

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Drought measures have a blind spot

To the Editor:

We're all concerned about the critical drought conditions locally and statewide. The governor has issued restrictions. Residents are conserving. Some agriculture is threatened.

Caltrans has publicized measures they are undertaking to reduce their water usage statewide.

While I applaud Caltrans' conservation proposals, I believe now is also the time to reconsider the very water-intensive construction of the northern interchange as part of the Phase 1 Willits bypass. The northern interchange is designed for a future 4-lane freeway (Phase 2) that is extremely unlikely to ever happen. Because of this design, it paves over some 30 acres of wetlands that recharge the Little Lake Valley aquifer. In addition to potential long-term effects on water supply and flooding, just consider water use during construction this coming summer.

The interchange requires 900,000 cubic yards of fill to raise about three-quarters of a mile of roadway up to 30 feet high, plus constructing four extra bridges. (That amount of fill is estimated to take six months of nearly round-the-clock trucking.) As fill is dumped and spread, it is sprayed for dust control and compaction, requiring millions of gallons of water. Millions more gallons would be used to mix tons of cement for roadways and bridges. This water would be supplied from wells in the valley plus buying treated wastewater (which otherwise mostly recharges the aquifer) from the City of Willits.

A practical alternative exists, using the already-designed roundabout as the northern bypass connection. This option not only saves water – especially important this summer – but it could also save taxpayers' money, construction time, wetlands, and Native American sites. It's not yet too late to scale back this unnecessary interchange. All that is needed is the political will.

Come to "The Willits Bypass, Supersize or Downsize?" forum on Saturday, April 25, 4 pm at the Little Lake Grange, to learn more about these issues and what you can do!

Madge Strong, Willits

WHS 1980s Class Reunion

To the Editor:

Willits High School 1980s Class Reunion is coming June 20! If you went to WHS during the 1980s or have a strong attachment to these fellow classmates, we would love to have you join us!

The venue is the Willits Skunk Train, on Saturday June 20 2015. This is a private charter on the Skunk Train – family friendly – with no-host beer/wine/ snacks (buy your own) on the way to Northspur, with a BBQ stop at Northspur (cost of BBQ included in reservation cost).

The train leaves at 3:30 pm and returns around 8:30 pm. There will be a photographer on board taking candid shots during our adventure, which will be available for you to take home with you. An "After Party" will follow, with DJ music and no-host cocktails – more information will be provided to attending guests.

The cost is \$64.66 per adult (\$48.46 per child on the Skunk Train), with maximum capacity of 200 guests.

The Skunk Train will travel to the mid-point Northspur Station for a delicious barbecue dinner. On the menu is Barbecued Chicken or Tri-Tip (beef), Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans, Green Salad, Potato Salad, Three Bean Salad, Bread, and famous Blackberry Sundae for dessert.

Northspur Station, 322 feet in elevation, is located at the base of the Noyo River Canyon, situated on the banks of the Noyo River. Evenings can be cool, so we encourage you to bring a jacket because dinner is served outdoors

among the redwoods.

If you are interested in helping get the word out or helping with planning, please contact Tanya (Stamps) Petitclerc at 530-559-3577. You can mail your check to Tanya at 257 Laurel Street, Willits CA 95490 or send payment via PayPal to tanyabibeau@yahoo.com. The Skunk Train will not accept direct reservations for this special train.

There is only room for 100 more attendees, and this is sure to be one great party you won't want to miss! Take this opportunity to journey back "home" for a visit if you haven't been around in a while and while you are here, ride the historic Skunk Train and visit with some old friends, lost friends, or make new friends!

Tanya Petitclerc, Willits

'The Willits Bypass, Supersize or Downsize?'

To the Editor:

A forum on this topic will be held on Saturday, April 25, from 4 to 6 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Willits. Speakers and topics will include:

- How to Downsize Phase I – and Forget Phase II: Madge Strong
- Why the Destruction of Pomo Cultural Sites Matters: Priscilla Hunter
- What Caltrans' Mitigation Plans Costs Us & the Environment: Ellen Drell
- How Caltrans Gets OUR Local Transportation Funds: Rosamond Crowder

A Q&A and discussion will follow the speakers; refreshments available. "The Willits Bypass, Supersize or Downsize?" forum is sponsored by Save Our Little Lake Valley (SOLLV), the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Earth First! and Willits Little Lake Grange.

Rosamond Crowder, Willits

Poisoning Little Lake

To the Editor:

A quote from Mike Sturm: foreman of Summer Breeze Ranch (Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese): "If they do any spraying on the ditch fence there," Sturm said, "I'm going to get overdrift. And it's going to pollute the water. I never thought I would be an environmentalist," he added. "Our farm has been certified by the state as being organic, and if they do that, it's going to mess up our organic status bigtime. And as a former user – I've used all these chemicals – they stay in the ground, they don't go away, and they all cause cancer. I don't want to see them out there, and if there's some way we can stop it, I'd sure appreciate it." Willits Weekly, Thursday, March 19, 2015

Caltrans's industrial-scale poisoning campaign is coming to Little Lake Valley starting this summer, and there is nothing you can do about it. Caltrans says so. It is a brand-new component of the \$50,000,000 mitigation package. Caltrans broke the news last year during Thanksgiving. Yeah.

For the first stage, almost 70 acres of poison will be applied, three times a month for five months for several years, a.k.a. 15 times a year. The valley has never been subjected to this amount of poison ever! Compared to the usages of poisons in other valleys in the county, Little Lake can be regarded as a virgin. And it is going to happen just in time for football practice, rodeos and the Kinetic Carnival.

And this is just for the Roundup/Glyphosate for the intrusive blackberries. These are going to be poisoned so that precious indigenous plants can replace them. In

addition, there are bee-killing insecticides and rodenticides to protect the precious plants so they don't get eaten by vermin. So from the very outset, these precious plants – the reason for this chemical carnage – are going to be planted in pre-poisoned ground, and continue to be dosed with poisons for years until they get established. That's insane. It was never supposed to be this way. It was supposed to be the exact opposite.

Previously, not a drop of poison was going to be used. The final report (2006) – essentially what the city and county signed onto – left no room for doubt. "Herbicides would not be used since Caltrans does not use herbicides in Mendocino County." [see page 10: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1/projects/willits/signed_rod_for_willits_bypass_project.pdf]

And up until last Thanksgiving this is what the Caltrans FAQ page claimed:

Common questions and misconceptions.

- "I heard there will be herbicide spraying on the bypass property."
- "There will be no herbicide spraying used on the bypass project."

Caltrans biologists prated this mitigation project as virtuous and green as often as they could. No herbicides. Instead, Caltrans was going to dispatch the blackberries by covering them with plastic tarps. The mitigation was heralded as a magnificent experiment: terra-forming new wetlands to replace wetlands that were destroyed for the bypass.

For Caltrans biologist Chris Collison (quoted in a May 2013 story by Kym Kemp on the Lost Coast Outpost blog): "I'm quite proud of the work we're doing for the salmon. [The] wetlands are actually going to be improved."

"To offset impact," he says, "we worked on ways to help species survive.... *Forever, now, no one can use herbicide on that area....* We now control how to use those lands for the health and well-being of that species." Journalist Kemp notes: "Collison describes an attempt by the agency to protect the land around the bypass as if the area were a park."

<http://lostcoastoutpost.com/2013/may/15/battle-little-lake-valley-debating-willits-bypass/>

But just as we were getting ready to sit down for Big Bird, this appeared on the FAQ page:

"There will be no herbicides used on the *bypass project right of way*, but there will be limited use of herbicides on mitigation parcels to eliminate the non-native invasive Himalayan blackberry."

The biologists have been silent for maybe a year since they found out that a massive poisoning campaign is to be added to their heroic non-poison approach to manufacturing wetlands. They have not even requested some kind of biological impact study.

Do biologists have a working baseline to assess the before-and-after effects on Little Lake Valley from the poisoning? I would imagine probably not; it was never discussed during planning because: "Herbicides would not be used since Caltrans does not use herbicides in Mendocino County."

How will the poison campaign alter the biologists' mitigation designs, methods and their population projections for the salmon, birds, indigenous plants, my dog Spot, and on down to the microbial level? What will be the biological consequences of flooding and runoff? The biologists don't know. They didn't have to.

And there is nothing you can do about it except breathe and obey and pretend the poison does not matter?

Mendocino Board of Supervisors: (707) 961-2696 or (707) 463-4221. Willits City Hall: (707) 459-4601.

Chris Hardaker, Willits

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

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

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

Find us on Facebook



'Mestizo Mysteries'

The Nuestra Alianza de Willits cordially invites the community to this educational – and entertaining – forum on Saturday, April 18 from 11 am to 3 pm at the Willits Community Center.

"Mestizo Mysteries" is a partnership between Nuestra Alianza de Willits, Tina Tyler-O'Shea (a Willits resident and Sonoma State University student), and the Willits Police Department, to raise funds for the Alianza's programs and to encourage cross-cultural activities in Willits. "This is the first time we've done something like this," said Ray Perez, president of Nuestra Alianza. "It will be a learning experience."

Some Alianza members will tell stories about their first impressions of the United States, or how they traveled here. Others will demonstrate how to make enchiladas, horchata, flan and handmade tortillas, which will be served at the end of the program. Young dancers will perform traditional Mexican dances, and everybody can learn the Cumbia, a Colombian country dance.

"We're trying to be involved and put ourselves out there in the community," Alianza member Alexandra said. "Sometimes we don't get the opportunity to meet other people, and we get the wrong idea about who they are. This will give us the opportunity to talk to each other about our experiences."

Tickets at the door are \$15. – Jennifer Poole

Support Willits Frontier Days

2015 program still accepting advertisers for upcoming Fourth of July events

The best way to get the scoop on all the 2015 Willits Frontier Days happenings is to check out the program, created to provide the community with details, a complete schedule, fun facts, and a commemorative keepsake for the year's events.

This year's Willits Frontier Days festivity will run from June 25 to July 5 and include all the favorites like rodeos, the parade, the Hometown Celebration, and much more.

To help get the word out to our community, the official programs will be distributed in the June 25 edition of Willits Weekly and will be on hand at all the events as well.

Programs are free of charge, but are supported by advertisers. The money collected helps to cover the printing and production cost of the program, but is mainly used to fund WFD's Give Back Program and their scholarships, offered annually to the community.

Ad space is still available in the 2015 program, but time is running out to be included. Deadline for ads is May 8.

Choices include four sizes for advertisers: Call Marcy at 272-5395 to place an ad.

DREAMS

You're invited to a Free Workshop

UNLOCK YOUR SPIRITUAL WORLD OF DREAMS

Explore Tools and Techniques to Help You:

- Understand, Interpret, and Remember Your Dreams
- Understand Your Daily Life
- Offer Insights on Health, Career, and Relationships.
- Help You Explore Worlds of Higher Consciousness.

Saturday, April 18, 2015 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Marymount California University Lakeside Campus
3700 Country Club Drive Lucerne, CA 95458

Sponsored by **ECKANKAR** **For info: (877)504-6364**

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

Adam's **707 459-4626**

TIRE
AUTO SERVICE CENTER

Fax: 707 459-1607 Adam Meza, Owner

230 Shell Lane Willits, CA 95490

Imagination Station

Preschool/Childcare Center

Enrolling Year Round

Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Toddler program begins at 18 months • Preschool: ages 3-5 • Elementary program: ages 6-10

Check out our website: www.preschooldaycarewillits.com

or look for us on Facebook

11 North Marin Street • Willits **459-6543**

License #233008945

WILLITS POWER Equipment

HONDA • HUSQVARNA
STIHL • MQ
CARHART • REDWINGS

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

1600 S. Main St. Service: 707 459-0596
Willits, CA 95490 Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420
willitspower@willitsonline.com Fax: 707 459-6369

The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

In the mail: 6 Months - \$40 1 year - \$75 Additional donation included \$ _____

Home delivery: 6 Months - \$30 1 year - \$50 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) (call for details)

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

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

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

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

LOVE THIS PAPER?

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

PayPal

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

Check

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

Cash

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

We offer subscriptions!

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

In the mail: 6 Months - \$40 1 year - \$75 Additional donation included \$ _____

Home delivery: 6 Months - \$30 1 year - \$50 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) (call for details)

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

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

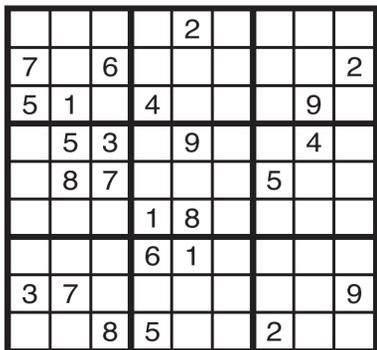
QUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047

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

Puzzle Page & More

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

Sudoku



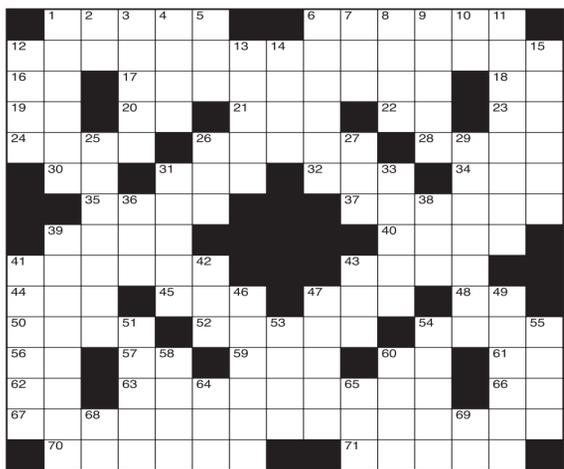
Level: Intermediate



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!

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- Hindu social class
- Hassles
- Pillsbury best seller
- Midway between S and E
- A President's 1st address
- The 24th state
- Atomic #18
- Most abundant mineral in the body
- Ancient Egyptian sun god
- Lansing is the capital
- 12th Greek letter
- 4-stringed Chinese instrument
- Order of the British Empire women
- Watering places
- Atomic #58
- ___ death do us part
- Radioactivity unit
- Consumed food
- Six (Spanish)
- Hosts film festival
- S.W. plateau
- Made of fermented honey and water
- Et-__
- College army
- Flower petals

CLUES DOWN

- A member of the clergy
- Gangster Capone
- The brightest star in Virgo
- Starkist's Charlie
- Amount of time
- Loaner
- Prefix denoting "in a"
- 2nd largest Tunisian city
- Schenectady Hospital
- Toward
- Totalled
- As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- Nonfeeding stage for insects
- Old Irish alphabet
- Brings out of sleep
- Old Spanish monetary units
- Roman God of the underworld
- Pouch
- For all ills or diseases
- Jewelled headdress
- Doctor
- Midway between E and SE
- Financial gain over time
- Tunes
- In a way, ricochets
- Direct a weapon
- Stood for election
- Harm to property
- Plate for Eucharist
- Monarch's ceremonial seat
- Southeast Asia Treaty Organization
- A nostril
- ___ Adaba
- Without (French)
- Wound fibers to make yarn
- Nothing more than
- Political action committee
- Fail to keep pace
- Personal computer
- Indicates position

EMPLOYEE WORD SEARCH

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

AGENCY	DEDUCTIONS	LABOR	PROBATION
AGREEMENT	DISCRIMINATION	LEAVE	REDUNDANCY
BENEFITS	DISMISSAL	NOTICE	RESIGNATION
BOARD	DUTIES	OPERATION	RETIREMENT
BUSINESS	EMPLOYMENT	OVERTIME	SUPERVISOR
CAREER	ENTITLEMENT	PAYCHECK	TERM
CODE	HOLIDAY	PENSION	TRANSFER
CONDUCT	HOURS	PERMIT	WAGES
CONTRACT	JOB SHARING	PRACTICES	WORKER

T. LAWRENCE Construction
 Lot Development
 Excavating • Demolition • Ponds • Basins • Grading
 Construction
 House Pads • Septic Systems • Footings
 Tory Lawrence
 Lic. #A747511
 LTO #A1401
 Insured
 (707) 489-4131
 2000 Center Valley Rd. • Willits, CA 95490

A+ Brush & Grass
 Scott Lebo
 Owner
 (707) 841-7002
 • Fire Prevention
 • Lot Cleaning
 • Hauling
 • Chipping
 • Weed Eating
 • Blackberry Removal

Ivy Accounting & Payroll
 Quickbooks Pro Advisor,
 Bookkeeping Services, Tax Prep.
 No Business too big or small
 Barb Ivy
 707-489-5486
 251 Shell Lane, Unit C
 Willits, CA 95490

Please call your Supervisor to discuss this issue.
 Brought to you by the 501(c)3 Non-Profit EIN #46-1593210 Small Farmers Association

March 20, 2015

Honorable Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
 C/O Marijuana Legalization Ad Hoc
 Low Gap Rd.
 Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: Plant Count Increase Pros and Cons Evaluation
 Dear Members of the Board and Committee,

Thank you for your efforts thus far in diligently reviewing the rather large topic of Marijuana Legalization and potential effects on Mendocino County. Your efforts are proactive and necessary for the economic well-being of our rural community.

It is with urgency we make this formal request to the Board of Supervisors to direct County Council to reach out to the Regional U.S. Attorney General, Melinda Haag, regarding amicable plant caps on medical marijuana cultivation in Mendocino County. Our neighboring counties with higher plant caps and no Department of Justice objection include Lake County plant cap at 48, Sonoma County plant cap at 30 and Humboldt County relying on the District Attorney position of 99 or less without regulation. It is in Mendocino County's best economic interest to direct County Council to inquire with Ms. Haag if such neighboring plant caps in regulation would suffice for Mendocino County.

The Small Farmers Association believes allowing Mendocino entrepreneurs to prepare for upcoming legalization with plant counts more in line with our neighboring producer Counties will help feed all small business in Mendocino County. It will also assist Mendocino County in gaining back their role as a leader in an industry that provides the majority of economic buying power in our County. The SFA has requested the plant count cap be increased to 50 plants...two more plants than Lake County and twenty more plants than Sonoma County.

For your convenience, we have initiated a list of pros and cons to plant cap increases to utilize in your evaluation of a plant count increase in Mendocino County. This list does not include any objection from the federal government:

PROS	CONS
50 plants is sustainable in drought. Please review our Drought Policy attached.	Some may not realize 50 plants is sustainable in a drought.
90% of the time all 50 plants won't survive the entire growing season, resulting in real time plant count less than 50.	
With legal access to water, if there is less water, there will be less plants, allowing nature to create it's own cap on all agricultural commodities.	
County Economy is suffering at an alarming rate. With any farming commodity, increase yields or herds most often results in increased profit for that small business.	
Increased plant count with increased small business profits means increased tax dollars to the County.	
Increased plant count results in increased yield or herds resulting in more new jobs.	The reduction to 25 plants and the hold at that count is creating a pool of unemployed people that are trying to find jobs in other sectors of business with no result...The cost to the County through entitlements is increased.
Increased plant count providing more jobs in the community results in more productive citizens in the County.	
An increased plant county will provide an economic surge in purchasing of products from small businesses, giving some economic relief to small businesses and increase sales tax revenue to the County.	
No other agricultural crop has a cap on how much can be grown. Increasing the plant count moves us further into the realm of real agriculture, again preparing the county for future commercialization of this agricultural commodity.	
With looming legalization/commercialization, small farmers and business entrepreneurs will be allowed to prepare for what is to come with an increased plant count, so they might position themselves to survive the transition.	No plant count increase will illuminate small farmers as they will not be able to prepare and position themselves to survive the upcoming legalization/commercialization.

Whether you are a medical cannabis user or not, we all make up the Community of Mendocino County and act as a community together. Churches, hospitals, vacuum cleaner repair shops, schools, etc. do not use medical cannabis and benefit financially from it, with the majority of their income coming from the cannabis industry. The cannabis industry keeps small businesses open in rural producer counties.

We have been the leader with the 9.31 Program, and we believe with the recent regional summit initiated by Mendocino County, we are moving toward becoming a leader again in this up and coming industry. A plant count increase will assist in bringing us into the leadership realm once more. It will also help salvage what is left of the local small business industry that has thrived for centuries and placed Mendocino County in the top small town places to live in the Country. Without an increase, our rural values and lifestyle are challenged by corporate interests, large and small, who are on our doormat, positioning themselves to take Mendocino County rural values into their hands and shape them to their liking.

Please let the SFA know if there is anything else we can supply for your further evaluation and recommendations.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors,
 Julia Carrera
 SFA Representative
 Neutral 3rd Party Inspector
 www.smallfarmers.us
 www.facebook.com/SmallFarmersAssociation
 707-489-0996

P.O. Box 724
 Ukiah, California 95482
 707-489-0996
 www.Smallfarmers.us

It's time for another round of:

Willits Weekly's 'Phrase Find'

Match the phrases below to their specific advertisement in this edition for a chance at a prize!

Every month, a random week – or multiple weeks – will be chosen for Willits Weekly to run our new Phrase Find contest.

The contest will feature five phrases that can each be found in an ad in the current edition. Each phrase will match only one advertisement.

The first person to **EMAIL** the correct answers to willitsweekly@gmail.com will win a prize.

For this week's prize, Noyo Theatre will provide the winner with TWO FREE MOVIE TICKETS!

Answers will only count as correct if they include the **COMPLETE NAME OF THE BUSINESS**, as shown on the ad where the phrase is found.

Winners will be replied to via email and will receive instructions on how to get their prize at that time. Winners will also be publicly announced in the next round of Phrase Find.

Phrase Find will be run on random weeks at random intervals, so make sure to check often to see if the current edition contains the contest. Phrases will only be pulled from regular display advertisements: not from classifieds, news stories, letters to the editor, Calendar or other editorial content.

Facebook posts, messages, texts, phone calls, personal conversations or any other form of communication will not be counted as entries. **All entries must be emailed to: willitsweekly@gmail.com only.** Email time stamps/order in inbox will indicate the winner in the event of a tie.

- Where do you "HOWL YEAH!"?
- Where can you get an "SF Giants" freebie?
- Who offers "BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION"?
- Where can you buy "REDWINGS"?
- Who can help with "Blackberry Removal"?

Willits Weekly's Phrase Find – April 16, 2015
 EMAIL answers to willitsweekly@gmail.com

March 26 WINNER: Matthew D'Anis

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA
 57 East Commercial Street - Willits
 707-459-NOYO (6696)
 www.noyotheatre.com
 Coming Soon: Avengers 2 & Disney Nature: Monkey Kingdom

PAUL BLART: MALL COP 2
 (PG) 1 hr 34 mins
 Fri: 6:00 & 8:15pm
 Sat: 1:30, 3:45, 6:00 & 8:15pm
 Sun: 12:30, 2:45, 5:00 & 7:15pm
 Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:16pm

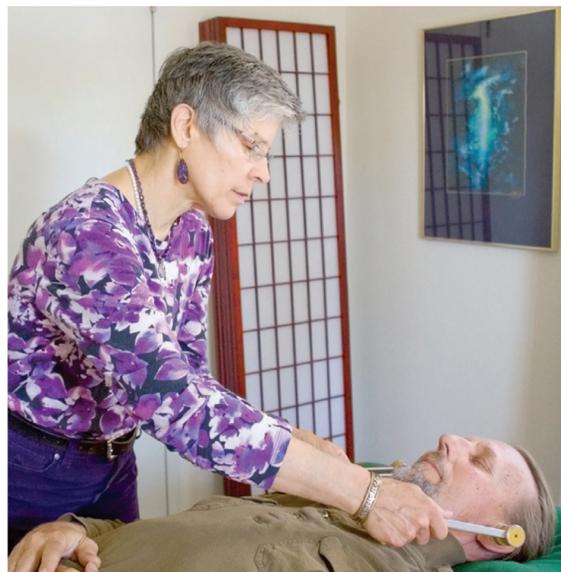
FURIOUS 7
 (PG-13) 2 hrs 17 mins
 Fri: 5:00 & 8:00pm
 Sat: 2:00, 5:00 & 8:00pm
 Sun: 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00pm
 Mon-Thurs: 4:00 & 7:00pm

GET HARD
 (R) 1 hr 40 mins
 Fri: 8:30pm
 Sat: 3:30 & 8:30pm
 Sun: 2:30 & 7:30pm
 Mon-Thurs: 7:30pm

HOME
 (PG) 1 hr 34 mins
 Fri: 6:15pm
 Sat: 1:00 & 6:15pm
 Sun: 12:00 & 5:15pm
 Mon-Thurs: 5:15pm

Movie Times for 4/17 thru 4/23

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



K.C. Chamberlain works on one of her clients, Steve.
 One of the tools K.C. Chamberlain uses in her healing practice are "Acutonics Tuning Forks."
 K.C. Chamberlain taking Steve's pulse.
 Photos by Jenny Senter



K.C.'s Heart & Hands

New healing practice in Willits

Acupuncture without needles? Yes! K.C. Chamberlain, certified massage therapist, uses "tuning forks" instead of needles in her new Willits-based healing business, K.C.'s Heart & Hands.

Chamberlain, who trained at the Heartwood Institute in Garberville, has been practicing therapeutic bodywork since 2004. The primary focus of her practice is the healing modalities of Zen Shiatsu acupressure and Acutonics Tuning Forks. Both these techniques are grounded in Chinese Medicine and use the acupuncture meridians and points for assessment and treatment.

But she also uses natural healing herbs and oils, informed by years of experience as a trained herbalist with western and Chinese herbs, especially her beloved lavender: Chamberlain was co-owner of the former Harvest Moon Farms Lavender in Laytonville for many years.

"I love connecting with people, listening to their needs and tailoring their healing treatments to meet them," Chamberlain said. "My goal is to empower folks by supporting them to develop good self-care habits that lead to greater health and wellness. I am continually inspired by how quickly our bodies can return to balance and harmony through simple, natural practices like food therapy, acupressure and herbs."

Acutonics Tuning Forks are a unique, non-invasive approach to healing that is rooted in Oriental medicine and uses sound to move energy. Think of the forks as "acupuncture without needles." Precision-calibrated tuning forks are applied to specific acupuncture and acupressure points. The sound waves of the forks are profoundly relaxing, and their vibration travels deeply into the body along energy pathways, affecting the body/mind/spirit and stimulating the body's innate healing capacity, promoting wellness, deep inner harmony, health and balance.

Zen Shiatsu acupressure is a form of Asian bodywork therapy, which uses traditional Asian techniques and treatment strategies to treat the human body, emotions, mind, energy field, and spirit for the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health.

Chamberlain is completing her clinical studies in acupuncture with Diane Smalley, licensed acupuncturist. Appointments can be scheduled on Fridays at Abundant Health Acupuncture and Herbs, 750 Central Avenue, and on Mondays at Willits Chiropractic, 1225 South Main Street. For more info about scheduling a session and about the benefits of Asian bodywork therapy, contact K.C. Chamberlain at 707-621-0056 or kchmf@mcn.org.

ADVENTIST HEART INSTITUTE

Live with a healthy heart

Learn about the most current methods of heart disease prevention, diagnosis, lifestyle management and treatment from our expert team of cardiologists.

FREE health screenings, including InBody Fit, blood sugar and blood pressure testing.

Join Us Tuesday, April 21, 2015
 5:30 – 6:30 PM Screenings
 6:30 – 8:00 PM Presentations

Barra of Mendocino Winery
 7051 N. State Street | Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Light Refreshments Provided

ADVENTIST HEART INSTITUTE

Jon Portnoff, MD, Cardiology

Monica Divakaruni, MD, Interventional Cardiology

David Floss, MD, FACC, Cardiology & Cardiac Electrophysiology

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE. RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY BY CALLING 707.467.5270

Thursday, April 16

"Lips Together, Teeth Apart": Get ready for the fireworks with Terrence McNally's award-winning play at Willits Community Theatre, directed by Bill Barksdale. The Tony Award-winning playwright follows two couples as they spend the 4th of July weekend partying on Fire Island – with unexpected results. Runs through April 26. Plays Thursdays at 7 pm for \$10, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$15, and Sunday, April 19 and Sunday, April 26 matinees at 2 pm for \$10. This production contains adult language. Advance tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street, online at www.brownpapertickets.com, or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available for all shows at the door. The playhouse is located at 37 W. Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

Now and Then Film Series: presents "Temple Grandin," as a fundraiser for Lovin' Mama Farm, 7 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. A film biography of Temple Grandin, "an autistic and brilliant woman who overcame the limitations imposed on her by her condition to become a Ph.D. and expert in the field of animal husbandry. She developed an interest in cattle early in life while spending time at her aunt and uncle's ranch. She is noted for creating a humane design for the treatment of cattle in processing plants." Lovin' Mama Farm owners Matt and Corrine, Farmers Market vendors known for their high-quality produce, are raising funds to restart their farm, possibly in Willits, to help create long-term infrastructure for local food. Suggested donation of \$5 to \$50, "to help relocate these young farmers and get them started farming again!" Info: 459-6362.

Friday, April 17

"Lips Together, Teeth Apart": 8 pm. See Thursday, April 16 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub 15th Anniversary Party: Celebrate 15 years of Shanachie Pub! Show opening with Charley Crockett, Texas Soul, Neo-Blues, R&B, and New Orleans music. Visit www.charleycrockett.com/music. Closing with Self-Fulfilling Prophecies, Folk Rock, Grunge, Popping with Buckminster West, Morgan Stocker and Bodhi Idarius. Visit www.myspace.com/selffulfillingprophecies. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, April 18

Auditions for Willits On Stage 3: 9 am to noon this morning at the Willits Methodist Church, School Street across from the Willits Grange. The Willits On Stage 3 Variety Show, a benefit for Willits Community Services, will be held on Saturday, May 2 at 7 pm.



Blosser Lane PTO Goodwill Drive: The community is invited to drop off their used and unwanted household items, gently used clothing, E-waste, furniture and more to help the Blosser Lane Parent Teacher Organization to raise money for

the school. 9 am to 2 pm at the Blosser Lane Elementary School parking lot, 1275 Blosser Lane. Goodwill gives the school \$35 for each box of goods the PTO fills. "The boxes are pretty big but last year we filled 20 boxes," said Windi Kvasnicka, PTO president. "We also get paid by the pound for any e-waste." Questions: 354-0755.

Animal Emergency Planning: a free training at the Laytonville Grange, April 18 and 19, presented by speakers from Northern California animal rescue nonprofit Noah's Wish, to organize an animal emergency network in Long Valley. "Our volunteer network will maintain a storehouse of cages and supplies and set up a shelter for pets and farm animals of all types during a crisis." Learn how to: Plan a rescue operation; organize a shelter; do intake of animals; house different species in appropriate ways; care for animals at the shelter; set up those collapsible cages. Saturday, April 18, 9 am to 4 pm (lunch included), and Sunday, April 19, 9 to 11 am, a drill to practice what the group learned the day before. Please register online by emailing lin@willitsonline.com.

"Knowing & Experiencing God's Love": with Del Duvalet, doctor of ministry, at the Willits SDA Church, 399 West Mendocino Avenue. 9:30 am, 10:50 am, 1:30 pm, and 3:30 pm. Lunch and refreshments provided.

Stephen Stockstetter Memorial Hike: Ridgewood Ranch hike co-led by Tracy Livingston, a ranch resident and historian, and Marisela de Santa Anna, a naturalist and teacher. "We will take a pleasant walk through meadows, redwood forest, and riparian areas, looking at the plants and animals, especially the birds. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a lunch! We will meet at 10 am at the parking area down next to the trailer court at the Ridgewood Ranch. The walk is about 5 miles altogether, and we should be back to the cars at 1 pm." Info: Marisela at 459-2681.

"Mestizo Mysteries": an educational forum presented by members of Nuestra Alianza de Willits, who invite the greater Willits community to learn about their "Mestizo" culture through storytelling, food, and dance. With demonstrations of how to make tortillas and horchata; a cumbia dance teaching session; food, dance performances by young students, and more. 11 am to 3 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. "Mestizo Mysteries is a partnership between Nuestra Alianza, Tina Tyler-O'Shea (a Willits resident and Sonoma State University student), and the Willits Police Department in an effort to raise funds to support Nuestra Alianza's programs and to encourage cross-cultural activities." Tickets are \$15 at the door. See article on page 3 for more details.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of April 20 through April 24
Monday: Lemon Tilapia
Tuesday: Hot Dog
Wednesday: Creamed Chicken, Peas on Noodles
Thursday: Cod
Friday: Turkey Dinner (Birthdays Lunch)
 Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. \$5 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under \$5 \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Responsible Beverage Service Training In Laytonville

No-cost training for businesses that sell or serve alcohol and organizations who serve alcohol at fundraisers. This training is based on standards set by the California ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) and is an educational experience that provides servers with the information and guidance to protect themselves, community group and/or business establishment from legal ramifications associated with serving alcohol to minors, overly intoxicated individuals, or other issues, and how to avoid these issues in the first place!
 This informative and useful training will be held on Wednesday, April 29 at the Willits Center for the Arts upstairs meeting room from 9 am to 1 pm. To register or for more information, contact training sponsor Laytonville Healthy Start at (707) 984-8089.

THE LITTLE LAKE GRANGE & COSMIC PICKLE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
A Spring Fundraiser for the Grange Hall
Afro Funk Experience
 and **TRACORUM**
 with special guest **MYSTIC SOL**
 Advance Tickets \$10 @ the door \$15
 Children under 12 Free
 Advance Tickets available @ JD Redhouse
Saturday MAY 9
 Doors @ 6pm Music @ 6:30
 At The LL Grange 291 School St Willits, CA
 Sound by Ancestor Studio Productions
 Lighting by Rubens Light Show Experience
 Food by Lardito Collective
 J.J. ROSENBERG & COMPANY A LOCALLY OWNED MEATSTORE GROCERY OUTLET



Get Ready for Spaghetti

Firefighters' benefit dinner on May 2
 The Brooktrails Firefighters Association is hosting its Annual Spaghetti Feed, Saturday May 2, from 5 to 8 pm at the Brooktrails Community Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for those under 12. A no-host bar will be provided by the Willits Lions Club.
 Ashes the Arson K9, pictured at left with Fire Chief Daryl Schoepner, will be on hand for a demonstration of Ashes' detection skills. REACH Air Medical Services will be there to answer questions about their services and membership.
 This fundraiser will help support equipment and training for your local firefighters. Tickets are available at the door, or at the Brooktrails Fire Station. For further information, please call 459-4441. To keep up with news about and photos of the Brooktrails Fire Department, "Like" their page on Facebook.

Elemental
 Brush & Lens
 April 4 - 26th
 Willits Art Center 71 Commercial St
 Opening Reception April 4 7-9 pm
 Gallery Hours Thurs-Fri 6-7pm Sat-Sun 12-4pm
 Works by Sandy Strong, Maria Steffen, Michael Steffen, Lydia Sims

COLUMN | At the Movies
'Get Hard'
 The Story: James King (Will Ferrell) is an uber-rich Wall Streeter framed on a charge of fraud. Darnell (Kevin Hart), works in the parking lot of King's skyscraper office building where he has been washing King's ostentatiously expensive automobiles for years. King gets convicted and sentenced to San Quentin so he hires Darnell to teach him how to be tough enough to survive.
 My Thoughts: Though predictable, there are some funny set pieces, and Kevin Hart is a serious maniac of a comic. Hart and Ferrell are on screen in pretty much all of the scenes; they pair well as comedians.
 So, the white guy is lame...totally. The black guy has good instincts and "knows the street." That's all pretty much a cliché. But as I said, the guys are funny.
 Parents: Not for children. There are blow-job jokes, some brief nudity, gay jokes...cartoonish violence...
 Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

Brooktrails Firefighters Association's Annual Spaghetti Feed, Saturday, May 2, Brooktrails Community Center
Willits On Stage 3 Variety Show, Saturday, May 2, Willits Methodist Church
Farmers Market at City Park, first outdoor market of the year, May 7
B.R.E.W. Homebrew Club Beer-and Bread-Making Event, May 9
Willits Walk for Health & Wellness, May 31, starts at J.D. Redhouse

Attention employers and professionals in Willits and surrounding area
FIRST ANNUAL CAREER FAIR
 Hosted by NORTH COUNTY FRIENDS OF MENDOCINO COLLEGE an affiliate of the Mendocino College Foundation
 Share information with students about employment opportunities within your industry and what specific skills and training they will need.
Friday, April 24, 2015
 Mendocino College North County Center 372 E. Commercial Street • Willits
Set-up: 8:30a - 9:00a
Career fair: 9:00a - Noon
 Tables and chairs will be provided. Please bring handouts and/or static displays.
 Please contact Peggy Randrup at the Mendocino College North County Center for additional information at 459-6224.

Buddhist master

gives talks on Buddhist psychology
 Lama Lodu Rinpoche, a Buddhist master in the Tibetan Vajrayana tradition, gives two talks at the Muse in Willits on April 25 and 26, on the topics of "Working with the Self – Taming the Mind" and "Working with Others – Opening the Heart."
 Born in 1942 in Sikkim, in the foothills of the Himalayas, Lama Lodu Rinpoche entered Rumtek Monastery at the age of 8 and received a traditional Tibetan Buddhist education under many of the most renowned teachers of his day, including His Holiness the 16th Gyalwang Karmapa and His Eminence Kalu Rinpoche. His training included a rigorous three-year solitary retreat in the remote mountains of northern India.
 Rinpoche was part of the first wave of Tibetan Buddhists to teach in the West, arriving in San Francisco in the early 1970s to create one of the first centers for Tibetan Buddhist studies in the U.S. He has taught meditation and Buddhist philosophy for four decades to western and Asian students, with a down-to-earth style that reflects humor, kindness and insight.
 The talks will be held at the Muse, 30 East San Francisco Street, from 10 am until noon both days. Private interviews with Lama Lodu Rinpoche will be available following the talks each day. The talks are free and open to all. Info: call 707-456-9425 or visit www.kdk.org.

Cassie and Maggie MacDonald

Celtic duo at WCT, April 26
 Celtic duo Cassie and Maggie MacDonald will bring their high-energy fiddle and keyboards performance to the Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, April 26 at 8 pm. The MacDonald sisters' act encompasses a sheer musical joy, exciting and innovative styles, and a balance with the integrity of classic Celtic tunes. They hear close to their roots and yet also explore and test the boundaries of traditional music, bringing a breath of fresh air to the genre with their original compositions and arrangements. They have been enchanting audiences far and wide with their infectious energy, driving rhythms and lilting melodies.
 Born to a family with a rich musical heritage and raised in Nova Scotia, a province steeped in musical culture and traditions, the sisters have used their unique upbringing as a springboard for their own brand of Celtic Roots music. They are equally at home weaving themes from the Moonlight Sonata as launching into sets of sure fire "reels."
 The duo have been Galaxie Radio Rising Star award winners, Canadian Folk Music Award nominees for "Young Performers of the Year," East Coast Music Award nominees for Traditional Album, and double Music Nova Scotia Award nominees for New Artist and Roots Album of the year. This year they will release their second album, "Sterling Road."
 Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. Willits Community Theatre is located at 37 W. Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).
 – Steve Hellman, for the Willits Community Theatre

A Fundraiser For WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS CLUB
Tri-Tip Dinner & Quarter Auction
Saturday, Apr. 25th
 6:00 PM Dinner • 7:00 PM Auction
 Willits Community Center 111 E. Commercial St. • Willits, California
 \$25 Per Ticket, \$5 Paddle
 "All In" Paddles available at the door
 Tickets May Be Purchased At The House Doctor For Tickets Call Donna @ 459-2752

Willits Charter School Open Enrollment
 Willits Charter School's Open Enrollment period for 6th through 12th grades ends on Thursday, April 30. "Stop by for an application; charter school spaces fill up quickly!" 1431 South Main Street.
Relay For Life invites all cancer survivors
 "We would like to invite you to participate in the 2015 Relay For Life Willits as our honored guests. This year's Relay For Life Willits will be held at Recreation Grove Park on July 25-26 from 10 am Saturday to 10 am Sunday. Our event kicks off Saturday morning by celebrating our survivors at the opening ceremonies followed by a Survivors Lap around the park. We want to celebrate you! We would like to encourage all survivors from Willits, Fort Bragg, Covelo and Laytonville and beyond to sign up now for Relay For Life Willits." Early registration is recommended and will guarantee a "Survivor" T-shirt in your size. To register now, visit www.relayforlife.org and search for "95490" or call 1-877-7848 and an operator will assist you with your registration. Registration is free! All are welcome.



Resentment

Doris Wier
Columnist

Dear Doris:

What do you do when you feel envious or resentful of the good things that are happening for your partner, when you really want to feel pride and pleasure and happiness at your partner's success?

K.

Dear K.:

Congratulations on being so honest with yourself by noticing what you actually feel, despite the fact that you would like to feel differently. That you can acknowledge what is really going on in your heart and mind is courageous and healthy.

The fact that you are feeling some resentment tells me that you may have let slip your own desires and dreams for a while. Perhaps you have been supporting your partner in his/her endeavors to achieve success by ignoring your own desires?

If so, I think it is time for you to take a closer look at what feels unfulfilled in your life. What are your dreams regarding your career and personal life? Do you have any projects that you have put on hold, such as a special training on a subject close to your heart, traveling, writing, or giving one of your hobbies more attention?

In my personal life and work, I use jealousy as an indicator of what we ourselves would like to be doing, being, or accomplishing. It is important that we allow ourselves to explore our own needs regarding success and fulfillment. We can use our jealousy as an inspiration to expand ourselves and move forward. I'm sure your partner had to take some risks to get where he or she is today, and so will you in order to live your dreams.

I recommend that you first figure out what it is you would like to accomplish: how you would like to grow yourself and

Read the rest of
Resentment
Over on Page 9

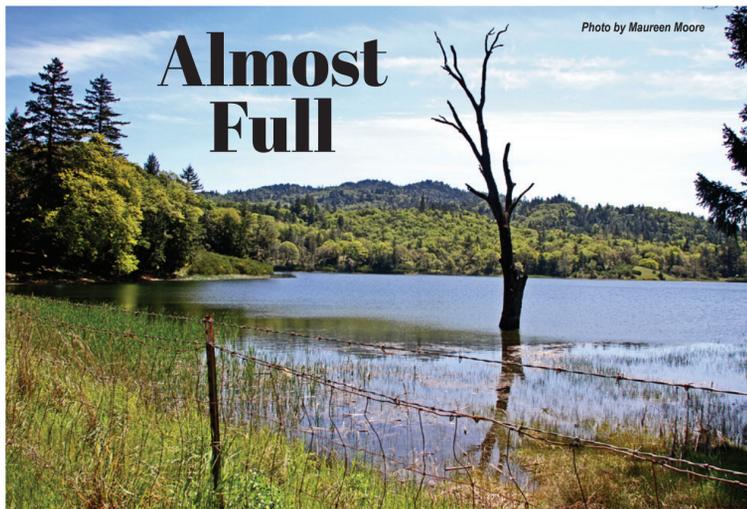


Photo by Maureen Moore

Almost Full

Willits' Centennial Reservoir was looking almost topped up as of Tuesday morning, after the April 5 and 6 rainstorm which dumped somewhere between 1.5 and 1.8 inches of rain in the Willits and Brooktrails. Other pictures Willits Weekly has published during this drought have shown the dead tree in the center right of this photo surrounded by dry lakebed. City of Willits Director of Public Works Rod Wilbum told city council members last week that, overall, the city's water storage is about 1,200 acre feet, up from 1,150 acre feet January 1. He said the city's total capacity for storage is 1,300 acre feet.

Amazing Athletes of Willits High School



Swimming | Damon Neisen,
Senior, 17

Events: Freestyle, 50 or 100, 50 Fly (on relay teams)

Love for the Sport: "The exercise and the competition."

Damon has been swimming for three years at Willits High School. He swims 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle. His best times for the year are :27.47 in the 50 free and 1:02.45 in the 100 free. Damon is a very outgoing swimmer, and he is willing to go the extra mile. His goals for the championships are :25 in the 50 free and 1:00 in the 100 free.

- Coach Mattie Pinon



Swimming | Iahloni Clingman,
Sophomore, 15

Events: Freestyle, 50 or 100, Breast Stroke

Love for the Sport: "Once you get into the water you love everything around you, and you get in good shape."

This is Iahloni's first year swimming for the Willits swim team. She is a very hard worker, working to improve her times at each swim meet. This Thursday will be her first time swimming the 100 breaststroke. Iahloni's best times for this year are :33.45 in the 50 free and 1:12.42 in the 100 free.

- Coach Mattie Pinon



Greywater

Jerry Jordan
Columnist

Although my specialty is drip irrigation, I advocate all sorts of water conservation methods. Greywater is a great option for reusing water productively to irrigate landscaping plants and trees. Greywater comes from sinks, showers and washing machines. Because of dirt, bacteria, lint, soap residue or other particulates it is classified as unsafe to drink or ingest (non-potable).

The simplest way to use greywater is to have a 5 gallon bucket in the bathroom to collect shower or bath water. You can scoop that waste water out and use it to irrigate the landscaping plants in your yard. If you capture water that is used in rinsing produce or the dishes in your kitchen sink, the same thing applies.

Another common way to use greywater is the "Laundry-to-Landscape" system. This taps the used water from your washing machine for landscape irrigation. If you have relatively easy access to your drainpipes, you can plumb a three-way valve from your washer's drain outlet. This allows greywater to flow outside to your landscaping when you need it, or back into the sewer or septic system when you don't.

Laundry-to-Landscape (L2L) systems generally do not require a special permit in Mendocino County, but there are guidelines that must be followed. Your lines can't be run too close to a creek or well. You can't have an outlet that flows into a neighbor's yard. Powdered detergents don't work for L2L systems. Liquid detergents must be plant-friendly - without salts, boron or bleach. Greywater cannot be allowed to pool on the ground, so it requires mulch basins (sunken areas that are typically filled with wood chips or straw) that allow it to penetrate into the soil. For the full list of requirements, you can go to the Mendocino County Gray Water System Guidelines, available online.

If you find any of this confusing or daunting, then you might want to attend one of the regular workshops put on by Greywater Action, based in Sonoma County. They teach hands-on workshops several times a year. A man named Art Ludwig is considered the pioneer of the Laundry-to-Landscape method. He has books, videos and articles on the subject that are readily available.

Laura Allen of Greywater Action has a new book called "The Water-Wise Home," that has plenty of information to guide you through the process of designing and installing your own greywater system. This is available locally at The Book Juggler and through the Mendocino County Library. Or look on the Greywater Action website for certified installers, if you would prefer to hire someone else to do the work.

An important point about greywater is that it is not compatible with drip irrigation. Due to soap residue and lint in the water, it has so much particulate matter that it would clog a drip system. Greywater needs to move through larger tubing and should not touch the edible plants in your

Read the rest of
Greywater
Over on Page 9

Willits Weekly CLASSIFIEDS

30 Words | \$10 | 2 Weeks

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

Brooktrails Flea Market Vendors Needed
2015 Market is Saturday, June 6. Booths cost \$20 each. Vendors check in: 6 to 7:30 am. Market open: 8 am to 3 pm. Call to reserve booth space: 456-0734.

Community Hu Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, April 23, 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 Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

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 macmergin@yahoo.com.

Deluxe Mobile Home For Sale by Owner
If you want a home with all maintenance done, see this one. Very Nice! Features: 1. Double-pane windows. 2. Double roof. 3. Forced air heat. 4. Carpet, vinyl, stove, sink, dishwasher and refrigerator - all 10 years old or newer. 5. New toilets. 6. Painted white throughout. 7. Two new chandeliers. 8. Venetian blinds and drapes. 9. Large cupboards. 10. Big closets, linen closet. 11. Size 24 x 50; 1,200 sq. ft. 12. Two bedroom, two bath; 13. Large yard. 14. Wood utility shed. 15. 900 brick patio. 16. Easy maintenance. 17. 1980 Stoneridge trailer. Great price: \$68,000. 707-459-8570 daytimes. Nothing left to do but move in and enjoy!

Gift Subscriptions
A subscription to Willits Weekly is a great gift for anybody who wants to keep up with what's happening in Willits. Home delivery (to the greater Willits area; papers arrive early Friday morning) is \$30/6 months and \$50/year. First-class mail delivery (papers arrive in Friday's mail to local addresses) is \$40/6 months and \$75/year. Send a check to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits CA 95490, or call 459-2633.

For Sale
Large vintage dresser with trifold mirror. \$75.00 or best offer. 707-889-0752.

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

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

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

Knife Sharpening
Keiths Knife Sharpening returns to Willits. Every Thursday at the Farmers Market. Sharpening knives, scissors, garden tools. 641-297-5376. Farmers Market at the Little Lake Garage, 291 School St, through April.

Help Wanted
Willits Elementary Charter School seeks Office Manager. Multi-tasking and organizational skills computer literacy (CALPADS a huge plus), and a love of kids' crucial. Join a supportive and collaborative environment. Starts FT August 1, but some PT work before that date. **Bilingual strongly preferred.** Salary DOE. Email resume and cover letter to: hiring@willits5charter.org.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Help Wanted at Brewed Awakening Drive-Thru Coffee. Part-time, afternoons and weekends. Experience preferred, but not necessary. Bring resume to 1437 South Main Street, Willits.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must, experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Willits Weekly | April 16, 2015

CROWNS CRNER
Groceries Beer & Wine Pay at the Pump Gas & Diesel
7 am to 11 pm 365 Days a Year
459-4854
1799 So. Main St. P.O. Box 428

The rest of
Deputies | From Page 1

major stations in Willits, Ukiah and Fort Bragg.

Currently the Deputy Sheriffs Association, which represents 40 deputies, is feeling pinched from the 10 percent salary reduction it agreed to in July 2010. The county has not yet agreed to return employees' salaries to 2009 levels, even though it now boasts a General Reserve Fund of \$10.3 million, the highest sum in Mendocino County history.

However, according to Assistant County Executive Officer Alan Flora, it would cost the county \$11.2 million to give back that 10 percent cut to all county employees. At the March 3 mid-year budget review, it was announced the county expects to have a budget carryover of \$859,541 for fiscal year 2014-15.

Allman said county administration has heard his argument and made the DSA an offer. He was not at liberty to discuss details, but said the DSA would vote on that offer in late April.

Allman's budgeted staff of deputy sheriffs consists of 43 positions. Three are currently vacant, three deputies have retired in the past 90 days, and last week two more deputies quit. That means the department is down eight deputies, or 18.6 percent.

"My guys are still under that 10 percent cut. That means some of them are going out there at 2 o'clock in the morning and arresting the bad guys for \$19 an hour. Is that right?" Allman said.

"My goal is to get us back up in staffing, so we can get our resident deputies back out there and hopefully improve the quality of life in those communities," he said.

The rest of
Greywater | From Page 8

garden because of bacteria that could make you sick. I recommend greywater specifically for landscaping plants and trees (including fruit trees). In my vegetable garden, I use only potable water or rainwater in a drip system.

Rainwater is an ideal water-saving option, if you are able to collect it. This is sometimes called "dirty water" due to particulates from the atmosphere that it picks up. However, I have been harvesting rainwater for over a decade, and running it through my drip systems without any problem.

In fact, because my well water is high in minerals, I find rainwater to be superior. It does not cause mineral build-up inside the drip lines. My rainwater supply lasts through most of the summer gardening season, and the plants love it.

Reusable water sources are key in surviving and thriving in the drought conditions we face. You can start simply, read articles or books, check out online tutorials, take a class, or hire a professional to help you build a system that will work for your needs.

Jerry Jordan has been working in the field of water conservation for over 30 years. He and his wife, Cheryl, have a Facebook page called "Driplines: Adventures with Drip Irrigation," where they regularly share information about water-wise gardening.

BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN NOW!
To register bring Birth Certificate and Immunizations Record
Kindergarten program - children 5 years old by September 1, 2015
Transitional Kindergarten - 2 year program for children turning 5 between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2, 2015
Brookside School offers students:
• Full Day Kindergarten
• Experienced, highly qualified staff
• Expertise in teaching children to read
• Academically challenging curriculum
• Art, Music, & Movement
• Social skills development
For more information please call 459-5385.
Brookside Elementary School • 20 Spruce Street

Willits Harrah Center
Serving the Seniors of our Community
Why come to the Harrah Center?
• **Come to lunch!** Monday-Friday, 11:45 am to 1:00 pm
• **Love breakfast?** Every 2nd Sunday, 8:00 to 11 am
• **Volunteer opportunity!** Consider tending a helping hand
• **Low cost transportation!** 8 am-4 pm door to door • 459-6556
• **Medical equipment** Available at no charge
• **Outreach!** Information and assistance
• **Meals on Wheels!** For homebound folks 55 and older
• **Activities galore!** Games, classes, music, presentations
• **Thrift store!** 9 am-4:30 pm Monday-Friday, Saturday 9 am-4 pm 459-2176
Call for more information
459-6826 • 1501 Baechtel Road

Willits Furniture Center Clearance Sale Plus No Tax!
La Bodega
www.WillitsFurniture.com

CASTE UPSSETS
ALL PURPOSE FLOUR
SE INAUGURAL MO
AR CAPARXIMU
PIPA DAMES SPAS
CE TIL R A D A T E
SE IS CANNES
MESA MEAD
CETERA ROTC
ALAAID PANET
ROSSMANANAAHS
ODESMATMDRA
MI APPARELED ON
SEPTUAGENARIANS
SCONCE GESTE

Adam's Restaurant
90 S. Main St
707-456-9226

The rest of
Fuel | From Page 1

water supply system, including redwood water tanks, the water treatment plant, and "along a community trail system which could serve as firebreaks or control lines in the event of a wildfire."

Dead woody material and ladder fuels are being removed, trees less than 6 inches in diameter are being thinned to a minimum spacing of 10 feet, and trees are being pruned to a height of 10 feet above ground level.

Crews will use hand tools and chainsaws to execute the work, which is expected to be completed by June 30.

Vegetation removal is consistent with Brooktrails Fire Department hazard abatement standards.

"Overall, the project will reduce fuel loads and promote forest health," the press release states. "Woody material generated by the project will be chipped on site."

The wood chips will be laid along the greenbelt to help prevent erosion, Brooktrails Fire Department Deputy Chief Jon Noyer told Willits Weekly.

The department will not make the chips available to Brooktrails residents who might want to replace their lawns with more drought-friendly materials, Noyer said, because of the increased fire danger wood-chip landscaping represents.

This report was based on a press release from CalFire's Mendocino Unit.

The rest of
Resentment | From Page 8

expand your life. You might do that alone or explore possibilities with your partner, depending on how you process things as a couple. In any case, share your discoveries with your partner, and ask if she or he would be supportive of the changes you have in mind. I am fairly confident your partner will be more than happy to be there for you. When you feel more fulfilled yourself, you may be able to enjoy your partner's success as you wish to do now. Hopefully, the two of you will have many future successes to celebrate together.

I almost forgot. If you contributed to your partner's success by carrying most of the daily load for a while, give yourself a big pat on the shoulder. Holding the space free for him or her is huge. I'm sure your partner is aware of it too. On that note, you already have a lot to celebrate together.

If you have any relationship questions, please send them to dotisw@embraceconflicts.com or to the Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490. I am happy to answer them anonymously on the third Thursday of the month.

Doris Wier is a certified relationship and life coach who works and lives in Willits. She coaches individuals, couples, families, and professionals. In addition she offers Explorations on conflict resolution and deepening your intimacy and connection in your partnership.

For more information on the process, call 707-456-9246. www.embraceconflicts.com and www.facebook.com/dorisw

TELEPHONE (707) 459-2163
FAX (707) 459-2319
ALFRED F. KERR, D.D.S.
FAMILY DENTISTRY
OFFICE HOURS 12 W. VALLEY STREET
By APPOINTMENT WILLITS, CA 95490

24 Hour 7 Days a Week
Emergency Service • Call Anytime
Tom Wake - Plumbing
Serving in Mendocino and Lake Counties
Full Service Residential, Commercial
• Faucets & Tubs • Garbage Disposals • 20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
• Toilets • Pipe Repairs
• Gas Lines • Fixture Replacement
For Fast Service Call 707-391-4343 Lic. #884811

Room To Bloom Preschool
Where the love of learning grows
239 South Main Street - Willits
Morning & School Day Programs
8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Art • Circle Time • American Sign Language
Outside Play • Snacks • Group Activities
Inquiry Based Learning • Spanish • Infant Care
Call Today to Enroll Your Child!
RoomToBloomPreschool.com 707-456-9743
Preschool #233009710 Infant #233009719

T and T TOWING
RADIO DISPATCHED 24 HR TOWING
Emergency Road Service
707-459-9116
500 D. Pinoleville Dr. UKIAH, CA
277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA

Well Mannered MUTTS
Dog Training
INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION • PUPPY HEAD START • GROUP CLASSES
BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION
Sallie Palmer 707.463.3647
CERTIFIED DOG TRAINER CELL: 707.621.DOGS
WELLMANNEREDMUTTS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.WELLMANNEREDMUTTS.COM

707.459.5193
JOHN FORD RANCH
RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF
No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California



Right: A solar food dehydrator.

Right, center: Michael Hackleman with a solar water-heating collector.

Far right: The solar water-heating collector on site.



YOKUMS BODY SHOP

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

CAR WASH & COMPLETE DETAIL SERVICE

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

NC Financial Group
www.ncfinancialgroup.com
STAXLINC an NC Financial Group Company

Wealth Management
Taxes | Investments | Real Estate | Insurance | Annuities

Nicholas Casagrande, EA
CA DRE #01854336, Insurance #0H68496
Office: (415) 480-3669
Fax: (415) 480-3668
Mobile: (415) 717-0822
nicholas.casagrande@ncf.com
*nicholas.casagrande@ceteras.com
*investment email

22 Battery Street, Suite 401, San Francisco, California 94111
5643 Paradise Drive, Suite 4, Corte Madera, California 94925

BUD GARMAN
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC.

707-459-5859

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

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

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO

APRIL 2015

MONDAY • 9AM-10PM
CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY
Earn 3X Points ALL Day
MORNING SESSION 9AM-2PM
Hourly not seat drawings for \$50 free play
EVENING SESSION 5PM-10PM
Hourly hot seat drawings for \$50 free play.
For each session earn 50 points to receive \$15 bonus play plus a \$2 food coupon.

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

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

THURSDAY • 8AM-6PM
SUPER SENIOR DAY
If you're 55+, this day is for you!
8AM-6PM -
• Earn 50 points to receive \$15 free play.
• Plus 1/2 off coupon for meal special at the Creekside Café.
9AM-6PM -
• Hourly hot seat drawings for \$50 free play.

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

SATURDAY • 4PM-10PM
SATURDAY NIGHT MADNESS
Hot Seat drawings every hour. Win \$50-\$150 free play based on your level of play that day.

SUNDAY • 12PM-9PM
SUNDAY SURPRISE
Hourly hot seat drawings. Winners will choose one of 12 Sunday Surprises to keep the action going.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS
Come celebrate your April birthday here. Just stop by the Players Club booth and present your players card and a valid photo ID to receive your Birthday Bonus Free Play!

707-459-7330
100 Kawi Place in Willits
Management reserves all rights.

Solar Everything!

A free workshop on solar applications at Wowser

There are roughly 1,000 watts of equivalent energy in a 3-foot by 3-foot patch of sunlight at midday in Mendocino County. No energy source on the planet can compete with solar energy. Planet-wide, there is more power in the sunlight that strikes the earth in one day than all of humankind consumes in three years' time.

The first step in tapping this source is learning what the sun's energy can do for you. Solar applications include: ● electricity (PV); ● hot water for domestic household uses; ● dehydration of fruit, veggies, etc.; ● distillation of water; ● cooking and baking; ● air-heating of spaces; ● radiant water-heating of spaces; ● concentration for high heat; and ● water pumping, wells and springs. Most of these

applications lend themselves to inexpensive owner-builder designs and construction using simple materials, tools and skills.

Want to learn more? Attend the "Solar Everything!" workshop at Wowser, 330 East Commercial Street, on Monday, April 20 from 6 to 8 pm. Free seminar, slide show and displays by Michael Hackleman. A homebuilt solar food dehydrator and a solar water-heating collector will be on display. For more info, contact Wowser at 459-9697 or www.wowser.org, or Hackleman at michael.hackleman@gmail.com.

— Michael Hackleman

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Little Skipper

Skipper is a 5-year-old male Poodle mix who currently weighs 15 pounds. He is a social little dog that will make a great addition to his new family. Skipper's nice size makes him an easy traveling companion, and he is at a good age where he will not require extensive training. Skipper gets along with other dogs and should adjust nicely in his new home.

If you're thinking about adopting a cat, take advantage of our "Pounce into Spring" special happening through May 10, and you can name your own adoption fee for any cats that are ready to go home, or \$50 for any cats who will need to stay at the shelter to be spayed or neutered.



Photo by Sage Mountainfire

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6 pm. We have many wonderful dogs and cats, awaiting their forever homes here. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: www.mendosherpets.com or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

OBITUARY | Neil Morgan Elliott

Neil Morgan Elliott

May 11, 1920 – April 8, 2015

Neil Elliott of Willits passed away peacefully April 8, 2015 at Holy Spirit, Willits.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Neil came to California as a youth and graduated from UCLA. He became interested in advertising soon out of college and wrote advertising copy for many large advertising agencies before opening his agency in Los Angeles.



After several years he was offered a position as a spokesperson on television for Apex Technical School in New York flying back and forth every month. He became well-known as "Mr. Apex Man."

Because of his frequent flying, he and his wife of 65 years, Amy, traveled to many foreign countries.

Neil and Amy spent their early years together sailing their small boats and making many trips to Catalina. When they started their family, they substituted horses for sailboats. The reason they moved to Willits in 1986: more room for their horses.

Neil is survived by his wife, Amy, and their children: Paul (Mary) and Dan (Anita) Elliott; grandchildren: Morgan, Franklin, Benjamin Elliott; Maggie (Vilje) Vilponnen; Erik (Sarah) Gijon; Amy (Richard) Ortiz; Brian (Gina) Barth; Eric (Wendy) Barth; and Holly and Heather O'Neil; great-grandchildren: Dylan (Bryanna) Gijon; Nikolai Vilponnen, Rosie O'Neil, Nathan and Andrew Barth, and Elia and Annalise Barth.

Private memorial services will be held in the family home. Arrangements under the care of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

Come get your free SF Giants magnetic 2015 schedule.

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • HEALTH • BUSINESS

CANTUA INSURANCE AGENCY
rcantua@farmersagent.com

(707) 923-2179 786 Redwood Drive Garberville, CA 95442
(707) 459-3276 16 W. Valley Street Willits, CA 95490

FARMERS INSURANCE ANTHEM Authorized Covered California agent norcalquote.com

Randy Cantua

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

Beautifully Crafted Custom Home
On 22 acres. Nearly 2,000 sq. ft. with open floor plan, hardwood floors and gorgeous skylights. Plentiful well water, with solar system, outbuildings, shop and studio. Organic garden with luscious fruit trees. 2 bedrooms, plus office/den.
Only \$419,000

www.pondsun.com • tonysorace@pacific.net

California's drought: Bad and getting worse

Editor's note: Information for this article was gathered from a variety of sources.

California must gather better water-use data, and establish clearer priorities and better drought-management planning if it's going to weather future droughts better than it's doing now, according to a report by the Public Policy Institute of California.

Released in late March, the report came as the state entered its fourth year of drought and Californians continued to fall short of Gov. Jerry Brown's 25 percent conservation target.

The Public Policy Institute report calls for sweeping policy changes, such as stricter oversight of groundwater and charging wasteful users higher water rates.

"If we'd already taken some of these actions, there would be more water in our reservoirs and our underground aquifers today," said Peter Gleick, president of the Pacific Institute, a think tank in Oakland. "Droughts aren't going away, we're going to see more and more extreme weather."

Based on lessons learned from Australia's epic Millennium Drought — which parched the land down under from 1995 to 2012 — California should invest in tracking its water with accurate measurements of flow, quality, storage and use, the Public Policy Institute report says. The state can't manage its water fairly, transparently and flexibly without a clear picture of what it has.

"Our water accounting system is primitive considering that we're the technological leader of the world — there's significant disconnect here," said Jeffrey Mount, a Public Policy Institute senior fellow and one of the report's authors.

Cities and farms must manage demand better and develop reliable supplies, the report found. That means reducing urban irrigation — by installing more efficient watering systems and replacing lawns with less-thirsty plants — and promoting conservation with higher per-gallon water rates for heavy users.

Local water agencies should keep investing in recycled water and stormwater capture projects. And the California Legislature should do more to manage pumping rights and trading of groundwater so aquifers aren't depleted, the report says.

Avoiding depletion of the aquifers should be a priority, Gleick agreed. "Our groundwater situation right now is a free-for-all, and the only people who benefit are those with the deepest pockets and the deepest wells. It's unfair, it's inequitable, it's damaging for the environment, and it just can't continue."

In fact, hundreds of rural San Joaquin Valley residents no longer can get drinking water from their home faucets because California's extreme drought has dried up their individual wells, according to government officials and community groups.

The situation has become so dire the Tulare County Office of Emergency Services had 12-gallon-per person rations of bottled water delivered last Friday in East Porterville, where at least 182 of the 1,400 households have reported having no

or not enough water, according to the Porterville Recorder.

Many people in the unincorporated community about 52 miles north of Bakersfield also have been relying on a county-supplied 5,000-gallon water tank filled with non-potable water for bathing and flushing toilets, The Recorder said.

Emergency Services Director Andrew Lockman, said the supplies of bottled water distributed by firefighters, the Red Cross and volunteer groups cost the county \$30,000 and were designed to last about three weeks, but are only a temporary fix. To get future deliveries, officials are asking low-income residents to apply for aid and for companies to make bottled water donations.

Officials said the problem is partly due to the shallowness of some residential wells in East Porterville that are replenished by groundwater from the Tule River, according to the Fresno Bee. But river flows are way down due to the ongoing drought, leaving some wells dry.

Assemblyman Marc Levine, who chairs the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, said the political will in Sacramento "matches the sense of urgency that all Californians share."

However, an appellate court ruling this week could toss a monkey wrench into Brown's goal, according to the Los Angeles Times.

The governor's April 1 mandate to cut water use from 2013 levels ordered California water agencies to adopt pricing structures that encourage conservation. That means charging higher rates to people who use the most water.

However, state law prohibits water agencies from charging more for water than the cost of producing and delivering it, and a group of San Juan Capistrano residents has challenged the city's rate structure, arguing tiered pricing violates Proposition 218, a 1996 law intended to prevent local governments from gouging taxpayers. That law prohibits agencies from charging customers more than the "cost of the service" provided.

A superior court judge agreed, declaring the city's rate structure invalid in 2013. Since that ruling, the city has flattened its tiers and tied charges more directly to water costs while awaiting an appellate court decision.

The appeals court is expected to rule in the case this week, and its decision could have major implications for agencies that use, or are considering adopting, tiered rates.

The court could return a narrow ruling that pertains only to San Juan Capistrano, or it could invalidate tiered rates entirely, according to the Times. More likely, the court will take a middle road, reminding water districts they must explicitly tie water charges to actual service costs.

Some two-thirds of California water agencies use some type of tiered structure, which charge less for low usage and more as use increases.

Stephanie Pincett, director of the California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA, believes "tiered water rates are crucial to conservation."

"Rates are likely to increase no matter how the San Juan Capistrano case is decided," she said, "and tiered rates are a more equitable way to charge for water use."

In Mendocino County, a press release this week from the

county's Health and Human Services Agency reminds North County residents "the last three years have been California's driest consecutive years in history, and this winter's wet season left much to be desired."

Some inland county residents may take comfort in the fact Lake Mendocino is currently at 79 percent of capacity, and that's "a huge improvement from our level of 47 percent this time last year," the HHSA press release states. The higher lake level has changed the county's U.S. Drought Monitor status from "extreme" to "severe."

But more needs to be done, because California's drought has depleted snow packs, rivers, and lakes, "and groundwater use has soared to make up the shortfall," said Dennis Dimmick, National Geographic's executive editor for the environment. A Stanford University report concluded "nearly 60 percent of the state's water needs are now met by groundwater, up from 40 percent in years when normal amounts of rain and snowfall."

"Groundwater comes from aquifers — spongelike gravel- and sand-filled underground reservoirs — and we see this water only when it flows from springs and wells," Dimmick explained. The United States relies on this hidden — and shrinking — water supply "to meet half our needs, and as drought shrinks surface water in lakes, rivers, and reservoirs, we rely on groundwater from aquifers even more."

"We are drawing down these hidden, mostly nonrenewable groundwater supplies at unsustainable rates," Dimmick said, calling disappearing groundwater an "out-of-sight crisis."

In most years, he said, shallower aquifers recharge as rainfall and streamflow seep into unpaved ground. But during drought years, the water table — the depth at which water is found below the surface — drops as water is pumped from the ground faster than it can recharge.

Central Valley wells that used to strike water at 500 feet deep must now be drilled down 1,000 feet or more, at a cost of more than \$300,000 for a single well. And as aquifers are depleted, the land also begins to sink.

Unlike residents in other western states, Dimmick noted, "Californians know little about their groundwater supply because well-drilling records are kept secret from public view, and there is no statewide policy limiting groundwater use. California property owners can pump as much water as they want from under the ground they own."

In an effort to ease the state's current drought, Gov. Brown, in partnership with local governments, plans to replace 50 million square feet of lawns throughout the state with drought-tolerant landscaping; create a temporary, statewide consumer rebate program to replace old appliances with more water- and energy-efficient models; require campuses, golf courses, cemeteries and other large landscapers to make significant cuts in water use; prohibit new homes and developments from irrigating with potable water unless water-efficient drip irrigation systems are used; and ban watering of ornamental grass on public street medians.

Mendocino County cities and water districts will be responsible for enforcing the new regulations and are required to report violators to the California State Water Resources Board.

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

Moore expects the water board to give a mandate to the city. "We are certain there will be implications for small-size communities like Willits," Moore said.

Part of 2013 and 2014 were times of water rationing for the city.

The most recent action happened in October 2014, when the city enacted Stage 1 of its water-rationing ordinance.

With present Stage 1 rationing in effect, the city seeks a 20 percent water savings through voluntary actions.

While in Stage 1, the city has asked Willits water-users to irrigate during morning and evening hours and wash their cars using a hose with a shut-off nozzle, while fire hydrants will be reserved for fighting fires.

Low rainfall during the winter of 2013/2014 meant conditions at the city's two reservoirs were dire enough to start work on an emergency water treatment plant.

Director of Public Works Rod Wilburn said the city's water storage is at about 1,200 acre feet, up from 1,150 acre feet on January 1. He said the city's total capacity for storage is 1,300 acre feet.

The emergency supply project will pipe well water to a new treatment plant near the city sewer plant on the valley floor.

The building that houses the treatment equipment is completed, but the city has lost its well-driller and needs to secure the services of another driller.

Other aspects of the governor's order have caught the city's interest, noted in a report from City Hall.

Brown aims to replace 50 million square feet of lawns throughout the state with drought-tolerant landscaping in partnership with local governments.

Councilwoman Holly Madrigal talked about the possibility of letting the grass go brown west of the Highway 20 stoplight where the city maintains a grassy area on the side of the road.

"If we did not water the Highway 20 park, that might get us to it," said Wilburn.

Brown's order also called for an old-appliances rebate program, no irrigating with potable water at new homes or developments without drip irrigation, a ban on watering grass on public street medians, and a call for water agencies to make rate structures with conservation pricing.

Brown also called for updating standards for toilets, faucets and residential landscaping in communities, with a charge to take action against communities that ignore these standards.

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

right of way," retired City Planner Alan Falleri said.

Councilman Larry Stranske lobbied his council colleagues to support the project. "I think this is something we ought to go for and go for the whole thing," Stranske said.

Council members approved pursuit of the grant application unanimously.

Councilwoman Holly Madrigal grew up in Willits and said she and students through the years have walked the tracks to and from school.

To the south, Ukiah has succeeded in establishing trails in their community.

"Ukiah has worked through a lot of those hurdles — I think they have gotten it done," Madrigal said.

Stranske talked about the frequency of cars carrying bicycles that he sees on Main Street, and the appeal of the dog park for travelers seeking a respite.

"I think this is a real opportunity to get our community on the map," said Stranske.

City officials met with the Mendocino County Council of Governments leading up to the council meeting last week to talk about the application.

MCOG director Phil Dow said he garnered funding for a Covelo project in the previous funding cycle.

Dow estimated that filling out the application for the money would take 40 to 60 hours.

"I locked myself in the office for two weeks and completed the application," Dow said about the Covelo application. "Applying for funds — as I said — is a little bit onerous."

Council members considered the 10-foot-width of the trail, time spent applying, and engineering estimates.

Councilwoman Madge Strong asked if there will be another funding cycle next year, too.

"Well — the government is running it, so you tell me," said Dow, who went on to say he thought the program would be around in the future.

With consideration given to accident data and schools nearby, MCOG believes the city's application could be a strong contender.

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

spring rains could add to the water supply in both reservoirs.

Last year in mid-April, Rose noted, Brooktrails had sufficient water for 150 days, adding that in 2014 the township received considerable rainfall in late April.

The board set the cap for daily use for single-family residences at 200 gallons per day, or 6,000 gallons a month.

Tuesday's short meeting was highlighted by general congratulations over a March 24 settlement of the lawsuit against the City of Willits concerning the city's sewer plant.

General Counsel Christopher Neary thanked and congratulated each board member for having the

courage and determination to see the dispute through to a successful resolution.

Rose thanked former Brooktrails General Manager Mike Phelan, who was instrumental in creating a climate in which a compromise could be reached.

Board member Ralph Santos thanked Neary. "We wouldn't have gotten this far if it wasn't for you," Santos said.

Directors also scheduled public hearings for two routine items: the water availability charge of \$30 per parcel and the sewer stand-by charge of \$50 per parcel.

Public hearings on these items were scheduled for the board's April 28 meeting.

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

Center for Biological Diversity, Natural Resources Defense Council and Project Coyote.

According to a press release issued this week by the Center for Biological Diversity, Mendocino County agreed to "suspend the renewal" of the trapping contract with the federal Wildlife Services.

"In response to legal pressure brought by a coalition of animal protection and conservation groups, Mendocino County officials agreed today [April 13] to suspend the renewal of the county's contract with the notorious federal wildlife-killing program known as Wildlife Services, pending an environmental review that will include consideration of non-lethal predator control methods," said the press release.

However, Losak said the settlement agreement did not provide for any suspension of the program, or for suspension of renewal of the program.

According to the settlement agreement, the county agreed to schedule a review of the county trapper program, which has been scheduled for May 5.

The county also agreed to provide



Girl Scouts plant 75 redwood seedlings

The girls in Girl Scout Troop 151 planted 75 redwood seedlings last month in Brooktrails, near the Lake Emily Dam.

The troop collaborated with the Brooktrails Township and the Golden State Land Conservancy on this "Take Action" project.

When the girls arrived at 1 pm, holes for the trees had already been dug, with grass cleared around each hole, said Golden State Land Conservancy President Bob Whitney. The girls planted each seedling with native soil, and placed wood chip mulch around the perimeter. A small bamboo stake was planted with each seedling, for support, and the girls watered each tree they planted with a bucket of water from the stream.

"My troop took on this task after completing the third 'Journey' in the Girl Scout Brownie series," said troop leader Saprina Rodriguez. "During the past two years, these girls have been working on the Brownie Quest Award. They've learned about natural resources, the 'Wonders of Water' and the 'Wonders of the Forest,' and how to conserve them. Today they completed their Take Action plan and made

the world a better place!

"A big thank you from Girl Scout Troop 151 to Golden State Land Conservancy and the Brooktrails Township," Rodriguez said, for working with the troop on this fun project.

In May, Troop 151 members are looking forward to an overnight field trip to San Francisco's California Academy of Sciences "Penguins + Pajamas" event. "The girls will be sleeping overnight inside the museum," Rodriguez said. "They can choose to sleep in the African Hall, Islands of Evolution, the Lower Swamp or next to the Aquarium of Penguins." Troop members will have unlimited access to the museum, including "The Rainforest of the World" exhibit, science-themed programming, two Planetarium showings, a late-night story hour, and all-day admission on the following day."

Anyone interested in finding out more about local Girl Scout troops can contact Loretta Tognoli of Girl Scouts of Northern California at ltognoli@girlscoutsnorcal.org or 463-2888, ext. 3005.

— Jennifer Poole



At top, left: Golden State Land Conservancy President Bob Whitney talks to the Girl Scouts about the tree-planting process. At top, right: Unity enjoys planting a redwood seedling. Above: Girl Scouts Yesenia, Charlie, Kendahl, Lillian, Brodey, Unity, and Mariah, with their troop leader Saprina Rodriguez.



Happy Birthday Danya!

Cheers to 34 years, each one brighter than the one before!



MARIPOSA MARKET IS CELEBRATING EARTH DAY!

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22

COME JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FOOD AND FUN!

Festivities include Product Demos, Live Music, Vendors and Storewide Sales!

Raffles featuring goods from all departments!

EARTH-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS ARE 20% OFF!

If you have not visited Mariposa, Earth Day is a great opportunity to experience what our market is all about! Ask a staff member for a tour! See you there!

Studio Joy
THE Place for ZUMBA® and Group Fitness in Willits

NEW THIS MONTH! BEGINNING MONDAY, APRIL 20TH

Ballet Barre returns! Beginning Monday, April 20th, Suzanne Wagner returns to teach 2 different Barre classes: Barre for beginners and seniors Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am and NEW

CLASSES: more advanced Barre class on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 am. Find muscles you never knew you had!



NEW CLASSES: Beginning April 21st, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 am join Kerri Griggs for Insanity, the revolutionary, cardio-based total-body conditioning program, based on the principles of MAX interval training. Work at your own level. Modifications offered. Burn up to 1000 calories in less than an hour!



See our webpage for our full schedule: www.studiojoywillits.com

STUDENT SPECIALS FOR APRIL:

- New Student and Welcome Back! special: 5 Class Card for \$35!
- Zumba® ONLY Monthly Pass: \$75!
- We are currently offering Zumba®, Zumba Gold®, R.I.P.P.E.D.™, Insanity™, and Ballet Barre!

Wellness Program participant with employees of Mendocino County, Howard Hospital and Mariposa Market.

City, County and State fire and police officers get 20% OFF 10- and 20-class cards and monthly passes.

Thank you for your service!

NEW STUDENTS!

Never been to our studio? First class is free!

Studio Joy punch cards make great gifts! Give the gift of fitness to someone you love.

- Children under 13 are always welcome and always FREE

Come like us on Facebook: Studio Joy, Willits

1262 Blosser Lane Willits, CA 707-841-7499