



# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

## Thank you from Christmas program

To the Editor:

Once again it's time to recognize the community of Willits as a whole and a few of our citizens individually for their generous help with the Willits Kids' Christmas Program.

First, though, is a very special thank you to Patrick and Susan Brown. For the past six years Patrick has headed up the local Toys For Tots program. He assumed this duty on the condition that all donations to their program would be used to help Willits children. Toys For Tots has been a major contributor to our program each of those six years.

This year I became concerned that toy donations would fall short of meeting our needs. Patrick arranged for shipping pallets of toys and other essential gifts to be delivered to our wrapping location 10 days before delivery. Those pallets contained hundreds of high-quality items that helped make our program successful again this year. Take a little time to give a round of applause to Patrick and Susan. With a bit of luck they will hear you and know that their efforts are appreciated.

For the last 21 years, the Willits Toy Run, organized by a group of local volunteer bikers, has kicked off the program. Their Toy Run is held the first Sunday after Thanksgiving. They accept donations of both toys for gifts and cash for the program. The community is invited to attend, and admission is covered by donation of a toy. The food is great, as is the music. It's a great way to relax a bit after a busy Thanksgiving holiday.

The Griggs family ... Mike, Christina, Mike, Jr. and Kerri, plus a flock of Colwells ..., never want any recognition for all the things they do in support our community so I can't ask you to thank them personally. However, if the opportunity should arise, give one of them a smile and a wink. If 50 or 100 people do this, maybe they will figure out that their secret has been revealed.

Every successful program has a few worker bees who do all those jobs that must be done but aren't very glamorous. So my daughter, Laura Deffendall (who takes her personal vacation time each year), Rick Maddox (the world's sweetest Okie), Ethyl Redmond (an energizer bunny if there ever was one), and Ann Hammond (personal shopper par excellence) all deserve a shout-out.

Another absolutely essential job is resolving the inevitable questions of clothing size, address, name conflicts, delivery times and on and on. This year Kat Harris volunteered to take on this responsibility and did a superb job. Kat's a keeper and I look forward to her help next year. (Hint, hint)

This year the number of days available to wrap was cut short by the Thanksgiving holiday falling so late in the month. I became very concerned and communicated our need for wrapping help to the local newspapers and, boy, did the community respond! Over 2,500 gifts were beautifully wrapped in a whirl of activity. We finished a day and a half before Christmas Eve; the earliest ever. My delighted thank you to all those wonderful people who volunteered for this task.

The crew that shows up for delivery is a great example of involvement by the entire community. Santas and elves, drivers and carriers, loaders and checkers ... these are the public face of the program and 'tis a great job they do. Brooktrails Fire Department, the Willits V.F.D., Chief Gonzalez (who notes on his application that he supplies his own Santa padding), Hal Wagenet (logistics king for the north 101 route) and this year newcomers Tim King and Mike Tobin and 50 or so others played this important role.

Finally I want to thank the Willits Rotary Club. Rotary supports our community every year in so many different ways. When you support Rotary fundraisers and events, you can be sure that you are enabling the club to continue to contribute to the betterment of Willits and its citizens.

This year, 435 children had a merrier Christmas than would have been without our community's outpouring. Warm clothing, shoes, bedding, rain gear (hope they use

it a lot), books, educational toys, games ... our community provides it all.

Bless ya every one, and be proud of what you accomplished.

**Sandy Turner, Willits, Christmas Program coordinator**

## Empty faucets?

To the Editor:

Willits' third Town Hall Meeting will be Sunday, January 19 from 4 to 6 pm in the City Council Chambers. Water's going to be the topic of the day. Pretty boring subject, huh? That is until you look at the small puddle Centennial Reservoir has become and start to remember all the controversy water development ideas have created in the past.

Drill new wells in the valley? Will that dry up existing wells and what about arsenic in the water? How about a well in our watershed? If we find a way to increase our water supply, will developers want to build more houses? Conservation? Greywater? Water prices?

Lots of things to talk about. Lots of different opinions. Here's a chance to not only express your opinion but to bring ideas that could benefit us all. To start the conversation off, there will be short presentations by Scott Herman, who is a City of Willits water operator, and Robert Mellish, director of utilities of Brooktrails Township.

We look forward to seeing you January 19 at the Willits City Council Chambers. For more information call Carlin Diamond at 459-4850.

**Carlin Diamond, Willits**

## The real culprit

To the Editor,

Let's set the record straight. Who's the real culprit in this bypass fiasco? Is it the protesters who, by Caltrans' tally sheet, caused it to spend \$4.6 million on police protection and other costs, or Caltrans itself, which is throwing close to \$200 million of taxpayers' dollars down the proverbial toilet?

In the mid '90s and again in 2007, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) offered Caltrans \$60 million to build a two-lane bypass around Willits to relieve congestion in town and get through-truck traffic off Main Street.

Both times, using fraud and intimidation, Caltrans District 1 insisted that only a four-lane freeway with I-5 sized interchanges could handle the traffic, that anything smaller would, by Caltrans' definition, be "functionally obsolete," and finally that the Federal Highway Administration wouldn't allow it to build a two-lane bypass.

So, when California voters supported a statewide \$20 billion transportation bond proposition, and again when federal stimulus money for transportation became available, Caltrans packaged its lies and sold them to the CTC.

(The first \$350 million request got pushed aside by competing projects elsewhere in the state, but construction money for the ultimate \$200 million "phase 1" request was readily granted.) That's \$140 million of our tax dollars wasted.

In the meantime, Caltrans had been on a mitigation property-buying spree in Little Lake Valley. Without any particular mitigation plan in mind and without any resource

agency consultation, Caltrans purchased 2,000 acres of private land in the valley (allowing sellers to assume that current uses would remain unchanged) for about \$16 to \$22 million, depending on which document you read. Approximately \$16 million for right-of-way acquisition came from Mendocino County's discretionary transportation funds.

Ultimately, the county spent close to \$33 million to keep up with its mandatory match of Caltrans District 1's bloated Willits Bypass budget. Assuming a proportional match for a \$60 million bypass, that's another \$26 million of our tax dollars wasted.

The resource agencies were unwilling to accept mere change of ownership as "mitigation" for the environmental impacts of the Willits bypass (Hello Caltrans?). Caltrans was now faced with trying to come up with doing something on its newly acquired 2,000 acres, much of which was already functioning seasonal wetland, that would compensate for the loss of wetlands, thousands of feet of denuded stream channels, lost wildlife and rare plant habitat, and the loss of 2,000 oaks and a recovering riparian forest. After years of trying to turn Caltrans' buying spree into a credible mitigation plan, a process whose costs remain hidden from the public, and with Caltrans continuing to refuse to shrink its bloated bypass, we have a "mitigation plan" with a price tag of close to \$40 million. A serious and focused mitigation effort that began by avoiding impacts would likely have cost taxpayers a fraction of the current plan.

The grand total that Caltrans District 1's intransigence is costing the public? Do the math. The protesters did.

**Ellen Drell, Willits**

## Praise for Spartan Ron

To the Editor:

Kudos and congratulations regarding your fine publication. In a recent editor's note I learned that the Willits Weekly is supported by local advertisers. This piqued my curiosity as I am always interested in keeping as much of my business local as possible.

I enjoyed my walk through the pages with colorful photos and nicely designed ads. One especially caught my attention and gave me a chuckle.

I saw Spartan Bodyworks' Ron Karaglanis refer to himself as "The Pain Terminator." At first I laughed and thought it was funny. But then, I realized: "People! This guy is no joke!"

Willits has the great fortune of being home to two of the finest massage therapists on the planet. Ron and his wife, Laurie, are experienced, respectful professionals. I am so thankful that I have had the privilege of working with them for the past several years.

I had a couple of unfortunate, intractable injuries that left me in chronic pain. I had searched for years for relief and, luckily, a friend recommended Laurie to me. I worked with her for several months with great results until, at her suggestion, I started working with Ron.

Due to her enthusiasm, I got over my initial shyness. Within 15 minutes into our first session, I was mentally setting up a month's worth of weekly sessions. I felt like I had finally found the answer to my various problems.

Ron knows so much about human anatomy, movement,

Read the rest of **Letters** | *Over on Page 9*

## LOVE THIS PAPER?

WANT TO HELP SUPPORT WILLITS WEEKLY?  
Become a one-time or ongoing community supporter!  
Eternal gratitude and more fabulous editions offered in return!

### PayPal Check Cash

No PayPal account needed!  
Just donate like a regular online transaction!  
www.WillitsWeekly.com

Our P.O. BOX 1698 is always happy for envelopes! Mail us any amount direct!

See us out and about? At the Farmers Market? We are happy to take any cash donations!

SUBSCRIBING TO WILLITS WEEKLY IS EASY!  
Cut out mail-in form below!

**Willits Weekly**  
EST. 2013  
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

**SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

6 Months - \$40     1 year - \$75     Additional donation included \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Willits Weekly | P.O. Box 1698 in Willits, CA 95490

Locally Owned | Independent | Editions Every Thursday | Online & In Print

**QUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047**

Web: www.willitsweekly.com    Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly    Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

**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**  
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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

Volume 1, Number 36  
P.O. Box 1698  
Willits, CA 95490  
willitsweekly@gmail.com  
www.willitsweekly.com  
707-459-2633; 707-972-7047

Jennifer Poole, editor and reporter / jennifer@willitsweekly.com / 707-459-2633  
Maureen Moore, designer and photographer / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047  
Mike A'Dair, reporter / mike@willitsweekly.com  
Zack Cinek, reporter / zack@willitsweekly.com

Justin Stephens, webmaster

For advertising inquiries, please call 707-459-2633 or 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com

COLJMN | Resendez Reads!



## The Real 'Downton Abbey'

If you are a fan of the PBS series "Downton Abbey," now in its fourth season, you are part of a group numbering 24 million in America alone. I'm sure not all of those viewers have read about Highclere, the historic British castle and gorgeous grounds used for the filming of the series, but you might enjoy doing so.

Highclere has been the home of the various Earls of Carnarvon and the many domestic workers who kept the estate running for decades like a well-oiled machine. The current Lady Carnarvon, born Fiona Aitken, has written two delightful books about the actual inhabitants of the castle, focusing on the family members, the servant routines and the many dramas involving them all.

The first book is titled "Lady Almira and the Real Downton Abbey, The Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle" and was published in 2011. In this book we encounter the wealthy and beautiful Lady Almira, the fifth Countess of Carnarvon.

She is a product of the Victorian age who readily adapts to running a huge estate and hosting the ostentatious social events expected of their class.

Her husband has health problems which take him to Egypt for the winter. He uses this opportunity to pursue his interest in Egyptology and eventually, with the expert help of Howard Carter, finds the tomb of King Tut.

But before that historic discovery we get the build-up to WWI and the use of Highclere as a nursing hospital for the wounded soldiers, an important sequence in the fictional "Downton Abbey" story.

In the second book, Lady Catherine, the Earl, and the Real Downton Abbey, we follow the next generation. Lady Almira's son Porchey and his young wife, Catherine, take over the manor during the 1920s.

There is another influx of the rich and famous during horse parties, hunts and balls. Porchey is nothing like his father, preferring horse racing and dallying with the ladies to sifting through dusty books or archeological sites.

His wild social life is eventually punctuated by the events leading to WWII and the commandeering of Highclere this time as a sanctuary for young children sent out of London for their safety. I enjoyed both of these reads and I'm sure you will too!

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

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



20 years of bestselling Willits. Getting her first in her reading life.

## Furry Friends

Hoping for a Home  
*Grinning Rudy*

Meet Rudy, a boxer/pitbull terrier mix! This sweet boy is always grinning – and it's hard not to do the same when you're around him! Rudy is a beautiful boy who is very smart, affectionate and attentive. In his past home he lived with both dogs and kids, and he is great with all of them! Unfortunately he wasn't great with their family cat, so we need to find this great dog a cat-free home.

He is young and energetic and needs a home that is active and will include him in adventures and exercise. He also needs a home with a good fence so that if there are neighborhood cats wandering around, he can't get out and chase them! Rudy is a wonderful dog looking for his perfect forever home. He is 2.5 years old, and weighs 78 pounds. He is already neutered, fully vaccinated, and so he's ready to go home with you when you adopt him! Here is a link to more photos of Rudy: [http://www.flickr.com/photos/rod\\_coots/sets/72157634798857827/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/rod_coots/sets/72157634798857827/)

The Ukiah Animal Shelter, 298 Plant Road, is open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. We have many other wonderful dogs and cats, awaiting their forever homes here as well. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: [www.pawstoadopt.com](http://www.pawstoadopt.com) or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info: contact Adoption Coordinator Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 or [houghtbyk@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:houghtbyk@co.mendocino.ca.us)



Photo by Rod Coots

# Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits

Submitted by North Coast Opportunities' Farm2Fork project



It's official: a trio of three local farmers will take over the 1-acre Brookside School Farm at Brookside Elementary School in Willits. Lucas Howerter and Amanda Senseman will co-farm the land, and Michael Foley will serve as mentor and advisor.

The trio has secured a full liability insurance policy, passed security checks to be on school property, and signed a three-year license agreement which can be renewed for another three years.

A dedicated team of Willits Unified School District staff and community volunteers partnered with the Farm2Fork project of North Coast Opportunities-Community Action, and together came up with the groundbreaking new concept of licensing school land to farmers to grow food for the school and community. At least 15 percent of the land must be dedicated to growing food for the schools, and the farmers will work with Christy Wisdom, the Willits school district's food service director, to decide what to grow. They'll start by plowing the field and planting cover crops this winter, with the first food crops going into school cafeterias in the spring.

"It's an innovative model for empowering new farmers with the support they need to be successful: land, equipment, mentorship, and marketing," says Susan Lightfoot, Farm2Fork coordinator. "We are so excited and are grateful for the leadership and vision of the Willits Unified School District for making this happen."

Brookside School Farm already has significant infrastructure, including a hoop house, vegetable washing station, rainwater catchment system, solar power, and some tools. Beyond the equipment and water provisions, Senseman and Howerter will be fully responsible for all expenses and for generating income from the land, a challenge they're both ready to face head on.

Senseman comes from Green Uprising Farm, where she

## New farmers

for Brookside School Farm

started as an intern five years ago. Howerter has been at Ecology Action for the past 2.5 years, first as an intern and then as a field coordinator at the Golden Rule Farm. Both have experience in environmental and nutrition education, and they both love working with kids. "We're passionate about providing the right kind of food to the most people possible," says Senseman. "Working with students will help us get more people educated and involved in the local food movement."

Michael Foley is an experienced farmer and businessman, and will mentor Senseman and Howerter as they get their new business started.

"With the three of them together, they have the experience, motivation and dedication to make it happen," says Lightfoot.

Brookside offers a unique entry point into the

Read the rest of **Farmers** | *Over on Page 9*

**BEST TIRE VALUE PROMISE**

**Tires LES SCHWAB**

**Peace of Mind Tire Protection**

- Free Flat Tire Repairs
- Free Tire Rotations
- Free Tire Rebalancing
- Free Air Checks

• Free Brake & Alignment Checks

**Lifetime Tire & Mileage Care**

Whatever the road throws at you, from potholes to nails — any road hazard, we guarantee you're protected

**TIRES | WHEELS | BATTERIES | BRAKES | ALIGNMENT | SHOCKS | LIFTING | LOWERING | ATV TIRES | OIL CHANGE**

**WILLITS**  
**1565 S Main St • 707-459-5938**

## In the Stars...

### ARIES

Mar 21 - Apr 20

Aries, enjoy some well-deserved time off. Life has taken on a hectic pace of late, but some much-needed time to rest, relax and recharge has finally arrived.

### TAURUS

Apr 21 - May 21

Taurus, hidden feelings come to the surface, and this will prove a pleasant surprise. Let things play out this week, and you will get some peace.

### GEMINI

May 22 - Jun 21

Gemini, your friends are up to something and they want it to remain a surprise. Keep your distance, and don't let your curiosity get the better of you.

### CANCER

Jun 22 - Jul 22

A temporary situation at work may alter your plans for a few days, Cancer. But don't let changes stop you from scheduling some down time with your friends.

### LEO

Jul 23 - Aug 23

Leo, think things through before swinging into action. Run your ideas by someone close, and consider all of your options. This will ensure you make the best decision.

### VIRGO

Aug 24 - Sep 22

Your confidence about the future is a byproduct of the past, Virgo. You have learned from past mistakes and are ready to forge ahead and turn your hard work into results.

### LIBRA

Sept 23 - Oct 23

Libra, now is the time to address some relationship issues that you have been avoiding. Deal with them in a straightforward way, and you will glad you did.

### SCORPIO

Oct 24 - Nov 22

A demanding schedule makes it impossible for you to be bored this week, Scorpio. However, if you desire a little time to decompress, you can fit it into your schedule.

### SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23 - Dec 21

Sagittarius, while you may be anxious about the future, make sure you enjoy the here and now and not wish the present away too soon. New friends come into your life.

### CAPRICORN

Dec 22 - Jan 20

Capricorn, react swiftly to stressful situations, but do so with a clear head and conscience. Once a situation has been resolved, take some time to recharge your batteries.

### AQUARIUS

Jan 21 - Feb 18

Aquarius, do your best to hold up your end of a bargain with a loved one. If you are struggling, simply ask for more time or help to ensure that everyone comes out a winner.

### PISCES

Feb 19 - Mar 20

Pisces, your foremost priority is to further your position at work. Rely on your strong work ethic and attention to detail.

## Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13											
16											
19											
26	27	28	29	30	31		32				
33											
35											
46	47	48									
51											
59											
62											
65											

### CLUES ACROSS

- NOHOW
- Record (abbr.)
- Hair detangler
- '836 siege' of U.S.
- Largest continent
- Showed old movie
- Clatter
- Considered one by one
- Chinese cinnamon spice tree
- Frequently
- 3 person 32 card game
- Misaddressed mail (slang)
- Expresses pleasure
- Samba or basket rummy
- Military leader (abbr.)
- A citizen of Iran
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Carbon, radioactive or varve
- Loss of electricity
- Mass. Cape
- Mediator
- 1/1000 of a tala
45. Players at 1st, 2nd & 3rd
- Covered Greek portico

### CLUES DOWN

- Informant (slang)
- Olive tree genus
- Armed conflicts
- Am. Music Awards
- Dance mix DJ Einhorn
- Oxidation-reduction
- Structure
- Modern
- Roman Conqueror
- So. Honshu bay city
- 8th C. BC minor Hebrew prophet
- = to 100 satang
- In active opposition
- 007's Fleming
- 26th century Spanish hero
- Macaw genus
- Slave rebellion's Turner
- Cuckoo
- From a time
- Applies with quick strokes
- Fasten with string
- Teller replacement
- Command right
- Sea eagle
- Most closely set
- Dhabi, Arabian capital
- Marten furs
- Strike workers
- Thyssenopter
- Louise de la Ramee's pen name
- King of Thebes
- \_\_\_ mater, one's school
- Time unit
- Klutzes
- Von Bismarck, Iron Chancellor
- Front of the leg

## Sudoku

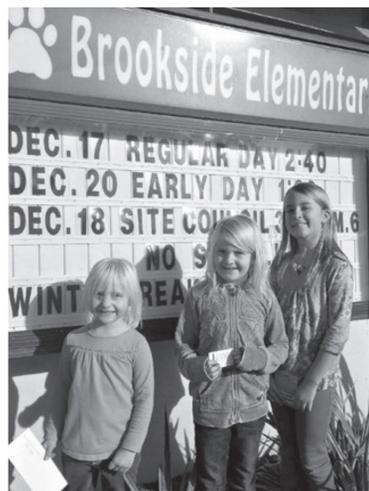
		4		6				1
		3		5	4	8		
6				9		7		
		6	7				1	
			4	1				
5								9
7	5		6	4				
3	1							
				7	8			

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!



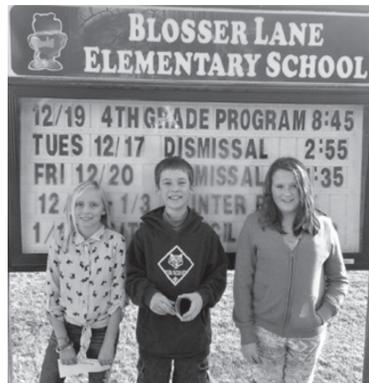
## Walk-a-Thon Winners again!

Willits Weekly is re-running the photos of the 2013 Blosser Lane and Brookside Elementary School winners, as we received misspelled names for two of the Brookside students, which were printed in the December 19, 2013 edition. We apologize for the error.

Above: Brookside winners: Rayah and Makenzie Erickson and Shelby Bowen.

Below: Blosser winners: Samantha Jenkins, Quinn Harroun, Heaven Siderakis.

Photos by Windi Kvasnicka



## Almost halfway there!

Thermometer for Food Bank reaches \$15,875

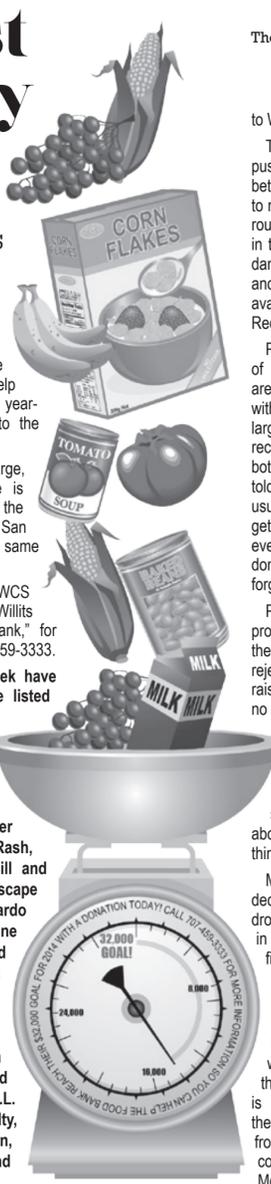
Donations to the Willits Community Services and Food Bank continue to come in from members of the community. Money raised goes to help support the efforts of the food bank year-round and provide vital services to the needy in the community.

No amount is too little or too large, and anyone wishing to contribute is welcome to bring their donation by the WCS building, located at 229 East San Francisco Street, or mail it in to the same address.

For more information, "like" the WCS Facebook page, found under "Willits Community Services and Food Bank," for updates, or contact WCS directly at 459-3333.

New donations in the past week have been generously given by those listed below:

Eric Acosta, James and Leigh Austin, Jeffery Brockrog, John Cross and Diana Cavendish, Dancing Madrone Soap Co., Jason Erlick and Carla Longchamp, Esther Faber, Helen Falandes and Clancy Rash, Frank R. Howard Foundation, Bill and Frances Gardner, Gary Owen Landscape Construction, Cathy Glycer, Gerardo and Barbie Gonzalez, Pauline Grzanich, Henry Hanson, Edward and Audrey Kimmel, Margaret Koster, Ruth MacMillan Kozusyn, Paul Krause, Daniel Loughry, Mills and Suzanne Matheson, Debbie McCubbin, Umakant and Suman Mistry, North Valley Bank, Richard Padula, Padula Ranches, L.J. and S.L. Pasquini, Ponderosa & Sun Realty, Keith Rutledge and Nancy Simpson, J. Francis and William Schatz, and David and Laura Smith.



## The rest of Wells

From Page 1

to Willits from Wente Lake.

Third District Supervisor John Pinches pushed hard on the Wente Lake project between 2005 and 2010. His plan was to raise the dam at the lake, which would roughly triple the amount of water held in the reservoir. Pinches said raising the dam there would cost about \$800,000, and he added that the water could be available to either Willits or the town of Redwood Valley.

Pinches complained about the attitude of local government officials in our area. "The Boy Scouts were on board with doing it," Pinches said, "because a large reservoir there would mean more recreation facilities. But when I took it to both Redwood Valley and to Willits, they told me they didn't need the water. What usually happens around here is, everyone gets excited about the lack of water and everyone says that something has to be done, and then it rains, and everyone forgets about it."

Pinches said that the Wente Lake project is neither being actively pursued at the present time, nor has it been decisively rejected. He said that project designs for raising the dam do exist, but added that no formal agreement has been reached with the Boy Scouts of America.

When asked if there has been any interest in blowing the dust off of that old feasibility study, Pinches said: "Couple of people have asked about it, but not the interest you would think."

Moore said that Willits' request to be declared a disaster area because of drought conditions gained a lot of attention in Sacramento because Willits was the first city in the state to seek state help against the drought.

When asked if water use associated with Caltrans' Willits Bypass project has had a negative impact on Willits' water supply, Moore stoutly denied that there was any connection. "Caltrans is getting its water from the well on the Coleman Ranch. We get our water from our two reservoirs. Those are two completely different water sources," Moore said.

# Hometown Business



Left: The next two generations of Purple Moose'ers: Judy Lovell's children Dustin Lovell (left) and Alicia Logan, who holds Judy's granddaughter Tinley Logan.

## Moving the Moose

Purple Moose consolidates to one location in Willits

Unique Mom-and-Pop stores are just one of the facets of Willits that keep things interesting in our small town.

Like an ever-changing treasure hunt, the Purple Moose Thrift Shop is happy to provide locals and passers-through with a selection of one-of-a-kind items, now all conveniently located at one shop: 1402 South Main Street.

With a large warehouse in the back providing storage for the goods waiting to come out onto the floor, the old Scott's Appliance building was doing very well for owner Judy Lovell, and she decided to combine her two original locations into one space earlier this month.

"We have some new goals at our store this year," explained Lovell. "But I am still buying huge estates and then passing the deals on to our customers."

With these large estate purchases, the "thrift shop" theme sometimes transforms into an "antique store" feel as well, with antique treasures from estate sales filling the shelves.

Unlike other local thrift shops, the Purple Moose does not accept drop-off donations; all store items are purchased by Lovell, then washed, sorted, priced and carefully displayed in the shop.

"We have been having difficulty with people dropping off boxes outside, leaving us to have to clean up and dispose of the unwanted items," explained Lovell. "If you have items you would like to get rid of, you can always contact us for a consultation, but please, don't leave unsolicited items outside."

Lovell says that if customers are looking for something in particular that they don't see in her own shop – believing in good karma and returned blessings – she and her staff will always encourage customers to check out the other local stores to see what they might have available.

If you haven't yet been inside the Purple Moose building located at 1402 South Main Street, stop in and have a look around and see what treasures you can find.

The shop is open Monday to Friday 10 am to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm.

For more information, contact the Purple Moose at 459-1540.

### Below from left:

A kitty cookie jar inside the shop.

A fully loaded truck of brand-new items arrived at the Purple Moose Thrift Shop Tuesday morning, and workers Shawn (left) and Dustin (right) helped to unload the goodies.

Where can one find a desktop-sized bust of President Lincoln? The Purple Moose if you hurry! The inside of the shop is filled with an ever-changing selection of items big and small.

Photos by Maureen Moore



## Willits Weekly 459-2633

For the whole month of January, come in and get gorgeous with our sale!

## Mariposa Market

Enjoy 20% Off Nordic Naturals and MyChelle Facial Products & Make up for the whole month of January

500 S. Main Street Willits, CA 95490

459-9630

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday • January 12<sup>TH</sup> 8-11 a.m.

Adults: \$7 • Senior Center Members: \$6 • Kids: \$5

## The Harrah Center

1501 Baechtel Road, Willits

## Ice Cream Social

Monday • January 13<sup>TH</sup> 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

## Jazz, Rock & Gospel

with Tim & Necole Suttles  
Jon Mather on the piano  
"Name That Tune"

## Dinner For 2 \$19.95

Each plate includes: 1 Burrito, 1 Enchilada and 1 Corn Taco with Rice and Beans and a small bean dip.

MUST PRESENT COUPON. EXCLUDES FRIDAYS. COUPON GOOD THROUGH 3/31/14

(707) 459-5702  
Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

166 South Main Street Willits, CA 95490

## WILLITS POWER Equipment

HONDA • HUSQVARNA  
STIHL • MQ  
CARHARTT • REDWINGS

Lawn & Garden Equipment • Generators  
Sales, Parts & Service • Pick-up & Delivery

1600 S. Main St. Willits, CA 95490  
willitspower@willitsonline.com

Service: 707 459-0596  
Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420  
Fax: 707 459-6369

## Service with Style

Book your party today  
Events big and small in Nor Cal

Just enjoy your event  
Leave the pouring & service to us

Candice Kelley  
Mobile Bartender  
7 years experience Owner/Operator  
707-354-4894

Dinner Parties • Superbowl • Weddings • Reunions

## Room To Bloom Preschool

Where the love of learning grows

839 South Main Street - Willits

Morning & School Day Programs

8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Spanish • ART • Journals • Circle Time  
Outside Play • Snacks • Group Activities  
• Inquiry Based Learning •  
Call Today to Enroll Your Child!  
RoomToBloomPreschool.com 707-456-9743

## FARMERS

## CANTUA INSURANCE AGENCY

16 W. Valley Street • Willits, CA 95490  
Bus: (707) 459-3276 • Fax: (707) 459-3298  
Insurance Agent Lic. #0C67822 www.NorCalQuote.com • rcantua@farmersagent.com

Auto • Home • Life • Health • Business

## BUD GARMAN

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC

707-459-5859

Environmental Restoration - Ponds  
Septic & Water Systems - Site Development  
Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery

24900 N. HWY 101 IN WILLITS GARMANCONST@GMAIL.COM

## SPARETIME SUPPLY

Like us on Facebook

459-6791

208 E. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490

## BARE ROOT TREES ARE HERE

Come by soon for the best selection!

Store Hours:  
January - February  
Mon - Sat: 9 am - 6 pm  
Closed Sunday

## Friday, January 10

**Big Screen video games:** at the Noyo Theatre. Arcade-style games, multi-player, with both casual and cartoony fighting games. Everyone gets a chance at the controller. Moderated by assistant manager Steve Thornton: "Gamemaster Steve." Fridays from 4 to 5:30 pm to start, with hoped-for expansion to an evening tournament-like event. \$5 (no gift certificates or passes accepted). 57 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-6660.



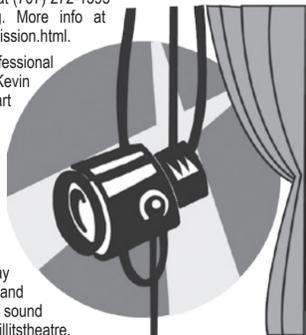
## Saturday, January 11

**Work Day for Grange School of Agricultural Arts:** at the school site at Ridgewood Ranch, 16200 Highway 101. Skilled and unskilled help needed. Bring gloves and tools, if you have them. Follow the "Farm School" signs. Please drive slow on the ranch. Lunch available for those who RSVP by Friday each week (drop-in volunteers welcome, too). Work days (rain or shine) also set for: January 18 & 25 and February 28, 15 and 22. These volunteer days will focus on renovating the schoolhouse, building student housing, planting cover crop, and pruning in our well-established orchard. Custom work days or events can be scheduled by contacting director Antonia Partridge at (707) 272-1395 or farmdirector@californiagrangerange.org. More info at <http://californiagrangerange.org/agschool/mission.html>.

**Theater Tech Master Class:** Professional theatre techs, Joe Dowling and Kevin Moore, teach the first of a four-part master class on "Theater Tech" starting today from 10 am to 1 pm, with a class on "Operation of Lights and Sound." Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. This first class will cover hands-on operation of lights and sound equipment: try your hand at operating a professional light board. Three additional Saturday classes, scheduled for February and March, will cover light rigging, light and sound design and set construction. Check willits theatre.org or call 459-0895 for more info.

**Willits Redwood Little League** 2014 season sign-ups: Today and Sunday, January 26 at Old Mission Pizza, 1708 South Main Street in Willits. Sunday, January 19 and Saturday, February 1 at Wheels Café, 44930 Highway 101 North, in Laytonville. See item elsewhere on Calendar page for details.

**Dharma Master Talks:** Two talks in Willits by Tibetan Buddhist master Lama Lodu Rinpoche at the Muse, 30 East San Francisco Street. Today:



# What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

from 10 am to noon: "Buddhism and World Religions," and from 2 pm to 4 pm: "The Path, Destination, and Companions on the Way." Sunday, January 12: from 10 am to noon: "Finding the Light in Dark Times," and from 2 pm to 4 pm: "Working with the Emotions." These talks are free, open to everyone, and will interest experienced dharma students as well as those new to Buddhism. For more info: 707-853-7274 or 456-9425.

**"Reclaiming Democracy" film:** "How communities are saying NO to corporate rights and recognizing the rights of nature." Presented by the newly formed Community Rights Organization of Willits (CROW). "Thomas Linzey, environmental attorney and co-founder of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, and Shannon Biggs, director of development and local green economy program for Global Exchange, describe how more than 150 communities have enacted laws that place the rights of communities and nature over the claimed 'rights' of corporations – a radical and inspiring approach that brings decision-making back to communities." Free. 3 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Followed by town-hall-style discussion and light refreshments.

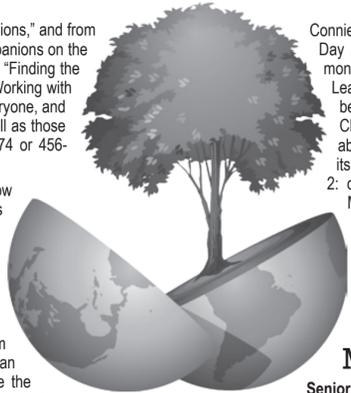
**Rising Recognition:** at the Brooktrails Lodge, 24675 Birch Street. Doors open 9 pm. Can2 Entertainment & Shuster Entertainment present Rising Recognition Hosted by DJ X-Tian with special guest DJ Shabazz, with performances from CAN2 and also featuring V.I. & Cez, Lil 100 Racks, Victoria Bratton, Mac Dav, Apex, and more. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 (limited quantity, call Brie at 707-391-1324); \$15 at the door. "Come support your local artists. You aren't gonna want to miss this one!"

## Sunday, January 12

**Pancake Breakfast:** at the Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtle Road. 8 to 11 am. Adults: \$7; members: \$6; kids: \$5. Info: 459-1772.

**Dharma Master Talks:** the second of two talks in Willits by Tibetan Buddhist master Lama Lodu Rinpoche at the Muse, 30 East San Francisco Street. 10 am to noon. See Saturday, January 11 listing for details.

**Free Vegetarian Cooking Classes:** 2nd annual series of monthly vegetarian cuisine cooking classes starts today at 145 Haehl Creek Drive. 1 to 3 pm. Taught by Sher and



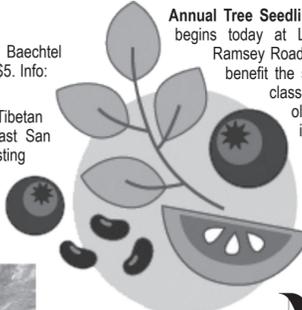
Connie. Sponsored by Howard Hospital and 7th Day Adventist Church. "Come enjoy these free monthly cooking classes on Vegetarian Cuisine. Learn how this dietary change can alter and benefit your health. Come for a healthier you!" Class schedule: Today: Learn about the whole food diet and its impact on health; February 2: diabetes & blood sugar control; March 9: heart health & healthy fats; April 6: cancer prevention & control; and May 4: bone health & inflammatory problems. For more info or to pre-register, call Sher at 707-841-0377.

## Monday, January 13

**Senior Center Ice Cream Social** The monthly Ice Cream Social at the Harrah Center, 1501 Baechtle Road, is set for today, from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Bring your friends and family for ice cream, pie, games, and entertainment: featuring, this month: Jazz, Rock & Gospel with Tim & Necole Suttles and Jon Mather on the piano, plus "Name That Tune." \$2; \$1 for center members. Info: 459-1772.

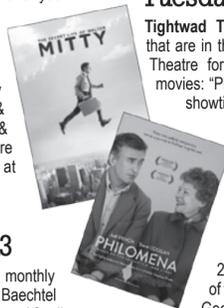
**Willits Garden Club meeting:** the first 2014 meeting of the Willits Garden Club, today, features a presentation by Donna D'Terra, a local herbalist, discussing the making and use of herbal medications. At the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse, 16100 North Highway 101. Social hour begins at 12:30 pm; presentation begins around 1 pm. Refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome, and there is no charge. For more info, please contact Willits Garden Club President Gary Bodensteiner at 459-2798. For more on Donna D'Terra and her Motherland Botanical Sanctuary northeast of Willits, check [www.motherlandbotanicalsanctuary.com](http://www.motherlandbotanicalsanctuary.com). D'Terra is a monthly columnist for Willits Weekly.

**Annual Tree Seedling Sale in Laytonville:** annual sale begins today at Laytonville Elementary School, 150 Ramsey Road. 2 to 3:30 pm. Sponsored by and to benefit the school's Kindergarten and first-grade classes. Seedlings are \$1.50 each; year-old potted trees are \$2 each. Seedlings include: Red Barberry, Giant Sequoia, Port Orford Cedar, Gingko, Douglas Fir, Sitka Spruce, Coast Redwood, Monterey Cypress, Incense Cedar, Rock Rose, Ponderosa Pine, Japanese Maple (green), European White Birch, Red Gum



Eucalyptus, Common Purple Lilac, California Redbud and Jeffrey Pine. Pre-orders welcome: 984-6123, ext 107 or [almostfreetrees@yahoo.com](mailto:almostfreetrees@yahoo.com)

## Tuesday, January 14



**Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre:** All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's "Tightwad" movies: "Philomena" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." For showtimes: [www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com). 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

## Thursday, January 16

**Now & Then Films:** the January film is "Chasing Ice: The Extreme Ice Survey," 7 pm on the "big screen" at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "Chasing Ice" shows years of time-lapse glacier melt, captured by National Geographic photographer. "His hauntingly beautiful videos compress years into seconds and capture ancient mountains of ice in motion as they disappear at a breathtaking rate." Suggested donation: \$5-\$10. Organic popcorn and chocolate, refreshments for sale by the Grange. Info: 459-6362. See item elsewhere on Calendar page for more details or visit: [www.chasingice.com](http://www.chasingice.com).

## Friday, January 17

**HazMobile Pickup:** HazMobile household hazardous waste collection team returns to the Willits Corporation Yard, 380 East Commercial Street, today and Saturday, January 18, from 9 am to 1 pm both days. Free to households: items that can be disposed of include paint, antifreeze, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, gasoline, solvents, acids, bases, toxic cleaners, auto and household batteries. Mercury and fluorescent light tubes are also accepted by the HazMobile. Info: 468-9704, or on the internet at [www.mendoRecycle.org](http://www.mendoRecycle.org). See item elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

**Big Screen video games:** at the Noyo Theatre. Arcade-style games, multi-player, with both casual and cartoony fighting games. Everyone gets a chance at the controller. Moderated by assistant manager Steve

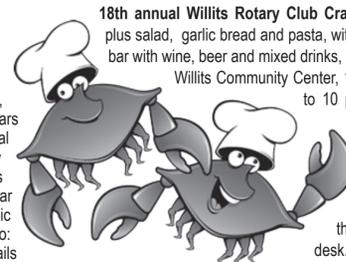
Thornton: "Gamemaster Steve." Fridays from 4 to 5:30 pm to start, with hoped-for expansion to an evening tournament-like event. \$5 (no gift certificates or passes accepted). 57 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-6660.

## Saturday, January 18

**Work Day for Grange School of Agricultural Arts:** See Saturday, January 11 listing.

**HazMobile Pickup:** see Friday, January 17 listing

**Acting & Auditioning Master Class:** Tony Award-nominated actress, Linda Posner, teaches two master classes on "Acting & Auditioning," today and Saturday, January 25 from 10 am to 1 pm. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. Fees for each class are \$25 adults, \$15 students, with full scholarships available to cover all costs. Scholarship applications can be downloaded from the website. Info: [www.willits theatre.org](http://www.willits theatre.org) or call 459-0895. See article on page 10 of Willits Weekly for more details.

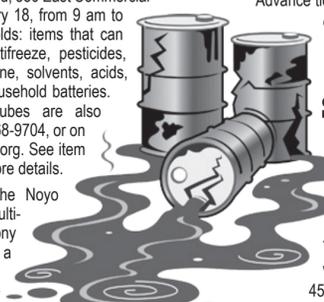


**18th annual Willits Rotary Club Crab Feed:** all-you-can-eat crab, plus salad, garlic bread and pasta, with a silent auction, live auction, bar with wine, beer and mixed drinks, and live music by The Bassics. Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, 6 to 10 pm. Fundraiser to benefit the Willits Senior Center and scholarships for Willits High School seniors. Pre-sale tickets \$45; available from any Rotary member or at the Harrah Senior Center's front desk. Info/tickets: Ann Alumbaugh at 459-1440. See item on page 8 for more details.

**"Celtic to Contemporary" Guitar Concert:** featuring guitarists Larry Pattis and Peter Janson. 8 pm at Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. Visit: [www.larrypattis.com](http://www.larrypattis.com) and [www.peterjanson.com](http://www.peterjanson.com). Advance tickets \$15 at Goods' Shoppe, 56 South Main Street, 459-1363, or online at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/537903](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/537903). See item elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

## Sunday, January 19

**Town Hall Meeting on 'Water':** from 4 to 6 pm at Willits City Council chambers, 111 East Commercial Street. With short presentations to start by Scott Herman, City of Willits Water operator, and Robert Melliush, director of utilities of Brooktrails Township. Discussion to follow. This third in the Town Hall meeting series will explore water development and water conservation ideas, and more. Info: Carlin Diamond at 459-4850. See letter on page 2 for more details.



# Save the Date:

**Mendo College Spring Semester begins,** January 21  
**Community Hu Song,** January 23, Willits City Hall  
**Pancake Breakfast,** January 26, Little Lake Grange  
**Sip Some Soup,** February 15, Willits Community Center

# Ongoing Events:

**Willits Farmers Market:** Winter market at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Market resumes January 9 after winter break. Winter produce, hot house tomatoes, local meats, dinner, crafts, live music and more. Call Michael.

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

**Willits Frontier Twirlers:** Beginner's classes in basic and mainstream square dance at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, from 6:45 to 8 pm, then dancing until 9 pm, with professional caller Lawrence Johnstone, who will teach and call. Every Monday night; classes are free for beginners. Info: 459-9526.

**Brooktrails Lodge Winter Schedule:** every Thursday night at 8 pm: "Dream Capsule Entertainment," featuring local musicians and talent; Happy Hour, and Ladies' Night specials. Every Friday night: Open Mic, with drink specials and prizes. Every Saturday night: "Electro-Dance" at 7 pm. Info: Shawntee Wirth at [dreamcapsuleindustries@gmail.com](mailto:dreamcapsuleindustries@gmail.com) or 459-6792.

**Laytonville Winter Farmers Market:** Mondays from 2:30 to 4:30 at the Laytonville Grange, 1620 Branscomb Road. Buy local: vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, jewelry, aprons, children's clothing, knife sharpening and more.

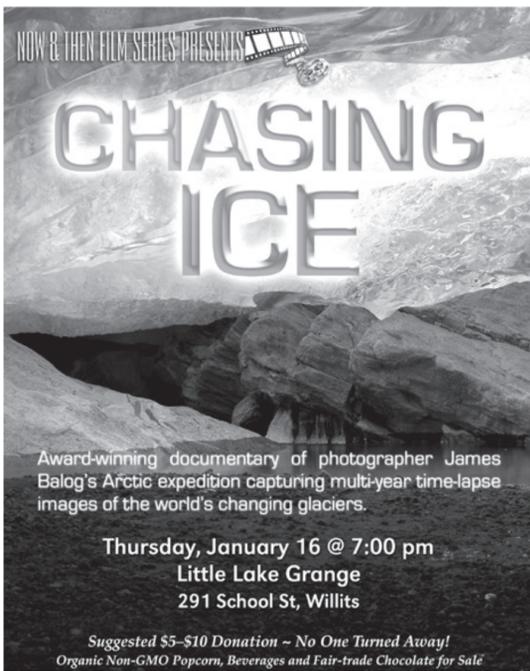
**Quit Smoking:** Free American Lung Association's "Freedom from Smoking" classes at Howard Hospital's Conference Room, Wednesdays from 6 to 7 pm. RSVP or questions: Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

## Willits Redwood Little League Sign-Ups

Little League sign-ups begin this month! Bring all required documents with you, birth certificate and address verification. Fees are \$75 for the first child and \$50 for each additional child. There is a volunteer incentive to earn \$25 back after completing five hours of work.

Sign-ups in Willits: Saturday, January 11 and Sunday, January 26, from 11 am to 2 pm at Old Mission Pizza, 1708 South Main Street. Sign-ups in Laytonville: Sunday, January 19 and Saturday, February 1, from 10 am to 1 pm at Wheels Cafe, 44930 Highway 101 North.

"We are still in need of coaches! Please let us know during sign-ups if you are interested!" For more information, call Melissa Coughlin: 707-287-8386. "Stay tuned to the Willits Redwood Little League Facebook page for try-out information and updates about this year's baseball season!"



## 'Chasing Ice'

Why is this film so heralded and interesting? Time-lapse photos of glaciers melting, calving or breaking off were taken over four years – resulting in hauntingly beautiful video of ethereal blue ice in movement.

In the spring of 2005, acclaimed environmental photographer James Balog headed to the Arctic on a tricky assignment for National Geographic: to capture images to help tell the story of the Earth's changing climate. Even with a scientific upbringing, Balog had been a skeptic about climate change. But that first trip north opened his eyes to the biggest story in human history and sparked a challenge within him that would put his career and his very well-being at risk.

Within months of that first trip to Iceland, Balog conceived the boldest expedition of his life: The Extreme Ice Survey. With a band of young adventurers in tow, Balog began deploying revolutionary time-lapse cameras across the brutal Arctic to capture a multi-year record of the world's changing glaciers.

"Chasing Ice" was shot over a period of almost four years. After the cameras were positioned (a challenge), they made photographs every 30 minutes during the daylight hours which were then collected into a time-lapse film, with truly stunning results. The disturbingly awesome videos compress years into seconds and capture ancient mountains of ice in motion as they disappear at a breathtaking rate.

"Chasing Ice" is the recipient of the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation's 2013 Outstanding Achievement Award, and has won over 30 awards at film festivals around the world, including the Sundance Film Festival (Excellence in Cinematography Award: US Documentary). Thursday, January 16, 7 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. \$5 to \$10 suggested donation. Info: 459-6362.



## Community Hu Song

"In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song Thursday, January 23, at 6 pm, at Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. HU (pronounced 'hue') is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra and can help you experience

divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Empandal, and vote for your favorite soup. Competition is fierce! For more information, call Cindy Savage of 972-2475." Daily Bread at 459-3947.

Willits Weekly | January 9, 2014

## 15th annual Sip Some Soup

This popular benefit event for Willits Daily Bread (their big fundraiser of the year) is set for Saturday, February 15 this year. Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. 5:30 to 7 pm. Enjoy some tasty locally made soups, desserts and bread from Sound of God. Empandal, and vote for your favorite soup. Competition is fierce! For more information, call Cindy Savage of 972-2475." Daily Bread at 459-3947.

Willits Weekly | January 9, 2014

# Mendocino College

Spring semester classes start January 21

The spring semester at Mendocino College starts Tuesday, January 21. Registration for the spring semester is now open; check [www.mendocino.edu](http://www.mendocino.edu) or call 468-3101 for admissions questions. Check page 31 of the Spring 2013 Schedule of Classes, [www.mendocino.edu/cmullis/Spring\\_2014\\_Schedule\\_Web.pdf](http://www.mendocino.edu/cmullis/Spring_2014_Schedule_Web.pdf), for classes at the North County Center in Willits at 372 East Commercial Street. Classes include Business Office Technology, Fire Science, Mathematics, Child Development, Spanish, Dance, English as a Second Language, History, English, Computer Science, and more, including work experience opportunities in a number of fields.

One of the classes starting Tuesday, January 21 is "ART 210 Drawing," taught by Willits art teacher Kathleen Kirkpatrick. The class is suitable for beginning, intermediate and advanced students, and will continue on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for 17 weeks.

"Anyone can learn how to draw, just as we can learn how to drive a car," said Kirkpatrick, who has 34 years of experience teaching art. "The ability to draw is part of being human." Admissions questions: 468-3101. North County Center: 459-6224.



Kathleen Kirkpatrick, art teacher

# HazMobile collects in Willits

The HazMobile household hazardous waste collection team returns to the Willits Corporation Yard, 380 East Commercial Street, on Friday, January 17 and Saturday, January 18, from 9 am. to 1 pm both days.

The HazMobile accepts dangerous chemicals that can't go in the trash, for recycling or special disposal. Toxic items like paint, antifreeze, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, gasoline, solvents, acids, bases, toxic cleaners, auto and household batteries, mercury and fluorescent light tubes are accepted by the HazMobile. Explosives and road flares are excluded.

The service is free to households, but there is a limit of 15 gallons

per vehicle per day (or 60 feet of fluorescent tubes). The 15 gallons is measured by the capacity of the containers of hazardous materials. If individuals wish to dispose of more than 15 gallons, they must make a special appointment and a fee will be charged.

Small business waste is also welcome at the collection, but an appointment must be made and a fee will be applied per gallon of waste.

When bringing materials to the HazMobile, the public should be careful that items are kept in their original containers (except motor oil which can be consolidated), that nothing is leaking, and that all containers are tied down.

Motor oil can be recycled five days a week at the Willits Transfer Station, 350 Franklin Avenue; at no charge. Computer monitors and televisions can also be recycled at the Willits Transfer Station, open Tuesday-Saturday 9 am. to 4 pm.

The HazMobile collects at some location in Mendocino or Lake Counties almost every weekend. The schedule and more information is available by calling the local Recycling Hotline, 468-9704, or on the internet at [www.mendoRecycle.org](http://www.mendoRecycle.org).

The HazMobile is a service of the Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority. Financial support is provided by CalRecycle.

## 'How to successfully grow fruit in Willits'

A workshop by home orchardist Richard Jeske on Saturday, February 8, from 10 am to noon at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "Learn what to grow here and how to plant and care for your fruit tree with the goal of actually getting some delicious fruit to eat."

Jeske has more than 30 years of experience as a pruner and fruit consultant. Sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization). Suggested donation: \$5. Info: Jeske at 459-5926.



Peter Janson

## Fruit Tree Pruning Class

Free class taught by Dave Watts of Sanhedrin Nursery on Sunday, January 26, from 10 am to 2 pm. Meet at Mendocino County Museum in back classroom (follow directional signs). Rain or shine. No charge. Questions: 459-9009.

Pg. 7



Left: Erica and Craig Carson Jr. with their new baby girl, Khwina Makela Carson, the first baby born at Ukiah Valley Medical Center in 2014.

Below: A family portrait: dad Cody, mom Chelsea, big brother Evan and new baby, Mason Lee Cosner, the first baby born at the Mendocino Coast District Hospital in 2014.

Photo by Larry Wagner



Above: A fresh North Coast crab.

Photo by Maureen Moore

# Hankering for some crab?

All-you-can-eat feast set for January 18

The 18th annual Willits Rotary Crab Feed is set for Saturday, January 18 from 6 to 10 pm at the Willits Community Center.

Dinner features "all the crab you can eat, plus salad, garlic bread and pasta," said Rotarian Ann Alumbaugh, with a silent auction, a live auction and live music, too. "It should be a fine time," she said.

A version of The Basics will perform "old Italian and romantic music," featuring Don Willis on accordion, Scott Wise on the drums, and "Bear" Kamoroff on upright bass.

The Rotary Club has ordered 600 pounds of cleaned crab this year, after selling 500 pounds last year. The event benefits two local good causes – 'split right down the middle,' Alumbaugh said. Half the proceeds will go to the Willits Senior Center and half will go to the scholarship fund for the Willits High School senior class.

Rotary Club members will be tending a bar offering wine, beer and mixed drinks. Pre-sale tickets are \$45; available from any Rotary member or at the Harrah Senior Center's front desk. For tickets or more information, please contact Alumbaugh at 459-1440.

# First babies of the year

at Mendocino County hospitals

The very first Mendocino County baby of 2014 was born at 1:27 am on January 2 at Ukiah Valley Medical Center to parents Erica and Craig Carson, Jr. of Redwood Valley. Khwina Makela Carson is the first of 800 to 900 babies expected to be born at UVMC in 2014.

The first baby born at the Mendocino Coast District Hospital was Mason Lee Cosner, born at 1:59 pm on January 4, to Chelsea Brown and Cody Cosner of Fort Bragg. MCDH expects to help deliver about 180 "precious and beautiful" newborns in 2014.

"It's always exciting to deliver the first baby of the New Year!" said Dr. Karen E., obstetrician and gynecologist, who delivered baby Carson at UVMC.

For the Carsons, this baby girl is their miracle baby. In 2011 Craig Carson, Jr. was diagnosed with brain cancer and has



been undergoing treatment for the past two years.

"For us this is a real miracle, since neither of us thought we would be able to have another child because of the cancer treatment Craig has undergone," said Mrs. Carson. The Carsons' new daughter joins three siblings, Aliyah, 9, Yoosha, 5, and Cimewa, 4.

Young Mason Lee Cosner — 7 pounds, 11 ounces, 19 inches when he arrived — will enjoy the companionship of older brother, Evan.

MCDH nurses, Suzanne Bowen, RN, and Joyce Aston, RN, and nursing house supervisor Jeanna Cauckwell were in the delivery room when Mason arrived.

## COME & PLAY!

**Mondays**  
January 6th to February 24th  
**Guys Night**  
4:00PM to 11:00PM  
Hourly Drawing from 4:00PM to 10:00PM for \$50 Cash!  
Last Drawing at 11:00PM for \$150 Cash!  
Ladies who earn 50 points, will receive \$15 Free Play  
Points can be earned all day

**Tuesdays**  
January 7th to February 25th  
**Ladies Night**  
4:00PM to 11:00PM  
Hourly Drawing from 4:00PM to 10:00PM for \$50 Cash!  
Last Drawing at 11:00PM for \$150 Cash!  
Ladies who earn 50 points, will receive \$15 Free Play  
Points can be earned all day

**100 Kawi Place in Willits 707-459-7330**



Above: from left: Aidan Bryant, Nick Miller and Brandon Fanshier pose with assistant scoutmaster to Troop 212, Jen Dellett.

Photo by Jennifer Poole

# Local Boy Scouts help clean up Christmas

Members of Boy Scout Troop 212 in Willits were out gathering 2013's Christmas trees to recycle on Saturday. "We had three crews out this morning," said Jen Dellett, assistant scoutmaster for Troop 212, whose crew was working Mill Street and the surrounding area. At that midpoint in the day, Dellett estimated the crews had picked up 40 to 50 trees. The service is an annual fundraiser for the troop, especially the Scout summer camp. Although the trees are picked up without charge, donations are gladly accepted. Boy Scouts Aidan Bryant and Brandon Fanshier on Dellett's crew, and Cub Scout Nick Miller (who was helping out), reported that people who put trees out where happily giving donations, too. Scoutmaster for Troop 212 is Ken Pedersen. To give additional donations or for more info about Troop 212, call Dellett at 972-9948.



Above: Aidans Bryant (left) and Brandon Fanshier pick up a tree on Locust Street last Saturday afternoon

Photo by Maureen Moore

**PONDEROSA & SUN REALTY**  
Tony Sorace, Land & Ranch Broker, Certified Financial Planner  
635 S. Main St. Willits, CA 95490  
707-459-5108 • 707-489-3763

**45 Acres** - One of a kind ranch close in to Willits. End of Road privacy. 2100 sq. ft. home in pristine condition. Hardwood floors, custom cabinetry, tile counters. Amazing finishes throughout. Southern exposure. Gravity flow spring water system. Beautiful pond, orchard, gardens. Solar power. Amazing views. Excellent privacy.....**\$675,000**

**Pine Mountain** - 20 gorgeous acres with towering redwoods. Custom 3 bdrm/2 bth home and cozy western style cabin. Large shop. Exc. well, power, phone, etc.....**\$499,000**

**Estate Sale** - Beautiful custom home located on over an acre near Willits. Large kitchen with Corian countertops. Tile floors. Formal living room with wet bar. Office off Master Bedroom. Patio, large deck. Nicely landscaped.....**\$289,000**

**www.pondsun.com • tonysorace@pacific.net**

# Classifieds

**Algebra, Geometry**  
College Preparatory Mathematics, Individual Instruction. Mac Smith 459-MATH

**Body Life Studio**  
Jenna Byrne teaches concepts and practices in movement function and expression to activate and utilize your movement and life potential. Private session \$50-\$60. www.bodylifestudio.com.

**Community Hu Song**  
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song Thursday, January 23, at 6 p.m. at Willits City Hall, 111 E. Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra and can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475.

**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 macamerigm@yahoo.com.

**For Rent**  
2 bedroom, 2 bath home with fenced yard, \$1,000/month. Call Tracy at 354-0048.

**For Rent**  
Duplex, 2-bedroom, 1 bath, with stove, fridge, dishwasher. Water/garbage paid. No pets. No smoking. \$875/month. First/last/security deposit required. 707-984-6416.

**For Rent**  
2 bedroom, 1 bath downtown apartment for rent in Willits. \$750/month plus \$1,200 security deposit. Water and garbage paid; washer/dryer already in unit. Available now: call 459-4599 for info.

**Found - Tool**  
Found: a power tool in the middle of the street, on Highway 101 by Safeway. Call John at 295-2623 to describe and claim.

**Fulfill That Wish**  
To bring live MUSIC into your home. Children & adults, learn to play piano. Maggie Graham Music Studio 234 South Main, Willits, 459-2305.

**Help Wanted**  
Willits Weekly is looking for an outgoing, energetic and self-motivated ad sales person, on an independent contractor basis. Experience with ad sales ideal. Must have reliable transportation, be addicted to emails, and be willing to talk to anyone, on the phone or in person. Must understand and respect deadlines. Commission-based pay lets you decide how much you want to make each week. Affordable advertising rates help make selling ads for Willits Weekly fun! Can start immediately. Call for interview: 459-2633.

**Help Wanted**  
Dental Hygienist Needed. Immediate RDH temp position available. Job starts 1st week of February for approximately 5 months. Please call 459-4664 for information.

**Help Wanted**  
Night Shift wanted for Baechtel Creek Inn: 10:30 pm to 6 am. Must be detail-oriented, reliable, able to pass drug test. Apply in person at Baechtel Creek Inn.

**Help Wanted**  
Housekeeper wanted for Baechtel Creek Inn. Must be able to go up and down stairs, lift up to 30 pounds, and be reliable and willing to work. Apply in person.

**Help Wanted**  
Maintenance person wanted for Baechtel Creek Inn. Must be available on weekends, and weekdays. Apply in person.

**House For Rent**  
2-bedroom, 1-bath house for rent within Willits city limits. Has small garage in back. Available 2/1/14. \$950 per month. Call for application: 459-3141.

**House Rental Wanted**  
Looking for a 3 bedroom house to rent long-term, close to town. Local Willits business owner (with 1 dog). Very responsible and quiet. 707-235-9315; References available upon request.

**New Patients Welcome**  
Phillip J. D'Angelo, DDS  
Cosmetic/Family Dentistry  
707-459-4664

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

**Pinball Machines**  
PINBALL MACHINES for sale. 459-6372.

**Rummage Sale**  
Every Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm at 1st Baptist Church, 145 Wood Street. Rain or shine. We accept rummage donations, and have an ever-changing selection of goods!

**Get Willits Weekly at home**  
Help support your locally owned community newspaper with a mail subscription: Willits Weekly is delivered in Friday's first-class mail to Willits addresses: \$75/year or \$40/6 months. Send check and mailing address to: P.O. Box 1698, Willits 95490 or pay using our PayPal account at www.willitsweekly.com.

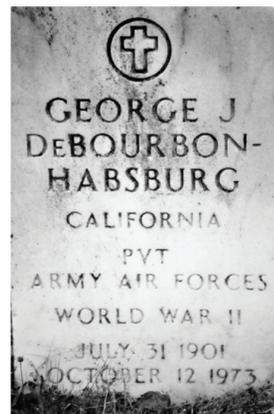
The rest of Letters | From Page 2

neuromuscular therapy, deep tissue and fascia work that I had rapid and amazing results. Thanks to his work, I have regained my mobility, coordination and quality of a relatively pain-free life.

What is really great is that my two adult sons have benefited as well. They had various sports-related injuries resolved, as have my daughter and son-in-law. It is so rewarding to see people that I care about feel better!

If you are suffering from an injury or just looking to improve your quality of life, give Ron a try. You really will be able to say "Hasta la vista" to your pain. Sincere thanks,

Melinda Zubak, Willits



Habsburg of Germany.

My history knowledge is that the DeBourbon part of his name came from the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies in Italy, from the Tuscan line of the Habsburgs.

I am curious if anyone knew him or knew about him? Did he live in Willits?

He was said to have had a sister, and his records said he was a painter by trade. Thank you. Please call 541-269-2454 if you have information to share.

Lucy Lea Lewis, Oregon

# George J. DeBourbon-Habsburg

To the Editor:

I was visiting the Willits Cemetery on Highway 20, and came across this military headstone for George J. DeBourbon-Habsburg. I called Anker-Lucier Mortuary, and they had his honorable discharge, and mailed me a copy.

He was born in San Francisco, July 31, 1901, and he died October 12, 1973. His parents were Wilhelm & Marie DeBourbon-

Recipe from Elizabeth Sinofsky, owner of Mendocino Tea Lady in Willits

# Mushroom, Onion & Butter Noodle Goodness

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cups of mixed mushrooms (button, trumpet, exotic)
- Half of a large onion
- 1 package wide egg noodles
- 2 chicken-flavored bouillon cubes
- ¼ cup sundried tomatoes
- ½ stick of butter
- ½ cup fresh parmesan
- Salt and pepper to taste

Sautee mushrooms and onions in olive oil slowly, until nicely browned. Set aside. Bring to a boil 8 cups of water with bouillon cubes. Cook noodles until perfectly al dente. Drain. Add sundried tomatoes to mushrooms and onions, then add butter to pan. Add hot steamy noodles, and toss altogether until butter is melted. Add salt and pepper, and sprinkle with Parmesan. Serve hot.

**Do you have a recipe to share?**  
Email us at willitsweekly@gmail.com with your original recipe.  
Easy weeknight meal or decadent Sunday brunch recipes, we like them all! There's no cost to print them, and it's a great way to share your culinary skills and ideas with the community! Send in one today!

The rest of Farmers | From Page 3

business for new farmers. "It's hard for young farmers to find reasonably priced land or a good agreement to farm someone else's land," says Howter. "It's one of the biggest barriers to becoming a new farmer. Brookside will show us what it takes to really get a small farm going."

If successful, Senseman and Howter may decide to move on to farming their own land, in which case Brookside will be available to offer the same learning experience to other new farmers.

"My intention is to continue with the project as a small-scale farm incubator," says Foley. "If and when Amanda and Lucas decide to move on to their own land, Brookside Farm can be

used to mentor new farmers."

According to Lightfoot, first-year WUSD Superintendent Pat Johnson was impressed with the innovative idea and offered her complete support for the new approach. Brookside Principal Olga O'Neill was also an early proponent of the project. "We're excited to see it become a thriving farm and expose our students to where their food comes from," says O'Neill. She's confident that the right group of farmers was chosen, saying, "They're so positive and passionate about what they're doing, and they have a realistic picture about what it's going to take to do this huge job." O'Neill adds, "They'll make great role models for our students."

# Puzzle Answers From Page 4

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

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

**WILLITS COLLISION CENTER**

AND  
**Kustoms**  
BY SPENCE

**CUSTOM & INSURANCE WORK**  
COMPLETE AUTO BODY REPAIR

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED  
BY JEFF SPENCE & BARB IVY

707-456-9088  
251 SHELL LANE - UNITS G & J WILLITS, CA

**Marc Komer**  
Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service  
Divorce, Living Trusts, Evictions, Probate, Incorporation, Name Change, etc.

www.mendolegaldocs.com  
459-2775  
104 W. Mendocino, Willits  
I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

**Ivy** Accounting & Payroll

Quickbooks Pro Advisor, Bookkeeping Services, Tax Prep. No Business too big or small

Barb Ivy 707-489-5486 251 Shell Lane, Unit C Willits, CA 95490

**YOKUMS BODY SHOP**  
Auto Collision Specialists  
We work with ALL Insurance Companies!  
Lifetime Warranty - All Makes and Models - Free Estimates

**CAR WASH & COMPLETE DETAIL SERVICE**

1619 S. Main St. Willits, Ca 707-459-9385  
yokumsbodyshop.com

Think you might like to work with us at **Willits Weekly** and help make our paper even MORE fabulous?

We're growing so fast, we need your help!  
**AD SALES PERSON NEEDED**  
Call ASAP for more info: 459-2633 or 972-7047

**Well Mannered MUTTS**  
Dog Training  
INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION • PUPPY HEAD START • GROUP CLASSES  
BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION

Sallie Palmer  
CERTIFIED DOG TRAINER

707-463-3447  
CELL: 707-421-DOGGS  
WELLMANNEREDMUTTS@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.WELLMANNEREDMUTTS.COM

**M pho-tog-ra-phress**  
fabulous photography & more

707-972-7047 | maureengetsmall@gmail.com

**Imagination Station**  
Preschool/Childcare Center  
Enrolling Year Round  
Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Preschool: ages 2-5 • After-school daycare: ages 18 months - 9 years  
Drop in for a tour!

7 South Marin Street • Willits  
459-6543

\* TIRES • OIL CHANGE • TUNE-UP • ALIGNMENT •  
\* FRONT ENDS • BRAKES • ENGINE REPAIR \*

**Adam's TIRE & AUTO SERVICE CENTER**  
707-459-4626

Fax: 707-459-1607 Adam Meza, Owner  
230 Shell Lane Willits, CA 95490

# Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



## Young gymnasts at Gateway

Above: 2013 Gateway Gymnastics students on picture day in December: back row: Coach Cathy Warren, Lilly Michels, Tristan Wartell, Clara Mayhugh, Sami Jenkins, Courtney Potter, Kylie Jergensen, Amerah Potter, and Jazmyne Carrig; Middle row: Sheridan Wood, Kendahl Potter, Cecily Potter, Charley Lamprich, Elena Arkelian, Mariah Rodriguez, Amya Michels, and Mateya Shuster. Front row: Sophia Leinwetter, Brodey Lamprich, Izabella Sims, Areya DeFluri-Goroux, Porter Garman, Kali Kristiansen, Sahejo Diallo, Jemma Apodaca, and Mariah Lavine.

Gateway Gymnastics is starting its 16th year of providing gymnastics classes for kids in Willits, said coach and owner Cathy Warren. The spring program started this week, but Warren says she is happy to add kids until classes are full. A total of about 55 students participate throughout the year.

Classes include a parent-taught "Tiny Tumbler" class, for the youngest kids (between 1 and 2 years old) as well as the classes Warren

teaches: a "Tiny Tumbler" class for ages 3 to 5, beginning gymnastics, and intermediate. Twelve classes are offered each week, scheduled from Tuesdays through Fridays. "The kids really enjoy it," Warren said. "Gymnastics helps kids gain confidence through physical activity, strength and flexibility."

Gateway is located at 275 Franklin Avenue; call 459-3855 for more information.

Photo by Richard Wartell

## Master class on acting

Taught by Broadway actress/dancer, Linda Posner

What is acting and why do we act? Explore your dreams with dancer and Broadway/film actress, Linda Posner, in two "Acting and Auditioning" classes set for Saturday, January 18 and Saturday, January 25 from 10 am to 1 pm. Posner's classes are part of a series of Master Classes offered by the Willits Community Theatre over the next few months.

Posner, acting under her stage name, Leland Palmer, was nominated twice for the prestigious Tony Award: in 1967 for featured actress in a musical (Miss Jimmie in "A Joyful Noise"; she was also assistant choreographer for that production); and in 1973 for actress in a musical (Fastrada in "Pippin"). She also played Minnie Fay in the big Broadway hit, "Hello Dolly!"

Film work includes Bob Fosse's "All That Jazz" and "Valentino" with Rudolph Nureyev. On television, Posner played guest roles on "Love, American Style," "Laverne & Shirley" and "Rhoda."

Posner also taught acting at Mendocino Community College for 20 years.

After coming back to Willits from 10 years in San Francisco, Posner was invited by WCT to be involved. "The theater generously invited me to participate by directing something, acting in something, creating something," Posner said. "I realized that where I wanted to be involved was in an educational component, which I didn't think WCT had. That is where my passion and interest lies, with education and making involvement in the theater more accessible and

more appealing to more people."

After WCT's Donna Vaiano called Posner to say "Let's put together a workshop," the two sat and brainstormed with the other master class teachers. "We talked about offering 'a taste of theater,'" Posner said, "to introduce people to all the different parts of how a production was put together, and I said I was happy to do the teaching acting part of that.... I really like that we're drawing people in to learn and to enjoy in a safe and supportive environment."

Posner will share her extraordinary skills and knowledge, while demonstrating how to create believability in your character and how to develop comfort and confidence with your voice, emotions and motions while performing on the stage.

Improv and memorization techniques as well as auditioning skills and memorization techniques will be covered in her classes. In addition, participants will learn the difference between acting for the stage and acting for film.

Posner encourages potential students to come to both classes, but the classes are open to one-time students, too. "People can come take whatever works for them from the classes. I am offering this tray of 'foods,' that I feel are nourishing for an actor, a performer, and they can pick and choose what resonates and works for them."

These classes are open to students of all ages. For a full description of the entire series of Master Classes, including "Theater Tech" (with Joe Dowling and Kevin Moore), "Playwriting" (with Don and Ann Samson), and "Directing" with Bill Barksdale, see the website at willitstheatre.org or phone 459-0895. Workshops are scheduled through May.

Fees for each class are \$25 adults, \$15 students, with full scholarships available to cover all costs. Scholarship applications can be downloaded from the website.

Photo by Bill Barksdale

**T and T TOWING**  
RADIO DISPATCHED  
24 HR TOWING  
707-459-9116

500 D. Pinoleville Dr. UKIAH, CA  
277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA

**We Haul It All!**  
Dump trailer services available  
**GOT JUNK?**  
Let us take care of the dirty work of hauling it away!

\$125 flat fee\*  
\*Call for details

489-2404  
1 dumpster = 4 truck loads!

We'll deliver the dumpster, and pick it up when it's full

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

as we can. We use buckets and pans to capture any water while we wait for the water to heat up in our sinks, then put them on our plants. It all helps. Our fingers are crossed...."

Jerry Jordan, DripWorks: "We should all CONSERVE, CONSERVE, CONSERVE! The little things that people do are definitely what add up! As you all know, spring is just a few months away which means it's time to start planting our gardens again. Please keep in mind that when watering a garden water waste can be a HUGE concern. Drip irrigation uses up to 50% LESS water than conventional watering methods and puts the water ONLY where it's needed...."

Flushing toilets less looks to be a popular and easy-to-do solution for those that want to save water. Pollard says that she and her husband are working hard to save water – many of their methods are mentioned in the list below. "We are all using up the water and if we can all do our part in conserving, it will benefit us all. Now, if the rain Gods would do their part,

we'll all be 'splashing' wonderful!"

Mike Tobin posted this list on Facebook of some strategies to help get us through the water shortage. "1.) If it's yellow let it mellow, if it's brown flush it down 2.) Turn shower on, get wet, off, soap up, turn shower on to rinse quickly, turn off. A Navy shower is three minutes. 3.) Shower every other day, unless it is absolutely necessary to shower daily 4.) Sponge/wash cloth baths...wipe down with wet cloth versus full shower or bath." Tobin, a retired sailor, says "Conserve, please, we all need drinking water."

Reader Gwen Markson writes: "Good morning WW. Our toilets are already the low water dual flush style. It may sound gross, but for a month now, if it just urine, I only flush every second time of usage. We're saving 1 1/2 gallons each time we're doing this. We always make sure we have a full load of laundry for the washer and also for the dishwasher, of course, but now I use the 'light' wash cycle instead of 'normal' for the dishes. I find the dishes/glasses are just as clean. Let's all hope & pray for rain!"

## A gallon saved, a gallon earned

- Keep the water you run when you first turn on the tap, or are running to get warm, to water your indoor plants
- Same with water you rinse veggies with
- Veggies can be rinsed in a pan or sink without running water
- Select a properly sized pan for cooking
- Turn the water off when you brush your teeth!
- If you shave, do the same.
- Take it to the next level, and brush your teeth while showering!
- Stack clean dishes and rinse several of them at once.
- Low-flow showerheads make a big difference, or one that turns off if you're soaping
- Conduct a test: Replace your shower head if it fills a 1 gallon bucket in under 20 seconds
- If it's yellow, let it mellow – or, treat yourself to a dual-flush toilet: one with two buttons: little flush or big flush
- Designate one glass for your drinking water throughout the day: only one glass to wash
- Wash dishes right away, when it will take less water to get them clean – some of these water-saving tips require a clean sink, too
- When running a bath plug it first; adjust the

temperature as it's filling

- Don't run water while using shampoo
- When washing your hands, turn off the water while lathering up (probably you will wash your hands more thoroughly this way, too!)
- Fix that toilet that runs!
- Save your ice cubes too – put them on a plant or let them melt in your plant water
- Save old pet drinking water for plants
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in your fridge
- Reuse water from cooked pasta or vegetables to water house plants – or even to start a homemade soup
- Shower uses four times more than a bath
- If you have young children, bathe them together
- Strive to reduce your shower time; take a 5-minute shower (or less)
- In the market for new appliances? Consider an "on-demand" tankless style heater or a high-efficiency dishwasher
- An on-demand water heater could go underneath your kitchen sink
- Test your toilet for leaks by putting food coloring in the tank. Also look to see if the flapper sticks open after a flush
- Pre-washing: If your dishwashing machine is



The rest of **Dog Park** | From Page 1

This year, Willits Power offered gift wrapping services for a small fee. Presents could be purchased at the shop – or anywhere else – brought in, and wrapped, and the money, which according to Gonzales never ended up being less than a \$5 per gift, was matched dollar for dollar by Willits Power. All funds went directly to the dog park.

"We had one guy who came in three times with bundles and bags of gifts," laughed Gonzales. "He said he only liked to shop places that offered wrapping, but since we were offering the service, he shopped all over and then kept bringing in the gifts. It was great!"

A total of \$500 was raised over the month-long fundraiser and, with Willits Power's matching \$500, a check for a full \$1,000 was presented by



Far left: Ian Fitzpatrick holds the \$1,000 check as Misty Gonzales, Rascal and Louis Rohlicek stand by the dog park sign.

Left: Misty Gonzales holds up Rascal the dog at Willits Power Carhartt.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Gonzales (and Rascal the dog) earlier this week to the dog park's Louis Rohlicek and Ian Fitzpatrick.

The money will be used to purchase two 12-foot by 21-foot stand-alone carport structures from Willits Power, one for the little or "shy" dog park area, and one for the main area.

The structures will not only provide shade in the hot summer sun, but protection from rain on wet winter days when Fido just won't accept "Come on! It's storming outside!" as an acceptable excuse not to go and frolic at the park.

A big thank you goes out to the staff, shoppers and wrappers who helped make this year's fundraiser a success.

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

also created a drought ad hoc committee. Supervisors Carre Brown (1st District) and Dan Hamburg (5th District) agreed to serve on the committee, which will coordinate communication and strategies between local jurisdictions, and the state and federal offices of emergency services.

Third District Supervisor John Pinches, who earlier in the morning had been appointed chairman of the board of supervisors, and who for years has aggressively worked to secure additional water for Mendocino County, declined to be a member of the committee. Pinches felt the effort would require a long-term commitment and that he would not be the best choice, since he is only going to be on the board for one more year.

Pinches also told the board he wanted it to expand its mission from reacting to the current emergency to securing additional water sources for the county.

"We as leaders have done no planning," Pinches said. "Not poor planning, we've done no planning."

"If you're not going to be serious about getting out there and getting a new supply [of water], then there is no reason to meet. Because we don't need a letter from the governor. We don't need a piece of paper from us, or from Russian River Flood Control, or from Redwood Valley. We need a new source of water."

Other leaders of local jurisdictions, including Willits City

Manager Adrienne Moore, Willits Mayor Holly Madrigal, Brooktrails Township General Manager Denise Rose and Bill Kohler of the Redwood Valley County Water District, said they wanted to be part of the committee. Their participation was welcomed, although the board temporarily stumbled when asked if it ought to be forming a Drought Emergency Task Force instead of an ad hoc committee.

County CEO Carmel Angelo told the board it would be more appropriate to form the committee, as stated on the agenda. That committee, she added, could easily be expanded to a county wide taskforce at the board's January 21 meeting.

**Adam's Restaurant**  
50 S. Main St. Hwy. 101. Willits, CA  
707-456-9226

Grass fed beef  
Fresh caught fish  
Organic Chicken  
Locally grown vegetables

I ♥ Willits Weekly

WW

Sizes M - XXL Order one today! \$20 each  
willitsweekly@gmail.com or call 707-972-7047



Right: While curious kitties can offer lots of moral support while checking your home's meter, their judgment on the triangle's reading is usually less than reliable for accurate decision-making.

Below and at bottom: Both of these meters show the blue triangle used to gauge water motion just to the left side of the red hand's base. Notice, in the top right photo on this page, that the triangle is more of a squiggly shape, faintly resembling the shape of a turtle to some, with one further-extending appendage which can be used in the same way as the triangle point in determining water flow.

Below right: A reminder of why checking for leaks and conserving water is so important: **WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF WATER AT OUR RESERVOIR.** Please do your best to help save what we can while we wait for rain.

Below far right: Water meters are identified easily by the "Water Meter" lettering on the metal door.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Above from left: While locating meter boxes can be difficult due to overgrown flora, once the lid is opened, the meter can be read right inside.

# A leak, or not a leak?

A quick check of the meter can help save water, and your bill's bottom line



With the real threat of even tighter water usage restrictions looming, there's an easy test you can do to make sure your household isn't adding, unknowingly, to the problem.

Check for leaks by looking at your water meter.

Drippy taps and leaky hoses aside, less obvious leaks may still be active, in underground pipes, under sinks, unchecked garden faucets, or other places, wasting water and boosting up your bill.

Water meters are usually near the sidewalk in front of your home. They are usually submerged in the cement or buried in the edge of the yard, with a visible cement rectangle and metal lever door.

Carefully pull open the metal door and inside you will see the meter with dials and numbers and a valve where all the water coming from the meter can be easily shut off in the case of a large leak or emergency.

Take a moment and look at the dial; there should be a gauge, where numbers flip to register cumulative usage, and, in many meters, a little blue triangle.

The little blue triangle and the gauge are the keys to seeing if there are leaks.

Make sure that all the faucets, hoses, ice makers and anything else that use water are turned off, and check what the triangle is doing. Nothing? Good. That's a good sign, but you're not totally in the clear. Many small, slow leaks may not really be active enough for you to see the triangle "moving" at a quick glance or even see the numbers on the gauge flip.

Take a picture or mental note of where the triangle is pointing or make a dot with a marker where one of the points of the triangle is pointing, then stand there and watch it for about one minute. Has it changed position? What if when you look initially it IS moving? Rotating quickly – or slowly – around in a circle? Rut-roh. You have a leak.

Maureen Moore  
Designer & Photographress  
maureen@willitsweekly.com

If you're still not sure, take a picture of the gauge that registers cumulative usage. Then come back 15 minutes later and compare the numbers in the picture to what the gauge shows now: if they've changed, and nobody has used any water intentionally, you have a leak.

How fast the triangle moves indicates how fast the water is running. To see what a wild leak would look like, have someone turn the faucet on inside and watch the triangle spin. The same would be true if you had a large leak.

So what do you do?

**SHUT OFF THE WATER.**

The customer shut-off valve inside the water meter box will shut off all water to the house from the street. Go ahead and turn that off so water isn't being wasted while you decide what to do next.

Determining where the leak is can also be tricky if it isn't in an obvious location. Narrowing it down some is achievable by turning off the water valve at your home. The location of this valve is something to research now if you don't already know its location, but it can usually be found on the street side of the house. Usually water pipes don't run underneath a house, although they can. Have your landlord or another educated member of household show everyone where the valve is and how to completely shut off the water.

With the main water valve back on, go ahead and turn the house valve to the off position and go back and look at the meter. Is the triangle still moving? Then the leak is most likely between the street and the house. Did it stop? It's probably on the other side of the house valve then.

Next step is to fix the leak, if you're handy, or call a local plumber. Notifying the City of Willits is also a good idea, especially if the leak is in the area between the house and the meter.

If your meter looks different than the one described here, and you are still unsure how to check for leaks; if your water bill has increased while you are trying to conserve; or if you have a high-unit usage on your bill, call the city at 459-4601 and get the issue addressed and taken care of right away.



There's no reason to wait, and there's absolutely NO reason to waste water in this time of drought.

Traditional Toys, Rubber Stamps, Paper Goods, Art Supplies, And So Much More!

**the Goods SHOPPE**  
OPEN 7 DAYS  
For the Child in Everyone

56 South Main Street  
Highway 101  
Willits, CA 95490

Phone & Fax: 707-459-1363

New & Consigned Clothing, Fashion Accessories

**The Unique Boutique**

Located inside The Body Shoppe 621-3900

Don't waste your hard-earned dollars on over-priced, ineffective and unimpressive advertising...

**HEY, YOU NOTICED THIS, AM I RIGHT?**

Call Willits Weekly and get great rates and fabulous ads for your business today!

**NOYO THEATRE** Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits  
707-459-NOYO (6696)  
www.noyotheatre.com

GAMING ON THE BIG SCREEN EVERY FRIDAY 4:00 - 5:30pm

Starting 1/17 - Jack Ryan & American Hustle

**THE WOLF OF WALL STREET** (R) 2hr 59mins

DAILY: 7:30pm  
SAT/SUN: 12:30, 4:00 & 7:30pm  
MON: 4:00pm & 7:30pm  
Open Caption

**SAVING MR. BANKS** (PG13) 2hr 6mins

DAILY: 5:30 & 8:15pm  
SAT/SUN: 12:00, 2:45, 5:30 & 8:15pm

**THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY** (PG) 1hr 54mins

DAILY: 8:00pm  
SAT-SUN: 3:15 & 8:00pm

**PHILOMENA** (PG13) 1hr 38mins

DAILY: 5:45pm  
SAT-SUN: 1:00 & 5:45pm

Times for 1/10/14 - 1/16/14 This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5