

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

'Stand up for what is right'

To the Editor:

With reference to Sandra Wake's recent letter to the local newspapers.

I too was unhappy to see the flyers advertising "American Vanguard's" presence in our community. Their call to white youth to fight for an America that believes in "wholesale ethnic replacement" (meaning presumably that we replace all other ethnicities with the white Northern European kind) as "natural and good" is frightening.

This is based in fear of "other" and tragically has caused terrible injustices to groups of people in the name of self-protection and "national security."

One thing can lead to another.

On February 8 The New York Times published an opinion piece written by Karen Korematsu. She wrote about her father Fred Korematsu. He and his family were among the 120,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry who were forced to leave their homes and report to incarceration camps in 1942. They were imprisoned because they were seen as a threat to the national security of the USA.

In 1991 President George H.W. Bush called this "a great injustice, and it will never be repeated."

But as Karen Korematsu wrote: "It can happen again."

Recent events are showing us that fear can create persecution and rejection of ethnic and cultural minorities.

These are the words of Karen's father Fred who fought against that World War II government action.

"Stand up for what is right. Protect, but not with violence. Don't be afraid to speak up. One person can make a difference, even if it takes 40 years."

In 1983 he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for the stand he took against that unjust government action of 1942.

Sally Rohlicek, Willits

Willits go wild!

To the Editor:

Something exciting is stirring in Willits that I just have to share from the January 14 scoping session of the Eel River Recovery Project. The ERRP has been active for half a dozen years monitoring the health of the Eel River, educating cannabis farmers on best agricultural practices, and promoting and protecting wilderness areas.

I was drawn to this meeting because of the salmon. Using citizen monitors and volunteer divers, ERRP helped provide evidence that tens of thousands of Chinook salmon spawned in the Eel River from 2012-2015. Most of their work is in Humboldt County, but they were here in Willits looking to help kindle interest for related projects in Mendocino County.

Mary talked about her love of hiking and backpacking in the Yolla Bolly Wilderness. Ernie, a civil engineer/teacher/surveyor and tribal leader from Covelo, talked about trails and rivers in the Mendocino National Forest. Pat talked about a dream of creating a Salmon Park between Scott Dam and the Van Arsdale Dam. Jeff, the "extreme" wilderness advocate, talked about the 50,000 acres under the protection of the Bureau of Land Management and how much they appreciate citizen input and involvement in planning. The more I heard, the more I wanted to go see these fabled places everyone was talking about. It turned out I'd get my chance the next day.

As we talked and listened an idea began to grow about Willits and our post-bypass "branding." We are a gateway to the redwoods and to the Mendocino Coast. Willits is also a natural jumping off point to some of the most extensive

wilderness in our nation.

The next day, Pat Higgins of ERRP took about 20 people on a field trip to the Angelo Reserve to look for steelhead. I can't tell you how excited I was.

Back around 1988, when my kids were at Baechtel Grove, the entire fifth grade would camp out at the Angelo Reserve for a weekend. I remember the school buses taking 150 students, teachers and parent volunteers out past Branscomb to the Reserve entrance. We would hike two miles in to the tent cabins, stopping on the bridge where the pristine Elder Creek joins the South Fork of the Eel River. We ate our snack lunch there on the gravel beach before hiking up past the old homestead.

We had two days of nature lessons, such as finding bear tracks or examining water bugs and wildflowers. I made up a lesson on "Which way is north." One of the most unforgettable highlights was a night hike out to the "White House" for ghost stories. We could see a zillion stars, and deep in the woods, when we turned our flashlights off, we even saw glowworms!

These days we talk a lot about hyperactive children and attention-deficit disorders. More and more these problems are seen to be linked to "nature deficits" – we just don't get outdoors enough!

About 1,000 Willits schoolchildren had a shared wilderness experience, thanks to Lou Meier and those hardy Baechtel Grove teachers. Those kids are now parents themselves, and so the gift of being at home in our natural world is passed on.

Here I was 30 years later, surprised at how familiar it felt and how many details I remembered so vividly. I learned that the Eel River is home to some of the last wild salmon populations between San Francisco and Coos Bay. Imagine the possibilities for restoring and restocking more wild areas.

Elder Creek is one of the last pristine creeks – the entire creek watershed is within the 7,660-acre reserve and has never been logged or otherwise impacted. Water levels stay the same from May to September, unlike most California creeks that dry up in summer, a result of logging and cattle. Through a partnership with UC Berkeley, Elder Creek and the Eel are monitored and baseline data collected in order to analyze the effects of climate change on other watersheds.

We hiked up near the headwaters of Elder Creek to a waterfall of two 5-foot-high "steps." I was a little behind the others, and as I turned the bend, heard a big "aaah!" from the group – they saw a jumper! The steelhead would gather strength in a cool eddy and then leap up against the rushing water over and over. I got to see it make two more leaps up the falls before we had to head back. Then on the way out, another treat – on the other side of the Eel, along a sandy beach, we saw fresh bear prints – they were huge, and so clear we could make out every claw. We may not have seen many fish, but with bear camped out by the river, you know the fish have to be there!

I've been walking on air for weeks. Unspoiled wilderness in our own backyard! As a teenager in the Bay Area in the '60s, our wilderness experiences came from hiking in the Sierras, hundreds of miles away. Here we can do wonderful day trips on a Sunday. The Angelo Reserve alone is close to 8,000 acres, easily accessible and free to all. There is also the Sinkyone Wilderness/Lost Coast, a 15-mile stretch encompassing an amazing variety of woods, cliffs, beaches and creeks, elk herds and seal colonies.

Soon I hope to start exploring the Mendocino National Forest, which appears on maps to be almost half our county. There are the Yolla Bollys (thanks to Ellen and David Drell who fought hard to add this area to our protected treasure house), and tens of thousands of acres of BLM land. Where else on earth can you find such extensive forests and wild rivers? And here we are, perfectly situated with food and lodging at the entryway for these wild adventures.

Part of our nature awareness is an understanding that these "pristine" lands include humans. We've long known that "wilderness" was shaped and cultivated and protected by indigenous people for thousands of years. The abundance of plants and animals – willow and basketry materials, salmon, elk, waterfowl, acorns, camas "potatoes" and other foods – was aided and abetted long before settlers from Europe arrived.

The indigenous practices are making a comeback. The Sinkyone, for example, is managed by a tribal coalition of direct descendants of the first inhabitants. This is the model for our future.

There will be more wilderness field trips. You are invited to watch for event postings in the newspaper and/or notices at The Hub (in the Willits Environmental Center building). The Hub is developing into a nature library and meeting space that will house local groups including a leaner Willits Environmental Center (WEC), the Eel River Recovery Project (ERRP) and the Willits Economic Localization project (WELL). I encourage everyone to join one or more of these organizations.

ERRP will be establishing a presence in Willits over the next few months. There will be field trips, workshops, speakers and movies, and plenty of opportunities for volunteers.

And, of course, I can always be reached at 459-0155 to talk over more ideas and/or find out how to jump on board.

Robin Rachael Leleer, Willits

Tolerance

To the Editor:

Some people are content to read one book, to accept every word in it as "Truth" with a capital T, and to hold it up as a divine prescription for them to live their daily lives by. To many of these people, the world's problems would be solved if only everyone else on Earth would agree that their particular book is the "only" book that ever has been or ever will be written that holds the complete revelation of "The History and Plan of their Deity for Mankind."

Unfortunately, there is more than just one book that some people decide to call most sacred above all others. To the 19 most popular religions in the United States, almost the same number of books exist for those people who want only one book to place complete faith in. They include book titles of: Alkitab Alaqdas/ Bhagavad-Gita/ Book of Mormon/ Guru Granth Sahib/ Hadith/ Holy Bible/ Rig Veda/ Science and Health/ Sutras/ Talmud/ Tao-te-Ching/ Torah/ Tripitaka/ Upanishads/ Qur'an / plus several other books that are not considered the religion's "bibles" but define their beliefs. (Sourced from www.religioustolerance.org.)

Some people are not content to read only one book, nor to place a lifetime commitment into one way of thinking dictated by only one book.

They might read many or all of the above books, agree with parts of some or most of them, and disagree with parts of some or all of them. These people cannot find "The Book" that they can in entirety ascribe their total faith into believing, and decide that no one book fits their personal belief system. They give themselves permission to accept what is acceptable to them from all books, and to reject what is not acceptable regardless of which books they read.

And then some people are content to not read any of the above "sacred" books, nor to commit their belief system to any book in part or in full, because their sense of faith does not come from a book. They "read" from the nature of their environment, and admonish the lessons of it into their spiritual world. Perhaps their "way" might be guided by their culture's laws, and/or by legends and fables passed down verbally in their language.

And then again, some people are content to listen to their higher nature, and to control their lower nature without structure of any specific book nor words told in their culture. They believe what they choose to retain from the lessons of their own personal experiences in life, and perhaps because they cannot identify with any system that demands a blind acceptance of others' experiences, they probably do not expect that anyone else believes as they do. Their beliefs are tailored individually to themselves and couldn't possibly apply to any other, let alone all others. Therefore they do not congregate with groups of people to confirm and support their beliefs.

Ideas and beliefs are pliant before they become words in a book, as they can be modified by changes wrought with the circumstances of time. But the printing of words makes these beliefs crystallized into time forward. The printed stories of one human's trials and suffering become myth, and then mythological characters become gods, sons of gods and prophets.

True religious, philosophical and intellectual tolerance will not be possible until increased numbers of people release their self-identification with specific systems of organized thought, and until all organized systems of thought release their economic and political power to divide large groups of people into believers and non-believers of it.

Carol Brown, Willits



Above, from left: Michael Foley and family at Green Uprising Farm in Willits. Willits ranchers John and Charline Ford of John Ford Beef. Ana and Gil Cox of Shamrock Goat Cheese in Willits. Hunter Flynn and Isabel Quiroz of Tequilo Community Farm in Willits.

Photos by Grown Local/NCO



Photos by Damian Sebouhian



Photo by Grown Local/NCO



At top: The "Defining Willits as a Food and Restaurant Destination" forum at the Little Lake Grange. Above, left: Beautiful Mendocino County grow produce. Above, right: Jessica May of the Mendocino County Food Policy Council introduces the panelists at the food forum. Below, left: Ruthie King talks about the School of Adaptive Agriculture, aka, the "Farm School." The Good Earth Kitchen's Leslie Williams asks panelists a question. Dan Laux, produce manager at Gualala's Surf Market. Riley and James feed the free-range chickens in the School of Adaptive Agriculture orchard.



Photo by Grown Local/NCO



Photo by Dan Laux

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Next Week: **LOGAN**

(R) 2 hrs 2 mins

Fri: 6:00 & 8:45pm
Sat/Sun: 12:30, 3:15, 6:00 & 8:45pm
Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:45pm

Movie Times for 2/24 thru 3/2

Redwood Meadows is an active independent senior community featuring 101 apartment homes, primarily a mix of one and two bedroom apartments which are single story 4-plex cottage-type set amongst seven acres of park like landscaping.

We are a smoke-free and pet friendly community. We boast a community center where activities are held like card games, Bingo, birthdays and socials. We also have a barbecue area for residents to get together for social functions.

Redwood Meadows is conveniently located adjacent to the William F. Harrah Senior Center with a thrift store, cafeteria and taxi service, and Howard Memorial Hospital is just blocks away.

1475 BAECHEL ROAD
WILLITS, CA 95490
707-459-1616
MON-FRI 10:00-4:00

REDWOOD MEADOWS Senior Apartment Community

THE GREAT WALL

(PG13) 1 hr 44 mins

Fri: 4:45, 7:00 & 9:15pm
Sat/Sun: 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00 & 9:15pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:45 & 7:00pm

THE BATMAN LEGO MOVIE

(PG) 1 hr 44 mins

Fri: 4:30, 6:45 & 9:00pm
Sat/Sun: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30 & 6:45 & 9:00pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:30 & 6:45pm

This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

The Rules: **LETTERS**

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and 3rd District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once a month.

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

Willits Weekly

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

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

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!

		1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	
13	14					15				16			17 18
19					20			21	22				
23										24			
			25							26			
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34												35	
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54											55		
56								57	58			59	
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												64	
												65	

CLUES ACROSS

- ___ fi (slang)
- Carolina Panthers' Newton
- Documented organizational practice (abbr.)
- A way to change color
- Boxing legend
- Football coach Parseghian
- Rewards (archaic)
- Colbert's network
- Palm trees
- Capital of N. Carolina
- LA ballplayers
- Does not sit
- A way to intensify
- Penny
- Elements' basic unit
- Muscular weakness (pl.)
- Makes sense
- Helps little firms
- Go quickly
- Found at the end of books
- A way of carving
- The back of one's neck
- Israeli dance
- They help golfers
- Western landmass

- and southeast
- Unit of heredity
- Upon
- Pressure unit
- Australian TV station
- Cool!
- A person's guardian spirit
- French river
- Body part
- Gratify
- Watertight chamber
- Dueling sword
- Term
- Having an attractive shape
- Togo capital
- Island nation
- Arctic deer with large antlers
- Dishonorable man
- Equal to 100 sq. meters
- Administered
- Cake topping
- Car for hire
- Autonomic nervous system
- Intelligence organization

CLUES DOWN

- Upright stone
- Beat
- Intestines (informal)
- Distinguishing marks
- Clerical vestment
- Give cards incorrectly
- Underground construction worker
- Japanese art form
- Franz van ___, German diplomat
- Wife
- Consume
- Curve
- Midway between south

BAKING FUN WORD SEARCH

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

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| ACID | CORNMEAL | PASTRY |
| BAKING POWDER | DISSOLVE | PROCESSOR |
| BEATING | DRY | PROTEIN |
| BLEND | FLOUR | RISE |
| BROWNIES | GREASE | SCRATCH |
| BUTTER | INGREDIENTS | SHEET |
| CAKE | KNEADING | STIR |
| COCOA | MARGARINE | SUGAR |
| COMBINE | MEASURE | TEMPERATURE |
| CONVECTION | NONSTICK | WET |
| COOKIES | OILS | WHISK |
| COOL | PANS | YEAST |



Visitors from the north

Pair of Canadian geese visit Willits pond

The first official swimmers of the season dipped their webbed feet into the waters at "The Lands of Moore" pond this week: two Canadian geese who spent a few hours surveying the area and enjoying the views during their stay.

Distinguishing gender for Canadian geese is difficult, as both males and females bear the same markings; black heads and necks, white patches on their faces, light-colored chests and brownish-grey plumage. There are minimal visual differences, however: Females have pointier tails and slightly pointed bills. Males have rounded tails and their bills are rounder, sometimes even bulbous, when compared to females. Males also tend to be about 10 percent larger than females, and they have a lower-pitched, slower honking noise, compared to the female's higher-pitched and faster calls.

Canadian geese mate for life, so one can only assume and hope that this happy couple were traveling together down south and enjoying a quick rest-and-relaxation stay at this overflowing Willits sanctuary.

—Maureen Moore



Find a Willits Weekly distribution box at:

101 Drive-In, Scoops, J.D. Redhouse, Willits Post Office, Village Market, Ardella's Downtown Diner, Buttercups Children's Boutique, Willits City Hall, Willits Library, Mariposa Market, the old Country Skillet, Old Mission Pizza, Gribaldo's Cafe, Brewed Awakening, and Ace Copy and Shipping. Newest boxes at Mendo Mill, the senior center, Grocery Outlet in Willits, and Geiger's in Laytonville.

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OBITUARY |

Richard Norris

Our loving, kind and patient husband, father and grandfather, Richard Norris, passed peacefully on February 17, 2017 at the age of 74.

He will be missed greatly by his wife, Sharon (Houx), of 51 years and his children: Bryon (Michelle), Grant (Tammy), Keith, Jared (Lani), Tricia (Chris), and Sarah. Also he will be missed by his 21 grandchildren and his brother Ken.

Graveside services will be held in Willits, on Friday, February 24, 2017 at 1 pm at the Little Lake Cemetery.



OBITUARY |

Elizabeth Alcala

Elizabeth Ann Alcala, born July 31, 1935, passed away January 20, 2017 at Queen of the Valley hospital in Napa. She lived in Willits for 20 years.

Elizabeth was born in Chicago and moved to California in 1961.

She attended the First Baptist Church in Willits. She loved being a grandmother and great-grandmother. She is survived by her three children, Deborah Axell, Steven Alcala and Mark Alcala, seven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. She loved having all her family around her.

She had many friends who were like family and will greatly miss her.

There will be a memorial service at the First Baptist Church, 145 Wood Street in Willits, on Saturday, February 25 at 2 pm.

BIRTH NOTICE | Newbie

Joshua McFadden

Joshua Levi McFadden was born February 10, 2017 and weighed 9 pounds even, 20.5 inches long. Born to Corey and Brooke McFadden of Hayden, Idaho. Grandparents are John and Roni McFadden of Willits, and Elizabeth Lidster of Cotati. "Levi" is also welcomed by his three brothers, Marcus, Ty and Caleb, as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.



It hurts to wait

Because pain doesn't wait for appointments, we've made our schedule work for you.

When you need expert care quickly for minor injuries or illness, we're here for you. Now adults and children can be treated by our providers at Redwood Medical Clinic. Come to us for non-life threatening illnesses and injuries—from the flu, asthma, allergies to cuts and scrapes—and we can take care of you today. Just walk right in—we're close to home or work. And no appointment is necessary.

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Thursday, February 23

“One of a Kind”: Last chance to see the February show at Willits Center for the Arts, which is closing Sunday, February 26. New works by Tom Zephyrs. Also, in the upstairs gallery: “Esther Hart-Retrospective.” Also: 12 jewelers present a “Pop-Up Jewelry Store.” 71 East Commercial Street. Winter gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. If you are interested in volunteering to be a docent, call the art center at 459-1726.

Grief and Bereavement Workshop: Phoenix Certified Hospice begins an 8-week bereavement group which aims to provide opportunity for those who have suffered loss to explore the individual nature of grief, and will offer techniques to understand grief and manage stress. The group is free of charge but requires pre-registration. If interested, please call before March 2 as there are still openings in the group. Thursday, February 23, 10 am to 12 pm. Adventist Health’s Home Care & Hospice office, 100 Sanhedrin Circle. Info: contact Roland Hulstein at 456-3248.

Willits Winter Farmers Market: every Thursday afternoon from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Veggies, local meats and local grains, honey, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

“The Sunshine Boys” at WCT: The classic Neil Simon odd-couple play telling the story of two aging vaudeville performers who can’t stand each other, but who are forced to work together one last time, is guaranteed to bring laughs. Director Christine Dill also directed 2014’s huge hit, “The Angel of Chatham Square.” “The Sunshine Boys” runs through February 26. Thursday at 7 pm for \$10, Friday and Saturday at 8 pm for \$15. The final show is this coming Sunday matinee for \$10. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. Advance tickets available in person at Mazahar, 38 Main Street, online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.

Friday, February 24

Youth Poetry Night: Open mic poetry reading under the auspices of Mendocino County Youth Project. All ages welcome. Emceed by Tristen Cockroll. Friday, February 24, 7 pm. No charge. Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street.

“The Sunshine Boys” at WCT: The classic Neil Simon play. Friday, February 24. 8 pm. Tickets \$15. See Thursday, February 23 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Dennis Chrisp & Friends, featuring local musicians in a night of original and improvised music. Friday, February 24, 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, February 25

Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball: Dinner, dancing, auction, music, Saturday, February 25, 6 pm to midnight. Tickets \$20. Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Advance tickets \$20 at Long Valley Dance Studio and Healthy Start in Laytonville.

“The Sunshine Boys” at WCT: The classic Neil Simon play. Saturday, February 25 at 8 pm. Tickets \$15. See Thursday, February 23 for details.

Shanachie Pub: Pick & Pull returns with ‘boot stompin’, heel clickin’ and toe tappin’ music.” Saturday, February 25, 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, February 26

“The Sunshine Boys” at WCT: Final hilarious performance of the classic Neil Simon play starring Mike A’Dair and Louis Rohlicek. See Thursday, February 23 for details. Sunday, February 26. 2 pm matinee. Tickets \$10. See Thursday, February 23 listing for details.

Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am, Sunday, February 26. *Join your friends at the Grange breakfast! \$8 buys you a plate of

What's Happening Around Town

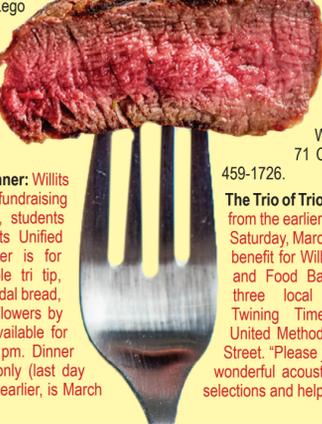
the best ‘scratch’ pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around.” Choose sourdough wholegrain, Hank’s Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or gluten-free, Beeleer’s Quality Bacon, organic eggs, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Extra: sides of organic fruit and Amish organic maple syrup. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial, 1 block west of 101). Info: 459-9716.



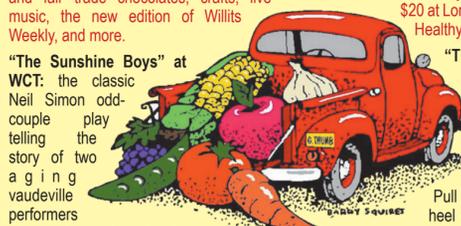
Saturday, March 4

Willits Charter School Garage Sale: The WCS Peer Counseling class is having a garage sale to raise money for the Peer Counseling program and the victims of the Lake County fires. Saturday, March 4, 9 am to 1 pm. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Sale item donations are welcome! See article elsewhere on Calendar page for how to donate items, or call Aurelie at 489-1258.

“Both Sides of Atmosphere”: The March show at Willits Center for the Arts features new works by Donna Stropes and Bruce Kitts. Stropes’ paintings run the gamut from landscapes to florals, vegetable botanical to travel paintings. Kitt’s current ceramic pieces focus on showing the inherent quality of clay. Opening reception on Saturday, March 4 begins at 6 pm for members, 7 pm for the public. Entry is free. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 Commercial Street. Info: 459-1726.



The Trio of Trios Concert: rescheduled from the earlier date due to illness. Now Saturday, March 4 at 7 pm. The show, a benefit for Willits Community Services and Food Bank, features music by three local groups: Chanterelle, Twining Time and Just Enough. United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. *Please join us for an evening of wonderful acoustic and a capella music selections and help support a great cause!



Tuesday, February 28

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: Wick - Chapter 2; “The Great Wall”; and “The Batman Lego Movie.” For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Friday, March 3

WEF Drive-Thru Tri Tip Dinner: Willits Educational Foundation fundraising dinner to benefit teachers, students and programs in the Willits Unified School District. The dinner is for four and includes: a whole tri tip, Caesar salad, beans, Emandal bread, cookies and a rose from Flowers by Annette. Dinners will be available for pick up between 4 and 6 pm. Dinner tickets, \$60, are pre-sale only (last day to purchase, if not sold out earlier, is March

Senior Center Lunch

Week of February 28 through March 3

Monday: Beef Tips and Noodles
Tuesday: Spinach Lasagna
Wednesday: Tuna Salad Sandwich
Thursday: Chicken Broccoli Casserole
Friday: Baked Cod
 Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. \$5 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55: \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entree, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Harrah Senior Center Presents The 10th Annual CHILI COOKOFF

Friday, March 10, 2017 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

ENTER YOUR CHILI (\$25 REGISTRATION FEE) FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GREAT PRIZE AND BRAGGING RIGHTS!

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:
 PEOPLES CHOICE
 HOTTEST
 BEST BOOTH/DRESSED

FRESH BAKED CORN BREAD

ADULTS \$8
 CHILDREN \$5
 MEMBERS \$7
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 459-6826

ROOT BEER FLOATS - \$2.00

Harrah Senior Center
 1501 Baechtel Rd.
 Ukiah, CA 95608

“You Got Clutter, We Need Stuff”

Saturday, March 4

The Peer Counseling class of Willits Charter School is holding a Garage Sale Drive for items for its garage sale at the Charter School on Saturday, March 4, from 9 am to 1 pm. Proceeds will be divided between the Peer Counseling program, and the victims of the Lake County fires. Students are asking their fellow Willitsians to bring donations of clothes, tools, or pretty much anything useful or decorative to the Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street, between 8 am and 4 pm, Monday through Friday up until the sale on March 4. Info: Aurelie Clivaz, Mendocino County Youth Project, at 489-1258, or aclivaz@mcyp.org.

Add your event to our Calendar – just send us an email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

34th Annual Women’s History Gala

Sunday, March 5

The 34th Annual Women’s History Gala Celebration is set for Sunday, March 5, 12:30 pm, at the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse, 107 South Oak Street, Ukiah. Sponsored by Mendocino Women’s Political Coalition, AAUW-Ukiah, Ukiah Saturday Afternoon Club, and Cloud Forest Institute. “We will be celebrating our important history and the dramatic changes in women’s roles in society, and honoring ‘Women Trailblazers in Business,’ including: Barbara Newell, CEO of Penofin; Maureen Mulheran of Connect Insurance; and Pennyroyal Farm, a Boonville organic cheese and vineyard established and run by Sarah Bennett, Star White, and Erika McKenzie.” Special guest former California Superintendent of Schools and candidate for California governor, Delaine Eastin. MC: Willits City Councilwoman Madge Strong. Inspirational talk by Paula Britton of Willits. Music by Wendy DeWitt, “Queen of Boogie Woogie.” Everyone is welcome. \$10 at the door. “AAUW-Ukiah will again serve their delicious savory finger foods to people as they arrive at 12:30 to enjoy socializing, bidding on the silent auction, and buying tickets to the unique New Experiences.” After-program desserts provided by MWPC. Questions: Gala Chair Katarzyna Rolzinski at 468-9003.

A talk at Grace Hudson: “California Through Native Eyes”

Saturday, February 25

Native American historian Dr. William J. Bauer, Jr., a member of the Wailacki and Concow tribes of Round Valley Indian Reservation, will deliver a lecture based on his new book “California Through Native Eyes: Reclaiming History.”, February 25 at 2 pm, at Grace Hudson Museum, 431 South Main Street, Ukiah. A book signing and reception will follow. The event is free with museum admission.

Dr. Bauer’s new book tells the history of California using entirely Native sources. As such, it focuses on Native resilience, telling stories centered on their own way of experiencing the world in order to teach the children and create a viable future. Dr. Bauer was especially interested how these stories stretch back to the beginning of creation, with an especial focus on location and geographical features. Along with the stories in “California Through Native Eyes,” his book includes Native prophecies and predictions about the arrival of the Europeans.

When Dr. Bauer was asked what he learned most from writing this book, he replied: “What really struck me is how many oral traditions were remembered in the late 30s. There is a belief that oral history disappeared in the 19th century, but I was impressed by the sheer magnitude and quantity of them.”

10th Annual Chili Cookoff

Friday, March 10

The Harrah Senior Center presents its 10th annual Chili Cookoff – Organizations, clubs, businesses and individuals are cordially invited to enter their chili (\$25 registration fee) for a chance to win a great prize and bragging rights! Friday, March 10 from 5:30 to 7 pm at Harrah Senior Center, 1601 Baechtel Road. Prizes for People’s Choice, Hottest Chili, and Best Booth/Dressed. Served with fresh-baked corn bread plus root beer floats for 42. Tasters tickets: \$8 for adults; \$7 senior center members; \$5 children. Info: 459-6826.

Suggested donation: \$10. Refreshments available at intermission and after the show. Questions?: Clancy at 367-0889.

Sunday, March 5

Sunday Bingo: Lunch and bingo at the Senior Center. Bingo cards \$10 a pack. Lunch \$6 for seniors. Sunday, March 5, 11 am to 12:30 pm. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Tommy Castro at the Grange: “Funky and soulful Tommy Castro and the Painkillers bring songs from their new album, ‘Method to My Madness,’ celebrating the basics of raw blues and rock” to the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Proceeds to benefit Willits FFA (Future Farmers of America) Alumni. With silent auction and dinner. Doors open 5 pm; dinner through 6:30 pm; music starts at 7 pm. Tickets \$25; pre-sale dinner tickets (choice of chicken or veggie entrée with rice and beans) are available for \$10, at Moon Lady, Sparetime Supply and Main Street Music and Video. Plus dessert bar. Info: 459-0211.

Trio of Trios



“Winter Carnival”

Saturday, March 11

The School for Adaptive Agriculture’s Winter Carnival fundraiser runs from 12 noon to 10 pm on Saturday, March 11 at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Fun for the whole family with musical performances, guest speakers, workshops, and local art and craft vendors from around the county. Music by local favorites including Charley Crockett, Schindig, The Real Sarahs, Pick & Pull, House of Mary, plus The Cult of Ours. Special activities for kids will include a bounce house, arts and crafts area, carnival games, and surprises. Night activities will offer more music, an optional School of Adaptive Agriculture dinner available for purchase, silent and live auction items, as well as raffle items available for bidding. Tickets \$30 adults (all day); \$20 adults (after 5 pm); \$10 for kids age 5 and up; kids under 5 are free. Tickets available online at Eventbrite.com and in Willits at J.D. Redhouse and Earth’s Treasures.

Both Sides of Atmosphere

Presenting Donna Stropes and Bruce Kitts



Opening Reception Saturday March 4th 6 to 9 pm.

March 4th through March 26

SPARETIME SUPPLY - SPONSORS - MOON LADY & MOON MAN

TOMMY CASTRO AND THE PAINKILLERS

PHENOMENAL AND FUNKY... SOULFUL VOCALS AND INSPIRED BLUES-ROCK GUITAR - Washington Post

METHOD TO MY MADNESS

SUNDAY MARCH 5th, 2017

WILLITS GRANGE HALL
 291 School St. Willits CA 95490
 Fundraiser to benefit Willits FFA Alumni

Doors Open 5:00PM - Music 7:00 PM
\$25 PER TICKET - \$10 DINNER TICKET
 TICKETS GO ON SALE FEB. 5TH - CASH ONLY

Available at Moon Lady - Sparetime Supply - Main St. Music in Willits & Dig Music in Ukiah
 PREMIUM SILENT AUCTION - DESSERT BAR - BEER WINE & NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR SALE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 707-459-0211

BRAD WALTON, CPA - SPONSORS - GEORGE’S GEODES & GEMS

34th Annual Women’s History Gala Celebration

Sunday, March 5, 2017 12:30 pm

“Honoring Trailblazing Women in Business”

Presented by MWPC AAUW USA CLOUD FOREST INSTITUTE

MC: Madge Strong
 Willits City Councilwoman

Rocio Ortega’s Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse
 107 South Oak Street, Ukiah, CA

Mendocino Women’s Political Coalition (MWPC)
 PO Box 1140, Ukiah CA 95608

WINTER CARNIVAL

a celebration of local: music... food... art... people... crafts... talent... fun

March 11th 12pm-10pm

Charley Crockett Shindig • Pick & Pull

House of Mary • The Real Sarahs
 The Cult of Ours • and more

ADULTS \$30 ALL DAY
 UNDER 5 FREE

Tickets Available at Eventbrite.com, JD Redhouse, Dig Music, Earths Treasures, Ukiah Natural Food Co-op.
 Event Locations: Little Lake Grange | 291 School St.

Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball

Dinner! Featuring Performances by Emerald city LHS Rock Band Long Valley Dance Auction!

Beer and wine bar

Six pm till midnight February 25 2017 at Harwood Hall, Laytonville CA 95454

Advance Tickets \$26.00 available at Long Valley Dance Studio and Healthy Start in Laytonville.

Summer Arts Festival

Vendor deadline is March 15

The 41st annual Summer Arts and Music Festival will return to the Benbow Lake State Recreation Area in Southern Humboldt on the weekend of June 3 and 4. Vendor applications are still being taken, for a variety of sizes and prices. To apply, download a vendor application from the Summer Arts page of www.mateel.org or call the Mateel office at 923-3368 to have one mailed to you. Vendor applications must be postmarked no later than Wednesday, March 15.

Ongoing Events

Willits Winter Farmers Market: every Thursday afternoon from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Veggies, local meats and local grains, honey, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Free Positive Parenting Group: “Systematic Training for Effective Parenting” classes are parental guidance workshops for parents of children ages 4-12. Classes happen once a week every Thursday, 9 to 10:30 am, at Brookside Elementary School, Room 25. Open to all families with children in the Willits Unified School District. Breakfast is included. Classes are free. Drop-ins OK. Thursday meetings: February 23, March 2, 9. Info: Jackie Herz, 459-3232.

Bi-Monthly Parkinson’s Discussion and Support Meeting: Join Linda and guests every 2nd and 4th Monday, 10:30 to 11:30 am. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Tuesday Night Potluck Bingo: Potluck dinner and bingo every Tuesday at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Be sure to bring a dish to share! 5 to 7 pm; \$5 buy-in; 50 cents per card. Info: 459-6826.

Free Seeds for your Garden: “Check out” flower, vegetable, and herb seeds to plant in your garden. After the plants are done, save the seeds, label them and return them to Will Minor at Willits Public Library. Heirloom seeds only. No GMO and no hybrids! Questions? Call Will at 459-5908, e-mail him at minorw@co.mendocino.ca.us, or see him at the library desk.

Al-Anon Meeting: Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Rite-Aid) at the Evergreen Shopping Center. Saturdays at 10 am at St. Francis Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 66 East Commercial Street. “Al-Anon Family groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience strength and hope to solve their common problems. We believe that alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery.”

Drop-in Knitting Circle: every Saturday of the month, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. “Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles; we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn to knit or crochet. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is

welcome to drop in.” Info: Lotus Baker at 456-9037, or lotusb3@earthlink.net.

Library Coloring Club: Want a little color in your life? Then by all means, come to the library! The Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, is hosting a Library Coloring Club, every Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30 pm for ages 14 and up. “We’ve got the crayons and the paper – you bring the imagination.”

Soroptimists International of Willits: Women’s service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets second and third Tuesdays of every month, noon to 1 pm, at Old Mission Pizza, 1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

Life Changes: Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Volleyball Open Gym: at Baechtel Grove gym; Sundays 7:30 pm and Tuesdays at 8:30 pm. Some experience desired, but not required. \$5 per night; first night free. Info: Jeff at 354-1850.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free “Freedom from Smoking” class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the MHM Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Free Sheriff’s Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 pm; Karate: Thursday, Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6, 5 pm to 6 pm; Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 pm to 7 pm; Tweens to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Singer songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday, 8 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday, 8 pm. No cover. “Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable.” Open Mic Night every Wednesday, 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7:30 pm; pre-signup list starts at 3 pm when the Pub opens. “An eclectic array of local musicians and even performers from around the world!” 50 South Main Street, behind Adam’s Restaurant. Info: 459-9194

Laytonville Winter Farmers Market: Mondays, November through May, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.

Jack Cunningham



Jack Clement Cunningham passed away February 12, 2017 at the age of 86. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio on May 21, 1930 to Clement and Sylvia "Nemec" Cunningham. He married Alice Bailor on October 3, 1959 in Los Angeles, California. Jack was a research technician at Hughes Aircraft Co. for 33 years, during which time his expertise was invaluable to the company.

During his service in the navy, the aircraft carrier Jack was assigned to was in service at the H-bomb testing on the atolls at Eniwetok and Bikini.

Jack delighted in his growing family, and though he enjoyed playing golf as a pastime, his true joy was in coaching the girls softball team. He will be warmly remembered by all the girls he coached through the years. Jack and Alice loved to watch their team play.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clement and Sylvia Cunningham; sisters: Rita Green, Bette Cunningham, Nancy Gonzales; brother-in-law, Oakford Green; and nephew, Thomas Green. Jack is survived by his loving wife, Alice Cunningham; daughter, Linda Cunningham; son, Michael Cunningham; grandsons: James Cunningham, Dane Bowers; granddaughter, Lauren Cunningham; nephews and nieces: Lee Green, Barbara Green, Kathy Yedlosky, John Yedlosky, and Jack Green.

Services will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

Sweet Beverly

After Beverly and her two sisters were abandoned, a kind neighbor gathered them up and brought them to stay at the shelter. This sweet, curious young cat is now 7 months old and eager to find her new home! Beverly is a fun-loving girl who likes to play with other cats, but would prefer a dog-free home.

For more information on Beverly or other adoptable animals, call 707-485-0123, check www.mendohumanesociety.com, or visit the shelter at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday.



Congrats to the Wolverines

The Willits High School Wolverine wrestling team went 10-0 during the regular season and took first place at league. Congrats everyone! Congratulations to Tyler Vesey and Triston Martin for being league champs (first place) (Tyler is now a two-time league champion for WHS); and to Owen Sebastian, Adrian Brito, d'Artagnon Meek, Jacob Arms, Mitchell Hollingsworth, Colten Horger and Carson Miller for placing second; and to Austin Andrade for placing third. CIF sections are February 24 and 25 at James Logan High School in Union City. Good luck, boys!!! Go Wolverines!!!!

— Kristin Vesey

Steven Dofelmire



Steven "Patches" Dofelmire passed away peacefully in his sleep, February 7, 2017 at the age of 61. Born to Jack and Yvonne "Boespliff" Dofelmire on December 9, 1955 in Wallace, Idaho, he had spent most of his adult life in Oregon and California. He moved to Mendocino County in 1988, then spent a few years back in Portland, Oregon, where he met Loli White and then returned here in 2005 to make their home together.

Steve loved his family dearly, and was a wonderful father and grandfather. He was always there for family, friends and neighbors, compassionate and caring. Before he became ill it was his and Loli's compassion that sent them into the community each Thanksgiving to invite a couple of homeless individuals into their home for dinner. Though both on SSI themselves, they always felt blessed to be able to help those less fortunate.

Steve is survived by his devoted wife, Loli; sons: Adam Dofelmire, David Byer, Jim Varner; grandsons: Hayden, Conner, Landyn Byer; brothers: Jack and Jim Dofelmire; sister, Laura; numerous nieces and nephews; and family friend, Debby Byer.

There will be a memorial celebration of his life at 11 am on March 5, 2017 at the Willits Grange, Room 6, followed by a "potluck" lunch. All are welcome.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

Joyful Maria

Wow! What a doll! Maria is a happy dog with a wonderful temperament and spirit. She is a 1-year-old spayed female mixed-breed dog who currently weighs 49 pounds. Maria loves to be with people; she's affectionate and very joyful. She's easy to leash up and an easy, mellow walking partner. We're suggesting that Maria be adopted into a family with children 16 and over. Maria is spayed, and ready to go home and be with her new family.

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. Many wonderful dogs and cats await their forever homes here. To view photos and bios, please visit online at: www.mendonanimalshelter.com, or visit the shelter. More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453.



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Monday Tuesday

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 Chana Eisenstein, DVM

East Hill Veterinary Clinic

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 Tel: 707-459-5236 Fax: 707-459-9048

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representatives from the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts, which played an important role in persuading supervisors to distribute funding to the districts.

According to Angelo's report, the funding comes from a mix of Proposition 172 public safety sales tax and general fund dollars.

"The agreements are for one year and clarify the responsibilities of the agencies under the agreement, but are not a contract where the county maintains responsibility for how the agencies maintain or provide services with the supplemental funding," Angelo said in her report. "The executive office appreciates the input of the association of fire districts in helping draft one version of an agreement that uniformly addresses the various types of agencies, some of which are independent special districts, and others that have a more formal structure, but all of which are recognized by the county's Local Agency Formation Commission."

Correction: date of special cannabis meeting

In last week's front page story, "Supes address personal use, medical pot rules," the date reported for an upcoming special meeting of the board of supervisors on a variety of cannabis issues was incorrect: The correct date for that meeting is March 28.

Chamber of Commerce—organized the forum.

"About 19 percent of the population is either disabled or will have a disability at some point," said Waters. "Of that 19 percent, 7 to 8 percent are wheelchair users. A lot of people have other disabilities such as deafness or blindness. In a lawsuit, a person who has a mobility disability cannot sue for visual impairment issues and vice-versa. They have to be specifically affected by [a particular] barrier to using the facility."

Waters explained what makes California different from other states in terms of ADA litigation.

"The reason we have so many lawsuits in California for access is because state law includes damages," Waters told a room full of concerned business owners. "Under federal law, a plaintiff can only sue for injunctive relief to remove barriers [to access]. The overarching umbrella for access requirements states that facilities must be accessible and usable by people with disabilities."

According to Waters: "Damages [from lawsuits] typically amount to \$4,000 per item [or barrier to access]. The intent of the ADA is not to put people out of business. There are mechanisms in the law you can use to help, to do your repairs and fixes over time, to help pay for those repairs with tax credits."

Waters presented a slide show with an accompanying packet that identified myths about ADA compliance, background information about ADA, accessibility obligations for businesses, top lawsuit triggers, and how to minimize the risk of an ADA lawsuit.

Myths about ADA compliance include: "I don't have to worry until I do construction"; "My facility was built with a permit and should be fine"; "I'm a tenant, so I'm not liable for exterior items"; "I'm not open to the public"; and "There has never been a disabled person in my store."

"Both tenants and building owners are jointly responsible for interior and exterior barriers," Water said. "In a lawsuit, they would be sued together."

Even if a disabled person has never entered your store, "when a plaintiff files a lawsuit, they don't actually have to have been in your store, they just have to prove — and

access to their boxes; we'll take them on up there."

The ATM is also at full service for withdrawals and deposits.

"We have full access to peoples' accounts," said Korte. "Business hours are all the same, from 9-5 Monday through Thursday and 9-6 on Friday."

Korte said the roof was leaking so badly, the bank staff had to move out of the building for proper mitigation.

"It's been leaking for years, and it's been years of deferred maintenance that had been tossed around by previous owners of this location," Korte said. "Now, with the latest owners of Tri Counties Bank, we've finally convinced them it was bad enough that we needed a new roof."

"We've put up the new roof, and we still have issues with water leakage, so they've opened up the building on the inside to explore the ceiling and roofline to try and find what the cause is and fix it once and for all, and do a little remodel work while they're in there," he said.

Korte explained workers have put up temporary roofing material, "which we had to put up over the brick walls to help stop water penetration that was running down the walls and coming into the building. It was getting quite extensive and bad. I don't know why after so many years it failed the way it did this year. We certainly had a rainy winter, but we had quite a bit of rain last year and didn't have the same issue."

"We'll move back into the building when it's finished," said Korte.

that's a pretty loose term — that they were deterred from entering your store by the barriers," Waters said.

"If you're not open to the public, your risk is going to be less, but it won't be eliminated," he noted. "The ADA talks about other things besides just your physical accessibility. Even internet-based jobs have certain requirements."

Waters discussed how "drive-by litigants" identify non-ADA-compliant businesses, and how to avoid being targeted by one.

"If I'm a drive-by litigant, I'm going to cruise around town and the first thing I'm going to do is look at your parking," Waters said. "The first trigger will be signage and striped parking. Those are low-cost items [to mitigate], to make sure you're compliant."

Waters noted: "If you're in a part of town that does not require a business to provide onsite parking, then parking is a program of the city."

Other possible lawsuit triggers include non-compliance with restroom accessories; service counters; door hardware; exterior route issues; interior route clearances; curb ramps; and parking configuration.

If a business owner receives a complaint about any barriers to access in his or her building, Waters said: "Look at what the complaint is, look at what's easy to fix and inexpensive to fix, and fix it within 120 days."

"If you have a CASp [certified access specialist] report, and the report predates the lawsuit, then you get a 120-day break on damages," he said. "If you remove the barriers that are part of the access for the complaint within 120 days of receiving a complaint, they don't get damages."

What to do now

"You have to get a CASp report," Waters insisted. "The states set up the CASp program in 2008. It provides some level of protection. There are 500 to 600 CASPs in California. I'm number 65," he said. "I would hire a CASp that is a member of our professional organization, Certified Access Specialists Institute — we have some professional qualifications and requirements we have to maintain."

According to Waters, it costs a

small business from \$800 to \$2,400 for a CASp report. "A small business is about a building with about 5,000 square feet, a typical retail shop, a gas station, a convenience store."

Waters suggested businesses band together to receive a reduced group rate for their reports.

Moore said the City of Willits and the Willits Chamber of Commerce will work together to organize such group efforts.

"While each of you have your own businesses that have different potential issues, in terms of annual updates — that's something the city and the chamber can partner on in getting that information out there," Moore said.

"If you get a CASp report, you'll get certain protections from state and federal court," Waters added. "You have an immediate stay of litigation to get an opportunity to mediate, to go before a mediator and work out a settlement. That reduces your cost in lawyer fees. It also provides a reduction in damages from \$4,000 per item to \$2,000 per item."

Waters also strongly urged all business owners to acquire a document called the "California Disabled Access Guidebook," or CalDAG.

"CalDAG is the best reference book out there for professionals and business owners," Waters said.

According to the International Code Council, "understanding new accessibility provisions for public accommodations and commercial facilities in California is made easier with [CalDAG]. [It] is the only book available combining and cross-referencing the 2013 California Building Code (CBC) regulations with federal 2010 ADA/ADAAG requirements."

Tuesday's ADA information forum was videotaped; Moore says the city will make copies for public use within the next two weeks.

Presentation handouts are also available at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street.

Gary Waters has been a CASp in California since 1989. He can be reached at 479-3872 or at Gary@PacificAccessConsulting.com.

"We had six applicants for that position in 2010," Magann remembers. "The selection committee picked Chris, due to his professionalism and his drive to further his career."

Magann said he is pleased Wilkes will follow him as fire chief. "Chris is qualified for the position, and we wanted to promote from within, which makes it kinder for everybody," he said. "It also allows for an overlap, too, instead of a new chief being thrown into the position without any type of background or assistance."

Firefighter Eric Alvarez will be taking over from Wilkes as training chief as of the first Monday in March.

Magann is currently president of the Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association, and was Mendocino County's fire rescue coordinator for three years, between 2012 and 2015.

"When I became a volunteer in 1985, the furthest thing from my mind was to become a paid person, let alone a fire chief," he said. "I worked my way through the ranks, and here I am."

Magann volunteered as a firefighter, he said, because he "saw what the fire department did for the community, and I wanted to be a part of it. I was working as an electrician for Harwood here in town, and I saw the decline in the mills. It was an opportunity, and I took it."

"It's been a very interesting career," he said, "and I've got lots of good memories — and some bad memories, which we don't dwell on. We've done good for our community, and will continue to move forward in improving our fire department."

Magann and his wife, Claudia, are going to remain in the area, and Magann plans to continue his work as a part-time fire science instructor at Mendocino College, mostly teaching seasonal firefighters.

He said he is hopeful the new firehouse project will move forward. "I wish them well with that," he said. And he wanted to thank his "excellent" local volunteer firefighters.

The Little Lake Fire Department is "kind of a rarity," he said. "We've got 33 or 34 members on the roster right now, which is huge. We have a core group of 16 to almost 20 people who show up on a lot of the calls, and that's great."

Magann also wanted to thank his "longtime partner John Thomen, who started with Little Lake two years prior to me. I thank him for his professionalism. He and I have partnered up on a lot of things that occurred in the fire service. John is a real asset to this department."

grants" totaling over \$10,000 which included everything from pickle ball paddles to ukuleles. Lewis noted that requests can be made for specific allocations of donations to Willits Educational Foundation, but all monies are kept separate from the school district's general fund, something that donors take note of, and appreciate.

Tickets are available by presale only. Tickets are \$60 each and are available from Jenn Drew, WEF president; 354-1670; Annette Pinon, event chairperson: 459-6588; Warren Lewis, ticket chairperson: 459-4429; or at Cat's Meow in downtown Willits. Each year, this event sells out; hoping to not have to turn potential sales away, event organizers increased the amount of available tickets from 180 to 200 this year. If there are still any tickets left, the last day to purchase will be on Thursday, March 2, so make sure to get yours early and enjoy a delicious meal while helping support the local schools.

WEF MINI GRANTS 2016 — total given out \$10,234.32

BAECHTEL GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- Sets of books for literature circles: \$360
- Pickle ball paddles and balls: \$1,000
- Ceramics books and materials: \$157.32
- Materials to create backdrops for drama club: \$300
- Odyssey of the Mind materials, etc.: \$300
- Art materials: \$400
- Bare books, bare game boards, art supplies: \$285
- Solar science project: \$562

BLOSSER LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

- Art supplies: \$200
- Class sets of books: \$400
- Science supplies and low-level, high-interest books: \$400
- Classroom supplies: \$200
- Low-level, high-interest books for classroom library: \$200
- Classroom library books: \$200
- Refurbished iPads: \$200
- Science and art supplies: \$350
- Classroom supplies: \$200

NEW HORIZONS:

- How to Draw books: \$155.09

BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

- Published copies of student National Writing Month novels: \$200
- Supplies to make Young Author Fair books: \$400
- Local artist tile-painting project: \$250
- Art supplies: \$200
- Ukeleles for speech and language students: \$150
- Cooking projects: \$125
- Mendocino Ballet field trip: \$500
- Books, supplies, batteries, charger, educational apps: \$180
- Watercolors, books, art paper: \$150
- Craft supplies: \$75

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL:

- Peer counseling retreat: \$500
 - "Every Fifteen Minutes" presentation: \$1,000
 - Camera for yearbook staff: \$500
- ### SANHEDRIN HIGH SCHOOL:
- Poet residency: \$290

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WHS Academic Decathlon team to represent Mendocino at state competition

Our Willits High School Academic Decathlon team completed their Regional Competition on Saturday, February 4 at Clear Lake High School, after about three weeks of events.

Students wrote essays, made speeches, participated in interviews, took seven subject area tests, and competed in the team Super Quiz. This year's theme was "World War II." We were privileged to have Superintendent Mr. Westerburg proctor our only public event, Super Quiz, where students compete in a trivia format.

WHS won in several categories. Our team captain, senior Miranda Wilson, won a third place in the essay contest and earned the top score in the varsity category for WHS. Senior Ryann Hee won a first place in the interview

section, and second place overall for WHS. Freshman Hanna Corey won third place in the interview section.

WHS won two team awards, third place in Super Quiz and first place for the Mendocino County region. For their participation, students earned three California State University units in the Humanities and will be taking a trip to San Francisco to visit the Modern Art Museum.

The team will compete at the Academic Decathlon State Competition in Sacramento at the end of March, so members are now focused on improving for the next six weeks. As their coach, I am proud of the students' commitment to the team, their performance, and continued preparation for state level competition.

— Mary Colvig, coach, Academic Decathlon

34th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration
Sunday, March 5, 2017
12:30 pm

"Honoring Trailblazing Women in Business"

Presented by MWPC with AAUW UGA and Cloud Forest Institute

MC: Midge Strong
Willits City Councilmember

Rocio Ortega's Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse
107 South Oak Street, Ukiah

34th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration

The Women's History Committee is launching the 34th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration on Sunday, March 5, at 12:30 pm, at the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse, 107 South Oak Street in Ukiah. We will be celebrating our important history and the dramatic changes in women's roles in society. Sponsoring the Gala are: Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, AAUW-Ukiah, Ukiah Saturday Afternoon Club, and Cloud Forest Institute. It is not to be missed!

The 2017 theme, "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business," features Mendocino County women who have achieved significant success in various paths of work. Our three honorees: Pennyroyal Farm, a Boonville organic cheese and vineyard established and run by Sarah Bennett, Star White, and Erika McKenzie; a Redwood Valley-based, independently owned, national/international paint and coating company, Penofin-Performance Coatings, created

Read the rest of **Gala** | Over on Page 13

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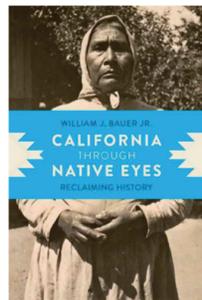
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'California Through Native Eyes'

Talk, reception and signing for California history book

On Saturday, February 25, at 2 pm, the Grace Hudson Museum hosts a talk by historian Dr. William J. Bauer, Jr., a member of the Wailacki and Concow tribes of the Round Valley Indian Reservation, based on his recently released book, "California Through Native Eyes: Reclaiming History." A book signing and reception will follow. The event is free with museum admission.



The genesis of this book in itself tells a story, one of an ancestral encounter. Bauer, a history professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, was conducting some research when the name of his great-grandfather, Charles Wright, appeared in the document he was reading. Wright was telling an amazing story from the Concow people (originating in the Chico area, later relocated to Round Valley) that interwove the doings of Jesus with that of mythical beings of his own tribe.

The year was 1935, and Wright, an old man at the time, was relating his memories to a younger Native interviewer hired by the anthropologist Alfred Kroeber. Kroeber himself had been hired by the Works Progress Administration, or WPA, a public program initiated by President Franklin

Read the rest of **Eyes** | Over on Page 13

Avenues to Wellness

'Break the Childhood Obesity Cycle'

The Avenues to Wellness speaker series offers "Break the Childhood Obesity Cycle," a talk by Public Health Educator Heather Criss, on Tuesday, March 7 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at Willits Center for the Arts. Parents and educators are especially invited.

Criss has worked for three years on a federally funded Obesity Prevention grant aimed at decreasing the rate of chronic disease associated with obesity. She is committed to making policy, system and environmental changes that support health.

Once children are obese, it is more likely that they will continue to be obese when they reach adulthood. Understand the environmental and social causes of childhood obesity. Learn how Mendocino County compares to California statistics. Discover how we can work together as a community to improve our children's health for the long term.

Read the rest of **Cycle** | Over on Page 13

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The rest of **Gala** | From Page 12

by Barbara Newell, CEO; and Ukiah's ConnectInsurance owner, Maureen "Mo" Mulheran, executive director of the Ukiah Valley Networking Agency and the only woman on the Ukiah City Council.

We are honored to present our guest speaker, Delaine Eastin, former California superintendent of schools and current candidate for governor of California. Midge Strong, Willits City Council, will serve as MC. We will enjoy the music of internationally renowned boogie woogie queen, Wendy DeWitt. Paula Britton of Willits will give an inspirational talk.

Everyone is welcome, so please encourage friends and family to attend. Tickets are \$10 at the door. AAUW-Ukiah will again serve their delicious savory finger foods to people as they arrive at 12:30 to enjoy socializing, bidding on the silent auction, and buying tickets to the unique "New Experiences." At the close of the program, desserts will be provided by MWPC. Questions: Contact Gala Chair, Katarzyna Rolzinski, 468-9003.

— Mendocino Women's Political Coalition

The rest of **Eyes** | From Page 12

Roosevelt that was part of his Depression-era programs to re-stimulate the U.S. economy and culture. The stories in this book are based on sources from Concow, Paiute and Pomo peoples from those narratives.

Bauer was so interested that he set out to study the documents from which his great-grandfather's name first originated. The result, after five years of studying thousands of pages of the original transcripts, is this book — unique in that it tells the history of California using entirely Native sources. As such, it focuses on their resilience, telling stories centered on their own way of experiencing the world in order to create a viable future.

One notable difference in this experience is centered on the sense of time. California Native stories don't begin with the discovery by Columbus and other settlers (as they are called in this book) of the "New World," and then centrally focus on the mass settlement of the West during the Gold Rush, and its aftermath.

Instead, stories stretch back to the time of creation. Stories are used to teach the next generation; thus what stories are told and what in them is emphasized may change according to context. Stories are likely to center on place; as Bauer puts it, "It matters more where the story took place than when."

For example, the Concow name for Lassen Peak is West Mountain, because it lay on the western edge of the territory where the sun set. This method of re-visioning — literally, re-seeing — stories, Bauer states, "asks us to change our relationship to how we think about certain people and landscapes."

In addition to giving us a sense of the rich panoply of stories, Bauer's book covers Native prophecies, which include predictions of the advent of Europeans; their own version of this advent, and the wars and resettlements that followed; and an account of the struggle to employ their own healing practices when confronted with the health crises of the times, which included tuberculosis.

When asked what he learned most from writing this book, Bauer replied: "What really struck me is how many oral traditions were remembered in the late 130s. There is a belief that oral history disappeared in the 19th century, but I was impressed by the sheer magnitude and quantity of them." This has led Bauer to believe that Native cultures are not disappearing: "They are still active, still vital today." "California Through Native Eyes" is eloquent testimony to this continuity.

The Grace Hudson Museum is located at 431 South Main Street in Ukiah. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Sunday from noon to 4:30 pm. General admission is \$4; \$10 per family; \$3 for students and seniors; free to all on the first Friday of the month; and always free to members. For more information, visit www.gracehudsonmuseum.org or call 707-467-2836.

— Roberta Werdinger, for the Grace Hudson Museum

The rest of **Cycle** | From Page 12

The Arts Center is located at 71 East Commercial Street. Free to the public; donations appreciated. Wheelchair-accessible.

Avenues to Wellness is a program of the Howard Foundation. ATW offers a speaker series event the first Tuesday of the month. Call 456-9676 for info, or visit www.avenuestowellness.org for more speaker topics and a video archive of past events.

— Avenues to Wellness

LEGAL NOTICES

WW105
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
Joseph Michael Spreng
CASE NO. SCUK-CVPB-17-26780 1

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Joseph Michael Spreng, Joseph M. Spreng

2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by (name of petitioner) Shaina Spreng in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

3. The Petition for probate requests that Shaina Spreng be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

4. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

5. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

6. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: March 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. E, located at Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino, 100 N State St, Ukiah, CA 95482.

7. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

9. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice Form DE-154 if the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

10. Attorney for petitioner: Christopher J. Neary Neary and O'Brien, 110 S Main Street, Suite C Willits, CA 95490 Telephone: (707) 459-5551.
Pub dates: 02/16, 02/23, 03/02/2017

WW103
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2017-F0066

The following person is doing business as: **Imagination Station Preschool & Childcare Center, Inc.**, 11 North Marin St, Willits CA 95490; Saprina Rodriguez, 331 West Mendocino Ave., Willits CA 95490. This business is conducted by a Corporation: Imagination Station Preschool & Childcare Center, Inc., 11 North Marin St, Willits CA 95490.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 2/1/11.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on January 26, 2017.
s/Saprina Rodriguez
Pub dates 02/02, 02/09, 02/16, 02/23/2017

WW102
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2017-F0069

The following persons are doing business as: **Pacific Blue**, 23201 Pearl Drive, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. This business is conducted by a General Partnership: Carlon Cathey, 411 South Street #4, Fort Bragg CA 95437 and Stephen Dunlap, 32201 Pearl Drive, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on February 1, 2017.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mendocino on January 26, 2017.
s/Stephen Dunlap
Pub dates 02/02, 02/09, 02/16, 02/23/2017

WW104
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2017-F0067

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **Learning Depot Academy**, 265 W. Mendocino Ave, Willits CA 95490; Saprina Rodriguez, 331 W. Mendocino Ave., Willits CA 95490. This business is conducted by a Corporation: Imagination Station Preschool & Childcare Center, Inc., 11 North Marin St, Willits CA 95490.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 9/1/16.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on January 26, 2017.
s/Saprina Rodriguez
Pub dates 02/02, 02/09, 02/16, 02/23/2017

WW106
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2017-F0061

The following person is doing business as: **Suite 75**, 756 South Main St, Willits CA 95490. This business is conducted by an individual: Christina Bowers, 370 Laurel St., Willits CA 95490.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on January 25, 2017.
s/Christina N. Bowers
Pub dates 02/23, 03/02, 03/09, 03/16/2017

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Dog Training Classes
Dog Training Classes starting March 7 in Willits. For more information, go to Wellmanneredmutts.com calendar. Or call Sallie: 463-3647.

For Rent
Professional Office Space for rent; various sized offices. \$1.00 per foot. Madrone Professional Group. Call Margie at 459-6874 or Megan at 972-8776.

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Tarps, "Used." Heavy vinyl. Billboards, many sizes. Call Dave at 984-6332.

For Sale
Car Sale: Full size, hand carved carousel cat. Won 1st place in CA Carver's Guild show. Appraised at \$4500. Asking \$2500. 707-456-9222.

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Help Wanted
Adventist Health Home-care & Hospice Services - Mendocino County, Part Time or Per Diem Speech Therapist needed. Call H/R Trudy #456-3230.

Help Wanted
PT Driver / Warehouse Facility Associate
Willits Community Services and Food Bank is seeking part-time Driver/Warehouse Facility Associate. Good driving record and people skills. Include resume or work history, references and recent DMV printout. For more info contact WCSFB 707-459-3333 or willitscs@gmail.com

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1	2	3	6	7	9	8	4	5



Photos by Mathew Caine

At left: Taqueria Bravo restaurant. Below, from left: Taqueria Bravo manager Rigo Aguilar, with staffers Enrico and Antonio. El Mexicano owner, Tony Madrigal. El Mexicano restaurant.



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

will help a lot. Doing a bit more advertising will help."

Across the street at Taqueria Bravo, manager Rigo Aguilar said it's too early to tell how the bypass has affected his customer flow, although he concedes: "Sundays are a little slower because most places are closed in town. Most of our customers are local."

Aguilar is considering putting up a sign or billboard on the highway, but said: "We're waiting for the summer time to see how hard it hits, because they do all the events up north. I'm hoping, as a town, we can come together."

Aguilar also noted his business participated in the February 16 "A Day Without Immigrants" boycott.

"My parents are immigrants," Aguilar said. "This country was formed from immigration. Everybody needs a helping hand."

Amanda Knodle, owner of The Head Room, echoed Aguilar's analysis that it's too soon to tell how much business has declined.

"We need a whole business quarter to decide," Knodle said. "There's definitely your advocates from the community who are always going to stop in, which is beneficial. For the most part, the everyday run-of-the-mill [drive-through people] – they're not stopping in as much."

Knodle is currently refraining from adding any signs, citing expense as the major deterrent.

"I've seen billboards that cost as much as our rent," Knodle said. "You have to weigh

whether it's a useful strategy."

She noted online sales have helped the store stay afloat. "It's probably a quarter's worth of revenue for the year."

Knodle suggested, rather than simply increasing advertising, retail businesses should consider "diversifying their products, and offering things that people need. It's hard to find socks and underwear in this town."

Knodle is expecting to take advantage of cannabis legalization soon.

"We might try to start a pipe-cleaning service," Knodle said, adding she thought there was a lot of potential for Willits in the cannabis market.

"I think we should have processing, distribution and manufacturing, and retail sales, and an outlet for community members who are already here producing to get their stuff to the market, and have it produced and taxed and have it go through the regulatory channels."

One business owner, who wished to remain anonymous, opined the real reason for the decrease in business is not so much the bypass as the transition process of cannabis legalization.

"It hasn't been the bypass so much; it's been a shift away from paying cash," the owner said. "More people are using credit cards and watching what they're buying, when before people would just spend. I think everyone is a little scared. All the people that usually pay with cash aren't paying cash anymore."

The same retail owner felt having a strong online presence is the way to stay economically viable in today's local

economy.

"Before, I didn't have the whole store on our online site," the owner said. "Now I'm taking time out of my day and putting all our products online. We do one to two orders a day online."

Sara Mann, owner of the Goods Shoppe and Mazahar, said she had been preparing months in advance for the 101 bypass, but both her businesses are still taking a hit.

"I put a lot of effort into the stores in advance because we knew it was coming," Mann said. "I talked to people, did advertising online, and approached customers on our email list about the bypass, telling them: 'Don't forget Willits. Remember to pull off and come in.'"

"I did notice more local support by far, but it's a small community," Mann said. "It's not enough to make up for all the travelers." Lisa Davis, owner of Scoops, said in comparison to this time last year: "Business is about the same, only because it's this time of year. January through March typically is our slow time."

Davis noted an increase in catering has helped mitigate any loss of store business, and she has also noticed more local customer presence.

"We're seeing people that we haven't seen before," said Davis. "Part of it is the congestion of traffic has decreased. We've also had [out-of-town] people who know we're here take the off ramp, not taking the bypass, because they wanted to stop in."

Davis is still considering whether to utilize highway signage.

"We've looked in to adding signs, but I'm on the fence about it," said Davis. "What end do you choose? The initial cost and annual expense [is a concern]. We've done some things on Facebook, and we put our sandwich board out."

Davis acknowledged the support of the City of Willits for using her catering service. "The city is really thinking about local first."



Above, from left: Kian Page and Jeffrey Franks of It's Time tell Willits Weekly that business is good. April May's Drive-Through Espresso. Lisa Davis and Lexi Halleck at Scoops Frozen Yogurt & Deli. Below, from left: It's Time restaurant. WHS student Taylor Polen at April Mays enjoys her work. Scoops Frozen Yogurt & Deli.



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

withdraw hotels and motels within the Fort Bragg city limits from the county's Business Improvement District, an effort that failed by a handful of votes. He is the current president of the Mendocino County Lodging Association board of directors. Zamboni is currently a member both of MCLA and of the BID Advisory Board.

Appointing Dixon and reappointing Zamboni to the advisory board would have unseated current Advisory Board Chairwoman Wendy Roberts. Roberts, who owns a small guest house in Mendocino County with her husband, ran unsuccessfully for Fifth District supervisor in 2010.

For several years, Roberts has been in charge of drafting the advisory board's annual report, and with Zamboni, she is in the middle of drafting the annual report for 2016.

"It would be disruptive to the board preparation and extremely demoralizing to our board to replace me in mid-term," Roberts wrote in a February 7 letter addressed to supervisors.

MCLA represents the interests of the county's lodging industry. In 2006, it was instrumental in forming the Business Improvement District, a conceptual designation congruent with the county itself. All hospitality establishments in the county belong to the BID, and contribute money for promotion and marketing.

Prior to 2010, the MCLA directed marketing for the lodging industry; after 2010 it ceded most of its executive authority to Visit Mendocino, Inc. But in 2014, Visit Mendocino, Inc. was disbanded and replaced by the Mendocino County Tourism Commission, although the commission's website is still called "Visit Mendocino County."

The proposal to appoint Dixon and unseat Roberts highlighted deep divisions that still exist within the lodging industry.

Roberts says a good many hospitality owners feel they are not getting their money's worth from the Mendocino County Tourism Commission. "They want marketing that focuses on their own particular business: their motel or their inn," she said.

"Other people think the way to go is to market the county as a whole: the natural beauty, the quaint fishing village, the grapes, the wine, the wineries. We think when you do that you get more tourists and everybody, eventually, benefits."

According to the terms of the 2014 tourism industry reorganization, MCLA can appoint five members to the 12-member board of the Mendocino County Tourism Commission; the remaining seven members are supposed to be appointed by the board of supervisors.

MCLA is the only body that can offer nominees to the BID Advisory Board. However, supervisors name members to the BID Advisory Board.

On January 24, Dixon was one of six individuals who applied for a seat on the tourism commission board of directors. His application was passed over by supervisors, however, because Dixon represents the lodging industry and lodging already has five members on the commission. A sixth seat – representing the chamber of commerce – is also a "lodging" seat, because that person is also a lodging member.

At the January 24 meeting, McCowen told Dixon that while he could not vote for him to sit on the MCTC board, he was welcome to apply for a seat on the BID Advisory Board. Dixon applied for the seat the next week.

On January 24, Roberts wrote a letter to supervisors, urging the appointment of non-lodging people to the MCTC.

"My difficulty with the remaining candidates is that all of them would represent lodging," Robert wrote. "Despite her obvious food and beverage experience, Cynthia Ariosta (owner of Saucy restaurant in Ukiah and one of the applicants for the appointment to the MCTC board) is currently employed by John Dixon as a manager of Glendeven, and would bring that perspective to the board."

"A significant goal of the restructuring was to create a single board that would bring in new perspectives and ensure balanced representation of all tourism-related sectors. As it stands, lodging will already be dominant on the 2017-2018 MCTC board, because a lodging member holds one of the chamber seats."

"In my opinion," Roberts continued, "for the MCTC board to hold seven or eight members from this same group would deprive the organization of the intended balance and forward perspective."

During the morning portion of the February 7 meeting, Supervisor Dan Hamburg moved to pull the proposed BID appointments from the agenda item dealing with other proposed appointments. Those other appointments were approved under a consent calendar vote, while the BID Advisory Committee appointments were discussed later that afternoon.

When the BID advisory board item was brought up for consideration, former MCLA board member and President Jo Bradley and Shambhala ranch and resort owner Stuart Marcus urged supervisors to reject the Dixon-Zamboni appointments. Roberts also addressed the board, repeating many of the points made in her February 7 letter.

In that letter, Roberts also argued against the prospective appointment of Dixon by pointing out that currently the MCLA board of directors is out of compliance with its by-laws.

"The MCLA board currently has only two members within active terms," Roberts said. "There have been no elections for two years. The entire executive committee is termed out. The last county contract required MCLA to submit nominations for the [BID Advisory] board by August 20. It has not done so for the past two years."

The board unanimously approved Hamburg's motion to defer Dixon's and Zamboni's appointments to the BID Advisory Board until at least March 31. The board also directed County Counsel Katharine Elliott to investigate Roberts' allegation that the MCLA is currently operating out of compliance with its by-laws.

The rest of **WPD** | From Page 6

11:57 am: Officers responded to reported threats in the 200 block of East Valley Street.

12:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of domestic disturbance in the 500 block of South Main Street.

2:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of a disturbance in the 400 block of McKinley Street.

11:18 pm: Officers responded to a report of a noise disturbance in the 10 block of Pine Street.

February 14

8:18 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 10 block of Alameda Avenue.

3:03 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

8:59 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 10 block of Creekside Court.

February 15

11:45 am: Officers responded to reported trespassing in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

4:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of a disturbance in the 10 block of Pine Street.

7:41 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

9:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of South Main Street.

February 16

12:00 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

12:17 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

1:29 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

4:23 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:59 pm: FINGER, Geoff John (68) of Willits was contacted in the area of East San Francisco Avenue and Central Street and was arrested pursuant to 647(F) PC (Drunk in Public) and 1203.2 PC (Violation of Parole/ Probation).

8:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

February 17

12:44 am: LANGENDERFER, Brandon Lee (24) of Laytonville was contacted in the 200 block of Margie Drive and arrested for revoked probation.

February 18

7:12 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 700 block of South Main Street.

9:23 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

10:24 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 10 block of West Commercial Street and issued a warning.

12:06 pm: BOLTON, John IV (41) of Willits was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street and arrested pursuant to 647(F) PC (Drunk in Public), 1203.2 PC (Violation of Parole/Probation), and 242 PC (Battery).

1:46 pm: Officers initiated a death investigation in the 400 block of Coast Street.

6:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of a disturbance in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:07 pm: Officers conducted a traffic stop in the area of Baechtel Road and Willow Lane and recovered a stolen license plate.

February 19

7:22 am: Officers responded to a report of a disturbance in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

8:17 am: Officers responded to reported vandalism of a vehicle in the 1300 block of South Main Street.

9:33 am: Officers responded to reported vandalism of a vehicle in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

4:57 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Pine Street.

Planning and Building: Busy as usual

Planning and Building Services Director Steve Dunicliff told the board of supervisors his department took in only 12 more building permit applications than it issued in January.

The "building" wing of Planning and Building received 138 applications for building permits in January and issued 126 permits, a February 14 report provided to supervisors reported.

Since July 1, 2016, the department has been running close to even, receiving 1,238 applications for permits and issuing 1,161.

During the current fiscal year, it also has performed 2,813 inspections, 341 of them in January.

Planning and Building has issued grading permits for 15 projects since the July 1 start of the fiscal year, none in January.

Dunicliff's report also contained information about code enforcement. In January, his department opened 25 code enforcement cases, while closing 31 cases. For the fiscal year, 231 cases were opened and 360 closed.

The department also abated 121 vehicles since last July 1, 15 of them in January.

Dunicliff told supervisors his department is still looking for a chief planner, a position that became vacant when former Chief Planner Andy Gustafson resigned in September 2016. Dunicliff also noted he is in discussion with the county's executive office and human resources department about the feasibility of creating a standby list of inspectors to hire, in case of unforeseen spikes in cannabis-related property inspections his department will need to undertake.

Under the terms of the draft Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance, property owners seeking a permit to cultivate cannabis will need to secure a permit from Planning and Building, confirming the parcel in question is properly zoned for pot cultivation.

Covelo fugitive, woman held

Deputies arrested a 47-year-old man and a 37-year-old woman just before midnight on Wednesday, February 14, at a Ledger Lane home in Covelo.

Leonard Whipple had an active felony warrant for his arrest issued by Mendocino County Superior Court for violating terms of his post-release community supervision, says sheriff's Sgt. Quincy Cromer. Whipple was among several thousand state prison inmates released under California's 2011 public safety realignment for non-violent, non-serious offenders.

Deputies surrounded a trailer on the Lot 30 at about 11:30 pm and arrested Whipple after he went outside.

They also arrested Chayni Frazier, who was inside the trailer with Whipple, Cromer said.

Round Valley Tribal Police officers told deputies they had contacted Frazier in Covelo that afternoon and informed her Whipple had an active felony warrant for his arrest and she could be arrested "for harboring or assisting Whipple in eluding capture from law enforcement," Cromer noted.

Frazier was taken to county jail on suspicion of harboring or concealing a wanted fugitive. Bail was set at \$15,000.

Whipple is being held without bail due to his post-release community supervision violations, Cromer said.

This report was based on a press release from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

North County Women in Business

Wednesday, March 1

The monthly North County Women in Business meeting is set for Wednesday, March 1, and features guest speaker Kyree Klimist, senior program manager for Mendocino County Public Health. Klimist will speak on "What You Should Know about the Opioid Epidemic in Mendocino County."

"Like most of the country," the press release for the meeting says, "Mendocino County is struggling under the weight of the current opioid epidemic. Klimist will speak about what that looks like in Mendocino County and what the Safe Rx Mendocino: Opioid Coalition is doing to change outcomes for the people that live here."

The meeting, 8:15 am to 9:30 am, at the Willits Center for the Arts upstairs gallery, 71 East Commercial Street, is free for members of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. Non-members are welcome – "Your first meeting is always free!" – and there's a \$5 fee for non-chamber members for subsequent meetings.

The meeting will be facilitated by Jenny Senter of Celtic Heritage Destinations and Patricia Baumann of Design Cafe. Refreshments provided by Councilwoman Saprina Rodriguez of Imagination Station. For more information, check the "North County Women in Business Network" page on Facebook.

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Clockwise from top: The crowd dances to Roy Rogers & The Delta Rhythm Kings at the Little Lake Grange. Caterers Carl and Leah Norton in the Grange kitchen. Leah Norton, at left, Alair Buckner, and Brandi Carlisle serve up dinner at the Roy Rogers show. The crowd dances to Roy Rogers & the Delta Rhythm Kings. The School of Adaptive Agriculture's Ruthie King greets the crowd. Roy Rogers performs at the Little Lake Grange. Roy Rogers plays his double slide guitar with the Delta Rhythm Kings.

Photos by Mathew Caine

'Feeling over flash'

Slide guitar master Roy Rogers plays Willits

Heartfelt blues filled the hall at the Little Lake Grange the Saturday before Valentine's Day, as eight-time Grammy Award nominee Roy Rogers brought his band to play "a special night for sweethearts and slide guitar magic."

Rogers, who was born in Redding, discovered his love for the blues early on, and over the years he's played with, recorded with, or produced for a long list of famed musicians, including John Lee Hooker, Allen Toussaint, Taj Mahal, Norton Buffalo, Shana Morrison and Ray Manzarek. Rolling Stone called Rogers, "one of the rare guitar heroes who values feeling over flash."

The night in Willits featured plenty of feeling – and great food, too, with a dinner choice of prime rib, salmon or veggie dinner by "Chef Robert," aka Carl Norton and his wife, Leah. Proceeds from the bar benefited the School of Adaptive Agriculture on Ridgewood Ranch.

– Jennifer Poole



SATURDAY SPORTS FUN!

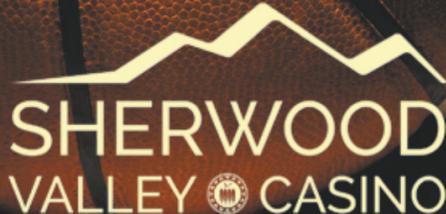


We will be giving away 8 pairs of tickets to the Golden State Warriors game on March 26.

Earn entries (25 points/entry) on February 22, 25 and on March 1, 4

Drawings at 8P & 9P on February 25 & March 4

2 pairs of tickets for each drawing time each week. The Raffle Barrel will be emptied after the 9P drawings each week. Players Club members may win once per week and up to 2 times for this promotion.



100 Kawi Place, Willits 707-459-7330 www.svrcasino.com
Management reserves all rights to cancel or alter any promotion with little or no notice.