

Willits Weekly

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits



Free - but donations accepted

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Edition No. 4

County to privatize mental health

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The board of supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday to privatize the delivery of mental health services in Mendocino County.

Supervisors approved two contracts, one for \$8.8 million with Redwood Management Company (RMC) for delivery of mental health services to children and youth, and one for \$6.7 million with Ortner Management Group (OMG) for delivery of mental health services to adults.

Redwood Management Company is affiliated with Redwood Children's Services, which has delivered mental health services to children and youth in Mendocino County for many years.

According to Tom Ortner, CEO of Ortner Management Group, his company has been "the primary provider of the 24-hour mental health care for adults for Mendocino County for nearly 20 years."

Many of the county's mental health professionals believe the move has the potential to improve the delivery and quality of mental health services.

The move was not taken lightly. With impetus from the board of supervisors and county CEO Carmel Angelo, the county enlisted the help of Mendo-Futures, a group of can-do movers and shakers whose motto could be described as "thinking outside the box

Read the rest of
Health
Over on Page 11



CAR SHOW



A Memorial Day weekend of fun with car show and 32nd annual community celebration

Two of Willits' longtime Car Show goers will be over on the other side of the lake this weekend as The Shifters Vice President (and acting President) John Yde also holds the title of president of the Corvettes of Lake County who are also holding a show this weekend.

Hoping to be a part of this weekend's Willits show in spirit, John and wife, Gail, were game for a quick photo moment with two of their prized classic cars: a blue 1957 Chevy Bel Air and a purple 1962 Corvette.

The Bel Air was Gail's first car, bought in 1969. She is only the second owner of the vehicle. The Corvette was purchased in 1966 and still runs smooth with 343,000 miles on the odometer.

The pair enjoys showing their vehicles across California, as well as in Oregon and Nevada, too.

The Corvette has taken first place in the Western States Corvette Council show for 10 years in a row.

Willits-area residents can rock'n'roll during the 32nd annual Willits Community Festival & Car Show this Memorial Day weekend at Rec Grove Park. Fun-filled family activities celebrate American tradition, American patriotism and American ingenuity.

Not only is it the 32nd year of the Community Festival & Car Show, it's the 125th anniversary of the City of Willits, and birthday festivities will kick off the celebration.

"It should be really fun this weekend," says Lynn Kennelly of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. "The weather is supposed to be great. We've got the kickoff of our 'quasiquicentennial' birthday celebration for the city, the Boogie Woogie Walk and the ever-popular classic Car Show. The Mini-Maker Faire and Maker Masquerade Ball are fun new additions, too." (See Calendar on centerfold for details about all Community Festival events.)

John & Gail Yde (above center) pose with their classic cars: a blue Chevy Bel Air and purple Corvette in front of the Shifters mural at Napa Auto Parts

Photos by Maureen Moore of Mphotographress.com

Bypass update

Caltrans drives its first test pile

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
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Caltrans contractors drove the first of six test piles along the Willits bypass route Tuesday morning, said Caltrans public information officer Phil Frisbie.

Caltrans received no calls complaining about noise, Frisbie said. Six test piles will be placed – about one each day – over the next few days. The tests are to make sure the piles are getting good friction in different soil conditions, Frisbie said. "They'll come back eight days later and test them to make sure the piles are meeting specifications."

Protesters Jaime Chevalier of Willits and Travis Jochimsen locked themselves down to a 100-foot wick drain driver at 6 am in the fog on Monday morning. A few hours later, after negotiations with Mendocino Sheriff's Department deputies, the two voluntarily unlocked themselves, and were cited and released.

"The Little Lake Valley is a huge underground reservoir," Chevalier said. "The wick drains would build an underground dam. They don't know how it will affect the salmon that depend on that water, and they don't know how it will affect winter flooding, or people's wells."

Army Corps of Engineers chief of the Regulatory Division Jane Hicks told Willits Weekly last week that the corps was satisfied with the level of mitigation funded by the California Transportation Commission on May 7.

Better Budget in 2014?

WPD hopes to allocate more money for jobs next year

The Willits Police Department's budget for next year hopes to include money for filling a dispatcher job and bringing much-needed assistance to a department strapped for bodies.

Willits Police employees taking a vacation or needing a day off for the flu are being filled in for by others working overtime.

"It's sort of a sad state of affairs if you cannot take a vacation," Willits City Manager Adrienne Moore said at a recent city budget workshop.

City officials, department heads and members of the Willits City Council had met at City Hall last week for a day-long talk about balancing Willits' budget.

City Hall released a draft of proposed spending earlier this month. Willits' draft budget says general fund spending of about \$4.5 million will exceed city revenue by \$288,907.

"The general fund is a challenge," Willits Finance Director Joanne Cavallari, said. "I cannot seem to whittle it down any more than I have."

At the Willits Police Department, efforts to keep the services of a part-time backup dispatcher on the payroll are a challenge.

"We are at a point where we don't have anyone to work dispatch," Gonzalez said. WPD's four dispatchers currently work four 12-

hour shifts.

If you walk up to the window at WPD on Commercial Street, it's a dispatcher who will come to greet you. Willits Police handles both its own calls and those of Little Lake Fire Department.

Gonzalez notes dispatchers' work also includes processing reports and other clerical duties.

Willits budget for police and public safety takes about \$2.7 million of city funds. City Administration uses about \$976,000, Public Works & Engineering gets about \$283,000, the new budget document states.

Mayor Holly Madrigal and Councilman Ron Orenstein had seats at the table for negotiating the city's budget at last Tuesday's meeting.

More staffing could mean less overtime for members of the police department. "If you are fully staffed, would there be a need for overtime?" Orenstein said.

Similar meetings of officials and council members lasted two-days in past years, but Moore said she wanted to talk more about big items and less about spending on paper clips and pencils.

Expenses add up for the Willits Police

Read the rest of
Budget
Over on Page 11



Historic Business

Bought out by

'Big Business'

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Safeway is buying the Willits Rexall pharmacy, the public affairs manager for the supermarket's Northern Division confirmed Wednesday morning.

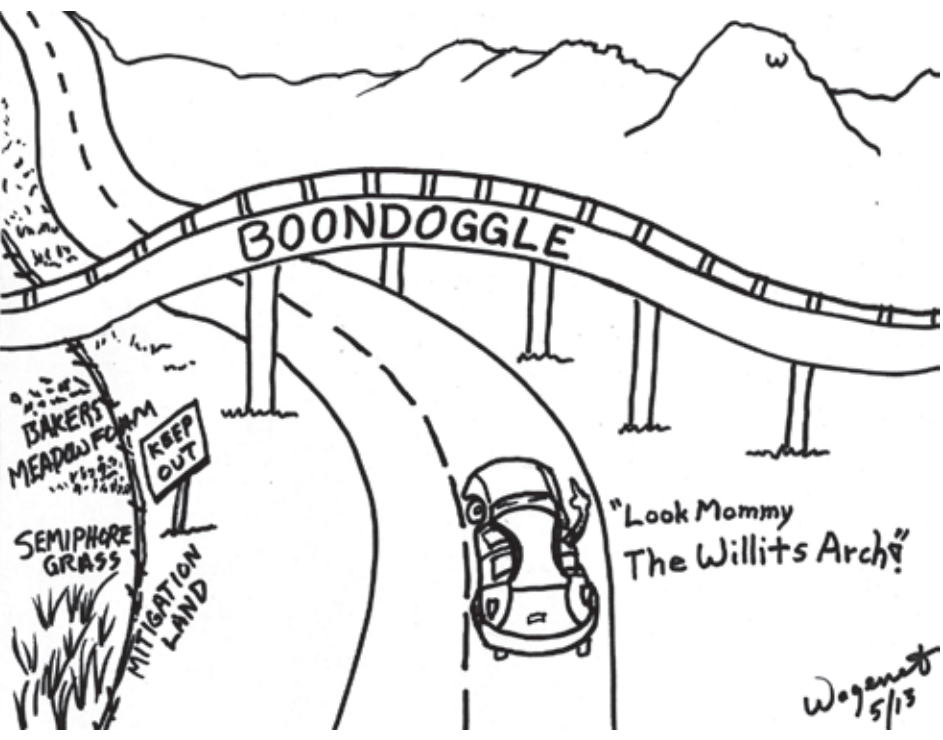
"Safeway is in the process of acquiring the pharmacy," Wendy Gutshall told Willits Weekly.

"As details become available, I can provide you with more information."

Rexall owner Dave Lovitt will not be available for comment until next Tuesday, store manager Kathie Shepherd said.

According to unconfirmed Facebook reports on Sunday, employees were notified of the sale last Thursday.

What do YOU think?



87th annual Firefighters Fundraiser

To the Editor: Please support your local Firefighters Association by attending our 2013 annual Fundraiser and Open House that will take place on Saturday, June 8 between 10 am and 2 pm at the Little Lake Fire District Main Station, at 74 East Commercial Street.

Uniformed members of the Little Lake Fire Protection District will be available for tours of our firehouse and displays of fire apparatus and equipment. Please feel free to come by and say hello, purchase some fundraising tickets, and try your luck at a multitude of prizes, purchased from and/or donated by local businesses.

As always, we will be providing rides for families and children in our restored antique fire engines.

Please feel free to contact any of our members about what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter for your community. Gain that personal satisfaction of assisting your friends and neighbors in their time of need.

Money raised from this annual fundraiser is used to purchase specialized equipment, and provide additional training and education for your volunteer firefighters.

The Little Lake Firefighters Association is a non-profit organization made up of 40 members that volunteer their time and energy to respond to the community's fires, rescues, and other emergencies, 24 hours/day, 365 days per year.

You too can be a hero this day, as our department will also be hosting a blood drive through Blood Centers of the Pacific. The bloodmobile will be at this location between 10 am to 2 pm. If you would like to schedule an appointment, visit www.bloodheroes.com and click "donate blood" and enter Sponsor Code "WillitsFire." Each donor will receive a SF Giants T-shirt plus the satisfaction that you may be saving a life.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact us at 459-6271.

Thank you for your continued support of the Willits Fire Department and Little Lake Fire Protection District.

Carl Magann, Fire Chief
Willits Fire Department

Reconfiguration too fast

To the Editor: I am writing this letter to voice my concern about the decision made by the Board of Trustees of the Willits Unified School District to move third grade to Brookside School. While I agree this move is appropriate, I voiced my concern about the speed at which it is happening.

The board failed to listen to the overwhelming opinion of the community members who attended the open forum. That group agreed that some kind of reconfiguration was appropriate, but clearly stated their desire to see it done well, with time for careful planning and implementation. They asked for the change to be implemented in the 2014-2015 school year, not 2013-2014. Surveys returned by parents also indicated a desire to have third grade moved to Brookside, but these same parents said they planned

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

to have their children attend WUSD next year. Immediate change was clearly NOT a deal-breaker. It did not have to happen NOW.

I am concerned with the information, or lack of, that board members appeared to have when they made their decision. I only know of one member who has actually been to Brookside to observe our programs and who talked with staff members about their concerns.

At least one board member said their decision was based partly on the fact that this idea had been discussed several times in the past and it was now time to act on it. I have taught at Brookside since 1981, and this is the first serious discussion I have ever heard of moving third grade back.

Ms. Pearson stated that moving third grade would save \$100,000. We are not closing a site or losing an administrator, so where exactly is the savings? WUSD has not analyzed why students leave the district, so we cannot depend on increased enrollment. Where is this savings coming from? This decision has serious ramifications for students, staff, and parents and deserved more consideration than it was given.

Brookside does have a great program, and we have been successful at raising our test scores. This has been a process that has taken time. We have spent years planning, implementing, and modifying what we do in our classrooms and intervention programs. We have developed a strong collaborative process where staff members work together to support each other and our students.

The third element of our success is that we work really hard and spend many hours making Brookside a great place for our children. The board, with their decision to implement change this August, has robbed us of two of these important elements for success. They have taken away our opportunity to plan how we will modify our programs to integrate third grade, and they have taken away our opportunity to collaborate with the staff members who will be moving to Brookside. They have left us with only one element: hard work. In our usual Brookside fashion, we will forge ahead, work hard and develop a program that works for K-3 students. It could have been different. It should have been different.

Joan Davis
Willits, CA

Motorcycle rally not worth it

To the Editor:

Here in Mendocino County, the third Saturday in May means more than just the running of the Preakness, the second leg of horse-racing's Triple Crown. It means the annual Sheettron 300 Dualsport motorcycle rally sponsored by the Oakland Motorcycle Club, running from Stonyford in Colusa County west to Fort Bragg.

Five hundred supposedly road legal dirt bikes participate in the rally, which takes place mostly in the Mendocino National Forest and on Mendocino County's rural roads.

How do I know this? Most of the bikes go by our house, many at excessive speeds. Then they race over the tiny, winding mountain road toward Willits. It's there that my family, with three or four horses in the trailer, has almost been hit head-on, two years running, by groups of motorcycle riders screaming down the middle of what is pretty much a one-lane road.

After a few years of this, a pattern emerged; I decided to find out what was going on and happened upon their identity. I spoke with representatives from the California Highway Patrol about this issue and was informed that "we" don't want to discourage events like this because of the revenue they bring the county. When I asked for some CHP presence on our road, I was told that would probably be impossible. (Funny how many CHP officers guard the bypass, while none protect our road while hundreds of dirt bikes blaze over it. Must be the revenue thing again.)

This year I encountered these bikers in Willits (many parked

at local bars), Potter Valley and, most disturbingly, on Orr Springs Road. It's 32 miles from Ukiah to Comptche on that road, and much of it is one lane with multiple switchbacks and blind corners.

Two miles east of Comptche, a biker lost control of his bike on a hard blind turn, laid it down and smashed it into the driver's side of my truck. Several other riders were right behind him but couldn't see the accident. Thankfully they missed us both, and no one was seriously hurt. I'm not looking forward to trying to get his insurance company to pay for the damage to my truck – especially since the insurance information he carried was expired.... Sure do hope he doesn't come after me ... at least he didn't come through my windshield. Fun times.

This county can't provide adequate police/emergency presence for an event like this. We waited about an hour for CHP to arrive at the accident in Comptche. While we waited, the motorcycle riders tried hard to talk me out of a police report. These folks are from out of the area, unfamiliar with the treacherous roads they are on, and unaccustomed to coming across vehicles like livestock trailers and tractors.

Many of the bikes going by our house are racing, passing each other and taking up the whole road. They are having a great time and appear oblivious to the risks they are taking, putting everyone on the road in danger, and breaking many laws – oh, now there's some revenue!

Money generated from these folks being here for 24 to 36 hours shouldn't outweigh public safety on the miles of rural, hard-to-access roads they travel over – to say nothing of the damage they cause riding through creeks, forests and on fragile dirt roads.

Sheri Cronin
Willits, CA

Spaghetti feed a success

To the Editor:

The Brooktrails Firefighters Association would like to thank all those who supported the Annual Spaghetti Feed. This was a very successful fundraiser, and the proceeds will go toward equipment and training for the Brooktrails Fire Department and its Volunteer Firefighters.

We would like to thank Printing Plus for their continued support and donations, and a special thank you to the Brooktrails Women's Club for their donation toward this event.

Again, thank you to the community for your support of your Brooktrails firefighters!

Robert McKenzie
President
Brooktrails Firefighters Association

Bears?

Editor's Note: Below is a message from the mendocommunity-BB online bulletin board that we thought would be of interest to readers, and the author has agreed to let us print it. A nearby resident on Erley Lane has also has reported recent bear activity. Is the dry weather prompting the bears to come closer in at an unusual time? The Fish & Wildlife office in Eureka said anyone wanting to report bear activity – or any wild animal activity – should call Julia Chapman, scientific aide, at the Eureka office at 707-441-5843.

Where do we report bear activity to?

Last week, we were visited by a bear just prowling around, and last night, two full size (shoulders visible above a picnic table top while they were on all fours) bears dragged a trash can away from the house, and were not deterred by porch lights, shouting, or throwing a plastic bucket at them.

They ate nothing from the can, which was mostly dry paper and a moldy potato. They did not touch the kitchen compost bin.

But this is happening just west of Willits, on Highway 20, before the road gets all twisty and hilly.

Is this the hungry season for bears? I'd thought the hungry season for them was late winter, before things greened up in spring.

What about a portable air horn for a boat – should that discourage them, or do we use full power bear pepper spray and risk blowback from it?

This also raises the question of the safety of the chickens (who has a bear-proof chicken coop?) and other livestock. Ack!! Ideas please.

Mike Burgess,
Willits, CA

Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Above: Dr. Sheri Cronin works on the teeth of an equine client

At right: The inside of a horse's mouth showing the less-commonly-seen molars located at the back of the jaw

Photos by Jessica Cronin



COLUMN |
The Medicine
Chest Garden

Calendula officinalis

This column will cover herbs that can be easily grown in home gardens and harvested to use for "medicine chest" or first aid needs.

Calendula (Calendula officinalis) derives its name from "calendar," because of its long flowering season, which in some locations, is every month of the year.

Plant seeds or starts in a sunny location. Once flowering begins, pick flowers every few days and dry them in the shade. (Continual picking encourages continual flowering.)

To make an infused oil, chop the dried flowers and loosely fill a jar with them. Cover the flowers with olive oil, filling the jar to the top. Put the jar in a paper bag. Place the bag in a sunny windowsill for several weeks, and then strain out the flowers. Compost the flowers, and store the oil in a dark, cool place.

Calendula oil is an excellent healing oil for the skin. Use it externally for chapped skin, bruises, insect bites and stings, cuts, and minor burns.

When I was growing up, my mother taught me, as she was taught,

The Calendula flower

Photo by Jennifer Poole

to put butter on burns. When she was a child, over 80 years ago, cows were grass-fed, except during the time of the year when there wasn't enough green grass. During this time, the butter from the cows would be white instead of yellow. Calendula petals were added to color the butter yellow. It was the calendula that was healing the burns, not the butter!

Fresh calendula petals (not the center of the flower) are edible and make a lovely addition to soups and salads.

[This information is not intended to diagnose, prescribe or replace the advice of a qualified health professional.]

Donna d'Terra is a Willits area herbalist who has been teaching herb classes for 25 years. She may be contacted at motherland@pacifi.net.



Journey Quilt photo:

Above: Quilt square by 12-year-old Jasmine Norris

Journeys at WCA photos:

Top: Many "Journeys" are shared in this art show

Bottom: Dolls made for the "Journeys" exhibit at the Center for the Arts

Photos by Cat Lee



Column | Cat About Town

Journeys at WCA

This is the last weekend to enjoy "Journeys," the current exhibit at Willits Center for the Arts, presented by Manzanita Services in recognition of Mental Health Month in May. Manzanita Services is a non-profit organization serving those with mental health challenges.

The exhibit is going well and has been a positive experience for the participants, said Ellen Bogue of Manzanita Services. "Art can provide a venue ... a wonderful way to help self-esteem," Bogue said. "To have a real art show is very empowering."

The exhibit features artworks in a variety of media, as well as the "Journeys Quilt," still in progress by participants at Manzanita, family members and friends, mental health workers, and community members.

"Journeys" was put together and is being hosted by the artists and poets themselves. "People can see that people with mental health issues are people who just have extra added layers of issues to deal with," Bogue said. "They've manned it and woman-ed it. It's incredibly empowering."

Bogue said that people with mental health challenges "oftentimes isolate and then get into their own heads too much. Manzanita Services, with a peer support wellness and recovery center in Willits, and one in Ukiah, works on "recovery-focused peer support."

"We try to provide a place for those who don't get mental health help," she said.

Bogue added that staff does their best to make the center a welcoming place with a comfortable home-like atmosphere and emphasized that Manzanita is "not a clinic or an institution."

She told me a story about an exercise they did once where they asked people why they come to Manzanita. Bogue said one guy replied: "Because it feels normal."

The Willits Resource Center is located at 286 School Street behind the Methodist Church on the corner of School and Pine. The center is open 11 am to 2 pm Monday through Friday. For more information: 456-9020 or www.manzanitasservices.org.

The "Journeys" exhibit runs through May 26. Gallery hours: Thursdays and Fridays, 4 to 7 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 3 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 E. Commercial Street.



Willits Weekly

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The Rules: COMMUNITY NEWS

Community News: Willits Weekly welcomes articles about community news, events and activities. Each week's deadline is end of day Monday for Thursday's edition.

Please send community news articles via email: willitsweekly@gmail.com. Community news may also be mailed to: Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits 95490, but email is preferred.

Make sure to include a contact name and phone number. If you're sending digital photographs to accompany your article, high-resolution photos are best. Call 459-2633 with any questions about submitting community news.

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

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Store Hours:

March - July
Mon - Sat: 9am - 7pm
Sunday: 9am - 5pm

August - February
Mon - Sat: 9am - 6pm
Sunday: Closed



Right: The new crop of shirts now available at The Book Juggler and East Hill Vet Clinic

Photo courtesy of The Book Juggler

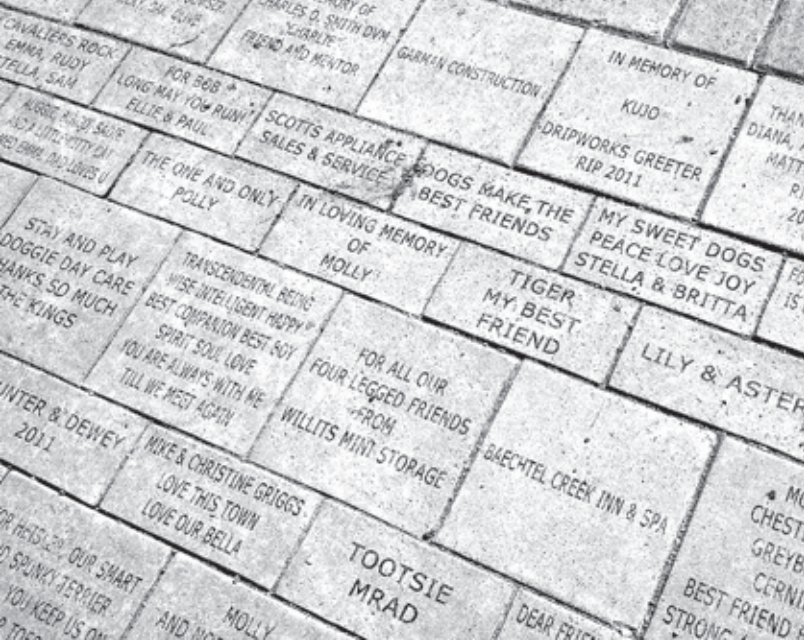
Dog Park Support

At long last...they're back! Get your Frank Grasse Dog Park dog shirt today at East Hill Veterinary Clinic or The Book Juggler.

Shirts are just \$25 each and all funds go directly to the dog park.

And for those of you who requested more sizes we've now got black in Small to XXL, white in Med to XXL. Who says you can't wear your pride on your sleeve?

Engraved bricks are also available for purchase and will be lovingly displayed in the entryway to the park. Order forms are available at The Book Juggler. Call 459-4075 for more info.



Above left: Bricks are also available for sale and will be displayed for all to see

Above right: Roxie is just one of the many dogs who enjoy the local park

Photos by Maureen Moore of Mphotographress.com

At right: Locals enjoy an afternoon at the dog park with their pups

Photo by Louis Rohlicek

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Times for 5/24-5/30/13

HANGOVER Part 3

(R)

Runs: 1 hr, 40 min

Starts Thurs: 7:30pm

Fri: 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:15

S/S: 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:15

Mon: 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8

Tues-Thur: 5:45, 8:00

EPIC in RealD 3D

(PG)

Runs: 1 hr, 33 min

(2D) Fri-Sun: 6:15

(3D) Fri: 1:30, 3:45, 9

Sat-Sun: 11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 9

Mon: 1:30, 3:45, 6, 8:15

Tues-Wed: 6, 8:15

(2D) Thurs: 6:00, 8:15

STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS

(PG13)

Runs: 2 hr, 12 min

(2D) Fri-Sun: 12:45, 3:30, 8:30

(3D) Fri - Sun: 6:00

Mon: 2:15, 5:00, 7:45

Tues-Wed: 5:00, 7:45



Remembering Stella

The students of Sherwood School gathered in the field offered for their use over the years, by the late Stella James, and now her family has promised to carry on the tradition. James had always been a great supporter of the school, came to help cook meals, celebrate birthdays and so much more over all the years. "We will miss you, Stella! We will continue to keep your memory alive for future generations."

Photo by Gina Hirsch

Skunk Seeks Support for Tunnel Repairs

Zack Cinek
Reporter
zack@willitsweekly.com

To overcome a recent tunnel cave in the historic Skunk Train, a titan of Mendocino County tourism, looks for financial support as it finalizes efforts to begin accepting funds via Kickstarter.com

Robert Pinoli, Chief Skunk, says the railroad has consulted with geotechnical firms and damages from the cave in of Tunnel #1 , 3.5 miles from Fort Bragg, look to be more than \$300,000.

"We know the work will be trying, it is methodical," Pinoli said. "The situation that we are faced with is not an easy task."

Efforts to pay for repair of the tunnel are underway. A "kick start" program is in the works and when it is officially up and running donations of any size or as little as \$1 will be accepted.

Season passes and even lifetime passes for Skunk Train travel are being sold also, Pinoli said. The Skunk Train claims 10's of thousands ride the train each year, most staying in the area for an average of 2.3 nights.

This years' cave in can be seen as just the latest event to drain the railroad's bank account in recent years.

Law enforcement's pursuit of Aaron Bassler in the woods east of Fort Bragg cost the Skunk \$200,000, Pinoli stated.

Today's excursions through the woods began when Timber baron Charles R. Johnson of the Union Lumber Company built the line in 1885 as a way of extracting Redwood logs from area timber lands.

A 1924 Baldwin steam locomotive chugging out of the of the Fort Bragg depot at the foot of Laurel Street in Fort Bragg is the center piece of the railroad in later years and hopefully the future.

"We believe we will be here for another 128 years, but we critically need your help to get through this," Pinoli said.

Online: To learn more about the Skunk Train and to give money for repair of Tunnel #1, you may go to www.skunktrain.com



Brookside Elementary School celebrated silliness for silliness' sake during their annual Crazy Hair Day last Friday.

Teachers, administration and students all donned crazy dos and surely all had fun combing out the teases and de-dying the Kool-Aid clad locks later that night. Fun was had by all.

CrAZy HaiR da Y

Above left: Sheridan Wood, Cheyenne Hayes, Katelyn Germann, and Kiera Dragness

Above right: Brookside Principal Olga O'Neill and administrative staff Lisa Koller and Linda Wake also participated in Crazy Hair Day 2013

Right: Gracie Bouthillier had quite a big lovely hairdo



Above: Students from Mrs. Brinkerhoff and Mrs. Pfingsten's Kindergarten classes posed for a large group photo to show off their hairstyles

Photos by Maureen Moore of Mphotographress.com

See more photos at
<http://photographress.zenfolio.com/crazyhairdaybrookside>
or scan the QR code with your smart phone



Mini Maker Faire

Maker Movement comes to Willits

Roberta Werdinger
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, May 25th from 10 am to 5 pm, the Mendocino County Mini Maker Faire and History Day will take place on the grounds of the Mendocino County Museum in Willits.

A celebration of artful ingenuity, inventiveness and creativity, the Mini Maker Faire will feature more than 20 interactive

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



The "Dragon Wagon," entered in last years' Handcar Races featured a colorful dragon's head and was designed and built by Richard and Phil Jergenson using their Grid Beam Building System.

Photo courtesy Kat Cascone

Mary

Tarah

Toshi

Rachelle

Dani

Shona

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Congratulations Column

Matt & Erin

ENGAGED

Local actors Matt Holzhauer and Erin Livingston first meet four years ago on the stage of the Willits Community Theatre. Two years later they meet again on the WCT stage for the production of "Man From Earth" where their friendship bloomed into love. A year and a half later the couple returned to perform "Same Time Next Year," where they grew, supported, and trusted each other through the challenges and excitement of a two-person show. And on their final night performance, March 16th, in front of friends, family and theatre patrons, Matt proposed to Erin and she said "Yes."

The proposal is on YouTube - "Matt to Erin Proposal 3/16/13"

Megan

NEW GRAD

Megan Futscher, Willits Charter School class of 2009, graduated cum laude from Smith College in Massachusetts on Sunday, with a BA degree in Architecture and Urbanism. Congratulations, Megan!

John & Emily Rose

ENGAGED

John and Emily Rose met six years ago at a friends birthday party. They have lived and traveled together sharing many adventures now its time to make it official. They will get married on July 20 in Willits with many friends and family in attendance.

Kara Boren

TURNED 2

Happy Birthday to Kara who turned 2 on May 17. "We love our big girl!" There to help celebrate were parents Jessica and TJ, and siblings Dillan, 8, Shyla, 6, Zoey, 5 and Dakota, 2.

Team Sparkle Pants

WENT 5K

Congratulations to Brandi Cameron, Danya Davis, Maureen Moore, Heidi King and Andrea Firks for completing their first 5K color run race! Great job ladies!

Like us on Facebook

Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WillitsWeekly

Send us your congratulatory notes!
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Rules: CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Column: Willits Weekly is pleased to publish small congratulatory notes to locals in this column. Each week's deadline is end of day Monday for Thursday's edition, and notes should be no longer than 100 words.

Please send notes on births, engagements, weddings, milestone birthdays, job promotions and other appropriate events via email: willitsweekly@gmail.com. They may also be mailed to: Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits 95490, but email is preferred.

If you're sending a digital photograph you'd like us to use in the paper, a high-resolution photo is best.

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What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Thursday, May 23

Shanachie Pub: Lincoln Andrews & Company Jazz Jam, 8 pm. A new open jam format, every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, featuring a variety of jazz musicians. Local and traveling "jazzies" are encouraged to bring their instrument of choice for a night of improvised genre-spanning jazz music.

Friday, May 24

Friends of the Library Memorial Day Book Sale, opens today, and continues Saturday and Sunday at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. 10 am to 4 pm. Sunday is \$3 bag

4th Friday Fun Night: 6 pm, Methodist Church, 286 School Street, across from the Grange. Fun, games, food (bring a game to play or a dish to share if desired; "tacos" theme; free/by donation meal), raffle for door prizes (everybody gets a raffle ticket), and fellowship. Info: 459-0861



Shanachie Pub: Redbud, "Mendocino Homegrown Music, psychedelic rock, blues, punk, reggae, ska & more," featuring recent addition Hal Wagenet on guitar; Yoli Rose, songwriter/singer/guitar; Bb Dress, bass; and Tobin Hendricks, drummer/percussionist. 8 pm, no cover.

Pura Vida will play at Maker Masquerade ball this Saturday

Saturday, May 25

Annual Parking Lot Sale: 8 am to noon, Willits Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Bargains, plus hot dogs and root beer floats. Info: 459-6826



Redbud is budding

The "Mendocino Homegrown Music" band, Redbud, has had a "rebirth" with the addition of guitarist Hal Wagenet.

Wagenet, the 3rd District's former county supervisor, is best known outside of Willits as the original guitarist on the psychedelic rock classic "White Bird" by the band It's A Beautiful Day.

He adds his sweet psychedelic guitar stylings to the original songs that Redbud is best known for: rock, blues, poppin reggae, ska and more, along with a colorful whimsical stage show.

Yoli Rose, songwriter, singer, guitar player and "wild monkey wolf goddess" has been fronting Redbud since its inception in 2000. Bassist Bb Dress cut his teeth on surf music and R&B, and has been rockin' out with Redbud from the start. Rounding out the lineup is drummer/percussionist Tobin Hendricks.

Redbud plays Shanachie Pub Friday, May 24, 8 pm, no cover. The Redbud Trio plays throughout the afternoon at the Mini Maker Fair at the Mendocino County Museum, Saturday, May 25.

The Rules: CALENDAR LISTINGS

Calendar Listings: Willits Weekly is pleased to publish calendar listings and promotional articles for Willits events and activities. Each week's deadline is end of day Monday for Thursday's edition.

Please send calendar listings and press releases via email: willitsweekly@gmail.com. Email us the electronic versions of posters or flyers you've made to publicize your event, too. Calendar listings, press releases and flyers may also be mailed to: Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits 95490, but email is preferred.

Make sure to include a contact name and phone number. If you're sending a digital photograph you'd like us to use in the paper, a high-resolution photo is best.

Willits Community Walk for Health: Registration begins at 9:30 am at JD Redhouse for this 14th annual "Boogie Woogie Walk," starting at 10 am. Five-mile (10,000 step) walk starts in downtown Willits, and winds through the neighborhoods. Free and open to all (including well-behaved pets on leashes). Walk as little or as much as you like, and catch a ride back with the Harrah Center van if you get tired of walking.

Mini-Maker Faire: 10 am to 5 pm at the County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. New this year! A Make-It-Mendocino celebration of artful ingenuity throughout our region. Try do-it-yourself projects at interactive booths; see technology demonstrations; participate in crafts workshops, and listen to local music.

Food and beverages on sale throughout the day to benefit the Mendocino County Museum Exhibit and Education Fund. Free with Museum admission, and in honor of the Mini Maker Faire, Museum admission is free on Saturday, More info: MendocinoMakerFaire.com.

Maker Masquerade Ball: 7 pm to midnight at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. With Zydeco, Latin, Gypsy, Afro-Caribbean, and world beat music guaranteed to make you dance. Music by Tee Fee Swamp Boogie and Quarteto Pura Vida and a belly dance performance by Troupe Satya, in an atmospheric 1920s themed venue. Wine, beer, and Italian sodas for sale along with hand-crafted appetizers and desserts. Costumes and masks are encouraged but not required. Come as you are. Tickets \$25 at the door; advance: \$20 adults; \$15 youth, available at the museum, Mazahar and online at Brown Bag Tickets: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/382929>

Shanachie Pub: Eric Cornforth duo or trio. Original indy-alt-acoustic-folk. 8 pm, no cover. Playing original indy-alt-acoustic-folk. Visit <http://www.myspace.com/ericcornforth>.



Maker Masquerade Ball

"After working on the Kinetic Carnival," presenter Lara Eventide told Willits Weekly, "I saw that everyone was thirsting for another dressed-up event like the Grand Ball in Willits.

Part of this Community Festival weekend's Mini Maker Fair, the Maker Masquerade on Saturday night will feature dance music of different flavors by Tee Fee Swamp Boogie and Quarteto Pura Vida, a belly dance performance by Troupe Satya and world beat music to dance to between sets.

The Kinetic Carnival's Grand Ball is held in the Roots of Motive Power's Engine Room, a perfect venue complete with a cooling down locomotive emitting smoke throughout the evening. The Maker Masquerade is set for the Little Grange, which Eventide says "is gorgeous now. It's fully restored."

Decorators will be transforming the Grange "into a 1920s New Orleans speakeasy kind of feel, very 'masquerade' and Mardi Gras," Eventide said, "with small tables and lamps, to encourage the makers of Mendocino to actually wear what they make and show it off." A "Maker Gallery of Oddities" will add to the atmosphere, showing off hats, steam punk guns, sculptures, photographs and more.

Costumes are certainly encouraged, but not required: "Come as you are," Eventide said. For more info, check the calendar listing or the Mendocino County Mini Maker Faire page on Facebook



"Maker" volunteers wanted

The Mendocino County Museum is looking for volunteers for the Mini Maker Fair and the Maker Masquerade on Saturday, May 25. Volunteers are needed for setup and take down at both events, as well as greeting, registration, path-finding, managing workshops and helping at the Maker Faire booth during the day at the Museum grounds. Evening volunteers at the Grange can help with tickets, ID checking, selling and serving drinks, and managing the stage and providing tech support for the performers. Call 459-2736 or go to www.MendocinoMuseum.org or www.MendocinoMakerFaire.com to find out more about volunteering.

Sunday, May 26

"Engine Starting" Breakfast: 7 to 10 am, Lions Club "Engine Starting" breakfast at Rec Grove: pancakes, scrambled eggs, ham, sausage, biscuits and gravy, orange juice, coffee, tea or milk. Tickets, \$7 for adults and \$5 for children under 12, available at the park or in advance at the Chamber of Commerce. (Please note, no pancake breakfast at the Grange today: "please enjoy your breakfast in the park with the Lions Club.")

Classic Car Show: 10 am to 4 pm at the Rec Grove. "Take a stroll down memory lane" and enjoy the lovingly restored pre-1973 classic cars on display. Roots of Motive Power antique steam equipment display. Vendor booths, family activities, food, door prizes and fun.

Memorial Day Ceremony: at noon, the American Legion Post 174's color guard will present the colors at noon at the main stage area, with Jeff Whitby on Scottish bagpipes, leading the procession in remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.

Classic Car Awards Ceremony and Raffle Drawing: 3:30 pm

Tuesday, May 28

Textile Skill Sharing at the Grange: 7 pm, "Mountain of Clothes." Mentors Annie Waters and Lucy Shido. Bring a bag of clothing and accessories that you have been saving for giveaway or to be altered. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

Thursday, May 30

Mendocino Film Festival in Willits: "A Fierce Green Fire: The Battle for a Living Planet," 7 pm, Noyo Theatre. Narrated by Meryl Streep, Robert Redford, and Ashley Judd, "A Fierce Green Fire" is the first big-picture exploration of 50 years of the environmental movement. This is the Mendocino Film Festival's first screening in Willits. Reception at 5:30 pm at



"A Fierce Green Fire" plays Thursday at Noyo

in Mendocino runs May 31 through June 5.

Saturday, June 1

Willits Junior Horsemen Gymkhana: First of the season, 9 am at Willits Horsemen's Arena, E. Commercial Street. Jr. Horsemen are selling \$1 raffle tickets for a handcrafted chicken coop with redwood siding (see Willits Horsemen's Association Facebook page for photo). Contact Kathryn at kbaechtel@yahoo.com or 489-6565 for info on tickets.

Grange Exchange: Flea market and swap meet, 9 am to 1 pm, first Saturday of every month, Little Lake Grange. Buy, sell, barter and trade, \$5 a table. Check out the "free" table and breakfast tacos. Bike Clinic with Carey this month: bring your bikes to tune up or repair, buy or sell. To reserve a space, call Anna at 707-671-6995.

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

La Tania Flamenco Workshop: (evening performance SOLD OUT) "Tangos por Fiesta," taught by La Tania, with Roberto Aguilar on guitar and Kina Mendez singing. 12:30 pm to 2 pm. All levels welcome. Willits Community Theatre. \$35 for the workshop. Tickets at Goods' and online <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/369154>, or by phone 707-459-0895 with credit card. Info: 459-1868.

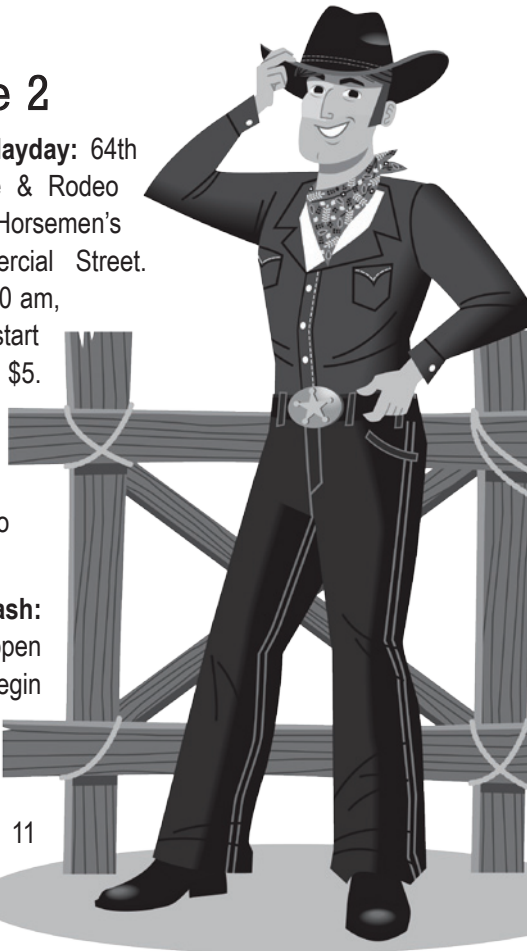
"Throwing the Bones": Opening reception, 6 to 9 pm, for June exhibition at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Recent paintings by artist-painter Peter Onstad. Gallery hours: Thursday and Friday, 4 to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3 pm. Through June 30.



Sunday, June 2

Willits Horsemen's Playday: 64th annual Beef Barbecue & Rodeo at the new Willits Horsemen's Arena on E. Commercial Street. Barbeque starts at 11:30 am, and the rodeo events start at 1:30 pm. \$13, kids \$5. Call Sharon Short for entry forms, 459-4505, or Walt Niesen with roping and rodeo questions, 456-0379.

Sunday Bingo Bash: Harrah Center; doors open 10:30 am; games begin 11:30 am. Bingo buy in \$10; also available Blackout, 3 specials. Door prizes; lunch at 11 am, 1501 Baechtel Road.



Grateful Gleaners Spring Plant Sale: 10 am, corner of West Mendocino and Spruce streets, beginning at 10 am. A variety of plants and starts for sale. The Gleaners is looking forward to their 7th year of harvesting excess fruit from trees in our area. We distribute the fruit to Our Daily Bread, the Food Bank, school programs and the Senior Center, as well as taking some home for our own families. Interested in gleaning? Call Kimbal at 456-9128.

St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble from Russia: 7 pm, Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street, Classical Russian folk songs and spiritual songs. Free, with free will donation to help ensemble pay costs. For reservations, call 459-2855 (leave a message with your name and how many for Sunday concert).

Walking Monks: Potluck picnic lunch with two monks from Abhayagiri Buddhist Monastery in Redwood Valley, at Oak Creek Apartments, 300 Creekside Drive, 10 am to 2 pm. Monks are "walking Tudong," doing a pilgrimage, to the Pacific Hermitage in Oregon. Anyone who wants can walk a few miles with them. Info: Steve Keyes 459-2760 / ssskeyes@yahoo.com.

Ongoing Events

Farmers Market at City Park: Every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm. Spring vegetables from area farmers plus live music, garden starts, flowers, crafts, baked goods, dinner and other edibles.



Pony cart rides at the Farmers Market with Harry the Helpful Horse.

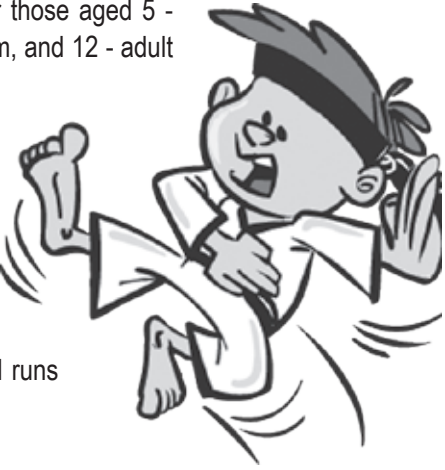
"Journeys": an art show at the Willits Center for the Arts, hosted by Manzanita Services, for Mental Health Month in May. Paintings, sculptures, poetry, dolls, jewelry, ceramics, metalwork, and the unfinished "Journeys Quilt." Gallery hours: Thursdays and Fridays, 4 to 7 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 3 pm. Through May 26.

Sheriff's Activities League activities below. \$5 per year Contact Body Works Gym to sign up 459-0594 | 1511 S. Main Street

Karate: Thursdays at Body Works Gym. Karate is available for those aged 5 and above and all skill levels are welcome. Classes are on Thursdays. For those aged 5 - 11, class is from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, and 12 - adult follows from 7:30 to 9 pm

Boxing: Fridays at Body Works Gym from 6:30 to 9 pm

Teen Gym: Monday to Friday at Body Works Gym. Teen Gym is available to kids aged 13 to 18 who are currently enrolled in school and runs weekdays from 3 to 5 pm



Save the Date

June 4:

"If Not Now, When?" series, "Medications," Harrah Center, with presenter Cassandra Andich, no charge

June 8:

WELL's 1st annual Bicycle Show and Parade, City Park

June 8:

87th annual Little Lake Firefighters' Association Open House

June 8:

Coyote Jump in Concert: Willits Community Theatre



Samantha Arms stands with the coop up for raffle

Photo courtesy of the Arms family

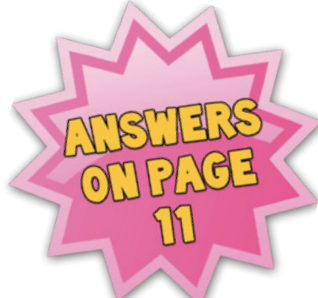


"If Not Now, When?"

The Willits Harrah Center is presenting free programs on health and well-being every first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 to 8 pm, through September. The June 4 program features presenter Cassandra Andich, RN, speaking on "Medications." The series features professionals in traditional and alternative practices, talking about the latest research, presenting testimonials, offering resources, and answering questions. Upcoming programs: physical health, emotional & spiritual health and well-being, and care-giving and receiving. 1501 Baechtel Rd. Info: 459-6826.

Puzzle Page

Activities & fun for kids of all ages



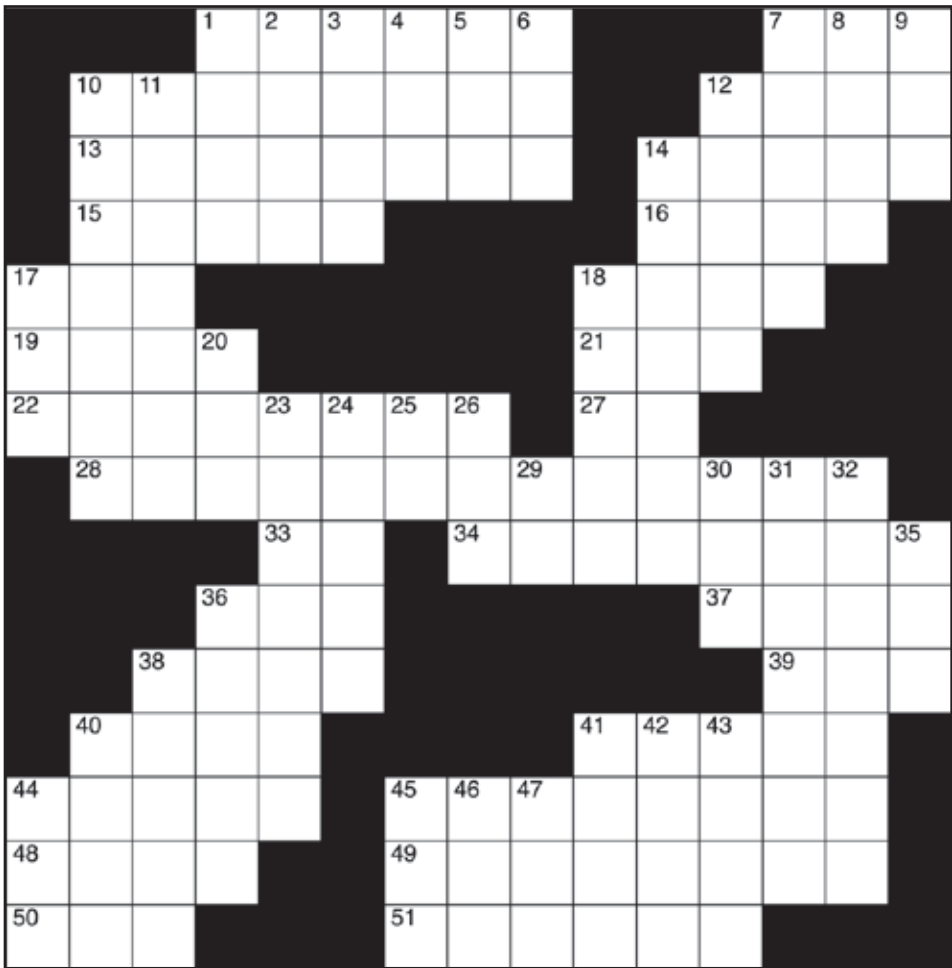
How To Sudoku: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a Sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using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



Sudoku

Level: Intermediate

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Fulmar
- 7. Maple fluid
- 10. Most saponaceous
- 12. Icelandic island
- 13. Stressed pronunciation
- 14. Ginseng genus
- 15. Seizes
- 16. Loose Arab garments
- 17. Title of respect
- 18. Operatic solo
- 19. Fleur-de-lis flower
- 21. Pad used as a floor covering
- 22. Sine curve
- 27. In the year of Our Lord
- 28. Day or sleep away supervisor
- 33. Carrier's invention
- 34. Infant bed
- 36. Fiddler crabs
- 37. English monk 672-735 (alt. sp.)
- 38. Precise and prudish
- 39. The beak of a bird

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cigarette bundle
- 2. Fencing sword
- 3. Cannisters
- 4. A way to drench
- 5. Point midway between E and SE
- 6. Confined condition (abbr.)
- 7. Yemen capital
- 8. Actresses Ortiz & Alicia
- 9. Photographs
- 10. Exposing folly to ridicule
- 11. Egg-shaped instrument
- 12. Established custom
- 14. St. Patrick's, Macy's or Rose
- 17. Female sibling
- 18. Gather lots together
- 20. Total
- 23. Allowance for intervals
- 24. Medieval philosopher
- 25. Jupiter satellite
- 26. Invest with knighthood
- 29. Sodium
- 30. Women's ___ movement
- 31. Singleness
- 32. Saves or delivers
- 35. The bill in a restaurant
- 36. Of a city
- 38. Former name of Belau
- 40. Class of comb jellies
- 41. Height x width
- 42. Pick out from others
- 43. German port, bay and canal
- 44. Jacob's 6th son
- 45. Goat or camel hair fabric
- 46. One circuit of a track
- 47. 3X = 1 TBS

In the Stars...

ARIES

Mar 21 - Apr 20

Aries, you don't always have the answers when it comes to your romantic relationship, but that's alright. There are no rule books for this type of thing; you learn as you go.

LEO

Jul 23 - Aug 23

Leo, remain modest about your personal and professional accomplishments this week. Now is not the time to show off. Be humble in your conversations.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23 - Dec 21

Sagittarius, you are seldom soft spoken, but this week you may have to be even more assertive to get your point across. Otherwise your opinions might fall on deaf ears.

TAURUS

Apr 21 - May 21

Taurus, your life has been relatively tranquil. However, you have been itching to do something fun and adventurous to turn things around. This could be the week for that.

VIRGO

Aug 24 - Sept 22

Virgo, as inviting as a situation may look, appearances can be deceiving. You may want to dip your toe into the water before you dive right into something.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22 - Jan 20

Try to get outside as much as possible this week, Capricorn. The fresh air and sunshine can do wonders for your mood. Plus, you can get in some exercise.

LIBRA

Sept 23 - Oct 23

Libra, this week you need to be extra cautious if you are in the middle of any business dealings. All it can take is the slightest misstep to turn everything around.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21 - Feb 18

Do not follow the examples of others when they act irrationally to a certain situation, Aquarius. Although it can be difficult, you need to take the high road.

GEMINI

May 22 - Jun 21

You may find that one of your coworkers is more critical of your work than usual, Gemini. Don't take it the wrong way, as constructive criticism can be a good thing.

SCORPIO

Oct 24 - Nov 22

Scorpio, things beyond your control may be contributing to your feelings this week. Look at the bright side of any situation and you can probably find a solution that works.

PISCES

Feb 19 - Mar 20

Take a chance and express all of your goals and hopes this week, Pisces. Others may be surprised at what you have to say.

CANCER

Jun 22 - Jul 22

Cancer, things have calmed down considerably in your life. This week presents a good opportunity to take a trip that is geared entirely around your interests.

SALSA WORD SEARCH



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

ADOBO	JALAPENO	CORN	RESTAURANT
BEANS	KITCHEN	DICE	SAUCE
CAPSAICIN	LATIN	DIPPING	SOUR CREAM
CHERRIES	MEXICO	ENTERTAINING	SPICY
MILD	FESTIVE	TACO	
CHIMICHURRI	ONIONS	HEAT	TOMATOES
CHIPS	PARTY	HERBS	TOPPING
CIANTRIO	PUNGENT	HOMEMADE	TORTILLA
COOKING	RECIPE		



A. 14 9 16 8 12 2 12 24

Clue: Making things neat

B. 15 22 4 6

Clue: Debris

C. 10 9 5 5 13 2 12 24

Clue: Boards

D. 21 8 14 22 22 18

Clue: Cleaning tool



It's Memorial Day weekend! Are you going to the lake? This guy is -- and he really needs some color -- can you help?? Enjoy your weekend and be safe near the water!

\$10 for 5 lines for 2 weeks!

Classifieds & More

Quick ads and extra info

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.

Eckankar

Join us for a Community HU Song Tuesday, May 28, at 6 pm at the Willits Library meeting room, 390 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.

For Rent

West Side Willits House: 1500sqft, 3bed / 2bath, all appliances, W/D. New Granite & Stainless kitchen, Berber carpet, screen porch. \$1275 +\$1300 deposit includes yard maintenance. Sm. 3rd suitable for teen, with dresser. Pets considered with extra deposit. No pot grows, or indoor smoking. Must be OK with scheduled inspections. 530/559-3577.

Help Wanted

Ardella's Downtown Diner now hiring all positions. Apply within. No phone calls please.

Help Wanted

NEED COOK; 3 years experience. Call 707-456-9226

Help Wanted

MAZAHAR BOUTIQUE looking to employ retail + office person. Must be experienced. Energetic, positive, team oriented, fashion lover, artistic, remarkable work ethics. Please apply in person at 38 S. Main Street.

Horsemanship Camp

Horsemanship day camp Join us at Ridgewood ranch home of Seabiscuit. Camp designed to create strong and safe foundation in horsemanship. Filled with fun and safety. Ages 8-11 and 11-16 call for dates \$225.00 four days. Erin Livingston (707)391-3872

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annettep222@sbcglobal.net

1701 Valley Rd, Willits Ca 95490

www.flowersbyannette.net

The rest of Dentistry | From Page 3

Horses eat very fibrous grass and hay -- which has to be ground down by their teeth into usable food -- while we eat much softer items. This wears their teeth away, so they need more tooth to erupt and replace what's been used up.

As a result, their upper and lower teeth wear and shape each other continually. Since most horses, like people, don't have a perfect bite, they wear their teeth unevenly. This uneven wear starts out as just a few millimeters of unworn tooth but, with years of abnormal wear, can become centimeters of overgrown tooth. That "tall" tooth will produce excessive pressure on the tooth and soft tissue it meets up with, causing excessive wear and, later, severe periodontal disease and tooth loss.

For many years the standard of care in equine dentistry was "hand floating." This technique was usually done "blindly" and without sedation. The goal was to rasp off the sharp enamel points left behind on the cheek teeth that can ulcerate the cheeks and tongue. Fortunately, we have a lot more to offer horses now.

To effectively work in a horse's mouth (or any other mouth!), you have to be able to see and reach inside it. Horses, like us, have molars as far back as the outside corner of their eyes, about 15 inches from their muzzle. To access the whole mouth, I sedate the horse, apply a speculum to keep the mouth open, support the weight of the head and neck, use some fancy lighting, and have a great assistant.

I use a variable-speed specialized drill called a PowerFloat to correct wear patterns and to remove painful enamel points. I check for periodontal disease, signs of over wear and decay, cracked or chipped teeth, and any abnormal oral pathology. After routine dentistry, the horse can easily move its jaw up and down and back and forth. For performance horses this is critical, and for all horses it allows their mouths to function effectively.

I have a special interest in dentistry and feel that it's one of the most effective procedures I offer. Routine dental care throughout a horse's life promotes health, comfort, graceful aging and good performance. The cost of dentistry is defrayed by decreased feed and vet bills, increased performance, and most importantly reduced discomfort for the horse.

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

The rest of Maker | From Page 5

booths from glass-blowing to jewelry-making, from unusual conveyances to 3-D computer modeling, as well as history projects by local students. Redbud Trio will play music all afternoon, and Senerchia Bakery will sell food. It will be fun, family-friendly, and free (with museum admission: \$4 for adults, \$1 for youth 6 to 18 years, and free for children 5 years and younger).

When an idea's time has come, it spreads like wildfire. Since 2006, a new trend called the Maker Movement has united technological tinkers with artists, spilled private experiments out of garages and onto public stages, attracted hundreds of thousands of people in cities around the globe, and spawned an untold number of collaborations and ideas. Now this same movement is about to take hold locally.

Not that Mendocino County has ever had a shortage of inventive minds. One of them, Richard Jergenson, has been around Willits for 30 years, engaged in everything from running the local cinema to starting up businesses that offer unique and simple building tools to as many people as possible. With his brother, Phil Jergenson, and technology developer Timothy Schmidt, he operates a business called Gridbeam, specializing in open modular hardware: structural building sets composed of pre-built pieces of aluminum and wood. Gridbeams can be assembled and reassembled for a wide variety of uses -- furniture, toys, and tools -- and endlessly reused, thus eliminating waste and cost. The brothers fueled their interest from a lifetime of reading "Popular Science" and "Popular Mechanics" magazines, in the days when people expected to build and maintain their own tools and furniture rather than rely on mass-produced products.

Jergenson, who has been showing at the San Mateo Maker Faire (the first and largest of such events) almost from the beginning, is thrilled at the rapid growth of the Maker Movement. "For the first time, we found our tribe," he says. "Everyone's given permission to get in touch with their child within. I see adults having the time of their life." He notes that the first industrial revolution "was about converting muscle power to mechanical power," while the second revolution has been that of information, spread by computer technology and the World Wide Web. Jergenson sees the Maker Movement as a continuation and refinement of the two revolutions, uniting high tech with low tech, and promoting a spirit of sharing and egalitarianism present early on in both revolutions.

"It's an incredible celebration of what used to be called the 'do-it-yourself' movement," Jergenson says. "Now, because of the internet, it's the 'do it together' movement." Sharing knowledge has never been easier, nor the potential as rich for collaboration across fields as diverse as art, engineering, electronics, and crafts. Jergenson's business has operated as "open source" -- meaning its products are not copyrighted nor patented, but freely available to everyone -- since 1989, a practice that holds true for the Maker Movement as well. "If you want to know what the future looks like," Jergenson concludes, "This is the place to go."

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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



At left: Troy James, right, watches as the kids try their hand moving the speeder

Below left: Roots' Chris Baldo calls down the track to the students on the speeder

Below right: Michael Hammang shows off the steamroller's burner

Below center: Lynne Matheny speaks to the students about the museum's exhibits

Photos by Maureen Moore of Mphotographress.com

See more images at <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/rootsvisit> or by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone



Education Day at the Museum and Roots of Motive Power

Field Trip at Museum & Roots

Seventh- and eighth-grade students from Fort Bragg enjoyed a field trip to the Mendocino County Museum on Thursday and Friday last week.

More than 100 students and adults were welcomed by museum staff and volunteers over those two days. They visited four different stations, led by volunteers Betty Banham, Lynne Matheny and Rose Foster; retired teachers Margaret Smith and Deborah Greig; coordinator of volunteers and field trips Barbara Willens, and Museum Director Alison Glassey.

The students explored the exhibit on the Frolic Shipwreck and its impacts on Mendocino County, talked about westward travel in the 1800s, and heard about Mark Walker, a prominent horseman in the Willits area, who donated many items to the museum including tack and saddles. Walker was also a veteran, harvester of tan bark, maker of all sorts of things, historian, and folk artist sculptor. Walker was 107 years old when he died in 1999.

Students also tried their hands at line drawing, while surrounded by an exhibit of the fine illustrations of David Weitzman, which are currently being shown at the museum.

Roots of Motive Power powered up the Buffalo Springfield steam roller for the visitors from Fort Bragg, with the help of Mike Hammang and Tim Shanoff. Students tried out handcar and speeder rides with Roots volunteers Chris Baldo, Troy James, Carol and Chuck Jones, Don Ford and Jimmy Booth. Dogs, Heisler, and Rex, the "Wonder Dog" were big hits, too.

The Mendocino County Museum welcomes field trips from schools all around Mendocino County and tailors the programs to grade level and interests. To schedule a field trip, please call 459-2736 or complete the tour request form at www.MendocinoMuseum.org.



At right: Chuck Jones poses for a photo in between sessions of cleaning the tracks for the speeder runs

At left: Chris Baldo shows how the one of the machines is easily removed from the tracks in case the need came to get out of the way mid track

Below: Students showcase their drawings made with guidance of Deborah Greig

Insets: Several of David Weitzman's drawings were hung in the hall for inspiration during the art portion of the field trip



The rest of Budget

From Page 1

Department. Items on the department's budget include administrative costs of \$1,500 to calibrate radar, \$575 fire extinguisher maintenance, \$400 for typewriter repairs, and a \$760 copy machine service agreement.

Police work in the field has its costs, too. Willits Police budgets \$35,000 to fuel police cars and \$20,000 for maintenance. Crime scene supplies include \$1,000 for batteries and forensic filters, kits to test for alcohol and drugs and for containing sharp objects, and \$900 and \$500 for compact discs and digital recorders.

Willits used to have a branch of the Mendocino County Superior Court in the same building as the police department.

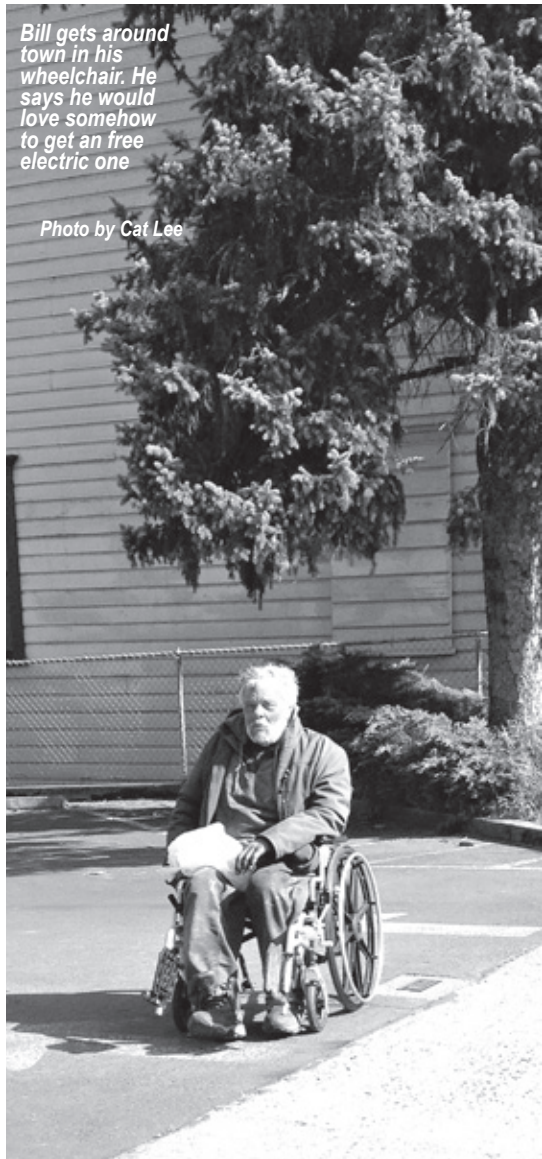
"When they took the court away, that means everybody beats feet to Ukiah," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said he transports prisoners to the county jail in Ukiah when there is no one at the department available.

When the meeting opened Tuesday, Moore talked about what the city will be doing in upcoming months as it looks at all city departments.

"We are going to do some organizational analysis in the coming months," she said.

Also at City Hall last week, Willits City Council members unanimously voted to officially hire then-Interim City Manager Moore as permanent city manager.



Cat Lee

Reporter
cat@willitsweekly.com

People without homes have become an everyday sight the world over, it seems. So much so that perhaps they have become invisible to some people.

Willits certainly has its fair share, and a man named Bill is one of them. He is not invisible in this community as this story will show. This part of his story begins with an email I received on March 7 that started like this:

"Hi Cat,

For the last two months I have not seen 'Bill the homeless' and was going to begin to ask around but...Yesterday I went out my door, and there was Bill rolling by in a wheelchair. He had a haircut and beard was trimmed short. And it was between downpours. Almost didn't recognize him but, well, that's impossible. But he did look like a new improved Bill. He was happy to see me and reached out to shake hands. His story of his disappearance is a strange one."

The person who wrote this knew I would want to

Cat about Town

(Part 1) Who Cares?

know about Bill because that's a special something he and I share with a number of other Willits folks. I'll call him Neighbor Bob. He lives in an apartment in the alley behind where the burrito shop was, and where a busy hub of Willits intersects and connects. It's like Main Street, Commercial Street, School Street and Mendocino Avenue are an outer, surface world, and where the alleys cross in the center of that area is a 'nuther inner world.

I got to know Neighbor Bob and Bill equally well and saw them equally frequently for the better part of 2010-2011. Although I was familiar with Bill and many of our local homeless, street people, hobos, or whatever you want to call the familiar faces one sees year after year on the streets during the day – with no home and no job, and who go "somewhere" to sleep at night – having a business in downtown Willits provided me the opportunity to develop a closer relationship with both Bill and them.

It wasn't really a choice.

The homeless sometimes have money and spend it in our businesses. Sometimes they don't have money, and they ask for handouts. Sometimes they just want to hang out and sit on a sunny Main Street perch and talk, and maybe bum a smoke. Sometimes they use the bathroom. Sometimes they use the bathroom as a shower.

These are simple daily relationships that can be fairly easy and pleasant, and not too costly for a business owner.

Sometimes though, these people are not clean or sober, or haven't been taking their meds or partied a bit too heavily last week, or they're sick and snotty and generally unpleasant to have in and around one's business.

Like I said, we don't always get to choose who walks in the door, or who stretches out alongside your business in the alley to take a nap, or who curls up in front of Neighbor Bob's front door.

Bill was special though, and he still is. He somehow stole my heart and charmed the ladies who worked for me.

Where Bill sleeps often times is extremely odiferous, and there is no separating the smell from the man and his belongings.

It just doesn't work in a tiny restaurant. We usually would have to ask him to wait outside for us to bring him his food or drinks, but we always found the patience and compassion to deal with him and the time to listen to his stories.

Back to Neighbor Bob's email which continues:

"The story must have its beginning in December when we had flooding rains and winds. Bill said he

The rest of Health | From Page 1

while working within the system.

Under the direction of consultant Steve Zuieback, Mendo-Futures established the Mental Health Coalition, which included many of the major players in the mental health services landscape in Mendocino County.

According to Mendocino County Assistant Director for the Health and Human Services Agency Tom Pinnizzotto, 49 stakeholders took part in deliberations that occurred over an 18-month period. They decided to enhance and build upon the existing network of private agencies and organizations that have been delivering services for years in this county. According to the county staff report on this issue, "Services will be provided through outpatient clinics in Ukiah, Willits and Fort Bragg and through a network of community agencies and independent providers.

"The county will maintain a comprehensive Mental Health Plan and ensure that each contractor complies with applicable laws, rules and regulations and is in compliance with guidelines issued by the State of California's Department of Health Care Services," according to the report.

"Many of the partners were part of the coalition, and we hacked and slashed over what we could do, no matter what the Request for Proposals was," said Wynd Novotny, director of Manzanita Services of Mendocino County. "So I am hopeful that what we see on paper will actually be translated into something that actually address the enormous gaps in services that we have experienced here for so long."

Susan Era, a longtime county Health

and Human Services Agency staffer, as well as a member of the Mental Health Coalition, endorsed the proposal. "I have a great deal of confidence in the two groups," Era said.

John Shaw, chairman of the county's Mental Health Board, also gave the project his approval. "I came to this county in 1976," Shaw said. "With all due respect, the ability to deliver services has, since then, just deteriorated. We have a lot of respect in Tom Pinnizzotto as mental health director. We trust RCS. I have a lot of faith in the Ortnier Management Group. From what I've read, they have stepped up to the hue-and-cry of a lot of consumers. They've said 'We need these things,' and those contracts meet a lot of those needs," Shaw said.

Pinnizzotto said taking this step will improve services for clients as well as simplify administrative duties for the county.

"Currently, the way things are now, we have more than 82 contracts with service providers," Pinnizzotto said. "If we take this move, we will have two contracts."

Pinnizzotto prepared a matrix sheet showing how service delivery under privatization will improve from what it is now. According to him, while there currently is no stand-alone access center for mental health services in the county, OMG promises to create two such centers, one in Ukiah and one in Fort Bragg.

Currently, access to services is limited to regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, with only half day availability on Fridays. Under the contract, OMG pledges to provide access "24/7, 365 days." In addition,

each of the partners providing services under the contract promises to institute a "no wrong door" policy, under which the client can receive access at any contracted facility.

While currently there is one full-time employee available for after-hours mental health crisis work for the whole county, rendering response times in the 60- to 90-minute range, under the new contract there will be two after-hours crisis workers available for the county, with one of those workers dedicated to working on the coast.

As a result, response times will be cut to 20 minutes for the Ukiah and Fort Bragg areas, and 40 minutes for Willits.

Ortnier gave a thumbnail sketch of the direction he will be pursuing. "Our proposal includes some new ideas and some different elements," he said. "Primary among these are: multi-tiered crisis response services, multi-layered, bi-directional assertive case management services, a "no wrong door" access system, a comprehensive and collaborative system of care, a robust quality management system, and an expanded housing and housing support system."

According to HHS Director Stacey Cryer, the county will not be laying off the approximately 45 employees in the county's Mental Health Division. Cryer said many of those employees would be retained to engage in oversight of the contractors' work. Those not retained will be reassigned to other divisions within HHS. She noted each reassigned employee will be given a position equal in pay and responsibility to their current one, so workers will not face demotion.

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Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Above: Two "Alices" chase the White Rabbit through the sculptures

At right: Teapots encouraged event-goers to "Drink Me" on the festive tables

Below: The second set of sculptures on display at the gardens

Photos by Danya Davis



A Mad Hatter's Tea Party

About 200 people, many from Willits, enjoyed a Mad Hatter's Tea Party earlier this month at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens. Hosted by Emmy and Bill Good, owners of The Goods' Shoppe, the party celebrated the installation of two Alice in Wonderland-inspired metal sculpture groupings created by their daughter, Keena Good, at the gardens.

"The entire community was invited to come" to the May 4 party, Keena writes in a "Down the Rabbit Hole" flipbook on her website, www.keenakdgood.com. "Most came in costume and crazy hats. Some people who wandered in from the gardens joined in and hoped this was a yearly event so they could come in costume next time. They were sad to hear it was a once-in-a-lifetime event!"

"We had flamingo croquet, a giant chess set, tea and

goodies, table games and kids crafts," Keena continues. "The weather was perfect, although the wind wanted to blow us away at times. Everyone seemed to have a lovely time, and we heard from people for days afterwards that it was a day they will never forget."

The sculptures, "The Mad Hatter's Tea Party" and "The Queen's Croquet Game" were funded using the crowd-sourcing website, Kickstarter. More than 100 people from the community and around the world helped Keena raise \$8,220 to buy the equipment she used to create the sculptures.

The sculptures will find their permanent home in the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens May 27. For more information about the gardens, check www.gardenbythesea.org.



The concept:

I was visiting the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens one day, and had this realization that when you wander the many paths through the gardens, you feel like you have entered a Wonderland of sorts. You have the feeling that you could easily come across the Mad Hatter and his friends having a raucous tea party. You might even hear "Off with her head" through the bushes and turn a corner and see Alice looking cross at her flamingo croquet mallet, hardly noticing the Red Queen turning beet red. I knew at that moment that I had to create a set of sculptures that captured the elegant insanity that is Wonderland. — Keena Good

Below left: Ryan Murray poses by the festive tablescapes

Below center: Lots of stamps were available for creating fun art projects

Below right: Jim Marill received a flamingo face-painting at the event



Above: The White Rabbit watches Tara "Red Queen" Logan play croquet

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