

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Thank you

To the Editor:

I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me at "Draw Til You Drop." I did 36 hours.

Ursula Schlichting, Willits

Plastic trinkets

To the Editor:

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to receive 100 percent of my electricity from geothermal and solar sources, distributed by Sonoma Clean Power.

I am disappointed, however that SCP is distributing a solar gadget encased in petroleum products as a thank you gift! Does SCP not see the irony of being a "clean" company, yet disseminating plastic trinkets? I sent mine back and encouraged SPC to think about the broader consequences of societal consumption of plastic products and how it impacts the environment, specifically climate change and the heap of plastic garbage polluting the Pacific Ocean and killing wildlife.

I encourage anyone who agrees that the world is already encased in too much plastic to send theirs back, too.

Robin Goldner, Willits

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

To the Editor:

With warmer weather on the way, motorcycle riders will be gearing up and taking to California's roadways. The month of May is recognized as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. The California Highway Patrol and the California Office of Traffic Safety will work together all month long to help reduce the number of motorcycle fatal and injury

collisions and to promote roadway safety through education and awareness.

California Department of Motor Vehicles data reports there are over 884,000 registered motorcycles and more than 1.4 million licensed riders. Throughout the spring and summer, the number of motorcyclists on the road will increase. Creating a safer highway environment is the shared responsibility of drivers and motorcyclists alike. This is achieved by staying alert and using common sense and courtesy while on the road.

"No matter how you travel on California's roadways, safety should always come first. Motorcyclists and drivers both share equal responsibility for roadway safety," said CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow. "Motorcyclists are sometimes hard to see and are more vulnerable to collisions than other drivers. Be alert, share the road, and look twice for riders."

According to preliminary data from the CHP's Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System, last year 476 motorcyclists were killed in traffic collisions and more than 14,000 others were injured. In 2015, there were 494 motorcyclists killed and more than 13,500 injured. Riders can help protect themselves by always using turn signals, avoiding riding in a vehicle's blind spot, following the rules of the road, and always riding sober. Wearing an approved U.S. Department of Transportation-compliant motorcycle safety helmet and proper protective gear can mean the difference between life and death.

Motorists can also do their part by sharing the road. The majority of multi-vehicle motorcycle collisions are caused when other drivers simply did not see the motorcyclist. It is important for motorists to understand the safety challenges faced by motorcyclists, such as size and visibility. Look twice for motorcyclists and leave plenty of space between your vehicle and the rider.

"With great weather and scenery, California has always been a state where motorcycling for recreation and

commuting takes place virtually year-round," said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. "But both riders and drivers must be constantly aware of the dangers. We all have to be mindful of every vehicle around us and share the roadways with safety in mind."

The CHP realizes that traffic collisions can happen to anyone, regardless of their skill level, which is why the CHP strongly encourages all riders, new and experienced, to enroll in the California Motorcyclist Safety Program. The CMSP was developed in July 1987 and has 120 training sites throughout the state. The CMSP trains approximately 66,000 motorcyclists per year, and as of 2016, the CMSP has trained more than 1 million motorcycle riders. For more information or to find a training site near you, visit californiamotorcyclist.com.

"The CMSP's mission is to make motorcycling safer by reducing the number of riders killed or injured every year through continued training and education," said Commissioner Farrow. As part of Motorcycle Awareness Safety Month, the CMSP and the CHP unveiled a new media campaign, which includes public service announcements that will be broadcast on radio, television, social media, and billboards throughout California. The mission of the California Highway Patrol is to provide the highest level of "Safety, Service, and Security" to the people of California.

California Highway Patrol, Sacramento

Meet the new Willits police chief

The City of Willits invites the community to a "meet and greet" with new Chief of Police Scott Warnock on Thursday, April 27, at 5:30 pm. Chief Warnock will be ceremonially sworn in at approximately 6 pm at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street.

The rest of Slide | From Page 1

... maybe equivalent to or even exceeding the amount that initially came down the hillside."

Special equipment was airlifted in, and Caltrans contractor Ghilotti Construction began working night and day "to the maximum extent possible consistent with safety." The company managed to clear away debris sufficiently to allow one-way controlled traffic through again by 6 pm on Monday, April 24, with flaggers and "spotters watching the hillside 24/7 for rock fall," according to the "Caltrans District 1" Facebook page. By that time "well over 2,000 dump truck loads of soil had been hauled away to nearby fill sites," and an estimated 25,000 cubic yards of rock and soil had slid down the slope.

The third slide occurred at about 9 pm on Tuesday, April 25, and stayed "active all night." A remarkable video catching the slide was taken by a driver waiting her turn to go north and is posted on the Caltrans Facebook page.

This newest slide, according to Frisbie, brought down an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 cubic yards of material – mostly rock.

The Caltrans District 1 Facebook page is updated often, and is a good source for anyone wanting the most up-to-date information and pictures of the slides and the work being accomplished.

In response to some criticism that Caltrans was letting vehicles through the slide area too soon, Frisbie referred to the video noted above, saying it showed the system they have in place works. He said this landslide had been fairly predictable: If there is going to be a slide, activity does not taper off, and the size of the rocks increase. This, he said, is what can be seen in the video. The spotters scanning the slope with complete nighttime illumination could see the activity was increasing and were able to provide sufficient advanced warning.

Caltrans does have a longer-term plan for stabilization of the slope. According to Frisbie, the plan will consist of "trying to bring down unstable rocks and soil in a controlled manner," with road closures for as much as an hour at a time when material is coming down. He estimated the project could take two to three months, but "could probably be done in two to three weeks" if the road remained closed.

When Caltrans' geologists deem the slope stable, debris dumped by the slides, which is below the road, will be removed as much as possible. Two lanes could then reopen.

This particularly difficult two-lane stretch of road is the subject of a 2003 report titled "Landslides in the Highway 101 corridor between Leggett and Piercy,

intended to investigate bypass options and identified five possible routes to eliminate the two-lane segment. The focus of the study changed, however, to the building of a bypass around Confusion Hill due to repeated landslides at that site.

Background information on the area in the report, though, explains the reasons for the instability of slopes in this area. Citing "Norris and Webb, 1990, p. 364," the report notes: "The Eel River is of special interest because it holds the record for the greatest average annual suspended load for any stream of its drainage area or larger in the United States; it exceeds both the Colorado and Mississippi in this respect! In tons of sediment per square mile of drainage basin, the Eel yields four times as much as the Colorado and 15 times as much as the Mississippi.

"These very high rates are due to a combination of factors," the report continues, "including very high annual rainfall, soft, easily eroded sedimentary rocks in the basin, a multiplicity of landslides, and [pre-1973] timber-harvesting practices."

The report also notes: "Precipitation is a major factor influencing landslides," and this segment of highway "passes through one of the highest rainfall regions in California."

The report closes on a cautionary note. "U.S Highway 101... traverses a particularly rugged and landslide-prone area between Leggett and Red Mountain Creek south of Piercy. Those landslides that have moved most recently are most likely to move in the future, and... the types of movement that have occurred in the past will occur again."

Local business has been affected by the highway closures. Jerry Ward, president of Solid Wastes of Willits, said the road closure had been "a huge problem" for SWOW because of its contract with the Humboldt Waste Management Authority.

The report was initially



Above, from left: Tyler Vesey, who played the driver in Thursday's mock accident, receives comfort from ambulance medic Kristen Colvig. Little Lake Fire Department's Tylor Yador and James Morgan from Anker-Lucier Mortuary cart off one of the "bodies" from the scene. Willits Police Officer Michael Bennett gives Vesey a breathalyzer test. Vesey paces around the wrecked car as students arrive on scene. Below, left: Vesey's younger brother, Carson Miller, in gore makeup, was another victim of the crash. Below, right: Students arrive on scene to see the wreck and the Grim Reaper.



Photos by Maureen Moore

Every 15 Minutes

Willits High School senior stages traumatic scene showing dangers of drinking and driving

The dangers of drinking and driving can be all too real, and precautionary warnings seem ever more important for the youth of Willits High School, especially approaching the eve of the 2017 Senior Prom, to be held Saturday, April 29.

WHS senior Alexia Duran, 17, took on coordinating the "Every 15 Minutes" event, held at the high school once every four years, as her senior project to address an issue which hits very close to home for her.

"I had a 'soccer brother' pass away last October due to drinking and driving," explained Duran, who is also a member of the Lady Wolverines soccer team. "I know the pain all too well of what a tragic situation can result, and I really wanted to have the reality of how bad it can be make an impression to the students here and help to prevent another tragedy."

On October 23, José Luis Lara-Villegas, 19, was killed just before midnight during a drunk driving accident.

The Every 15 Minutes program – which highlights the fact that every 15 minutes someone dies from an alcohol-related accident – is held to offer students, teachers and the community a chance to learn a valuable life lesson, without the real-life risk. An elaborate effort is undertaken, from injury makeup and fake blood to a staged car wreck, and police, ambulance, fire and undertaker services are all played out as if the accident was a real-life experience. Students who come to observe the scene not only witness the 911 call, but also the arrival of emergency personnel, use of the Jaws of Life extraction equipment, removal of bodies, and a DUI test and eventual arrest, all under the watchful eye of the Grim Reaper.

It is a truly impressive and horrific production to watch, but, that's the point. It's not real, but it can be, all so easily.

When Duran started to write the script for this year's event, she chose to steer away from the traditional two-car accidents of years past, and

Read the rest of 15 Minutes | Over on Page 6



Above: Little Lake Fire Department's Eric Alvarez calls in additional support after arriving on the scene.



At right: The Grim Reaper surveys the single-car wreck with passenger d'Artagnon Meek lying across the hood.

At right, below: A body sheet is laid over the "deceased" victim.



At right: Four of the actors for "Every 15 Minutes," including Tyler Vesey, Vanessa Camp, Steven Duran and Ricky Bravo.



Below, left: Ukiah Rotary's Charlie Kelly, who played the Grim Reaper, stands with Adrian Brito, event planner Alexia Duran and Willits Police Department's Michael Bennett.



Below, right: As emergency personnel help clean up the scene, Vesey must perform additional sobriety tests as explained by Officer Bennett.

At bottom, right: Alexia Duran smiles for the camera as the students approach the scene.



The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

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Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku



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

Level: Beginner

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!

ON THE FARM WORD SEARCH

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

ACRES	FARMER	LAMB	SEASON
AGRICULTURE	FARMHOUSE	LAND	SILLO
BARN	FENCE	MANURE	STABLE
BLOOM	FIELDS	MULE	TRACTOR
CAT	GRAIN	PASTURE	TROUGH
CORN	HARVEST	PIG	WEATHERVANE
COW	HAY	FLOW	WHEAT
DAIRY	HEN	POND	WORKERS
DOG	HORSE	PROCESS	
DONKEY	IRRIGATION	ROOSTER	

1	2	3			4	5	6	7
8			9				10	
11							12	
13				14			15	
16						17		
18				19	20			
			21				22	
			23			24		
		25				26		
		27			28		29	30
							31	32
							33	
34							35	
36							37	
38							39	
40							41	
42							43	

CLUES ACROSS

- Computer security philosophy (abbr.)
- 'Antman' actor Paul
- Region
- Heart veins ___ cavae
- Stem
- Public house
- Outdated monetary units
- Experiences again
- Took possession of (Brit.)
- Absolved
- 'His Airness'
- Unhappy
- The entirety
- Meds without prescription
- James Bond is one
- Signal
- Midwife
- 'The Who' guitarist

CLUES DOWN

- Prejudice
- Known for its sultans
- Boston hoopster
- An evangelistic meeting
- Inconsistent
- Challenged
- Hideaways
- Members of
- Menonite sect

- 'Independence Day' actor
- East Asian territory
- Moved slowly
- God of Assyria
- Highland
- Photographers' requests
- Makes tractors
- Witnesses
- Not beginnings
- Prosecutors
- Cogently
- Univ. of Maryland mascot
- The Caspian is one
- Greek letter
- Law degree
- Respected
- Resin-like substance
- A basis for
- Popular horror movie franchise
- Basements
- Boxing promoter King
- Plucked
- Small amount
- Shape-memory alloy
- Metal plates
- Resonated
- Sickness
- Coercion
- Franz van ___, German diplomat
- Type of ranch

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

April 17 to April 23
By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 147 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

April 17

10:52 am: MOULTON, Elyse Maria (73) of Willits was contacted in the 10 block of Marcela Drive. She was arrested on charges of Felony Assault with a Deadly Weapon Other Than a Firearm.

11:52 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Williams Street.

4:53 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

6:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 20900 block of Baechtel Road.

7:15 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1000 block of Poplar Avenue.

9:27 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Madrone Street.

11:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the intersection of Highway 20 and Coast Street.

April 18

4:40 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1300 block of Main Street.

8:01 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

11:16 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

4:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of panhandling in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 800 block of South Main Street.

8:38 pm: ROZEK, Zacharia Lewis (40) of Redwood Valley was contacted in the 1300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on charges of Violation of Probation and Failure to Appear.

April 19

8:38 am: NEAGLE, Richard Jay (31) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of South Humboldt Street and East Valley Street. He was arrested on charges of Public Intoxication.

11:01 am: Officers initiated a hit and run collision investigation in the 100 block of School Street.

3:29 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:58 pm: MAXFIELD, Justin Case (20) of Willits was contacted in the 500 block of Railroad Avenue. He was arrested pursuant to 11550 HS (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance) and on charges of Violation of Probation.

9:20 pm: LINARES, Hilario Vizcaino (28) of Covelo was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on charges of Felony Vehicle Theft.

6:13 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of South Street and issued a warning.

10:38 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:31 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East

Commercial Street.

3:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

4:55 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

6:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1100 block of Magnolia Avenue and issued a warning.

9:57 pm: ARELLANO, Jose Luis Corona (60) of Ukiah was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on charges of Driving Under the Influence, Blood Alcohol Content Over .08, and Driving with a Suspended License.

April 21

5:16 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

9:30 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

1:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

2:29 pm: HILL, Justin Vance (47) of Mendocino was contacted in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road. He was arrested on charges of Failure to Appear, Violation of Probation, and Disobeying a Court Order.

4:09 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

6:08 pm: HEILIG, Jeremiah Daniel (36) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 602 PC (Criminal Trespassing) and on charges of interfering with business.

8:19 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Bush Street.

April 22

12:07 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

8:10 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 300 block of Maple Street.

2:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of fireworks thrown from a vehicle in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

2:54 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

11:51 pm: COKER, Edward Hite (60) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on charges of Felony Violation of Probation and Falsely Personating Another.

9:02 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of Hazel Street.

11:39 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 600 block of South Main Street.

1:07 pm: SANDERS, Jason Robert (35) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on charges of Misdemeanor Failure to Appear.

7:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of East



Jose Luis Corona Arellano of Ukiah.



Edward Hite Coker of Willits.



Hilario Vizcaino Linares of Covelo.



Photos by Mathew Caine



Above, from left: The Willits Community Garden entrance behind the Sheriff's Office substation near Recreation Grove Park. Anthony Ward, flower guru and author of "Being With Flowers: Floral Art as Spiritual Practice," gathers flowers for his creations. A compost pile heaped with weeds. Garden managers Tina Tyler-O'Shea and Sarah Marshall take a break from digging in the dirt. Below, from left: Sarah Marshall, one of the garden managers, and Paul Jacobson, gardener with WELL's Thousand Sunflowers Project, discuss growing plans. Tamey Sheldon isn't afraid of a little dirt. Armando Nieto, Jerrin Amelino and Austin Perry of CCC help clear the ground cover.



Cultivating Fun

Willits Community Garden revitalized with Earth Day work party on Saturday

"Earth Day should be every day." The managers of the Willits Community Garden, Tina Tyler-O'Shea and Sarah Marshall of North Coast Opportunities agree. "I think Earth Day is every day," Marshall said, "especially for people who work in environmental fields. For people who are in gardens, every day that we get to be outside cultivating the earth is an earth day. But I think Earth Day is a special day for people to remember, 'Oh yeah, we only have one world, and there is no planet B.'"

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

"I think it is a great day when everyone can come together over a common issue that we should all be concerned with ... our Earth," she continued. "It's great that there are so many events going on, especially in Willits. It's a great community day and we have beautiful weather. I'm happy to be out here."

Indeed, everyone out at the Willits Community Garden preparing the land for planting, pulling weeds, and braving the mud from two days of rain, seemed dedicated and in great spirits last Saturday, wanting to help Mother Nature to create food for their tables. "We're having a work day for Earth Day, focusing on revitalizing our gardens. The Willits garden is one of the oldest gardens in our Gardens Project through NCO," said Marshall.

Tyler-O'Shea explains: "Our garden has been here since 2006. This is our kickoff for the 2017 season. It's very overgrown. We had relentless rains this year, and then the sun peeks out and the grass has become 4 feet tall. We're here to make it a workable garden again, sign up new members, and get returning members back in, working on their plot."

"A portion of the garden is going to be dedicated to the Caring Kitchen Project, which will kick off in July," Tyler-O'Shea continues. "Modeled after the Ceres Community Project of Sonoma County, it will procure, prepare and deliver healing meals for cancer patients. We are going to work with local teens to create the garden space and to teach them where their food comes from and help them to gain a healthy respect for the process."

Marshall and Tyler-O'Shea are grateful to the California

Conservation Corps of Ukiah for their valuable volunteer help in conditioning and preparing the garden space, located behind the Sheriff's Office substation next to the Recreation Grove Park on Lenore Street. The garden can be accessed behind the county offices on East Valley Street just east of Lenore.

Willits Weekly spoke with some of the first-time and returning gardeners at the work day. "This is the best plot I ever came up with," said Mike A'Dair, writer, reporter, director and production manager at the Willits Community Theatre. A'Dair plans to grow tomatoes as his main crop. Last year he had four plants which produced over 70 tomatoes.

Tamey Sheldon, who is also an NCO employee, loves to get her hands dirty in the life-giving soil and loves being part of the community. "Earth Day means just taking a moment or a whole day to really appreciate the earth that we live on and all that it gives us," she said.

Susie Dean has had a plot in the garden since 2010. She lives in Brooktrails where she can't get enough sun to grow veggies on her property. This year she plans to grow tomatoes (cherry, heirloom and pineapple), summer squash, and cucumbers, among other produce. She has had a cover crop, Austrian peas, since last season in order to keep the ground conditioned and replace the nitrogen in the soil.

There are a few plots at the Willits Community Garden remaining to be claimed. For further information, contact Sarah Marshall at 462-1958. Plots are only \$20 per year to defray the cost of water. Don't worry if you are less than proficient or knowledgeable about gardening. There are mentors available; indeed all the gardeners love to pass on their experience and love of gardening. Additionally, there are three monthly workshops to help the beginner become successful.

"As long as you are willing to make the commitment to your garden plot, we are willing to have you," the garden managers proclaim.



Above: Sarah Marshall and Mike A'Dair - "Willits Gothic." Below: Rochelle and Kayla Fink tend their garden.



WHS Wrestling Team Fundraiser

La Siciliana is hosting a Winemaker Dinner/Raffle
Monday, May 8th, at 6:00pm
Fetzer Vineyards has graciously donated the wine specifically paired with each course and will educate us about each wine

DINNER MENU	
Featuring Chef Victoria Pisciotta	
First Course – Appetizer	
Green Dinner Salad	
or	
Caesar Salad	
Second Course – Entrée	
Chicken Parmigiana	
on a bed of spaghetti	
or	
Eggplant Parmigiana	
on a bed of spaghetti	
Each entrée comes with a side of sautéed spinach	
Third Course – Dessert	
Cannoli	
or	
Italian Ricotta Cheesecake	

Tickets are \$50 per person and MUST be purchased by May 5th (Includes 1 free raffle ticket)

By phone 707.459.5626 with CC or in person at La Siciliana

opted to do a single-car crash, that also had a deep family twist: Not only would the driver of the car end up killing two of his passengers, but he would also fatally strike his brother, who would be riding a scooter on the road.

Duran enlisted the help of fellow senior Tyler Vessey to play the intoxicated driver, and seniors Vanessa Camp, d'Artagnon Meek, and Ricky Bravo to be backseat passengers, and Duran's cousin and WHS junior Steven Duran to ride in the front seat.

Vesey's actual younger brother and WHS freshman, Carson Miller, was on the scooter.

"I started planning the event back in September," explained Duran. "I talked to everyone to make sure they wanted to be involved, and we started working on the project back in February."

Part of the project is creating a video that will be shared with the school, and online, of the complete event.

Back in February, all of the non-accident and non-hospital scenes were filmed, including the students at a party, Duran's car traveling from the valley down East Commercial Street, shots of Vesey at the jail and being fingerprinted, and footage of Miller with his mom at home, heading for the skate park, and then eventually at the morgue.

As the Thursday, April 20 event drew closer, Duran said Little Lake Fire Department's Eric Alvarez was able to track down a white Honda Civic – similar to the one Duran owns that was driven in the beginning scenes of the movie – from TNT Towing, to use as the crashed vehicle.

Duran's mentor and WHS health teacher Jennifer Barrett gathered supplies for the gore makeup – including trololini and grape jelly for mangled brain tissue – and the actors finalized their memorization of the scripts and started doing makeup at 7 am that morning.

"We had a lot of help from all the law enforcement agencies, especially on the day of the event," said Duran. "I really appreciate the time everyone took to help make this event such a success."

The school was called to evacuate just around 9 am, and the students, unaware of what was happening, walked down Main Street, down Commercial and came upon a terrifying scene.

The white Civic was crumpled against a telephone pole just east of the Willits Frontier Days rodeo grounds. Vesey, distraught and just beginning to understand the gravity of the situation, was pacing around the car, calling to his friends to wake up and on the verge of tears. Meek lay across the hood after being ejected through the car's windshield. Duran, Camp and Bravo were all in various states of distress, drenched in fake blood and moaning for help. Miller lay, sprawled across the east bound lane, scooter at the yellow dotted lines, clearly lifeless.

Once the 300 students had made their way to the scene, a 911 call was placed over the loudspeaker. Sirens started heading towards the accident scene. Willits Police Officer Michael Bennett arrived on scene and continued to call for the assistance of other agencies as he checked on the passengers, and escorted Vesey aside.

Additional law enforcement personnel showed up quickly and were followed by the Little Lake Fire engines and the Verihealth/Falck ambulance.

The sea of students watched as the law enforcement personnel checked the actors, covered

Miller in a drape, cut the door and roof off the Honda to extract some of the kids still in the car, and also witnessed the staff of Anker-Lucier Mortuary come and remove students on the stretcher in body bags.

Vesey had to submit to a sobriety test, and was placed in handcuffs at the scene. He sat in the back of the police car as the students walked past, making their way back to the high school.

Later that afternoon, some 20 students joined Duran and Wendy Reynolds Buckley of Walnut Creek at the Willits KOA campground for a special post-event retreat.

"I found Wendy online and asked if she could come speak to us," explained Duran. "She was 5 years old when she was in a car crash caused by a drunk driver that killed her parents and younger sister. Now she gives talks with others about her experience."

Reynolds Buckley stayed overnight in Willits and then attended the Friday presentation at the high school where she spoke to the entire school. The video filmed during the project was shown, and actors read their "dead letters" consisting of their thoughts and feelings they wish they would've been able to share with their parents, families and friends, if they hadn't been a part of the tragic accident.

"The auditorium was filled with tears," said Duran. "I cried through my speech, and I knew everyone in the room was feeling the sorrow for what could have been. I really appreciate all the people who took their time to message me, tell me how impressive and impactful it was for them. With prom coming up and warm summer nights, it's all the more important for people to remember how dangerous drinking and driving can be."

Kristin Vesey, mother to both Tyler and Carson, also spoke at the event, and Duran herself concluded the presentation, speaking about her experience and about her dear friend José Luis Lara-Villegas.

"I want to say how extremely proud I am of Alexia Duran for doing such an amazing job with this project," said Kristin. "The six main characters involved did a fabulous job as well. I've known that my two sons were going to be a part of the 'Every 15 Minutes' for a while. It is a great program. As a mother, playing the role that I did was extremely traumatic. The tears you saw in the morgue scene were real, as were the ones on Friday as I read my letter to the WHS student body."

"At the reenactment on Thursday, I had tears in my eyes and had to look away as my son was being zipped into a body bag," Kristin continued. "I also had a hard time hearing the cuffs go on Tyler and seeing him being led away to the police car. Even though this was just 'fake,' they were real, raw emotions, and I never want to experience those feelings for real. This program is great, and I hope that it will save the lives of some of our youth. Please, if you drink, don't drive. Make smart choices!"

"I am so proud of Alexia. She made being her mentor effortless," said Barrett. "She was organized, and had great composure when managing the many challenges that a project of this magnitude presents. It was really her drive and vision that made this event possible."

The video is online for anyone to view, and already has almost 5,000 views. Duran encourages everyone to "watch it and be influenced by it." Search for "Every 15 Minutes Willits High School 2017" on www.youtube.com to view the video.

"We needed some expensive materials to move forward with the bleachers project," said John Sherman, building official with the City of Willits, "and time is of the essence," to make sure the home ground of Willits' biggest event of the year is ready for the big crowds this summer.

Sherman made the presentation to the council on Friday, and was pleased to get unanimous support. "It was a great gesture," he said, "recognizing the value of Frontier Days to the town, the value of not having to postpone this event that has happened for 90 years."

Sherman said the broken parts of the bleachers – which WFD owns – were being replaced "in kind." "We're remanufacturing them, and putting the grandstand back in place the way it was," he said. "Many of the materials for the project are specialized, custom-order, and we had to be able to pay for the order to receive delivery for it."

Sherman said the city and WFD Vice President Marcy Barry had both engaged in extensive conversations with REMIF, and the insurance agency had agreed in concept to the basic price of the repair and renovation work.

"California codes dictate that when you have substantial repair work, alteration or additions in one area of a facility," Sherman said, "you have to bring that area up to current standards, and bring the 'accessible' path from the parking area to that area up to standards, too. If there's restrooms along the way, you have to bring them up to accessible standards. It's state law, and we want to do the right thing. We want people with disabilities to understand clearly they are welcome there."

Work has already started on the project, Barry said. "The weather is not helping us, but we're working in between rain drops!"

The funds advanced on Friday will not cover any labor, and WFD volunteers and community partners will be doing the work, Barry said. "Our community is amazing, and they are totally helping us out any way they can. We're an all-volunteer organization, and we're doing all the work, with a general contractor overseeing all of us."

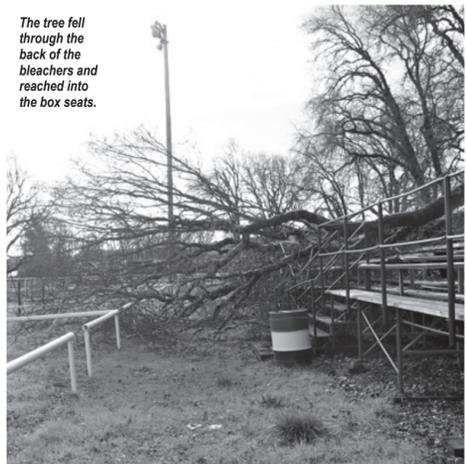
Barry mentioned Nor-Cal, Northern Aggregates, Mendocino Construction Services, Granite Construction, and Mendo Mill as among the companies stepping up to help.

"All the contractors and suppliers have been amazing," Barry said. "We just want to make sure the community knows it's not the city's 'job,' it's WFD volunteers doing the work, working with the general contractor. There's no pay."

She also thanked the City of Willits for their support. "I can't say enough good things about the city," she said. "They support us 110 percent."

"Everybody pray for sun," Barry concluded.

This year's Willits Frontier Days celebration is set for June 23 through July 4. See the schedule online at www.WillitsFrontierDays.com.



The tree fell through the back of the bleachers and reached into the box seats.



Above, from left: K9 Handler Deputy Jonathan Martin poses with K9 Cam, who received a new bullet-proof vest. K9 Sergeant Joey DeMarco is happy to know his K9 partner, Ruddick, is safe in his new ballistic vest. Doc Holiday, Sheriff's Office K9, proudly wears his new body armor.

Sheriff's Office K9s receive body armor

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office K9s Cam, Ruddick, and Doc Holiday have received bullet and stab protective vests thanks to a charitable donation from a non-profit organization, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

News of the donation prompted MCSO K9 Unit Sergeant Joey DeMarco to proclaim: "This is great! We go into some dangerous situations, like illegal marijuana grows, work with the SWAT team, track fleeing felons, and conduct parole and probation searches. It's nice to know that my K9 partner Ruddick also now has the same protection as me when tracking or going into a situation where there is a known armed suspect."

MCSO K9 handler Deputy Jonathan Martin added, "Thanks to the ballistic vest from Vested Interest in K9s, my K9 partner will be safe when he is apprehending criminals and protecting Mendocino County."

MCSO K9 handler Deputy Jeffrey Andrade exclaimed: "News of the donation was very heartwarming. Knowing Doc Holiday will be protected in the same way I am will help bring peace of mind when we are faced with dangerous situations."

MCSO Lieutenant Kirk Mason, who oversees the Sheriff's Office K9 Unit, stated: "The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office program has been in existence for over 20 years. During this time our canine partners have evolved from being strictly protection partners to person trackers, evidence seekers and tactical partners. As a result we have seen a marked increase in deployments and an increased awareness of our canine partners' capabilities by both sworn personnel and community members."

"The donation of these vests will allow our canine partners to safely work side by side with their handler, in day-to-day situations which tend to increase in both numbers and complexity. Our handlers will now have the peace of mind in knowing that their canine partner will be deployed in all situations, knowing that their canine partner has the highest level of affordable protection currently being offered."

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, Massachusetts. Their mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to law enforcement dogs throughout the United States. The non-profit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four-legged K9 officers.

Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 2,400 protective vests, in 50 states, through private and corporate donations, at a cost of over \$1.9 million. All vests are custom-made in the USA by Armor Express in Central Lake, Michigan.

The program is open to dogs actively employed in the U.S. with law enforcement or related agencies who are certified and at least 20 months of age. New K9 graduates, as well as K9s with expired vests, are eligible to participate.

The donation to provide one protective vest for a law enforcement K9 is \$1,050. Each vest has a value between \$1,795 and \$2,234. The vests – average weight of 4 to 4 pounds – come with a five-year warranty. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

K9 Cam's vest is sponsored by The Hausman Family Foundation and embroidered with the sentiment: "This gift of protection provided by the Hausman Family Foundation." K9 Ruddick's vest is sponsored by Bruce Crist of Monterey, and embroidered with the sentiment: "Justice delayed is justice denied." K9 Doc Holiday's vest is sponsored by Robin Doerr Russell of Sonoma, and embroidered with the sentiment: "With love from K9 Lucie, Sonoma, CA."

For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts tax-deductible donations of any denomination at www.vik9s.org or mailed to P.O. Box 9 East Taunton, MA 02718.

This story was based on a press release by Captain Gregory L. Van Patten, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.



OBITUARY | Bonnie Cook

On April 14, 2017, Bonnie Cook gently passed away surrounded by light and love.

Bonnie Mae (Bundtrock) Cook was born in Great Falls, Montana on May 8, 1927 to Arthur and Mildred Bundtrock. She was preceded by three siblings, Evelyn M. Bundtrock (Cook), Roy Bundtrock and Raymond Bundtrock. Her beloved husband, Sherman (Bud) Cook, passed in 2008.

They shared an interest in crafting and gardening. She loved being a part of The Golden Rule Garden Club and helped with many events. She earned many prizes for flower arranging at the Redwood Empire Fair.

Bonnie loved playing bridge with her friends. She began practicing yoga when she moved here in 1983. She was a part of the Shirley Temple group that had breakfast together with the Burlys after yoga at Ardella's.

In the last 15 years she traveled two or three times a year to be with her sister Evelyn's extended family for major events. She played key roles in skits and dances put on at family celebrations.

She will be missed by all, her family in Idaho, nephew Allan and Donna Bundtrock and family in Boise, Idaho; nephew Art Bundtrock, who preceded her this year, and his wife Sharron and family in Great Falls, Montana; niece Connie and Bob Shaw and family in Laguna Hills California; and nephew Dennis, wife Lou Cook and family in Fresno, California.

A celebration of Bonnie's life and 90th birthday will be held at the Golden Rule Club on Sunday, May 7 from 2 to 4 pm.



Willits Weekly
459-2633
972-7047

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Adam's Restaurant
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New phone number
707-409-4378
Open Tuesday through Sunday Closed Mondays

BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
20 Spruce Street
Online Kindergarten Registration will be:
Thurs., April 27 & Fri., April 28, 2017
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM at Brookside Library
Our Kindergarten program is for children 5 years old by September 1, 2017
Our 2-Year Transitional Kindergarten Program is for children turning 5 between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2, 2017
Please Bring:
1. Emergency contact information
2. Active e-mail address
3. Birth certificate
4. Immunization records (please bring any immunizations you have)
5. Your child, for a 20 minute assessment done at the time of registration. Please expect to spend extra time if you have not pre-registered. (We will have computers available to help you register.)
Your student will receive a FREE "Welcome" bag, on a first come, first served basis.
*Students who turn 5 between December 3, 2017 and February 3, 2018 will be placed on a waiting list to enroll for TK. Enrollment decisions will be made in August and will be based on: testing, student maturation and space availability.
If you have any questions, please call the Brookside office at (707) 459-5385 or visit our website at brks.willitsunified.com

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA
57 East Commercial Street - Willits 707-459-NOYO (6696) www.noyotheatre.com
Happy 77th Birthday to THE NOYO THEATRE May the 4th Be With You!

THE BOSS BABY BORN LEADER (PG) 1 hr 37 mins Fri: 3:20, 5:40 & 8:00pm Sat/Sun: 1:00, 3:20, 5:40 & 8:00pm Mon-Wed: 4:40 & 7:00pm Thurs: 4:40pm	THE FATE OF THE FURIOUS (PG13) 2 hrs 16 mins Fri: 4:45 & 7:45pm Sat/Sun: 1:45, 4:45 & 7:45pm Mon-Wed: 3:45 & 6:45pm Thurs: 3:45pm	GOING IN STYLE (PG13) 1 hr 36 mins Fri: 3:45, 6:00 & 8:15pm Sat/Sun: 1:30, 3:45, 6:00 & 8:15pm Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:15pm	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY: VOL. 2 in 3D & 2D (PG13) 2 hrs 17 mins SPECIAL PREVIEWS! THURSDAY MAY 4th (3D) 7:00pm (2D) 7:30pm Advanced tickets on sale at the box office.
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Movie Times for 4/28 thru 5/4 This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

YOUR TAXI HAS ARRIVED!
REDWOOD TAXI SERVICE
For Willits and Surrounding Areas
Call or Text Us at 707-354-6200

SUNDAY, MAY 14
A Mother's Day Celebration!
Raise a toast to the special women in your life this Mother's Day at BARRA of Mendocino Winery in Redwood Valley. Your ticket includes brunch and a complimentary glass of wine. The whole family is welcome, so bring the kids too!
BARRA Call for reservations
7051 N. State Street Redwood Valley / 485.0322 / events@barraofmendocino.com

Kids Club Carnival joins Healthy Family Fair
It's Fun! It's Free! All ages are invited!
Food, games, prizes, bike event, pet consultant, diabetes and blood pressure testing, chair massage, smoothie bike, summer safety, tooth fairy, elder care, and many more activities for kids of all ages, parents and grandparents!
Friday, May 12, 3:30-7:00, Baechtler Grove Middle School Yard
1150 Magnolia St., Willits, CA
Questions? Call Avenues to Wellness 456-9676

WILLITS PULSE FITNESS
1 YR Contract: \$40/mo. E.F.T. Spouse/Add On: \$30/mo.
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24 HOUR ACCESS
(707) 459-6172
865 S. Main St. Willits, CA 95490
Sign up now and GET ONE MONTH FREE!
Staffed Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 3 to 7 pm Tuesday & Thursday: 8:30 am to 1 pm

Thursday, April 27

"Art Under 20": Last chance to see the April gallery show at WCA will end Sunday, April 30. Art work from about 125 student artists from Willits and Laytonville. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Meet Chief Scott Warnock: The City of Willits invites the community to a "meet and greet" with new Chief of Police Scott Warnock on Thursday, April 27, at 5:30 pm. Chief Warnock will be ceremonially sworn in at approximately 6 pm. City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street.

Friday, April 28

Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner: Marinated tri-tip, grilled to perfection, four baked potatoes with sour cream and butter, salad, four Emmental rolls, four cookies, and a rose from Flowers by Annette. All bagged up and given to ticket holders at the Rodeo Grounds drive-through pickup. Tickets must be bought in advance. \$50 for dinner for 4. Available at Cat's Meow, or from members of the Class of 2017, or call: Linda Matz 459-6201, or Karen Theil at WHS 459-7700 ext. 1504.

"Dinners from Around the World": The Methodist Church invites the public to the latest in their series of "Dinners From Around the World," featuring an international salad and dessert bar, and music by Emmandal Chorale. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Willits Senior Center Nutritional Program. Friday, April 28, 5:30 pm. Suggested donation \$12 adults, \$10 ages 6-10, and under 5 free. United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. Tickets at Mazahar, or call the Methodist Church, 459-2855, for reservations.

Youth Poetry Night: Open mic poetry reading under the auspices of Mendocino County Youth Project. All ages welcome. Emceed by Tristen Cockrall. With a "dance slam" and a Youth Art Show, too. Friday, April 28, 7 pm. No charge. Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street.

Shanachie Pub: Mendo Dope (Old E and Bleezy) play a fundraiser for Northwest Families for Autism, combining all genres to form a "New Strain of Music." Friday, April 28, 9 pm. \$10 cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, April 29

Willits Youth Football and Cheer: Sign-ups are now starting for the upcoming 2017 youth football and cheer season for Willits area youth ages 7-14. Sign-up days are April 29, May 6 and May 13 at the Little League field on East Commercial Street. First day of practice is August 1st. Check "Willits Youth Football and Cheer" page on Facebook for details about fees and what is required to sign up.

Community Emergency Response Training: North Coast Opportunities, the City of Willits and OES trainer Mike Carter offer a free special Community Emergency Response Team class for Brooktrails and Willits. "CERT educates individuals, and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations." Classes are free. Classes take place on three consecutive Saturdays, April 29, May 6 and May 13, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. Cal Fire's Howard Forest Station, 17501 Highway 101 south of Willits.

Cookie Bake-Off at the Museum

Saturday, May 13

In celebration of the current exhibit, "Second Shift: 100 Years of Housework," the Mendocino County Museum is hosting a Cookie Bake-Off Competition on Saturday, May 13, from 1 to 3 pm. Bring your best cookies to enter the competition or sample the entries and vote for your favorite! Entry forms are due May 8. Event is free with museum admission. For more information and to enter visit www.MendocinoMuseum.org.

"Second Shift: 100 Years of Housework" explores how women have approached housework over the last century and how changes in technology and social expectations have changed how women cook, clean and care for children. The exhibit features many items from the Mendocino County Museum collections as well as items loaned from residents of the county including a 1910 stove, 1970s apartment washer and dryer, cookbooks from different eras, sewing machines, and vintage advertisements.

Volunteer Meals on Wheels driver needed

for short Brooktrails route

The Harrah Senior Center is looking for a volunteer or two to take on the Meals on Wheels route in Brooktrails every Friday and/or every other Tuesday. Volunteers, who would be driving their own car, would meet the in-town driver at the old Vassar's Pizza parking lot to pick up the meals at around 11 am and would be finished by noon. The need is urgent: "If we can't get somebody, we will have to let the clients know they can't have a meal on those days," said Deb Holcomb, volunteer/Meals on Wheels coordinator for the Senior Center.

Volunteers will be asked to fill out the center's volunteer application and to provide a copy of their current driver's license. Those interested in helping to provide this vital service or who have questions should call Holcomb at the Senior Center: 459-6826.

Meet the New Police Chief

April 27

The City of Willits invites the community to a "meet and greet" with new Chief of Police Scott Warnock on Thursday, April 27, at 5:30 pm. Chief Warnock will be ceremonially sworn in during the meet and greet, at approximately 6 pm. This event takes place at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street.

What's Happening Around Town

Class size limited! To register: NCO Volunteer Network, 707-462-1959 / kharrison@ncoinc.org.

Shanachie Pub: *Mendonesia styles itself as, "a live explosion of psyche sounds, and country licks with pop sensibility."* Saturday, April 29, 8 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.



Mendonesia

Sunday, April 30

Comedian Marc Yaffee at WCT: Stand-up comedian Marc Yaffee is self-described as "tall, dark and hilarious." He has appeared on PBS, Comics Unleashed, The Latino Laugh Festival, more. Sunday, April 30, 2 pm. Tickets \$15. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). Advance tickets available at Mazahar, online, www.brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 1-800-838-3006. Tickets also available at door.

Please Support Our BIGGEST FUNDRAISER Of The Year!

Willits Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner

Fri, April 28, 2017

Tickets may be purchased at: **Cat's Meow** 29 S. Main St. Willits

PRE SALE ONLY!
Or Call:
Linda Matz 459-6201
Karen Theil WHS 459-7700 ext. 1504

Dinner includes: Complete meal for 4 (people), Marinated, BBQ'd Tri-Tip, Baked Potatoes, Salad, Rolls, Cookies, and a Beautiful Rose from Flowers by Annette.

Health Fair: Free health screening which includes: body-metrics, blood pressure, blood glucose, peak mental performance test, health and spiritual counseling (if desired), children's activities. Sponsored by the Willits Seventh-day Adventist Church. Sunday, April 30, 10 am to 3 pm. 90 South Main Street (the old Rexall Building).

Monday, May 1

Shanachie Pub: St. Cinder, a "vagabond swing group" of six musicians busking from town to town. Mandolin, clarinet, bones, five-string banjo, percussion, tenor banjo, violin, and everybody sings. Monday, May 1, 8 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.



St. Cinder

Tuesday, May 2

Willits High School Varsity Softball: Willits vs. Ft. Bragg. 4 pm. Willits High School Softball Field, 299 North Main Street. (Coach Magnus Forkner).

Willits High School Baseball Home Game: Willits vs. Ft. Bragg. Varsity plays at the WHS field, 4 pm (coach Rick Yador); junior varsity plays at City Field, 4 pm (coach Darren Wisdom).

Avenues to Wellness First Tuesday Speaker Series: Acupuncturist Diane Smalley will speak

on the topic: "Eight Hours of Sleep" which will look at sleep in relation pain, stress, nutrition, and circadian rhythm. Also, the connection between blood sugar, adrenal glands and sleep. Tuesday, May 2, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: 456-9676.

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movies: "Fate of the Furious," "Boss Baby" and "Going in Style." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696. Happy Birthday to the Noyo Theatre, which is celebrating its 77th birthday!

Wednesday, May 3

"Caring Kitchen Project": April Cunningham and Tarney Sheldon from North Coast Opportunities will speak about their newest project which aims to enroll teen volunteers in a meal preparation program for cancer clients of the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County. Part of North County Women in Business' monthly first Wednesday series of meetings/speakers. Wednesday, May 3, 8:15 to 9:30 am. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: Tina Tyler-O'Shea 456-3827.



Self Fulfilling Prophecies

Thursday, May 4

Chamber Mixer at NC Financial: "Tacos, Tapas and Margaritas Frescas" are featured at the Willits Chamber of Commerce's After-Hours Business Mixer on Thursday, May 4, from 5 to 7 pm, at NC Financial Group, 675 South Main Street. Host: Nicholas Casagrande, EA; refreshments by Lisa Davis of Scoops. Wine poured by Handley Cellars; entertainment by Frankie J. Info: Pam 415-819-6934.

Friday, May 5

Willits High School Varsity Softball: Willits vs. Kelseyville. 4 pm. Willits High School Softball Field, 299 North Main Street. (Coach Magnus Forkner).

Willits High School Baseball Home Game: Willits vs. Kelseyville. Varsity plays at the WHS field, 4 pm (coach Rick Yador); junior varsity plays at City Field, 4 pm (coach Darren Wisdom).

Free Personal Document Shredding: Savings Bank of Mendocino hosts an on-site personal document shredding. Limit: three 35 pound boxes per person. Friday, May 5, 1 to 3 pm. Humboldt Street parking lot behind the Savings Bank.

Eight Hours of Deep Restful Sleep!

Do you know your adrenal glands can wake you up?

Learn the connection between blood sugar and sleep

Discover how to fall asleep and stay asleep!

Willits Center for the Arts

Willits High School Wrestling Benefit Dinner

Monday, May 8

La Siciliana is hosting a Winemaker Dinner/Raffle Monday, May 8, at 6 pm, benefiting the WHS Wrestling Team. "We are fundraising for a new mat and uniforms for the 2017-2018 season." Price is \$50 per person; tickets must be purchased by May 5. "Fetzer Vineyards has graciously donated the wine specifically paired with each course and will have a representative at the event to educate us about each wine." Guest Chef Victoria Pisciotta will be preparing the entrees in coordination with the La Siciliana staff. "An event to remember. Thank you for your continued patronage of La Siciliana and helping provide needed funds for these dedicated young athletes."

Mother/Son Dance

Friday, May 12

On Friday, May 12, the First Annual Mother/Son Dance will take place from 7 to 9 pm at the Willits Community Center. Couple tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door (\$5 each additional person). Tickets include two 4x6 photos. Contact Ashley Jewell on Facebook, or text: 707-354-0402.

\$5 for ages 10 and younger. Friday, May 5, 5 to 8 pm. Long Valley Garden Club, 375 Harwood Road, Laytonville. Please see any Laytonville Lioness to purchase tickets or get your tickets at the door.

Laytonville First Friday Returns: On the first Friday of every month, from May through September, the Laytonville Art Angels invites the public to an evening of arts, crafts, wine, food, craft beer and entertainment. This event, Friday, May 5 this month, takes place from 4 to 8 pm at Alberts, 44851 North Highway 101, and its purpose is to promote local Laytonville artists and provide a conduit for these artists to showcase their works.

Shanachie Pub: "Cinco de Mayo Party!!!" Self Fulfilling Prophecies, local group rocks elements of punk, folk, and rock. All original compositions. Friday, May 5, 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, May 6

Willits Youth Football and Cheer: Sign-ups today for the upcoming 2017 youth football and cheer season for Willits area youth ages 7-14. See Saturday, April 29 listing for more details.

Craft Fair: The annual Spring Craft Fair, indoors and outdoors, on Saturday, May 6, 9 am-4 pm. First Baptist Church of Willits, 145 Wood Street. Info: 459-2144.

Monthly Garden Class: Ron Woolsey's class at the Phoenix Rising Garden will focus this month on weeding and soil preparation. "All classes will be based on what the garden and the seasons dictate." Saturday, May 6. Class is free, but donations gratefully accepted. Subsequent classes will be on June 3, July 8 and August 5. Phoenix Rising Garden is on North Street between Redwood and Pine. Info/registration: 489-5408 (leave name and number, convenient time for call back).

3rd Annual Mother's Day Boutique and Garden Tea Party: Join Energize Willits for the Third Annual Mother's Day Boutique and Garden Tea Party, featuring vendors, artisans, and food from the local community. Misty Made candles, handmade cutting boards, a pop-up LulaRoe Boutique, locally crafted jewelry, and much more! Food from Pilon Kitchen Truck with Venezuelan cuisine. Sweets by Venezana Organic Bakery. A portion of the proceeds to both Willits Charter Schools. Saturday, May 6, 11 am to 4 pm. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Info: Megan at 583-9386.

Brown Bag Lunch at the Hub: Looking for ways to make a positive difference in the Willits community? Come to the next Brown Bag Lunch at 12:30 pm on Saturday, May 6 at the Willits Hub, 640 South Main St., just south of Mariposa Market. Hosted by Willits Economic Localization/WELL) "At initial meetings participants brainstormed

many ideas for improving our community. New ideas are still welcome, but we're also zeroing in on implementing actual projects. One example is growing 1,000 (or more) sunflowers in Willits – all along Main Street, at the freeway interchanges, and in front and back yards. Sunflowers add beauty and identity to Willits, and they're also pollinator-friendly!" Info: Paul at 459-1418, or 4paulj@gmail.com.

Kentucky Derby Fundraiser at Ridgewood Ranch: This event raises funds for Redwood Community Services. Features country singer McKenna Faith, Kentucky Derby-themed drinks, hors d'oeuvres, catered lunch, with a Derby Hat Contest, silent and live auctions, bidding booth, and live coverage of the 143rd Kentucky Derby. Tickets: \$80. Saturday, May 6, 1 to 6 pm. Historic Howard House, 16200 Highway 101. Tickets may be purchased at www.rcskd.eventbrite.com.



Art Openings at WCA: Willits Center for the Arts hosts two shows in May: upstairs is "One of a Kind," a retrospective collection of paintings by fine artist, Holly Cratty, who passed away in 2012; and downstairs is "Vessels," featuring the world-class ceramics of HP Boom IV and the black-and-photography of Craig Gardner.

Saturday, May 6. Members-only talk with the artists, 6 pm; public is welcome at 7 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

Shanachie Pub: Sandy Poze & Bob Herman, guitarist and bassist for Sonoma County's Rhythm Method, will play acoustic Americana, blues and swing. Saturday, May 6, 8 pm. \$5 cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, May 7

Celtic Master Musicians at WCT: Fiddler Ryan McKasson and guitarist Eric MacDonald, each a virtuoso on his instrument, play traditional Scottish ballads and jigs. "With native banter and good humor, McKasson and MacDonald create a warm environment, drawing in listeners without pretense." Sunday, May 7, 2 pm. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. Advance tickets \$15, available at Mazahar, or online: brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets at the door until sold out.

Concert at the Community Center: Stiky Graffix presents an all ages punk and thrash metal show featuring headliner D.R.I. (Dirty Rotten Imbeciles) in their first Willits appearance, plus Inflex, Verbal Abuse, Embryonic Devourment, and R4ID. Sunday, May 7, 5:30 pm. Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Tickets are \$15 advance, \$18 at the door. Advance tickets available in Willits at Main Street Music, or online: www.brownpapertickets.com.

COLUMN | At the Movies



'The Zookeeper's Wife'

The Story: This is a true story. The Nazi Army invades Poland. The Luftwaffe bombs the Warsaw zoo to create demoralizing chaos and horror. The zookeeper Jan Zabinski (Johan Hellden) and his wife Antonina (Jessica Chastain) respond by hiding Jews and helping Jews escape the ghetto and escape out of Warsaw altogether. Jan and Antonina risked their lives to do this. If they were discovered, death would have been certain.

My Thoughts: Jessica Chastain's Antonina radiates empathy and strength of character, both with her fellow actors and with the animals as well. She was mesmerizing. Perfectly lovely. And Daniel Bruhl who plays Lutz Heck, Hitler's personal zoologist, is understandably attracted to her. She is terrified that he will find out she is with him. She lets him believe the attraction is mutual. For me, their flirting creates the most tension in the film, the deepest level of emotional complexity. Otherwise, it is a straightforward thriller, a Holocaust escape document made exotic by the use of the zoo and the beautiful Antonina.

Parents: The slaughter of the animals, the casual execution of Jews, and the rape of a young Jewish girl by the Nazis will upset little children. They don't need to experience such cruel images. Teens and up will find the flick highly watchable... even, shudder, educational.

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

GIANTS VS MARLINS

July 9, 2017
AT & T Park

Tickets on Sale Now

Club seat \$160.00 (20) tickets available (Section 231)
Third base line \$130.00 (35) tickets available (Section 135)

Ticket prices: Includes Ticket and Bus Fare

Charter bus leaves at 8:00 a.m. and return home after the game in the p.m.

First come first serve on Ticket Sale

Bus will leave from Harrah Senior Center
1501 Baechtel Rd

Adult Bus Only

For any information about the Giants Vs Marlins

Contact Lucy Stanley
Events Coordinator 707-459-6826

Support P.E.O. Local Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner

At El Mexicano
Sunday, May 21, 2017
Serving: from 3-7 pm

Menu: Choice of 2 tacos, or enchiladas w/ rice & beans & fountain drink

Advance tickets available at J.D. Redhouse
Walk-ins welcome day of event

Dinners to go available!! Call El Mex @ 459-5702



This Week At KLLG

Tune in for two new shows!!! "Gibberish" with Savannah Joy, music and Interviews, Fridays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm live and Sundays from 1 to 2 pm encore. "Humboldt Harry's Mountain Milk" with Matt Anderson, Eclectic Music from around the World, Fridays from 8:30 to 9:30 pm, and Tuesdays from 2 to 3 pm, encore!

— Michelle Cummings

Booster Club Dinner & Quarter Auction

Saturday, May 13

The Willits High School Booster Club is hosting a dinner and a "quarter" auction to support Willits High School athletics, arts & drama and band. \$20 ticket includes dinner and auction paddle. All-in paddle available at the door. Saturday, May 13, 6 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. "Don't miss the fun. This year's event featuring live auction too!"

Don't miss the fun - This years event featuring live auction too!

May 13, 2017
6pm

WHS Booster Club Dinner & Quarter Auction

Support Willits High School athletics, arts & drama and band

\$20.00 - includes dinner and paddle
All in Paddle available at door

Willits Community Center
111 East Commercial St.
Willits, CA 95460



Eric McDonald and Ryan McKasson.

Celtic master musicians at WCT

Sunday, May 7

Drawing on Celtic musical forms and compositions, Ryan McKasson, fiddle, and Eric McDonald, guitar, will perform at Willits Community Theatre, Sunday, May 7 at 2 pm. The duo explores the farthest boundaries of traditional Scottish ballads and jigs. With native banter and good humor, McKasson and McDonald create an environment that draws in listeners without pretense. Their show is part of a tour to celebrate the release of their latest CD, "Harbour."

McKasson has gained a strong reputation over more than two decades as a fiddle performer, composer, collaborator and teacher. In 1996 he was the youngest ever to win the U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Championship.

Guitarist Eric McDonald found his way to traditional music in his hometown of Boston. McDonald is an active session guitar player, and he is established as one of the premier accompanists in many styles.

Advance tickets are \$15, available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets also available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

— Steve Hellman

SUNDAY MAY 7TH, 2017
AT WILLITS COMMUNITY CENTER
111 E. COMMERCIAL ST. WILLITS, CA.

STIKY GRAFFIX PRESENTS
DIRTY ROTTEN IMBECILES
INFLEX - VERBAL ABUSE
EMBRYONIC DEVOURMENT - R4ID
ALL AGES SHOW AT 5:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT DIG MUSIC IN UKIAH AND MAIN STREET MUSIC IN WILLITS OR ONLINE AT WWW.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM
\$15 ADVANCE OR \$18 AT THE DOOR

Fun for Willits kids and families

Friday, May 12

Willits Kids Club Carnival joins Healthy Family Fair on Friday, May 12, 3:30 to 7 pm, in the schoolyard at Baechtel Grove Middle School, 1150 Magnolia Street. It's Fun! It's Free! All ages are invited! Food, games, prizes, bike event, pet consultant, diabetes and blood pressure testing, chair massage, smoothie bike, summer safety, tooth fairy, elder care, and many more activities for kids of all ages, parents and grandparents. This positive community event is sponsored by Willits Kids Club, Avenues to Wellness, NCO, HMM, County of Mendocino, Walk & Bike Mendocino and many more programs and community agencies.

Senior Center Road Trip:

Giants vs. the Marlins, July 9

Tickets on sale now for the Giants vs. the Marlins baseball game on Sunday, July 9, at 1:05 pm. The price for seats at AT&T Ballpark includes the Adults Only bus transportation to and from the game. Bus will leave at 8 am from Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Price range per ticket and transportation \$130 to \$160. The number of tickets is limited. Info: Lucy Stanley at 459-6826.

P.E.O.s & Tacos

Fundraising dinner planned to help women and girls further their educations

Have dinner for a great cause on Sunday, May 21 when the women of the local chapter of P.E.O. will partner up with El Mexicano for a fundraising event.

The Philanthropic Educational Organization's Willits chapter XO currently has some 34 members that reside in Willits, Ukiah, Covelo and Fort Bragg. The group decided to hold a dinner to help raise funds to support their scholarships offered to women and girls who are looking to further their education and reach their highest aspirations. Proceeds from this dinner will go to benefit a Willits girl graduate.

The dinner will be held at El Mexicano from 3 to 7 pm. There will be a special menu of two tacos or two enchiladas with rice and beans, and a fountain drink, for \$15. Beer and wine will be available to purchase for an additional price. Funds raised – above the food cost – will be donated to the P.E.O. to help fund their scholarship account. The El Mex staff will be donating their time to serve and cook the meal. They will be accepting tips, however, and P.E.O. member Della Bennett encouraged diners to "tip them well and enjoy your meal!"

"We're so happy to be holding this fundraiser," said Bennett. "It's so generous of Tony Madrigal and the staff at El Mexicano to offer us this opportunity and to donate so much to our cause."

This year, P.E.O. has already received 14 applications for their scholarships which are available to graduates planning on attending junior or four-year colleges. In the past, the scholarships were given in the amount of \$750, mostly earned with craft and garage sales.



Support P.E.O. Local Scholarship FUNDRAISING DINNER
Sunday, May 21 • Serving 3-7pm
Walk-ins Welcome



Above: P.E.O. and El Mexicano folks ready to support the fundraising dinner, including from left: Marilyn Harden, Vicki Ham, Fran Madrigal, Emilio Flores, Kay Wright, Della Bennett and Charline Ford.

"We've never done anything of this magnitude before," noted Bennett. This year, she noted, club members hope to offer larger scholarships or more than one scholarship, depending on the amount they're able to raise with this more in-depth fundraising event.

Past local recipients of the scholarship include Bethanie Crippen, Marisa Ramirez, Kristyna Hewitt, Kayla Smith, Karina Silverstein, Amanda Hsieh, Rachel Belvin, Anna Gaona, China Rose Moulton and Whitney Woodhouse.

There's also a national level of scholarships which are offered; two Willits women have also benefitted from those higher-level awards, including P.E.O. Willits chapter president Pandy Denny and Willits High School counselor Lucy Kyne.

The national level also supports the P.E.O.'s own college: Cottey College, where current Willits P.E.O. member Charline Ford was also a graduate. They note that "to date, more than \$235 million has been awarded to over 90,000 women from the organization." The national organization helps fund these women's goals with scholarships, grants, awards and loans.

Tickets to the dinner are available now at J.D. Redhouse. For more information, call Bennett at 272-3834.

— Maureen Moore



Luke the Explorer

Luke is a 2.5-year-old male mixed-breed dog who currently weighs 74 pounds. Luke is happiest when he is out exploring the world! This big boy loves walks and roaming in the yard. He needs an active family who will include him in outings and adventures and make sure he gets daily exercise, as well as oodles of love. Luke is smart and friendly and will make a loving and loyal family member. He would do great with another friendly dog or older kids. He is a big boy and needs room inside and outside to stretch his legs!

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



Easygoing Lily

Lily is a hound/Lab mix who is sweet and somewhat timid on first meeting. She is good with other dogs and has a calm, relaxed personality in general. At 6 months old, she still needs some training on basic commands, but she seems eager to learn and is ready and willing to help brighten the home of any family in need. She's waiting – come meet her soon!

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

COLUMN | Intuitive Patterns

May 2017

Osho Zen Tarot: Aloneness, Participation

Medicine Cards: Antelope, Snake, Skunk

Mayan Oracle: Chuen, Chicchan

Ancient Egyptian Tarot: Prince of Swords, The Hanged Man, Ace of Wands

Aleister Crowley Deck: Fortune, The Sun, Gain

Healing Earth Tarot: Seven of Shields, Woman of Rainbows, The Star

Words of Truth: Admit, Health, Rest

We are all (in our own way) springing into action. If you expect things to quiet down, just know that the chances improve later in the year and later even this month. This planetary T-square is pulling on each person to (in their own way) "wake-up." And that is a good thing over all.

The outer planets are making things motivational and quite active. The purpose of all this activity is to open up your value system and take a good hard look at them. Having values is one thing. Actively following them is quite another. These outer planets are challenging each of us to act in ways that catalyze our society into a world that speaks for all of us, not just a few. If you want to be an active creator, you have to speak up and show by example. When power calls you to "awaken," it separates you from the energy of the masses and, in doing that, you will take some hits from a variety of angles.

Uranus in Aries wants to revolutionize everything ... right now. Pluto wants to pull us back to a more conservative time and for growth to be along more traditional, secure, tried and true ways. Jupiter in Libra idealistically wishes to expand old belief systems and religious philosophy into a place that gives the world a higher balance. And it also is requiring you to shift your relationships in the directions of those who align more with your values and who resonate with you philosophically, allowing you to let go of those who are going in a direction that is different than your own.

I hear how we need to figure out how to come together. And I agree. But when you look at the astrology, you see more and more of a divide and less of an inclination of coming together. I attempt in my sharing to remind everyone that we are here to learn to love each other and everything on this planet. Sometimes breakdown has to happen before breakthrough. I wish it was not that way, but humanity is stubborn and, right now, the sides are deeply entrenched in wanting to believe what they want to believe.

What each of us has to remember is that we cannot go back. We have to be willing to explore totally new possibilities. Attempt to listen to others from an open and fair mind. A closed mind is frozen in patterns and not willing to learn. Know that the "story" the person is telling themselves may or may not be true, but you have to deal with it because they "have" to believe it. They "have" to be right to validate themselves and their choices. Find where each person wants what is best for this world. Understand that they believe that their way is the best way. Recognize that their intent is good even if their choices are questionable.

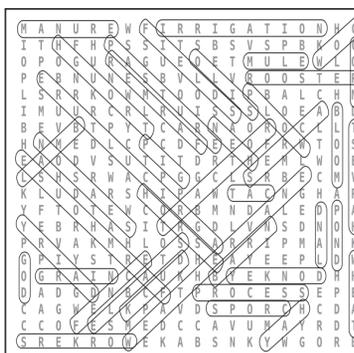
Mercury ends its retrograde cycle on May 3, so those overwhelming challenges over the last three-plus weeks will ease up. With Mars in Gemini all month, know that things will move quickly. Share your ideas but do not believe them completely. There is an element of self-deception with this particular pattern. Venus will be out of its shadow period, and so there is a strong feeling of excitement and wanting to move forward with those plans and projects. Just know that Memorial Day weekend has fast-moving Mars opposing slow and plodding Saturn. You may be pushed to do something but actually be too tired to finish it.

When it comes to the cards, they also reflect a lot of movement and action. It seems the energy moves between waves of intense action and movement into deep periods of rest and needing to find a better balance in how you move that energy so it can be most effective. You are birthing something. And all of us are participating in that birthing process. Each of us is adding something into the mix which will allow this new creation to be very unique.

People are very active and waking up right now, and there is more energy being contributed into this world than ever

Read the rest of Intuitive | Over on Page 15

Huge Selection
TOMATO & PEPPER PLANTS
 4-inch pots \$2.98
 Grown Locally At
Sanhedrin Nursery
 1094 Locust St., Willits 459-9009
 OPEN SAT & SUN – Closed Tuesday



LEGAL NOTICES

WW113

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2017-F0318

The following persons are doing business as: Advanced Designs Inc. DBA Advanced PCB Designs and CENTER OF ATTENTION, 24926 Brooktrails Drive, Willits CA 95490. Advanced Designs Inc. business is conducted by a corporation: Advanced Designs Inc., 4730 South Apache Road, SE 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147. CENTER OF ATTENTION business is conducted by a married couple.

The registrant Advanced Designs Inc. commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 1/1/2010 and the registrant CENTER OF ATTENTION commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 1/1/1995.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on April 14, 2017.

s/ Jason Dunlap, President

Pub dates 04/20, 04/27, 05/04 and 05/11/2017

Run your legal ad with Willits Weekly!

Email willitsweekly@gmail.com or call 459-2633 for info



Current Job Openings:

- Animal Control Officer
 - Auditor Appraiser
 - Bridge Crew Worker
 - Building Inspector II-III
 - Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors I-II
 - Deputy Sheriff-Coroner In Training – Extra Help
 - Environmental Health Technician – Extra Help
 - Sheriff's Technology Specialist
- For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr EOE.

24 Hour 7 Days a Week
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Tom Wake Plumbing
 Serving in Mendocino and Lake Counties
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For Fast Service Call 707-391-4343 Lic. #884811

Harrah Senior Center & Thrift Store
 Serving the Seniors of our Community

- 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 lending a helping hand!
- Low cost transportation! 8 am-4 pm door to door • 459-5556
- Medical equipment! Available at no charge
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- Activities galore! Games, classes, music, presentations
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Call for more information 459-6826 • 1501 Baechtel Road



CLASSIFIEDS

Affordable Tutoring
 English, Math, Test Prep, Homework Support, Study Skills. Maddie Armstrong ... 707 841-3106. Call to arrange free consultation and grade availability.

Algebra, Geometry Tutoring, Test Prep
 Mac Smith 459-MATH

Barbados Sheep
 Barbados Sheep for Sale. Ewes and pairs. Great weat-eaters. Dos Rios area. More information: 489-9377.

Amazing! Beef Special
 John Ford Rancher's Choice Box: 50 pounds of steaks, roasts and ground beef. \$300 (\$6/pound), amazing deal! Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call now: 459-5193.

Brooktrails Flea Market
Vendors Needed
 2017 Market is Saturday, June 3. Outdoor spaces and indoors tables: \$20 each. Vendors check in: 6 to 7:30 am. Market open: 8 am to 3 pm. Call to reserve a space: Ariane 456-0734.

Computer Help
 Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$50/hr. Tutoring \$30/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email macamerj@yahoo.com.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
 Space for RV's and Trailers \$390 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Rhonda (707) 367-6178. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/rv>

For Lease By Owner
 Prime location, downtown Willits. Retail space, 800 square feet + 240 square feet. Patio on double lot, fenced back yard. 56 South Main, Willits. Contact Sara: 707-841-7795.

For Rent
 Executive office - 2 large offices, 1 small, kitchen, bath and reception, 1,240 square feet. An additional 370 square feet could be added if needed. Call Margie, 459-6874 or Megan, 972-8776.

Help Wanted Managing Director - permanent part-time. Apx 3 days a week. Salaried. Responsible for day-to-day running of Willits Community Theatre. Report to the board of directors. Must be a self-starter. Experience with Microsoft Publisher and QuickBooks a plus. See our website online at www.willitstheatre.org for details. Email resume to wct@willitsonline.com.

Help Wanted Fund-Raiser - work at your own pace on your own schedule for Willits Community Theatre. Commission +. See our website www.willitstheatre.org for details. Email resume to wct@willitsonline.com.

Divora Stern LCSW



Counseling #20498
 Now accepting MediCal Partnership

Help Wanted
 The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, located in Redwood Valley, is seeking a part-time employee to work a minimum of 20 hours per week. Ability to lift 40 pounds and work independently required. Duties include but not limited to; daily cleaning of Cat condos and/or Dog kennels, dishes, litter pans and feeding. Please call 485-0123 to schedule an interview.

Help Wanted HAZ TECHNICIAN JOB
 Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority, Ukiah. Full-time, hard-working. \$15/hr, good benefits; bilingual a plus. To apply, go to www.mendocinocycle.org or contact mswma@pacific.net. Applications due May 5, 2017.

Help Wanted
 Hiring Part Time starting 6/1/17 - office/computer work, customer service & cleaning. Email or drop off resume @Willits Pulse Fitness 865 S. Main St. willitsfitness@gmail.com

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

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

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.

Weight Watchers
 Join us! New location: Willits Center for the Arts - 71 E. Commercial St., 4:30 pm every Monday. Feel better. Look better. Have fun. More information? Call 707-841-7758.

\$10 for 30 words for two weeks!
 Email us your ad copy today!

Are you struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, trauma and/or addiction? Ready for HELP! 354-9911

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

‘Caring Kitchen Project’

at May 3 North County Women in Business meeting

The North County Women in Business’s monthly meeting at Willits City Hall features a presentation by North Coast Opportunities staff members April Cunningham and Tarney Sheldon about the “Caring Kitchen Project.”

Together, Cunningham and Sheldon have worked on grant-funded food, nutrition, and health projects for Mendocino County, ranging from cooking classes for after-school programs, to developing garden and nutrition curriculum for Head Start and State Preschool classes, to food preservation classes for adults, to Harvest of the Month taste-testing at community grocery stores, and training local teen interns as peer health educators.

Their new project is the Caring Kitchen Project which will enroll teen volunteers in a meal preparation program for cancer clients of the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County. 8:15 to 9:30 am at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: Tina Tyler-O’Shea at 456-3827.

North County Women in Business is a program of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. The mission of the group is “to further the success of women in business through mentoring, educational workshops, business spotlights and relevant dialogue in management and leadership issues.” Monthly meetings are always free to Chamber members; free to first-time attendees, and \$5 for subsequent meetings.

At right: Comedian Marc Yaffee.



Above: April Cunningham, at left, Shannon Montoya-Dick and Tarney Sheldon of the “Caring Kitchen Project.”

Comic Marc Yaffee plays matinee at WCT on Sunday

Stand-up comedian Marc Yaffee returns with his unique blend of humor to the Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, April 30 at 2 pm.

Internationally known for his wide range of material, Yaffee made his debut appearance at WCT last year, thrilling his audience with his original, culturally mixed comedy. By birth a mixture of Navajo, Caucasian and Mexican heritages, Yaffee was raised in a Jewish family.

He takes his audiences on a joyride that explores his multi-ethnic roots and the culture clashes that fill his world.

Self-described as “tall, dark and hilarious,” Yaffee offers smart, relatable comedy with a universal appeal that has landed him appearances on PBS, Comics Unleashed, The Latino Laugh Festival and the historic Showtime special, “Goin’ Native.” He jokes about his being one-quarter-blood Navajo, saying: “I get no respect. I went to the pow wow and tried dancing, and they said, ‘Sit down, our people have suffered enough.’”

Yaffee has won the Gold Rush Comedy Competition, the National Indian Gaming Association’s Entertainer of the Year in 2010, and the Ventura Comedy Festival’s Funniest Person Contest in 2012. He tours regularly with the Pow Wow Comedy Jam and founded and co-stars in the Boomerang Baby Boomer’s Comedy Bash.

Funny but not filthy, Yaffee in his second appearance at WCT offers a rare opportunity for the audience to enjoy his original comedy recipe and the non-stop laughs.

Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street in Willits; online at brownpaperickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door.

– Steve Hellman, for WCT

15th annual Ukiah Haiku Festival

celebrates the poetry of three lines

The 15th annual ukiaHaiku Festival will take place on Sunday, April 30 at the Ukiah Civic Center, 300 Seminary Avenue. Winning poets will read their poems at 2 pm, with a reception and refreshments following at 3 pm. A booklet with the winning haiku will be on sale. The poets will read haiku from nine contest categories – including two in Spanish – encompassing poets of all ages.

Haiku are poems that express the very essence of simplicity, elegance and depth. A haiku causes a vivid image or experience to arise in the reader within the context of three brief lines. To learn more about this ancient Japanese art form that has adapted so well to the modern world, and to read winning haiku from previous years, visit www.ukiahaiku.org.

– Roberta Werdinger, for ukiaHaiku



Ukiah sign in mirror image spells ‘haiku.’ Photo by Suzy Miller

The rest of Hearing | From Page 1

of Pleasantville, New York; Zachary Ryan Wuester, 24, of Haskell, New Jersey; and Frederick Gaestel, 27, of Clifton, New Jersey as varied since 2012, when there were 387 substantiated cases of abuse and neglect. In 2015, 415 incidents were recorded, but those numbers dropped to 329 in 2016.

Settler was beaten and stabbed to death in a shed where marijuana was stored, according to Mendocino County sheriff’s investigators, and more than 100 pounds of pot was stolen. The father of three reportedly had been growing marijuana at the Laytonville site for about 10 years. Most of the suspects had worked as trimmers for Settler, investigators said.

In addition to murder, the seven are charged with burglary and robbery with special circumstances, and Blank and Kane are also charged with using a knife during the killing.

“The district attorney has reviewed a lot of the discovery and may have suspicions in that regard,” Blank’s defense attorney, Al Kubanis, told the Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

Under the law, all of those who participated in the crimes are considered responsible for the killing.

All seven men appeared before Mendocino County Superior Court Judge John Behnke on Monday to enter not guilty pleas to the charges.

During a months-long manhunt, some suspects gave themselves up while others were captured, including Blank, who was arrested in New Jersey last month.

It remains unclear whether one trial will be held for all seven defendants, or whether each will be tried separately.

In the meantime, all seven remain in custody in Mendocino County Jail.

“They’re in the general population of pre-trial inmates,” county Sheriff Tom Allman told Willits Weekly on Wednesday, adding he believed the seven “were the most inmates we’ve ever had being held for a single crime.”

The rest of Numbers | From Page 1

has increased by almost 10 percent, from 1,682 calls in 2012 to 1,844 calls in 2016.

The number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect has varied since 2012, when there were 387 substantiated cases of abuse and neglect. In 2015, 415 incidents were recorded, but those numbers dropped to 329 in 2016.

The percentage of children who have had recurring cases of maltreatment in foster care settings has increased since 2012, when the percentage was 12.7. In 2016, the number had risen to 15.4 percent.

Supervisors heard reports from Joanna Olson and Aurelie Clivas of the Mendocino County Youth Project, Megan Van Sant of the county’s Childhood Trauma Action Team, Roseanne Ibarra of First Five Mendocino, and Christine Hawley, executive director of the Family Resource Centers Network.

Sharon Hildebrandt of Court Appointed Special Advocates opened the presentation, and closed it out with a promise to seek more money from the board to fight the problem.

Van Sant reminded supervisors that parents, therapists, counselors and youth workers need to watch out for ACEs, an acronym for adverse childhood experiences.

She noted people with four or more ACEs are 12 times more likely to attempt suicide sometime in their future; 10 times more likely to use intravenous drugs; seven times more likely to become an alcoholic; five times more likely to suffer from depression; and twice as likely to develop heart disease or cancer than people with fewer than four ACEs.

Van Sant is part of the Childhood Trauma Action Team, which is working collaboratively with other groups to improve childhood well-being.

Mendocino County Youth Project Executive Director Joanna Olson said a new tool is being used by the Youth Project, and other child welfare organizations in the county, called Signs of Safety, or SOS.

Clivas said she has provided SOS training to nearly all children, youth and family-support organizations in the county. She described it as an “umbrella” methodology, which holds a lot of therapeutic tools and methodologies within it.

When board Chairman John McCowen asked how it worked, Clivas told him: “SOS is all about taking what are naturally existing support networks and systems already in place in the community, and how we can integrate and pull that into having the client come up with their own action plan for success. It’s not soft by any means: it’s let’s make it a rigorous plan, but let’s have you come up with that plan, so that you’re much more likely to succeed.”

The rest of Market | From Page 1

Celebration was great,” he said. “We saw lots of new people and felt that a downtown presence would be a win-win for the city, drawing more people downtown even as it enlivened the market.”

But practical considerations – the lack of a big enough location to host the market without closing a side street – prevented that from happening this summer. “This is something we’ll continue to work on after this season at Rec Grove,” Foley said, “but for now, the park looks like it will be a great place to hold the Willits Farmers Market.”

Spring produce has already been showing up at the winter market at the Little Lake Grange, including carrots, radishes and spring turnips, joining the array of winter greens, including spinach, kale and bok choy.

Vendors anticipated to be joining the market this summer include Roland’s Bakery, Arabella’s Soap Company, and Not Harry’s Nuts (roasted almonds). Winter market vendors like John Ford Beef, Green Uprising Farm, Inland Ranch, Fairall’s Farm Fresh Eggs & Produce, Bolliver’s Fine Foods & Confections, Tequio Community Farm, Keith’s Tool Sharpening, Mendo Ferments, and more will also be offering their locally grown, locally raised, locally baked, and locally crafted products to the community.

The Farmers Market Band, led by guitarist Richard Jeske, plays on the first Thursday of every month, and there’s live music every week. One new feature this year will be information and demonstrations by local natural health care practitioners.

The Willits Farmers Market is open from 3 pm to 6 pm every Thursday. Rec Grove is located at East Commercial and South Lenore, across from the Willits Library. To keep up with market doings, check out the “Friends of Willits Farmer’s Market” page on Facebook.

The rest of Services | From Page 1

offered numerous recommendations on how to address them. The department has already implemented some of the recommendations.

However, at the heart of the department’s problems is low employee pay, and that isn’t an easy one to fix.

In the meantime, the children of Mendocino County are suffering. According to information included in the report, prepared by the Northern California Training Academy, University of California at Davis, Mendocino County ranks near the bottom of California’s 58 counties in a number of crucial indicators of child well-being. Even within the constrained area of child well-being, once a child has entered the foster care system here, the children are suffering.

In incidents of maltreatment within the foster care system, the national average is 8.5 incidents per 100,000 days in care. For children in Mendocino County’s foster care program, the number is 9.1 incidents per 100,000 days in care, ranking Mendocino County 49th out of 58 counties.

For children in Mendocino County who have experienced maltreatment within a foster care setting, 15.4 percent experience a repetition of maltreatment. The national average for that is 9.1 percent, making the foster care system in this county rank 51 of 58.

After a child has been released from foster care, they sometimes are forced to return to foster care. This is called “re-entry.” The national average for re-entry is 8.3 percent; in Mendocino County, the rate is 18.9 percent. The county ranks 53 of 58 California counties.

Placement stability measures how many times a child will move from one foster home to another. The national average is no more than 4.12 moves per 1,000 days of foster care. In this county, that number is 7.11 moves; ranking this county 53 of 58.

And finally, there is the rubric of entries to care. The state average for number of children who receive services is 3.4 kids per 1,000 kids. In Mendocino County, that number is 8.7 – more than double the state average. Mendocino County ranks 49 out of 58 counties.

Another way of looking at the problem is in terms of caseload. According to the report: “Caseload in the Ukiah office ranged from 12 to 26 cases, with most having more than 12 but less than 20 cases. Sixteen workers, not including those who are emergency response workers, averaged 15 cases.”

According to the report, the Child Welfare League recommends caseloads be kept to 17 ongoing cases per social worker, or – if the worker is being asked to do a trifecta of assessments, investigations and ongoing cases – the caseload should be kept to 10 ongoing cases and four investigations.

According to the report, however, “The

Fort Bragg and Willits offices are much more difficult to assess due to turnover, but caseload sizes are much higher in both offices.”

Cassie Quadrelli, supervisor of the emergency response unit at the Ukiah office, said, “At the Ukiah office, we currently have three investigators, but one is out on stress leave. We have three social workers, and two of those are very new. They’ve been here for a couple of months. Now, we have more than 300 referrals a month. So, I don’t have to tell you what that means for caseload. And what makes it worse is, the kind of abuse we’ve been seeing is getting more and more severe.”

Health and Human Services Agency Director Tammy Moss Chandler told supervisors the vacancy rate for social workers is more than 20 percent. “We need a dozen more social workers, at least,” Chandler said.

Making progress

According to Conner and to HHSOA Chief Operations Office Ann Molgaard, Family and Children’s Services has been making progress addressing some of the problems. In September 2016, the division kicked off a training unit that provides training to employees. It has added a field training position, and hired someone to fill it. It has supplied employees with smart phones and digital Surface Pro tablets. It has added new vehicles to the division’s transportation fleet.

“That’s been a huge help,” said Family and Children’s Services Deputy Director Gina Conner. “Because we have staff traveling all over the state to see kids.”

The division also requisitioned floor space in the building that formerly housed the General Services Agency to provide training.

In the Fort Bragg office – which has been at the high end of dysfunctionality within the division – the county has hired a new branch office manager and two new social workers, giving the office a total of four social workers. The agency also recently hired an extra-help worker to fill the gaps there.

The division also will soon add two new methodological paradigms to its tool kit. It has adopted the SCARF work model, which encourages feelings of security and a feeling of belonging in employees, rather than working from a model of fear and negativity. SCARF is an acronym for “status, certainty, autonomy, relatedness and fairness.” Employees will SCARF up in June.

The division is also adopting a paradigm called “differential response,” which provides more options for how the division must respond to referrals.

According to Molgaard, using differential response will allow social workers to direct referrals to the agency’s community partners in cases where the threat to the child is slight.

Olson said the Youth Project has worked with First 5 Mendocino, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Tapestry Family Services, the county’s Family and Children’s Services division, and the Pinoleville Indian nation, to form a Signs of Safety Community Implementation Team.

The Childhood Trauma Action Team has meeting jointly with the SOS Community Implementation Team for six months, and jointly developed a vision and mission statement.

Olson shared the mission statement: “Collaboratively, as a team, we will work together to find practical ways that Signs of Safety can unify our services, so children, youth and families experience a connected, honoring and supportive engagement for the well-being of the community.”

Olson also shared the implementation team’s vision of the progress that will be made over the next three years. By 2020, she said, there will be (1) “collaboration and problem solving across agencies, schools and service providers,” and (2) these groups will “utilize common languages and practices through Signs of Safety to provide services and support,” the purpose of which will be (3) to “meet the needs and increase the well-being of all families in the community.”

Ibarra noted her organization recently presented training in the Community Resiliency Model. Part of the CRM protocol is to teach methods of reducing stress, such as deep breathing techniques and grounding. A second part of CRM is to educate parents or potential parents on available community resources and how they can use those resources.

Ibarra said First 5 also promotes the teaching of the Positive Parenting Program. Using what Ibarra calls the “3 Ps” can reduce child abuse, reduce family stress, and improve parenting skills and attitudes.

Family Resource Center Network Executive Director Christine Hawley said her organization is trying to inculcate five “protective framework” factors. These factors include promoting the concept that parents need a network of friends, that parents should have knowledge of parenting skills, that parents need to respect and enhance the social and emotional competence of children and youth, that parents need to be aware that they may need support in times of need, and that resilience is a goal that can be obtained.

Sharon Hildebrandt, executive director of Court Appointed Special Advocates and the co-chair of the county’s Policy Council on Children and Youth, told the supervisors the family resource centers will be coming before the board in May to ask the county for support. Hildebrandt said the resource centers will be asking for 20 percent of the revenues flowing to the county from the cannabis business tax licenses.

In cases where the threat seems to be more substantial, the department may elect to do some initial work on the case, then direct the case to a community partner at some later date, or the two may jointly decide to work together to ameliorate the situation.

The third option is that the social worker will take the case on herself, which is the way the county has traditionally dealt with child welfare cases.

Molgaard said the division will soon begin home visits. The division will employ paraprofessionals to work under the supervision of a public health nurse and visit pregnant women and moms (or families) with very young children, and provide basic counseling. Molgaard said counties and cities that have instituted this practice find it reduces the number of children who suffer from abuse and neglect, ultimately lowering the caseload for county workers while improving the lot of children.

“We’re not expecting Public Health to solve child welfare problems,” Molgaard said. “What we are trying to do is to provide a better and more expansive safety net so fewer people end up in child welfare.”

The ball passes to supervisors

What HHSOA staff cannot do is increase salaries for HHSOA line staff. That responsibility falls to the board of supervisors.

With few exceptions, county employees are making less than they made in 2008 and are still working four days a week, 10 hours a day. The UC Davis study recommended shifting back to a five-day work week, a proposal supervisors appear to favor. Several high-placed staff, including Molgaard and HHSOA Director Tammy Moss Chandler, urged the board to fix the salary problem, and supervisors – who are aware of all the different claims on county resources – did not bat an eye.

Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde asked board Chairman John McCowen if Chandler and Molgaard could attend closed-session contract negotiations now underway for SEIU union employees. McCowen agreed that be a good idea.

In a separate conversation with Willits Weekly, Conner explained why she thinks her department is in crisis: “We need skilled social workers,” she said. “It’s not just hiring somebody who yesterday was making coffee at Starbucks and turning them overnight into a social worker. A lot of what we do is very sensitive, and meeting all our requirements for documentation is very complex. So, we need the right people to do the work.”

“Our crisis is a combination of filling vacant positions and getting the right people to do the very complex work that we have to do.”

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At top, from left: Lucas Cruz of Treelee Foods from Santa Rosa informs a customer about his herbal energy drink. Malakai Schindler, Forrest Glycer, and Sarah Rose McMahon entertain patrons. Margaret Reeves and Sharon Francis treat shoppers to homemade jams from Emandal Farms.

Above, left: Mariposa Market hosts its annual Earth Day celebration. Above, right: Mariposa Market owner Mary Anne Trevey in the abundant produce department.

Below: Alicia O'Neil, manager of health and beauty aids at Mariposa, touts her Earth Day contribution.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Mariposa celebrates Earth Day

By all measures, this year's Earth Day celebration at Mariposa Market was a stunning success. Parking was difficult to find on Saturday as people flocked to taste the free samples, listen to the local music, and spin the prize wheel, as well as learn about Earth Day, organic food and sustainability.

"Earth Day is about loving the earth," said Mary Anne Trevey, owner of Mariposa Market. "We need to be reminded, obviously, because we haven't been doing a very good job of taking care of the earth. I'm really glad we have Earth Day, so we have a chance for people to remember."

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathewc@willitsweekly.com

The history of Earth Day, according to Kevin Copperfield, Mariposa Market's grocery manager, "goes back to the '50s and '60s when Senator Gaylord Nelson [who was both senator and governor of Wisconsin] put a lot of effort into environmental issues when he saw the fracturing processes and the extractions of the earth's resources not being balanced out with proper sustainability. He put forth a lot of effort in front of Congress. Eventually he had to go to the people and college campuses around the country in the '60s.

"In 1969 he declared that next year there was going to be Earth Day, and [he said]: 'We're going to celebrate the earth, and we're going to remember that the earth is our mother.' After that, in 1970, 29 people hit the streets and started Earth Day. In that context, we're here to carry on those same thoughts, inspirations and feelings about the earth and the issues that got Earth Day going in the first place," Copperfield said.

The festivities included samples from many vendors. Chase Atkins offered tastings of Burn Hot Sauce, out of Santa Cruz, and proclaimed: "We love Mariposa Market,

[it's] one of our favorite stores. We come up here anytime they want us to."

Michelle Costa of Mendo Fermented Foods invited people to try her all-organic kimchee and sauerkraut made from mostly local farm products.

Diane Ryan, from Mendocino Gold Honey of Ukiah, handed out samples of her honey. "Earth Day is obviously important to me because I'm a beekeeper," Ryan said. "A lot of people don't realize that we wouldn't have fresh food without the bees. Among the benefits of pure honey is its use in curbing the effects of allergies, soothing wounds, and relieving colds."

Fred Marshall, of CBD Mendo – distributor of CBD Medicinals – informed patrons about his product, a derivative of medicinal marijuana, which he claims works for many ailments including epilepsy, seizures and arthritis. Richie Tollini of Tollini Distributing offered up healthy snack foods and declared, "Earth Day is a celebration and appreciation of bettering our planet, Earth." Many other, mostly local, vendors, participated, all wishing to live on a better, more sustainable, Earth.

In addition to the array of food samples, participants were treated to the sounds of local musicians, Malakai Schindler and Forrest Glycer of Schindig, and Sarah Rose McMahon of the Real Sarahs. Participants were also invited to try their luck at the prize wheel which gave away Mariposa loot. Other activities included a bicycle-run smoothie maker, seed planting, a recycling demo, and a talk by Eric Schramm of Mendocino Mushrooms.

In the words of Alicia O'Neil, manager of health and beauty aids: "Earth Day is to celebrate Mother Earth and everything we can possibly do for her. It's what we are trying to gather in our minds and keep in everyday life."



Above, from left: Diane Ryan, purveyor of Mendocino Gold Honey of Ukiah, invites people to sample her wildflower and orange blossom honey, along with her honeyed soaps and balms. Shawna Reese and her daughter, Rania, run the Mariposa prize wheel. Diane Carter pedals the smoothie bike with the assistance of Sarah Handy of Mariposa Market.

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The rest of Reviewed From Page 1

Current policy calls for the city to invest public funds "in a manner that will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demand of the city."

Finance Director Susie Holmes said the city currently holds \$1.6 million in corporate bonds from companies such as American Express, Boeing, Discover Bank, GE, JP Morgan, Oracle and Merck.

She noted, however, that all of these bonds except one expire in 2018, and the city is currently already planning on divesting its corporate bonds and investing funds in certificates of deposit (CDs), which are safer and potentially more lucrative as well.

Councilmembers Larry Stranske and Ron Orenstein both warned that having a "social responsibility" investment policy might be difficult, given the complexities of the financial world.

"Remember we have a fiduciary responsibility to the citizens to take care of the money we're responsible for," said Orenstein. "So, there is that balancing act."

"And you can set the bar to a point where we wouldn't invest in anything," he continued, "because everybody's involved somehow in something that can be construed as being not socially responsible to some degree. So, I think we need to keep a level head about this."

Strong responded that she wasn't asking for something firm or immediate, just a policy to help guide future investments.

"If we're moving away from corporate papers it may not be an issue," she said, "but I'd like to have some kind of guideline that we're encouraging going in that direction.... If there's some egregious behavior by some corporations, and we can avoid investing in them, then that's what I'm asking."

The rest of Intuitive From Page 11

before, and that is a very good thing. But there is so much energy that it is very chaotic and passionate at the moment. It is important to recognize that you will not get your dream. None of us will. That is because there is so much information attempting to be integrated in a form that none of us have seen. And this world has not seen. There is going to be a very new outcome that is not one person or one idea. It is a force of change that integrates all the ideas that are being passionately put forward.

A great poison is being dealt with on a deep energetic level inside each of us. We are all learning to transcend our old self, break out of that shell that has been being painfully cracked open in this moment, and

The rest of Hoops From Page 1

CalFire's Ryan Smith told folks they can't cut down timber to grow cannabis, but they can cut down timber to build a house. If they need to cut down timber, they need to get a CalFire permit.

California Fish and Wildlife's Angela Liebenberg told people there were lots of restrictions on stream work and removing water from streams.

Growers can't pollute a stream, must leave sufficient water so fish can move upstream or downstream, and can't block fish passage, she said. Growers doing work near a stream – for example, putting in a road or a driveway that goes over a stream – need to get a 1600 permit from Fish and Wildlife.

Liebenberg said those who would like to grow cannabis north of Highway 20 and will be affecting streamflow should contact her at the Fort Bragg office, 964-4830. Those growing south of Highway 20 should contact the Yountville office's Corinne Gray at 944-5526.

Jeff Parks of the State Water Resources Control Board informed the public his agency has been working on a draft cannabis cultivation policy and will soon put out a cannabis general order for a 60-day public comment period. The agency will take comments from the public at a meeting in Sacramento in June or July and is expected to adopt the cannabis general order in October.

The water board has imposed a "dry season forbearance period," Parks said, during which surface water may not be diverted for agricultural purposes. For the Willits area, that period runs from May 15 through October 31. During this period, water for irrigation must come from storage.

He also said anyone diverting water from surface water must possess a water right. The deadline to apply for a water right for 2017 is July 1.

Conner McIntee of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board described the elements associated with his agency's cannabis permitting system, which is designed to protect water quality in situations where surface water is used to cultivate cannabis.

McIntee said all cultivators are required to enroll with the regional water board by filing a notice of intent form, and by filing a monitoring and reporting form, known as an "MRP," by March 31 of each year.

McIntee distributed a small sheaf of papers describing his board's cannabis monitoring process. According to the paper, "enrollee

must monitor their sites periodically and prepare annual monitoring reports that include verification of conformance with the applicable standard conditions, and effectiveness of best management practices, and a water resource protection plan."

The MRP will allow growers to monitor themselves regarding such land use practices as: "site maintenance, erosion control, drainage features, stream crossing, stream and wetland buffers, spoils management (what do you do with extra dirt), water storage, irrigation runoff, fertilizers and soil amendments, pesticides, petroleum products, management of wastes, both human and cultivation-related, and remediation, clean-up and restoration activities."

McIntee also explained the regional water board has developed a three-tier approach to permitting. Tier 1 applies to operations deemed a low threat to water quality. The annual fee for that permit is \$1,000.

Tier 2 is for operations that do not meet the standard conditions for the elements noted above. Under Tier 2, enrollees must develop and implement a water resource protection plan detailing a strategy to bring all substandard elements up to the state standards of water protectivity. A permit under this tier costs \$2,500.

Tier 3 is for sites that are really in bad shape. Operations that qualify for a Tier 3 permit will be allowed to cultivate cannabis; however, they must develop and submit a cleanup and restoration plan for regional water board approval.

According to the paper distributed by McIntee: "Tier 3 is not eligible for enrollment via a third-party program. Tier 3 dischargers who are cultivating cannabis concurrent with or following site cleanup activities must also enroll in and conform with Tier 2 requirements." The annual fee for a Tier 3 permit is \$10,000.

Persons with questions concerning the regional water board's cannabis program may call McIntee at 576-2499.

Representatives from the county Department of Planning and Building Services said people who want to legally grow medical cannabis commercially in this county must first get a permit from Planning and Building. The permit is very basic; it is mostly to ascertain that the parcel for which cultivation is proposed is zoned correctly. Planning and Building staff will create a "property profile" for the parcel in question.

Dave Jensen, retiring director of the Department of Environmental Health, spoke briefly about wells. Jensen said if wells are being used to provide water for cannabis cultivation, they must be permitted by Environmental Health.

He noted there are three kinds of

wells. The first kind of well is a well that is old and, perhaps, hand-dug and for which there is likely no permit on file with Environmental Health. For these old wells, no permit is needed: The wells are so old they are considered "grandfathered in."

The second kind of well is a modern, recently dug well, with a permit. If the property owner has a permit for the well, great. But perhaps the permit has been misplaced. Jensen said his agency will do everything it can to corroborate that there was a permit.

Finally, there are those wells that have been dug recently, but for which there is no permit. For these wells, Jensen said, there is no way for Environmental Health personnel to go down into the well to determine if it has been dug correctly. "These wells will most likely need to be destroyed by a licensed water contractor, and you will have to dig a new well."

Daniel Boe of the county's Department of Agriculture presented a brief overview of a 72-page packet his department made available to workshop participants. The packet included a copy of the 40-page medical cannabis cultivation ordinance. Most of the remaining 32 pages included the application to cultivate medical cannabis and the 18-page "Medical Cannabis Cultivation and Operation Plan."

The cultivation and operation plan includes such questions as: "List the source of your seeds, cuttings or tissue cultures"; "What composting method do you use?"; "Do you take steps to plan or provide for biodiversity conservation?"; "Do you practice soil conservation?"; and "What strategies do you use to control pathogen damage to crops?"

There is also a two-page application to have the applicant's fingerprints taken. According to the "Fingerprint Worksheet": "The following people must have LiveScan fingerprints taken: applicant or any individual engaged in the management of, or employed by, the cultivator." People who have been convicted of a violent felony in the state of California, or who have been convicted of a crime in any state that would have been a considered to have been a violent felony if it had been committed in the state of California, cannot pass the LiveScan, and without a LiveScan fingerprint, cannot be granted a permit to cultivate medical cannabis commercially in Mendocino County.

Afterwards, Department of Agriculture Assistant Commissioner Arif Kever tried to conduct a question-and-answer period. A few questions were asked and answered, but the large crowd was growing restive by this time, and many people were already having side conversations with other cultivators, or with state and local staff. So Kever cancelled the Q&A, and people either left the hall or lined up at the staff tables in the back of the room to ask more questions or to request one of the many permit applications required to lawfully engage in Mendocino County's biggest industry.

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At far left: Sweetheart candidate Hailey Riley.

At left: Sweetheart candidate Keely Ahders.

Check out next week's Willits Weekly or the Willits Frontier Days website or Facebook page after May 1 for more information and contact numbers for the candidates.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Ready to Run

Sweetheart contestants start 2017 race on May 1

Two candidates will try for the Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart tiara this year: Hailey Riley and Keely Ahders. While the candidates are getting ready, the contest – including ticket sales and poster hanging – is not allowed to start until May 1.

Again this year, Willits Frontier Days is requesting no social media promoting from family or friends on personal pages for either of the girls, to

help keep the contest fair and appropriate. "It's important for the contestants to have the experience of pitching their candidacy in person," said Marcy Barry, vice president of Willits Frontier Days. "Frontier Days will post contact information and photos for both girls on the official Willits Frontier Days page. Please respect this rule and help support your candidate by purchasing tickets and showcasing posters or cards on desks and store windows. Willits Frontier Days looks forward to a great Sweetheart race this year!" – Maureen Moore



Julia Johnstone



Oliver Campuzano



Miranda Wilson

King and Queen Candidates

The annual Willits High School Senior Prom will be held this Saturday at the Willits Community Center, and students have selected six senior candidates to vie for the titles of 2017 Prom King and Prom Queen. Candidates for queen include Julia Johnstone, Miranda Wilson and Chanel Alexander. Candidates for king include Oliver Campuzano, Othello Jackson and Riley Hsieh. The theme is a Masquerade Ball, and the event will run from 9 pm until 1 am.

Othello Jackson

Chanel Alexander

Riley Hsieh



SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

- Community HU Songs
 - Membership Discourses
 - Spiritual Discussions
 - Worship Services
- More information?
Call 707-456-9934

Willits United Methodist

A Christ centered, progressive church
ALL ARE WELCOME
286 School St. (at Pine)
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration
Sundays - 11:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.
459-2855
Facebook: www.facebook.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street
P.O. Box 489, Willits
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Pastor, Bill Nobles
Information: 456-9668
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

399 W. Mendocino Avenue
459-6390
Stan Caylor, Pastor
Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
1st Sabbath of every month family potluck at the school.
22751 Bray Road, Willits

If you want to be included in this column please call:

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