

# Willits Weekly

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits  
Donations Accepted Edition No. 53 **Thursday, May 8, 2014**

## Greywater

One way to help beat the drought

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
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Building a greywater irrigation system is one way Willits residents can make the water meter spin a little slower this summer.

The California Plumbing Code estimates greywater systems can earn residents 25 gallons per day per person – and that does not count laundry.

“Greywater” means “water from your bathtub, shower, lavatory and laundry, not from the kitchen sink and obviously not from the toilet,” Willits Building Inspector John Sherman said.

Before recent rains, home use of city water was limited to 150 gallons per day.

Using a greywater system, a three-person home could cut water use by up to 50 percent, or 75 gallons, which could be used to irrigate outdoors.

Previously, greywater use was not regulated in California, but now there are some rules residents must comply with. For one, a greywater system cannot be used to water root crops

Read the rest of **Greywater** |  
Over on Page 10

## Weer appointed auditor-controller

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
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Assistant Auditor Lloyd Weer was appointed county auditor-controller Tuesday to replace Meredith Ford, who announced her retirement recently.

Ford has been a county employee for the past 37 years. She began her career of county service in 1976 as a clerk in the Treasurer's Office.

A number of supervisors and Weer himself praised Ford for her work. “I'd like to thank Meredith Ford for all the many years of service she's done for Mendocino County. I think she's done a tremendous job over the years,” said Supervisor John Pinches, current chair of the board.

Weer has been a county employee for 32 years and has held the position of assistant auditor for the past eight years. He will take over the reins in the Auditor's Office on June 22. That appointment will last until January 4, 2015. Because he is the only candidate running for auditor-controller on the June ballot, his election is assumed. After January 4, he will continue in his position, but as an elected official.



## Get your garden ready to grow

Photos by Maureen Moore

Nurseries are brimming over with a wonderful selection of starts for your garden right now, and now is a great time to get your garden planted and ready for the delicious and lovely results come summer and fall.

Sanhedrin Nursery, Sparetime Supply, Mariposa Market and the Willits Farmers Market (now outdoors at the City Park on Thursdays from 3 to 6 pm!!) are just a few local places to get flower and veggie starts.

**Top row from left:** Bright yellow poppies, pink columbines and purple pansies sun themselves on nursery racks at Sanhedrin Nursery.

**Left:** Owner Dave Watts holds a tomato start, ready to be planted in deck-top barrels or an in-the-ground garden plot.

**Below from left:** These “Touch of Red” calendulas make lovely pops of color in a garden; Sanhedrin's Kimbal Dodge helps shopper Karen Gridley select an already-going tomato start for her garden.



## Retirement costs cast long shadow

Even if the sky is not falling, it is getting lower day by day, and it will be expensive to prop up.

That is the take-away message from an April 22 presentation to the board of supervisors by Robert Larkins and Linda Ross, who briefed the board on trends and factors shaping the Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association (MCERA).

Larkin is a financial advisor with Raymond James; Ross is an attorney with Myers-Nave, specializing in financial law.

Larkins' forecast assumed MCERA would continue to hold to its assumed rate of return of 7.75 percent and that no recession would occur over the next 35 years. If MCERA does lower its expected rate of return, or if

there is a recession, or if the average rate of real return in the investment market declines – or if all of the above happens – the county's retirement obligation would increase beyond Larkins' estimates.

Before going further in this report, here are two definitions: the “Unfunded Actuarially Accrued Liability” (UAAL) is the difference between the total estimated cash liabilities owed to retirees and current employees, and what the retirement association currently has in the bank to meet those liabilities. The “normal cost” is a certain percentage of each employee's hourly wage, which is contributed towards paying pensions for current and retired employees. That “normal cost” is matched by the county.

Larkins noted that the county has to pay their share of the normal costs of funding the retirement system (\$6.8 million), plus pay down the UAAL (\$8 million) and make payments on the county's pension obligation bonds (\$7.8 million), as well as pay retirement costs for county safety officers, which include members of the Sheriff's Office and jail staff (\$450,000).

These costs currently total \$23.17 million, or 14.4 percent of the county's 2014-15 general fund of \$159 million.

Larkins noted these costs will rise steadily over the next 35 years, the horizon of his forecast. In 2021, he said, total pension costs will rise to \$24 million, and hit \$27 million by 2027. The county's 2002 pension obligation bond will be paid off that same year,

Read the rest of **Pension** | Over on Page 11

## State: No money to fund \$450,000 mental health grant

The California Health Facilities Financing Authority doesn't have the funds to award a hoped-for \$450,000 grant to the county Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (formerly the Department of Mental Health) to expand mental health services to outlying county areas.

At a mid-April Mental Health Board meeting, County Assistant Director of Health and Human Services Tom Pinizzatto said he had gotten mixed messages from the state: first, that the county did get the grant, then that it didn't, then that it may have gotten part of it, then that it had received an offer to be given the grant if the county would be willing to downsize its request.

Pinizzatto said the state was actually negotiating with him during the Mental Health Board meeting, and he couldn't say what the outcome of those negotiations would be.

The proposal called for the county to purchase two vehicles and staff them with four people so mental health services could be provided to outlying areas.

A week after the meeting, Willits Weekly learned CHFFA determined Behavioral Health fully qualified for the grant, but CHFFA didn't have enough money to fund it. Instead, it will give Behavioral Health about \$45,000 so it can fund a part-time crisis worker.

Health and Human Services

Agency Communications Director Kristina Grogan said Behavioral Health has not determined where the part-time worker will be placed.

### Mental health services for jail

Pinizzatto also reported at the meeting he is negotiating with Dr. James Holden, a consulting psychologist who works in Lake and Mendocino counties, to provide competency restoration services to inmates at Mendocino County Jail.

Some \$25,000 of the \$125,000 contract will pay for services through the end of fiscal 2013-14, while \$100,000 will pay for services next year.

Read the rest of **Grant** | Over on Page 11

## 3rd District supervisor candidates Q&A

Willits Weekly asked each of the four candidates for 3rd District supervisor nine questions, with a 100-word limit for each answer. Here are the answers to the last four questions, from Holly Madrigal, Clay Romero, Hal Wagenet and Tom Woodhouse. Answers to the first five questions were printed in the May 1 edition of Willits Weekly, which can be found at [www.willitsweekly.com](http://www.willitsweekly.com).

### 6. Do you think the county retirement system is in trouble, and, if so, how would you fix it?

**CLAY ROMERO**  
Yes, I believe this to be true, but would like to confirm this as well. As benevolent as a county-supported pension can be, I know the potential

Read the rest of **Q&A** |  
Over on Page 11

## City renews animal control contract

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
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The city council has approved using \$22,000 to renew a two-year deal with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for dog-catching services.

Sheriff's animal control services for the city include responding to calls, being on patrol, looking into reports of dog bites, dogs on the loose, and cruelty and nuisance cases, Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez stated in a report to the council.

Read the rest of **Contract** |  
Over on Page 10

## Food truck ordinance

set for council review this month

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
zack@willitsweekly.com

An ordinance setting policy for food trucks and other mobile vendors will be reviewed by the city council later this month.

Rules for vendors – food trucks in particular – have been stuck in Revitalization and Economic Development Committee talks for close to a year.

The city's ban on food trucks and other peddlers covers Main and Commercial streets, and

Read the rest of **Food Truck** |  
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We The People

To the Editor:

On May 14, the Willits City Council will be considering a resolution to join the nationwide movement to amend the U.S. Constitution to end corporate personhood in accordance with Advisory Measure F, passed by voters in Mendocino County in 2012 by a margin of 75 percent. The measure advised all governmental bodies in the county to pass a corresponding resolution to demand of our state and federal legislators that they initiate and pass the constitutional amendment. All other city and county governmental bodies in Mendocino County have already passed such resolutions except Willits.

Why is this a local issue, and why is it important, you might ask.

The U.S. Constitution does not mention corporations nor their status with respect to personal constitutional rights. However, through a series of court decisions beginning in 1886, legal precedent has been established to allow corporations to claim all of the constitutional rights – e.g. as defined in the Bill of Rights – including right to privacy, equal opportunity and free speech.

This precedent was finalized by the more recent Supreme Court ruling in the case known as “Citizens United v. FEC,” which not only explicitly confirmed corporate personhood but also equated monetary spending with free speech, thus overturning all campaign finance limitations that had been or could be democratically established by our elected officials. This outrageous ruling has effectively undermined any ability We The People might have in determining our own lives. It has opened up the floodgates of corporate bribery and allowed the super wealthy to essentially turn our democracy into an oligarchy (aka corporatocracy).

Among other things these misguided court determinations overrule any local (or even state and federal level) democratic decision-making when it comes to preventing some undesirable corporate behavior, i.e. limiting their ability to run roughshod over us. They can and, in fact, have claimed that such decisions are an infringement on their “constitutional rights” to privacy, equal opportunity, and/or free speech and are thus null and void. Consequently local communities have been repeatedly rebuked when they have – with a majority vote – successfully passed a resolution denying corporations a permit to establish operations in their regions or even limiting their activities.

The movement to amend the Constitution is now well on its way and endorsed by voters with wide margins everywhere it has been put on a ballot. Hundreds of local communities and several states have already passed resolutions in support of the amendment. It is time for Willits to get on board. The groundswell to reclaim our democracy must continue, and the Willits voters have already told their council we want to be part of it. The amendment will only become a reality if We The People stand together to fend off the power the corporations currently wield over us.

Come to the council meeting on May 14, and show your support for a constitutional amendment to end corporate rule through the phony guise of “personhood.” This is without doubt the most critical issue of our times.

David Partch, Willits

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

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# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

## Airport walkers

To the Editor:

In the hills of Brooktrails, it's difficult to find flat surfaces to walk for exercise. Several locals have used the Willits Airport on the east end of Poppy Drive, walking around and sometimes on the 3,000-foot runway. Many times a day, aircraft land on one of the two ends of the runway, typically at 50 to 90 miles an hour, with their engines idling and often not heard. Fortunately, no one has been hurt yet, but there have been some close calls.

The Willits Airport receives annual grants from the Federal Aviation Administration that sets rules for airport operation, including those from Homeland Security involving airport fences, gates and restricted access. Walkers pass through gates with nearby signs marked "Authorized Personnel Only." The FAA says that "authorized personnel" include airport hangar tenants, visiting pilots, and their guests, as well as City of Willits staff. The non-authorized public is required to stay outside of the fences and not enter airport property. There's a picnic bench outside the fence so the public can safely watch the aircraft. The only exception to airport entry is for public events, such as Willits Airport Day, when airport safety crews keep planes and non-pilots separate. This is for the safety of the public as well as the pilots.

Airport fence signs also warn that "All dogs must be on leash." It is a special hazard to pilots if dogs are on the runway during the most critical part of flight, the landing.

The City of Willits is increasing airport surveillance and enforcement of federal trespassing laws and local leash laws for everyone's protection. As an alternative, pedestrians can walk the 1 mile of relatively flat road on Poppy Drive from Mallard Street to Madrone Court. Walkers should be vigilant as far as traffic, and county ordinance requires that dogs must be on leash. Walkers also may safely enjoy the level airport parking lot or one of the 25 walking trails in the Brooktrails Township

Thank you for considering your personal safety and that of the hundreds of pilots who use Willits Municipal Airport, Ells Field.

Dan Ramsey,  
Willits Airport manager

## Aggressive dogs

To the Editor:

On Wednesday April 30, as is my usual routine, my dog and I were taking our morning walk on Commercial Street, spreading good cheer wherever the opportunity arose. Me with a good morning or a hello and a smile. My dog always with a very wagging tail. We walk down Commercial from Main Street to the Rec Grove, then back up the other side.

This morning, when we were next to the Episcopal church, my dog was viciously attacked by another dog. The other dog, a large brindle-marked dog, was in the back seat of a pickup truck with the window rolled all the way down. The truck was out in traffic. My dog and I were on the sidewalk.

The brindle dog leapt out of his owner's truck, taking my dog down. The dog locked his jaws onto my dog's neck, head and shoulder area. The owner of the dog could not get his dog to let go. I was screaming. It was very vicious. Another young man appeared out of nowhere and helped the dog's owner release the aggressor dog's hold on my dog.

Also out of nowhere, animal control appeared. They had been nearby and heard my

screams. The two animal control officers were very helpful. One dealt with me and my dog, both traumatized. The other dealt with the young man who owned the brindle dog. As my dog had a puncture wound over his eye, the officers decided to take the brindle dog in for a 10-day quarantine.

Mr. Rogers said that his mother told him that when bad things happen to look for the helpers. I had helpers. The young man, Zane, who it turned out works at Oco Time, who rushed from his place of employment to help pull the dog off of mine. The two animal control officers who were very calming, helpful and professional. Also, Sarah, another dog person, who came over to see if Diesel and I were OK. Thank you for helping.

If you have an aggressive, protective dog, please leave your dog at home. Or if you must take them with you in your vehicle, please leave the window rolled up significantly enough that the dog can't get out. This never would have happened if the young man had kept his window three-quarters of the way up. My dog could have been hurt a lot worse, but because he has a thick loose scruff in his neck area and because he is so non-aggressive himself, the situation did not result in significant injuries. I am very grateful that my dog did not have worse injuries.

Willits has changed a lot since Proposition 215 was passed, the state proposition legalizing marijuana for medical purposes. The dogs around Willits used to be ranch dogs, hunting dogs, lap dogs, family pets. Now so many dogs are aggressive dogs, guard dogs, protective dogs. That saddens me.

Jeanne King, Willits

## Grateful for fire department

To the Editor:

I'm a mother of two small children, and I have an experience I'd like to share about the Brooktrails Fire Department. We'd just brought our second child home a few weeks before, when he came down with a terrible cold. At one point in the late evening, he began to have trouble breathing due to excessive mucous. I immediately reacted by calling 911.

Within a few short minutes (even in my panic, it seemed an incredibly short period of time), the Brooktrails Fire Department was at my front door. Three incredibly efficient and comforting people came in with some pretty heavy-duty equipment. They did a very thorough investigation into what was happening with my son, who immediately upon their entry began to breathe normally and giggle and coo like a perfectly cold-and-flu-free baby.

Despite his seeming immediate recovery, the fire department staff continued to check him and monitor him for a period of time to make sure he was OK. They gave us some good advice on how to care for his needs while he had a cold, and told us how to go about having him checked again at the hospital if we chose to do that.

I was really impressed that they responded so quickly and thoroughly to my call and that they took the time to educate me on some valuable tips in dealing with childhood colds and caring for my little baby. I'm grateful for their hard work and feel better knowing that they are just a phone call away.

Christa Nunez, Brooktrails

## Want to build a rail racer?

To the Editor:

I was happy to see the Kinetic Carnivale start up two years ago. It was pretty cool to see a large

crowd gathered alongside the tracks near the Willits station, waiting patiently under a hot sun to see various human-powered machines paired up on adjacent tracks and periodically sprinting 100 yards to a finish line.

I participated in the first Kinetic Carnivale event. Richard Jergensen, Phil Jergensen and I fabricated a three-person, pedal-powered rail vehicle the first year. Rosamond Crowder enchanted our Gridbeam prototype into a large dragon, complete with CO2 breath and tiny flapping wings. It was way fun. We raced other vehicles, exchanged stories with their crews, marveled at all of the creativity and workmanship, and gave people rides.

I did not like seeing an out-of-town team (four guys on a stock handcar) dominate the speed races two years in a row. Hey, we can do better than this. Willits is a rail town! Have you fantasized about building a rail racer?

I am offering a free workshop on human-powered rail machines on Saturday, May 10. Slide show begins at 5 pm in the community room of the Willits Public Library. See a wide variety of homemade rail machines, including photos of the Kinetic Carnivale rail racers from both years. Discussion will ensue. Around 6:30 pm, we will adjourn down the street to the Wowski facility. Several rail racers will be on hand for closer inspection and Q&A with their owner/builders.

Wowski has generously offered a special membership rate for folks who wish to fabricate vehicles at their facility. They have a big bone pile of parts and all the tools needed to do the job. This takes the bulk of expense out of building your dream machine. Sharing work space with other folks means you learn a lot, too!

I hope to work with Roots and the Skunk Train owners in getting these machines onto the tracks frequently for testing and demonstration. These will draw a crowd anytime, anywhere. Once folks see this effort, I suspect local businesses and individuals will wish to sponsor teams for the entry of their designs into events like the Kinetic Carnivale.

When I was younger, the rage was the downhill soapbox derby races. Dads built the machines with sons and daughters, but the driver was always a kid. Today, a driver's license is required for any event on a road and highway, thereby excluding kids as drivers. Rail has no such barrier. A safety program, an inspection team, and simple dummy launches to certify new vehicles should mitigate most liability and insurance issues for kids and adults on rail.

Michael Hackleman, Willits

## Vote Woodhouse

My name is Kevin Coffman: as a proud member of the Mendocino County community, I am honored to endorse Tom Woodhouse in the race for 3rd district supervisor.

I have worked with Tom Woodhouse on several community projects, most importantly the Willits West Commercial Street Project. The purpose of this project was to convince the city government to take a much more commerce- and pedestrian-friendly approach to their redesign of West Commercial Street. In the end our lobbying efforts were successful, and I have no doubt that without Tom we would not have stood a chance of being successful. He has a real passion for serving his community and a commitment rivaled only by the most dedicated of public servants.

Tom has been a proud resident of our great county for over 40 years. In this time has been able to build a very successful real estate brokerage from the ground up. In the four decades that he has been here, the economy has seen many challenges. I watched Tom during the largest and most recent of those crashes. During the 2008 financial meltdown, many people in the real estate business, and the country as a whole,

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# Earth Day

Sherwood School celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up Sherwood Road! At all of our events, we sing a pledge that goes like this:



I pledge allegiance  
to the earth  
and all its sacred  
parts  
its water land and  
living things  
and all its human  
hearts  
I pledge allegiance  
to all LIFE  
and promise I shall  
care  
to love and cherish  
all its gifts  
with people  
everywhere.  
Every day is Earth  
Day at Sherwood  
School!  
– submitted by  
Shauna Martin, for  
Sherwood School



# A 'KUSTOM' party

Owners of Kustoms by Spence celebrated anniversary with a car party on Shell Lane

Jeff Spence of Kustoms by Spence and Willits Collision Center and Barb Ivy of Ivy Accounting & Payroll celebrate Spence's 40th birthday at a party at their Shell Lane HQ on Saturday, April 26.

The annual open house party was complete with 1950s-looking cars parked outside, car birthday cakes, hotdogs, a raffle, and live music.

The RevTones played rockabilly-tinged tunes, like Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues" (1955), Creedence Clearwater's "Green River" (1969), and Elvis Presley's "Baby Let's Play House" (1955).

Above right: Barb Ivy poses with Jeff Spence at the party.

Below: A "kustom"-decorated cake by Leanna Spence, made to resemble Jeff's favorite blue car, a 1961 Plymouth.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



OBITUARY | Reuben M. Barrera

## Reuben M. Barrera



On April 17, 2014, Reuben died peacefully in his home with his loving wife, Sandra, and family by his side. In his final moments he was watching Holy Thursday mass on EWTN, surrounded by a lot of love.

Reuben was born and raised in San Francisco, attended E.R. Taylor Elementary, Portola Junior High and High School of Commerce. In 1951 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force where he

was deployed to Japan and fought in the Korean War.

Upon returning to the U.S., Reuben decided to be a part of the computer age. After 38 years as a computer systems analyst with Wells Fargo Bank he retired to Willits.

Reuben and Sandra celebrated over 53 years of marriage. They were blessed with five children: Charles, Denise, Mark, Tina and Annette; and beautiful grandchildren: Michael, Danielle, Mark, Stephen, Michelle, Mitchell, Melissa, Christopher and Thomas. This past year they were blessed with a great-grandson, Gabriel.

Reuben was a Eucharistic minister of St. Augustine's Catholic Church in South San Francisco, as well as St. Anthony's of Padua in Willits. Reuben was a long-time member of the Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 213. He also belonged to the Monte Cristo Club in San Francisco and was a patron of the San Francisco Symphony.

And through his generosity and sacrifice of his time for others ... he will forever be remembered for *loving well!* Donations can be made in Reuben's name to: Phoenix Hospice of Mendocino County in Willits, and the Symphony of the Redwoods in Fort Bragg.



Now there's  
a gift I would  
really love!

# Happy Mother's Day

to all the gear-shiftin' and  
grease-lovin' moms  
out there this Sunday!



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# Puzzle Page & More

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

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CHIPS	INGREDIENTS	PREHEAT	SUGAR
CHOCOLATE	LEAVENING	RECIPE	SWEETS
CONFECTIONS	MIX	RISE	TEMPERATURES
COOKIES	OIL	SALT	



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!

3

4

9

2

3

7

6

6

1

4

2

8

5

6

7

1

4

9

1

7

2

6

Level: Intermediate



## ‘Kids on the Run’

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33konradi@gmail.com

Youth runners from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Youth Activities League running program, "Kids on the Run," pose with a "check" for \$750 donated to the program by the North Coast Striders Running Club. Rodger Schwartz, president of the running club, kneels at right, and Mike Tobin, president of SAL, and Jennifer Barrett, coach, stand in rear. "This donation will go directly back to the "Kids on the Run" program through the SAL treasury. We keep it local, peeps!!!" Tobin said. Learn more about SAL at their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague](http://www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague).

The North Coast Striders, founded in 1980, is a running club for residents of Lake and Mendocino counties who are interested in walking and running for health and fitness. The Striders put on the Willits Classic 10 mile run and 5K run/walk event in February every year. For info: [www.striders.org](http://www.striders.org) or [www.facebook.com/mendolakestriders](http://www.facebook.com/mendolakestriders).

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

## Crossword Puzzle

	1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	
			10				11				12	
13	14					15				16		17
19					20			21	22			
23								24				
				25				26				
27	28	29						30			31	32
34											35	
36				37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44
									46			
47	48	49						50			51	52
54								55				
56							57	58		59		
			60				61			62		
			63				64			65		

### CLUES ACROSS

- No longer is
- Wife of Saturn
- L.A. Trojan school
- Complete
- Animal doctor
- Old Austrian coin (abbr.)
- Islamic teacher
- Hearing organ
- Abolitionist Sojourner
- Phillips Academy town
- Apparatus to add air
- April rain
- May results of 23 across
- N.W. PA. city
- 12th Jewish month
- Analgesic
- Cowards
- Hit lightly
- Express pleasure
- Divinities
- Moderately slow tempo
- Stare impertinently
- More small
- Of or containing tin

### CLUES DOWN

- Ralph \_\_ Emerson, writer
- Permitted
- State of bondage
- Administrate
- Common garden pod plant
- Machine-guns from the air
- \_\_\_\_\_ : shining
- Scribbles
- An inclined trough
- More (Spanish)
- Durham, NH school
- Pain in #15 across
- Where the tenon fits
- Said of a sheltered horse
- Range
- Project Runway winner Chloe
- French postal code 79000
- Small integer
- European Common Market
- Auto petrol
- Crimson
- River in NE Scotland
- East northeast
- Hill (Celtic)
- Time units (abbr.)
- Legal clerk Brockovitch
- Norse goddess of old age
- Form a sum
- No (Scottish)
- Japanese sash
- 007's creator
- Consume food
- The woman
- Group annuity + lottery combination
- Set fire to
- Ancient Olympic Site
- Split from
- Awe-inspiring
- Tidy
- Drive mad
- Middle Eastern riding horse
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy
- Technical author Clancy
- Garden framework
- Being near
- Of she
- Summer sun up in NY
- Highest card

COLUMN | Lin Checks In

Lin Hunter  
Contributing Writer

## Keeping our local health care rural

Recently, I was privileged to be a guest at a very special retirement party in honor of a local government icon. While sitting at the celebration, surrounded by legendary wine makers, restaurateurs, representatives from every facet of local agriculture, business entrepreneurs, government officials

The reality of the situation is that health care isn't a hot party topic. It's not something folks want to discuss when given the opportunity to mix and mingle over extraordinary local wines and foods.

Read the rest of  
**Health Care** | Over on Page 9

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Leadership is a popular topic in an election. I think I have some. So do Tom and Clay. And the Mayor is sure she's got it.

Leadership is not self-declared. It is granted by those who rally to a common cause. Leadership is not answering a summons to testify in Sacramento. It is distilling a workable plan from many options and bringing it to life. Leadership is anticipating a problem and putting a solution in place before things get out of hand.

Here's how Willits leadership has been working and it is one of the reasons I entered the race.

When the expensive Yost study on water recommended drilling wells for Willits water in 2006, city leadership did nothing for eight years. When things dried up in 2014, those same leaders declared an emergency and got busy drilling wells!!

When Brooktrails and Willits could not agree on joint management of the sewer plant, leadership on the city council failed to act. Real leadership would have promptly sat down and made peace. Ratepayers on both sides are paying legal fees now approaching \$750 thousand dollars...!!

When I suggested that this dispute should be resolved prior to attempting cooperative agreements on water sharing, suddenly there was mediation. But a dramatic resolution failed to appear, and the trial is now pushed further into the future, with the bills still piling up and the ratepayers on both sides paying, paying, paying.

It is certain the lawsuit will be settled eventually, perhaps by a judge, and at great cost to the rate-payers. But how then does either Willits or Brooktrails look favorably at each other on issues for the common good?

This kind of leadership is bad for the ratepayers in the City and Brooktrails. It would be disastrous at the county level, where the budgetary stakes are much higher.

No new debt was added during my term as Supervisor and the Retirement System Funded Ratio was stable at about 90% versus 64% today.

Think about it. And choose a leader with a proven track record.

HAL WAGENET

www.halwagenet4supervisor.com

Hal for Supervisor

PAID FOR BY HAL WAGENET 4 SUPERVISOR FPPC#46-5043495



Our mother and father are longtime Willits residents, my dad as far back as the 1930s. Their wedding anniversary of 60 years is Thursday, so it's a special week. Left to right: our family brothers and sisters and mom and dad Kym, Joe, Jeff, Mom, Dad, Jenny and Chris. Happy Mother's Day JoAnn White!



Happy Mother's Day to my Mom and to both my sisters, Tami and Angie. I am so lucky to have you all in my life. Love you!



Tito, Arcelia, Stephanie and Steven Duran.



Carmen Molina and her little Brooke.



Kisses for Mallory Smith from her baby girl Mayla Smith.



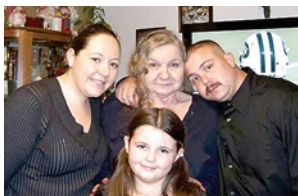
Nicole McLeod on a field trip in Monterey, with her son Connor Basler.



Carol Anderson and Kaynin at the drive-in.



Carol Anderson and Kohen at his baseball game.



Happy Mother's Day, Shirley Pinnell From Samantha n Wayne love u!



Tia and Roanin on his birthday



Leah and Angelo Alfano and Amanda Norton. ... I am a lucky mama! Christine Griggs.



Natalie Kristiansen with daughter Kall and son Judah.



Happy Mother's Day, Mom! Love Me and Roxie!



Mavis' mom Kati Muhlhauser and father Harry Muhlhauser.



Michelle, Kathy and Melissa Tobin.



Carol Anderson and mama Marianne Anderson on the way to a Bad Company concert!



Michelle McCoy and her three sons, Coltin, Conner and Callen.



I love you to the moon and back and so much more!!!



Happy Mother's Day, Gloria Caine! Love Samantha and Wayne.



Shawna Noon, holding Kailaya Benevich, and Kirra Wilburn, holding the sign for Shawna's third child, due September 21, 2014.

# Happy Mother's Day

to all the mothers we love!



Rachel and Bobbi Belvin, on our latest adventure!



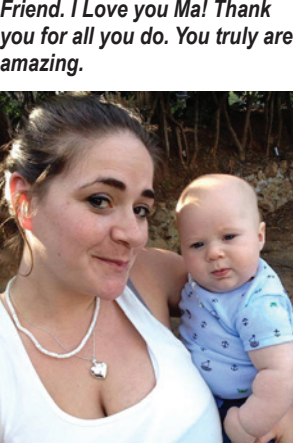
Kathleen Lewis' girls and grandkids, left to right: Jacob Kubin, Olivia Kubin, Deb Kubin, Syd Kubin, Owen Schuster, Jen Schuster.



Lauren Morris, owner First Steps Daycare with son Trenton and Mariah at Disneyland



Sheryl McFadden and her kids.



Happy Mother's Day to my Best Friend. I Love you Ma! Thank you for all you do. You truly are amazing.



Mallory Smith with her chunky blue-eyed boy, Kieran Smith.



A four-generation photo of lovely women: Mallory Smith with mother Debbie Maughs, grandmother Elaine Todd and great Grandma GG.



Rylee McKenzie and her mom, Naomi.



Cassandra Andich and mother Marylou.



Debbie Maughs with mother Elaine Todd on Thanksgiving

## ‘We love our moms because...’

Here are some "We love our moms because..." letters from the students at Learning Roots Preschool and Kindergarten, submitted by Tatiana Cantrell.

"I love my mommy because I love her so much" – Maelie, 4

"I love my mommy because..." – Dmitri, 2

"I love my mommy because she hugs me and buys me toys" – Daniel, 3

"I love my mommy so much because she kisses me. She makes yummy dinners. Very yummy" – Thomas, 4

"I love my mommy so much because she helps me go night night" – Bronach, 2

"I love my mommy so much because she buys me chocolate cookies" – Timothy, 4

"I love my mommy because she loves me. Because she lets me stay up late" – Xander, 5

"I love my mommy because she makes me dinner. She makes really good dinner" – Nina, 5

"I love my mommy because she gives me her lunch. And she gives me breakfast" – Sophia, 4

"I love my mommy because she makes me happy" – Elias, 5

Celebrate

MOM

ER ENERGY

KITCHEN & HEARTH

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Safeway Shopping Center | WILLITS | 707-459-9700



Thursday, May 8

**Willits High School Spring Concert:** 7 pm at the Allen J. Garcia Auditorium. Featuring the Willits High School Jazz Band, the WHS Vocal Ensemble, and the WHS Concert Band, as well as the Baechtel Grove Middle School Eighth Grade Band. Free admission.

**Shanachie Pub:** Robber's Roost, ragtime, Gypsy jazz, folk punk at 5:30 pm, and Jazz Jam, featuring vocalist Sarah Ryan, Michael Cantwell on piano and keyboards, Aaron Bellomo on guitar and Jesse Bessoni on drums. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, May 9

**Memorial Poppy Drive:** American Legion Post and Auxiliary members will start their annual two-week Poppy Drive today, featuring paper poppies made by veterans. Fridays, May 9 and May 16, and Saturdays, May 10 and May 17, in front of Safeway, and in front of the Book Juggler, 182 South Main Street on other days.

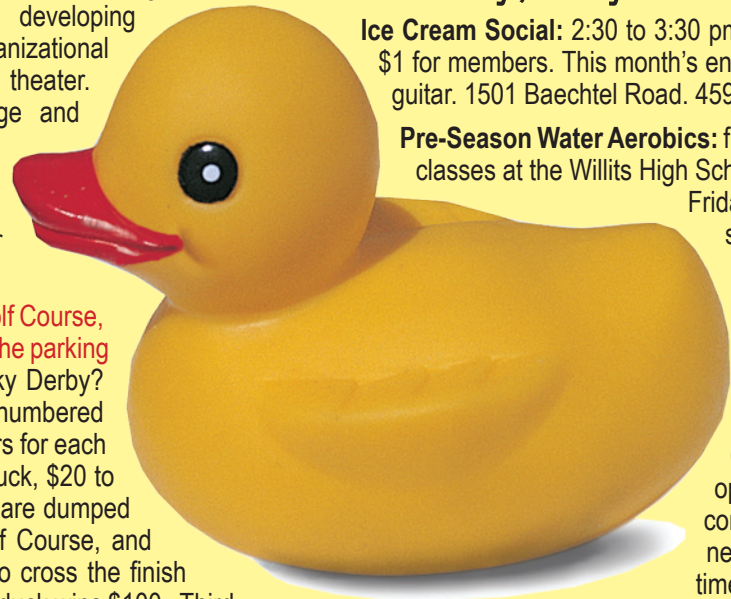
**2014 Indian Day:** at Sherwood Valley Rancheria Casino, 100 Kawi Place, featuring fry bread tacos on sale from 12 to 4 pm. \$5 each. All proceeds go to the Tribal education program. Info: 459-7330.

**Shanachie Pub:** Americana, alternative, Celtic, swing, and Latin jazz music by Julian & the Upside Sound. 8 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, May 10

**Master Class in Directing:** two-part class offered by professional actor, dancer and director Bill Barksdale, at the Willits Community Theatre playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. 10 am. Part I covers the nuts and bolts of organizing and leading a project, whether directing a play or conducting a business or organizing one's personal life. Part 2: Saturday, May 17 at 10 am: strategies for aiding actors in understanding and developing their characters, and more on the organizational tasks necessary to launch a play in live theater. "Barksdale brings participants backstage and reveals the secrets behind successful live theater." \$25 adults/\$15 students for each class; scholarships available. To register, visit [www.willits theatre.org](http://www.willits theatre.org) or phone 459-9035 for more info.

**Sober Grad Ducky Derby:** Brooktrails Golf Course, 1 pm. Volunteers should meet at 12:30 at the parking lot next to the golf shop. What is a Ducky Derby? "We have 500 rubber duckyes which are numbered 1 through 500. Our goal is to find sponsors for each of the duckyes. Sponsorship cost is \$5/duck, \$20 to sponsor 5 duckyes. All sponsored ducks are dumped into Willits Creek on the Brooktrails Golf Course, and they 'race' to the finish. The first duck to cross the finish line wins its sponsor \$200. Second place duck wins \$100. Third place duck wins \$50. Last duck to cross the finish line wins its sponsor 2 nights at Ruth and Mike Dell'Ara's beautiful Guest House in Caspar on the Mendocino Coast, along with a dinner." There are also discount coupons from Pizza to Go. For sponsor tickets contact Angi at 459-2260.



have on your mind."

**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

Sunday, May 11 - Mother's Day!

**Mother's Day Breakfast:** 8 to 11 am at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Mimosas (orange juice and champagne), pancakes, eggs (any style), bacon, sausage, or ham, orange juice, coffee, tea. Mothers will receive a beautiful carnation.

**Free Drying Month at Evergreen Launderland:** Free drying offered (for washing customers) from noon to 3 pm at Evergreen Launderland, from Mother's Day through Father's Day, June 15, as a 20th anniversary celebration. 1712 S. Main Street; 459-4935.

**"Cannabis Renaissance" talk:** featuring Samantha Miller, chief scientist and founder of Pure Analytics Laboratory. Presented by Long Valley Garden Club, 375 Harwood Road, Laytonville. 4 to 6 pm. Info: 984-6587.

Monday, May 12

**Ice Cream Social:** 2:30 to 3:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center. \$1.50; \$1 for members. This month's entertainment will be Jim Harden on his guitar. 1501 Baechtel Road. 459-6826.

**Pre-Season Water Aerobics:** first day for pre-season Water Aerobics classes at the Willits High School pool: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:15 to 4:15 pm. \$6 per class, \$5 seniors, \$70 for a 20-class pass.

Tuesday, May 13

**Coffee with the Principal:** Meet Dr. Jeff Ritchley, principal of Willits High School. 8:30 to 10 am, in Room 6 at WHS. "These events are a great opportunity to listen to parents, and come up with ideas to better meet the needs of our teenagers.... This is also time to celebrate student success, talk about college, the military, or anything you may

have on your mind."

**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

**REDI Open House:** the Renewable Energy Development Institute would like to "tell you what REDI has been up to lately," and also "hear your thoughts about how REDI might further encourage the development of renewable energy resources for our county and our planet." 3 to 5 pm at REDI Haus, 121 West Commercial Street. Snacks and refreshments. Info: mike. aplet@gmail.com or call Mike Aplet at 459-6413.

**Human-Powered Rail Machines Workshop:** free workshop on human-powered rail machines, presented by Michael Hackleman. Slide show begins at 6 pm at the Willits Library; a look at rail racer vehicles at Wowser starts at 6:30. See Letter on page 2 for details.

**Shanachie Pub:** slamgrass by Dusty Green Bones. 8:30 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

showings. This week's Tightwad movies: "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" and "Heaven Is For Real." For showtimes: [www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com). 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

**Willits High School Open House:** begins at 6 pm at WHS auditorium with an opening speech by Principal Jeff Ritchley, followed by a performance by the WHS Jazz Band. Classes in the main hall will be open, and each department will have a mini question and answer session. Clubs and groups will be set up in the main hall. Snacks provided. Info: 459-7700.

Wednesday, May 14

**Tea with the Principal:** Meet Dr. Jeff Ritchley, principal of Willits High School. 3:30 to 5 pm, in Room 6 at WHS. "These events are a great opportunity to listen to parents, and come up with ideas to better meet the needs of our teenagers.... This is also time to celebrate student success, talk about college, the military, or anything you may have on your mind."

**Free 'Shred Event' at Savings Bank:** The Savings Bank of Mendocino County is offering the public an opportunity to shred outdated confidential documents this month to help prevent identity theft. The Willits branch event is set for May 14, from 9 to 11 am, 145 South Main Street. Limit: three 35-pound boxes, until the truck is full. Savings Bank representatives will be available to supply information about preventing identity theft and what to do if your identity is stolen.

Thursday, May 15

**"Autism: 3 Word-Phrases to Support Communication":** a free presentation offered by Frank R. Memorial Hospital for anyone interested in learning about autism and advances in communication, especially speech! Join Nancy Moilanen on May 15, from 3:30 to 5 pm, as she presents a case study on how she was able to help a patient with autism communicate within 18 months of speech therapy. 11 Oaks Conference Room at Howard Hospital, 1 Madrone Street. Free and open to the public. RSVP: 456-3141.

**"The Milagro Beanfield War":** Now & Then Film Series presents, 7 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Robert Redford's film "humorously develops a populist theme complete with water rights, corporate takeover, people protecting their exploitive temporary jobs, a town at risk and trees being bulldozed over. Come and cheer for the underdogs!" Suggested donation of \$5 to \$10. Organic popcorn and Fair Trade chocolates for sale by the Grange. Info: 459-6362.

Friday, May 16

**Annual Carnival and Discovery Park Groundbreaking:** ground-breaking for the Discovery Park and Playground at 5 pm, during the annual carnival at the Kids Club on Blosser Lane, behind Blosser Lane School. The public is invited to attend. Healthy food available for purchase, and children's activities, including a bounce house and game booths. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for details.

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

**Cloud 9 Dance Studio Recital:** 28th Annual Dance Recital, "Happy," featuring students of Lillian Evind, Jenny Montes and Kathleen Ferri-Taylor, who will be performing pieces composed by the teachers and students. 7 pm at Willits High School Allen Garcia Memorial Auditorium. Tickets at the door: \$8 adults, \$5 for seniors and students under 21.

Saturday, May 17

**Blosser Lane School Goodwill Fundraiser:** 10 am to 4 pm at the school parking lot at 1275 Blosser Lane. Bring your donations of household items, gently used clothing, E-waste (old computers, printers, etc.), furniture and more! Questions? Call: Windi @ 354-0755.

**Master Class in Directing:** taught by Bill Barksdale at WCT. See Saturday, May 10 listing for details.

**3rd Annual Tea & Togs Fashion Show:** this Afternoon Tea & Fashion Show showcases fabulous finds from the Willits Seniors' Thrift Store! Bring your own teacup and enjoy a selection of tea sandwiches, scones, cakes, tarts, and teas. Noon to 2 pm. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Admission \$12. Info: 459-6826

**Equine Riding Clinic:** at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds. Get brushed up on your riding skills for the upcoming Willits Frontier Days events and become more well-rounded about horses and horsemanship. Riding instruction, equine medicine and care, tack information and much more will be offered by local professionals. Lunch and a T-shirt included in \$20 entry fee. Limited availability. For info or to sign up: call Mattie Pinon at 367-5550.

**WCT Auditions:** Willits Community Theatre is holding auditions for its short play production, to be staged on the last weekend of July and first weekend of August. Auditions are set for Saturday, May 17 at 3 pm and Saturday, May 24 at 1 pm at the WCT playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. Producer Damian Sebouhian is looking for men and women of all ages to fill roles for a number of short plays. Directors are also needed. Anyone interested in acting and/or directing can attend the auditions or contact Sebouhian at 707-601-6641 or [dsebouhian@yahoo.com](mailto:dsebouhian@yahoo.com).



Sunday, May 18

**Town Hall Meeting:** 4 to 6 pm at the Willits City Council chambers. Topic: "Our Community Rights: What are they? Are we losing them?" Presentations by Karina McAbee Cotler, a proponent of the Community Bill of Rights Anti-Fracking Ordinance; Charline Ford, local rancher and business woman; Lynn Kennelly, director of Willits Chamber of Commerce; and Margaret Koster, co-chairperson of Mendocino County's Move to Amend Coalition. Public discussion will be moderated by Carlin Diamond. This will be Willits' last Town Hall until September. All residents of the 95490 community are invited to attend and give their input. Info: Carlin at 459-4850.

**A Day with the Dynamite Dames:** at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds. Horsemanship clinic focusing on gymkhana events, safety while riding, and having fun! Learn from famous trick riders Bobbie Stone, Ginger Duke and Josey Lynn. Open to riders of all

ages; riding experience encouraged. Limited availability. For info or to sign up: call Marcy Barry at 272-5395.



Ongoing Events

**Willits Farmers Market:** Summer market at City Park, from 3 to 6 pm. Greens, onions and other spring produce, garden starts, local meats, dinner, crafts, live music, and more.

**Haehl Creek Trail Work Parties:** every Friday morning work parties, to help clear the trail for construction. 9 to 11 am, meet at the Commonwealth Garden greenhouse/parking lot across from the new hospital construction site. Please wear gloves and work shoes/boots, and bring chain saws, asphalt rakes, shovels &/or weed whackers. Info: Mike Aplet, 513-3337 or [mike.aplet@gmail.com](mailto:mike.aplet@gmail.com).

**"Art Under 20":** 16th annual show of student art, at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Show runs through Sunday, May 25. Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm and Saturdays and Sundays from 12 to 3 pm. Info: Carolyn Bakewell at 459-7700, ext. 1533.

**Life Changes:** Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am. \$1. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

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

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

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

**Free Sheriff's Activity League programs:** at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: [www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague](http://www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague) or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

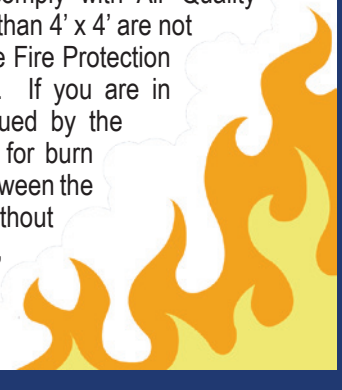
**Shanachie Pub:** Open Mic every Wednesday at 8:40 pm. Sign-ups start at 3 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

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

**Laytonville Farmers Market:** Mondays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm in downtown Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, jewelry, aprons, children's clothing, knife sharpening and more.

Learn How to Save a Life!

"Heart Saver CPR," a one-day, hands-on CPR course sponsored by Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, open to everyone wanting to learn the Heart Saver CPR life-saving technique. Wednesday, May 21, noon to 6 pm, at Adventist Home Health and Hospice of Mendocino County, 100 San Hedrin Circle. \$50 per person, required; optional \$15 for CPR book. RSVP: 456-3156.



Notice from Little Lake Fire Protection District

Please be advised: to comply with Air Quality guidelines, burn piles larger than 4' x 4' are not allowed within the Little Lake Fire Protection District as of May 1, 2014. If you are in possession of a permit issued by the LLFPD, it can still be used for burn piles no larger than 4' x 4' between the hours of 6 am and noon (without impacting your neighbors), and it is valid until the Burn Ban is enacted.



– Madge Strong

Willits On Stage 2

The second annual Willits Community Services variety show on April 26 was another tour-de-force. The talent in Willits is simply amazing. The entertainment ran the gamut: from young to old, vocals to instrumentals, dance to juggling, spoken word to gymnastics.

Quite a few of the acts featured home-grown original music. It was especially heartening to see so many young performers, among them: the "Cloud Nine Dancers" (ages 10 to 11); pianist Keely Ahders (14 years old); Aidyn McAdden (7 years old) in a dance duet; gymnasts Alyssa Fraser and Kylie Jergensen; and the Willits High School Jazz Band.

The dapper emcee Kevin Copperfield was upstaged only by his svelte, sequined wife, Wendy, who displayed placards for each act.

In addition to lots of fun, the event raised about \$4,000 for Willits Community Services and Food Bank programs. We'll look forward to show No. 3 next year!

**LOCAL SUSTAINABLE NON-PROFIT ORG. SEEKS:** Farm Data Manager/Executive Assistant to Director

**Requirements**  
Ability to collect, compile & analyze farm data; working knowledge of basic statistics; general office mgmt. & secretarial skills; computer proficiency (Mac); filing; research; ordering supplies; interacting with public on behalf of director. Familiarity with sustainable farming preferred but not req'd. Must have own transportation.  
32-40 hrs/week (flexible); salary w/benefits DOE.  
For more information visit [www.growbiointensive.org/Opportunities.html](http://www.growbiointensive.org/Opportunities.html) Or call Ecology Action at 707.459.0150

Brooktrails Flea Market needs Vendors

The Brooktrails Property Owners Association's annual Flea Market is set for Saturday, June 7 from 8 am to 3 pm at the Brooktrails Community Center, indoors and outdoors. "Your leftovers are someone else's treasures." Spaces still available: call Irene at 459-1974. \$20 for a table. Crafters and other vendors are welcome, along with flea market tables. Firefighters will be cooking hotdogs, and there will be extra handicapped spaces designated in the parking lot.

Dances of Universal Peace

Dances of Universal Peace meets the 3rd Monday of every month – May 21 this month – at The Muse, 30 East San Francisco, 7 to 9 pm. Sacred circle dances drawn from the world's wisdom traditions. Simple to learn, fun, and heart-opening. Live music. Donations welcome. Info: 459 9085.

Mendocino Film Festival at the Noyo Theatre May 29, May 31

The next set of Mendocino Film Festival events in Willits is set for the end of May, with an opening reception on Thursday, May 29, from 6 to 7:30 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts. Reception is hosted by Adam's Restaurant and the North Coast Brewing Company, and will feature fine wines, artisan beer, and "an array of delectable appetizers." Reception tickets are \$10, for movie-goers (film ticket stub required for admission). The Thursday night film, 7:30 pm at the Noyo Theatre is "20 Feet From Stardom," which won a 2014 Academy award for "Best Feature-Length Documentary."

"Director Morgan Neville shines a spotlight on the backup singers behind some of the greatest musical legends of our time. Along with rare archival footage and a peerless soundtrack, the film boasts intimate interviews with Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder, Mick Jagger, Bette Midler and Sting, to name just a few."

Special guest Claudia Lennear, who's sung with



Ike and Tina Turner, George Harrison, Joe Cocker, Leon Russell and more, as featured in the film, will do a Q&A after the film showing.

On Saturday May 31, the Mendocino Film Festival in Willits starts off at 3 pm with "Symphony of the Soil," a documentary which "explores the complexity and mystery of soil" including interviews on four continents with some of the world's most esteemed soil scientists, farmers and activists. Q&A with director Deborah Koons Garcia after the showing. A Shorts Program, "It's All About Change," featuring nine short films, is scheduled for 5:30 pm. "Grazing the Sky," a "magical and intimate look at the lives of modern circus artists within and out of Cirque Du Soleil," is set for 8pm. All showings at the Noyo Theatre. Film tickets are \$11 advance/\$12 at the door. For more info, and to buy tickets, visit: [www.mendocinofilmfestival.com](http://www.mendocinofilmfestival.com).

expects to start construction as soon as school is out and to continue through the summer.

The project is funded in part with funds from a State of California Parks and Recreation grant, and also by the bequest of Ventura Perez, a former Willits resident and Willits High School student body president. The project has received important support from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, ReLeaf, Dave Watts and Sanhedrin Nursery, and Dave Madrigal. The enduring vision for this natural outdoor area for the children of the community has been held for many years by Kids Club Executive Director Kris Wagner.

A grand opening for the new park will take place in the fall, when construction is expected to be complete and the park will be ready for play.

– by Karen Oslund

Discover Park Groundbreaking

at Kids Club May 16







Above: Linc, in front, and Keith work on the trail.

Photo by Spring Senerchia

## Friday morning work parties at Haehl Creek Trail

It takes a visionary group of people to see a creek-side field next to a planned development – covered in grasses and wildflowers, overflowing with poison oak and blackberries – and get organized to protect public open space. The Multi-Use Trail Coalition is a group of such individuals.

Spring Senerchia  
Features Writer  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mike Aplet knows how to start small, stay focused and realize a vision on behalf of the entire community. Dave Madrigal joins him bringing passion, enthusiasm and a grand vision for interconnected trails in town, and beyond. Larry Stropes picked up an idea and helped get the ball rolling again, working hard to raise funds and get help organized for the trail project. Alongside these three are many other dedicated, hardworking

Read the rest of **Trail** | Over on Page 9



### House for sale by owner \$324,000

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## New Willits soccer team gets a leg up from Willits Redwood Company

When times are tough, it's especially important to pull together to celebrate community. For the players of team Guanajuato in Willits, the newest members of the Ukiah Men's Soccer League, community support helped them to enjoy their first team victory on Sunday. Guanajuato won 4 to 2 against Clearlake's Regional in a home game at the Baechtel Grove Middle School field.

Kate Maxwell  
Features Writer  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Ukiah league already has two teams from Willits – Willits/Santa Cruz and Chamacuaro – but even with 22 members on a roster, there wasn't enough room or field time for all the enthusiastic players.

At the end of last season, when some of the Chamacuaro players and other soccer enthusiasts without a team gathered to form a new group, they knew they would face substantial costs. Beyond the league registration fees, money for equipment, practices, and games, they needed jerseys for all of the players on the team.

“Everyone just wanted to play,” said Eric Martin, former Chamacuaro player, “but not everyone has a lot of money.”

Prospective team members approached local merchants for financial support, but found many unable to help. Finally, the Willits Redwood Company agreed to sponsor costs for uniforms and some equipment, and with

lots of pitching in by family and friends, team Guanajuato was ready to join the league.

“We really want to thank Willits Redwood Company for their support,” said Brianna Lopes, whose husband Erich Ramirez plays on the Guanajuato team. “And we want to let the community know Willits Redwood is putting money back into our community.”

Although many Guanajuato players are friends and family, they are still learning how to play together. Brothers Eric and Israel (team captain and goalie) Ramirez enlisted their father, experienced soccer coach George Ramirez, to lead practices. Team member Eric Martin, who also works with Willits Youth Soccer, was able to arrange the use of goal posts and other equipment.

“People think we are just here to play,” says Erich Ramirez, “but it's actually a lot of work.” Players are responsible for mowing and

Read the rest of **Soccer** | Over on Page 9



Photos by Kate Maxwell

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**Soccer Home Games**

May 17 - Chamacuaro vs. Morelia, 12 pm  
May 31 - Guanajuato vs. Morelia, 10 am  
June 7 - Guanajuato vs. Chamacuaro, 10 am  
June 14 - Guanajuato vs. Chelsea, 10 am  
June 21 - Chamacuaro vs. Bocaneo, 9 am, and Guanajuato vs. Real Espana, 11 am

The rest of **Trail** | From Page 8

volunteers focused on advancing this dream.

Although Willits residents live amongst magnificent natural beauty, when it comes time to take a walk, some locals are frustrated by a lack of public access trails (though Aplet points out there are many excellent trails in Brooktrails). This area along Haehl Creek is the only public land in the Willits valley along a riparian corridor. A walk along the trail is a real treat: it is shaded by oaks, madrones and bays, offering lovely views of the creek, covered in willows.

It is the combination of this natural beauty and public access that excites the coalition members. The land on which the trail is being built was given to the City of Willits by Ed Mitchell (developer of the Haehl Creek subdivision) and the Frank R. Howard Foundation for the purpose of a community trail.

Even after this generous donation of land, completion of the trail was far from certain. The Multi-Use Trail Coalition has worked hard to raise the money needed to begin construction. They continue to work while they eagerly anticipate the official groundbreaking, scheduled for May 12. On this day a tractor will be onsite to scrape the trail surface of roots and plants in preparation for laying landscape cloth (to keep plants out of the future trail) and eventually rock.

If you are able-bodied and sure-footed you can visit today and enjoy this rough trail, which stretches over half a mile along Haehl Creek. However, once finished this trail will be accessible to all, covered in an all-weather surface 6 to 10 feet wide, graded to gentle ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) specifications. The complete design of the area includes benches and picnic tables where walkers can sit to rest or, in Madrigal's words, to simply "enjoy the peace and solitude" of the creek side.

Because the trail is so close to the new Howard Memorial Hospital, and will be wheelchair accessible, an ideal opportunity awaits patients and their visitors. Many hospital staff already may be seen walking loops around the neighborhood of the current hospital, and this new trail will offer them a serious upgrade for their break-time exercise.

This trail, even when complete, will truly be a "community trail," says Aplet. It will need people to use, love and maintain it. More support is needed to keep the momentum going on this community resource. The Multi-Use Trail Coalition is a non-profit organization, so your generous contributions are tax deductible.

For those looking for some exercise, fun, company or inspiration, the Friday morning work sessions are a great opportunity to get outside, offer a helping hand, and meet some new friends. The coalition will be working each Friday morning in May, from 9 to 11 am. They meet just south of the Commonwealth Garden. Call Mike Aplet for more information: 459-6413.



The rest of **Soccer** | From Page 8

repainting the middle school field after use, which Ramirez says can take four hours. "Of course it's all worth it," he affirms.

Team member Alex, from Hopland, plays soccer in Santa Rosa, too, but says: "I like playing with these guys, because they really care about soccer. ... It makes a big difference."

And when it's finally game time, it's clear that all the contributions and hard work are adding up to a good time. Families and friends of Guanajuato players shout encouragement from the sidelines. Coach Ramirez usually brings his Taqueria Ramirez truck to the games, and other refreshments are also available.

The home games at Baechtel Grove are played on Sundays; see schedule above. Two of the Willits teams, Guanajuato and Chamacuaro, will play against each other on June 7 at 10 am. All games are family events: free and open to the public, and spectators are encouraged.



Top: Coach Ramirez and his players gather for a halftime strategy session.

Above: Young fan Jayden, 5, practices while watching the game.

Photos by Kate Maxwell

The rest of **Health Care** | From Page 4

You see, until you or a loved one is in need of health care, few people actually know what the available care options are. All too often we stick our heads in the sand, waiting until we are in need of a procedure, before taking action and educating ourselves on our choices. This form of decision-making increases emergency visits, as well as costly, unnecessary appointments, for both patients and healthcare providers.

While living in a rural community may mean fewer healthcare options, health is about more than access to technology and specialists. The conditions that influence health in our lives, at work – at school, and in our communities – can be just as important as access to health insurance, a clinic, or a hospital.

At its best, rural health care provides a wonderful opportunity for us to actually be a part of our care. We get to know our health providers and create our own healthcare plans, focusing on preventive care rather than emergency care. Rural care is what makes our community whole and keeps our care local: providing consistency, dependency and developing relationships.

When you look at the factors that determine health status – how long we live, how well we feel – health care is important, but it is not the only driver. We know that individual behaviors like smoking and exercising play a crucial role in our overall health. On average, more adult smokers reside in our rural communities versus urban areas. The rankings also indicate that education, jobs, and income play a factor in how long and how well people live. Our rural communities

tend to have higher rates of unemployment and childhood poverty. The effect can be detrimental, but we have a choice.

Now is the time. We have an opportunity to better our community, but no single person or organization can tackle this problem alone. Health care reform is part of the answer, but it will take our community as a whole to be successful. The balance to maintaining a successful rural health system is to start in our community and develop healthy lifestyle choices early. This is what the entire rural healthcare system is based upon, acting on a preventive front rather than waiting to fix health problems after they have developed. By growing our own food, shopping for fresh, local produce at farmers' markets, and educating our youth through schools and with hands-on activities, we can take full advantage of the cleaner, healthier rural lifestyle, and live healthier lives overall.

As health outcomes begin to improve and providers are drawn to a healthy community, there will be less need for hospitalization and invasive procedures, and practicing rural health care will attract new providers to our communities: rural health care will be the preferred type of care. It is my hope that in the near future, by continuing to provide excellent preventive care and consistent education, rural health care in our area will be viewed as an integral part of our community. Whether you are a winemaker or a downtown restaurant owner, we are all seeking the same thing: being a part of a thriving local economy while staying healthy to enjoy it.

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

COLUMN | Resendez Reads!

## China Then, China Now

Thanks to my friend Nancy for providing me with two excellent reads this month.

Their author, **Nicole Mones**, started traveling to China for business in the '70s at the end of the Cultural Revolution. Mones writes novels based on her love of Chinese culture, food and history.

“Night in Shanghai” was published in March of this year. It takes place in the late 1930s in the freewheeling city of Shanghai. The political backdrop is the struggle between the Nationalists and the Communists who are doing almost nothing to repel the invading Japanese. The local scene centers around dense clusters of immigrants and the gang boss who rules the night world of entertainment and the criminals who populate it.

Straight off the boat from America lands Thomas Greene, a classical trained Black pianist, who is desperate for work. He's hired to lead a jazz band in a nightclub run by the gang. Despite his culture shock,

he quickly adapts to the freedom and the danger, finding love along the way and witnessing the invasion of the Japanese.

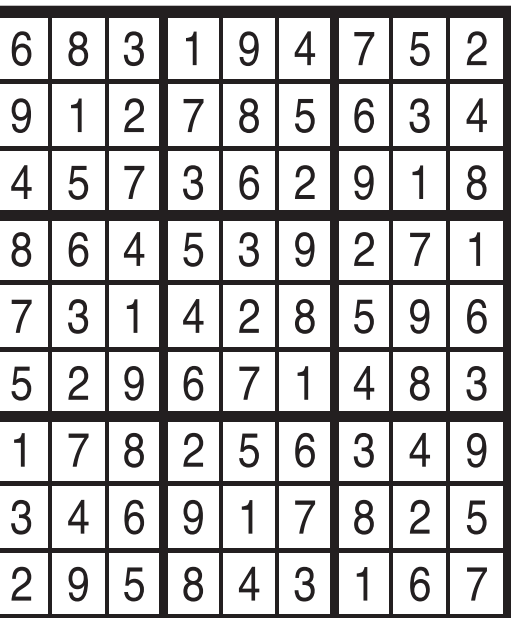
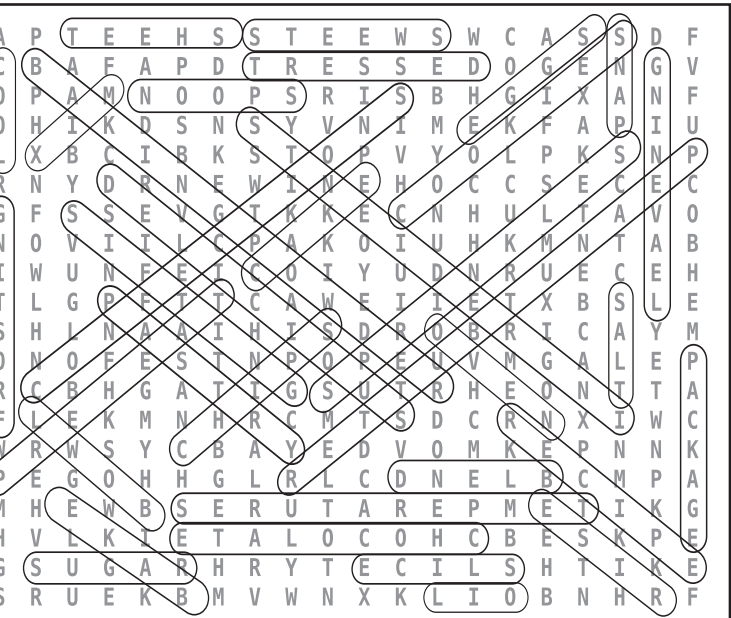
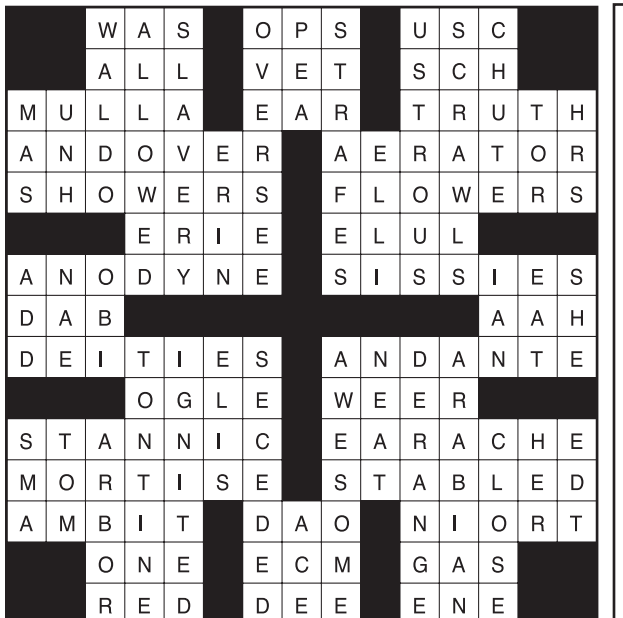
“The Last Chinese Chef” (2007) is set in modern day Beijing. It's both a love story and a love letter to Chinese cuisine. Mones has a background as a food writer and in this book she gets to show off her knowledge.

Maggie McElroy is the main character, who finds herself in China on a double task. She's investigating a paternity claim filed against her dead husband, a lawyer who secretly enjoyed the city's nightlife. And, she's on assignment from her food magazine to interview an up-and-coming chef.

The chef, Sam Liang, turns out to be Chinese-American, with a fascinating family background linked to the former Imperial family. Maggie is pulled out of her grief by the sensuality of the food and the strength of Sam's cultural and family ties.

As ever, whether you read electronically, on the paper page or by listening to audio books, please utilize our library system and take advantage of our county's delightful local bookstores, both new and used.

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





or edible parts of plants.

Jerry Jordan of DripWorks built a greywater system in town decades ago. “It is really cool,” Jordan said. “I did it 30 odd years ago in Willits, and I had the best figs in town.”

Jordan recommends people building a greywater system be cautious about planting trees that like to root – like willow and plum – near the pipe since they could grow to clog a perforated line.

He said he took his washing machine outlet pipe and stuck it through the wall. “It was so incredibly basic.”

For those who want to consider building a greywater system, Sherman notes the system “cannot connect physically in any way to a potable water source.” And all systems require a backflow retention device to stop backdraft into public water.

Anyone wishing to build a greywater system should see Sherman to obtain a permit and information.

When your greywater can be diverted with a turn of valve, it will need to be done under 2 inches of cover.

“It’s good to think about the soil conditions you have,” said Sherman. “If you have clay, you may want to consider mulch-pit distribution.”

Willits resident Tom Mann has some experience with greywater systems. Mann tore his system out to build a deck, but he says it is the way to go with watering ornamentals.

“If you want to have roses and trees and shrubs, and large landscape items, it is a great way not to pay for water,” said Mann.

Available online, Chapter 16 of the state plumbing code provides all the rules and some formulas useful in building a greywater system to code standards.

The code outlines requirements that include surge tanks, setbacks from wells, and shutoff valves.

If you are handy, building a system and doing rough calculations can be a do-it-yourself project.

Or call a plumber. “Some of [the systems] can be challenging [to build],” said Tom Robinson, owner of Robinson Plumbing.

Installing a greywater system “also keeps water out of the sewer treatment plant,” Sherman noted. “Some simple conservation measures will help us all get through.”

#### Conservation Tips

Use a bucket: Robinson says 10 gallons can go down the drain waiting for hot water. “I tell people we use a bucket at home waiting for hot water at the kitchen sink,” Robinson said. “Throw it in the washer, or make coffee with it.”

Water heater distance: Localize your water heater, insulate hot water pipes and hot water heaters. Use dual-flush low-volume toilets, not the old ones currently installed in many area homes. “They require about six gallons to flush,” Sherman said.

Consider a hot water recirculation system: That way hot water “is only coming from this circulation system, so it does not have to pull all the way from the garage,” said Sherman. The garage is an all-too-common spot to place a hot water heater.

According to information provided by the county’s Department of Health and Human Services, competency restoration services are for mentally ill inmates who have been found incompetent to stand trial. They include a curriculum that will enable the inmate to understand what he or she is being charged with and will impart to the inmate an understanding of the legal processes involved, so the inmate is able to present his or her own defense, or can cooperate with an attorney to present a reasonable defense against the charges.

According to Pinizzatto and others at the meeting, currently the state does not have enough capacity to deal with these inmates in a timely manner. Mentally ill felons may have to wait from six months to a year to receive services in a state mental health facility.

James Bassler, a Mental Health Board member whose son, Aaron Bassler, shot and killed Fort Bragg Councilman Jere Melo in August 2011, and was killed by SWAT team riflemen 36 days later, asked if jail was a good place to address mental health issues.

“With the overcrowding in our jail, can we think it’s a good environment to restore competency?” Bassler asked.

“The issue is, if we don’t do this, they will wait six months to go to a state facility,” said Jenine Miller, deputy director of Behavioral Health.

Pinizzatto said the competency restoration program is due to start next month.

Ortner Management Group Chief Medical Officer John Riley supported the program. “It has the potential, over time – within a year – to reduce the population of mental health patients in the jail,” Riley said.

Information provided by the Ortner Management Group indicated there are currently 146 unsentenced men, 105 sentenced men, 27 unsentenced women and 16 sentenced women, (a total of 294 inmates) in county jail. Of those, 41 have been diagnosed with mental health problems: 14 percent of inmates. Of those 41, 16 have been found to be unable to understand court proceedings.

#### Innovation grant grinds on

Karen Lovato, acting manager for the county’s Mental Health Services Act program, reported the year-long

The deal is good for eight hours of duty per week or 416 hours per year, the contract stated.

Council members also approved \$23,721 in April for the county animal shelter run through the Mendocino County Department of Health and Human Services.

Councilman Larry Stranske voted “no” on the animal control money. The item originally was on the council’s consent calendar, a list of noncontroversial items set for approval on the same vote.

“They do not get up early enough to get dogs that are up early and running around,” Stranske said. “How many times do you need to tell them point-blank what needs to get done?”

Over the years, Stranske said, when he goes for his 5 am morning walk he sees loose dogs in his neighborhood.

Gonzalez said the city was likely getting more than the agreed-on eight hours of weekly service from the Sheriff’s Office animal control officers.

Councilman Ron Orenstein suggested the city could increase animal control coverage by giving more money.

“I just want to put that out as a possible solution,” said Orenstein.

## Analysis: Struggle to reach tax-sharing accord continues

After some icy negotiations, the Joint Ad-hoc Tax Sharing Committee of the County of Mendocino and the City of Ukiah agreed to meet again to consider how property tax sharing might affect the tax-sharing proposal.

The two sides are struggling to reach an accord on a master tax-sharing plan, including separate formulas affecting the sharing of sales taxes and property taxes in an area called the UVAP, the Ukiah Valley Area Plan area, which includes the City of Ukiah and surrounding lands in the Ukiah Valley.

Although the effort was sparked by an idealistic vision of eliminating “the fiscalization of land use planning” from both jurisdictions’ tool kits, in reality negotiations have encountered the ugly reality of the absence of a cash incentive for reaching agreement.

On March 11, the Ukiah side offered a sales tax sharing formula that would have split the relatively small amount of money that is up for grabs – the Bradley-Burns tax revenues, which is only 1 percent of the total sales tax revenue for both the City of Ukiah and the UVAP area – on a 70/30 basis, with 70 percent going to the City of Ukiah and 30 percent going to the county. This Bradley-Burns figure was \$6.2 million in 2006-07 and \$5.7 million in 2012-13.

The proposal would have divided the difference between what is actually taken in by the two entities and a theoretical benchmark amount, to be derived by indexing the actual numbers from fiscal year 2007-08 by 2 percent per year.

According to the City of Ukiah, this indexing creates figures representing how things would have been in a normal economy if the two sides did nothing – the benchmark figure against which real numbers are to be compared.

community process of soliciting and finalizing proposals for the Mental Health Services Act’s “innovation plan” has reached a semi-final stage.

Lovato said there will be proposals made for crisis and respite management, expanding services to outlying areas, and providing a mobile services unit.

The next phase will include narrowing down grant proposals for each of the three areas.

The innovation plan seeks to provide Mental Health Services Act money for programs delivering mental health services or addressing mental health issues in ways not tried before.

#### Pinizzatto will standardize reports

Pinizzatto announced he will create a reporting model for mental health subcontractors Ortnr Management Group and Redwood Quality Management Company. To date, both subcontractors have been issuing reports that do not always provide information the Mental Health Board wants to know. Pinizzatto said the new report form will make it easier for both the Mental Health Board and the public to know what is going on, and be able to see trends in mental health services delivery.

#### Board reschedules committee assignments

Mental Health Board Chairman John Wetzler again postponed creating a subcommittee to evaluate subcontractor performance. The April 16 meeting agenda noted the “evaluation subcommittee” would “evaluate economic and medical performance of private contractors and outcomes of patients.”

Mental Health Board member Dina Ortiz noted Wetzler had previously postponed creating the subcommittee a number of times.

Since the April meeting had been going on for more than two hours, and a number of committee members had left or failed to attend the meeting, Wetzler said he had no choice.

He promised to move the item to a higher place on the agenda at the next meeting, set for May 21 in Covelo.

Shelter and animal patrol contracts between the city and county were separated in 2009.

The animal shelter’s contract with the city includes care for stray animals, licensing dogs, running a lost and found program, and quarantine for suspected rabid animals.

Gonzalez added that the Sheriff’s Office has done weekend patrol for the city. Gonzalez said animal control service is not 24 hours per day, but is adequate for the money.

The city and county’s renewed animal control deal begins July 1 and is good through June 2016.

#### What the patrol deal says

- Impoundment of dogs at large, no cats.
- Investigate animal cruelty and neglect violations.
- Investigation and quarantine of rabid and suspected rabid animals.
- Investigate complaints about barking, chasing or vicious behavior.
- Hold administrative review hearings when requested.
- Take up injured animals for treatment.

In that scenario, if Ukiah brings in more tax revenue when compared with the indexed figures for that year, because of development occurring due to annexation, the additional increment is shared with the county on a 70/30 basis.

On March 25, the county negotiators said they didn’t much like the proposal. The two main reasons for the coolness on the county side were that the proposal didn’t send much money to the county, and that some of the assumptions in the city’s proposal seemed arbitrary.

On April 22, the county team put forth an array of 21 scenarios that played with different factors in the city’s proposal. Each of the scenarios used an indexing factor of 2.55 percent, instead of the 2 percent used in the Ukiah proposal.

According to David Grim, the financial analyst with the county’s executive office, who did the calculations, this figure is the average rate tax increment growth for the City of Ukiah and the UVAP area over the past 19 years.

Each of Grim’s 21 variations on the Ukiah proposal offered calculations on what a 50-50 and a 60-40 split would look like, in addition to the 70-30 split favored by Ukiah.

Seven of the scenarios showed how adjusting the base year would change things. Seven of them considered what would happen if a 2008-2009-like recession were to occur in the years 2019-2023. And seven of them predicted the outcomes if growth after 2019 were to be “slow” (2 percent per year) rather than the robust growth (4 percent per year) incorporated into later phases of the Ukiah proposal.

Grim’s calculations showed that when Ukiah’s 2007-2008 base year proposal is used, in a scenario in which 2.55 is the indexing factor, and 3 percent instead of 4 percent is used to estimate growth of “real revenues” in the last four years of the projection, almost no tax income is generated and the small amount that is doesn’t

## Absentee ballots mailed for June 3 primary

Absentee ballots for the June 3 primary election have been mailed to Mendocino County voters, says County Clerk-Recorder Susan Ranochak.

Ballots were mailed Monday, and also are available from the county clerk’s office in Room 1020 of the County Administration Building, 501 Low Gap Road in Ukiah.

Voters have until 5 pm on Tuesday, May 27, to request an absentee ballot, Ranochak says.

The last day to register to vote in the June 3 primary election is May 19. “Voters who have moved or would like to change party affiliation must re-register,” she added. The deadline to re-register is also May 19.

“Voters do not have to receive their sample ballot before requesting an absentee ballot,” Ranochak noted. Registered voters may apply in person at the county clerk’s office and receive an absentee ballot, or may submit a written request for an absentee ballot.

“Written requests must contain the voter’s residence address and the mailing address where the absentee ballot is to be mailed, if different from the residence,” Ranochak explained.

All requests must be signed by the voter.

Ballots must be received by the county clerk’s office by Election Day, June 3, or dropped off at a polling place on Election Day: a June 3 postmark is not enough. Ballots returned on Election Day will not be counted in the returns posted online after the polls close on Election Day.

For more information, contact the county clerk’s office at 707-234-6819.

for financial disaster is very high. To remedy this problem, I favor paying new county employees sooner for their own saving and benefit. When a county employee retires, all county payments should cease, because the pension benefits will already be paid.

#### HAL WAGENET

Retirement fund management has fallen short of projections repeatedly, resulting in \$130 million of unfunded liabilities, \$111 million in the last five years. Dedicated funding will retire this debt in 14 years. There are new actuarial and investment consultants. The new fund auditor and accountant produce the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), that finally accurately discloses financial health. Interlocking contracts and agreements make sweeping changes difficult. As a fiscal realist, I support active mutual fund management and will propose that windfall opportunities be automatically reviewed to contribute an additional 25 percent to 50 percent toward debt reduction.

#### TOM WOODHOUSE

Yes, the retirement fund has trouble. Although new hires have had benefits adjusted, and current employees have had to agree to wage and benefit adjustments. There is at least one position on the board of supervisors who believes the fund is troubled but viable and will be able to manage its obligations, while others in the county predict a catastrophic meltdown due to over-promised benefits. This is a troublesome situation; the BOS should continue looking to adjust options. However, we should not abandon those who were promised benefits decades ago.

#### HOLLY MADRIGAL

The county retirement system is in crisis. Our unfunded pension debt has skyrocketed to 250 million dollars. It is a myth that this is a simple matter of the recession or bad investment returns. The funds have been mismanaged, and I have been working with a coalition to bring this problem to the public’s attention. It is like being an alcoholic; the first step is admitting you have a problem.

Elect me so that we can meet this crisis head on. This is not politics, it’s math. I will find equitable solutions that balance retirement security with responsibility to taxpayers.


#### 7. If you are elected supervisor, would you support the county's current policies towards its employees?

#### HAL WAGENET

I support cooperative and collaborative bargaining as opposed to hostile and antagonistic strategies. The county is an employer, and qualified workers need jobs. I support restoring wages and benefits to acceptable levels. Staffing up, as I heard my opposition propose, would come later. To afford those restored costs, more general fund revenue is needed. Cuts in the Assessor’s Office have caused up to 30 percent of property taxes in some areas to go unreported and uncollected. Clearly, these types of cuts are penny-wise and pound-foolish. They should be promptly reversed to improve revenue so we can support restoring wages and benefits.

#### TOM WOODHOUSE




Absolutely not, there is no communication between the board, management and labor. This model is broken, and one of my goals is to repair it. The board seems to have adopted the position that interaction with employees is not necessary; that



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is an ill-considered policy. Unless the board listens to and works with the employees, nothing positive can be accomplished.

#### HOLLY MADRIGAL

No. Morale is at an all-time low. Their workload has tripled, and their pay has been cut. They are discouraged. This is due to a noticeable lack of respect at the executive and board level for our county staff. Because of this, turnover is at an all-time high. Experienced employees have retired, and many talented workers are leaving for Lake County! I will open the door to communication with the board. We can have a lean budget while ensuring our employees are valued and supported.

#### CLAY ROMERO

No. I believe that county employees’ pay levels should be returned to their former levels. I also want to confirm that the half-cent sales tax revenues from Proposition 172 do reach our employees. I’m also looking into the A-87 Office of Management and Budget Circular, which establishes rules as to how federal money gets dispersed to state and local municipalities. Through this, there may be other funds not being utilized that rightfully should be coming to Mendocino County.

#### 8. Do you think John Pinches has done a good job as supervisor?

#### TOM WOODHOUSE

Yes, Supervisor Pinches has always done his homework, worked hard, and been courageous and honest with the public about his positions. He was a fiscal conservative at a time when that was exactly what Mendocino County needed. Supervisor Pinches has served the county for 12 years with distinction, through some of the most financially turbulent years ever. I choose to offer respect and gratitude for what he has given Mendocino County and its citizens. John has been a diligent and honest supervisor, but more importantly, he is diligent and honest man.

#### HOLLY MADRIGAL

We certainly differ on some things like his blind support for the bypass. We could have a more common-sense traffic solution that did not cost taxpayers \$200 million. I often find myself arguing with him over one thing or another, and that’s what makes our relationship so great. I plan on checking in with him once I am supervisor, because he knows “where the bodies are buried.” John and I have worked together a lot over the years. He is right on when it comes to Mendocino County standing up for our water rights.

#### CLAY ROMERO

Yes. I like John and know he is among the best people to handle our valued county funds. Having grown up in Laytonville, I have come to recognize John Pinches as a capable and honorable man that can always be trusted. I aim to be as effective and to do as well in the coming years. We all have our differences, but, Thank God for John!

#### HAL WAGENET

I wonder about the relevance of this question. Unless a critic has the complete files on each issue, the background history, and the understanding of how each decision affects county function as a whole, how can one properly say if the job was well-handled or not? Having sat in that seat, decisions that must work for the county may not please a vocal minority in the room. That said, elected officials get a report card from the voters at the end of each term. Mr. Pinches has served three terms,

subject to the will of the people, not just me.

#### 9. Open question: Please feel free to take 100 words to write about whatever you'd like.

#### HOLLY MADRIGAL

Do not miss this opportunity to elect a young, energetic, qualified female supervisor. We are at such an important moment for our county, because we can show that we are done with the good ole boys and the status quo. I can’t wait to put my hard-earned experience to work for you. There is a reason Congressman Huffman, Senator Evans and Assemblymember Chesbro endorse me. They know I have an excellent track record for Mendocino County. Let’s engage people of all ages to get out and vote. This is our chance to move forward! Go to [voteholly.com](http://voteholly.com) to learn more.

**Holly Madrigal**  
**voteholly.com**  
**707-841-0612**

#### CLAY ROMERO

I am passionate about health care funding, and hope to make it available to Mendocino County employees, then to all county residents. This is a Medical Membership plan that is not beholden to an insurance company nor a government entity. I know we can fund it ourselves with great success and cost savings. Pay the people who do the work, and don’t pay the people who don’t. The people having affordable health care will be my reward. You can review my plan in greater detail on our campaign web site: [www.clayromero.com](http://www.clayromero.com).

**Clay Romero**  
**ClayRomero.com**  
**707-459-7530**

#### HAL WAGENET


Although the election process is something of a popularity contest, my belief is that an informed electorate will make intelligent choices based on qualifications. To assist you, my website, [www.halwagenet4supervisor.com](http://www.halwagenet4supervisor.com), lists my experience as your supervisor, with many non-profit organizations, and as a citizen motivated to improve our community at every turn. Please look it over, then visit my opponents’ offerings and make your choice. I have the experience and am ready to serve. I only need your vote. Thank you, Hal Wagenet.

**Hal Wagenet**  
**halwagenet4supervisor.com**  
**707-391-5101**

#### TOM WOODHOUSE

It is time for a realistic look at the future of Mendocino County. The county is facing tough issues involving natural resources, water usage, marijuana and the retirement fund. Other issues include fire prevention and protection, the Brooktrails access, and our aging county road system. These challenges and others must be dealt with in a responsible, reasonable way, using common sense. The days of surpluses are over. With limited monies we must spend wisely and not mortgage the future to protect the present. I am asking for your vote and your support to improve our community. Tom Woodhouse.

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one block away from each of those streets.

Planner Alan Falleri recently drafted a more detailed set of rules.

“I think this is probably ready to come to city council with some details,” Councilman and Revit-ED committee member Ron Orenstein said.

A setback of 100 feet from Main and Commercial is now proposed, according to a March 30 memorandum from Falleri.

The proposal also would allow food trucks at major construction sites; businesses under construction could operate from a truck during that time.

The proposed rules allow for no music, limit signage to 6-foot-square signs, and require clearly marked trash and recycling receptacles, to name a few of the details.

“Individuals selling only local Mendocino County-grown or harvested farm and fish products in an unrefined state shall be exempt from the requirements in this section,” the proposed ordinance notes.

Two Revit-ED meetings ago, the purchaser of the old Vassar’s Pizza building asked the city if he could have a food truck while remodeling.

Since food truck talks started about a year ago, Taqueria Ramirez on Blosser Lane has been the only food truck serving in Willits.

The city’s Revit-ED committee meets bi-monthly. Orenstein, Holly Madrigal, Denny Shah, Tom Woodhouse and Tim King are the committee’s members.

Meetings are open to the public.

so in 2028 the county’s total retirement costs will drop to \$21 million. But after that payoff, remaining costs will continue to rise, to \$22.5 million in 2030, \$26 million in 2035, and \$29 million in 2039.

One cause of those increases is the number of beneficiaries, which is steadily increasing, while the number of employees is only holding steady after falling sharply over the past four years.

Currently, there are about 1,650 beneficiaries, while the county has only some 1,075 active employees. Trend lines suggest the number of beneficiaries will continue to rise, while the number of active employees will remain about where it is now. So retirement costs will go up.

A second factor highlighted by Larkins is that people are living longer today, so the county has to pay retirement costs for a longer period of time.

According to information provided by Larkins, in 1948 the average life expectancy for a man was 64.6 years, for a woman 69.9 years. In 1978, life expectancy rose to 69.6 for men and 77.3 for women; in 1998, it was 73.8 for men and 79.5 for women.

Larkins said today, a man who is 67 years old can expect to live to the age of 88.3 years, and a 67-year-old woman will live, on average, 90.2 years.

That means the county will be paying for some 30 years of retirement for each employee.

“The county now faces the prospect of paying retirement benefits longer than employees’ careers,” Larkins said.

Linda Ross said supervisors’ hands are tied to some extent as far as getting out of its commitments to retirees because the State of California has a “vested rights” policy for employees. That means California courts have determined employees have a right to receive the pension that was part of the agreement they made when they began working, plus any additional more favorable terms that the employee’s contract during his term of work. In California, employers can’t go back on those commitments, Ross noted.

Both Ross and Larkins offered suggestions about how the county could reduce its retirement costs.

Larkins said the county could explore becoming a “defined contribution” county instead of the “defined benefits” county it is now, although he warned doing so would be costly in the short term.

He added the county could explore offering employees a “buy out” in exchange for employees agreeing to a voluntary relinquishment of their pension rights.

Ross suggested the county could adjust compensation (i.e., lower wages and reduce benefits) or offer a deal whereby employees would agree to pay some part of the employer’s contribution.

The county also could pay down its UAAL, tantamount to saying it could pay less by paying more. The county also could push to restart its amortization period on paying down the UAAL. However, this was done just four years ago by MCERA.

In a spirit apparently only half in jest, Larkins suggested supervisors consider a “pot tax.”

After the presentation, supervisors considered the implications of what they had heard. John McCowen said it was obvious the county had a problem, but John Pinches said the problem really belonged to state government.

“Ultimately it’s the state Legislature who’s got the problem,” Pinches said. “And part of the problem is California judges – they have the biggest retirement benefit of any state employees. So even if the Legislature did come up with a solution, it might not be upheld by the judges, if there’s a lawsuit.”

“The one thing we can do is, we can pay more money,” McCowen said. “I think MCERA will reduce its predicted rate of return from 7.75 percent. To what I don’t know, but when they do, our rate of contribution will go up. This is a problem for us, because the more we pay today, the fewer funds we will have available to pay for services. So any way you look at it, the county is going to be squeezed. And there’s no simple solution.”

County CEO Carmel Angelo reminded supervisors the presentation was informational only, and promised that the board would have an opportunity to reconsider the issue at a joint meeting with the MCERA board.

That meeting has yet to be scheduled.



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## Mormon Helping Hands

About 28 volunteers from the Willits Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints participated in Mormon Helping Hands Day on Saturday, April 26. The group worked together to tidy up the Little Lake Cemetery, starting at 9 am. From young to older, they cleared brush, trimmed trees, cleaned up old gravestones, cleared out poison oak, weed-whacked, shoveled dirt, and even reset an old bench that was tipping over.

"It was fun," said Roni McFadden, who took the photos on this page. "We did a service project at the cemetery back in Jerry Colwell's time, so this day was also in memory of Jerry and that time. The weather was great: We thought it was going to rain, but it didn't."

Mormon Helping Hands Day was established in 1998 and since then hundreds of thousands of volunteers around the world have donated millions of hours of service to their communities. Last year, the Willits Ward cleaned up the Mendocino County Museum, inside and out.

– Jennifer Poole



**Above: Volunteers at Mormon Helping Hands Day: front row, left to right: Sisters Becker and Giron, Madeline Bragdon, Michelle Snider, Chris, Rachael, and Jonathon Warner, Kayla, Melissa and Tyler Wilson, and John and Patti Walczykowski. Back row, left to right: Bill Southwick, Ben Scott, John Snider, Bishop Corey McFadden, Andrew Konradi, Nick Patterson, John McFadden, Becky, Thomas and Matt Warner, Robert Stewart, and Gail Warner. Not pictured are: Leon Anderson, Bob Bragdon and Roni McFadden.**

**Below: Bishop Corey McFadden grabs a shovel and helps out.**



**Far left: John McFadden cleans a 1888 grave marker with a brush.**

**Left: Becky and Rachael Warner and Kayla Wilson, in front: the two young girls really enjoyed using the clippers.**

Photos by Roni McFadden

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### Letters From Page 2

lost everything; many simply gave up. Not Tom Woodhouse. Tom tightened his purse strings. He fought to keep his business alive and his family afloat. He trusted his experience and never gave up.

In my years as a Willits resident, I have also had the privilege of knowing the Woodhouse family. Tom and his lovely wife, Carlyn, have been together more than 40 years. In this time not only has their commitment to each other remained strong, but they have been able to raise two of the finest people this country and community have ever seen. His son Noel and daughter Whitney are both well-educated passionate people who, thankfully, have inherited their father's desire to, and talent for, helping people.

Tom Woodhouse is one of my closest friends. His wisdom has helped me through many difficult times. There are difficult times facing this county, and I am confident that he can and will help this county, and its people, through the many trials that lay ahead, just as he helps me to overcome the obstacles I face. As a business man, family man, and loyal community activist, I have no doubts that Tom is not only the correct choice, but the only choice, for this critical position.

Kevin Coffman, Willits

### Vote for Holly

To the Editor:

The 3rd District Supervisor Candidates Forum in Laytonville Thursday, April 24, was an absorbing event for those present or listening to radios/computers. Moderator Alison Pernell and her team, the Long Valley Teachers Association, and radio stations KMUD and KYBU (Round Valley) all did a great job of organizing, broadcasting, and recording the forum.

This first appearance of all four candidates provided intriguing contrasts. As a mother, grandmother and teacher, it was refreshing for me to see an energetic young woman candidate, especially one who is in her 10th year of public service and has approached that service with dedication, honesty and serious intent. With a college degree in business/economics, Holly Madrigal returned to her home town to build a life with husband, Gabe, and set her talents to work as a Willits city councilwoman and mayor (three terms) while working full-time as a buyer for Spacetime Supply.

Examples abound to demonstrate how Holly involves herself in the problems and issues facing our communities. Serious drought conditions in Willits catapulted Holly into multilevel water meetings. She supports a county-wide water policy in order to advocate forcefully for our water interests. (Note to Hal: Wasn't it a regional water deal which resulted in sending water to Sonoma County?)

Holly has also been working on

the unfunded county pension debt with John Dickerson and others. The problem lies in the structure of the fund, which can be corrected, explains Holly. (Other candidates found this problem "too complicated.")

As city councilwoman and mayor, Holly kept weekly "office hours" at the Willits Farmers Market and has promised to do the same in Laytonville. (No such promises from others.) In addition, Holly understands the critical nature of the 3rd district supervisor's support of Laytonville's LAMAC, our quasi-governmental body, and has committed to attending meetings.

Holly was the only candidate who had knowledge about the dangers of fracking for shale oil and would support a ban in Mendocino County.

Holly's past work in job creation focused on increasing manufacturing in Willits. She also participated in the feasibility study for a county slaughterhouse which would serve small ranchers and not include a feedlot. It is Holly's contention that producing more food locally would inject millions of dollars into Mendocino County. She sees the board of supervisors playing a critical role in assisting the local economy by creating a business-friendly atmosphere and supporting efforts to expand needed services such as broadband coverage.

I want to be represented by a confident, knowledgeable, energetic representative at the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. I want to be represented by someone who has demonstrated she has the experience, ability and intention to do the best job possible.

I am voting for Holly Madrigal. And by the way, John Bradley is voting for Holly Madrigal, too. John listened to the broadcast of the Candidates' Forum on KMUD. You can listen, too. Go to

http://www.kmud.org/programs-mainmenu-11/kmud-audio-archive, choose April 24, 2014, at 5:00, 5:30, 6:00 and 6:30 pm. If you do not have computer access, KMUD will send you a CD for a small fee, or phone me.

Susan Bradley, Laytonville

### Vote yes on fire tax

To the Editor:

I favor the full funding of the Brooktrails Fire Department. The increase in the Brooktrails Township fire tax is critically important to maintain the community's wildfire prevention, fire protection and emergency medical services.

Currently, the Brooktrails Fire Department is significantly exposed to legal liability by using breathing apparatus and other safety equipment that does not meet current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. It is unacceptable to have our firefighters placed into harm's way with below standard equipment. The increased parcel tax would go toward replacing this outdated equipment and bring

the department back to full funding.

I urge you to vote for the proposed increase in the Brooktrails Township fire tax.

Bob Whitney, Brooktrails

### PACE program

To the Editor:

Folks who came to the WELL forum on April 27 found out a lot about how to improve their property and pocketbook using the newly enacted PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program in Mendocino County.

Keith Rutledge, director of the Renewable Energy Development Institute (REDI), presented the latest information about how the program will be implemented by the county's contractor, Ygrene, which has an excellent record of administering such programs in other counties. Ygrene sets criteria for equity in your property and projected savings in water or energy bills in order to qualify for PACE financing, paid back through property taxes at 7 to 8 percent interest, with terms dependent on the costs of the improvements.

PACE is entirely voluntary and will be available to all residential, commercial or institutional properties in the county. (Willits and other cities have opted in to participate.) Rutledge noted that, due to various bureaucratic hoops, the PACE program won't be implemented and ready to use for quite a few more months, but that many improvements can be done at low cost right away, and other financing options are also available.

John Sherman, code enforcement officer for the City of Willits, explained the city's regulations on greywater systems and rain harvesting, and presented a general list of home improvements that can result in both energy and water conservation.

Several local contractors and suppliers of energy and water conservation improvements contributed information about their offerings. These included: Gaia Energy Systems, Tower Gardens, Mendocino Solar, DripWorks, Village Ecosystems, and Apperson Energy Management. These businesses can help you assess and achieve cost-effective water and energy savings.

By providing information and putting together property owners with local contractors and suppliers, WELL (Willits Economic Localization) hopes that people will be able to make permanent improvements to their homes and businesses while also providing local jobs and protecting the environment.

Madge Strong, Willits

### Ideal choice

To the Editor:

Holly Madrigal is an ideal choice for 3rd District Supervisor, and I encourage you to cast your vote for her on June 3. Mayor Madrigal is the perfect combination of being both very experienced in elected office yet still as energetic and innovative as when she was first elected, 10 years ago. She is

constantly giving of her time, by representing Willits at local and national conferences, charitable events, serving as a board member of public radio station KZYX, and even judging local cooking contests! She is a strong supporter of small business and small farming, and is the organizer of the Business Fair promoting sustainable business development in the Willits area.

Although her energy and commitment to serving Willits for so many years is in itself commendable, what makes it even better is Holly's positive attitude. Holly solicits new ideas, and is also able to work with people who have dissimilar viewpoints to come to practical solutions. One example of this is her "Mayoral Office Hours," a table she sets up at the Farmers Market where she is accessible to constituents for questions or comments of any kind. That kind of effort is rare, and indicative of her good-spirited willingness to go above and beyond.

Holly is the type of person who seems to have more energy than the rest of us mere mortals, and she is willing to use it to benefit the 3rd District. The question is not really why you should vote for Holly Madrigal for supervisor, but why wouldn't you?

Jere Kirkpatrick, Willits

### Brooktrails needs Measure K!

To the Editor:

Measure K will provide an extra \$34/year per property owner to keep Brooktrails safe and prevent insurance rates from skyrocketing.

#### What's in it for me?

- A safer home for you, your family and pets.
- A more fire-safe township with adequate equipment for medical emergencies, rescues and fires.
- Keeping your costs of home insurance down.

#### Why do we need Measure K?

- To purchase a water tender and other equipment, that is beyond repair or is unsafe.
- To fund hazard abatement programs, including maintenance of the greenbelt near your home.
- To maintain the fire department's ability to respond to medical emergencies.
- To keep our first responders supplied with necessary equipment for their 200-plus calls per year.
- To eliminate the department's need to "borrow" approximately \$100,000 annually from the district.
- To restore the department's reserves for emergency equipment replacement.

Life-saving equipment cannot be repaired, and some of the personal safety gear is outdated and unsafe.

#### What happens if Measure K doesn't pass?

The Brooktrails Fire Department may have to reduce its services. Firefighter personal protective equipment and breathing apparatus will fail. Without proper equipment the number of volunteer firefighters will be reduced. Fire abatement programs may be reduced, and efforts may no longer be sufficient to prevent wildfires. Home insurance, if available at all, could rise significantly on your home.

**Some frequently asked questions and the answers!**  
How much will this cost me? It will cost

you \$34 per year – that is 0.09 cents per day.

*Can the money be used for salaries of firefighters?* No, the measure forbids such use.

*Can the money be used by Brooktrails Township Community Services District for any other projects?* No, by state law!

*Will the money go to build a new fire station?* NO!

*If I am a renter, can I vote for Measure K?* Yes, as long as you are registered to vote in Brooktrails. *Why do we need a water tender?* Two-thirds of Brooktrails homes are not near a fire hydrant. In an emergency that knocks out pumps, water will be cut off. A water tender will carry hundreds of gallons so that we can fight residential and wildlands fires where no water is available. The water tender is also important to maintaining our ISO rating.

#### Home fire insurance rates and the drought – the facts:

California is now officially in a long-term drought. Currently Brooktrails has a rating of 5 out of 10 from the ISO (Insurance Service Office). 1 is the best and highest rating. We are now due to be reappraised. If Brooktrails' ISO rating goes higher than 5, then home insurers will view our township unfavorably and your home insurance could rise significantly.

*How did the Revenue Enhancement Committee decide on a \$34 annual increase?* In 2013, a Revenue Enhancement Committee of residents, including those who opposed the last request for an increase in the fire tax, conducted a review of the Brooktrails Fire Department's current and future needs, including all of its financial information and the federal and state regulations that effect its operation.

*The Revenue Enhancement Committee's recommendations:* The committee unanimously agreed that the least expensive, least disruptive and most beneficial option for the community, and each resident, was to maintain the department and raise revenue by \$34 per year. This will establish a fund to replace equipment, such as a water tender and EMT supplies, maintain the hazard abatement program, and ensure that the department is able to work with residents to keep the community fire safe.

*Who supports this measure?* The signers of this letter below. Please join us and vote yes on Measure K to make our homes and township safer during these challenging times.

Be informed! Contact your fire chief with questions at 459-4441 or through email at firedept@btcsd.org. More info: www.brooktrailsfire.com or www.facebook.com/Brooktrailsfire or www.facebook.com/BrooktrailsmeasureK.

The Brooktrails Property Owners Association; the Brooktrails Property Owners Association Women's Club; the Brooktrails Community Alliance; the Brooktrails Volunteer Firefighters Association; the Revenue Enhancement Committee, and many concerned residents

**BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN NOW!**

*To register bring Birth Certificate and Immunizations Record*

Kindergarten program – children 5 years old by September 1, 2014

Transitional Kindergarten – 2 year program for children turning 5 between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2, 2014

Brookside School offers students:

- Full Day Kindergarten
- Experienced, highly qualified staff
- Expertise in teaching children to read
- Academically challenging curriculum
- Art, Music, & Movement
- Social skills development

For more information please call 459-5385. Brookside Elementary School • 20 Spruce Street





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3.25oz. Carnivore  
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**7 Days a Week**  
**9 to 5**

**Gardening soils and compost**  
*Custom soil mixing available*  
**Specializing in Bulk Delivery**

WormCastings.....	\$270 <sup>00</sup> yard
ExplodeMix (indoor/outdoor)....	\$206 <sup>00</sup> yard
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MoneyTree Mix.....	\$142 <sup>00</sup> yard
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We also carry **all** our soils in 1 cu. ft. bags or by 1 yd. bagged pallets.

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Ask about our Smart Pot **SPECIAL** when you come in.

Call: 707-744-8626 ••• Or visit: [www.willitssoils.com](http://www.willitssoils.com)



Willits Weekly is proud to showcase some of Willits High School's Amazing Athletes.

Athletes are nominated by their coaches and with the help of coach and project facilitator, Dave Smith.

Willits Weekly highlights two athletes each week, to share their achievements with the community.

*Photos by Maureen Moore*



**Softball |**  
**Alexis Johnson, 15, Sophomore**

*Breakfast of Champions: Banana with almond butter*

A.J., a pitcher/first base ma'am, was nails this week, pitching 11 innings over two games. She was responsible for numerous ground ball putouts, as well as six strikeouts. A right-handed pitcher who bats lefty can drop the bunt, slap or pull the ball to right field, making her a tough batter to defend. Thanks for your hard work, A.J. It is an honor to nominate you. (Nominated by coach Curtis Collicott)



**Golf and Baseball |**  
**Palmer Runberg, 17, Senior**

*Breakfast of Champions: Peanut butter and jelly waffles*

Palmer shot an 82 this week, leading the golf team to another league championship and winning the individual league MVP title for the second year in a row. He is also the starting first baseman for the varsity baseball team, which picked up two more wins last week, keeping them in contention for a league title and a playoff spot.

## Athletes of the Week

Hoping for a home

## Furry Friend

Pretty Pansy

Meet the beautiful and super-sweet Pansy! She is a 5-year-old Cattle Dog/Boxer mix, a very well-mannered and quiet girl, and one who we believe will make a great family pet or companion. She came to live with us in March, after her previous owner realized he had too many dogs to adequately care for. Pansy can be a little shy at first, and a bit afraid of loud noises – but we have already seen progress in her during

the short time she has been here, so we expect she will come out of her shell in no time. Pansy is social with people and also with other dogs. This gorgeous girl walks well on the leash, may be house-trained, and has a gentle, sweet nature about her. Pansy is already spayed, so she is ready to go home the same day you meet her and adopt her. We hope you will meet this very pretty affectionate girl!

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. The shelter has a new website: [www.mendoshelterpets.com](http://www.mendoshelterpets.com); to view our adoptable cats, please visit [www.adoptapet.com/shelter71965-cats](http://www.adoptapet.com/shelter71965-cats). For more info, contact Adoption Coordinator Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 or [houghtbyk@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:houghtbyk@co.mendocino.ca.us), or come in during shelter hours.

*Photo by Katherine Houghtby*





# 2014

# Indian Day

Friday  
May 9

**Fry Bread Tacos!**  
**12-4 p.m.**

Our employees will be making and selling fry bread tacos for \$5.00 each.

*All proceeds go to the Tribal education program.*





**Hot Seat Drawings!**  
**Every Half Hour from 1 to 10 p.m.**

- \$250 cash will be given away every hour, on the hour beginning at 1 p.m.
- Additional drawings for gifts will begin at 1:30 p.m. and continue every 2 hours until 7:30 p.m.

**100 Kawi Place in Willits     459-7330**

**2014**

# SUMMER YOUTH PASS

**\$40 ALL SUMMER  
COUNTY-WIDE**



Passes good June 1 thru Aug. 31, 2014

**Unlimited rides to summer school...**  
**Shopping...to the Coast...Meet your Friends!**

**Youth Summer Pass for students 18 years & younger**

**Pass good all summer long on all MTA fixed routes.**

**\$5.00 and a Youth Summer Pass will get you to and from Santa Rosa on MTA's North Coast and South Coast Buses!**



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**For more information: [www.mendocinotransit.org](http://www.mendocinotransit.org) or call 800-696-4MTA / 462-1422**

Tickets: Mendocino Transit Authority, 241 Plant Road, Ukiah CA 95482

Available on board an MTA bus or in selected outlets in Mendocino County. This pass not valid on MTA Dial-A-Ride.