

Goodbye

To the Editor:

After 24 years with the Mendocino County Library System, it is with mixed emotions that I announce my retirement effective March 15. It has been a great joy to serve the library needs of the greater Willits community for these last 12 years. I have been fortunate to have worked at Round Valley Library for two years, and for 10 years at Ukiah Library. But providing library service to my hometown of Willits, Little Lake Valley, and all its outlying areas has been my greatest joy and privilege.

I want to thank the Friends of the Willits Library for their unceasing advocacy and support, for keeping the doors open and the library stocked from books to paperclips during most of my tenure. I also want to thank the Library Advisory Board, especially Kristin Fraser representing the City of Willits, and Mark Komar representing the 3rd District, for their tenacity in the protection of our library system in the darkest times, and their vision now for growing our library to respond to the needs of an evolving public.

Willits Library has been fortunate throughout all of my years here in receiving outstanding consistent annual financial support from its community, and I am happy to thank the City of Willits for always standing by us, as well as the Soroptimists and the Willits Lions Club. Also a big thank you to probably too many in-kind supporters to name, but certainly Willits Online for providing free public Internet service and Wi-Fi, and to Main Street Music for cleaning an endless supply of our DVDs and audiobooks! I am grateful to you all for helping me to do my job.

Within the library, it has been an honor to work with a tireless and devoted crew of volunteers whose selfless generosity of time and talent on a daily basis is awe-inspiring and humbling. Additionally, I have been incredibly fortunate to work with excellent staff support. I want to thank Carolyn Pavlovic and Arlane Adamson for nurturing me when I first arrived from Ukiah, for teaching me the ropes of Willits Library, and for staying on even now as literacy and library volunteers. I am endlessly grateful to my present Willits library staff, Robyn Holden, Jenna Byrne, Mary Pappadakis, Eugenio Moreno, and Children's Librarian Judith Kayser, all of whose commitment to the library and devotion to public service has never wavered, despite the chronic uncertainty of furloughs, budget cuts, staff cuts, pay cuts. They remind me every day, by their own example, that our single purpose is to serve you, the public.

So my final thanks is to you, the public, for offering me year in and year out so many opportunities to be of service, to help you find whatever you were seeking, to guide your searches for reading or information, to be your neighbor and your friend. Thank you for staying with us through all the years of no money and few materials, and never breaking faith with our mission and purpose. Thank you for your incredible vote of confidence in passing Measure A and allowing us to start the long process of rebuilding our library system for you and generations to come. Thank you for allowing me the satisfaction of knowing that I can leave the library better off than I found it, and the surety of knowing I am leaving it in your good hands. See you in the stacks!

Sincerely,

Donna Kerr, branch librarian, Willits Library

The House on Lemon Street'

To the Editor:

I am writing to thank Friends of the Willits Library and those individuals responsible for last Friday night's premiere of their Book Reading Series.

Titled, "The House on Lemon Street," the book's author advanced through a series of old photographs and as he did so, he wove the fascinating story of the Harada family, providing details of their rich history only a caring someone would write down. That someone is Mark Rawitsch.

I won't reveal the details but author Rawitsch was able to craft a special segment to emphasize what a small world we live in and how, throughout his travels and research, the little town of Willits and its people became a part of an

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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What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

even bigger picture than the one crafted for his book.

Regrettably his special presentation was one night only and only for one hour. An hour that sped by quickly. At the end, I felt as though I had been caught up in a tailspin of some sort because so much ground had been covered in so little time.

As I said earlier, "I won't reveal the details...." only because I'm hoping he can be persuaded to offer a repeat performance. I'm sure there are people who couldn't attend for whatever reason, have since heard rave reviews, and are kicking themselves for not trying harder to be there. And then there of those of us who would like to go again!

Gail Richards, Willits

Looking for North County teams

To the Editor:

North Coast Opportunities has announced the kick-off for the 9th Annual Mendocino County Human Race. The event is a 5K Walk or Timed Run that takes place on May 3, starting at Alex R. Thomas Plaza in Ukiah. The event is a collaborative community fundraiser that supports local charities by raising funds and building community awareness. Event organizers have announced a kick-off event on April 3 at 6 pm at Slam Dunk Pizza in Ukiah.

NCO provides the marketing, publicity, materials and experienced assistance. Charities and businesses provide the people power. Prior to race day, local businesses and organizations form teams and collect donations in support of their favorite Mendocino County non-profit. On race day, the teams show up, many in outrageous costumes, to either walk or run.

The event focuses on all county non-profits. However, because the event itself takes place in Ukiah many people and organizations don't realize it supports the entire county. We'd love to have more Willits and North County participation in the event.

The Human Race is a proven fundraiser across the United States and continues to grow in popularity each year. It's a fun and effective way for the community to come together to raise money for local non-profits. These organizations provide many needed services and support to our residents. Without funding, many of these organizations would have to cut services or close their doors. This event is a great way for us to collectively say thank you while helping raise needed funds. Please consider forming a team.

On Thursday evening April 3, organizers will host a kick-off event and party at Slam Dunk Pizza located at 720 North State Street at 5:30 pm. Tah Dah Productions will provide music and fun. The event is open to all, but it's primarily designed for fundraising teams and captains to pick up information, receive tips, and learn details about an exciting fundraising contest.

For more information and to receive a coupon for the kick-off party from Slam Dunk Pizza, please visit <http://MendoHumanRace.com> or call 260-2582.

Ian Fitzpatrick, Willits

Bypass: A better plan

To the Editor:

For several months, I have proposed a design modification on the Willits Bypass project that I believe could benefit everyone concerned. Scaling back the 40-acre northern interchange to a simple roundabout (essentially part of the existing design) could: reduce impacts to wetlands and Pomo cultural sites, reduce use of water and disruption during fill and construction, eliminate four bridges, and potentially compensate for some of the impacts to date (temporal losses) and enable a downsized, less-costly mitigation plan.

Caltrans claims that "30 potential alternatives were considered" during the long planning and approval process. However, it boiled down to only choices of route for a four-lane bypass – or no project. Outrageously, during that entire time, Caltrans claimed the Federal Highway Administration required that the project meet Level of Service C, which, only last year through research of public records, was found to be patently false.

Clearly a great deal of public controversy remains.

Moreover, with costs, agency compliance, and other challenges not resolved, I believe it is well worth a good-faith meeting between decision-makers and concerned citizens to devise a better solution for the northern portion of the project, where options are still available.

Caltrans claims, in letters to me, that the roundabout is "not designed to accommodate existing and future Route 101 through-traffic volumes," therefore replacing the planned interchange with the roundabout "would not be appropriate," and that the current design is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDOA) and "is the most cost-effective option for the current construction project and the future four lane bypass."

Two phrases jump out that, in my view, deceptively justify this claim:

a) The future 101 traffic volumes refer to the grossly inflated projections used in the 2006 EIR. Extensive independent analysis of those projections demonstrates that they are exaggerated and erroneous. Detailed documentation of these errors was presented to Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty in person on July 9, 2013. For just one example, Caltrans' projections were based on a 2 percent per year growth in traffic, whereas the actual traffic has remained flat or declined for the past 20 years. The recent Caltrans-funded 2030 Blueprint projects an optimistic 1/2 percent growth rate.

b) Caltrans states the current design is the most cost-effective "for the future four lane bypass." Yes, if the dreamt-of phase 2 four-lane freeway were likely to proceed in the next decade or so, it would be more efficient to build the full freeway interchange now. However, it seems clear that current and future traffic volumes will be more than adequately served by the two-lane bypass now being built. Neither state nor local funding for an unnecessary and expensive expansion to four lanes is likely to be approved in the foreseeable future.

In short, Caltrans continues to justify an over-sized (and thus more costly and more environmentally damaging) four-lane interchange design based on thoroughly discredited traffic projections, for a future project that is unlikely to ever be built.

Other concerns that warrant this design change are major delays and lack of adequate funding for the Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (MMP) required by state and federal agencies. Already two to three years behind schedule, there is still no "acceptable MMP." Yet construction has proceeded without commensurate mitigation. It appears most implementation measures won't happen until the bypass is completed, two or three years from now. Why not reduce the impact of the bypass itself to minimize the delays, costs and uncertainties of mitigation?

Another concern: additional fill for the northern interchange (currently only about 1/10th filled) will certainly entail temporary traffic disruption, noise and dust, diesel emissions, a great deal of water use for dust control and compaction, irreversible filling of (still potentially restorable) wetlands, and considerable costs. Again: Why not modify the design to avoid most or all of these impacts?

Regarding water use for the project, drawing from valley wells and using city-treated wastewater could potentially impact wells on which many valley residents and farmers depend, including the City of Willits' new emergency supplies. To my knowledge, these concerns have not been analyzed.

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Madge Strong, Willits

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Willits Weekly | March 13, 2014



Located inside
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621-3900

Right: Glen Green collects a bid from the crowd.



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Photos by Maureen Moore



Very occasionally there is a reserve price on the unit, but typically not. The best part for the buyers, however, is that GlenMark does not pre-sort or toss the unit in any way before the auction.

"We're an upfront auction," explained Green. "So we typically have lots of happy buyers."

Sometimes personal family items like photo albums or legal documents are found; those are brought to the office and the staff does their best to contact the prior owner and return those sentimental items the best they can.

Signing up to be a buyer is free, and people are also welcome to come and watch for free, too. Anyone interested in being notified of upcoming sales – which happen every six to eight months – can call GlenMark to be added to a list at 459-4628, or can keep tabs on the businesses' Facebook page under Glenmark Self Storage.

After having success at their main south site, located at 1790 South Main Street, they decided to purchase the new north site, located at 395 North Main Street, about a year and a half ago and have been working on improvements ever since.

Owner Glen Green reminisced about some of the fun finds buyers told him about over the years of working the auction sales. Some of the big scores included generators, a Rolex watch, tools and more.

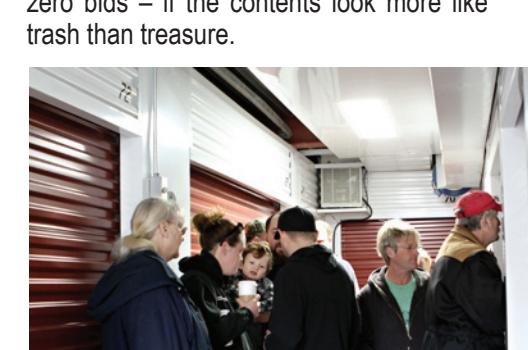
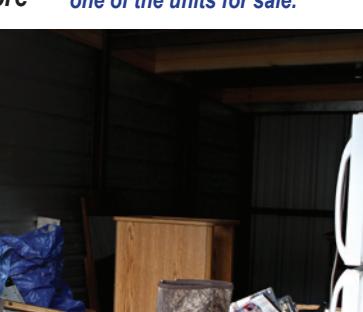
"We saw the need and benefit of being located on both ends of the soon-to-be-built bypass," explained Green. "Having signage and convenient locations at both ends of town is our plan, and we're making sure that since we now have our name on the north location too, customers know that we will be able to offer the same security and quality care of their goods as they have come to expect at our south site."

Lockers typically range anywhere from \$200 to \$400, though Green noted that sometimes they can go up to \$700 to \$1,000 if people see something good, or for \$50 to \$150 – or even a 'name' when there are zero bids – if the contents look more like trash than treasure.

For more information, contact 459-4628.

Below left: The line forms to get a good look at the locker's contents.

Below: Beal Ramming checks out one of the units for sale.



Cans at Curves

Donations sought for Willits Food Bank

From now through Friday, March 21, Curves is helping gather food for Willits Community Services and Food Bank. Members and non-members are welcome to bring non-perishable food into the Willits location during the drive and help contribute to the needy in the community. Curves' owner Lisa Yokum noted that Mary Anne Trevey, owner of local grocery Mariposa Market, will soon have a collection bin located at the store, too, to help collect donations. Mariposa Market is located at 500 South Main Street and Curves is located at 1726 South Main Street, Suite F, in the Evergreen Shopping Center. For more information call Curves at 456-0751.



Left: Curves members Carol Dale, Cindy Dube, Susan Williams, Barbara O'Rear and Chris Pinson and owner Lisa Yokum stand in front of the Curves sign with items already donated for the drive.

Photo by Maureen Moore



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Puzzle Page

LAWN WORD SEARCH

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

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

AERATION	DESICCANT	HERBICIDE	PESTS
ANTS	DRAINAGE	IRRIGATION	RESEEDING
BROADLEAF	DROUGHT	LANDSCAPE	SOD
BROWN	EDGING	MOLES	SPRINKLER
CLAY	FERTILIZER	MOSS	THATCH
CLOD	FESCUE	MOWING	TOLERANT
CLOVER	FOUNDATION	MULCH	TRAMPLE
COMPOST	GERMINATION	ORGANIC	TURF
CRABGRASS	GRUBS	OSMOSIS	WEEDS

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

How To Sudoku:

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

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The rest of Primary

From Page 1
The rest of Wageneret From Page 1

Willits small business owner Clay Romero, and former county Supervisor Hal Wagenet.

Supervisor Dan Hamburg is running unopposed for Fifth District supervisor.

Tom Allman will seek a new term as Mendocino County sheriff, and District Attorney David Eyster will also seek re-election. Both candidates are running unopposed.

Also running unopposed is incumbent county Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Schapmire.

Incumbent county Assessor-Clerk Recorder Sue Ranochak will seek re-election to office. She will be opposed by Ukiah registered nurse Robin Sunbeam.

Sunbeam has been active in various political causes in recent years, including Measure F (the corporate personhood campaign), as well as with the campaign to start a public bank in Mendocino County.

Current Superintendent of Schools Paul Tichinin announced Monday that he will not seek re-election to office after 20 years as superintendent. Three people have filed to run to replace Tichinin. They are Katharine Wylie, director of the Three Rivers Charter School in Fort Bragg, Warren Gallett, a school administrator from Gualala, and — with a last-minute filing on Wednesday afternoon — Associate Superintendent of Schools Paul Joens-Poulton.

County Auditor-Controller Meredith Ford also has decided not to run for another term of office. Assistant Auditor-Controller Lloyd Weir will seek Ford's office.

Three judgeships are up for re-election; however, as no one filed to oppose judges Jeanine Nadel, John Behnke and David Riemschneider, they are considered to be already elected. Their names will not appear on the June 2014 ballot.

Brooktrails voters will have an opportunity to approve or reject Measure K, the ballot measure which would increase the fire tax on Brooktrails properties. In addition, voters in the Round Valley Unified School district will vote to approve or reject a \$4 million school bond measure.

Brooktrails General Manager Denise Rose said the Brooktrails public has responded very well to the previous cap of 110 gallons a day. "Ninety-five percent of people here

supervisor because he believes the county needs "a course correction." He says he is interested in addressing the concerns of county employees and in making the dialog that exists between the county and the union over employee issues less acrimonious. He also notes he is concerned over issues connected with the Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association.

While Wagenet concedes he doesn't "have all the answers," he says: "I do know most of the questions. I know where the bodies are buried around here, and I know where the problems are and where the issues are going to arise that are going to have to be addressed. I do think that, collectively, if we can involve the CEO, the board and the unions, and the people out in the hills that have a lot of interesting ideas, I think the answers probably are there."

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Brooktrails General Manager Denise Rose said the Brooktrails public has responded very well to the previous cap of 110 gallons a day. "Ninety-five percent of people here

are well below the 110-gallon mark," she said. "A few are above, and only a couple of people are significantly above."

Brooktrails Superintendent of Utilities Robert Melluish advocated the 172 gallon per day mark. "We cannot store any more water," Melluish said. "Both lakes are spilling over. So I thought we would go with the 172."

Director Tim Ramming thought it might not be a good move to go to 172 gallons per day only to have to lower it again later. His idea was supported by the other board members.

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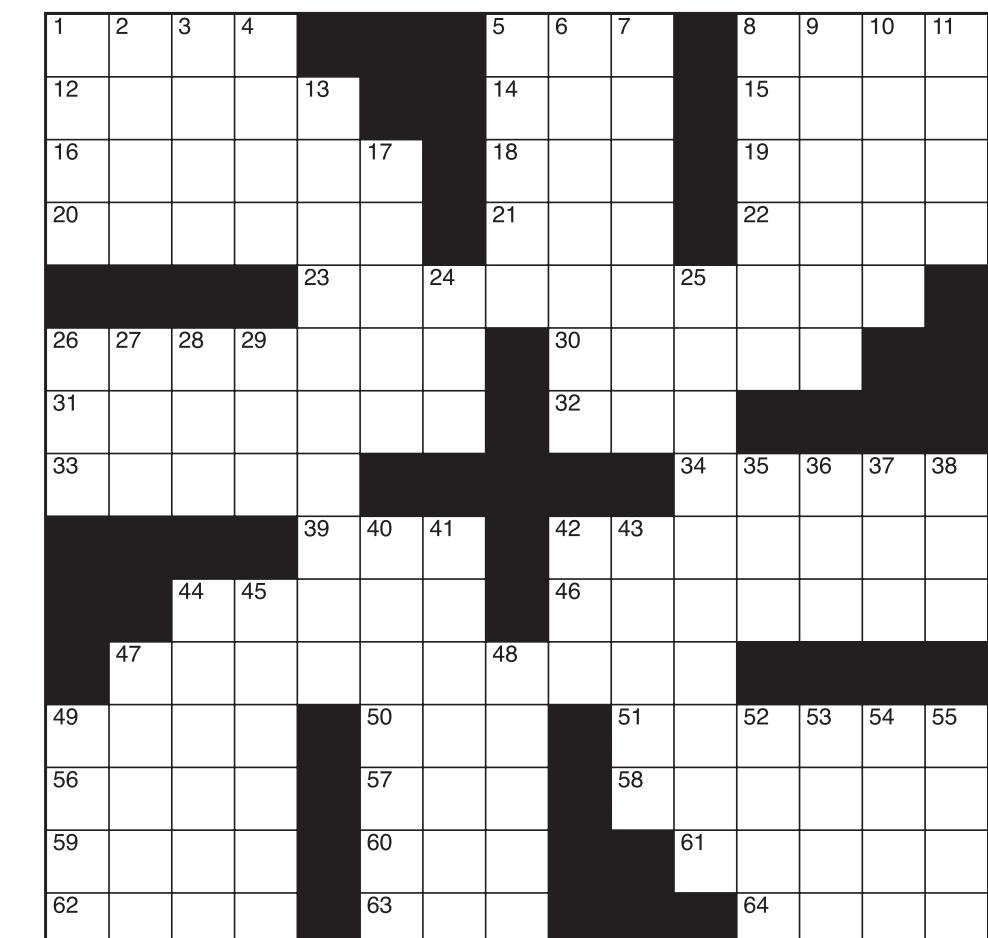
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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- Plant anchor
- 13th Hebrew letter
- Microelectromechanical systems
- Number system base 8
- Doctors' group
- Greenish blue
- Sent by USPS
- A Communist
- Southern swearword
- Get free
- North northeast
- Uncommon
- Commit anew
- Lion, goat & serpent
- Irregularly notched
- Lessened
- Constitution Hall ladies
- Fidelity
- Mother of pearl
- Help
- Arouse passion
- Avoid
- About roof of the mouth
- In a very soft tone
- Periodic publications (slang)
- kosh b'gosh
- Rouse from sleep
- El Dorado High School
- Golf ball stand
- Tranquill
- Pear shaped instrument
- Anger
- Raja wives
- Dashes
- Cardboard box (abbr.)
- Human frame (slang)
- Crackbrained
- Last course
- Indicates near
- Indian given name
- Ordinal after 7th
- Young women (Scot.)
- = to 100 sene
- Champagne river
- Improved by critical editing
- Amber dessert

Thursday, March 13



"Mendo Matters" radio show: 9 am on KZYX Radio, 91.5 FM. Join host Paul Lambert of Willits and his guests, Jim Moorhead of the Broadband Alliance, and Supervisor Dan Hamburg, as they talk about the news that the state has stopped the Golden Bear Broadband project for the North Coast. Also, State Senator Noreen Evans on the chances of her GMO labeling bill passing, and Michael Foley, president of Little Lake Grange, on the Grange's role in the bill. Call-in number: 895-2448.

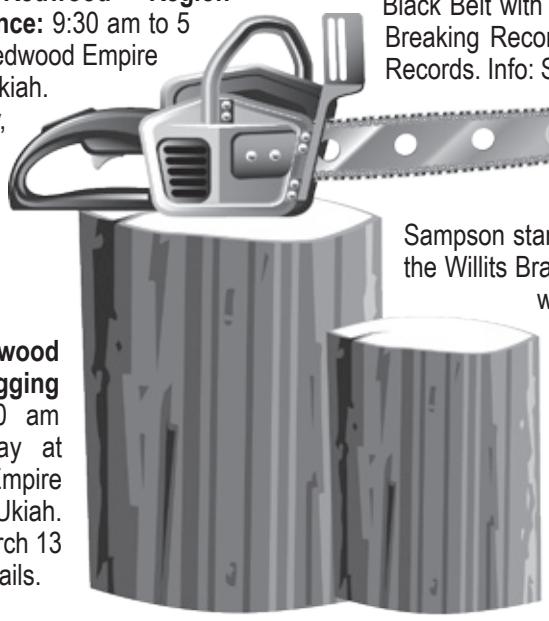
76th annual Redwood Region Logging Conference: Today through Saturday, 9:30 am to 5 pm (4:30 pm on Saturday) at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah. Today, Education Day: "1,500 local Mendocino and Lake County students in grades 3 through 6 will experience first-hand the exciting past, present and future of the Forest Products Industry." Free admission to the general public and free and ticketed events. Free events include: Logging Equipment Show, Lumberjack and Lumberjill Show, Wild Things Wildlife Show, Historical Displays, RRLC Invitational Chainsaw Carving contest, High School Forestry Competition, and Career Day event. Visit www.rrlc.net for schedule and more information.

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.

Friday, March 14

76th annual Redwood Region Logging Conference: 9:30 am to 5 pm today at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah.

See Thursday, March 13 listing for more details.



Saturday, March 15

76th annual Redwood Region Logging Conference: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm today at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah. See Thursday, March 13 listing for more details.

Cliff Walker of Willits honored with Logging Conference Achievement Award

The Redwood Region Logging Conference has announced that the late Cliff Walker, a lifelong Willits resident, will be honored with the conference's 2014 Achievement Award at the 76th annual conference, Friday through Sunday this weekend at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah.

Walker spent almost 60 years in the forests of the North Coast, beginning with jobs in the Omholt and FOMO mills in the early 1950s. He purchased his first logging truck in 1963, and formed a successful trucking partnership with Bob Alecksick that continued until Alecksick's death in 1975.

Adding a logging crew to the successful trucking business resulted in the formation of Cliff Walker Logging in 1976. The company developed a reputation for efficient and high-quality logging operations and worked in the Santa Cruz area, near Yosemite, Fresno, and Shasta Lake as well as throughout the Northern Mendocino area, and has been successful for over 35 years working primarily for private timber owners.

Walker was drawn to the woods early in life and never lost that attraction, continuing to work on a daily basis literally up until his death at the age of 74. "We work to survive; he lived to be in the woods and log" remembers his son Danny.



Cliff Walker

'Growing from the Roots'

Gardening expert Robert Kourik speaks on "Growing from the Roots" at the Willits Branch Library on Sunday, March 30, 1 to 3 pm. Kourik will share his insight into survival strategies for gardening in dry times.

Kourik is the author of numerous books and articles, and is best known for his pioneering work on edible landscaping. In 1986, "Designing and Maintaining Your Edible Landscape Naturally" became a classic in its field and helped to define the genre of gardening now known as edible landscaping. Kourik outlined how to establish your own drip irrigation system in his book "Drip Irrigation for Every Landscape and All Climates." He has been called the "drip guru" by Organic Gardening magazine. His most recent book is "Roots Demystified."

Kourik declares that he received much of his early training (and numerous continuing-education credits) in life skills from the "School of Hard Knocks." He learned various horticulture-related skills from the inside out by working with clients throughout California and the rest of the country for more than 25 years. During that time, Kourik has taken on design projects of all sizes, shapes and textures: water gardens, paths and patios, elegant arbors, habitat gardens, innovative home playgrounds, outdoor barbecue areas, deer-resistant gardens and landscapes, and low-profile and attractive deer fences, to name just a few.



Robert Kourik will speak on "Growing from the Roots" March 30.

Save the Date

Medicine Chest Garden class, taught by Donna d'Terra, March 29

Madrigal for Supervisor Kick-Off Party, Willits Center for the Arts, March 29

Robert Kourik speaks on "Gardening from the Roots," Willits Library, March 30

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

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.org for more information.

Brookside Kindergarten Info Meeting: First of two informational meetings to learn more about Brookside School's Kindergarten program. Today at 10 am at Mendocino College on Commercial Street, and Tuesday, March 18 at 5:30 pm at Imagination Station on the corner of Commercial and Marin Streets. All parents and guardians are always welcome to call the school for more information or to arrange a visit.

Two special registration days for Brookside Elementary School, at 20 Spruce Street, are upcoming: Monday, March 24 and Wednesday, March 26 from 8 am to 5 pm and Tuesday, March 25 from 8 am to 11:30 am. Children will have the opportunity to work with a staff member on a short assessment, visit his/her new school, and receive books and school supplies. Brookside encourages everyone to register as soon as possible so that they can plan for enough classes for next year. Info: 459-5385.

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.

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.

"Anything Can Happen": This dinner theatre benefit will help send 19 Mendocino County theatre arts students to London in April to study theater

about playwriting." Second class (with Ann Samson)

2 pm to 5 pm: "Ann will demonstrate the use of source materials – journals, photos and other memorabilia – and how to develop them for the stage." \$25 per class; \$15 for students. Scholarships are available for all classes. Visit www.willitstheatre.org/learn-from-the-masters or call 459-0895.

English culture, including taking workshops given by the world-renowned National Theatre Company. 6 to 10 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "Anything Can Happen" will showcase the students' talents as actors, writers, directors and producers, and include dinner (Chicken Kiev and Mushroom Stroganoff with salad, and cobblers for dessert) and entertainment with a flare for the unexpected. Plus raffle and silent auction. Tickets – \$30 per person or \$50 for couples, and \$15 for students 18 and under – are available at Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Info, call 459-5506 or visit the Facebook event page: www.facebook.com/events/224332141093387.

Shanachie Pub: St. Patrick's Day Party, Saturday, March 15, with Funkacillin and DJ Podge. Funkacillin features Lex Krauss (guitar) of Mendozona and Rootstock; Cherie Sheraque (vocals) formerly of Groove Approved and currently of Samba Jamba; Jim Dooley (trumpet and keyboard) of all the above plus others including Pura Vida and Los Piratas;

Blair Rowland (drums)

formerly

of Tubesteak Jones and currently with Dumbstruck Genius; and Nick Ford (bass) formerly of GDX.

Tonight, a new member, Phil Montalvo, master

percussionist from the Bay Area. Sponsored

by Adam's Restaurant, serving shepherd's pie,

corned beef & cabbage and more

traditional Irish foods on the patio for an additional charge.

\$8 cover. 8 pm. 50

South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Vets Hall: American Legion-Willits Post #174 presents a traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner, 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.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Vets Hall: American Legion-Willits Post #174 presents a traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner, 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.

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St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Vets Hall: American Legion-Willits Post #174

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At right, top: Blue Sky Gallery owner Suzanne Picetti and friend Ted Johnson at the store.
At right, middle: "Sara's Persimmon" by Diza Hope (left), and Italian glass vases and decorative hearts.
At right, bottom: A view into the store, showing the variety of goods on sale.

Going Out of Business Sale

Blue Sky Gallery

Blue Sky Gallery is going out of business, but owner Suzanne Picetti has not closed her doors yet. The store will be open through May, offering great deals on original art, rugs, gold and silver jewelry, pottery and glass.

"It's been 16 wonderful years," Picetti said. "I'm sorry I can't continue to own the store. I really believe locally owned stores give a town character and life."

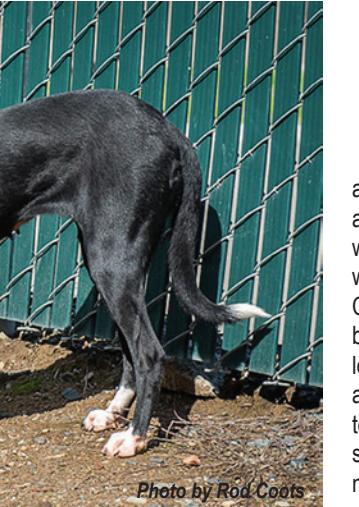
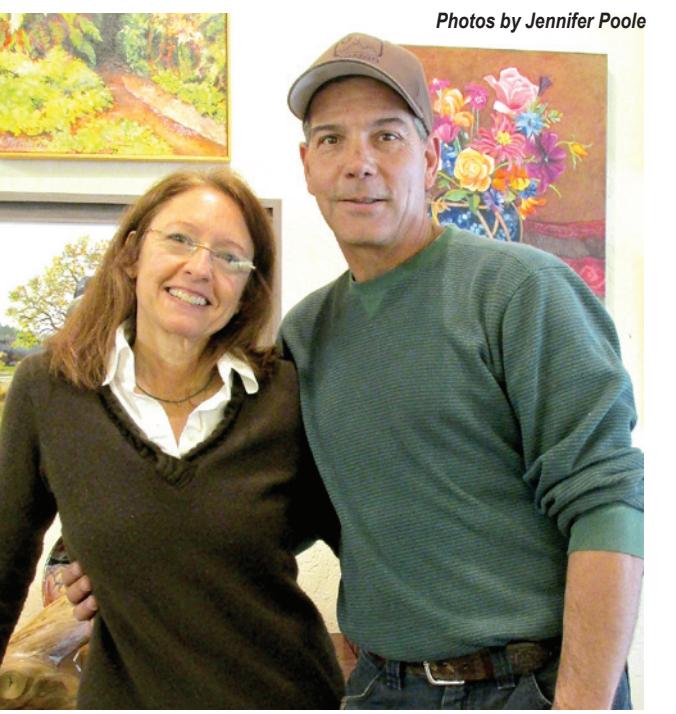
Picetti's art gallery and store displayed and hung the works of maybe 300 artists, crafters and jewelers, most of them locals, over the years, she said: "Maybe more." "It always felt so good," she said to support the local artists, especially knowing that proceeds from the sales of their work would "trickle down right back into the community."

"I want to say, it's been an honor and a pleasure to be surrounded by such treasures every day, and I'll miss the gallery and miss the customers."

Blue Sky Gallery shutting down is a "sign of the times," Picetti said, with the economy suffering in the last five years. "I know times are tough, and after gas and groceries, there's not a lot left over."

But still, she said, she thinks it's important for people to make more of an effort to shop locally: "It's very convenient to shop online," she said, but without locally owned businesses, "our town will end up looking like a ghost town."

Blue Sky Gallery, 21 South Main Street, is open Monday through Friday from 11 am to 6 pm, and Saturday from 11 am to 5 pm. Check the "Blue Sky Jewelry and Art Gallery" page on Facebook for more info, or call 456-9025.



Walking Robin

Meet the very beautiful and affectionate Robin! She is approximately 1.5 years old, weighing just 36 pounds, and we think she is a mix of Border Collie & McNab, both herding breeds. She has a very serious look about her, but she also has a playful side to her as well. True to a herding dog, Robin is very smart, and she loves to learn new things. She loves to go for walks and is quickly learning leash manners. She would love a family or companion who will take her along for all of life's adventures - whether it's going for a hike, playing at the dog park, or just curling up in front of the fireplace. Robin is fine with other dogs, but she definitely seems more interested in relating to people. We hope you will come down and meet Robin, take her for a walk, and see if she will fit into your life!

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, check the website at www.pawsoftadoption.com, contact Adoption Coordinator Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 or k.houghtby@mendocino.ca.us, or come in during shelter hours.

Attention Mothers!

We have a large selection of **BABY FOOD** on sale all month!

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Classifieds & More

The rest of Pot | From Page 1

The rest of Caltrans | From Page 1

Fielder, Water Quality says the board has "concluded there was an inadequate level of site preparation and erosion and sediment controls in place within the South Haehl Creek watershed."

The letter demands Caltrans take immediate action and document its actions at the site.

Fiber rolls for erosion, Water Quality stated, proved inadequate, and that was what freeway builders used on most of the slopes.

Water

Quality

asks

Caltrans

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Water Quality's letter alleged Caltrans did not send daily photographs of the site in its monthly report in January, while the agency included photos in all previous reports.

The Water Board contends habitat for coho salmon and steelhead may be damaged by water discharges at South Haehl Creek.

A member of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife reported finding salmon and steelhead fish in lower Haehl Creek and two coho redds in upper Haehl Creek, Water Quality stated.

Water monitoring stations installed by Caltrans document data every 15 minutes at locations both upstream and downstream of freeway construction.

On Wednesday, City Manager Adrienne Moore confirmed reports that Caltrans has recently been pumping muddy water out of low spots along the project right of way and bringing the water to the City of Willits water treatment plant.

But, Moore said, the water isn't actually going through the treatment plant, it's just being unloaded into the wastewater ponds: "It doesn't need to be treated," Moore said, "because the sediment just needs to settle."

Moore said the water haulers were working under a septic hauling permit, and paying normal fees to the City of Willits.

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

Community HU Song

In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, March 27, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Ekkankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475.

Computer Help

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

Consignments Wanted

Quality home furnishing consignments wanted at Gavel Down Sales, located at 1611 South Main Street. Contact Kapila at 707.459.1300

Culinary Arts Assistant/Cook

Willits Charter School is seeking a Culinary Arts Assistant. 25 hours/week. Must be hard-working, enthusiastic and enjoy working with youth in a fast-paced commercial kitchen. Contact WCS @ 707-459-5600 for info.

For Rent, Country Home

3 bedrm, 2 bath; 1,160 sq. ft. Open concept. Gas stove, forced-air heat, designated laundry/pantry. Fenced yard. Large storage room. No garage. Large deck. \$1,550/month + security deposit. No smoking. Not 215-friendly. 459-3409.

For Rent

2BR/1.5BA downtown Willits. Nice place! Duplex w/garage, washer/dryer in unit, walking distance to shopping, library, college, A/C, N/S, pete nego., \$1,025/mo + \$1,500 dep. Now taking applications. Loraine@Gateway Realtty. 459-5363.

For Rent

2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Close to shopping. Garbage paid. Laundry facility on hand. Small backyard. \$795/month. Call Armo: 459-9601.

For Sale

New Couch: Brown velour double recliner. Used a few months. Must sell. \$850 or best offer. Contact 707-841-1724.

Help Wanted

Front desk agent wanted for Baechtel Creek Inn. Rotating schedule. Must be flexible and customer service-oriented. Apply in person.

Get it Sold!

Classified listings in Willits Weekly are great! Contact us today to place an ad - 972-7047 or 459-2633. It's only \$10 for 30 words or less. Includes a free header of your choice! Call now! 459-2633.

Help Wanted

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

CLASSIFIEDS!

\$10 | 30 words

| 2 weeks!

Call: 459-2633

Help Wanted

Mentor/companion for fun loving adult. Employer maintains a NON-SMOKING & fragrance-free workplace so employee must be a non-smoker & refrain from using all aromatic or scented products. Requirements: fingerprinting, reliable car, valid CDL/insurance, HS diploma, and able to clearly speak, read & write English. Duties: Promotion of self-determination skills, assistance with daily living skills, plus support with consumer's community involvement. Starting pay \$9.90/hour plus mileage. Send resume to: % JOBS, P.O. Box 1035, Willits, CA 95490.

Live-In Caregiver

Live RENT FREE in beautiful Brooktrails home in exchange for providing light housekeeping, meals & conversation for 63-year-old male with health problems. Interview & references required. (570) 578-6103.

Natural Radiance

Facials (Anti-Aging/Acne) • Designer Skin Peels • Full Body Waxing & Brazilian • Organic Spray Tanning (Season Package Special 41ans/\$100 Ends in May) • Organic Skin Care Products Organic Spray Tanning Care Products 50% OFF • Carpal Tunnel Treatments • Back Treatments

By appointment only for Winter/Spring, 234 S. Main St. Willits. Please call Natural Radiance/Spray Tan L.A.: (707) 459-8800.

New Patients Welcome

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Pinball Machines
Pinball Machines Bought and Sold. 459-6372.

Rummage Sale

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

For Rent

2BR/1.5BA downtown Willits. Nice place! Duplex w/garage, washer/dryer in unit, walking distance to shopping, library, college, A/C, N/S, pete nego., \$1,025/mo + \$1,500 dep. Now taking applications. Loraine@Gateway Realtty. 459-5363.

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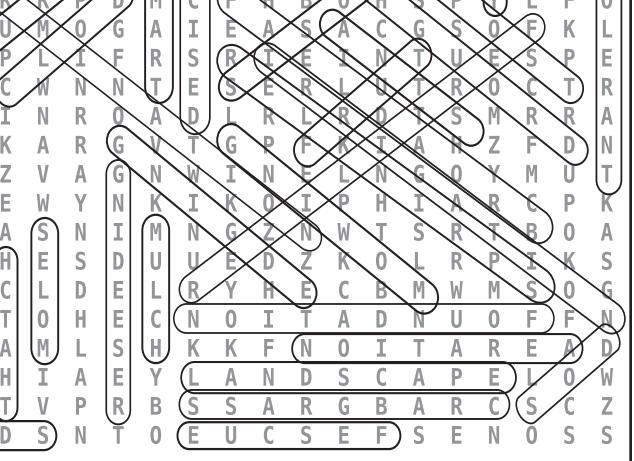
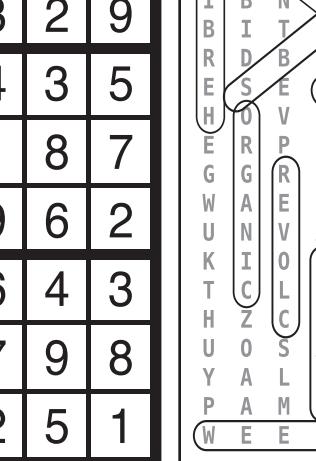
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CLASSIFIEDS!

\$10 | 30 words

| 2 weeks!

Call: 459-2633



REDWOOD REGION LOGGING CONFERENCE

March 13 - 15, 2014

Redwood Empire Fairgrounds, Hopland (707) 443-4091

Info and schedule at: www.rlc.net

Editor's Note: To sign up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, check www.coveredca.com or call Public Health at the Willits Integrated Services Center at 456-3803, Little Lake Health Center at 456-9600 or advocate Zenia Leyva Chou at 472-4654.

Linn Hunter is CEO of Mendocino Community Health Clinic. She has been involved in local health care for 30 years. Contact her with questions or column ideas at lhunter@mchcinc.org.

org.



LARRO | From Page 1

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

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DripWorks: New Catalog Out



With the drought leading to uncertainty, despite the recent rains, about how much water Willits residents will have to garden with this summer, it's a great time to look into a drip irrigation system. DripWorks in Willits, entering their 24th year in business, has everything you need to get an irrigation system for your garden, deck or small market farm up and running.

The recently released 2014 DripWorks catalogue features page after page of drip irrigation equipment and parts, as well as pre-fab garden kits for garden beds, deck gardens, row crops, rose & shrub kits and more. The economy-size deck garden kit, for example, is designed for containers

of all sizes, planters and window boxes, includes a complete set of parts, and waters up to 45 pots. The economy-sized drip tape row crop kit includes 200 feet of 15 mil low-flow drip tape, which is enough to water up to 10 20-foot rows, complete with the necessary tubing, a filter, a pressure regulator, hose couplers, row starts, sleeve ends, "goof" plugs, hold downs and more.

The catalogue also sells gardening tools and Read the rest of DripWorks | Over on Page 11

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Dinner: Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner Saturday, March 15 from 5 to 7 pm at the Veteran's Hall Building \$15 adults, \$7 kids under 12

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Farmers Market Finds



The rest of **DripWorks** | From Page 10

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

The DWR's short report uses figures from Little Lake Valley groundwater studies from the 1960s to the 1980s to calculate how much underground water the valley can hold.

A 1965 study claims Little Lake Valley holds about 50,000 acre feet of groundwater. Another 1965 study claims the valley holds more than 91,000 acre feet of groundwater, the report stated.

The DripWorks website, www.dripworks.com, offers online resources with an incredible amount of information on how to plan and install a drip irrigation system.

Check out the "Gallery of Plans" section for a wide variety of layouts for almost any kind of gardening project, including raised beds, square foot gardening, row crops, rose gardens, vineyards, and greenhouses.

Beside the standard FAQs and Glossary, you'll find a free downloadable Drip Planning Guide, Garden Planner software, a bi-monthly blog, various calculators to help with planning, and a video section filled with 58 helpful how-to featurettes.

An acre foot of water is equal to about 326,000 gallons. Multiplying the 1986 estimate of 35,000 acre feet of water in the Little Lake Valley aquifer by 326,000 gallons equals 11,410,000,000 gallons – or 11.4 billion gallons of water.

Little Lake Valley sprawls for about seven miles and is about three miles wide at its middle.

Recharging of the aquifer occurs at the southern end of the formation, according to the DWR.

The DWR report states that studies show Little Lake Valley's premier water-bearing geologic formation is a layer of gravel, sand, silt and clay about 250 feet deep in some locations.

Iron, manganese and calcium are three common contaminants in Little Lake groundwater. Some high levels of boron also are found in the northern valley, according to the report.

The valley drains to the north by way of Baechtel, Broaddus, Davis, Haehl, Willits and Outlet creeks in the north end of the valley.

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To learn more about Brookside School's Kindergarten program, we invite you to attend an informational meeting: Saturday, March 15 at 10 a.m. at Mendocino College on Commercial Street, or Tuesday, March 18 at 5:30 p.m. at Imagination Station at the corner of Commercial and Marin Streets.

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At right: top: Judges and tasters pose together at the Chili Cook-Off. From left: Willits Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez, Warren Lewis, Miss Mendocino Kassy Aldaco, Kathleen Lewis, and Little Lake Fire Chief Carl Magann.

At right: below left: The Hillbilly Chili team – Chevelle Sperling, Max Sperling and Shannon Thom – won the award for hottest chili. **Below center:** The Beangos – Leslie Challenger, Diana Rippey and Virginia Jorge – adorned in colored mustaches, won the prize for best décor/costume. **Below right:** Jack Isborn took home the best chili award.

See more photos from the event online at:
<http://photographress.zenfolio.com/chilicookoff2014>

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Chili Cook-Off burns up the Senior Center

A hot time was had at the 7th Annual Willits Harrah Center Chili Cook-Off on Saturday. "It was a great time; it was a great turnout," said Mariya Siddons, event volunteer coordinator at the Senior Center.

About 125 attendees tasted chili made by 11 different contestants, and voted for their favorites in several categories. Also on the menu was cornbread, some brought by contestants and some baked in the Senior Center kitchen, and root beer floats.

The Hillbilly Chili team won the prize for hottest chili, and the Yokum's Body Shop team won the people's choice prize for best chili.

Judges Sheriff Tom Allman, Sarah McLean (president of the Harrah Center's board of directors), Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez, Fire Chief Carl Magann, Attorney John Smoot, and Miss Mendocino County Kassy Aldaco gave their "best chili" award to the Spicy Elk chili made by Jack Isborn. The Beangos, adorned in colored mustaches, won the prize for best décor/costume.

And finally, the prize for "The Most Crooked Team" went to Jerry Turner's crew, who collected the most "bribes" in the basket on their table – all going to benefit the Senior Center's Outreach Program, as did all the proceeds from the fundraiser. "They bought the judges," laughed Siddons.

Siddons' own personal favorite chili? "I loved them all," she said. "A big thanks to everyone who entered, everyone who came, all the volunteers and the judges. We'll do it again next year, and we'd love to have even more teams enter."

– Jennifer Poole



Above: "The Most Crooked Team" members: Laura Deffendall, Sandy Turner and Jim Deffendall.

Below: Johnnieann Johnstone at the Yokum's Body Shop table. Yokum's chili won the people's choice prize.

Photos by Maureen Moore



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(3D) 2:30 & 8:30pm
Mon-Thurs:
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(Monday 4:30 show is open caption)

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(PG)
1hr 36mins
Friday:
3:30, 5:45 & 8:00pm
Sat/Sun: 11am, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45 & 8:00pm
Mon-Thurs:
4:45 & 7:00pm

300: Rise of an Empire
(R)
1hr 42mins
Friday:
6:30 & 8:45pm
Sat/Sun: 11:45, 2:00, 4:15, 6:30 & 8:45pm
Mon-Thurs:
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