maintaining the fire defense perimeter zones around our residential areas.

*Preparing an annual report for lot abatement to include digital maps showing greenbelt, grass lots, forested lots, developed lots and vacant lots.

*Working with CalFire to develop a shaded fuel break along Ridge Road.

Promoting **Environmental Stewardship** by:

*Reviewing, updating and implementing the Greenbelt Stewardship Plan. This plan is a vision statement that provides guidelines for future special projects, including forest restoration, erosion control, fuel hazard reduction, riparian enhancement, and recreational development.

*Maintaining our Golf Course to operate within its revenues. Promoting this unique nine-hole course set in its mature, preserved redwood grove traversed by the ecologically significant Willits Creek.

*Enhancing, preserving and protecting the Coho, Chinook, and Steelhead habitat in Willits Creek.

*Preserving and protecting our heritage native trees and groves in the greenbelt by adopting and implementing the Native Tree Ordinance.

3. Improving **Community Communication** by:

*Promoting cooperation with the City of Willits that emphasizes our interdependence in the areas of services, planning and recreation.

*Encouraging two-way communication between the Brooktrails board and the residents during board meetings.

*Support training in communications skills for the board and other representatives of Brooktrails Community Services District. We especially recognize the "front line" challenges of the office staff.

*Upgrading all our communication channels, especially our website, use of email lists, social media, Brooktrails Township meetings, and communication with local, regional and national media.

The rest of **Auction** | From Page 4

4-H's Mya Moreno, who won 4-H Reserve Champion Market Goat, weighing in at 83 pounds and sold to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$17 per pound; and Covelo's independent exhibitor Jaylen Wilson won Independent Reserve Champion Market Steer, weighing in at 1,244 pounds and sold for \$6 per pound to the Round Valley Indian Tribe.

Round Valley 4-H's Levi Bowes sold his 283-pound market hog to M&M Feed for \$8 per pound; Covelo FFA's Mareca Franco sold her 85-pound market goat to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$11 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Samuel Franco sold his 288-pound market hog to Keith's Family Food Store for \$10 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Adrian Phillips sold his 248-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Housing for \$8.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Gracie Bauer sold her 1,122-pound market steer to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$5.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Baily Bienvenu sold her 212-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Health Center for \$9 per pound.

Covelo FFA's Noelia Davila sold her 1,378-pound market steer to Round Valley Indian Health Center for \$4.75 per pound; Covelo FFA's Chelsea Celeri sold her 130-pound market lamb to Safeway of Willits for \$10.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Honey Bienvenu sold her 254-pound market hog to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$8 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Hunter Guerra sold his 1,120-pound market steer to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$5.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Kaiden Britton sold his 214-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$7.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Bryce Jamison sold his 320-pound market hog to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$8.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Ethan Mann sold his 255-pound market hog to Liipad Land Development for \$8.50 per pound.

Covelo FFA's Leticia Whipple sold her 270-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$5.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Kenyon Duke sold his 278-pound market hog to Keith's Family Food Store for \$6 per pound; Covelo FFA's Meika Whipple sold her 265-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$7 per pound; Covelo FFA's Alex Oliver sold his 215-pound market steer to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$9.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Cody Celeri sold his 268-pound market hog to M&M Feed for \$7.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Jesse Davidson sold his 1,143-pound market steer to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$4.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Joshlyn Tuttle sold her 245-pound market hog to Les Schwab Tire Center of Willits for \$6.50 per pound.

Covelo FFA's Wacey Vann sold her 250-pound market hog to Horse O'Ferrall Trucking and Construction; Covelo FFA's Melissa Freeman sold her 230-pound market hog to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$8 per pound; Covelo FFA's Dominic Williams sold his 225-pound market hog to Oliver Construction for \$7 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Nadia Davila sold her 74-pound market goat to Noyo Trawlers Association for \$13 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Quade Smith sold his 219-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$9 per pound; Covelo FFA's Ashley Edwards sold her 273-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$19 per pound; Covelo FFA's Christina Phillips sold her 218-pound market hog to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$7.75 per pound.

Round Valley 4-H's Chah-lahl Whipple sold her 223-pound market hog to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$8.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Leonard Whipple sold his 312-pound market hog to Mina Burgers for \$8.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Matthew Edwards sold his 1,269-pound market steer to Great Oak Ranch for \$3.50 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Kirsten Britton sold her 259-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$8.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Courtney Hurt sold her 291-pound market hog to Covelo Western Auto for \$8.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Georgie Hoaglin sold his 1,224-pound market steer to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$4 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Jocey Thieman sold her 1,225-pound market steer to M&M Feed for \$3.75 per pound; Round Valley 4-H's Dylan Fuerra sold his 1,355-pound market steer to Round Valley Indian Housing for \$4.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Kenneth Whipple sold his 314-pound market hog to Round Valley Indian Tribe for \$8.50 per pound; Covelo FFA's Jesse Gurrola sold his 252-pound market hog to Hidden Oaks Casino for \$8 per pound; and Covelo FFA's Kyle McCoy sold his 212-pound market hog to M&M Feed for \$8.50 per pound.

The rest of **Dogs** | From Page 8

dog soon. Skete is now 12.5 years old. Skete gets to live out his days as the No. 1 dog in peace.

Here are some tips to help those with multiple dog households. Be the ultimate top dog in the dog-human pack. Figure out which dog has the higher rank of the group and give that dog the privileges of rank. This dog gets to do everything first. In the door, greetings, food, treats etc. If a scuffle flares up, do not punish the higher-ranking dog but instead back him up. Send the offending lower-ranking dog away. Do not feel sorry for this lower-ranking dog. They understand pack dynamics better than us humans do.

Sally Palmer is a certified dog trainer with the International Association for Canine Professionals. She has more than 25 years of experience in training people and their dogs. For more information about Sally and her programs go to www.willitsnerednuts.com

COLUMN | Trending



Crash and burn on neural strips

Nancy Ellis-Bell
Columnist

The terrible crash of that Asiana Airline flight as it attempted to land on its designated San Francisco runway was not only a tragic human event, it is also symbolic of what is occurring within our own neural pathways.

Returning for a moment to air transportation, pilots will now be required to consult their GPS devices in order to confirm landing conditions. In the world of airplanes, commercial and private, anyone who has ever flown a plane knows there are two flight modes: VFR (visual flight recognition) and IFR (instrument flight recognition, or more accurately, reliance) have been the two choices available to the pilot, depending on any number of variables.

Back in my 30s I actually flew a small plane (VFR) while my friend whose plane it was went to the back of the aircraft to fix an audible but fortunately small problem. I had flown with him on several occasions, and always watched with interest in (and with a sense of emergency preparedness) how to navigate the plane. In real time, I only had control of the instruments for several minutes. It felt like a lifetime, and to my surprise my friend told me that I had done exceptionally well, keeping the wings even and flying smoothly. During those several moments, every neuron in my brain was on high alert, and the novice was able to prevent two people from potentially crashing.

American brains - realistically brains throughout the world - have become so dependent on high-tech IFR that crucial abilities are being compromised. The more conventional address book which noted important numbers and addresses required frequent visits to make sure our information was correct when we needed it. Phone numbers in particular were verified before calling just to make sure we had the numbers right. No longer. Technology has brought us the convenience of speed dial and other short cuts. We don't need to remember anything except the name of the person we're reaching out to. Relying upon our memory literally lights up the brain, as demonstrated in numerous brain scans.

The only lights to be seen when we rely upon the device in our hands are on the screen of that device. Despite my access to such technology, I continue to make myself memorize phone numbers, email addresses and physical addresses. I like to think that my brain looks a bit like a kaleidoscope of flashing colors when I pull up one of those memories.

Beyond memory, there is a further loss of dexterous skills that make our brains even less "bright and colorful" - the elimination of teaching both handwriting and keyboarding techniques in more and more schools. All we need is an index finger to swipe a screen or the coordination of two thumbs. The old cliché "He/she is all thumbs" is now a culturally accepted norm. The teaching of foreign languages is also on the decline. All one needs is a thumb or finger to find your "bon mot" ("good word" in French) on the internet.

The latest travesty in over-dependence on technology is the growing industry of learning and even tutoring online. No personal contact required. Even basic math skills have declined to the point where American students rank at the bottom. It's all about the finger and the thumb.

The brain is a vibrant, blood-fueled computer in its own right. Without fuel or stimulation, those neurons become lazy and they atrophy, and synapses simply don't occur. Technology is truly a gift born of our brains, but like parents with children, there have to be limits, boundaries and discipline.

The current rise in Alzheimer's diagnoses may be perceived as an older person's affliction from which younger generations will be blissfully spared by some new, miracle drug yet to be discovered. A broken brain is a broken brain, and the time to mitigate those fractures is before they occur. Go ahead, light up. You can even inhale.

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.

76th annual Old Timers Baseball Game and BBQ

A small group of volunteers is organizing the 76th Annual Old Timers Willits vs. Laytonville Baseball Game and BBQ, to be held on Saturday, August 17 at Bud Harwood Park in Laytonville - and they need your help.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities, ranging from helping organize things for the kids to do during the day, to serving food, or donating a salad, watermelon or pot of beans. The Laytonville Lions Club will BBQ chicken. Food starts at 11 am, with Opening Ceremonies at 1 pm,

and the baseball game starting at 2 pm.

The Old Timers Game is a benefit for Harwood Park, which relies solely on volunteers to maintain the seven-acre park and community center. Hosting Old Timers is one way the park pays its insurance to keep everything up and running.

If you can help, please call LaRae, volunteer coordinator at Healthy Start, at 984-8089.

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Willits Weekly

Puzzle Answers From Page 4

2	8	5	3	1	7	9	6	4
3	9	4	2	8	6	7	1	5
6	1	7	4	9	5	8	3	2
8	4	9	5	3	1	2	7	6
5	7	3	6	2	9	1	4	8
1	6	2	7	4	8	5	9	3
7	3	6	9	5	2	4	8	1
4	2	1	8	7	3	6	5	9
9	5	8	1	6	4	3	2	7

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Soccer camp

British coaches share their love of 'football'



Becky Button
Contributing Writer

Willits kids got a visit from across the pond last week, when Challenger Sports brought their British soccer camp to our community.

"Austin Powers, are you ready?" the coach called out in his crisp British accent.

"Groovy, baby. Yeah!" A dozen children responded, followed by a saucy, hip-swiveling move before they charged across the field giggling, passing soccer balls and dodging orange cones.

The upbeat coaches, Ben Farmar and

Nick Shallow, kept the soccer drills exciting, merging favorite recess games like "freeze-tag" with soccer skills. In their version of the game, the only way to "un-freeze" a teammate was by passing the ball through their legs.

Each day, the children learned new moves, practiced skills like dribbling, passing and shooting, all while playing fun games. The coaches stressed the importance of respect and good sportsmanship during practices and scrimmages.

"They seem to be learning so much and really having a good time, too," said Carrie Winter, mother of a 7-year-old attending the

camp.

"Next year, I'd like to put all three of my kids in," she added.

The camp also provided a "Coaches Clinic" one evening for local soccer coaches to learn new tips and techniques – mostly, how to keep everything fun so the kids will want to come back for more.

The children of Willits aren't the only ones to benefit from soccer camp: for the young coaches, Farmar and Shallow, spending the summer travelling across America and sharing their love of football (or soccer, as we Yanks like to call it) has been a memorable experience.

"This has been the best summer of my life, by miles," Farmar shared. "I feel like I'm getting to see the part of America that most tourists never get to see. The real America, the heart of it."

The duo has led camps all across California, but they noticed something special about the Willits community.

"The Willits kids are excited and attentive,

and they've made our job easy because of their interest in the game," Farmar noted, adding: "There's good community spirit here, a real family feel."

According to the coaches, who recently finished leading soccer camps in bigger cities like Sacramento and Ukiah, Willits led them all in parent involvement. On the last day of camp when the teams played a mock World Cup, the bleachers were packed with parents who came to cheer their kids on.

Saprina Rodriguez, president of the Willits Youth Soccer League, said she plans to invite the Challenger crew back next year.

"I really liked the way they wove their five key points – respect, responsibility, integrity, sportsmanship and leadership – into each day's activities," Rodriguez commented, "They were teaching life skills as well as soccer techniques."

If your child missed the camp but still wants to join in the fun, there is still time to sign up for Willits Youth Soccer. Visit www.willitsyouthsoccer.com for more information about teams, coaching and sponsorship.

Above left: Everyone is a winner after the final match of the "Willits World Cup"

Photo by Becky Button

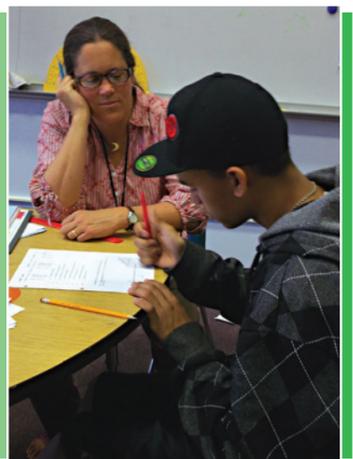


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