

[illegible]

Donations Accepted Edition No. 95

Thursday, March 5, 2015

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Ritchley put the policy in place last November, after the gym floor was rebuilt and refinished, with money from the Ventura Perez Trust. The policy states that only gym shoes are allowed on the floor, and no food or drink, other than water, is allowed in the gym.

Read the rest of
Gym |
Over on Page 11

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Cryer said the push-back from the state is not new. The Mental Health Department

Read the rest of
Errors |
Over on Page 11

A 27-year-old Covelo man is being held on suspicion of attempted murder after he allegedly tried to shoot two men at a Howard Street mobile home park shortly after 1 pm on Saturday, February 21, following an argument that turned into a fight.

Read the rest of
Attempt |
Over on Page 12



**Monica Gutierrez
reads in The Book
Juggler's "living
room" window.**

*Photos by
Maureen Moore*



Right: Roxie catches up on some light reading, including "The Ultimate Cat Treat Cookbook."

Far right:
Book Juggler
Allie Deaton
smiles from
between
rows of
books.



Book Juggler Scott Spears checks out a copy of "Huckleberry Finn."

Grab a book and come
read with us!

After reading an article noting that when kids see adults reading, they are more inspired to read themselves, the owners decided to encourage readers to be on display and, hopefully, encourage Willitsians of all ages to grab a book and start reading. Anyone is welcome to drop in and cozy up in the seat, or to schedule a time with the Juggler staff.

Looking for something new and interesting to read? The Juggler staff will be happy to suggest a new title or introduce you to a new author's work – something you might just want to sample during your time in the window.

The Book Juggler is open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm and on Sunday from noon to 5 pm. The used bookstore – they sell a choice selection of new books, too – is located at 182 South Main Street, and can be reached by calling 459-4075. Check them out on Facebook or at their website. www.thebookjuggler.com.

– *Maureen Moore*



After a presentation at Baechtel Grove Middle School, a few guys from Little Lake Fire Department paused for a quick read in the window of The Book Juggler, including, from left, Fire Chief Carl Magann, Deputy Fire Chief John Thomen, and firefighters Jody McGee and Tylor Yadon.

Photos by
Maureen
Moore

North county
fire districts
face financial
challenges,
public apathy

Dan McKee
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

This is the first part of a two-part series

While most north county residents seem satisfied with the level of fire protection and emergency services provided by local fire districts, a Local Agency Formation Commission Municipal Services Review concludes underlying funding problems and community apathy may portend problems in the not-too-distant future.

The Final Annotated Fire Protection MSR was approved by the LAFCO board Monday with little comment.

Read the rest of
LAFCO |
Over on Page 11

Zack Cinek
Reporter
zack@willitsweekly.com

The city has received inquiries from contractors and is getting encroachment permits squared away for cleanup work at the scene of the November 14 John's Place fire.

"We have been fielding inquiries from contractors on the demolition for the last several days," City Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector John Sherman said.

A big issue, he noted, is that the building contains asbestos.

The fire consumed an East Commercial Street convenience store, the landmark old bar, and a

Read the rest of
Cleanup |
Over on Page 12

Zack Cinek
Reporter
zack@willitsweekly.com

Post-bypass planning, economic themes, and the sport of “pickleball” were popular ideas at a workshop aimed to make priorities for the city’s budget.

When a budget workshop ended at City Hall Monday, five priorities emerged as the top budget ideas favored by the 10 or so citizens who showed up to participate.

Community members divided into groups and generated lists that they would eventually vote on by putting a sticker next to their favorite choices.

Read more of **Goals** |
Over on Page 11

Thinking about Willits

At the 95490 Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, February 22, Brooktrails General Manager Denise Rose talked about some questions and exercises she suggested everyone consider, when thinking about how we could improve our town. She mentioned specifically:

1. Make a list of five things about Willits [the greater Willits area] that are most important to you.
2. Make a list of five things you would improve about Willits.
3. Name one place in Willits that you really love, and one place that you would improve.

4. And, finally, what you would do to recreate or create new community here in Willits?
- Other questions from handouts Rose brought to the meeting:
- What does community mean to you?
- What places or activities make you feel as if you are part of a community?
- Name one thing that you really enjoy doing during your leisure time (not in your own house). Are you able to do it in Willits?
- Name one thing that you could do, alone or with

others, to enhance a sense of community in Willits (big or small).

Willits Weekly would love to hear from our readers about what they'd list and how they'd answer any of these questions. By "Willits," we mean the greater Willits area, including Brooktrails, the Little Lake Valley and other outlying areas, and we'd be pleased to hear from our readers in the Laytonville or Covelo areas, too, about their towns. Please email responses to willitsweekly@gmail.com or send by snail mail to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits CA 95490 (email is preferred). Thank you! and thanks to Denise Rose for this good idea.

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

95490 Town Hall

To the Editor:

What a great community Willits/95490 is! Not only do we live in a beautiful place with lovely mountains, valleys, creeks and trees, but we have a nice little town. Part of what makes it so great are the many people who care about our town, who have ideas and who work to improve it.

This was apparent at our last Town Hall meeting on February 22. The council chambers at Willits City Hall were completely filled. Our topic was: "How can we work together to make Willits/95490 a better community?"

Our three guest speakers were Tom Woodhouse, our new supervisor, Bruce Burton, our mayor, and Denise Rose, Brooktrails manager. I am grateful to these speakers for coming and giving their time on a Sunday afternoon. That gratitude goes out to other city council members and city employees who came, and to each citizen who showed up to participate. When we gather and share our ideas, our community is enriched by our efforts.

Our Town Halls are set up by our committee for Willits/95490 to have better communication with one another, so we may work better together. That takes speaking, but equally importantly, it takes listening. This is our main goal: better communication and an even better community!

Many excellent ideas were shared, but if we are going to get any of them done we either need to form action groups or give input to the city's budget planning, including attending the special council goal-setting workshop, Saturday, March 28, from 9 am to noon, at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. The council will set major goals for the next two years at this workshop.

Please plan to attend our next Town Hall, Sunday, April 19 from 4 to 6 pm. Our topic is as yet undecided. All are welcome for a good exchange of ideas. For more info, contact Jane at 456-9067.

Jane McCabe, Willits

Herbicide Forum on Sunday

To the Editor:

An Herbicide Forum at the Little Lake Grange on Sunday, March 4 to 6 pm, plans to educate on a variety of shockingly lethal herbicides that Caltrans is being allowed to use in Little Lake Valley, specifically in highly sensitive wetlands. You may recognize the names of some of them: 2,4-D, Imazapyr, Garlon. Come to find out what Caltrans has in mind: hear about alternatives to using these poisons and how you can make a difference.

Caltrans owns one-third of Little Lake Valley, most of it wetlands in the north where the little lake forms each winter.

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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Rosamond Crowder, Willits

Thanks from Sober Grad

To the Editor:

The Willits Sober Grad Party Planning Committee would like to thank our wonderful Willits community for your overwhelming support of our recent Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. This was the biggest breakfast of all, and you were able to meet many of this year's upcoming graduates as they served you.

What a fine job they did! We would like to apologize to those of you who had a long wait before your food was delivered. The Little Lake Grange members, who did all the cooking and much more, were working as quickly as they could. To them we offer our heartfelt thanks for doing this year after year!

We also thank our local merchants for their generous food and/or cash donations: Brown's Corner, Buttercups Children's Boutique, Flowers by Annette, Long Valley Market, Mariposa Market, Safeway and WalMart. We especially thank Tami Elliott who coordinated this endeavor. We are all partnered in keeping our children safe on such an important night of their lives. We are a small town, and they are, indeed, all "our children."

Angi Edgar, member,
Willits Sober Grad Party Planning Committee

Proud to be from Willits

To the Editor:

I had a great time at Tim Blake's Emerald Cup in Santa

Bess Bair, Willits

Thanks from WCA

To the Editor:

I would like to thank the artists and community members who made the February Show at the Willits Center for the Arts such a success. We had more than 40 artists participating in the "Member Art Show," with 80 pieces of artwork on display. Several people said it was our best member show ever. I am very grateful to our volunteer coordinator, Nancy Reed, whose tireless support of the Art Center made this show possible.

There are a lot of things to be done to put on a successful show, and one of the most important is setting up, hanging the show and painting as needed. I would like to thank these wonderful volunteers: Laura Corben, Jane McCabe, Ursula Partch, Steve Eberhard, Nancy Reed, June Ruckman, Doris Wier, Morgan Rex, Beth Riedel, and Barbara Willens. Thank you to Willits Weekly for the help promoting the show.

Taking down the show went very easily, with many of the artists offering to help fill the nail holes and paint, including Bob Wilkinson and Lynne Whiting. The next day David Weitzman, Ree Slocum, Morgan Rex and I did a great clean-up job, mopping the floors and cleaning the bathrooms and windows, to get ready for the fabulous new show opening this Saturday, "Complementary Artists," from 7 to 9 pm, curated by Gabee Permenter. Our Art Center is run by volunteers; we have no paid staff. Please consider becoming a member and volunteering to help with a future event or show. Call Nancy Reed at 459-1239. Thank you.

Ann Maglinte, Willits

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Above, Kids of all grades enjoyed showing off their silly and crazy socks Thursday, including several of the teachers and Principal Robert Chavez, shown in the photo at top right. Chavez can be seen in his famous "Pink Monkey Toe Socks," second from the right.

Below, left: students from Mrs. Haschak's class and some from Mrs. Bauer's class show off their socks.

Photos by Maureen Moore



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COLUMN | Energize with Erin



From resolutions to habit:

3 steps to making your workout routine stick

Erin Fitzpatrick
Columnist

So many people had some sort of fitness/weight loss resolution for the New Year. In the first few weeks of January, I observed people out walking and biking, and exercise classes and gyms were full of new, eager fitness-minded people ready to get in shape. But as the weeks pass, many of us who had good intentions may have turned them into excuses.

If you're one of these people, don't be too hard on yourself. Half of the people who start an exercise program quit. It's easy to talk yourself out of a workout. "I'm too tired," "It's too cold or rainy," or "I have to work" are common excuses. But the right attitude and a few simple tips can get your fitness routine going again or keep it on track.

Choose an activity you enjoy

This may seem like a no brainer, but you would be surprised by how many people pick a new, popular workout just because everyone is doing it. If you're not a morning person, don't choose to run at 5 am before work. These routines aren't sustainable for you, and you'll end up giving up.

People who are internally motivated exercise because they like it and are more likely to stick with their exercise routine than someone who wants to lose 10 pounds or get in shape by summer. Exercise shouldn't be a chore. The more you enjoy your workout, the more likely you are to make it a habit. Try a variety of programs

Read the rest of
Fitness
Over on Page 9

Puzzle Page & More

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

Sudoku puzzle grid with numbers 1-9.

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 9

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!

LOTS OF LAUGHS WORD SEARCH

Word search puzzle containing various words related to humor and laughter.

Table with 4 columns: ACTOR, CLUB, HUMOR, RIFFING. Lists various terms and words.

Get ready for the Harrah Senior Center's Chili Cookoff on Friday evening (March 6; 5:30 to 7 pm; 1501 Baechtel Road; \$8, \$5 children, \$7 center members; see Calendar for more event details), with this tasty recipe for black bean chili.

Hot Hot HOT! Senior Center Chili Cookoff this weekend. Includes recipe for Black Bean Chili.

FREE PARENT WORKSHOPS. Systematic Training for Effective Parenting / STEP. Workshops will be held once a week for 7 weeks. February 25-April 16, 2015.

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C BROWNS CORNER. Groceries, Beer & Wine, Pay at the Pump, Gas & Diesel. 459-4854. 1799 So. Main St. P.O. Box 428.

Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68.

- CLUES ACROSS: 1. Printing speed measurement, 4. Fed, 7. A domed or vaulted recess, 11. Macaws, 12. Neck garment, 14. A billionth of an ohm, 15. Local area network, 16. Cleve. basketball hero, 18. Wounded & disfigured, 20. Civil Rights group, 21. Master of ceremonies, 22. Smallest artery branches, 26. Ref, 27. Exist, 28. Diagram of earth's surface, 29. SE Asian sarsaparilla soft drink, 31. Fire remains, 35. 3rd tone, 36. Before, 37. It breaks down lactose, 39. A waterproof raincoat, 40. Atomic #18, 41. NW Canadian territory, 42. Hindquarters, 44. Follows sigma, 46. Rural delivery, 47. Point that is one point N, of due E, 48. Excels, 53. Berkus and Silver, 56. Famous for fables, 57. Philippine capital, 58. Meg Ryan's ex-husband, 62. Doleful, 63. Arugula genus, 64. Nursery verse, 65. The 7th Greek letter, 66. Container for shipping, 67. Charge for services, 68. Immature onion plant, 19. Microelectromechanical system, 22. Having the wind against the forward side, 23. Reestablish, 24. Khloe K's former husband, 25. Verse forms, 29. Places to sit, 30. Chilean pianist Claudio, 32. Rounds of poker, 33. Spanish be, 34. Sing and play for somebody, 38. Chemical symbol for gold, 39. Praying insects, 43. Israeli politician Abba, 45. 7th planet from the sun, 49. Br. plural of a penny, 50. Largest continent, 51. Distress signal, 52. Senate and People of Rome, 54. Fill with high spirits, 55. Egyptian statesman Anwar, 57. Non-verbal entertainer, 58. 12th calendar month (abbr.), 59. A major division of geological time, 60. Ultrahigh frequency, 61. Yes vote
- CLUES DOWN: 1. Swedish statesman Olaf, 2. Baltic flat-bottomed boat (alt. sp.), 3. Fingernail treatment, 4. Breezed through, 5. Check, 6. Stray, 7. Ancient computing devices, 8. Something cheerleaders wave, 9. The woman, 10. Ambulance rescue initials, 12. In a drowsy manner, 13. A set of type of one style, 14. Not completely closed, 17. No (Scottish)

Black Bean Chili. 2 cans black beans, 1 can pinto beans, 1 can kidney beans, 3 bay leaves, 2 medium onions, chopped, 4 to 8 garlic cloves, chopped, 1 red bell pepper, chopped, 2 48-ounce cartons of veggie or chicken stock, 28-ounce can crushed tomatoes, with juice, 6-ounce can tomato paste, 2 tablespoons cumin, 2 tablespoons paprika, 1/2 to 2 teaspoons cayenne pepper, 4 tablespoons chili powder, 1 tablespoon garlic powder, 1 tablespoon onion powder, 1 teaspoon oregano, 1 tablespoon dark brown sugar, Olive oil, Salt and pepper to taste. In a large stock pot over medium high heat, drizzle in a few tablespoons of olive oil and sauté onions, garlic and bell pepper until soft. Add tomato paste and mix until dissolved. Add drained and rinsed beans (or soaked and rinsed beans), crushed tomatoes, stock, bay leaves and the rest of the seasonings, then cover and reduce heat to simmer. Cook for 30 to 45 minutes, then serve and top with sour cream or grated cheese if desired.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Teddy the Terrier. Teddy is a 1-year-old neutered male Terrier mix who weighs 15 pounds. He is one of the cutest dogs we know. Seriously, just look at that face!!!! He is also an absolute joy: playful, goofy and affectionate. Teddy would love a home with another playful dog or kids to pal around with. Teddy is a vocal fellow! The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6 pm. We have many wonderful dogs and cats, awaiting their forever homes here. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: www.mendosshelterpets.com or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

Some submitted snapshots from Girl Scouts selling cookies this year, including Taylor and Sierra of the Cadettes Troop #10577 at right; Charley Lamprich and Mariah Rodriguez with Sergeant Jon Anderson and Officer Mike Bennett below; Lillian Koepfel and Mariah Rodriguez below left and Jasmine from Troop 10735.

Last chance for Cookies! Girl Scouts end annual sale on Sunday, March 8. Just a few days are left to pick up any last-minute boxes of Girl Scout cookie favorites during the 2015 sale. There are two new varieties of Girl Scout cookies available this year: "Rah-Rah Raisin," with whole grain oats, raisins and Greek yogurt-flavored chunks, and - tah-dahl! - a gluten-free option: "Toffee-Tastic." Classic cookies also still on sale this year are Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Trefoils, Do-Si-Dos, and Savannah Smiles. With the conclusion looming on March 8, Girl Scouts will be out selling door to door, and watch for cookie sales in front of local businesses over the weekend. Make sure to stock up - frozen Thin Mints are delicious! - before they're all gone!

Girl Scout Cookies. Buy 5 Boxes Get a Free Bag Feb 5 - Mar 8. New Cookies! Rah-Rah Raisin, Toffee-Tastic (Gluten Free).

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OBITUARY | Rita Rowland. Rita Cajka Rowland passed away peacefully at home in Willits, California, on February 27, 2015. She was predeceased by her brother, Frank Cajka, and sister, Regina Kalinski. She is survived by her brothers, Ray and Robert Cajka; her two children, Jim Rowland and Barbara Durand; her four grandchildren, Natasha Braskamp, Jason Smith, Keely Mikkelsen, Erika Rowland; and her seven great-grandchildren. Rita was born in Omaha, Nebraska on August 30, 1927, to Frank and Mary Cajka. She came to Laytonville, California in 1952 with her family, and then relocated to Willits in 1971. She embarked upon a new career as a Real Estate agent and broker that would last her entire life. She was well-known and well-respected in the community. The loss of Rita, to those who loved her so greatly, will be difficult, but there is peace in knowing that she found pleasure in this life, adored her family, and is now with the Lord. The family will be having a private burial service according to Rita's wishes. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Redwood Valley Community Church, in her memory.

Happy Birthday Baby River. We can't believe you're turning 1!! Happy 1st birthday, River, we wouldn't trade the last year for anything. Love, Mom and Dadd.

Room To Bloom Preschool. Where the love of learning grows. 839 South Main Street - Willits. Morning & School Day Programs. 6:30 am - 5:30 pm. Art • Circle Time • American Sign Language, Outside Play • Snacks • Group Activities, Inquiry Based Learning • Spanish • Infant Care. Call Today to Enroll Your Child! RoomToBloomPreschool.com 707-456-9743. Preschool #233008715 & Infant #233008719.

El Mexicano. All specials for only \$7.95 until 5 PM. MONDAY: torta Mexican sandwich with side of French fries. Daily Specials at El Mexicano. TUESDAY: wet burrito with choice of beef or chicken. WEDNESDAY: chimichanga with choice of beef or chicken, with side of rice and beans. THURSDAY: crispy flour taco with choice of beef or chicken with side of rice and beans. FRIDAY: two corn tacos choice of shrimp or fish with side of rice and beans. (707) 459-5702. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. 166 South Main Street Willits, CA 95490.

Imagination Station. Preschool/Childcare Center Enrolling Year Round. Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Toddler program begins at 18 months • Preschool: ages 3-5 • Elementary program: ages 6-10. Check out our website: www.preschooldaycarewillits.com or look for us on Facebook. 11 South Marin Street • Willits 459-6543.

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Thursday, March 5

Irish quintet Goitse in concert: The contagiously energetic Irish quintet Goitse (pronounced "gwitcha"), just awarded "Trad Group of the Year 2015," performs at the Willits Community Theatre at 7 pm. Goitse is "one of the most sought-after bands amongst connoisseurs of Irish traditional music and features World and All-Ireland bodhrán champion Colm Phelan, with guitarist Conal O'Kane, Aine McGeeney on fiddle and vocals, James Harvey on banjo and mandolin, and pianist and piano accordionist, Tadhg O' Meachair. Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at www.brownpapertickets.com; and by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.



Goitse

Saturday, March 7

Junior Grange Yard Sale: today and Sunday, March 8, from 9 am to noon, in front of the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. To raise funds for Junior Grange activities.

NorCal Inventors Club Meeting: 1 pm at Wowser, 330 East Commercial Street. "This free event is intended for anyone who's an inventor (or wants to become one). This is an opportunity to share ideas and resources, and to build a network of people to tap into for support." Info: call 459-9697 or visit www.Wowser.org.

Drop-in Knitting Circle: Willits Library will be hosting a drop-in knitting circle on the first Saturday of every month, starting March 7, from 3 to 4:30 pm. "Bring your projects to share and show off! We will have expert knitters on board who can solve any problems and teach everyone to knit! Bring your own projects – we'll supply the coffee!" Signup at the Willits Library if you would like a reminder before each knitting circle, but signing up is not necessary: Everyone is welcome to drop in.

"Complementary Artists": March show at the Willits Center for the Arts features mixed-media art work by students of the Art Marketing class taught by Alyssum Wier last semester at the Mendocino College in Ukiah. "We are a group of unique individuals whose work complements each other like colors." Opening Reception set for Saturday, March 7 at 7 pm at the center, 71 East Commercial Street. Show runs through March; gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 pm. See article elsewhere in Willits Weekly for more details. Info: exhibit coordinator Gabee Permenter, bahiaagl@yahoo.com or 707-841-7261.

Mendocino County Museum Road Show: the 2015 Mendocino County Museum Road Show opens in Willits tonight, at Willits High School, 7 pm, for one night only, before traveling to shows in Point Arena, Ukiah, Philo and Fort Bragg. Now in its second year, the show features enactments of oral history stories by noted local actors and is accompanied by music both original and traditional by Americana triad, All About Sally. Tickets (advance purchase is recommended) are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors

Friday, March 6

WEF 5th annual Drive Through Tri Tip Dinner: The Willits Educational Foundation's annual benefit dinner, from 4 to 6 pm at the Rodeo Grounds. Dinner for four people – \$60 – includes: whole tri tip, Goss Family Beans (cooked all day in a "wonderful old pot borrowed from Eddie Schmidbauer and filled to the brim with 80 pounds of dried beans," a loaf of Emandal bread (a local favorite), Caesar salad with homemade dressing, homemade cookies, and a long-stemmed rose. All proceeds go to benefit teachers, programs and students in the Willits Unified School District. For info or to purchase last-minute tickets, call Annette Pinon at 459-6588 or Warren Lewis at 459-4429.

Senior Center's 9th annual Chili Cookoff: 5:30 to 7 pm at the center, 1501 Baechtcl Road. With one of the prizes being "The Most Crooked Team" (bribes accepted, to benefit the Senior Center's Outreach Program) and a team of judges like Willits Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez, Little Lake Fire Chief Carl Magann, and Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse in charge of awarding that prize, MC Sheriff Tom Allman will likely be overseeing some hot and heavy action. Tasting tickets are \$8, \$5 for children, and \$7 for Senior Center members. The first place prize for "Most Popular Chili" will be awarded by a vote of the people, with other prizes like Best Chili, Hottest Chili and Best Booth/Best Dressed Team awarded by the judges. Chili will be accompanied by fresh-baked corn bread; ice cream floats for \$2 will also be available.



Mendocino County Museum Road Show

Friday Night Magic and Pokémon: every Friday through March at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, from 5 to 7:30 pm. For youth ages 10 to 14; parental contact info required to

65+, and \$10 for youth 20 and under. Order tickets online at www.MendocinoMuseum.org, by calling 459-2736, or by visiting the museum, 400 East Commercial Street, during open hours, 10 am to 4:30 pm, Wednesday through Sunday.

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

2015 Schedule of Events
Get entries & more info online: www.WillitsFrontierDays.com

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
June 25	Thursday	5 pm	Hometown Celebration	Downtown Willits	Free to attend
		5 pm	Community Proj. Judging	Downtown Willits	Free to attend
June 26	Friday	6 pm	Truck Pulls	Jack Tharp Arena	\$14/Adult, \$5/Child
		9 pm	Street Dance	Rodeo Grounds	Free to attend
		6 pm	Carnival opens	Old Ball Fields	Tickets & Wristbands
June 27	Saturday	9 am	Gymkhana	Jack Tharp Arena	Free to attend
		10 am	National Anthem	Rodeo Grounds	Free to attend
June 28	Sunday	8 am	Horse Show	Jack Tharp Arena	Free to attend
		~	Sweetheart Judging	Jack Tharp Arena	Free to attend
July 3	Friday	5:30 pm	Waterlights	Humboldt & Commercial St	Free to attend
		7 pm	CCPRA Rodeo	Jack Tharp Arena	\$15/Box, \$12/Adult, \$5 Child
		9 pm	Western Dance	Rodeo Grounds	Free to attend
July 4	Saturday	9 am	Horseshoe Competition	Rec Grove	Free to attend
		11 am	Parade	Downtown Willits	Free to attend
		12 pm	Barbecue	Rec Grove	\$15/Adult, \$8 Child
		3 pm	Black Bart Gunfighters	Rec Grove	Free to attend
		4 pm	CCPRA Rodeo	Jack Tharp Arena	\$15/Box, \$12/Adult, \$5 Child
July 5	Sunday	7 am	Lions Pancake Breakfast	Rec Grove	\$8/Adult, \$5 Child
		10 am	Junior Rodeo	Jack Tharp Arena	\$5/Adult, Free/Child
		3 pm	Cowboy Poetry	Community Center	\$20/Adult, \$12 Child, 6-12

Find us on Facebook

Senior Center St. Patrick's Day Lunch

Tuesday, March 17

The Harrah Senior Center presents St. Patrick's Day Lunch, from 11:45 am to 1 pm, at 1501 Baechtcl Road. Corned beef & cabbage, red potatoes, carrot salad, roll, soup, beverage & dessert. Seniors \$5.50; non-seniors \$7; kids \$3.50. Info: 459-6826.

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Voodoo Horseshoes at the Brooktrails Lodge: remove accumulated Psychedelic Roots Rock from Missoula, Montana, sediments; the flushing is expected to take one month to complete. Flush starts at the base of Pine Mountain, and moves westerly into town; Main Street flushing, which will happen at night, is expected to start on or about March 12. Watch for wet streets! Water may be brownish: it is safe to drink, but may stain white laundry. For more detailed information about where the flushing will be occurring, customers may call Willits City Hall at 459-7104.



Sunday, March 8

Harrah Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am at the center, 1501 Baechtcl Road. Pancakes, eggs, and your choice of ham, bacon, or sausage. Adults \$7, Members \$6, and kids \$5. Info: 459-6826.

Junior Grange Yard Sale: See Saturday, March 7 listing for details.

Nerf Battle: Junior Grange hosts this event from 1 to 5 pm at Recreation Grove, across the street from the Willits Library. Everyone is welcome to come and play! Please bring your own weapons (with your name written on them). Junior Grange will supply some regular-size bullets. If you do bring your own bullets, please be sure they are IDd with your mark. "We'll have big sheets of cardboard, lots of tape and Gridbeam for building forts. We'll mark off a playing area among the trees with yellow "caution tape" so that there will be "corners" to put the forts in." Rain will delay the battle until Sunday, March 22.

Herbicide Forum: As part of its plans for required mitigation of the Willits bypass project, Caltrans is proposing to use herbicides on wetlands, creeks and grasslands in the Little Lake Valley. Find out concerns and alternatives to this plan at a forum on Sunday, March 8 from 4 to 6 pm, at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street (at Pine Street). Speakers: Madge Strong, Willits City Council member, "Caltrans's plans to poison Little Lake Valley, effects on the water, the land and the people"; Mary Clark, basket weaver, California Indian Basket Weaver's Association, Round Valley tribal member, "Herbicide threats to the health of basket weavers"; Eric Salcido, community leader, "Herbicide threats to workers"; Sara Grusky, organic farmer, Green Uprisings Farm, "Migration of Herbicides"; David Drell, physiologist, "The Truth about Roundup"; and Naomi Wagner, "Earth First! A Brief History of Eco-trans' non-violent response to herbicides." Sponsored by Save Our Little Lake Valley (SOLLV) and co-sponsored by the Little Lake Grange. Info: Madge Strong at 459-1493.



Thursday, March 12

WHS Boosters Club Meeting: 6 pm at the Willits High School Food Center. Help support athletics and other extracurricular activities at WHS.

Auditions for "Kill Me, Deadly": Auditions for the Willits Community Theatre's main-stage production of "Kill Me, Deadly" will be held at the playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, Thursday, March 12 from 7 to 9 pm, and on Saturday, March 14 from noon to 2 pm. "Kill Me, Deadly" by Bill Robens is a hilarious, tongue-in-cheek spoof of old "film noir" movies like "The Maltese Falcon," which relies on a machine-gun rapid delivery for its comedic effects. Parts for 3 women, ages 20 to 40, 2 women ages 40 to 60, and 10 men, ages 20 to 60. The role of the central character Charlie Nickels has already

Monday, March 9

City of Willits Water Main Flushing Program: City of Willits starts the annual water main flushing and valve-operating program today to

10th Anniversary Now and Then Films

Thursday, March 19

Now and Then Film Series celebrates its 10th Anniversary starting at 7 pm, with a retrospective of shorts and highlights selected from the more than 100 documentaries shown over the last decade. "Catch a glimpse of energy and oil issues, water, food and farming, transportation, currency and other subjects of interest for our community resilience." Suggested donation: \$5 helps sustain the monthly film series, every third Thursday at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Organic popcorn, chocolate and refreshments for sale by the Grange. Info: 459-6362.



Sign up for the Willits Otters Swim Team

The 2015 Willits Otters Swim Team started signups for the 2015 swim season this week at the Willits City Pool, just north of Willits High School.

"Our seasonal swim team is for youths through high school ages. From the beginning swimmer to the most competitive skilled swimmer, our program provides the values of sportsmanship and team work." Regular practices are from 5 to 6:30 pm, Monday thru Friday. Sign-ups can be completed anytime during regular team practices.

"Our Willits Otters typically start the season the first week of March and end the season the last week in July. The Willits Otters Swim Team Board of Directors and Head Coach Lou Meier and his coaching staff are excited about the 2015 Swim Season. The pool is ready, new equipment is on hand, and the 2015 swim meet dates are scheduled. Bring a friend, sign-up, and become a member of the Willits Otters Swim Team!"

Free Healthy Lifestyle Classes

Adventist Health presents a series of free "Healthy Lifestyle" classes on the third Thursday evening of every month, through September 2015.

The classes, on health topics of interest to the general public, are from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the 11 Oaks Conference Room, and have various presenters.

This month's class, Thursday, March 19, is titled "Moving Safely," and is presented by Heather Anderson, physical therapist. To register, call 456-3132.

'Still Alice'

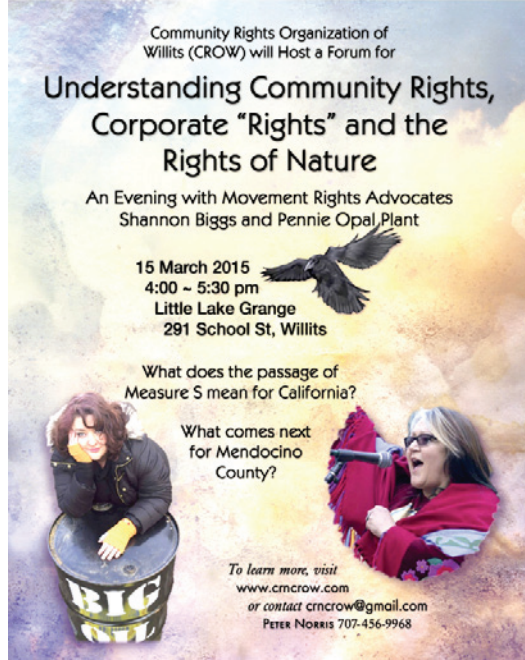
Thursday, March 19

This "sensitive and restrained look at early-onset Alzheimer's Disease" opens at the Noyo Theatre, at 4 pm on Thursday, March 19, for a week's run. Oscar winner Julianne Moore plays a linguistics professor "slowly disappearing within her own body" after she is diagnosed. A representative from the North Bay Office of the Alzheimer's Association will be at today's opening show, for a Q&A after the film. Plus an information table. Special \$5 admission for this 4 pm showing. Questions?: Sienna at 459-5621.



Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast

"Join your friends at the Grange Breakfast! 8 to 11 am Sunday, March 22 and every fourth Sunday at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. \$7 buys you a plate of the best 'scratch' pancakes and local farm eggs to be found. Choose our Sourdough Wholegrain or Hank's Famous Butterilk Pancakes, Beeler's Quality Bacon, Organic Local Farm Fresh Eggs made to order, Real Butter, Juice, Organic Coffee or Tea." \$7, \$6 Seniors, \$4 children under 10. Extra sides of Organic Fruit in season, or Amish Maple Syrup \$1 each.



Lunch Menu at the Willits Senior Center

Week of March 9 through 13

Monday: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce

Tuesday: Chicken Broccoli Casserole

Wednesday: Roast Beef w/Gravy

Thursday: Chili Cheese Dogs

Friday: Pork Chops

Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55 \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtcl Road. Info: 459-6826.

the community of (especially new and young) small farmers and to also reach out to the community and show-off our farms! Tour these inspiring farms. Then, get your hands dirty with some serious farm work. Bring a dish to share at the potluck. April's Work day is set for Saturday, April 11 at Willits' Green Uprising Farm, 2301 East Hill Road. Info: www.mendocinofarmersguild.com or 707 216-5549. "Founded by farmers for farmers, the Mendocino Farmers Guild seeks to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, resources, support and inspiration within the Mendocino County farming community." The Farmers Guild plans to produce a beautiful Farm Tour poster every quarter: this first quarter's poster was



done by Willits artist Marlena River, with the help of Thea and Sara Grusky.

"Understanding Community Rights" Forum: The Community Rights Organization of Willits (CROW) hosts this forum on "Understanding Community Rights, Corporate Rights" and the Rights of Nature: An evening with Movement Rights advocates Shannon Biggs and Pennie Opal Plant." 4 to 5:30 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "What does the passage of Measure S mean for the state of California? What comes next for Mendocino County? Shannon Biggs is a leading international speaker, author and activist on the growing movement for Rights of Nature. Shannon is a lecturer of weekend "Democracy Schools" that explore the rights-based framework for change, and leads rights of nature trainings around the country. Pennie Opal Plant is of Yaqui, Mexican, English, Dutch, Choctaw, Cherokee and Algonquin ancestry and is co-founder of Movement Rights. Pennie has been an activist for more than 30 years on anti-nuclear, environmental and indigenous rights. She has been a lecturer of Democracy School with the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund since 2005, promoting a rights-based strategy for confronting corporate power and creating real democracy from the grassroots." CROW meets the third Thursday of every month, this month March 19, at 5:30 pm in Room 10 at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Everyone is welcome. Info: www.crow.org or crow@crow.org or contact Peter Norris at 456-9968.

COLUMN | At the Movies



'Kingsman: The Secret Service'

The Story: Mad-dog-crazy multi-billionaire Valentine (Samuel Jackson) has a nefarious plan, and I won't tell you what it is. Harry Hart (Colin Firth) is an agent for a super-secret organization called Kingsman. Hart is an elegant badass, tailored in a suit from Savile Row (because that is where a gentleman of quality obtains his suits). Hart is committed to thwarting the maniacal Valentine.

My Thoughts: I loved this movie. It's especially good with popcorn. As you might expect from my description of the plot, the action in "Kingsman..." is more than a little tongue-in-cheek. The movie is unpredictable. It has clever dialogue and eccentric characters, and some truly spectacular fight scenes which are also quite bloody.

Samuel Jackson handles the super-villain part with his usual skill. Colin Firth has some serious style.

Really, this is an all-around entertaining flick.

Parents: Let me acknowledge that there's one naked butt (and though I mention it, it's hardly worth mentioning). The issue of nudity covered, the fight scenes feature gun play, knife play, graphic butchery and dismemberment. It is my opinion that young children should not see the movie. Teenagers will enjoy it.

William Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

1980s Willits High School Reunion

The Willits High School Class of 1985 is sponsoring a 30th (plus or minus a few years) class reunion, set for Saturday, June 20, 2015, with a family-friendly private charter on the Skunk Train with a BBQ stop at Northspur. "If you went to WHS during the 80s or have a strong attachment to these fellow classmates, we would love to have you join us!" Train leaves at 3:30 pm and returns approximately 8:30 pm. With a souvenir DVD available and a photographer on board taking candid shots during, available for you to take home with you. Tickets are \$64.66 per adult; \$48.46 per child, includes BBQ, with no host beer/wine/snacks on the train. Maximum capacity 200 guests. Menu: Barbecued Chicken or Tri-Tip (beef), Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans, Green Salad, Potato Salad, Three Bean Salad, Bread, and famous Blackberry Sundae for dessert. To help get the word out or to help with the planning, please contact Tanya (Stamps) Pettlicler at 530-559-3577. Checks (made out to "Tanya Pettlicler") can be mailed to 257 Laurel Street, Willits CA 95490 or send payment via PayPal to tanyabibeu@yahoo.com.

Ongoing Events

Willits Winter Farmers Market: from 3 to 5:30 pm every Thursday at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, with produce, local meats and fish, local grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

The Emandal Choral: this community chorus based in Willits is in its 20th season, and you are welcome to join! Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm. No auditions necessary. The Choral meets upstairs at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

Free Classes for Girls: The Mentoring Network, under the umbrella of the Youth Grange, is offering free after-school classes on Friday afternoons, 3:30 to 4:30 pm, for girls in Willits area schools, grades 6 through 10. Classes will be on herbs one week, yoga another week, cooking and life skills. Room 4 of the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Questions: call Michelle at 972-1601. No pre-registration is necessary.

Free English class/Clase de ingles gratis: Every Thursday at 7 pm / Cada jueves a las 7 pm. At the LDS church, 265 Margie Drive. Info: 707-758-8709.

Willits Photography Club: meets at the Willits Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street, on the second Saturday of each month from 10 to 12 noon. All levels of experience welcome. Come to the back door of the Art Center.

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Monday night session at the Willits Center for the Arts. New beginner class runs from 7 to 8 pm, with dancing to follow from 8 to 9 pm. Singles and couples and all ages are welcome. Caller/teacher Lawrence Johnson. Singles and couples and all ages are welcome. \$20/month (to help pay the caller), with young dancer scholarships available. Questions? Contact Emmy Good at Emmy@pacific.net or Jenny Watts at Watsup@gmail.com.

Junior Grange After-School Program: an after-school program for kids ages 5 to 14, Mondays from 3 to 6 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Room 10. Membership fee: \$1, plus \$1 annual dues. Info? Contact Zeynep at 707-972-8558 or zeyny34@yahoo.com.

Mondays at Wowser: Free events at the Wowser maker space, 330 East Commercial Street. 6:30 pm. Lectures, slide shows, flash videos, guest speakers, demonstrations. Info: 459-9697 or www.wowserllc.com.

Stations of the Cross: "During the season of Lent, a time of prayer and preparation for Easter, prayers for the Stations of the Cross will be offered every Friday evening at 6 pm, from now through the end of March" at St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church at the corner of Main Street and Commercial streets. "All are welcome for these simple prayers; come as you are."

Cards and Games at Willits Library: free games in the Willits Library's Community Room. Tuesday bridge sessions from 1:30 to 3:30 pm; Thursday bridge sessions from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Saturday free bridge classes, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm, for new and review students. Info: Donna at 459-9035. Tuesday evenings: "Dungeons and Dragons, the Adventurers' League," from 6 to 10 pm. Both newbies and experienced players, ages 13+, are welcome to join. Info: Dan at 972-3154. Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4:30 pm: Chess: bring your chess set and have some fun with friends. All ability levels welcome. Info: Raymond at 841-0473.

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

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.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the HHM 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 7 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic every Wednesday and World Music Open Mic every Monday. 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7 pm. Movie Night every Tuesday. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Karaoke Night at Al's Redwood Room: every Wednesday night, karaoke in the bar. 207 South Main Street. 459-2444.

Open Mic Jam at Al's Redwood Room: every Friday night, hosted by Dream Capsule Entertainment, featuring talented, established local musicians from all over Northern California. Jazz, Blues, Rock. New talent welcome. Al's Redwood Room, 207 South Main Street, starting at 9 pm. Mr. Larry's New Orleans Outside BBQ Café Catering serving at Al's on Fridays from 9 pm to 1:30 am. Questions? Call Mr. Larry: (707) 354-3197

Laytonville Winter Farmers Market: Mondays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, crafts, hot soup, baked goods, and more.

AARP Smart Driver class

March 18 and 19 at Harrah Senior Center

There will be an AARP "Smart Driver" class held on Wednesday, March 18 and Thursday, March 19 from 8 am to 12 pm at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtcl Road. "You need to attend both days to receive your certificate. This is a new program produced after three years of research. Due to space limits you need to pre-register." Call Carol at 459-4928 for a registration form or for more information.



Little League Tryouts

T-ball to teenager: eager baseball fans try out for 2015 teams



Last weekend the ball fields on East Commercial Street were filled with excited, and even a little nervous, kiddos hoping to swing for the fences and gain a spot on a Willits Redwood Little League team this year.

Tryouts were held both Saturday and Sunday, and each kid had a chance to showcase their skills, or show their heart at catching, batting and more.

"It went really smooth this year," explained player agent Melissa Coughlin. "We had a lot of kids show up and try out this year, somewhere around 90 kids over the two days – and they were all ready and excited to play ball!"

Though they are officially called "tryouts," all the kids who come are placed on teams for the season. The purpose of the pre-team event is to help the coaches spread the strengths and talents across all the teams, hoping to create a good, even and competitive set of teams.

"We try, but sometimes, you never know," laughed Coughlin. "Some of them surprise you throughout the season and show strengths you didn't get to see in the tryout period!"

There were a few first-timers trying out this year, but many were returning players from previous seasons who were looking to move up the ranks and into the older, or more challenging, divisions.

The divisions are basically guidelines for ages, but some younger kids go higher if they have the skillset to hold their own, or older kids might start a little lower if this is their first season or they are still working on their skills. T-ball starts around age 4, Machine Pitch is around ages 6 to 8, Minors are from around 8 to 11, and Majors around 10 to 12. There is also a Junior League for kids in their early teens.

The drafts – where all kids get shuffled onto teams and matched with a coach – were held Monday night.

"We're pretty full," explained Coughlin. "It looks like it will be a great upcoming season this year."

The official schedule of games is still being set, but Coughlin noted ball should be starting around the second week of April.

"We are always looking for umpires, score keepers and volunteers for the Snack Shack," said Coughlin. "If anyone is interested in helping out, please let us know."

For more information, please call Coughlin at 354-2226, or Willits Redwood Little League president Clint Jewell is available at 354-1533.

– Maureen Moore

Above, left and right: Players during the Saturday tryouts have fun at bat and making catches in the outfield. Above, center: Some of the boys who came to the tryouts Saturday afternoon: back row, left to right: Ethan, Christian, Don and Jack; front row, left to right: Jace, Nick, Aydin, Cruz, Stevie and Mark.

Below, at left: Jace connects with the ball over home plate. Below, from top: One of the youngsters aims for the ball. Ethan swings over home plate. Willits Redwood Little League President Clint Jewell loads the balls into the pitching machine on the mound.

Photos by Maureen Moore



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Doug Goss, Annette Pinon, Kathleen Lewis and Dan Pinon, ready to cook for the dinner.

TIDE WATER ASSOCIATION OIL COMPANY

WEF's Drive-Through Tri Tip Dinner this weekend

Prep is underway for the 2015 Willits Educational Foundation's drive-through Tri-Tip dinner that will once again aim to raise money for area schools with a tasty dinner to go.

Mariposa Market donated the 100 pounds of beans that will start turn into the famous "Goss Family Sweet Beans" Thursday when the soak will start. Including black, dark red kidney, lima, and red chili beans, the dish was created by Willits' Kathy Goss.

Kathy doesn't really follow a recipe, just uses her intuition. She will oversee, but the stirring, cooking and supervising will be done by bean crew members Dan Pinon and Doug Goss, who will cook along with barbecue helpers Art and Annette Cooley, Rick Crowder, Tom Sleeper and Bruce Smith.

Kathy Shuster is the head of the homemade salad committee, and Warren



Kathleen's cookie project.

and Kathleen Lewis spent the past weeks reworking the dough for 1,600 cookies – including cranberry chip and double chocolate sprinkle – for the meal, along with the help of Margaret Judy and Tom and Shirley Schott.

Each bag will also include bread from Tam Adams of Emandal, a rose from Annette Pinon of Flowers by Annette, and the barbecued tri-tip (from The Forks Ranch Market).

Dinner pick-up will be at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds this Friday from 4 to 6 p.m.

Willits Weekly | March 5, 2015

Willits Weekly CLASSIFIEDS
30 Words | \$10 | 2 Weeks

Algebra, Geometry SAT & ACT Test Prep
Mac Smith 459-MATH

Business Classes
"Taking Your Business On-Line": 10 am to Noon Wednesdays. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Rd, Willits. 10 two-hour classes, \$20 each. Call for details: 459-6826.

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

Carport Sale
21461 Pineview Drive, near Blosser Elementary. Follow the signs. Friday, March 6, Saturday, March 7, and Sunday March 8, 8 am-2 pm. Rain or shine. Come by and check us out.

For Rent
Clean 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse/condo in a country setting, washer and dryer hook-up. No pets, no smoking. Garbage paid. \$735/month. Amco: 707-459-9601.
Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath close to downtown area, Washer/Dryer facility on premises. Water & garbage paid. No pets, no smoking. \$795/month. Amco: 707-459-9601.

Help Wanted
Activity Assistant, part-time. Northbrook Healthcare Center. Call Kathy at 459-5592 for more information.

Missing Dog
3-year-old male lab mix. Black brindle coat. Last seen @ Grocery Outlet. Friendly boy named Storm. Very LOVED and MISSED. Contact Alexia @ 970-401-1882.

Roommate Needed in Covelo
Professional, Christian female seeks mature roommate to share a 3-bedroom house in Covelo. \$600 a month, including utilities. Have washer/dryer. Call Angella at (310) 488-2619.

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

SEWING AND ALTERATIONS
Seamstress and Sewing Teacher Barbara Carlson
Visit my webpage: Zibergrill.com
707-367-6182, Willits

Volunteers Wanted
The Willits Senior Center has many areas where your expertise and talents are needed. Front Desk, Thrift Store, Dining Room, Sunday Bingo, Sunday Breakfast, Special Dinners, Landscaping, Garden, Firewood. Come join our Team. Call Marjua at 707-459-6826.

Volunteers Wanted
Frank Howard Memorial Hospital is looking for positive members of the community to volunteer in various departments of the hospital. Hours: flexible and can include weekends. More info? Call 456-3245.

Willits Harrah Center
Serving the Seniors of our Community

8TH ANNUAL Chili COOK OFF
Friday March 6TH
5:30-7 p.m.
Adults - \$8 • Kids - \$6
Members - \$7
Tables still available, \$25 Entry Fee
PANCAKE BREAKFAST!
Sun. • March 8TH • 8-11 a.m.
Pancakes, eggs, and your choice of sausage, ham or bacon.
Adults \$7 • Members \$6 • Kids \$5
ICE CREAM SOCIAL!
Mon. • Mar. 9TH • 1:30-2:30 p.m.
This month's entertainment is: **Greg Schindel - "Name That Tune"**
Pie, Ice Cream, Coffee & Prizes
Members \$1.00 • Non-Members \$1.50
Call for more information 459-6826 • 1501 Baechtel Road

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The rest of Fitness
From Page 3

until you find the ones that are more fun than work.

Make exercise part of your routine

Now that you have found programs that you enjoy, how do you get yourself to do them consistently? Instead of exercise just being something on your to-do list, make it part of your day, like brushing your teeth or getting dressed. Exercise should be something you naturally do on a regular basis. The more you do it, the more it will become engrained into your daily routine. And believe it or not, you may actually crave the endorphin pick-me-up, and your body will come to expect it.

According to a study published in the European Journal of Social Psychology, researcher Philippa Lally and her team found it took 96 people over a 12-week period an average of two months before a new behavior becomes a habit – 66 days to be exact. In other words, set your expectations appropriately: building a new behavior is a process, so it doesn't matter if you mess up every now and then.

Use the buddy system

Even with the perfect exercise routine for you, at the right time, your motivation may waiver. When your slippers are more comfy than your sneakers, a workout partner can get you back on track. Let your buddy hold you accountable when you can't do it for yourself. It's easier to bail on a treadmill than a friend who is waiting for you at class. Studies show you will also workout out longer and harder when you have a friend with you.

The moral of the story is to give yourself a break: being fit and healthy is a daily process. It's not going to happen overnight. It takes time to turn those resolutions into habits. Start by finding something you love to do and recruit a friend to do it with you. Just remember, keep it fun.

Erin Fitzpatrick is a licensed Zumba instructor. She is a lifelong fitness advocate, marathoner, and dancer. She began teaching fitness classes two years ago and is a co-owner of Energize Willits. You can learn more at Facebook.com/EnergizeWillits.

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small pub outside of London.
"Middlemarch" had impressed me with its brilliance when I last read it 30 years ago. It did not disappoint this time around.

Where Jane Austen leaves her readers at the wedding altar and draws the curtain on the details of marriage, George Eliot bravely dives in to show us the idealism, magical thinking and miscommunication of young couples. It's surprisingly easy for a contemporary reader to sympathize with Dorothea, Rosamond and Mary Garth – all young women trying to live out their dreams, define their place in their community, and deal with the full range of their impulses. Their corresponding partners, Casaubon, Dr. Lydgate and Fred Vincoy, are forced to deal with their own shortcomings and to reconcile their ambitions with their weaknesses.

These personal dramas are played out against a background of political changes, the coming of the railroad, and even medical advancements being met with resistance by the very conservative rural population.

If you get stuck wading into the novel, check out the BBC mini-series starring a young Rufus Sewell (1993) available through the library. It's a good entry point to the plot and watching it may spur you on to read both of these books.

Whether you read by page or device, please utilize our library system and patronize independent bookstores, both new and used.

Local poet, Fran Resendez, is retired from 20 years of bookselling at the former Leaves of Grass Books in Willits. Getting her first library card was one of the happiest days in her reading life.

COLUMN | Linda on the law

A guide to jury service

It's arrived. That distinctive envelope that oozes gut-wrenching energy. I've got jury duty. Didn't I just rescue one of these? How do I get out of it? Will I be able to find a babysitter? Maybe the trial will be cancelled.

This is a normal reaction to something that upsets the natural flow of our lives and puts us in a situation where: (1) we have to sit too close to other people; (2) in a somber courtroom that is sometimes too hot or too cold; (3) while answering confusing and obscure questions posed by confusing and obscure people called lawyers; (4) with our answering voices echoing in a room full of mostly strangers; (5) and our daily lives interrupted; (6) for \$12 a day plus mileage.

Hey, maybe we could just eliminate the jury system! Like some places in the world, we could give that responsibility to a mad person wielding a sword. Of course, I'm not serious, but it may be important to remember at this point that the jury system is the basis of a democratic society.

In a criminal case, our society recognizes the rights of "the people" as well as "the individual." The prosecutor represents "the people," while the defense attorney represents "the individual." The jurors, in a sense, are both "the people" and "the individual," deciding whether the prosecution has proven the charges against the defendant. The rights of the individual are so precious in our society that the people's burden to prove charges against that individual is "beyond a reasonable doubt." That means you as a juror are so certain of the truth of the charges that you have no reasonable doubts about it.

If you believe that being a juror is something you can handle both physically and emotionally, and you are chosen for the job, then you will have to follow the rules for jury service read to you by the judge, given to you in writing, and discussed by the attorneys in their closing arguments.

That's a lot harder than it sounds. When our society decided that an individual cannot be found guilty unless the people prove the charges beyond a reasonable doubt, it made very clear the importance of individual rights. It requires time, energy and devotion to fulfill the job of a juror. You can't consider punishment or decide what might happen to the individual after your verdict. You are only to decide whether the prosecution has proven the charges beyond a reasonable doubt.

There are few really great experiences in one's life, things that are majestic or astounding and never forgotten. I know I'm waving the flag a little here, but jury service allows you to be a part of the system in action. Being a juror is a hard-earned right.

You will find people on the jury who just want to go home, who don't want to follow the rules, and who made up their minds about a verdict long before reaching the courthouse. That does not have to be you. Take it easy, be respectful to the other jurors, analyze the evidence, and treat the matter as if YOU were sitting in the defendant's chair placing your trust into each individual on the jury.

Linda McNeil is an attorney with more than 35 years legal experience. Since 1992 she's been practicing in Mendocino and Lake counties, with an office in Willits. Her practice is limited to representing drivers before the DMV and representing people accused of DUI. The California DUI Lawyers Association has designated her a "DUI & DMV Specialist."



‘Complementary Artists’

March show at the Willits Center for the Arts

An elegantly arranged gallery of multimedia artwork awaits visitors to the March show at the Willits Center for the Arts, opening with an artists' reception this Saturday from 7 to 9 pm.

Many of the nine artists featured in the "Complementary Artists" exhibit took last semester's Art Marketing class taught by Alyssum Weir at Mendocino College.

A visit Tuesday afternoon found beautiful ceramic and sculptural pieces sitting atop white pedestals and on shelves; paintings and photographs waiting to be hung; and clothing designed by Jasmin Hancock, the youngest artist in the show, pinned up on the wall.

"Most of us are students," said Gabee Vallejos-Permenter, who organized the show for the WCA, and is showing her gorgeous raku bowls. "Most of us have never shown before, and we are all very excited. We have wonderful teachers at Mendocino College, and we are very thankful: to our community, to the Willits Art Center for hosting us, and to the college."

The nine artists in the show are Alberto Lozano, Angella Leal, Danna NicDarrah, Dawn NicDarrah, Gabriela Vallejos-Permenter, Jamie Blumenthal, Jasmine Hancock, Rachel Vanderpool, and Robert Permenter.

Many of Alberto Lozano's ceramic pieces are in a soft palette of natural colors like stones, bark or roots: on display are textured sculptural pieces that could function as tea cups, plates and platters, boxes and sake sets, if they didn't seem almost too beautiful to use. Lozano, a Ukiah High School graduate working on an associate degree in ceramics at Mendocino

College, won the College Foundation's Mary Oosting Scholarship in 2012, to support students who are highly motivated to create visual art. He is planning to transfer to Sacramento State University next fall.

The show also features a mother (Dawn NicDarrah) and daughter (Danna NicDarrah) duo, showing ceramic works, paintings and photography. Their Facebook page, NicDarrah Arts & Marketing, features works by both artists. One of Dawn's sculptural pieces is a reproduction of the Haniwa Dancing Man, a 7th century Japanese figurine. Placed near it at the WCA is Danna's recreation of the famed Venus of Willendorf from the Paleolithic period, around 25,000 years BC, and her vase with the triskele, or triple spiral, Celtic symbol. A glass case displays several shelves of "Shaman Shakers," beautiful shakers in the shape of acorns in various sizes by Dawn.

A glass piece by Jamie Blumenthal in the shape of a curved piano keyboard strikes a more modern note, but the raised, usually black, keys are in shades of blue and colors that look like abalone shell or even jade. A vertical glass piece by Blumenthal has abstract shapes in shades of green that could be a landscape with hills and mountains and birds.

Fashion designer Jasmine Hancock, aka Princess Jazzy of Jazzy Designs, is studying administrative justice at Mendocino College, after graduating from River Oak Charter School. The clothes she is displaying in the show include tops, skirts, dresses, handbags, and more, in a wide range of colors and fabrics, from casual, to work-ready and glamorous attire. One dressy two-piece outfit has a red satin corset with black lace overlay and hand-stitched lace trimming,



accompanying a black and pink skirt. A black and pink tailored vest has pink buttons. On opening night of the "Complementary Artists" show, Hancock will be doing a small runway show featuring her clothes. You can see more of Hancock's custom clothing at the Jazzy Designs page on Facebook.

"Complementary Artists" runs through March 29 at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Opening reception is 7 to 9 pm on Saturday, March 7. Art displayed in this show will be for sale. Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 pm.



More of Goals | From Page 1

Results were: Main Street downtown planning and post-bypass planning (8 votes), bike and pedestrian improvements, rails and trails (6 votes), attracting industry and economic development (6 votes), a strategy to avoid economic loss from the bypass (7 votes), and pickleball and tennis courts (7 votes). Pickleball is a racket game that's a cross between badminton, tennis, and ping pong.

Workshop leader Bill Statler brought a career of public finance experience to the talk. Statler's words to council members and the community were much like those of a motivational speaker.

Statler talked about a practical budget that can make a difference to the community. "At the end of the day, there is only one way to eat an elephant – one bite at a time," he said.

Statler, who spoke at the beginning of the 4 pm meeting, explained the process to prioritize and rank major city goals, and that this workshop was just the beginning.

"Time is limited; money is limited: Let us focus on the most important thing," he said.

The leading five topics surpassed most of the other ideas by a strong margin. Emergency preparedness or the Railroad Avenue extension, for example, received one or two votes.

The voting was the second part of the workshop. Before that city officials talked about the city's books, and two consultants hired to do the workshop advised on the process of setting budget goals.

Monday's budget work party complemented an existing list of goals that the council set in place in 2013.

Major city goals from the last go-around of goal-setting were: Baechtel Road/Railroad Avenue extension, Brown's Corner intersection, cross certification of sewer and water plant operators, traffic west of Main Street, Main Street waterline, post-bypass planning, set street paving priorities, and master plans for both sewer and water infrastructure.

"The city does not start this process with a blank piece of paper," Statler said.

The goal-setting process determines goals as well as other lists of objectives to address as resources permit.

On the old lists, longterm water supply options including groundwater, the Boy Scout lake, and

Read the rest of Goals | Over on Page 12

The rest of Errors | From Page 1

has had to reimburse the state numerous times in the past, and Cryer herself has appealed past auditing decisions handed down by the state. She intends to challenge this most recent decision, too.

"We will appeal it. We are going to fight this again," Cryer said. "We have fought it before, and we were successful, and I am hopeful we will be successful again."

Cryer said the state claims the county made numerous errors in how it apportioned administrative costs in the bills the Mental Health Department submitted for reimbursement.

The county privatized mental health delivery in 2013, so these audit exceptions are from the days when the county provided services to mental health clients directly.

In remarks to the board of supervisors, Cryer explained the accounting principles governing the state's Medicaid auditors are not immovable and abstract, but rather subject to interpretation.

"It is hard to predict what will happen on these audits," Cryer said. "Two different auditors can audit the same county, in the same years, and you can get different audits. You can also get two different auditors auditing different counties that are doing the same thing, and

get different audits. You can get an audit exception one year, you change your practice, you submit an audit the next year ... and get penalized because a different auditor wanted you to do it the way you did it the previous year.

"Mental health is a broken system," Cryer said. "It's broken throughout the country, and throughout the state, and it's broken in all the counties."

County CEO Carmel Angelo said the executive office will hire an outside firm to audit the billing history and financial reports from the suspect years.

Because of other unforeseen expenses that are attributable to the mental health branch of HHS in the current fiscal year, Cryer said, the mental health branch will be coming in an additional \$700,000 over its projected budget. That means the department will be \$4.6 million "in the red" for 2014-15.

Cryer told supervisors the Health and Human Services Agency will cover the shortfall from its own budget.

Otherwise, looking good

County Executive Office staff gave a relatively optimistic report to supervisors on the state of the 2014-15 budget. Much of the talk was focused on factors affecting local economic

The rest of Gym | From Page 1

of Willits High sports programs. Many criticized Ritchley's policy.

As a result of the policy, one high school dance has been cancelled due to a lack of students willing to attend the event. According to students present at the Thursday evening discussion, several school rallies have been cancelled as well.

In addition, said sports supporter Bonnie Riley, the "no food" policy has hurt snack bar sales during basketball games, which has curtailed funding that the snack bar has traditionally provided to the basketball program.

Paul Riley, who has coached for 18 years at Willits High, urged Ritchley to change his policy. "You have to draw a line in the sand. Fine. You draw the line, you respect it – but you have to use the gym," Riley said. "We need to get past the food thing. Otherwise, these teams are not going to survive."

One of the assumptions that apparently drove Ritchley's policy was in error, it was learned during the discussion. Previously, Ritchley had told students that violation of the recommendations made by the company that refinished the floor would result in cancellation of the warranty, which would mean the district would have to pay if the company had to return to perform maintenance work on the floor. Ritchley had insisted if students followed his policy, any maintenance work would be free of charge.

However, in reality, the district will have to pay some \$3,000 a year to the company to have them come back once a year, for next 10 years, whether the floor is lightly or heavily used. However, if the floor is heavily used, and if that use results in damage to the floor, the company will have to do more work to restore the floor and the cost will likely rise above \$3,000.

Ritchley said the information he had received previously was incorrect, and he had only been told the correct information two weeks ago.

Ritchley's gym floor policy is having a negative effect on the school, said Rebecca Smith. "This is killing the spirit of the school, tremendously," she said. "It needs to be looked at."

A woman present at the meeting told Ritchley

the policy of keeping the doors on the west side of the gym closed during practices was a poor decision. "The fact that both sets of doors can't be opened is very frustrating," she said. "There's no cross-ventilation. That means it's darned hot in that gym."

Ritchley said the westside doors had to be closed because they open onto a parking lot where there are lots of rocks. People walking into the gym from that side would inadvertently pick up rocks in their shoes, whether they were wearing gym shoes or not, he said, and that could damage the floor.

Bonnie Riley urged Ritchley to get creative. "You could have an open door with a screen there. That would let the air in. Or you could have someone sitting there to keep people out."

Ritchley agreed it would be possible to install a barrier of some kind. He mentioned a "strap barrier," similar to the kind traditionally used to make aisles in banks and movie theaters.

During discussions, some previously fuzzy points were clarified. When told that school coaches were unclear if the baseball teams could use the gym to hold practice during rainy weather, Ritchley told one baseball coach they could. Nancy Runberg added players were not to wear cleats in the gym, which brought a chuckle from the group. Another coach asked if the gym would be off-limits to summer sports. Ritchley replied the gym could be used for summer sports, if a coach was present.

Ritchley also told the group school custodial staff had recently cleaned the mats traditionally used to cover the gym floor during non-sports activities, such as dances. He affirmed the mats were going to be used during a school dance at the gym that week.

Ritchley said he was planning to rewrite the gym floor policy, and would submit it to district Superintendent Patricia Johnson, who attended the meeting.

But Johnson replied any changes would be "a school site policy. We don't have a district policy on gym floor use."

The rest of LAFCO | From Page 1

The 96-page document examines current conditions within five county fire protection districts: Little Lake, Long Valley, Covelo, Leggett, and Hopland.

All the districts suffer from community apathy, according to the review prepared by LAFCO analyst Craig Baracco and Mary Ann Mix of MPE Inc. consulting.

Not one of the five fire districts has held a contested election within the last five years. Instead, all district board members have been appointed by the board of supervisors.

The districts have five-member boards – except Long Valley, which can only muster three directors.

And the Hopland Rural Fire Protection District has filled only four of its five seats.

The terms of three of the five members of the Little Lake district's board will expire this December. The remaining two board members serve until December 2017.

"There's a lack of candidates for these positions," Willits Councilwoman Holly Madrigal, who sits on the commission, said. "We need to encourage more people to apply."

Her conclusion is echoed throughout the report.

The towns within all five fire protection districts are considered disadvantaged unincorporated communities, meaning their median household income falls below 80 percent of the state average of \$61,632. That includes Willits, even though it's an incorporated city, where median income in 2013 was \$34,466, a tad less than 60 percent of the state average.

Compared to other north county towns, Willits is comparatively well off. Covelo's median income of \$24,750 was just slightly more than 40 percent of the state average. Leggett managed somewhat better; the 2012 median income there was \$28,068 in 2013, 45.5 percent of the state average. Laytonville's 2013 median income was \$32,260, just over 52 percent of the state average.

Those numbers translate into problems for fire district budgets, which gather most of their revenues from property taxes, property assessments, and charges for services.

Located in the geographical center of Mendocino County, along the Highway 101 corridor, the Little Lake Fire Protection District serves an area of some 239 square miles, providing both structure and wildland fire protection, emergency medical services, rescue and extrication, hazardous materials response, and fire prevention services to Willits and Little Lake Valley, including Ridgewood, Irmulco, Hearst, Tomki, Pine Mountain, and String Creek, as well as both Highway 101 and Highway 20, some Bureau of Land Management acreage on the eastern edge of the district, and a small part of Jackson State Demonstration Forest on the district's western boundary.

Some 10,000 people live within the district's boundaries, almost half of them in the city of Willits.

Brooktrails, which has its own fire department, lies outside the district, but there is an automatic aid agreement between the two departments. The district also maintains mutual aid agreements with Laytonville, Redwood Valley and CalFire.

Compared to other north county fire districts, the LLFPD is well-staffed. It enjoys a full-time paid fire chief, deputy fire chief, battalion/training chief, and an administrative assistant. Its 39 volunteer firefighters, who range in age from 18 to 56, include 17 emergency medical technicians, and the remainder of the volunteers are all trained first-responders.

They're needed. In 2013, the district responded to 600 calls, of which some 73 percent were either medical emergencies or traffic accidents, according to the MSR.

And while the district brought in just over \$1 million in revenue in fiscal year 2012-2013, mostly from property taxes and property assessments, it spent almost \$700,000. District revenues increased more than \$158,000 over the previous fiscal year as a result of an outreach program to raise money to build a new fire station and funds paid to the district's strike team, which is reimbursed for responding to wildfires under mutual aid agreements with CalFire and the U.S. Forest Service. However,

according to the LAFCO study, the majority of those mutual aid wildland fire responses, some 50 calls in 2013, go uncompensated.

The district also receives about \$1,750 annually from the Sherwood Valley Indian Rancheria Casino, and the nonprofit Little Lake Firefighters Association holds fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for new fire equipment, fire station improvements, and training aids. Along with the Willits Rotary Club, the firefighters typically raise about 3 percent of the district's annual budget expenditures.

The greatest challenge facing the department, according to the MSR, is replacement of the district's main station on East Commercial Street. Built in 1952, the concrete block building originally housed city administrative offices and the police department, as well as the fire department. The fire district's administrative offices are still located there, as are four fire engines, and a meeting room and kitchen used by the Firefighter's Association.

The flat-roofed building is not reinforced to withstand earthquakes, according to the report, and the district maintains it must be replaced or upgraded within the next five years.

The fire district has been trying to replace the building with a new station for the last six to seven years.

In 2005, it secured a U.S. Department of Agriculture loan. But the money was contingent on passing a special tax, which would raise the current property assessment by \$14 per unit. The election failed; however, the district continues to try to raise funds to replace the station.

The good news is that an unstaffed Baechtel Road substation – which houses additional fire apparatus and equipment – is in good shape, according to the MSR. The metal building, constructed around 1986, has a modular classroom and a training tower.

Within city limits, there are few problems, the study reports. Fire services in communities are classified by the Insurance Service Office, an advisory organization, and indicate the general adequacy of coverage, with rankings from 1 to 10. Communities with the best fire department facilities, systems for water distribution, fire alarms and communications, and equipment and personnel, receive a rating of 1.

Within the city and in adjacent areas, the district has an ISO rating of 4. That's because the city maintains 298 fire hydrants in town and along major roads. However, the ISO rating rises to 8 in outlying areas within five miles of the district's fire stations, and to 10 beyond the five-mile limit.

Response times also worsen the farther from town you live: from four minutes within city limits and adjacent areas, to 40 minutes in outlying rural areas. Which means residents of Pine Mountain Estates, Ridgewood, and the String Creek subdivision pay through the nose for fire insurance.

Within district boundaries there are also BLM lands, state lands, and a large wildlife habitat at the north end of the valley, the MSR notes: "Due to the district's high fire risk, there is a strong need for planning requirements more stringent than those currently used by the county Planning and Building Department or imposed by California Public Resources Code...."

According to the LAFCO study, the district's current facilities are considered "marginal to adequately serve current demand for fire protection services. Any future growth within the district will require new facilities and equipment to serve the area."

And while the fire district says current financing levels are adequate to maintain current levels of services "for several more years," there is not enough funding to "accommodate an additional need for expansion of medical response services" and to train additional fulltime paid personnel." It adds the district also needs additional volunteer firefighters in order to respond to daytime calls.

Overall, the MSR states, "the district manages to function on limited revenues," while utilizing "unspent funds for equipment and firehouse improvements."

It's a theme the study found time and again as it examined challenges faced by north county fire districts.

Willits Weekly will examine those other districts in next week's issue.

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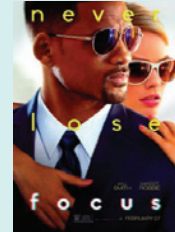
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 Mon-Thurs: 4:15 & 7:00pm

Movie Times for 3/6 thru 3/12

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



Cedar Waxwings

A Cedar Waxwing enjoys the water in Sandy Strong's backyard garden in Willits. "I took this photo about six weeks ago," Strong said. "The Cedar Waxwings come to my yard twice a year on their migrations north and south, looking for berries, eating figs, drinking water, and hanging out for a couple of days. This time there were about 25 of them."

Cedar Waxwings are named for the red wax-like tips on their wings, and because their diet includes cedar cones, as well as fruit and insects. The red feather tips increase in number and size as the birds get older. Other field marks include a pale yellow wash across the belly and a bright yellow band on the tip of the tail. Cedar Waxwings are one of the few North American birds that specialize in eating fruit and can survive on fruit alone for several months.

To learn more about these beautiful birds, visit the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website at www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/cedar_waxwing.

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The rest of **Goals** | From Page 11

raising the dam at Morris Lake were other important objectives.

One of the questions city council members and officials are wondering about is how much gasoline tax revenue will diminish when the bypass opens.

"Gas prices are creeping up, but this is something to think about," councilwoman Holly Madrigal said.

Mayor Bruce Burton brought up the city's pending contributions to unfunded retirement.

"That is an off-book liability that is going to hop on the books," Burton said, "We do not

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

Escareno then turned the weapon on the two men, told them he was going to kill them, and pulled the trigger several times, says sheriff's Lt. Greg Stefani. But the firearm malfunctioned and did not discharge. Escareno fled, but was later stopped on Highway 162 in Covelo by a Fish and Wildlife warden. Deputies seized two handguns and a spent cartridge case from Escareno's vehicle. One of the guns matched the description of the weapon used in the assault, and the spent cartridge case matched the handgun's caliber, Stefani noted. Escareno was booked into county jail. Bail was set at \$125,000.

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

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

popular preschool.

The building was deemed unsafe to enter by the city. The property was also issued a notice of nuisance and must have permits by March 12. According to the Mendocino Air Quality Management District, asbestos can appear in buildings in many ways – for example, from old linoleum, taping compounds or insulation.

"I cannot issue permits until I have an asbestos release from the AQMD," Sherman said.

A 31-year-old Willits woman, Lacey Ross, faces charges in connection with the fire, but a court found she was not competent to stand trial.

know what sales tax is coming."

At the city, help with planning comes from a planner hired on a contract basis from the county planning department.

"We do not have a city planner – that is one of those key roles," Madrigal said. "If there are not people at the city to physically do the work, that is a challenge."

Between now and a second goal-setting meeting set for March 28 from 9 am to noon, council members will be reviewing information and comments from the meeting.

Supes proclaim March as Women's History Month

Noting that women "of every race, class and social background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our county," the board of supervisors proclaimed March as "Women's History Month" in Mendocino County, honoring six individual women for the contributions they have made locally and, in one case, nationally.

The proclamation noted women "have played and will continue to play a significant role in every sphere of the life of Mendocino County by constituting a significant portion of the labor force, working both inside and outside the home, including unique roles throughout county history by providing the majority of the volunteer force particularly important in the establishment of charitable, humanitarian and cultural institutions [in] the county."

The board proclamation noted that four women's organizations in the county, the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, the American Association of University Women-Ukiah, the Ukiah Saturday Afternoon Club, and Soroptimist International, have honored five women for their contributions to local cultural and civil life: sheep rancher Jean Near; educator, environmentalist and volunteer Cathy Monroe; scholar and historian Victoria Patterson; and Leslie Dahlhoff and Merita Whatley, who led the effort to have the Point Arena area Stornetta Public Lands declared a national monument.

Supervisors also recognized nationally and internationally known singer and political activist Holly Near, recently named a Women's History Month national honoree.

A celebration of Women's History Month, and of the six women from Mendocino County singled out for recognition this year, will be held in Ukiah this Sunday, March 8, at the Saturday Afternoon Club, 107 South Oak Street. Festivities begin at noon.




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 Hourly hot seat drawings for \$50 free play.
 For each session earn 50 points to receive \$10 bonus play plus a \$2 food coupon.

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PAYDAY FRIDAY
 8AM-4PM -
 Earn 100 points to receive \$10 free play.
 2PM-8PM -
 Hot seat drawings each hour for \$100 free play.
 9PM -
 Hot seat drawing for \$150 free play.

TUESDAY • 6PM-10PM
GUYS NIGHT
 Earn 2X Points ALL Day
 Earn 50 points to receive \$15 free play.
 Hot seat drawings every half hour from 6pm-9:30pm to win \$50 free play.
 Drawing at 10pm for \$100 free play.

SATURDAY • 4PM-9PM
SATURDAY NIGHT MADNESS
 Hot Seat drawings every hour. Win \$50-\$150 free play based on your level of play that day.

WEDNESDAY • 6PM-10PM
LADIES NIGHT
 Earn 2X Points ALL Day
 Earn 50 points to receive \$15 free play.
 Hot seat drawings every half hour from 6pm-9:30pm to win \$50 free play.
 Drawing at 10pm for \$100 free play.

SUNDAY • 12PM-9PM
SUNDAY SURPRISE
 Hourly hot seat drawings. Winners will choose one of 12 Sunday Surprises to keep the action going with \$25-\$100 free play.

THURSDAY • 8AM-5PM
SUPER SENIOR DAY
 If you're 55+, this day is for you!
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 9AM-5PM -
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