

Willits Weekly

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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits



By donation

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Edition No. 44

Wagenet to run for supervisor

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
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Willits resident Hal Wagenet will seek the Third District seat on the county board of supervisors.

Wagenet was a county supervisor from 2003 through 2006.

"I think the voting public would appreciate having an experienced candidate," Wagenet said. "The fact that I've been out of office for eight years has given me an opportunity to think things over and to broaden my horizons. I think that period of reflection will help me become a better supervisor."

Willits Weekly will publish a more detailed article on Wagenet in next week's edition.

Council OKs permit for senior housing

Zack Cinek
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City council members have unanimously approved a use permit for a senior assisted-living project in the Haehl Creek subdivision.

In the planning process for years, and held up by water concerns, the council's approval provides a way for project developers to apply for building permits when city water rationing ends.

"A lot of the environmental impacts were done with previous applications, and we are looking at the implementation phase of this project," City Planner Alan Falleri said.

The senior living center proposed by Jay and Elizabeth Santos falls in line with concepts envisioned with the construction of Haehl Creek homes and the neighboring new Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital.

"There are five acres we set aside for assisted living," said Howard Foundation President Margie Handley.

The Santos' project was in the works at a time when city staff's practice was to approve projects using less water than four homes.

Haehl Creek resident Sharon Nunnemaker expressed concerns to the council about looking out her window and seeing a senior care home and freeway construction behind her home.

"I have gone through near hell with the highway being right behind my home,"

Read the rest of **Sr. Housing**
Over on Page 11



Go Wolverines!

Wrestling and basketball teams complete impressive seasons

A wonderful season for WHS basketball

Congratulations to Willits High School's varsity basketball team for an "extraordinary year," as coach Duane Nelson put it. "We were 25 and 3 overall; we won our league –

North Coast League 1 – 14-0; and we set a few school records along the way," he said.

The 25 wins is a school record; the 14-0 league play is a school record; winning 23 consecutive games is a school record, and the WHS boys varsity won the first section playoff game for the first time in school history, Nelson said.



That was the game against Roseland University Prep on February 28 that the WHS varsity won 51-31.

The team lost the next playoff game, Saturday night, against Moreau Catholic High School out

Read the rest of **WHS Sports**
Over on Page 11

Top: WHS seniors and basketball team members: Palmer Runberg, Will Betts, Jon Montez, Ryan Hendry and Cole Jessup.

Left: WHS wrestlers: Blake Leslie, sophomore, Justin Thom, sophomore, Jacob Jepson, junior, and Hank Harris, senior.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Council approves \$2.1 million emergency water treatment plant

Zack Cinek
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The city council has approved \$2.1 million for an emergency water treatment plant and is hopeful grant money will cover the bill.

The council's vote also requires that pumping from city wells be limited to this year and will require

California Environmental Quality Act documentation in the future.

"When you have no options, you have to do what you have to do," Councilman Bruce Burton said at last week's meeting.

City attorney James Lance said the plant could likely be used again in a similar emergency.

"We feel we are on solid

ground to apply those exemptions," Lance said.

The city's project has seen pipe laid to connect a well at the ball fields to another well north of town. The pipes meet at building pad near the city sewer plant, where the emergency treatment plant will be built.

Read the rest of **Water plant**
Over on Page 11

Fillin' Up!

This picture taken Tuesday afternoon shows Centennial Lake looking quite a bit fuller. The City of Willits estimates that, as of Thursday, the total acre-feet in Centennial and in Morris Reservoir will be 939 acre-feet, or about 73 percent of total capacity: 1,280 acre feet. Reservoirs were at 50 percent of capacity about two weeks ago. Since July 1, 2013 Willits has had 18.8 inches of rain, with 14.01 inches of it coming since January 1.

Photo by Maureen Moore



City considering water policy changes

Zack Cinek
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City Hall is considering changing its water conservation policy so it may someday be able to easily fine water wasters or restrict water service to a wasteful customer.

City council members last week talked about how the city can try to write better rules for future water emergencies, including allowances for industrial or commercial users.

"You have to think in the mind of somebody who is breaking the law," Councilman Larry Stranske said. "We are worried about people who do not care."

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

Hash oil lab fire on Holly Street

Mike A'Dair
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A Willits man suffered serious burns Saturday night when an explosion and fire destroyed an alleged hash oil manufacturing lab at the corner of Holly and Poplar streets. Thirty-eight year-old Dave Madrigal, who lived there, is recovering from "severe burns" to his hands at a Sacramento burn center.

According to a Monday statement from the Willits Police Department, investigators who searched the building after the fire was extinguished discovered "items consistent with a concentrated cannabis manufacturing lab."

Little Lake Fire Department responded to "numerous 911 calls," said Fire Chief Carl Magann.

WPD investigators, with help from Little Lake Fire and the Sheriff's Department, determined there was evidence a clandestine lab was being operated at the home. At that point, the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force was called in.

While at the location, police received a call from Howard Memorial Hospital reporting a burn victim had just arrived at the hospital. Police went to the hospital and discovered the burn victim was Madrigal. Madrigal reportedly admitted he lived at the location where the explosion and fire had taken place.

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

KZYX: Let's make it better

To the Editor:

As a former KZYX&Z board president and a current candidate for the radio station's 3rd District seat on its board, I want to respond to several inaccuracies in Patricia Kovner's recent letter to your newspaper.

Kovner, who is also running for KZYX's 3rd District seat, clearly cares deeply about the station. But she doesn't have all of her facts straight.

She claims the station is in "big trouble" because of three recent letters of complaint to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

First off, KZYX is not in trouble with the FCC nor in any danger of losing its FCC license. The complaints from listeners to which Kovner refers address several of the station's programming decisions and urge the FCC to suspend the station's license. The FCC has no jurisdiction over programming. The commission monitors the nuts and bolts of broadcasting – things like band width and frequency. KZYX&Z is in compliance with all FCC regulations.

Patricia criticizes the station because its nightly "news hour" has been cut to about 10 minutes and some of its best news staff "replaced." For the record, KZYX only aired a 60-minute news program for two of its 24 years of operation. Contrary to Kovner's assertion, KMUD in Humboldt County has never had a one-hour news slot.

When General Manager John Coate was hired by the board on which I served in 2008, the station was dead broke and \$200,000 in the hole. To cut overhead, Coate scaled back the news hour to its original 30 minutes and laid off news assistant Christina Aneastad. Eventually, he was forced to let go of news director David Brooksher and reduce the 30-minute news show to 10 minutes. Did Coate want to? Absolutely not. But a station teetering on the financial precipice cannot afford a full-time news director. Coate has always promised that he'll produce the best news that the station's listeners want to fund.

Annie Esposito, the station's legendary news director, joyfully retired before Coate arrived and was not sent packing, as Kovner implies.

Kovner complains that the KZYX board of directors has "no power." The board has the same power it has always had: holding the license to the station; hiring and firing the general manager; and ensuring the station is run professionally, in a fiscally responsible manner, and in compliance with the station's mission. When I joined the board of KZYX in 2005, the station had not had a general manager, and the board became way too involved in the station's day-to-day operation, a situation that was onerous for the staff and the board.

Now that KZYX has a strong, fiscally responsible and caring station manager in Coate, the board can and does maintain a "hands off" approach to daily operations, as good boards should.

Coate and his hard-working staff have performed miracles: They've put the station in the black – no small feat – and made many technological improvements: installing a state-of-the-art antenna for the station's 90.7 signal; changing the way the satellite studios connect to Philo; rewiring the Philo Studio for greater reliability; and

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

much more. Coate personally rebuilt the station's web site, making it more user friendly.

KZYX&Z is not a "closed shop," as Kovner claims. Yes, the "Open Lines" program is currently off the air, and I hope it returns. Until then, listeners can write and call KZYX to express concerns about the station's performance. There are also 11 hours of community programming per week that offer call-in periods in which listeners can voice opinions.

Kovner wants the "old KZYX back," a return to the days when Judi Bari had a show every two weeks (not, every week, as Kovner states). You bet it would be great to have Judi back, and I'll wager that every staff member at the station would do a happy dance if she could return to the air. But Bari is dead; there's no going back.

KZYX&Z is not perfect and never has been. Community broadcasting is a messy business. Pleasing listeners, programmers, volunteers, regulators, funders, underwriters, donors, board, staff and community members, all with strong opinions, is no picnic. I would hope that all of us who care about the station can pull together, bridge our differences, and make our small but mighty community radio station even stronger.

Jane Futcher, Willits

The aftermath of a disaster

To the Editor:

An update: It has now been almost three months after the fire, and I'm still ankle deep in ashes and still digging. This rain has put most of that to a stop; that's probably a good thing. I don't want to give up. To say that this or that piece of my life is actually gone. I would not do that willingly. The clean-up will probably take six months and cost \$20k to \$30k.

Now I must focus on the inventory, which the insurance company requires for every penny that they pay you. This doesn't sound like much of a chore until you sit down to do it. It is daunting. It is bad enough to be listing three tubes of toothpaste at \$3.95 each, less than a year old, 12 pairs of socks at \$8.95 each, about two years old, and so on and so on. But every now and then, you come to something that was part of your life, that was special, and now it is gone. My recommendation is to do your inventory before something happens. If you contact me later, I will compile suggestions on how you can do this or hire someone to do it for you.

I often say that I would not change anything that has happened to me over the years, except perhaps a few times when my actions hurt others. I say this because changing something, even the bad things, would change me, and actually I'm pretty happy with whom I've turned out to be.

We recently watched "Beast of the Southern Wild." It portrayed a people who, through their courage and pride, survived the traumatic experience of Hurricane Katrina. In the last week, Mary and I also listened to a book "David and Goliath" by Malcolm Gladwell. The timing could not have been more perfect. He talks about surviving a disaster or experiencing a great difficulty. He talks of how it can change someone and how sometimes that gets turned into an advantage. He also addresses the power of a community to resist overwhelming odds. I highly recommend that you read or listen to this book. It has changed me and my relationship to my recent hardship.

I don't want to suggest that I now believe "what doesn't

kill you makes you stronger." I've had too many people share their experiences of disasters to believe that. Not all turned out well, and some were shortly followed by a couple's separation, broken hearts, or financial demise. Malcolm Gladwell points out that nine out of 10 are not able to turn the experience around and make it an asset. And the possibility of surviving can be affected by the community's willingness to participate.

Because my community was there when times got hard, I now feel that I am part of something bigger, stronger. We don't win all of our battles, but we keep on showing up, doing what needs to be done. And out of those ashes, a Phoenix arises. We develop a reservoir of courage that each of us can draw from.

What could I possibly gain from my hardships? Well I can already see how my dyslexia has contributed to my skills in art, video and horticulture. But what has the fire brought me so far? I need look no further than my relationship with Mary. In seeing just how traumatic the experience is for each of us, it has heightened our compassion for each other's struggles. It has also given us a faith in each other that when the times got tough we would still be together, a team able to weather the storms of life.

Shortly after the fire, Mary reminded me that I had lost my copy of "The Invitation" by Oriah Mountain Dreamer. I always kept a copy around for times when I needed to be reminded to look at what was really important, what value I wanted to use as a moral compass. Mary found a copy of "The Invitation" on the internet – and it still works.

I think this will be the letter I draft so that I might begin to direct my mind to the rebuilding. I will try to give an update in a year; hopefully I will be well on my way to a rebirth.

If you wish to stay informed about my progress, learn how you might prepare for a similar disaster, or find out ways to participate in the rebuilding: a. until the end of March you can check out <http://www.youcaring.com/other/a-friend-in-need-118145> and/or b. you can send me an email at woolseyron@yahoo.com (make subject "Fire"), and I will forward to you material as I put it together.

Thanks again for letting me share with you and to all of those who were able to add their support.

Ron Woolsey, Pine Mountain

The Battle for KZYX

To the Editor:

I, Paul Lambert, former KZYX newsman and host of "Mendo Matters," am running for the KZYX board of directors as an at large candidate. I am making this statement to urge the members to participate in this election.

On the web, a group who are deeply frustrated with KZYX's current direction have stated that, if elected, General Manager John Coate and Program Director Mary Aigner will be fired. They already have plans for who they will hire to do the news and have discussed reducing or eliminating NPR programming.

Their attacks on Coate and Aigner caused the board of directors to take the unprecedented step of writing a public letter on the KZYX website supporting the staff, signed by eight of the nine board members. I do not believe that these folks represent the majority of the membership.

By no means is KZYX perfect or anywhere near it; it needs better programming, more diverse programming, including younger

people, Latinos, African Americans, gays and children. It needs a studio in Ukiah, so other voices can be heard. Some programs that used to be on should be reviewed for inclusion again. There are legitimate issues that should be addressed, like making it easier to communicate with the board.

That's why your vote is so important in this election. Be sure to vote.

Please vote for me, Paul Lambert (at large) and for the Third District representative, Jane Futcher (who has had no part in this letter).

You, the membership, will decide, and I will abide by your decision.

Paul Lambert, Brooktrails

Water and the bypass

To the Editor:

We are thankful for this rain and, hopefully, each of us is being conservative as we use our water ever so carefully. We are more aware than ever that the issue of water – both its availability and its purity, both locally and globally – is of growing concern. And not only its quality, but the question of how we are going to be sharing it, and with whom?

The Caltrans bypass project is gulping up how much of our precious, rationed water supply? The latest report from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation states that this year irrigation water cannot be released to farmers. The snowpack is down to 29 percent of its usual level in California. We are in a drought. Farmers and meat and dairy ranchers are being hit hard, which will affect their survival and then ours, with food prices rising. The Caltrans bypass project has gulped up – now and more later – how much of our precious water reserve? You can see the ripples for yourselves.

I urge us to hold the pieces together, unpleasant as it is. Whether or not we've been for or against the bypass, the project will be consuming vast amounts of our local water. If we thought we needed a bypass because the traffic flow was an inconvenience, we ask ourselves, especially Brooktrails residents: how is it living with water scarcity?

The Caltrans bypass project should be stopped with a cease and desist order while we – the governor, the regional water board, and anybody who is concerned about how we use our water – assess the situation. We are in a drought. How are we sharing water, and how will Caltrans be "sharing" water with us? How do we protect our water from being wasted? Jerry Brown has recently called for the saving of our wetlands (91 percent destroyed in California alone) as part of a water conservation effort. Scaling down the bypass' northern interchange could save 40 acres of wetlands.

Please call Gov. Brown at 916- 445-2841 and ask for a cease and desist order while we re-evaluate what's really important – an unnecessarily huge, costly and destructive bypass (at least downsize the northern interchange), or having enough water for the residents, farmers, and ranchers? Who will steward the plenty and safety of our water if not you and I?

Melinda Clarke, Willits

Water Wise Forum

To the Editor:

Thank you Willits Grange, WELL and our beloved local farm and garden experts!

The Water Wise Gardening event of February 28 was a total success – over 100 residents attended, and many stayed until 10 pm. The Grange was filled with bright tables covered with conservation information, books and tools from local

Read the rest of **Letters** | *Over on Page 4*



Sober Grad

Valentine's Basket Winner

Marney Sylvander, lucky winner of the 2014 Sober Grad Valentine's Basket Raffle. The Sober Grad Committee would like to thank Flowers by Annette, Cat's Meow/Trilium, Adam's Restaurant, Curves, Noyo Theater and Ruth Dell'Ara for their generous donations for the basket. Thanks also to everyone who bought raffle tickets to support the 2014 Sober Grad alcohol- and drug-free graduation night party.

Funds from the Rotary Crab Feed



From left to right: Rotary Club's Jerry Myer, president, and Ann Alumbaugh, Crab Feed chair, present a check for \$3,500 to Harrah Senior Center's Allyn Nonneman, director, and Dorothy Roediger, Senior Center board member, at a recent Rotary Club meeting.

The donation came from proceeds of the Rotary Club's Crab Feed fundraiser in January. Another \$3,500 in Crab Feed proceeds was donated to the scholarship fund for the Willits High School senior class.

Condolences Column

OBITUARY | Dennis Ray Moody, Sr.

Dennis Ray Moody, Sr.



It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Dennis Ray Moody, Sr., 65, on Tuesday Feb 25, 2014 in Willits.

Dennis was born May 14, 1948 in Toledo, Oregon to George Paul and Patricia Jane (Ubell) Moody, both from Oregon. His family moved to Northern California when he was young, and he attended schools in both Humboldt and Mendocino counties.

Dennis enlisted in the United States Army in 1968, where he served as a sergeant and general aircraft mechanic. He served overseas, and then went on to serve in the Reserves. He was recognized with a National Defense Service Medal Expert M-14 and was awarded recognition as an Army Specialist in his field. He received membership in the American Legion for outstanding service and loyalty to the United States of America for honorable service in the United States Army.

Among many things, Dennis most recently was a truck driver for Rinehart Oil for the past 10-plus years, and was named "Driver of the Year in 2007." Prior to that, he was a millwright for McGahee's, setting up mills across the country and Canada. He was a welder, a mechanic owning his own shop, an aspiring pilot, and a hunter back in the day. Dennis loved the ocean, road trips, fishing, gardening, hanging out at the shop, and cars! He was also very excited about completing the restoration project of his 1968 El Camino.

Dennis was preceded in death by his first wife, Carolyn Tullos Moody, in 1983, and his second wife, Sharon Clatty Moody, in 2011.

He is survived by his two sons: Ray Moody and his wife, Tracy, of Willits, and Allen Moody and his wife, Randi, of Folsom; step-daughters Ramona Ranft and husband, Mark, of Willits, and Leanne Wehinger of Nice. Also surviving are brothers Butch and Richard Moody of Idaho, Tim Moody of Oregon, and Bobby Moody of Nevada; and sisters Judy Byers and Linda Berteaux of California.

Dennis leaves numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. A celebration of Dennis Moody's life will be held Saturday March 8, 2014 at 3:30 pm at 300 Muir Mill Road in Willits.

Willits' only locally owned and independent paper:
Willits Weekly

The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

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Puzzle Page

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

KARAOKE WORD SEARCH

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

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

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| ACOUSTIC | INSTRUMENTAL | MUSIC | SONGBOOK |
| AMBIANCE | KARAOKE | OCTAVE | SONGS |
| AMPLIFIER | KEY | OFFKEY | STROBE |
| COMICAL | LYRICS | OUTPUT | TEMPO |
| DANCING | MACHINE | OVERLOAD | TIMBRE |
| DECIBEL | MELODY | PARTICIPANTS | TUNE |
| ENTERTAINMENT | MICROPHONE | PROFESSIONAL | VOCALS |
| EQUALIZER | MODULATOR | RESTAURANT | WOOFER |
| GROUP | MONITOR | SING | WORDS |

Sudoku

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!

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

Level: Intermediate

The rest of

Letters

From Page 2

water-related businesses, including the City of Willits, Mendo Mill's water saving devices, Multiple filters, some cute handmade olla jars, thanks to Sparetime Supply, thrifty seeds from Bountiful Gardens, a vertical planting tower, and farmers stationed all over the back of the hall for discussion and purchase. It was astounding how Willits has responded; we are becoming serious about water use and want to participate in the drought conservation conversation.

Here is a short description of our broad spectrum of speakers, whom we thank heartily for their generous time and deep information sharing.

Ursula Partch: Permaculture builds soil and saves water! Build your soil every way possible – compost additions, mulch heavily, worm bins, use hugleculture, swales, deep conditioning, deep root watering.

John Jeavons of Ecology Action: Biointensive water saving, soil building and planting methods – the water crisis is here to stay, begin planning for long-term solutions. Build friable soil!, put in collection tanks, study shade growing, plant seasonal foods that winter over, caloric foods and grains that require less water overall. Begin today; look to your own soil and garden.

Larry Desmond: Our local water sources and water geology – wells are where it is at, especially next August.

Michael Foley, Willits Grange president: Local Food Report from the Farmer's Guild – many Mendo truck farmers are NOT planting vegetables this year – you must

grow your own! Be aware – now is the time to start seeds.

Dave and Jenny Watts of Sanhedrin Nursery: Specific plant needs, prioritizing garden water use for your orchard, eight ways to save your trees this year.

Jamie Chevalier of Bountiful Gardens: Understanding water needs per plant for best results, ancient natural foods of this area (indigenous Pomo cultivated and seasonal foods), deep root watering.

Alan Adkisson: Mycelium – the use of effective microorganisms for added drought resistance in soil and crops.

Hunter Flynn of Ecology Action: How to use olla jars – what does and does not work, from his own experience – combine them with timed drip for ease of refill.

Jerry Jordan from DripWorks: Drip irrigation, volume meters, timers – confessions of an old-time gardener on using drip properly (most people over-water)

Max Meyers - Aquaculture that uses permaculture, stacked uses.

We are making a video of the talk and hope to have it out this spring on Channel 3. It needs some funding, so I ask all of you in Willits: would you want a copy? I can help put it out for all of you who couldn't make it.

A reminder: your ideas count! Strips of butcher paper have been placed along the Grange hallway for your input! Stop by to share your wild and crazy ideas of re-using water – what is working for your household?

This comment came to me today from Carlin Diamond: "Many of us who attended

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12								13	14		15
16			17								18
19			20			21			22		23
24		25			26			27		28	29
	30			31			32		33		34
		35	36					37		38	
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41				42				43			
44				45	46		47			48	49
50			51		52		53			54	55
56			57	58	59		60			61	
62			63		64			65			66
67			68							69	
70								71			

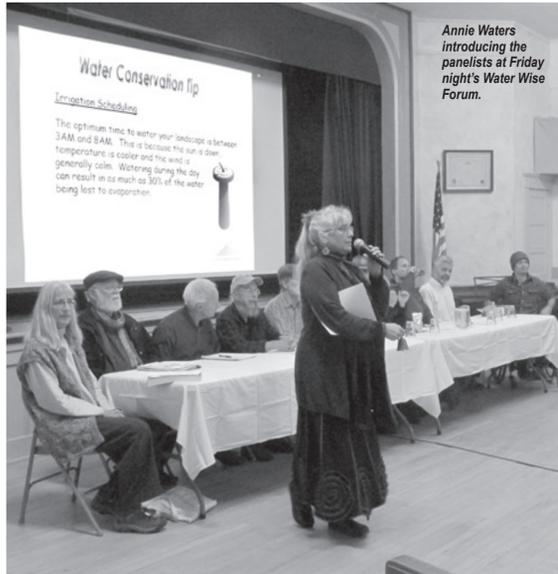
CLUES ACROSS

- Plural of eyrir
- Concord
- Photographer
- Atomic #18
- Tobacco cylinder
- Of I
- 1/10 meter (abbr.)
- In the year of Our Lord
- Belittle
- 1/2 of an em
- Equally
- Commeal mush (British)
- Desires
- Of sound mind
- 1st moon man's initials
- Public broadcasting
- Bodily cavity
- Insecticide
- County in China
- Platforms
- Frost
- Crucifix
- Bodily faculties
- Seladang
- Denotes three
- Imbibe slowly
- What's left

CLUES DOWN

- Aviator
- Boutros' group
- Go over
- Be among
- Cloth scrap
- Clerks
- Vacuum tube
- Actress Blanchett
- Removes the lid
- Atomic #45
- Peremptory

- Dishonorable men
- Spanish appetizers
- Algerian gulf & port
- Seis again
- About Freemason
- One point N of due W
- Not happy
- Accumulates on the surface
- Peels an apple
- Diamond weight unit
- Possesses
- Note
- About heraldry
- Hair filament
- Title of respect
- Hair product
- Colas
- Capital of Huila, Colombia
- More diaphanous
- Eliminate
- Change to a vapor
- Ancient temple sanctums
- Pesters
- Off-Broadway award
- Light Russian pancake
- Baseball official
- Work unit
- Jr.'s father
- Atomic #77



Annie Waters introducing the panelists at Friday night's Water Wise Forum.

the Grange Food and Water evening on February 28 sensed a shift in attitude in Willits was manifesting right before our eyes. Several people spoke directly to me about that after the meeting. I suspect most of us have had our time of introspection and powerlessness, which is promoted by the corporate need to promote fear and lack of respect and dignity for the 99 percent who feed the 1 percent in all ways. We are definitely finished with waiting for

big daddy to trickle down to us. It was palpable in the Grange that the real power was being felt by each person present. No one disempowered themselves or others by being negative, or stopped the flow.... All ideas were listened to with the respect they deserved, and the flow continued with humor and honesty and sweet sincerity."

Annie Waters, Willits

Arthur Eck
 "The Cost of Freedom"

In memory of Arthur Eck, Read his memoirs and about his Prisoner of War experiences online

www.LOC.gov
 Search "Arthur Eck"



Boy Scouts Court of Honor

Eleven boys and five adults were recognized for their achievements at a recent Court of Honor held at the Scout Hut in Recreation Grove on February 19.

Kyle Thrillkill, Raymond Tyler and Jace Kroh achieved the Scout rank, indicating that they have recently joined Troop 42.

Tristan Wartell received a badge indicating he had made Tenderfoot rank. Riley Lewis, Evan Crandall, Michael Lawson, Ryan Millimore and Josh Ivasku received badges acknowledging they had attained the rank of Second Class.

Levi Skaggs was given a badge stating that he had made the rank of First Class, and Senior Patrol Leader Darian Yanez received a badge acknowledging that he had made the class of Life, the second-highest rank in scouting.

On the adult side, Melinda Lewis and Lorie Yanez received the Adult Leader Training Award. Josh Wear and Roger Wear received acknowledgement that they had both completed a 50-mile hike. Scoutmaster Verd VanBezoozen was given a certificate acknowledging that he has been selected as the 2013 Scouter of the Year from the Yokayo-Logger District of the Boy Scouts of America.

Family members were on hand to watch the awards be given, and the boys cooked a hearty potato-bacon soup which was enjoyed by all.

Above: Boy Scouts at last month's Court of Honor, in Willits, from left to right: Josh Wear, Raymond Tyler, Riley Lewis, Kyle Thrillkill, Tristan Wartell, Michael Lawson, Josh Ivasku, Evan Crandall, Levi Skaggs, Jace Kroh, and Ryan Millimore. In the back: Scoutmaster Verd VanBezoozen and Senior Patrol Leader Darian Yanez.

Photo by Richard Wartell

Congratulations Column

Did you know that Willits Weekly runs Congratulations Column entries for FREE?!

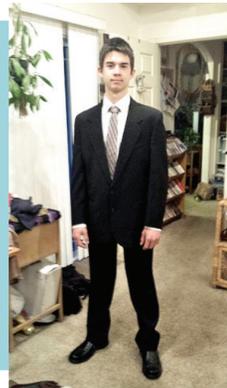
Submit a photo and a few sentences offering congratulations to your friends and family to willitsweekly@gmail.com



Happy Birthday, Allie Deaton! Books and cake all day long! With love from your fellow book dorks

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 ALLIE & ELI

Happy Birthday, Eli! Love, Mom, Rich, Justin and Cody



Grated Carrot, Walnut and Ginger Salad

Everything in this salad is to taste, but the list of ingredients is:

- Grated carrots
- Walnuts
- Crystallized Ginger
- Vinaigrette
- Fresh-cut parsley or chives to garnish



Grated carrot salad is a tasty fresh accompaniment to winter soups and stews, or good any time you'd eat coleslaw. This batch, made from sweet winter carrots from Tom Paley's Covelo Organic farm, was served as a side for John Ford's beef hot dogs.

Grate fresh carrots into a bowl. Chop or break walnuts into smaller pieces, and add to carrots. Slice crystallized ginger carefully into thin pieces, then mince with the knife and add. Add a dash of salt or two to taste if desired.

Pour vinaigrette of any kind over the salad, and mix. If you've got fresh chives or parsley starting outside, add some as a garnish.

Homemade dressing made with lemon is good with this salad, as is whatever fancy bottled salad dressing you have on hand. Organicville's Sun-Dried Tomato and Garlic Vinaigrette works well, as does raspberry vinaigrette.

Can be eaten immediately, or set aside for flavors to blend. Raisins are a good alternative to the ginger if preferred.

- Jennifer Poole

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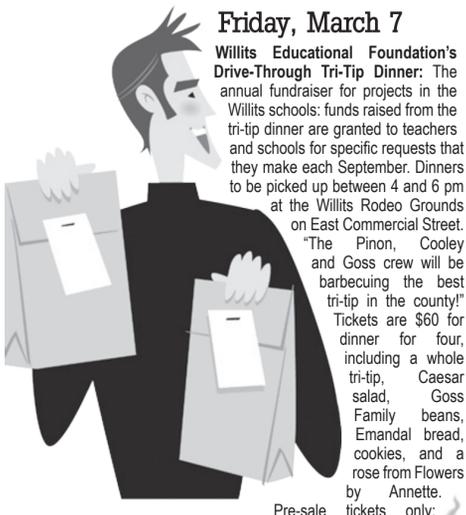
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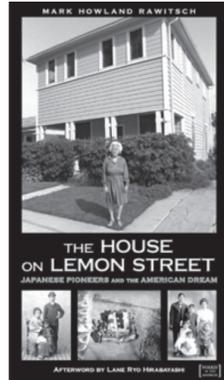


Friday, March 7

Willits Educational Foundation's Drive-Through Tri-Tip Dinner: The annual fundraiser for projects in the Willits schools: funds raised from the tri-tip dinner are given to teachers and schools for specific requests that they make each September. Dinners to be picked up between 4 and 6 pm at the Willits Rodeo Grounds on East Commercial Street. "The Pinon, Cooley and Goss crew will be barbecuing the best tri-tip in the county!" Tickets are \$60 for dinner for four, including a whole tri-tip, Caesar salad, Goss Family beans, Emandal bread, cookies, and a rose from Flowers by Annette. Pre-sale tickets only;

available at Cat's Meow and the Goods' Shoppe, by calling Warren Lewis at 459-4429, or through Linda Colvig, Joan Thomas, Anne Hammond, Mike Colvig and George Husarek at the schools. Ticket deliveries happily arranged. Last year's tri-tip fundraiser helped the Willits Educational Foundation donate a total of \$16,152.75 to the Willits schools.

Book Reading by Mark Rawitsch: the first in a new Book Reading series by local authors sponsored by Friends of the Willits Library (FOWL). Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street, 7 pm. No charge, but donations welcome. Local author Mark Rawitsch has written an engaging history of the California Japanese in his award-winning book, "The House on Lemon Street, Japanese Pioneers and the American Dream." Rawitsch recounts Harold Harada's immigration to the U.S., the subsequent growth of his family, and the family's experiences before, during and after the evacuation and internment of Japanese immigrants in California during World War II. Info: 459-5908.



Saturday, March 8

WHS Juniors Rummage Sale: Willits High School's junior class is having a rummage sale benefit today at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, from 9 am to 3 pm. The proceeds from this sale are to support the 2014 Prom and the Senior Trip in May 2015. Donations of rummage items are welcome! www.davidrogersguitar.com.

WCT Playwriting Master Class

Everyone has a story to tell. Some of us dream of seeing our stories played out on stage in a live theatre performance. The Willits Community Theater is offering a series of four "Master Classes in Playwriting" to help you make your dreams come true.

On Saturday, March 15, Don and Ann Samson will begin a series of master classes for beginners, as well as those who already have been working on a script they would like to make stage-ready. All classes will be held on Saturdays in the Conference Room of the Willits Branch Library.

Don Samson has had his work performed throughout the Northern California region, winning first-place awards at the Marin Fringe Festival for the past three years. Using his own material, Don will jumpstart an interactive discussion about playwriting. Class time is 10 am to 1 pm.

Ann Samson, a teacher of creative and memoir writing for more than 20 years, will begin her class at 2 pm on the same day, Saturday, March 15. Ann will demonstrate the use of source materials – journals, photos and other memorabilia – and how to develop them for the stage. Class time is 2 pm to 5 pm.

The Playwriting master class series continues April 5 and April 19, and will cover monologue writing, storytelling and creating character for the stage. \$25 per class; \$15 for students. Scholarships are available for all classes. Enrollment and scholarship forms are at the library and will be available at the door. For more info, visit www.willitscommunitytheatre.org/learn-from-the-masters or call 459-0895.

submitted by Willits Community Theatre



– Steve Hellman, WCT

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

Clothing and small household appliances and small household furniture may be dropped off from 4 to 6 pm at the Community Center on Friday, March 7. Small donations may be dropped off at WHS in Room 12, if you can't make it Friday. "Come and enjoy some good quality shopping for a great price, and while you're there, get wonderful baked goods, cold drinks and really good coffee. All donations that have not been sold will be donated to local non-profits, or Goodwill."

WCT Theater Tech Master Class: Discover the secrets of special effects at the next class in Theatre Tech at the Willits Community Theatre, 39 West Van Lane, from 10 am to 1 pm. Professional lighting and sound technicians Joe Dowling and Kevin Moore recommend this class especially for directors and aspiring directors and students of all ages. They, as well as theater techies, will learn the limits and opportunities a good lighting and sound designer can offer, with a hands-on experience. Topics: "major elements of light and sound design, the planning and execution of the design as well as using special effects to create a theatrical environment." Enrollment accepted at the door: \$25; \$15 for students. Scholarships are available for all classes in the Theatre Tech series. Info: 459-0895 or www.willitscommunitytheatre.org/learn-from-the-masters.

Harrah Senior Annual Chili Cookoff: 5 to 7 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 1st place prize awarded with the most popular votes. Judges will award prizes for "Hottest Chili," "Best Booth/Best-Dressed Team," and "The Most Crooked Team." All proceeds benefit Senior Center programs. \$8 taster tickets; \$7 Senior Center members; \$5 children. Entry fee for chili contestants: \$25. Bring three gallons of heated chili, crock pot, ladle, decorations, sign & extension cord. Info: 459-6826.

Guitar virtuoso David Rogers: "Rogers fuses classical, jazz, early, and world music elements into powerful and moving performances based on both his original compositions and traditional repertoire. His program includes Spanish music, originals by Leonard Cohen, the Rolling Stones, Roxy Music and the Beatles, along with compositions of J.S. Bach and Rogers' own work. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$15 and available online at brownpapertickets.com/event/538016; in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; or call 459-0895 for credit card orders. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details, or visit www.davidrogersguitar.com.

Shanachie Pub: Mendo Dope, Skunk Funk & Friends, 9 pm, \$10 cover.

Sunday, March 9

Daylight Savings Time starts today. Don't forget to Spring Forward!



Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am. Second Sundays at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Pancakes, eggs (any style), bacon, sausage, or ham, orange juice, coffee. \$6 members; \$7 non-members; under 12, \$5. Info: 459-6826.

Medical Marijuana Laws: free presentation by attorney Ed Denson, 4 to 6 pm, at the Long Valley Garden Club, 375 Harwood Road, Laytonville. "Denson has been at the forefront of the legal aspects of marijuana cultivation since the 1980s.... Now a member of the NORML legal committee and one of the leading marijuana defense attorneys in California ... he represents a number of patient collectives, and frequently counsels medical patients on how to be, and stay legal, under California law. There will be a question and answer period."

Get included in the Willits Weekly calendar: Do you have a community event you would like to list in our calendar section? Email us details about your event at willitsweekly@gmail.com, or call 459-2633 for more information.

Monday, March 10

Willits Garden Club Meeting: monthly meeting at the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse, 16100 North Highway 101. Featuring "Propagating Roses," a presentation by Kim Lilly from the Department of Agriculture at Mendocino College. Social hour begins at 12:15 pm; presentation begins around 1 pm. Refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome, and there is no charge. Info: Willits Garden Club President Gary Bodensteiner, 459-2798.

Senior Center Pie & Ice Cream Social: featuring entertainment by Train Singer Greg Schindel this month. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Senior Center members \$1; non-members \$1.50. Bring your friends and family for ice cream, pie, games, and entertainment. Info: 459-6826.

Tuesday, March 11

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: This week's Tightwad movies: "Son of God" For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

Save the Date

"Last Call at the Oasis," Thursday, March 20, Little Lake Grange

Library Community Meeting, March 23, Willits Library

Musical artists R. Carlos Nakai and Will Clipman, Sunday, March 23, Willits Community Theatre

Brooktrails fire tax

Ballot arguments due March 14

The deadline to submit ballot arguments for and against Measure K, the Brooktrails fire tax measure on the June ballot, is Friday, March 14, the Mendocino County Elections Department has announced.

Ballot arguments can't exceed 300 words, and if more than five people sign the argument, only five will appear in the ballot pamphlet. All arguments, including rebuttals when rebuttals are authorized by the Elections Department, shall be accompanied by a form statement signed by each author of the argument, stating that such argument is true and correct to the best of the author's knowledge and belief. This form statement can be found at the Elections page on the Mendocino County website: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/acr/elections>.

Arguments may be submitted to the Mendocino County Clerk, Elections Department, 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020, Ukiah, CA 95482. Info: 234-6819.

Benefit for Theatre Arts students

The "Anything Can Happen" dinner theatre benefit is set for Saturday, March 15 at 6 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. The benefit will help send 19 area students to London in April to study theater and English culture. "Anything Can Happen" will showcase the students' talents as actors, writers, directors and producers, and include food (menu to be announced) and entertainment with a flare for the unexpected. Tickets, \$30 per person or \$50 for couples, and \$15 for students 18 and under, are available at Willits Charter School. info at the Facebook event page: www.facebook.com/events/224332141093387.

In concert at WCT

R. Carlos Nakai and Will Clipman

Musical artists R. Carlos Nakai, Native American flute, and Will Clipman, pan global percussion, will perform one show in Willits at the Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, March 23, at 3 pm. Advance tickets, \$25, on sale now at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street, or by phone (credit card orders) at WCT office: 459-0895, or online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/538006.

Nakai and Clipman's 2013 release on Canyon Records, "Awakening the Fire" was nominated for a 2014 Grammy Award for "Best New Age" album. Canyon Records says of this CD: "Grammy-nominees R. Carlos Nakai and Will Clipman delve into a primal sonic odyssey, channeling a sound that grounds each of us in the center of our being, a place where all cultures merge into the river of human existence. The ancient call of Native American cedar flute and the vibration of African, Native American and Asian rhythms connect to our innermost essence and finely tune the awakening energies inside each of us nourishing inner balance and harmony." To listen to samples of each track, go to <http://store.canyonrecords.com/> and search for "Awakening the Fire."

To learn more about R. Carlos Nakai, the world's premier performer of the Native American flute, visit: www.rcarlosnakai.com. To learn more about Will Clipman, a percussionist, poet, maskmaker, storyteller and educator, visit: <http://www.willclipman.com/>

Wednesday, March 12

Relay Team Captain Meeting: 6:30 to 7:30 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. This is a planning session for Relay For Life's "Day of the Event" ideas. Organizers will be planning a series of events and entertainments for the 24 hours of Relay. Interested parties who want to know more about forming a team for the Relay are invited to attend, along with existing team captains. This meeting will provide important information for this year's relay. Info: 272-2718.

Thursday, March 13

Shanachie Pub: twice-monthly Jazz Night, featuring vocalist Sarah Ryan, Michael Cantwell on piano and keyboards, Aaron Bellomo on guitar, and Jesse Bessoni on drums. Jazz standards infused with funk, hip hop, world and free-form jamming. Every 2nd and 4th Thursday. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, March 15

CERT Training in Brooktrails: There is still time to sign up for the Community Emergency Response Team training being held at the Brooktrails Fire Department on March 15, 16 and 22, starting at 9 am each day. This free 21-hour training is presented by the Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services and North Coast Opportunities Volunteer Network. Sign up and attend CERT training to receive instruction on survival skills, rescuer safety, disaster medical operations, fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, and more. After successfully completing CERT training, you can choose to become part of an active CERT team that assists with traffic control, light search and rescue and emergency preparedness education and awareness. Call Trainer Janet Rayner at 707-684-0738 to reserve your space or visit www.brooktrails-cert.com for more information.



WCT Playwriting Master Class: this series of master classes by Don and Ann Sampson start today at the Conference Room of the Willits Branch Library. Don and Ann Samson will present a series of master classes for beginners as well as those who already have been working on a script they would like to make stage-ready. All classes will be held in the Conference Room of the Willits Branch

Ongoing Events

Willits Farmers Market: Winter market at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Winter produce, hot house tomatoes, local meats, dinner, crafts, live music (Farmers Market Band this week) and more.

"By Hook or By Crook": Sewing, Knitting & Crochet Circle at the Willits Grange, 291 School Street. 3 to 5:30 pm, Room 10, during the Winter Farmers Market, through April. Sponsored by the Little Lake Grange Women's Association. Bring your current project or some yarn, hooks, needles if you have them and want to learn something new. Hand-sewing and mending is also great "circle" work. Come with a friend; come and make a friend! There are also sewing machines and materials available in Room 10. Info: 459-6362.

Girl Scout Cookie Sales: through March 16, around town and door to door.

"Members Art Show": the March show at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Features art work by WCA members. March 1 through March 30. Gallery hours: Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 pm. Info: 459-1726.

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

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

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

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

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, Teens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0566

Work Days for Grange School of Agricultural Arts: scheduled on many Saturdays at the school site at Ridgewood Ranch, 16200 Highway 101. Skilled and unskilled help needed. Bring gloves and tools, if you have them. Follow the "Farm School" signs. Lunch available for those who RSVP by Friday each week (drop-in volunteers welcome, too). Info: Antonia Partridge at (707) 272-1395 or farmdirector@californiagrangearg.org. More info at <http://californiagrangearg.org/agschool/mission.html>.

Shanachie Pub: Open mic every Wednesday at 8:40 pm. Sign-ups start at 3 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Just For Fun Choir: directed and accompanied by Nancy New. Meets Mondays at the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, from 1 to 2:30 pm. Accepting new members of all ages and abilities. Info: call Nancy New at 459-1276.

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

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

Library. First class (with Don Samson) 10 am to 1 pm. Second class (with Ann Samson) 2 pm to 5 pm. \$25 per class; \$15 for students. Scholarships are available for all classes. Please see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more information or visit www.willitscommunitytheatre.org/learn-from-the-masters or call 459-0895.

Meet Jim Wood, Candidate for State Assembly: Pie & Coffee Social at the Skunk Train Depot, from 1 to 3 pm. Visit www.jimwoodforassembly.com for more info about Jim Wood's campaign to represent the 2nd District in the California Assembly. Wood is currently mayor of Healdsburg.

RELAY FOR LIFE



St. Patrick's Day at the Vets Hall: American Legion-Willits Post #174 presents a traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner, in Memory of Duane Brown. Dinner also includes Murphy's (Spuds), carrots, onions, etc. and dessert. Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street. 5 to 7 pm. \$15 adults; \$7 children under 12; free for kids under 5. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Info: Bob Ireland 707-272-1997.

Boy Scouts Troop 88 Annual Spaghetti Dinner: Willits Boy Scouts Troop 88 presents its 4th annual Spaghetti Dinner, plus a live Dessert Auction. Saturday, March 15 at LDS Church, 265 Margie Drive. Dinner at 5:30 pm; dessert auction at 6:30 pm. Tickets \$8; \$25 for family of 4. To purchase tickets, contact any scout from Troop 88, or Matt Anderson (367-6537), or Alli Anderson (367-4767) or check www.facebook.com/groups/WillitsBSATroop88.

Shanachie Pub: St. Patrick's Day Party with Funkacillin, a mix of originals and "old school" funk touched with rock and soul, & DJ Podge. 8 pm. \$8. Traditional Irish food by Adam's Restaurant. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Get included in the Willits Weekly calendar: Do you have a community event you would like to list in our calendar section? Email us details about your event at willitsweekly@gmail.com, or call 459-2633 for more information.



Sunday, March 16

Willits Town Hall Meeting: The subject of this fourth Town Hall meeting is "Drought: Water and Fire – Long-Range Preparedness." 4 to 6 pm at Willits City Council Chambers, 111 East Commercial Street. Speakers are: Brooktrails Fire Chief Daryl Schoepfner; Ellen Drell, founder and board member of the Willits Environmental Center; Little Lake Fire Chief Carl Magann; Chris Baldo, past firefighter and present registered forester; and Larry Desmond, wells and water systems. Speakers have seven minutes each to speak, and the rest of the time is shared by participants. The speakers are chosen for being knowledgeable in their field, so that questions and comments can be directly addressed during the meeting. All area residents are welcome to participate. Info: 459-4850.

Girl Scout Cookie Sales: today is the last day for purchasing Girl Scout cookies for 2014. Get your favorite boxes of cookies for \$5 each. Scouts will be located at the following places and times: Thursday, March 6: Scoops: 3 pm to 6 pm. Friday, March 7: Safeway of Willits: 3 pm to 6 pm. Saturday, March 8: Safeway of Willits: 9 am to 6 pm. Sunday, March 9: Safeway of Willits: 12 pm to 3 pm. Thursday, March 13: Scoops: 3 pm to 6 pm. Friday, March 14: Safeway of Willits: 3 pm to 6 pm. Saturday, March 15: Safeway of Willits: 9 am to 6 pm, Tower Mart: 10 am to 3 pm. Sunday, March 16: Old Mission Pizza: 11 am to 3 pm.

St. Patrick's Day Fun

St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Vets Hall: American Legion-Willits Post #174 presents a traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner, on Saturday, March 15 from 5 to 7 pm. Also including Murphy's (Spuds), carrots, onions, etc. and dessert. Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street. \$15 adults; \$7 children under 12; free for kids under 5. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Shanachie Pub: St. Patrick's Day Party with Funkacillin and DJ Podge. Traditional Irish food by Adam's Restaurant. \$8. 8 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

St. Patrick's Day Lunch at the Senior Center: Donna's Corned Beef and Cabbage lunch on Monday, March 17 at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Lunch: Noon to 1 pm, with soup and/or salad bar starting at 12:45 pm. Seniors: \$5; non-seniors \$6.50. Info: 459-6826.

Shanachie Pub: St. Patty's Day Hoedown with Forrest & Malakai, 7 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.



Library Community Meeting

The Mendocino County Library wants to hear from you! The library has scheduled several meetings around the county. The Willits meeting is set for Sunday, March 23, from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Library Community Room, 390 East Commercial Street. "Tell us your thoughts about the future direction of the library, what's working, what's not working, and what we could offer that we are not offering now. This is your opportunity to participate in shaping the strategic vision for the libraries. Everyone is welcome whether you use the library or not, your opinion is important to us." Refreshments will be served. Info: Marc Komer 459-2775.

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Welcome Daniel Loube, M.D.

Pulmonologist



Please Join Us in Welcoming Dr. Loube to the Ukiah Valley Rural Health Center.

Dr. Loube earned his medical degree at George Washington University Medical School in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Loube specializes in caring for patients with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), lung cancer, occupational respiratory diseases, lung disease, pulmonary fibrosis and sleep apnea. He has a passion for helping his patients improve their quality of life with the proper education and treatment of their respiratory conditions.

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Furry Friends

Hoping for a home

Mr. Woody

Meet the handsome and well-natured Mr. Woody! He is an absolute gentleman and just a great dog all around. Woody is approximately 3 years old, and we think he is a mix of Pitbull Terrier and Labrador Retriever. He is a very well-natured canine and, in his last home, he lived with a 5-year-old child as well as with cats, so he's obviously a very friendly and agreeable guy! Woody is social with people and also with other dogs. This gorgeous boy walks well on the leash and has a gentle, sweet nature, as well as a silly streak to him. Woody is going to bring all sorts of joy to his new forever home. Are you the lucky person or family who will get to bring him home? Woody is already neutered, so he is ready to go home the same day you meet him and adopt him. We hope you will come meet Woody!

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 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. For more information, contact Adoption Coordinator Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 or houghtbyk@co.mendocino.ca.us or come in during shelter hours.

An aerial view of the New Hospital



In this aerial view of the new Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, you can see the progress being made as the exterior of the 74,000-square-foot structure is nearing completion. Plans are to complete construction – being done by HBE Corporation, out of St. Louis, Missouri – by August of this year, and then to open for patient care in early 2015. You can see the where the new 101 bypass will cross over East Hill Road to the east of the new hospital, at the upper right of the photo. And looking closely, you can see the octagonal-shaped helipad – big enough to accommodate a Black Hawk helicopter – off the southwest corner of the new building.



'Anything Can Happen' Dinner Theatre Benefit

The "Anything Can Happen" dinner theatre benefit is set for Saturday, March 15 at 6 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. The benefit will help send 19 area students to London to study theater and English culture. The students, from four different Mendocino County schools, will be immersing themselves in English culture and theater arts for seven days in April. "Anything Can Happen" will showcase the students' talents as actors, writers, directors and producers, and include food (menu to be announced) and entertainment with a flare for the unexpected. Tickets, \$30 per person or \$50 for couples, and \$15 for students 18 and under, are available at Willits Charter School. Those wishing to make a donation to offset the expenses of the trip can write a check to "Willits Charter School" with "London Trip" in the memo line, and send it to Billy Hetherington, c/o WCS, 1431 South Main Street, Willits 95490, or check the online fundraising campaign at www.gofundme.com/4bp99s. More info at the Facebook event page: www.facebook.com/events/224332141093387.

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The rest of Sr. Housing

From Page 1

Nunnemaker said. "I think there are some flooding issues in that location that need to be addressed."

Councilman Ron Orenstein, also a resident of Haehl Creek, spoke to his colleagues on the council as a citizen.

"I love seeing people come and use our neighborhood," Orenstein said. "These are all in discussion – none of this is a surprise to anybody living there."

Willits Realtor Bill Barksdale spoke in favor of Jay and Elizabeth Santos, saying the Santos provide high-quality care at their other facilities and the project is needed in the community.

"It is a thing we all have to be together in – we all are going to get old and we will all be in the same situation," said Elizabeth Santos. "I am really an advocate for dementia, me and my husband."

Developers of the senior living home will pay a \$2,340 traffic impact fee, reports from city planners said.

The money paid for traffic impacts goes to a trust fund. It may help fund work on the Main Street and Baechtel Road intersection, the Railroad Avenue corridor, or pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly improvements in the neighborhood, documents stated.

The rest of Policy

From Page 1

One of the city's proposals is to regulate water use per person, not per household as current policy requires.

"I think it is hard to implement or monitor a per person rate," Councilwoman Madge Strong said.

Councilman Ron Orenstein is hopeful the city can provide information so residents can better track their own water use. "I would suggest we put something in this to help customers keep track themselves," he said.

The Willits Municipal Code states exceptions can be made for households that need more water than the present 150-gallon per day limit.

"For most households, from what we are seeing, it is very manageable," City Manager Adrienne Moore said.

A city report noted businesses have complained about having to make 35 percent cuts in water use. In that case, the city is considering water allowances made by city staff would come before the council.

City employees hope the ordinance can be amended so any violation is also labeled a public nuisance. Fines, a water flow-restricting device, and charges for installation of a flow restrictor also are being considered.

Talks about water policy changes occurred publicly for the first time at last week's council meeting.

A discussion of the changes being considered had been placed on the agenda, but no formal changes were to be put to a vote.

Bill doing 'very well'

Recently, Willits Weekly heard a disturbing rumor about Bill, the homeless man in Willits who reporter Cat Lee wrote about in May and June last year. We knew that Bill had, with some help, found an apartment in Lake County. We wanted to report about that, because we felt some Willits residents would wonder why they weren't seeing Bill around on the streets anymore. But, due to privacy issues, our sources could not go on the record with the news. But after hearing the rumor, we dug around a bit more and are now able to report, thanks to Paul "Juice" Rogers, that the rumor isn't true, and that Bill is doing 'very well' in Lake County.

Photo by Cat Lee



The rest of WHS Sports

From Page 1

of Hayward. "We got some very good support" at that game, Coach Nelson said. "A hundred people from Willits came down for the Hayward game, on a rainy, cruddy Saturday night. They've been supporting us all along. That's what a small town is supposed to be like; everybody rallies around the kids and the team."

Nelson said it was very enjoyable to coach this year, thanks to the "great kids" on the team. Nelson has been coaching WHS basketball for 24 years, with 20 years coaching varsity. He hit his 500th game milestone earlier this season, and will be back to coach again next year for sure, he said.

WHS Varsity Players: Dimitri Betts, Nick Johnson, Palmer Runberg (NCL 1, honorable mention), Brandon Slater, Will Betts (NCL 1, first team selection), Ryan Hendry, Cole Jessup (NCL 1, first team selection), Will Smith, and Jon Montez (Most Valuable Player, NCL 1).

WHS Wrestling: an incredible turnaround

Congratulations to the Willits High School wrestling team for being co-champions, with Fort Bragg, in the Coastal Mountain Conference League playoffs. WHS wrestlers won 8 of 9 dual meets during the season and placed third in the North Coast Section team duals. "We wrestled and beat Healdsburg for third place," said assistant coach Mike Colvig. "That was exciting." Last year, the

WHS wrestlers didn't make to the dual meets tournament, and nobody on the team qualified individually for the sections.

The WHS team sent 11 of its 14 wrestlers to the North Coast Section tournament in Fremont this year.

"This year, Colvig said, "we started doing cross-fit five days a week in the new fitness center before practice. The kids got stronger, and got into incredible shape."

The wrestling mats are right beside to the workout area, and there's two floor mats, not just one, so there's a lot more space, "which allows us to have more kids on the team," Colvig said, "and more practice time. It all just kind of rolls together."

Colvig said he was "extremely proud" of every wrestler on the team: "They did a fantastic job, they gave 100 percent of what we asked. We had two goals this year: one to win leagues, and two to get as many kids qualified as we could, and we did both. We accomplished our goals."

WHS Wrestling Roster: Caleb Bacci, Adrian Brito, Michael Cahill, Marcos Diaz, Octavio Diaz, Hank Harris, Austin Heller, Colten Horger, Sergio Jacinto, Jacob Jepson, Blake Leslie, Kyle Martinez, D'Artagnan Meek, Sebastian Rolfe, Robert Swoboda, Justin Thom, Tyler Vesey and Nick Bowers. Head coach: Brian Bowles.

— Jennifer Poole

Mental health meetings in Willits

After seven and a half months of privatization, the mental health services system is showing signs of working effectively, the Mendocino County Mental Health Board learned last week during a meeting at the Willits library.

At least, at the February 19 meeting of the Mental Health Board and the February 27 meeting of the Mental Health Services Act Quality Assurance Committee neither board members, committee members nor the public criticized how things were going.

Over the past two months, the mental health board itself has undergone changes, with former board Chairman Jim Shaw resigning in November, and John Wetzler replacing interim Chairwoman Vonna Kindred-Myers. The February 19 meeting in Willits was Wetzler's first meeting as chairman.

Wetzler asked Tom Pinnizzotto, assistant director of the county's Health and Human Services Agency and director of the county's truncated Mental Health Division, to keep his report down to 10 minutes.

Pinnizzotto reported the county has applied for a \$500,000 grant to implement an outreach program to deliver mental health services to outlying areas. The grant will pay for four staff people and purchase two vehicles. The two teams will deliver "mobile crisis support" to outlying areas, including the coast, the north county and Anderson Valley. He said the service will be used to "expand into the gaps. We expand to evenings, weekends and holidays."

Pinnizzotto noted that getting the grant was not a certainty; he will learn whether or not the county has won the grant by mid-March.

Wetzler also asked representatives from the county's two private mental health services contractors – Redwood Quality Management Company (RQMC) and Ornter Management Group (OMG) – to shorten their reports to 10 minutes each.

Program Manager Chandra Gonsales reported RQMC and the organizations working in collaboration with it have seen more than 1,000 children since July 1. There were 21,387 documented contacts; 48 percent of services were therapy sessions; and the average wait from referral to diagnosis was 23 days.

Instead of giving an oral report, OMG Vice President of Operations Dr. Mark Montgomery answered board members' questions.

Board Vice Chairman Roger Schwartz asked Montgomery if he knew what percentage of county jail inmates were there as a result of mental health issues. Montgomery replied he did not have that information, but would find out.

A printed report issued by Montgomery said OMG has now established a crisis center on the coast. Doing so was one of OMG's stated objectives when it signed the privatization contract in May 2013, and the company had been attempting to establish a crisis center there for several months.

Former Mendocino County Air Pollution Control Officer Dean Wohlbach, who attended the meeting as a private citizen, asked Carol Mordhorst – who was at the meeting to make a special presentation – if the county possessed a chart or schematic diagram of the current service delivery system. Mordhorst replied the only map she knew of existed in her head.

The rest of Fire

From Page 1

WPD said the case remains under investigation.

A February 2013 U.S. Fire Administration newsletter provides information about how manufacturing hash oil or honey oil can lead to fires.

"Butane is necessary for the process and is available over-the-counter in 8 ounce cans. The extraction process uses one whole can, and multiple cans will likely be at the scene. Butane is highly explosive, colorless, odorless and heavier than air, and therefore can travel along the floor until it encounters an ignition source," the newsletter said.

Chief Magann said the attached outbuilding where the explosion occurred was 100 percent involved when he arrived, and "the butane cylinders were popping off. It was like gunfire, right on scene."

The main house was also damaged: "The fire got up into the attic, mainly because of un-permitted construction," he said. "We wound up having to strip part of the roof structure to 100 percent mop up the fire."

"We've had five of these lab explosions this year in the county, including one in Brooktrails," Magann said, "and there's been injuries on every incident."

Three engines from Little Lake, and one engine from Brooktrails Fire Department responded to the call. Although all but one engine was released after about an hour, firefighters spent five hours on the scene, investigating the cause and ensuring the fire was completely out.

— Additional reporting by Jennifer Poole

The rest of Water Plant

From Page 1

"I do not want to have a great party and wake up on December 31 with a great hangover," Councilman Larry Stranske said.

The city has sped through the emergency project. Willits-based water consultant Larry Desmond attended the meeting, arguing it cannot be cheaper for the city to postpone the project.

"Because of the quickness we got on board it really paid off – we are getting a quick route through the system," Desmond said.

"But if we ever want to use it again, and the two miles of pipe, we have put in we have to do an environmental impact report," Burton said, "and that is where you get mired in the quagmire of bureaucracy."

The emergency water treatment plant could still be a money-saver for the city. "Even if we have CEQA, it is still going to be sitting there in the ground," Water Manager J.C. England said.

At the time of the meeting, the city has spent or approved more than \$564,000 of the plant's \$2.1 million estimated cost, according to a report from City Hall.

City Hall has said loans with no-interest or low-interest rates would pay for the project if it cannot garner enough grant money.

City Manager Adrienne Moore said money received from the California Department of Public Health may double from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

Moore also is hopeful funding could come to the city from the United States Department of Agriculture and other sources.

Willits remains in a heightened water emergency. Stranske said he is having a difficult time making do with the city's restrictions of 150 gallons a day.

"You cannot drink money, and you cannot forget that we are in an emergency situation," Mayor Holly Madrigal said.

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Above: The crowd at the reception, with (in the mid-foreground) David Silverberg, recording engineer for "This Ain't No Mouse Music," who answered questions after the film Saturday evening. Below: The Noyo Theatre on Film Fest night.

Photos by Hunter C. Pass

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Spotlight on Willits

Mendocino Film Festival started its second year in Willits on February 22 with "Spotlight on Willits," a Saturday slate of three films, a lively reception at the Center for the Arts, and two Q&As after the films.

The festival is "in the third year of what I would estimate to be a five-year process of becoming a countywide festival, with primary events in all four of our cities, in Anderson Valley and in the village of Mendocino," said Hal Wagenet of Wagenet Enterprises who, with his wife, Rosie, is organizing the Willits film festival events.

Not only does expanding the film festival to Willits "expand our own horizons," said Wagenet – after all, the Film Festival says it "aims to inspire, enlighten and engage our audiences" – it can also help with economic development. "Generating revenue is part of the agenda of bringing Film Fest to Willits," Wagenet said.

Rosie Wagenet was living in Park City, Utah, the home of the now-huge Sundance Film Festival, when it had its "very first" film festival showing. "What I saw was this little Park City town, like a ghost town, after the mining shut down [except for some skiing in the winter]," she said, "and once the film festival came in, things started to build up around that: an arts festival and other events.... And then it exploded. I watched it grow, and now it's worldwide."

Rosie also showed off the 170-page booklet promoting the events and sponsors associated with the \$1.3 million Napa Film Festival. "We can hope that something like that can happen here," she said.

Willits has some of the best facilities in the county to accommodate this expansion of the Mendocino Film Festival, Wagenet said.

"In Mendocino, there is no theater," he said. "They have to construct each venue – bring in sound, chairs, projection equipment, concessions – for a venue in a church, a tent, a hall." Both Willits and Point Arena have readymade, modern facilities, but in Willits, there is "a theater with an art center right next door, willing participants in the Brick House," and good parking.

"We have a little cluster of facilities amenable to a turnkey operation, and even more than that, Lois and Jeff Hoover, who own the Noyo Theatre, are fully engaged in promoting local efforts and opening their doors to alternative viewings.... We find that to be an asset that nobody else has." The Noyo also has 200 seats, bigger than any venue on the coast, where festival events sell out.

Willits also has accommodations that already host overflow from motels in Ukiah, and visitors who can't get – or can't afford – a room on the coast.

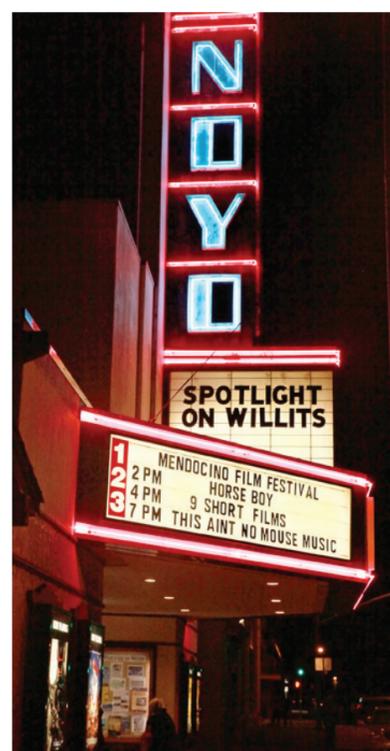
Wagenet is chair of Visit Mendocino, which promotes Mendocino County as a destination, and which advised the Film Festival to expand to a countywide festival. "Visit Mendocino buys a lot of radio and print ads in the Bay Area and Sacramento, which are our principal 'drive' markets," he said. "We also get some national and international exposure (including the recent high rankings of Mendocino County in Sunset magazine and the New York Times, which ranked Mendocino as the third most desirable place to visit in the world.)"

"And of course the web is a terrific marketing tool. We get 300,000 hits a month on the Visit Mendocino web site, which is significant exposure for local events" – and for local sponsors, too.

The overall sponsor for Spotlight on Willits this year was Sparetime Supply, with individual film sponsors Willits Pet Center ("The Horse Boy"), Main Street Music & Video (the nine-film shorts program), and Wagenet Enterprises ("This Ain't No Mouse Music").

In addition to audience development (locals as well as visitors), sponsor development and membership is crucial to expanding the festival countywide: ticket sales bring in only a portion of needed revenues. Film Festival membership comes at various levels, starting at \$75. Eventually there will be members-only events in Willits, as there are on the coast, the Wagenets say. The deadline to be listed in the program book for the 9th annual Mendocino Film Festival (May 29-June 1, 2014, including events in Willits) is March 20.

"The return on investment those folks get, by voting with their checkbooks," Wagenet said, is that they're encouraging the community as it is, and shaping the community to come, which is especially important to Willits." Visit <http://www.mendocinofilmfestival.org> for more information.



Above: Chuck Fross, regional sales director for North Coast Brewing Company, left, and Pete Swanton from Main Street Music.

Below: Malakai Schindel, left, and Forrest Glycer did a couple songs at the 5:30 pm reception.



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