

City auditors give positive report

Forrest Glycer
Reporter
forrest@willitsweekly.com

An auditing firm representative told the Willits City Council at its May 10 meeting that the city's financial report for fiscal year 2015/16 had been given an unmodified rating, the highest it could get.

Bin Zeng, from the Southern California firm Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, said Willits' finances looked to be in good order based on the reports for the year, which ended in June 2016.

Among the highlights was an increase in the general fund balance of \$133,618 from \$2,321,611 to \$2,455,229.

Read the rest of **Positive**
Over on Page 9

Home manufacturing OK for medical cannabis products?

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Supervisors on Tuesday provided input and direction on a draft version of two ordinances designed to regulate certain manufacturing, processing, transportation and distribution aspects of the county's medical cannabis industry.

After taking comments from the public, the board made decisions concerning the general scope and direction of the ordinance, then directed staff to incorporate changes and

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

Supes discuss county housing shortage

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Supervisors on May 16 took some steps to address Mendocino County's housing shortage, appointing supervisors Dan Gjerde and Dan Hamburg to an ad hoc committee that will work with staff to bring the county's land use code into compliance with new state law.

Assembly Bill 2299 and Senate Bill 1069, California's new "accessory dwelling unit" regulations, intended to make building

Read the rest of **Shortage**
Over on Page 9



Memorial Day Car Show, Chamber Mixer at Rec Grove this weekend

It's almost Memorial Day weekend, and crews from across the community have been working hard and are almost ready to host the big weekend event: the 36th annual Willits Community Festival and Car & Motorcycle Show.

Maureen Moore
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

The weekend's festivities will start early Saturday morning with a ride on the Skunk Train, departing the depot at 9:45 am. Saturday afternoon will give attendees a chance to stroll around Willits, visit local shops and enjoy a meal out, before heading to the Rec Grove Park for the Classic Metal Mixer, which starts at 5:30 pm.

The mixer is being hosted by the Willits Chamber of Commerce, and attendees are welcome to bring a car or motorcycle to the mixer to show off.

Read the rest of **Mixer**
Over on Page 4



Far left: Rylee McKenzie, Camille Silveria, Mariah Lavine, Egypt Spence, Ocean Stanton, Courtney Grooms, and Jade Sneed stretch before the show. At left: "All Your Own" dancers leap through the air. Below: Amelia Taylor performs beautifully in "Last Fight."

Photos by
Mathew Caine

Joy in Motion: Willits Dance Academy puts on spring dance recital

The evening was bittersweet at this year's spring dance recital put on by the Willits Dance Academy. The joy of creative endeavor and artistic comradery on Friday was tempered with the realization that one of their beloved and respected teachers and choreographers would be leaving to pursue her dreams of studying theater and dance at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

Ayla Decaire shed tears as she said goodbye to her young students and parents. "The first time I ever cried in a chicken suit," she shared, as she did not have time to change after her last number with her modern dance class, known as "The Chickadees." They did not want to let her go. The group hug, involving almost all of the 60-plus students, was epic with warmth and love.

Tara Ford, owner and director of the Willits Dance Academy where Decaire teaches, said: "She is a great artist as well as a dancer and choreographer. I've danced with her at Mendocino College for years under Eryn Schon-Brunner, professor of dance and owner of Our Yoga Center. Ayla's been crying a lot lately because she is not going to be with 'her kids' next year. She's been such an incredible support for me and the kids and everyone."

The remainder of the evening was fun and sweet, as the various classes of Willits Dance Academy and members

Read the rest of **Dance**
Over on Page 8



City looking at deficit budget

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The full Willits City Council and city staff met Tuesday afternoon at City Hall for a budget workshop to start the process of agreeing on a budget for the 2017/18 fiscal year.

Due to what Finance Director Susie Holmes described at the May 10 city council meeting as an expected "dramatic hit" in sales tax revenues since the Willits bypass opened in November, the council must either decide to go with a deficit budget, dipping into reserves, or to make deep cuts.

In her memo introducing the budget packet, City Manager Adrienne Moore told council members she'd

Read the rest of **Budget**
Over on Page 4

Asphalt plant pulled from Grist Creek site

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Eureka-based construction firm Mercer-Fraser has pulled its mobile asphalt plant off the Grist Creek Aggregates industrial site on Highway 162 near Longvale. The move was completed May 18.

From August 2015 until at least April 2016, Mercer-Fraser was an active business partner with Grist Creek Aggregates and supplied the technology and expertise to produce both the asphalt and rubberized asphalt made at the plant.

Friends of Outlet Creek member Lyn Talkovsky said she is unclear what the move means. "We know that they are gone for now,"

Read the rest of **Grist Creek**
Over on Page 11

Supes, Allman welcome Croskey to board

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The board of supervisors welcomed newly appointed Third District Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey to the board at this week's Tuesday board meeting.

Croskey replied "Thank you very much, I'm happy to be here," to the welcomes extended by Chairman John McCowen and other board members.

Sheriff Tom Allman also welcomed the new supervisor and took the opportunity to give her

Read the rest of **Welcome**
Over on Page 9

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Memo from the city manager

To the Editor:

For this year's budget review and discussion [at the Willits City Council budget workshop Tuesday, May 23], staff has prepared two budgets for comparison, as follows:

- Version 1: This budget reflects the true needs of each department, as well as factoring in several priority projects. As you will see, it leaves a projected general fund deficit of \$714,342. The number one factor generating the deficit is a sharp decrease in revenue, which was anticipated as a result of the opening of the Willits bypass.

- Version 2: This budget reflects a balanced budget and takes a zero-based budgeting approach. This budget is only possible if we 1) eliminate unfilled positions, 2) defer projects, such as ADA accessibility compliance projects, 3) remove all contributions for various community services, 4) remove contingencies, and 5) increase rates and fees.

Version 1 decreases our reserve to 26 percent; whereas, Version 2 increases our reserve to 49 percent. Our General Fund Reserve Policy (adopted June 2015) sets a target of 35 percent reserve and provides guidelines for decreased, as well as increased levels. The average municipal reserve is typically in the 20 percent range. We set our reserve level very conservatively in anticipation for the impacts of the bypass.

Also for your review are the list of variances between Versions 1 and 2: a memo from Police Chief Scott Warnock addressing impacts to public safety services in Version 2; and a report from MuniServices regarding economic news and trends. (Visit www.cityofwillits.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/05-23-17-Agenda-Packet-Council-Budget-Workshop.pdf for full budget workshop agenda packet.)

There are a number of positive indicators on the horizon for Willits that would provide for local economic sustainability, as follows:

- Housing development: The City of Willits is in an outstanding position, unlike other areas of the county, to support housing development.

Currently, there are three separate housing projects under review, totalling approximately 300 dwellings. Not only do we have the available land, we also have the infrastructure capacity. For example, we are able to issue 480 water connections without seeking any change to our existing water system permit. If we were to gain approval for full-time use of our groundwater system, we could realize even greater development. With this development comes revenue, particularly property tax revenue, as well as job creation.

- Cannabis industry: Should the city council adopt an ordinance to allow for cannabis business within city limits, there is no shortage of interested parties. City staff is aware of four proposed projects currently, all of which would be located in industrial zones. The revenue from this industry could easily bring in several hundred thousand dollars annually to city revenue, as well as good-paying job creation.

- Broadband: As part of the Main Street relinquishment project, conduit will be installed along Main Street to allow for high-speed broadband for the community, which will also provide economic stimulation.

- Special events: There is no shortage of ideas to stimulate tourism, including concerts in the park, family movie nights in the park, rehabilitating the old ball fields in order to host sports tournaments, food truck nights, farm to table dinners on Main Street, etc.

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
Volume 5, Number 207
P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047
willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com
Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633
Maureen Moore, art director and photographer / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047
Mike A'Dair, reporter / mike@willitsweekly.com
Jenny Senter, features writer / jenny@willitsweekly.com
Matthew Caine, photographer / features writer / matthew@willitsweekly.com
Forrest Glycer, reporter / forrest@willitsweekly.com
Ree Siocum, features writer / ree@willitsweekly.com
Joanne Moore, reporter / features writer / joanne@willitsweekly.com
Rachel Belvin, assistant publisher and advertising / rachel@willitsweekly.com / 707-367-9319
April Tweedell, ad sales / 707-972-2475 / april@willitsweekly.com
Dan Essman, calendar editor
Jackie Cobbs, features copy editor
Justin Stephens, webmaster
Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com

- Indoor sports venues: Including indoor soccer, a rock climbing wall, batting cage, etc.

However, in order to realize the opportunities upon us, we must have the resources in place to support development. One important example is the ability to timely process project applications, and not have a six-month or longer lag time due to having a one-person planning department ... which will result in the loss of revenue-generating development, both for the city and the community as a whole. We are at a most critical transition point – between the impacts from the opening of the bypass and substantial revenue generators in the foreseeable future – to cut back now. We must "grow to succeed" for long-term success!

Adrienne Moore, Willits city manager

Thank you, Willits community

To the Editor:

Dear community: Once again you have come through for community groups. Our Chapter XO of P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) had a fundraiser for our local scholarship last night hosted by El Mexicano.

Willits residents know and enjoy eating at El Mex; last night was no different. We had sold tickets ahead of time; we also had walk-in customers. It was a great success!

The way that Tony Madrigal and his crew organized the food and serving allowed us free time to greet and visit with our guests. We, as hostesses, were also able to enjoy the food. Then when we were settling up the finances at the end, which had been agreed upon ahead of the event, Tony donated their portion of the proceeds back to our scholarship fund! What a kind thing to do!

Thank you, El Mexicano! We appreciate your generosity and helpfulness in hosting this fundraiser. Tony and Fran have always supported our town, and we thank them so much for making our event such a success!

Thank you to Adrienne Arant, Kay Wright, Marina Kyne and Della Bennett along with many other members of our club for planning the event and selling tickets.

Thank you, Willits community, for your great attendance at our dinner!

Charline Ford, Chapter XO of P.E.O., Willits

1,000 sunflowers

To the Editor:

Looking for ways to make a difference in our Willits community? Come to the Willits Hub Lunch on Saturday, June 3 to join the 1,000 Sunflowers Project and discuss other ideas for positive action in Willits. The lunch is set for 12:30 pm at the Willits Hub, 630 South Main Street (formerly the Willits Environmental Center, just south of Mariposa Market).

The 1,000 Sunflowers Project is growing 1,000 (or more) sunflowers, as well as other pollinator plants, in Willits – all along Main Street, at the freeway interchanges, and in front and back yards. Sunflowers add beauty and identity to Willits, and they're also pollinator-friendly! The project is already underway; we're seeking co-sponsors, volunteers, perhaps a monthly contest for best displays, PR, next steps....

Other ideas are ways to promote Willits as an artisan center – sculptures, ceramics, jewelry, woodwork, painting, etc. This might include once-a-month "art walks," a two-day festival, and/or storefront artisan works.

Come add your ideas and energy, and find ways you can get involved! (BYO lunch.) Sponsored by WELL (Willits

Economic Localization) and our partners at the Hub. For more info, contact Paul at 459-1418 or 4paulj@gmail.com.

Madge Strong, Willits

CERT training highly recommended

To the Editor:

Recently a free CERT – Community Emergency Response Team – training was held at the CalFire facility at Howard Forest. As I understand it, Bill Barksdale had attended an earlier CERT training and was impressed with the materials and the training provided by Mike Carter, CERT coordinator for Mendocino County. Barksdale donated the funding for the expensed items used in the April / May three-day training, and Carter made himself available in order that this additional CERT training could be offered in our area.

"Thank you" to both men and to North Coast Opportunities for making this training possible in Mendocino County. The CERT basic training is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family and to help others in the event of a catastrophic disaster. There have been recent catastrophic fires in Lake County, and in Mendocino County, the 2008 Lightning Fire Complex.

As a Brooktrails resident, I wanted to be proactive regarding a disaster, especially fire, in the Brooktrails Township. The CERT training provided by Carter was very interesting, applicable to our area, fun, and I didn't fall asleep once! I hope those that also wish to be proactive would attend the next CERT training. I highly recommend it.

Robb Rempel, Brooktrails

Thank you

To the Editor:

This is a big thank you to all the staff, volunteers and students of the Willits Kids Club who made the recent carnival and health fair at Baechtel Grove Middle School such a success. High school students under the guidance of Jennifer Barrett, the Mendocino County Health and Human Services team, NCO staff members, 4-H, Howard Memorial Hospital, Little Lake Health Center, Rite Aid, Diane Smalley, and Donna Blake all came together to contribute by adding information, activities and lots of fun to the fair.

Healthier Living leaders Claudia Wenning and Dorothy Dalske provided health coaching and chair massage. The smoothie bike was a big success, as was the bike course led by Yanik from Walk Bike Mendocino. Thank you to the Willits Kiwanis for preparing a tasty barbecue.

Know that if we have forgotten to mention your name here, your efforts were appreciated for this annual event. The smiles and laughter of the children were a great way to end the school week. Many thanks also to the parents and school staff that provided support.

Doreen Blumenfeld, director, Avenues to Wellness; Kris Wagner, executive director, Willits Kids Club; Tina Stanley, coordinator, Baechtel Grove Kids Club

Tag us! We love seeing our community connect with
#WillitsWeekly

LOVE THIS PAPER?

WANT TO HELP SUPPORT WILLITS WEEKLY?

Become a one-time or ongoing community supporter!

Eternal gratitude and more fabulous editions offered in return!

PayPal Check Cash

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

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

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

Willits Weekly
EST. 2013
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
SUBSCRIPTION FORM
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____
In the mail: ☐ 6 Months - \$40 ☐ 1 year - \$75 ☐ Additional donation included \$ _____
Home delivery: ☐ 6 Months - \$30 ☐ 1 year - \$50 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) (call for details)
Please make checks payable to Willits Weekly | P.O. Box 1698 in Willits, CA 95490
Locally Owned | Independent | Editions Every Thursday | Online & In Print
QUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047
Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com



Above, from left: Finance Director Bob Fry, Program Manager Michelle Cummins, and Programmer Rossi Jensen pose with volunteers Kristin Fraser and Corazon Elliott. Liam U'Ceirbhail, programmer, checks out the appliances for sale. Heaps and heaps of clothing at the KLLG sale.

At right: Shoppers stop by the KLLG sale, which raised \$1,475.



At top, left: Bob Fry, KLLG finance director, inspects a brick piece that was sold early.

At top, right: Rossi Jensen, KLLG programmer and sale organizer, displays wares from the sale.

Above: Michelle Cummins, KLLG program manager, sells a tool kit.

At left: Arlo Moon and Quinn Jensen make a close-up inspection of the clothing pile.

Photos by Mathew Caine

ROUND TREE GLASS, INC.
Established 1977
LIC. NO. 333974
TOM ROUNTREE
President
(707) 459-6163 24 Monroe St.
Fax (707) 459-4503 Willits, CA 95490
roundtreeglass@willitsonline.com

FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP
CANTUA INSURANCE AGENCY
16 W. Valley Street • Willits, CA 95490
Bus: (707) 459-3276 • Fax: (707) 459-3298
Randy Cantua Insurance Agent Lic. #0C67822
www.NorCalQuote.com • rcantua@farmersagent.com
Auto • Home • Life • Health • Business

Do it Best WILLITS POWER & HARDWARE
HONDA • HUSQVARNA • STIHL • MQ • CARHARTT
Lawn & Garden Equipment • Generators
Sales, Parts & Service • Pick-up & Delivery
1600 S. Main St. Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420
Willits, CA 95490 Service: 707 459-0596
willitspower@gmail.com Fax: 707 459-6369

Well Mannered MUTTS
Dog Training
INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION • PUPPY HEAD START • GROUP CLASSES
BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION
Sallie Palmer
CERTIFIED DOG TRAINER
707-463-3647
CELL: 707-621-DOGS
WELLMANNEREDMUTTS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.WELLMANNEREDMUTTS.COM

SPARETIME SUPPLY
SPRING HOURS:
MONDAY – FRIDAY – 8AM – 7PM
SATURDAY – 9AM – 7PM SUNDAY – 9AM – 5PM
208 EAST SAN FRANCISCO AVE. WILLITS, CA 95490
PHONE: 707-459-6791 WWW.SPARETIMESUPPLY.COM

YOKUMS BODY SHOP
Auto Collision Specialists
We work with ALL Insurance Companies!
Lifetime Warranty • All Makes and Models • Free Estimate!
CAR WASH & COMPLETE DETAIL SERVICE
1619 S. Main St. Willits, Ca 707-459-9385
yokumsbodyshop.com



OBITUARY |

Lois Pleva Judson

Lois Pleva was born March 20, 1948. Her body came to rest March 7, 2017 after a painful battle with pancreatic cancer. She passed peacefully with family members by her side. The body is gone, but the soul and spirit are forever. The "Lois Spirit" is with her family: Betty, 95-year-young mom, two sisters, one brother, six grandkids (four at the grandma stage), her four boys, and her husband and friend of over 20 years, Jeff Judson. By marriage the family includes two sisters, couple of daughters, and one son.

A joyous gathering is planned for Saturday, June 17, at 2 pm at Willits Methodist Church, 268 Pine Street. In lieu of flowers, treat yourself to something in the Lois tradition and enjoy.

OBITUARY |

Judith Ferleman

Judith Peach Ferleman passed away April 28, 2017 at the age of 68. She was born to Milton and Frances Peach in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on April 22, 1949. Judith married Scott Ferleman December 16, 1978 in San Jose, California. Pleasure for Judith revolved around her beloved family. She greatly enjoyed the time she and Scott spent at the coast, and caring for her son and daughter. Her work as a clinical laboratory scientist at Howard Memorial Hospital for 29 years was a source of great satisfaction for her, knowing what she did was important.

Judith is survived by her husband, Scott; children: Amberlyn Soldana and Toby Ferleman; sister, Jane Mitchell; and brothers: Jim and Gil Peach.

Services will be held at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, Saturday, May 27 at 3:30 pm.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.



Furry Friend Hoping for a Home Mama Destiny

Destiny is a 1-year-old spayed female mixed-breed dog who currently weighs 33 pounds. She has an old injury which our vet examined and decided it is not painful for Destiny, but she will most likely always walk with a slight limp.

Destiny came to the shelter with 12 puppies, which have all been transferred to one of our rescue partners.

Destiny's foster person told us: "Destiny is great in the house and adores the children who are 2 and 4 years old. She is smart and wants to please."

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah.

Adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm.

Many wonderful dogs and cats await their forever homes here.

To view photos and bios, please visit online at: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453.



The rest of Budget | From Page 1

asked staff to prepare two versions of a preliminary budget: one that "reflects the true needs of each department, as well as factoring in several priority projects." Version 1 would mean a projected general fund deficit of \$714,342, with reserves of 26 percent.

The second, no-deficit budget document presented to the council "is only possible," the memo said, "'if we 1) eliminate unfilled positions, 2) defer projects, such as ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] accessibility compliance projects, 3) remove all contributions for various community services, 4) remove contingencies, and 5) increase rates and fees." Version 2 would include reserves of 49 percent.

Councilmembers and staff went through the budget documents, checking a "cheat sheet" that showed the differences in each department between the two possible budgets. All councilmembers agreed that continuing to give to local community organizations was important: the Willits City Council gives a small annual contribution to several local community organizations: Willits Senior Center (\$7,500), County Library (\$500), County Museum (\$1,000), Willits Community Services (\$6,000), and Our Daily Bread (\$3,000). Past efforts to eliminate or reduce those contributions – or the \$34,000 the city contributes to the operation and maintenance of the City Pool – have resulted in the public filling the council chambers in protest.

The city had looked at the possibility of outsourcing the Willits Police Department's public safety dispatch functions, projected at a cost of \$358,459 for fiscal year 2017/18, to the City of Ukiah for a projected cost of \$292,836. But considering various factors – including that dispatchers also serve essential non-dispatch functions that would have to be performed anyway by other employees – councilmembers agreed cutting dispatch would not actually save significant funds as well as meaning a significant reduction in public safety.

Delaying an expensive (\$100,000) project to bring the bathrooms at City Hall into Americans with Disabilities Act compliance was a risk that councilmembers and staff were unwilling to take.

The rest of Mixer | From Page 1

"This year has been a challenge, due to the absence of the main character who had been at the helm of this project for years," said event chair Carlin Horger. "Lynn Kennelly was on top of all the things that needed to be accomplished to make this event a success. A group of us have tried to step into the breach, and hopefully we have dotted the i's and crossed the t's to make this an enjoyable event.

"A lot of people have stepped up to the plate and taken on more responsibilities," Horger continued. "Maybe this was something that we all should have done in the past to make it less of a burden on Lynn."

Scoops Deli will be catering the mixer and will be back on Sunday, too, to offer items out of the snack shack during the other events.

Sunday starts bright and early at the Rec Grove with the Willits Lions Club's deluxe pancake breakfast from 7 to 10 am. Tickets for the breakfast are \$9 for adults and \$6 for kids.

The Car & Motorcycle show will start at 10 am and run until 4 pm. Member of the Willits

After agreeing to some cuts and putting other potential reductions back into the budget, at the end of the general fund discussion, the total deficit in version 1 of the budget had been reduced to \$635,204.

In her memo, City Manager Moore outlined some reasons for financial hope, despite the projected sales tax reductions (the city is not expecting to receive the sales tax report for first-quarter 2017 until June).

The primary reason, she said, is the hope of gaining property tax and sales tax revenues – and jobs – through potential new housing development. "The City of Willits is an outstanding position," Moore wrote in her memo, "unlike other areas of the county, to support housing development. Currently there are three separate housing projects under review, totaling approximately 200 dwellings.

"Not only do we have the available land, we also have the infrastructure capacity," she wrote, citing the 480 new water hookups the city could authorize right now.

Other potential new revenue sources include the cannabis industry – "should the city adopt an ordinance to allow for cannabis business within city limits," Moore wrote, citing four or five proposed projects "city staff is aware of," all of which would be located in industrial zones.

Discussion turned to the staffing levels at City Hall that would be required to process applications and permits, to inspect, and otherwise shepherd through housing or cannabis or any new development projects. Citing a current lag time of as long as six to eight months to get projects approved, Councilman Ron Orenstein suggested that City Planner Dusty Dooley needed more help. "We have new opportunities to make revenue," Orenstein said, "with housing, pot – but everything goes through that young man's desk.... A six-month delay means lots of money the city is losing. As much as I hate to say this, we need to ramp up the budget for Planning."

"With this kind of economic development in the future," said councilwoman Madge Strong agreed, "if we are chronically understaffed, we might turn people away. I think we should anticipate the need for more planning staff. Otherwise we'll be cutting off our nose to spite our face. Are we willing to take that risk to invest in our community? For me, the answer is yes."

Wild Bunch, the Shifters Car Club and more will have their chromed and painted bikes and cars shined up and ready for display to the community. The afternoon also features music, an arm-wrestling contest, and raffles and prizes, as well as trophies for the winning vehicles.

Horger noted that the 10 or so raffle baskets awaiting lucky winners are filled with items valued at around \$100 each. Raffle tickets will be available at the event.

"We're selling them for six for \$5, or \$20 for your height in tickets," said Horger. "We will also have a 50/50 drawing, door prizes for the cars, vendor booths and lots of other fun."

The American Legion will also be on hand to present the colors and hold a Memorial Day ceremony; resident bagpiper Jeff Whitby will play, and Nicole Michele will sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

Admission to the event is free, and the community is welcome and invited to pop in and check out all the family fun at the Rec Grove.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 459-7910.



Sleep, Sleep, Sleep

Avenues to Wellness speaker series features Diane Smalley on getting just the right amount

If you are blessed with eight hours of deep, restful sleep each night, this article might not interest you. If you're not, and you missed the presentation by licensed acupuncturist

Joanne Moore
Features Writer
joanne@willitsweekly.com

Smalley's comprehensive presentation – part of the Avenues to Wellness speaker series – addressed a considerable array of both simple and complex internal and external factors that promote or impede a good night's sleep. Some of the factors that determine whether that good night's sleep will be yours include what you eat, when you eat it, how well you manage the inevitable stress of life, and how much attention you pay to your body's particular needs and to the environment in which you live and sleep.

Going to sleep, and staying there, involves complex interactions among the glands and hormones of the endocrine system. The glands and hormones communicate in the body as they respond to stimuli from the outer environment and from our own behavior and emotions.

Smalley described one particularly interesting – and sleep-disrupting – interaction as "the merry-go-round of stress." Here's how it works:

When you are experiencing a high level of stress, your body senses danger and the adrenal glands produce the hormone cortisol. Cortisol prepares us for "fight or flight," and is a principal culprit when it comes to disrupted sleep.

In response to the threat cortisol prepares us for, blood flows to the muscles. The stomach, on the other hand, receives less blood. As a consequence, the stomach's production of hydrochloric acid, which is critical to the breakdown of protein, is also reduced, causing food to just sit in the stomach.

The insufficient amount of hydrochloric acid also decreases bile and pancreas flow, which further interferes with digestion. Protein then decomposes in the small intestine and creates the production of histamines. The presence of the histamines triggers inflammation.

Cortisol, which is also an anti-inflammatory, increases in response to the histamines. This increase in cortisol reduces blood flow to the stomach, starting the process over again. The internal perpetual motion merry-go-round initiated by external stress is off and running, keeping cortisol levels high and sleep disrupted.

A rapid rise and fall of blood sugar levels can also cause sleep disruption. Let's say you eat too much too close to bedtime. Your pancreas responds by releasing insulin to get the glucose out of the blood and into the cells. Sugar levels

At left: Attendees listen to Diane Smalley's talk on how to sleep more soundly. Below: Diane Smalley, licensed acupuncturist, gives advice on how to sleep better.

Photos by Joanne Moore



in the blood drop, and the adrenals release cortisol to raise it back up. Since the adrenals need you to be awake for them to work, you wake up in the middle of the night. Smalley recommends eating a small snack about thirty minutes before lying down, just two or three foods, preferably a protein, a vegetable carbohydrate, and some fat – maybe a few bites saved from dinner.

No discussion of cortisol is complete without mention of melatonin, which Smalley also discussed in some detail. This hormone prepares us for sleep and is produced by the pineal gland as the light fades. Smalley emphasized that melatonin is a sleep regulator, not a sleep instigator, and its production feeds back to the hypothalamus where it is created, making it self-regulating. Taking it in supplement form disrupts this self-regulating process, so it should only be taken in very small amounts when necessary by those who experience disruption in the sleep cycle due to external causes such as jet lag or working the night shift.

Smalley also presented a wide array of techniques that work to facilitate going to sleep and staying asleep. Some of these include reducing all light, especially blue light, after the sun goes down. Blackout curtains can be used, although wearing a mask is probably a better choice as this will let in

Read the rest of

Sleep

Over on Page 9

GET WHERE YOU'RE GOING THIS SUMMER.

LES SCHWAB
Doing the right thing matters.

PICKUP & SUV TIRES

TERRAMAX H/T
STARTING AT
\$89.99
#P335/75TR15
ALL-SEASON TIRE
ECONOMICALLY PRICED
Tread design may vary.
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

BACK COUNTRY
ALL TERRAIN
STARTING AT
\$171.55
#225/75TR16
ALL-SEASON TREAD
ADVANCED NOISE REDUCTION
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

PROXES ST II
STARTING AT
\$174.53
#225/55VR17
ALL-SEASON PERFORMANCE
SUPERIOR HANDLING
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

PASSENGER CAR TIRES

CITY R202
STARTING AT
\$39.99
#P185/70TR13
ALL-SEASON TIRE
ECONOMICALLY PRICED
Tread design may vary.
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

ROAD CONTROL
TOURING & R/S
STARTING AT
\$90.96
#205/60VR14
ALL-SEASON TREAD
SMOOTH, QUIET RIDE
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

ULTRA Z900
STARTING AT
\$116.99
#175/60VR14
ALL-SEASON TRACTION
MUD AND SNOW DESIGNATION
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

ASK ABOUT A FREE PRE-TRIP SAFETY CHECK!
Our Free Pre-Trip Safety Check includes a visual inspection of the following:

- Tires, including air pressure
- Wheel alignment and tire wear
- Front-end components
- Brake components
- Calipers, rotors/drums, pads/shoes, hose and hardware, master cylinder, fluid and measurement of braking material using a brake gauge.)
- Shocks and/or struts
- Battery, including load test

ZEON RS3-A
STARTING AT
\$118.37
#225/55VR16
ALL-SEASON PERFORMANCE
QUALITY HANDLING
Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

On Sale!

Some spots are cute.

Some not so much...

MCCHC
HEALTH CENTERS
25 YEARS OF SERVICE

FREE SPOT CHECK CLINIC
Thurs., May 25th, from 9am-1pm
Appointments or walk-ins welcome
May is Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month. Join us in taking action to prevent skin cancer and reduce the risk of UV damage.
Follow-up appointments will be scheduled as needed.
MCCHC HEALTH CENTERS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

LITTLE LAKE HEALTH CENTER
45 Hazel Street, Willits
(707) 456-9600
littlelakehealthcenter.org

MEMORIAL DAY

T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY
10AM - 4PM

ALL PLAYERS CLUB MEMBERS THAT EARN 100 POINTS ON THIS DAY OF THE PROMOTION, WILL RECEIVE A SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO/MEMORIAL DAY T-SHIRT. ONE SHIRT PER CUSTOMER. WHILE SUPPLY LASTS!

Management reserves all rights to cancel or alter any promotion with little or no notice.

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO
100 Kawi Place, Willits 707-459-7330 www.svrcasino.com

Pg. 4

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Willits Weekly | May 25, 2017

Willits Weekly | May 25, 2017

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Pg. 5

Thursday, May 25

Willits Center for the Arts May show: Last chance this weekend to see “Vessels,” featuring the ceramics of HP Bloomer IV and the black-and-photography of Craig Gardner. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. Info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Willits Farmers Market: Weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, at a new location: Rec Grove Park on East Commercial Street. 3 to 6 pm. Veggies, local meats and local grains, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, live music. the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Medical Cannabis Ordinance Community Meeting: Willits City Council is holding an informational session on the proposed Medical Cannabis Ordinance. Community members are encouraged to ask questions and offer suggestions. Thursday, May 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-7121. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more info.

Friday, May 26

Extended Auditions at WCT: Willits Community Theatre is holding auditions for Steve Martin’s comedy “Picasso at the Lapin Agile.” The call is for 2 men, 20-30, and 2 women, 20-40. Special casting need: at least 2 dynamic young male actors to play Einstein, Picasso. Scripts available at Willits Library. Friday, May 26. Starts at 7 pm. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. Info: contact director, Jim Mastin, 621-0021, or email: jwmastin@pacific.net.

Shanachie Pub: The Real Sarahs, “well-known, well-loved local vocalists will once again charm our town with their amazing harmonies.” Friday, May 26. 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, May 27

Senior Center Memorial Day Flea Market: The Memorial Day Flea Market will take place on May 27, 8 am to 1 pm, at Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. \$2 hot dogs and root beer floats. If interested in being a vendor, please call Lucy Stanley at 459-5826 ext. 113.

Willits Flea Market: Opening day of the new Willits Flea Market is Saturday, May 27. Next to Auto Mart repair shop, 101 Lenore Avenue. Will run Saturdays and Sundays, every weekend, 9 am to 4 pm. Info and to reserve space: 972-8242.

Classic Metal Mixer: the annual Willits Chamber of Commerce “Classic Metal Mixer,” part of the 36th annual Community Festival Car & Motorcycle Show. Saturday, May 27, 5:30 to 7 pm at Rec Grove Park, Commercial Street (across from the Willits Library).

“Wicked Witch Auditions”: 1st casting call for child actors, 9 girls and 5 boys, for “The Trial of the Wicked Witch.” Four

What's Happening Around Town

performances of the play are scheduled for the weekends of July 29 and August 6. Saturday, May 27, 4 to 6 pm. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane.

Shanachie Pub: Peter Jong Chang, instrumental rock/jazz fusion and guitar virtuosity. Saturday, May 27. 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, May 28

Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am, Sunday, May 28, and every 4th Sunday through October. “Join your friends at the Grange breakfast! \$8 buys you a plate of the best ‘scratch’ pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around. Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods...” Choose sourdough wholegrain, Hank’s Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or gluten-free, Beeler’s Quality Bacon, organic local farm fresh eggs, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. Live Music! \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Extra: sides of organic fruit and Amish organic maple syrup. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial, 1 block west of Main Street).

Willits Flea Market: Opening weekend of new flea market. Sunday, May 28. 9 am to 4 pm. Next to Auto Mart repair shop, 101 Lenore Avenue. Info and to reserve space: 972-8242.

36th Annual Community Festival Car & Motorcycle Show: Lions Club starts off the day with a deluxe pancake breakfast at the Rec Grove: ham, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy. Adults \$9; children \$6. Breakfast, 7 to 10 am; festival 10 am to 4 pm. Admission to festival and show is free and open to the public. “Fun for the whole family” featuring classic cars, motorcycles, trophies, games, arm wrestling contest, food, vendors, train rides at Roots of Motive Power. As part of the Memorial Day celebration, the historic Skunk Train will be running to Wolf Creek Turn. It departs the station at 9:45 am.

St. Petersburg Men’s Ensemble: Award-winning St. Petersburg Men’s Ensemble will be performing masterpieces of Russian classic choral and sacred music. “Come join us for a spectacular evening of wonderful music from Russia.” Sunday, May 28. 7 pm. Free will donation. United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. Light refreshments will be served after the concert.

Learn How to Live a Better Life: 2nd

evening session in a 6-session series. Improve mental performance/increase emotional intelligence with Dr. Neil Nedley. Use the practical information presented to think clearly, manage emotions, improve creativity and overall life satisfaction. Sunday, May 28. 6:30 pm. The Friendship House, 363 West Mendocino Avenue.

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Cemeteries: Willits American Legion Post 174 will be conducting memorial ceremonies on Monday, May 29 at Willits Cemetery on Highway 20 at 10 am and at Little Lake Cemetery on East Hill Road at 11 am. “Please join us as we pay tribute to our departed comrades in arms.” Info: 456-9858.

Free Memorial BBQ: Willits Calvary Chapel’s Memorial Day event. Free food, games, music and a message. Everyone welcome. Monday, May 29. Noon to 3 pm. Willits City Park, Commercial Street. Info: Aura Whittaker, 337-3615.

Tuesday, May 30

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week’s Tightwad movies: “Guardians of the Galaxy 2,” and “Alien Covenant.” For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Thursday, June 1

Willits Farmers Market: Weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, at a new location: Rec Grove Park on East Commercial Street. 3 to 6 pm. Veggies, local meats and local grains, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, live music. the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Friday, June 2

Laytonville First Friday: On the first Friday of every month, from May through September, the Laytonville Art Angels invites the public to an evening of arts, crafts, wine, food, craft beer and

entertainment. Friday, June 2. 4 to 8 pm. Alberts, 44851 North Highway 101.

“Not So Garden Variety Show”: From 6 to 8 pm on Friday, June 2, for one night only, the Willits Charter School presents a dinner and variety show featuring the WCS Choral Ensemble and original skits by the WCS Performing Arts Crew. Tickets may be purchased at Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. \$15 for the dinner and show, \$10 for the show only. Proceeds benefit the Willits Charter School performing arts program.

“Grace and Glorie” at WCT: Opening night of “Grace and Glorie,” a spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler, featuring Kelly Kesey and Hafsa Stewart in the leading roles, at Willits Community Theatre. Friday, June 2, 8 pm. “Grace and Glorie” runs from June 2 to 18, with performances on Thursdays at 7 pm for \$15, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$20, and some Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$15. Advance tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 North Main Street, online at brownpaperickets.com, or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more info.

Saturday, June 3

Brooktrails Flea Market: annual community flea market features antiques, plants, household goods, and much more! 2017 Market, at the parking lot by the fire station and Brooktrails community center, is set for Saturday, June 3. Outdoor spaces and indoors tables: \$20 each – first-come, first-served! Vendors check in: 6 to 7:30 am. Market open: 8 am to 3 pm. Lunch available from Brooktrails Fire Department. Call to reserve a space: Arlane 456-0734.

Willits Horsemen’s Rodeo Weekend: Willits Horsemen’s Association will be hosting their annual rodeo weekend, starting today, Saturday, June 3, with a gymkhana starting at 9 am at the Willits Horsemen’s Arena, 850 East Valley Street. Continues Sunday, June 4 with Jackpot Team Roping at 9 am (team signups start at 8:30). Sunday’s Rodeo starts with Grand

Entry at 1:30 pm. Rodeo events are free to spectators. Sunday also features the Horsemen’s slow-cooked Beef Barbecue, starting at 11:30 am. BBQ tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for children. Info on Gymkhana, call Kathryn at 489-6565; info on Rodeo or Roping, call Jim at 354-1624.

3rd Annual Alumni Baseball Game: All alumni are encouraged to attend, and play. Batting practice at 10 am. Game starts at 11 am. Raffle for two prizes: a redwood table donated by Parlin Fork Conservation Camp, and 6 tons of 3/4 recycled base from Nor-Cal Recycled Rock & Aggregates Inc., to be picked up at 900 Talmage Road, Ukiah. Proceeds to benefit the WHS baseball program. For more info or if interested in playing, call Aaron at 489-2103.

Willits Hub BYO Lunch: Looking for ways to make a difference in Willits? One project underway is growing 1,000 plus sunflowers all along Main Street, at the freeway interchanges and in yards all around town. Sunflowers are pollinator-positive. Let’s talk projects! Sponsors: WELL (Willits Economic Localization) and The Hub. Bring your own lunch. Saturday, June 3. 12:30 pm. Willits Hub, 630 South Main Street. Info: Paul 459-1418, 4paulj@gmail.com.

“Wicked Witch Auditions”: 2nd casting call for child actors, 9 girls and 5 boys, for “The Trial of the Wicked Witch.” Four performances of the play are scheduled for the weekends of July 29 and August 6. Saturday, June 3, 4 to 6 pm. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane.

“Made in Mendocino”: Opening reception Saturday, June 3 from 6 to 9 pm for the June show at the Willits Center for the

Arts, which features a collection of traditional and art quilts by 20 central Mendocino County quilters, including participants from Willits, Ukiah, and Laytonville. “These quilts are recognized as fine art for their complex patterns, excellent craftsmanship, and creativity.” Some of the quilters in the show are: Ann Horton, Barbara Carlson, Carolyn Salcedo, Christy Bergenson, Kathy Davidson, Laura Fogg, Linda McDonald, Marilyn

Simpson, Nan Trichler, Rachel Cash, Susan Ingle, Ursula Patch, Debbie Bowls, and Karen Mattson. A community quilt, handmade by 14 different quilters, will be auctioned off to benefit the Willits Library. The Willits Center for the Arts is located at 71 East Commercial Street, (next door to the Noyo Theater). Info: 459-1726.

“Grace and Glorie”: a spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler continues at Willits Community Theatre. 8 pm tonight. See Friday, June 2 listing for more details.

Sunday, June 4

Willits Horsemen’s Rodeo Weekend: Willits Horsemen’s Association will be hosting their annual rodeo weekend at the Willits Horsemen’s Arena, 850 East Valley Street. Sunday, June 4 events include Jackpot Team Roping at 9 am (team signups start at 8:30) and Rodeo Grand Entry at 1:30 pm. Rodeo events are free to spectators. Sunday also features the Horsemen’s slow-cooked Beef Barbecue, starting at 11:30 am. BBQ tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for children. Info on Gymkaha, call Kathryn at 489-6565; info on Rodeo or Roping, call Jim at 354-1624.

Learn How to Live a Better Life: 3rd session in a 6 part series. Improve mental performance and increase emotional intelligence with this series by Dr. Neil Nedley. Use the practical tips and information presented to think clearly, manage emotions, improve creativity, and overall life satisfaction. Sunday, June 4, 6:30 pm. The Friendship House, 363 West Mendocino Avenue

Ongoing Events

Willits Farmers Market: Weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, at a new location: Rec Grove Park on East Commercial Street. 3 to 6 pm. Veggies, local meats and local grains, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, live music. the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Willits Center for the Arts May shows: in the Upstairs gallery, “One of a Kind,” a retrospective collection of paintings by fine artist, Holly Cratty, runs through June. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. Info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Twice-Monthly Parkinson’s Discussion and Support Group meets 2nd and 4th Thursday, 10:30 to 11:45 am. In the Conference Room at Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941.

Tibetan Buddhist meditation group meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at the Muse, 31 East San Francisco Avenue. Info: 456-9425 or honemann@yahoo.com.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Tuesday Night Potluck Bingo: Potluck dinner and bingo every Tuesday at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. “Be sure to bring a dish to share!” 5 to 7 pm; \$5 buy-in; 50 cents per card. Info: 459-6826.

The Willits Seed Lending Library: Offering information on seed saving and gardening. Seeds of flowers, herbs, and vegetables are free to seed library members, and seed donations are gladly accepted. “We look forward to seeing you at the Willits Library!”

Al-Anon Meeting: Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Rite-Aid) at the Evergreen Shopping Center. Saturdays at 10 am at St. Francis Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 66 East Commercial Street. “Al-Anon Family groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience strength and hope to solve their common problems. We believe that alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery.”

Drop-in Knitting Circle: every Saturday of the month, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. “Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles; we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn to knit or crochet. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in.” Info: Lotus Baker at 456-9037, or lotus33@earthlink.net.

Scorptomists International of Willits: Women’s service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets second and third Tuesdays of every month, noon to 1 pm, at Old Mission Plaza, 1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

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

Volleyball Open Gym: at Baechtel Grove gym; Sundays 7:30 pm and Tuesdays at 8:30 pm. Some experience desired, but not required. \$5 per night; first night free. Info: Jeff at 354-1850.

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

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 6:30 pm; Karate: Thursday, Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6, 5 pm to 6 pm; Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 pm to 7 pm; Twens to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Singer songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday, 8 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday, 8 pm. No cover. “Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable.” Open Mic Night every Wednesday, 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7:30 pm; pre-signup list starts at 3 pm when the Pub opens. “An eclectic array of local musicians and even performers from around the world!” 50 South Main Street, behind Adam’s Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.

Animal Party at Little Lake Grange

Saturday, June 10

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County hosts the 2nd annual Animal Party on Saturday, June 10 at the Little Lake Grange in Willits. This year’s dance party features Mystic Soul, Pick N Pull, and The Flaming O’s. Tickets are \$20 at the door. Doors open at 6 pm; music goes until 11 pm. Plus raffle and silent auction, beer and wine, and food by Ramirez Taco Truck. “Come kick off the summer season donating to a great cause!” All proceeds go directly to the animals.

Mystic Soul is a seven (local) woman Afro-Cuban conga drum ensemble; Pick N Pull is a rocking band of local fun guys playing old-time acoustic hillbilly dance music and original sing-alongs; Flaming O’s are rockers featuring Willits’ own hometown girl Mona Gnader.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is a nonprofit (501c3) animal rescue in Redwood Valley completely funded by donations and fundraisers such as the Animal Party. Last year, over 600 animals (roughly 400 cats and 225 dogs) came through the shelter, and the majority of those found forever homes. HSMC is always looking for volunteers, especially dog walkers and foster homes. You can become an HSMC member by visiting online: mendocinohumanesociety.com, or call 485-0123.

Deadline for Youth Soccer Camp Sign-Ups

June 30

Registration for Willits Youth Soccer League opened on May 15, and the final day to register is Friday, June 30. Registration fees vary; the amount is dependent on the age of the child or teenager, and will cover the cost of health insurance, equipment, trophies, plus added tournament fees for the eldest age group. Info: Saprina Rodriguez 354-2539. Register online: www.willitsyouthsoccer.com

‘Grace and Glorie’ at WCT

Opens June 2

The spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection, “Grace and Glorie” by Tom Ziegler, opens at the Willits Community Theatre, Friday, June 2 for a three-week run. The storyline focuses on Grace Stiles, a cantankerous old woman, living alone in a remote cabin and facing her death. Her volunteer hospice worker is Glorie Whitmore, recently arrived from New York City where she left behind a successful career as a high-powered corporate executive. At first, the two women clash, with clear contrast between Grace’s deep religious faith and Gloria’s cold practicality. The action unfolds in ways that are initially humorous, and then it turns gripping.

Directed by Jim Williams, the show features Kelly Kesey and Hafsa Stewart in the leading roles. Kesey brings an amazing depth to her portrayal of the tough woman with a buried and vulnerable past. Stewart has more than 20 years’ experience on stage, and she is perfectly cast as the uneducated religious backwoods woman who, even with her impending death, remains possessed of a generous, edifying wisdom.

Director Williams describes the play as timeless in its portrayal of the spiritual side of people, and yet also timely in how it shows where polarizing cultural differences can be overcome. He adds, “The play is ultimately hopeful and shows how humans can ... find their common humanity.”

“Grace and Glorie” runs from June 2 to 18, with performances on Thursdays at 7 pm for \$15, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$20, and some Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$15. Advance tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 North Main Street, online at brownpaperickets.com, or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.

A special First Thursday benefit performance will be sponsored on June 8 by Sorptomist International of Willits. Tickets for the benefit show are available through Marilyn Harden at 459-5649. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

– Steve Hellman

Senior Center Road Trip: Giants vs. the Marlins, July 9

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

Save the Date:

“Main Street: Then and Now,” opens June 10 at Mendocino County Museum
“SEED: The Untold Story,” Little Lake Grange, June 15.
6th Annual Jesse Pittman Memorial 5K Walk/Run, June 17, Ukiah.
Tibetan Buddhist Teachings, the Muse, June 20-21.



Summer Arts & Music Festival

The Mateel Community Center presents the 41st annual Summer Arts & Music Festival, June 3 & 4 at Benbow Lake State Recreation Area in Garberville. The event features over 100 performances including more than 70 of the best local and regional bands, dance troupes and children’s entertainers on four stages. Advance tickets are on sale now through the mateel.org website. This 41st edition, named the “the best music festival in Humboldt,” is a fundraiser for the non-profit Mateel Community Center. Advance pricing is available online for 2-day passes, single-day tickets are available only at the gate.

The 2017 music lineup includes roots reggae and dub

Medical Cannabis Ordinance Community Meeting

Thursday, May 25

The Willits City Council is holding an informational meeting Thursday, May 25, 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. The meeting will offer a brief presentation on the Medical Cannabis Ordinance public draft. Following the presentation, attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and get clarification on the draft ordinance.

All community members are encouraged to provide comments and suggestions on the recommended policies for the city council to take under consideration. The public draft of the city’s Medical Cannabis Ordinance is available online at <http://www.cityofwillits.org>. A copy of the draft ordinance can also be found at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Questions/comments can be emailed to City Planner Dusty Duley dduley@cityofwillits.org

band Easy Star All Stars, Latin, rock, hip hop fusion from Locos Por Juana, Southwest-tinged string band The Brothers Comatose, Blues singer-songwriter Carolyn Wonderland, the “Jazz on Dub” sound of Jah9 & The Dub Treatment, Peruvian Chicha/Jamaican raggafrican from La Inedita, Afrobeat jam band Elektrik Voodoo, Creole/Cajun with The Zydeco Flames, vintage Soul group Durand Jones & The Indications, folk/beat box artist Dustin Thomas, bluegrass roots from Wicklow Atwater, Latin-Cumbia/Dub group Candelaria, 11-piece funk ensemble Styminie and the Pimp Jones Luv Orchestra, traditional bluegrass quintet Hot October, and psychedelic folk singer-guitarist Joanne Rand, along with the best of our local and regional talent scene.

Visit <http://mateel.org/summer-arts-and-music-festival> for links to the full schedule and the downloadable program guide, that includes information about the music offerings, stage schedules, the Kid Zone children’s activities, the Fine Arts Showcase, vendors, and more.

UNDERSTANDING DEMENTIA: Strategies for Staying Connected

By Alexis Glidewell, L.C.S.W.
TUESDAY, JUNE 6 5:30-7:00 PM

Learn how to modify troublesome dementia-related behavior. Alexis Glidewell is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has been working with older adults and families affected by neurocognitive disorders for over twenty years. Her career in this field started at an adult day program, where she provided direct care to, and helped structure individualized care plans for people with various types of dementia.

Call 456-9676 for more information
Email: alexiscglidewell@gmail.com
Visit: www.willitswellness.org for more speaker topics

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS
71 East Commercial St.
Free to the public.
Donations appreciated!
Wheelchair accessible.

Circus Luminescence.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of May 29 through June 2

Monday: Closed for Memorial Day
Tuesday: Spinach Lasagna
Wednesday: Turkey Sandwich
Thursday: Fish n Chips
Friday: Beef Stroganoff

Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55: \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entree, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Casting Call for Child Actors

Saturdays, May 27 and June 3

Auditions for child actors to fill roles for “The Trial of the Wicked Witch” will be held on Saturday, May 27, 4 to 6 pm, and again the following Saturday, June 3, 4 to 6 pm. Both auditions to take place at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. The call is for 9 girls and 5 boys, ages 10 to 14. The show rehearses in June and July (with a week off for the Fourth of July), and the play will run with four weekend shows, July 29 through August 6.

“The Trial of the Wicked Witch” is a courtroom drama/comedy about the classic Wicked Witch from fairy tales, who has been caught at last, and now she is on trial. The courtroom is packed with the heroes of fairy tale lore: Cinderella, Snow White, Rumpelstiltskin, Prince Charming and the Big Bad Wolf, and more. They argue the question, “Did the witch commit all those horrible offenses that people say she did?” For information about “The Trial of the Wicked Witch,” please contact director Shawna Jeavons at 489-1969 or shawnajeavons@gmail.com.

COLUMN | At the Movies

‘Alien Covenant’

Caveat: Before I set out to the theater early this Friday morning, my wife told me that alien xenomorphs are a stupid pretext for a movie. Before I could ask her to elaborate, she grabbed our pussy cat Tom Twitchit and pulled the quilt over the both of them and went back to sleep. Maybe she affected my attitude.

Daniel Essman
Columnist

The Story: A colony star ship, on its way to a new planet, takes a detour. And, like Little Red Riding Hood, who also left the safe path, the star ship crew runs into (not wolves) some big bad ravenous alien xenomorphs. This science fiction/slasher flick is a sequel to Ridley Scott’s “Prometheus,” a movie that left us with unanswered questions. The filmmakers aimed to clear up those questions. Michael Fassbender returns as an android, but a different android who looks just the same.

My Thoughts: Ridley Scott, in his usual impeccable fashion, chops up fresh meat for the gore whores, and provides a solid allegorical tale about the dangers of artificial intelligence and alien immigration. The flick left me with a feeling of sick disappointment...disappointment at the triumph of cruelty and horror over kindness, love and duty. On the other hand, “Alien Covenant” makes a strong case against the creation of genetically modified organisms, and also, that product labeling is just not enough. It says more than “we are what we eat,” much more; at the center of “Alien ...” is the notion that we are what eats us. That’s unpleasant. Still, at the very least, “Alien Covenant” completes the set.

Parents: Not for children. Teens and up can party down.

Note from Wikipedia: “Xenomorph ... known colloquially as “the Alien,” is an endoparasitoid extraterrestrial species.”

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



Photos by Mathew Caine



Counterclockwise from above: Boys perform “Just Like Fire,” choreographed by Ayla Decaire. Ballerinas perform “Fields of Joy,” Samantha Lazaro-Wyatt, Gabriella Maierle-Liese, Nora Martin, Kendahl Potter, Destiny West, and Isabel Young in “Calm Seas.” Two artist-model dummies come to life and harass their poor artist in “Artsy Fartsy.” Studio Director Tara Ford welcomes the crowd.

The rest of Dance | From Page 1

of the Mendocino College dance program performed for the capacity crowd at the Willits High School auditorium. The performances were a mélange of hip-hop, ballet, modern, Middle Eastern and jazz in creative, colorful costumes.

The youngest performers, some as young as 5 or 6, gave their best efforts, making up for their lack of experience with courage and obvious love of dance. The older participants hit their marks with the ease that comes with hard work and the determination to do the best they can. Resounding applause greeted the bows. All had fun.

The younger kids were the definition of cuteness and full of a sense of fun in such numbers as “Ballerina Bunnies,” “Fields of Joy,” and “Sunflower Power.” The hip-hop routines were energetic, high-intensity frolics with titles like “Good Time,” “Battle” and “Just Like Fire.”

Decaire and Jocelynn Corpuz performed “Love of My Light” in the dark with lighted suits. “Last Fight” was very lovely, with Amelia Taylor portraying the short life cycle of a beautiful butterfly. A particularly creative romp was “Artsy Fartsy,” in which two artist-model dummies came to life and harassed their poor artist. The show ended with “The Pecking Order 3: The Chickadees,” in which Mama Hen, Decaire, led her chicks in a spirited feather-shedding dance around the stage.

Ford took on the production of the spring recital two years ago when she accepted the responsibility subsequent to the retirement of Kathleen Ferri-Taylor of the former Cloud Nine Dance Studio. “Production of this recital is a year-round creation. We start working on some of the routines in the fall,” Ford said. It is much more complex than it may seem to mount a show of this magnitude – booking the space and lining up the talent and technical people – but Ford is grateful for the help and support she receives.

She commented: “I think it is great that all these parents in the community are signing their kids up for dance. They give me constant support and the kids give me constant love, and they make me love to do my job. The parents’ commitment to bringing their kids, paying for all these costumes, for the classes, and the recital fees is so gratifying. Dance is so beneficial to their kids later in life. It builds so many skills: comradery skills, character skills, self-esteem. To be able to get out there and perform for an audience is such a huge thing for kids. I just want to do a big ‘thank you’ out there to all the parents because without you this wouldn’t be happening.”

In the immediate future, Ford will be dancing in and choreographing a production of “Chicago,” the classic Fosse musical, in Fort Bragg.

The parents appreciate the work and the new studio. Laselle Spence, mother of Egypt, one of the sunflowerers in the “Sunflower Power” number, choreographed by Ford, said: “I’m enjoying the new teacher, Tara. She has been really amazing with the young children these last two dance seasons. It’s Egypt’s first experience with dance, and she really enjoys it. She is going to try the hip-hop class next year. There were little quirks in the production, but the kids did great tonight. Dance is a great thing to bring the community together.”

Jacob Kubin, 10-year-old featured hip-hop dancer, choreographer and soloist, said, “I was dancing before I could walk,” while gesturing jazz hands. “You all should have your children enrolled in the Dance Academy. I’ve been having a lot of fun. Tara is awesome. Ayla is awesome.”

If tonight’s show was any indication, then the arts are alive and flourishing in Willits, especially amongst the youth. This community, which supports and encourages creative endeavors, will have to do it without Decaire – for now

Willits Horsemen’s Rodeo &

BARBECUE

JUNE 4TH

★ 2017 ★

Schedule of Events:		
9:00 am	Saturday	June 3rd, 2017
8:30 am	Sunday	June 4th, 2017
9:00 am	Sunday	June 4th, 2017
11:30 am	Sunday	June 4th, 2017

Adults \$15.00 / Children \$5.00

Rodeo Events for All Ages - Free to Spectators

1:30 pm Sunday June 4th, 2017 Rodeo Grand Entry

For more information contact

Gymkhana.....Kathryn (707) 489-6565

General Information or Rodeo & Roping.....Jim (707) 354-1624

JACKPOT: TEAM ROPERS HIGH MONEY HEADER & HEELER - HANDMADE BREAST COLLARS

ALL-AROUND COWBOY & COWGIRL - HEAD STALLS

★ 2017 AWARD SPONSORS ★

Napa/Little Lake Auto Parts • Yokums Body Shop

Adam’s Tire • Rewood Empire Quarter Horse Association

Sparetime Supply, Inc. • 101 Trailer and RV • Cooley Logging

Les Schwab Tires • Mihelec Construction • Garman Construction

Northern Aggregates, Inc. • SHN Consulting Engineers

Nor-Cal Recycled Rock & Aggregates, Inc. • Renner Oil

Mobile Equine Veterinary Services Sheri Cronin, DVM

John Ford Ranch • Peterson Tractor • JD Redhouse

The Monkey Wrench • Bob Gaston

Groceries Beer & Wine Pay at the Pump Gas & Diesel

459-4854

1799 So. Main St. P.O. Box 428

The rest of Positive | From Page 1

“That is a good amount for a city of Willits’ size,” said Zeng of the ending balance. “And the increase is largely due to good budgeting, and keeping costs low compared to the fixed revenue in the general fund.”

He noted the general fund reserve (the unreserved fund balance divided by current fiscal year’s expenditures) of 58 percent was “very healthy compared to similar governmental units.”

Zeng did warn that while the percentage was high, the dollar amount was still relatively low due to Willits’ small size, and the council should be cautious about dipping into the reserves too much.

During a March meeting, city staff said Willits is expected to have to use about \$389,000 of the reserves by the end of the 2016/17 fiscal year, dropping it to an estimated 47 percent of expenditures, still well above the 35 percent the city’s policy suggests.

The Sales Tax Transportation Improvement Fund also increased by \$113,073 in 2016/17 to \$2,287,305. While this was good news, Finance Director Susie Holmes warned sales tax revenues will likely decrease significantly this fiscal year due in part to the effects of the new bypass (see below for more on sales tax revenues).

The Water Enterprise Fund rose by \$1,182,131, though Zeng said this was skewed by a one-time correction for allocation of funds incorrectly filed in previous years. This was the first year Moss, Levy & Hartzheim did the audit for Willits, and Zeng said his company was a bit more thorough than some other firms.

One of the only balances to decrease significantly was the Sewer Enterprise Fund, which dropped by \$1,154,462.

Zeng said this was mostly the result of a rise in unfunded net pension liabilities, which also factored into bringing other fund amounts lower than they would be otherwise. The increases stemmed from a new rule, Governmental Accounting Standards Board 68, implemented a couple years ago requiring municipalities to be more thorough in reporting costs they need to put away in order to fulfill pension payments in the future. Due to this change, Zeng said the city’s net pension liabilities rose by \$1 million, from around \$6 million to \$7 million.

Zeng told the council to keep in mind these numbers were a “moving target” and could easily change based on trends in the stock market and the length of lives of retirees.

The only “significant deficiency” in the city’s financial report, Zeng said was a “lack of control”

The rest of Shortage | From Page 1

such units easier, cheaper and more streamlined, went into effect January 1, 2017.

Accessory housing is affordable housing created by modifying existing buildings. For example, garages or workshops can be converted into “granny units” or bachelor pads, or studio apartments with separate entrances can be built onto large, existing homes.

Planning and Building Services Interim Director Nash Gonzales told supervisors amending the land use code will be easy to do in inland areas, but more difficult in the coastal zone.

Board Chairman John McCowen will work with California Coastal Commission staff to determine how best amend the Local Coastal Plan to regulate construction of accessory dwellings on the coast.

Supervisors also directed staff to develop an ordinance to limit short-term rentals in county residential neighborhoods, and will seek a moratorium on issuing new business licenses for short-term rental units until the proposed ordinance becomes law.

Short-term rental units are properties routinely rented for less than 30 days. Units rented for 30

The rest of Welcome | From Page 1

some political advice.

“Thank you for your public service,” Allman said. “Thank you for coming to work for the county, for a salary that people would not be busting down the door to get. It’s appreciated that you’re ready to give energy to the citizens, and give intelligence to the citizens, to be fair with the citizens and to make sure the citizens understand what your answer is. Whether they agree with it or not – just tell ‘em the answer. That’s what the taxpayers want. And I hope that’s what we are going to continue to see.”

Allman also took a moment to express

over credit card receipts, though he noted it was only a few receipts for a relatively small amount.

“This point has already been addressed by the city,” he said, “and I believe new policies are already in place.”

Councilmember Ron Orenstein asked Zeng if the city should be concerned by its \$31 million in loan debt which, he said, looked like a “scary number.”

However, Zeng felt that as long as the city budgeted its annual payments properly, the total debt amount wasn’t something that needed to be focused on too much.

Mayor Gerry Gonzalez asked Zeng how Willits “stacked up” compared to other cities the firm has audited.

“I would say similar,” said Zeng. “Nothing out of the ordinary.... We encountered no major issues.... No complaints from us as far as the audit goes.”

Remco payment

The city council also unanimously approved an agreement between the City of Willits, Willits Environmental Remediation Trust, Pepsi-Cola Metropolitan Bottling Company, and Pneumo Abex for a lump sum payment to the city of \$104,000 for final maintenance and oversight expenses of the old Remco property on South Main Street.

It looks to be the final chapter of a long saga between the various parties.

Willits had been receiving monthly payments from PepsiCo to oversee remediation of the site which Pneumo Abex and PepsiCo (both previous owners of the property) have been responsible for since Willits won a consent decree after suing Remco Hydraulics in 1996 to force them to clean up environmental contamination.

City Attorney Jim Lance said the amount given to the city for the final payment was “a good deal” and “a reasonable amount of money.”

More on sales tax

Holmes said the latest projections for yearly sales tax revenue estimated the city would see a \$100,000 decrease this fiscal year (ending June 30), and a \$240,000 decrease for fiscal year 2017-2018, largely triggered by loss of business due to the bypass.

Orenstein noted that in previous years actual revenues have turned out to be higher than projected, and asked Holmes if she thought that might be the case for sales tax this time.

“I don’t,” she said. ““The loss in revenues is going to be a dramatic hit.”

The city council and staff will look into the matter in greater detail as they get a clearer picture of the current fiscal year and enter

days or longer are considered long-term rentals.

The proposed ordinance would allow only one new business license per person to be issued for a short-term rental located within county residential zones, and that license would limit rentals to just one unit per parcel.

And the county would issue a new short-term rental business license only when the parcel in question contained at least two residential units.

The ordinance, however, will only apply to new business licenses. Businesses that already have licenses for short-term rental operations will be considered “grandfathered in.”

Gjerde said that might help make more residential units available for long-term rentals.

“This would give incentive for people to create a second unit on their property,” he said.

The board also discussed “inclusionary housing,” which is low-cost housing required to be built by a developer whenever a housing development of more than five units is built. It is called “inclusionary” because, theoretically, low-cost housing will be included in the development plans.

According to McCowen, if a developer is

his views on the medical cannabis facilities ordinance the board was slated to take up later that day.

“I would like to remind you that backyard grows create crime,” Allman said. “Backyard grows create vulnerable situations for innocent people. I could go down the list of innocent people who did not have marijuana on their property, but bad guys have mistakenly believed they did, and violence has stricken our county.

“Instead of allowing the emotions of potential growers to drive our conversation,” he said. “I would like to remind you that the majority of

budget talks.

Update on City Park

City Manager Adrienne Moore said the city is hoping to complete all renovations to the Willits City Park by June 30 in time for the Frontier Days celebrations.

The plan is to continue to remove about two trees per week because of safety hazards, while planting 24 more trees around the park perimeter in 24-inch boxes. The trees will be further in from the roads than they were previously to avoid problems with power lines, and spaced further apart to improve canopy growth.

There will also be more ground preparation to level out the grass, and make irrigation improvements and repairs.

PG&E, which has already given a \$2,500 grant for tree replacement costs, will be buying three more trees for the park, and helping with light improvements there as well. Moore said there will be a June 2 tree planting ceremony at the park with PG&E representatives to recognize their contributions.

ADA compliance

City Building Official John Sherman reported Americans with Disability Act compliance continues to be a concern for local business owners after a disabled plaintiff sued multiple businesses in Willits for violations recently.

“Many [business owners] are having their facilities surveyed and have basically jumped into getting the corrections made,” he said. “I think our business community is really stepping up –and not just the people that have been threatened, not just the people that have litigation, but across the board. I think it says a lot about our business community – that they want to be open and accessible to people with disabilities.”

The same plaintiff and attorney have now sued two businesses in the Ukiah area as well, Moore said. She was informed of the suits by the district representative for Assemblyman Jim Wood. Moore said the Ukiah Chamber of Commerce will host an educational workshop regarding ADA compliance in early July, similar to the one Willits recently held. She encouraged Willits business owners to attend the workshop, which will feature an ADA attorney.

Tennis courts

Sherman also noted the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Willits High School should be finished by the end of the month – a joint venture by the City of Willits and the Willits Unified School District. He noted high school students chipped in by demolishing the old backboard, and have asked about helping with construction of the new one.

building a housing development of more than five units, he may opt to pay an amount equal to 20 percent of the market value of one of the homes in the development to a fund managed by the county instead of building an inclusionary unit. That money is used to pay for low-cost housing.

The county’s inclusionary housing unit ordinance went into effect in 2009. Since that time, \$103,726 has been deposited in the fund. However, developers have built no inclusionary units since the ordinance went into effect.

Gjerde suggested the current inclusionary ordinance might be changed to allow accessory dwellings to be built, instead of building either an inclusionary unit or depositing the fee. However, supervisors determined the inclusionary ordinance is already loosely worded enough to allow that practice to take place, so no change to the ordinance was recommended.

Gjerde asked how the public was expected to learn that the “accessory for inclusionary” gambit would be kosher. McCowen told him to send the issue back to the General Government Committee and come up with some ideas, and Gjerde said he would do that.

people in Mendocino County support clear zoning laws, [and] support clear and easy to understand ordinances that the sheriff’s office can interpret. Because, while we are the ones who receive complaints, we are also the ones who are giving advice on how not to create a nuisance in our communities, whether it’s at a town hall meeting, or so forth.

“So, please keep in mind the perspective of the sheriff’s office on this: no ambiguity in marijuana. That’s where we head down the path to confusion, anger, and distrust in the government.”

The rest of Sleep | From Page 5

a bit of light in the morning to usher in the waking process. Wear earplugs to eliminate noise. Sleep in a cool room. Have a comfortable bed with a firm yet conforming mattress, like air or latex foam rubber. Turn off all devices emitting electromagnetic frequencies!

Have a regular bedtime and allow an hour or more to quietly prepare for bed. Know how much sleep you need. Some people need a bit more than eight hours, some a bit less. Smalley cited the work of Dr. Michael Brues in recommending a way to calculate how much your body needs. Ask yourself what time you need or want to wake up. Set your alarm for that time and count back 7.5 hours. If you wake up at about the same time your alarm does, you have found your optimal bedtime. If you were sound asleep, go to bed a half-hour or hour earlier. If you woke up before the alarm, go to bed a half-hour or hour later.

Other things you can do to achieve that good night’s sleep include slowing down and providing your adrenals with the regularity and predictability in meals, sleep and exercise that they need to do their best work. If your mind is chattering at bedtime, do your best to release the day, maybe make a list for tomorrow to satisfy the chatterbox. Relax into bed. If you have pain, there’s usually a muscle involved asking to be massaged. Find the spot and give it 10 circular rubs. Smalley calls this “10 on the tender.”

In the morning, reflect on your dreams, get some sun or full spectrum light, stretch and wiggle for even just 10 minutes, drink water or green tea, and eat at least a bite of protein.

Smalley’s presentation also included recommendations with respect to foods, herbs, nutritional supplements, books and websites that can help in the quest for better sleep.

If eight hours of deep, restful sleep is not your standard nightly fare, you owe it to yourself to watch the video of Smalley’s talk, which will be posted on the Avenues to Wellness website within the next 30 days, www.avenuestowellness.org. You might even need to watch it more than once. Or you could contact Smalley directly to embark on your journey to dreamland. Contact her at her Abundant Health Acupuncture & Herbs office by calling 707-456-9514, or by going to her website, www.dianesmalley.com.

Avenues to Wellness provides wellness programs, activities, resources and education, and is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. The next speaker event is scheduled for June 6, when the Redwood Caregiver Resources Center will present 90 minutes of information on “Understanding Dementia and Caregiving 101.”

Are you struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, trauma and/or addiction?

Ready for HELP!

354-9911

Now accepting MediCal Partnership

Divora Stern
LCSW

Counseling #20498



At left: Grateful Gleaners sold starts on Sunday to raise money for their organization. Below: Wolfgang Ronnefeldt and Karen Gridley of the Grateful Gleaners chat with Gabe Madrigal.

At bottom, left: Wolfgang Ronnefeldt offers up advice on planting. At bottom, right: Swayze contemplates a future in horticulture.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Above: Flower starts brighten up the plant sale. Below, from left: Low-water plants for sale at the Grateful Gleaners plant sale. Volunteer Prana Roberts answers questions. Easy-maintenance landscape plants were in abundance at the Gleaners annual plant sale, including the Greek mullein and catnip starts in the foreground.

Bounty of Generosity

Annual plant sale raises funds for Grateful Gleaners

There was a great variety of cuttings and starts available at the annual Grateful Gleaners plant sale on Sunday at 130 Tuttle Lane. This is a good time to start a garden, and people took advantage of the convenience and price to stock up. There was a constant stream of people coming down the alley to see the well-tended, healthy plants, which included easy-maintenance landscape plants, vegetable and flower starts, fruit and berry plants, and heritage perennials. The Grateful Gleaners also offered advice on low-water gardening techniques.

Born of hunger, gleaning is an ancient tradition in Europe. The poor and starving would scavenge the harvested fields, looking for fruit that had not been picked or had been rejected by the farmers. They would find a way to utilize every bit of usable food available, wasting nothing.

The Grateful Gleaners, a Willits philanthropic organization born out of that concept, was created by Wolfgang Ronnefeldt with the help of his wife, Karen Gridley. Ronnefeldt was born during World War II and was a refugee whose family had very little means of survival following the war. They would glean the fields of the local farmers to find any usable bit of sustenance. Twelve years ago, he and Gridley formed the Grateful Gleaners in order to find underutilized fruit trees and harvest and distribute the food to charitable entities in town such as the Willits Food Bank, Harrah Senior Center, Willits Daily Bread, and the Willits Kids Club.

"In Willits there are so many trees and orchards that

are not harvested, and there is something like a barrier that people have about picking fruit that is not from their own trees," says Ronnefeldt. "For instance, over here there is a wonderful pear tree that no one harvests. The fruit is on the ground. People are very respectful of other people's property, but meanwhile the fruit rots. We are not absconders. We ask; we get permission."

Ronnefeldt explains: "There are people who distribute the fruit, people who pick it, people who organize it. It takes a fair amount of organization. Also, help from the media to get the word out. We need to hear from people who have fruit trees that are not being harvested. Often people just cannot deal with their trees. They're too old or too busy, or they're just not interested."

The Grateful Gleaners holds the plant sale annually in order to raise funds for ladders and other equipment and for media. "We also donate money to young farmers or organizations that need a little extra help purchasing a seeder or some tools or a greenhouse," says Ronnefeldt. "That's what we do every year. It's not a lot, but it's a community effort to share our wealth of time and produce. It makes a community viable, healthy and happy."

This year's sale helped raise necessary funds for the Grateful Gleaners, but they are always in need of volunteers and trees to glean from. In particular, they are currently in need of younger volunteers to climb the ladders and do the heavy work. To help out, or offer up your fruit trees, contact them at 459-5490, mailbox #555.



Having A Party?
Borrow Our Bounce House!
FREE!!!

YOKUMS BODY SHOP
Willits, CA

Supporting our local community for over 43 years.
Call **459-9385**
To Reserve Your Date!

LUNCH
DIFFERENT DELICIOUS OPTIONS EVERY DAY
SPECIALS

Restaurant El Mexicano
166 SOUTH MAIN STREET
WILLITS • (707) 459-5702

T and T TOWING

RADIO DISPATCHED
24 HR TOWING

707-459-9116

500 D. Pinoleville Dr. UKIAH, CA
277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-NOYO (6696)
www.noyothatre.com

Next Week:
Wonder Woman
& Capt. Underpants

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES 2D/3D

(PG13) 2 hrs 9 mins
Fri: (2D) 3:10 & 9:00 (3D) 6:05pm
Sat/Sun: (3D) 12:15 & 6:05pm (2D) 3:10 & 9:00pm
Mon: (2D) 1:10 & 7:00 (3D) 4:05pm
Tues-Thurs: (2D) 4:05 & 7:00pm

ALIEN: COVENANT

(R) 2 hrs 3 mins
Fri: 4:00, 6:45 & 9:30pm
Sat/Sun: 1:15, 4:00, 6:45 & 9:30 pm
Mon: 2:00, 4:45 & 7:30pm
Tues-Thurs: 4:45 & 7:30pm

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY: VOL. 2

(PG13) 2 hrs 17 mins
Fri: 3:25, 6:20 & 9:15pm
Sat/Sun: 12:30, 3:25, 6:20 & 9:15pm
Mon: 1:25, 4:20 & 7:15pm
Tues-Thurs: 4:20 & 7:15pm

Movie Times for 5/26 thru 6/1 This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

The rest of Medical | From Page 1

send the draft documents to the county planning commission for review.

Planning and Building Services Chief Planner Mary Lynn Hunt said supervisors could expect the ordinances back by roughly August 1.

At the direction of Supervisor John McCowen, the board decided to allow home manufacturing of medical cannabis products.

McCowen suggested the ordinance limit manufacturing to cannabis products that had been produced on site; that the manufacturing processes only be for products produced on less than 2,500 square feet; and that only non-volatile solvents, or volatile solvents employed in a non-volatile process, be permitted.

McCowen's recommendations were appreciated by staff, which was having difficulties crafting language that would allow home manufacturing.

"I was probably getting too deep into the subject," Hunt told McCowen. "This make it a little more straightforward. I think with this, we can probably come up with some more items."

"You cut out the thorniest issues," said Director of Environmental Health David Jensen. "Given that [general direction from McCowen], it's definitely worth pursuing."

The use of volatile solvents for the purposes of manufacturing cannabis products has been controversial because one such volatile solvent, butane, has been linked to several house fires in the county in recent years. However, Willits-area residents Fred Marshall told supervisors that ethanol – a form of alcohol often used safely in the manufacture of cannabis-infused tinctures – also is considered a volatile solvent.

Marshall said he uses ethanol in a closed-loop, non-volatile process, and argued an across-the-board ban against permitting volatile solvents was unnecessary and counter-indicated, if such solvents can be used safely.

McCowen liked this solution, and suggested adding language to the ordinance that would permit the use of volatile solvents if they were used in a closed-loop, non-volatile process. But Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde wanted more safeguards, suggesting the use of volatile solvents should require the approval of the director of Environmental Health.

Newly seated Third District Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey agreed with Gjerde. "I'm going to agree with that statement," she said. "We don't know what's coming down the road. I'm sure there's going to be advances, and we don't know which chemicals are going to be used later on."

"I think if we have that approval in there now, we won't have to go back and modify it."

The board agreed. Hunt also briefed supervisors

on certain permitting requirements that have been incorporated into the draft documents. A minor use permit, she said, would be required for manufacturing processes that use volatile solvents in Rural Communities zones.

Processing medical cannabis products in both Commercial 1 and Commercial 2 zones also will require a minor use permit, while manufacturing processes that do not use volatile substances in the Commercial 1 zone will require a major use permit. Manufacturing products using volatile substances in both Commercial 1 and Commercial 2 zones also will require a major use permit.

Hunt told Croskey that minor use permits require a public hearing before the zoning administrator, while major use permits require a public hearing before the full planning commission.

Hunt added a major use permit process also would be required when people propose to site a cannabis dispensary in a C1 or a C2 zone.

McCowen said he wanted to loosen up the requirement to obtain a major use permit to site a dispensary in a C2 zone, suggesting a simple zoning clearance might suffice. However, Hunt told him that to put that language into the document would mean the county would have to follow a full CEQA process for the two ordinances.

"Based on that gem of information, I don't have any concerns," McCowen said. "One of the dynamics here is that triggering a CEQA review is not something we want to take on lightly."

California is currently drafting a new body of law to harmonize cannabis regulations for both medical and adult use cannabis. When that document is approved, it will supersede current cannabis law in California, including the Medical Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act approved by the state Legislature in 2015 and the Adult Use Marijuana Act, which encodes the regulation of adult use cannabis approved by voters as Proposition 64 last November.

There is a 45-day public comment period on the new law, and Supervisor McCowen wanted the board of supervisors to be able to comment on it before the June 13 deadline.

This proved problematical for supervisors; the board has final budget deliberations on June 6 and 7, and the California Coastal Commission has scheduled a hearing on the Mendocino Town Plan in Arcata on Thursday, June 8, which Supervisor Dan Hamburg has pledged to attend. The problem was: when could supervisors find time to meet long enough to draft comments on the state's new pot regulations?

McCowen suggested the board might meet on June 7, after approving the final county budget.

County CEO Carmel Angelo replied, "I am speechless, Chair McCowen." However, after some back-and-forth banter, Angelo told McCowen: "Perhaps the afternoon of the seventh will work."

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Report

Drive-by shooting leads to arrest

A 32-year-old Round Valley man is facing weapons charges after being arrested by sheriff's deputies following a May 12 drive-by shooting near Covelo's Buckhorn Bar.

Luis Alberto Chavez was taken into custody in the 76000 block of Highway 162 after deputies received a report of an altercation between several men inside the bar that moved to the middle of the street just before midnight, according to sheriff's Sgt. Joseph DeMarco.

"A witness reported seeing subjects driving up in a brown color pickup truck and firing several rounds, possibly into the air," DeMarco said.

As deputies were checking the area for evidence of the shooting, they noticed Chavez walking east towards Highway 162 from Howard Street, DeMarco said. He "appeared to be carrying a rifle wrapped in a jacket."

Deputies pulled their weapons and ordered Chavez to lay his weapon on the ground and step away from it. Chavez complied and was taken into custody.

A warrant and probation check revealed Chavez was an ex-felon and not allowed to possess a firearm, DeMarco said. Deputies also learned Chavez had an outstanding felony arrest warrant for assault with a firearm and a misdemeanor drunken driving warrant.

He was arrested on suspicion of being a felon in possession of a firearm, carrying a concealed firearm, giving a false name to peace officer, and the two warrants.

He was booked into Mendocino County Jail. Bail was set at \$385,000.

Covelo woman held for attacking husband

A Round Valley woman who allegedly assaulted her husband during a May 7 argument was arrested by sheriff's deputies on suspicion of felony domestic violence.

During the 7 a.m. altercation in the 24000 block of Wattenburg Road, 26-year-old Priscilla Flores-Lozano allegedly slapped and scratched her husband on the face with her hands.

The day before, deputies learned, she had allegedly scratched her husband on the neck and stomach during an argument.

"Deputies observed injuries to the adult male's face, neck and stomach," said sheriff's Sgt. Joseph DeMarco.

Flores-Lozano was placed under arrest on suspicion of felony domestic violence battery.

She was taken to county jail. Bail was set at \$25,000.

These reports were based on press releases from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

The rest of Grist Creek | From Page 1

Talkovsky said. "But that doesn't mean they won't be back."

"We don't have any special inside information on the hidden meaning of the move," said Mendocino County Air Quality Management District Program Coordinator Donna Roberts Nash. "Their equipment has gone. They evidently needed the equipment to do a job somewhere else, and so they moved it. They weren't operating at the site, and their permit had expired."

Telephone calls to both Grist Creek Aggregates and Mercer-Fraser for comment were not returned by press time.

Supervisors approved rock-crushing and asphalt production at the Longvale site in March 2015. The Air Quality Management District issued an authority to construct in June 2015. Operations began in September 2015 and ended in December of the same year. In November, the air district found Grist Creek Aggregates in violation of its authority to construct and fined it twice for a total of \$173,271.

In late March 2016, the air district issued a temporary permit allowing Grist Creek Aggregates to finish out a Caltrans contract by operating for approximately 10 days. The plant finished its contract and shut down operations.

The authority to construct issued in June 2015 expired in June 2016. Negotiations broke down between the air district and Grist Creek Aggregates and its plant operator Mercer-Fraser on how and under what conditions asphalt operations might resume at the plant.

By January 2017, six lawsuits had been filed against either Grist

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

HARRAH SENIOR CENTER
SERVING THE COMMUNITY

MEMBERSHIP...
\$25.00 for the year!
Tax Deductible

Benefits...

1. Discount on prepaid meal tickets.
2. Free firewood (when available in the Fall & Winter).
3. A monthly Newsletter.
4. \$2.00 Off coupon for Thrift Store (in the newsletter).
5. Discount on all fundraisers.
6. Free WiFi at the center.

(Call for more information regarding benefits)
459-6826

TOMATOES & PEPPERS

4-inch pots **\$2⁹⁸**

Cucumber & Squash plants **\$1⁹⁸** in 3-inch pots

Sanhedrin Nursery
1094 Locust St., Willits 459-9009
OPEN SAT & SUN Closed Tuesday

JUNE 2017 CALENDAR

MONDAY

POINTS DAYS 4X POINTS

All Players Club members will earn 4X Points from 10A to 10P on the days of the promotion!

TUESDAY

POT OF GOLD PLINKO



Hot Seats
12 RANDOM
HOT SEAT DRAWINGS

Approximate Times of Hot Seat Drawings
1P – 4P (twice per hour = 6 Drawings)
7P – 10P (twice per hour = 6 Drawings)

Winner will receive one Plinko Chip. The Winner will place the Plinko chip in a slot of their choice on the top of the Plinko board. The plinko chip will slide down the board and will land in one of 8 prize slots. Prizes will be randomly placed at the bottom of the Plinko board.

The prizes are: “\$20 Free Play”, “\$40 Free Play”, “\$60 Free Play”, “\$100 Free Play”.

If a winning customer has less than 300 points earned (on the day of the promotion) when their name is drawn, they will win the “base” Free Play amount.

If the winning customer has earned more than 300 points on the day of the promotion, they will earn a 50% bonus on the Free Play they won.

The Players Club Representative will switch the prizes on the bottom of the Plinko Board every six games.
All Free Play won must be played by 2A.
Customers may win up to twice each Tuesday.

HOT WEDNESDAYS

EARLY SESSION
11A TO 3P (2 WINNERS/HOUR).
EACH WINNER WILL WIN \$30 FREE PLAY

-EVENING SESSION
-7P TO 9P (2 WINNERS/HOUR)
EACH WINNER WILL WIN \$60 FREE PLAY
-9P TO 10P (3 WINNERS/HOUR)
EACH WINNER WILL WIN \$120 FREE PLAY
CUSTOMERS MAY WIN UP TO TWO TIMES EACH WEDNESDAY.

SUPER SENIOR DAY

50% DISCOUNT FOOD COUPONS ISSUED
(to be used for that day only) when the customer has earned minimally 50 points from 10am to 7pm.

BINGO! THURSDAY

12PM \$100 FREE PLAY
1PM \$125 FREE PLAY
2PM \$150 CASH
8PM \$150 IN FREE PLAY
9PM \$175 IN FREE PLAY
10PM \$300 CASH

Players Club members must have earned minimally 50 points to receive a bingo card for the 12P, 1P & 2P bingo games. Bingo at 12P for \$100 Free Play, 1P for \$125 Free Play and 2P for \$150 cash for each game winner.

Players Club members must have earned minimally 80 points (throughout the day) to receive a bingo card for the 8P, 9P & 10P bingo games. Bingo at 8P for \$150 in Free Play, \$175 Free Play and the 9P game and \$300 in cash for the 10P game.

ANY SENIOR (55+) THAT WINS A BINGO GAME (Not a second chance), WILL WIN A \$50 FREE PLAY BONUS.

Bingo Cards can start being issued at 11A for the 12P game, and 7P for the 8P game. The 1P, 2P, 9P & 10P cards will be issued after the earlier game has ended.

If two customer's claim the win together, the prize amount is “split” between the two winners.

For the 2P and 10P, there will be a “Second Chance Win”. After a confirmed bingo for these three games (and the winning customer has been processed), the game will continue until a second “Bingo” is won, and the “Second Chance Win” customer will win \$50 Cash for the 2P game and \$100 Cash for the 10P game. The “Second Chance Win” opportunity will be announced before each of the specific games.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Ticket Entry Drawings - 20 Points/Entry
May start to redeem points for entries starting at 11A.
Each drawing time has a prize value to it.

PROGRESSIVE DRAWING!

PAYDAY!

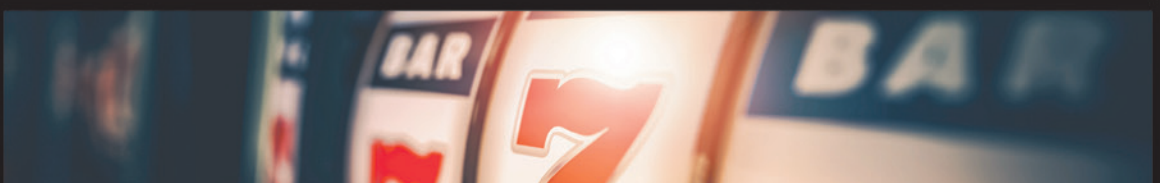
WIN CASH FROM 8-11!	8:00PM \$100	9:00PM \$150
	10:00PM \$200	10:30 PM \$250
		11:00PM \$300

At each drawing (except the 10:30 & 11P drawing), an entry will be drawn from the Raffle Barrel. The winning customer will have approx. one minute to claim their prize. If the number is not claimed the money for the specific drawing will be forwarded to the next drawing for the night. For example; if the 8P drawing has no winner, the \$100 will be forwarded to the 9P drawing and will be worth \$250.

For the 11pm drawing, if there is no claim on the drawing, there will be an additional drawing. This process will continue until a winner has claimed the cash prize. Customers may win up to 2 times each week of this promotion.

JUNE 30th BIG WINNINGS!

8pm -\$100 9pm-\$150
10pm -\$200 10:30pm-\$300
11pm-\$500



SATURDAY NIGHT FUN • June 3, 10 & 24

Hot Seat Drawings!

Round #1:
11 AM to 12 PM – 2 random winners per hour
(6 winners total)
Each winner will win \$50 in Free Play.
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$20 to be eligible for Round #1.

Round #2:
6 PM to 8PM – 3 random winners per hour
(6 total winners)
Each winner will win \$75 in Free Play.
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$30 to be eligible for Round #2.

Round #3:
9 PM to 10 PM – 3 random winners per hour.
Each winner will win \$100 in Free Play.
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$40 to be eligible for Round #3.

Round #4:
10 PM to 11 PM – 3 random winners per hour
Each winner will win \$150 in Free Play.
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$50 to be eligible for Round #4.

All winner(s) must use their promotional “Free Play” by 2AM the night they won, or the Free Play will be removed from their account.
Customers may win up to two (2) times each Saturday of this promotion.

SATURDAY NIGHT CASH BINGO • JUNE 17



6PM “Buy-In” for the 7P & 8P games: 75 Points
7PM Game - \$100 Cash • 8PM Game - \$200 Cash

9:00PM “Buy-In for the 10:00P & 11:00A games: 100 Points
10:00PM Game \$300 Cash • 11:00PM Game \$440 Cash

Scratch Card Sunday!

10am-8pm!

Players Club members that earn minimally 40 points on each specific Sunday, will receive one (only one) Scratch Card (via the Players Club). Each Scratch Card will have a prize (cash or free play), which will be;

\$10 Free Play	\$20 Free Play	\$50 Free Play
\$75 Free Play	\$100 Free Play	
\$20 Cash	\$50 Cash	\$100 Cash

Customers may receive only one Scratch Card each Sunday for this promotion.
All Free play that is won via the Hot Seat drawings must be used by 2am on the same gaming day, or the winnings (Free Play) will be removed from the customer's account.

CASH GIVEAWAY

JULY 8TH

\$7,000 in cash will be given away to six winners. There will be a top prize of \$3,000. There will also be a \$2,000 winner, two (2) \$1,000 winners and two (2) \$500 winners.

Earn Entries
July 4 (20 points/entry) July 5 (25 points/entry)
July 6 (25 points/entry) July 8 (30 points/entry)

Drawing Times
7 PM (one winner) 8 PM (one winner) 9 PM (two winners) 10 PM (two winners)

Each winner will choose a sealed envelope from a board in the Players Club. Shortly after the last drawing at 10P, the customers will be given their chosen envelopes to see how much cash they have won.



Sherwood Valley Rancheria Smokeshop

100 Kawi Place • Willits
Hours: Monday-Friday 10am to 6pm
Saturday 11am to 5pm • Closed on Sundays



100 Kawi Place, Willits 707-459-7330 www.svrcasino.com

Management reserves all rights to cancel or alter any promotion with little or no notice.



At left: The class of 2017 represented in ducks. Above: Keely Ahders and Jamie Johnstone show the winning ducks. Below: This year's Derby helpers, including, back row from left: Kyleena Amador, Isabel Gutierrez, Colten Horger, Samantha Thomas, Elidio Mendez and Jenna Wells. Front row, from left: Haily Findley, Jamie Johnstone and Keely Ahders.

Ducks on the Move

Sober Grad's annual Ducky Derby race earns \$1,600 for graduation night party

Tail winds prevailed at Sunday's Ducky Derby event at the Brooktrails Golf Course, with the first duck making its way down Willits Creek, around the bend and over the finish line in what seemed like record time compared to years past.

The first duck to cross the finish line, #208, belonged to Beth Bashore who received \$200; the second-place duck, #30, and the third-place duck, #29, both belonged to Carmen Thomas who received \$150 for the two winning racers.

Maureen Moore
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

"Carmen is a mother of one of our seniors this year," said Angi Edgar of Sober Grad.

"Carmen and her daughter, Samantha, have been a great help this year!"

Even though the first three ducks barreled downstream, the last one took its time, lollygagging down the currents and stopping to get stuck in the rocks, reeds and sticks along the way.

The laggard, and several others at the back of the pack, did give the wet-footed duck wranglers something to do, however; volunteer grads teetered on rocks and poked at the stuck ducks with sticks and poles to try and free the little floaters from their traps along the way. Some students committed to almost waist-deep rescue missions, while others poked from the shorelines.

Eventually, the last duck, #376, made its way across the line and earned its owner, Loraine Patton, a two-night stay at the Dell'Ara guest house in Caspar.

"Loraine seemed very happy with the news!" laughed Edgar.

Edgar noted that all the ducks had been sold – and even a few extras were added – by the time the ducks hit the water, and the fundraiser earned the club \$1,600

to add towards its goal.

Monies earned from this event benefit the annual drug- and alcohol-free graduation night party held at the Willits Community Center on the night of graduation, June 8 this year. The Sober Grad party gives the area seniors a safe, fun – and rewarding – experience on the night of their graduation. Prizes include everything from dorm room furnishings to \$1,000 grand prizes.

Grads are greeted with casino-style games, food, music, dancing, photos, henna, ping pong, a climbing wall, and a host of other activities to entertain them from 9:30 pm to 4 am.

More volunteers are needed to help set up, supervise and clean up this all-night event. Anyone able to come donate a few hours on June 8 for set-up (any time after 9 am), or sign up to be a chaperone for any of the overnight hours, or volunteer to join the cleanup crew – starts at 4 am! – is urged to call Sober Grad's Joyce Waters at 489-8377 to get involved. Or, just show up at the Community Center to be put right to work.

More info: Waters at 489-8377, Edgar at 459-2260, or willitssobergrad@gmail.com.



At left: Isabel Gutierrez waits in the creek for the ducks to come downstream. Any stuck ducks were freed with the pole.

At right: Derby attendees watch the colorful ducks drift downstream under the bridge at the Brooktrails Golf Course. Far right: Colten Horger found eight golf balls lost in the creek during his duck wrangling efforts, Sunday.

Below: The hundreds of colorful ducks are released from their shopping carts at the start line by Colten Horger, Samantha Thomas, Keely Ahders and Duck Master Robin Leler.

Photos by Maureen Moore



It's time for Willits Frontier Days Tickets

Now's the time to start thinking about getting your tickets for all of the upcoming Willits Frontier Days events! This year's two contestants, Hailey Riley and Keely Ahders, are out selling now through the end of June! Call Riley at 707-272-1139 and Ahders at 707-391-0092.

At left: Hailey Riley, left, and Keely Ahders, right, stand with WFD president, Fred Barry.

Wpho•tog•ra•phress
photography by maureen moore

FINAL CALL
to prints of formal senior portrait photos is
MAY 29

if you want to receive prints of your senior in their formal attire in time for June 8 graduation, order forms and full payment must be given to Karen in the WHS front office by 3:30 pm on Monday, May 29 to be included in the last senior order.

www.mphotographress.com | 707-972-7047

IT'S A Natural!

ALBOROSIE
SATURDAY, JUNE 3

DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM
General Admission Tickets \$30
Tickets on sale now!
Buy at
CoyoteValleyCasino.com



CoyoteValleyCasino.com | Follow Us

Must be 21 or older to attend. All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges. Management reserves all rights. ©2017 Coyote Valley Casino.



Crossword
Puzzle &
Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

AUTOMOTIVE WORD SEARCH

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

ALTERNATOR FANBELT MEASURE ROADS
AUTOMOTIVE FITTINGS MODULATOR SENSOR
BALLBEARING HOSES MOTOR SIGNAL
BRAKES HYDRAULIC PISTON SPECIFICATIONS
CALIPER LANES POWER SPEED
CAR LEAKS PROPORTIONAL STEERING
CYLINDER LIGHTS REVERSE VALVES
DIRECTIONS MANUFACTURER RINGS WINDSHIELD
DISTRIBUTOR MAP RIVET WIPERS

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			15
16					17				18			19
20						21					22	
				23		24			25			
26	27	28	29					30				
31							32					
33								34	35	36	37	38
				39	40	41		42	43			
				44	45			46				
				47				48				
49					50			51		52	53	54
56					57			58				
59					60				61			
62					63				64			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Baby's first words
5. Expression of creative skill
8. Reddish-brown coating
12. Spanish province
14. Stinging insect
15. Greek temple pillars
16. Refurbish
18. Cave-dwelling amphibian
19. Millisecond
20. Removes something
21. Trendy
22. The Buckeye State
23. 'Taken' actor
26. Of the skull
30. Made a mistake
31. Malignant tumor
32. Not night
33. German heavyweight boxer
34. Indicates weight
39. Businessman
42. Charged negatively
44. Indian instrument
46. Helps you know where you're going
47. Written works
49. Kate and Rooney's last name

50. Fast, flightless Aussie bird
51. Jerry, George, Kramer and ____
56. Dodger great Hershiser
57. Where wine ferments (abbr.)
58. Supreme Allied Cmdr. Europe
59. Vedic god of fire
60. Not well
61. They grow into plants
62. Variety of pear
63. Where golfers start
64. Posterior

CLUES DOWN

1. Challenge
2. Assert
3. A female operatic star
4. Expression of sorrow or pity
5. Resistance unit
6. Attached a new backing canvas
7. Method painting
8. Branched
9. Barefooted
10. Beer mug
11. Beloved Mexican dish
13. Make better

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!

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

May 15 to May 21

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 166 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

May 15

12:26 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 200 block of North Main Street.

2:46 pm: **LOCKETT, William Jeffrey** (46) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Holly Street. He was arrested pursuant to 415 PC (Disturbing the Peace), misdemeanor 273.6 PC (Violation of Protective Order), and felony 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).

3:56 pm: Officers initiated a kidnapping investigation in the 1200 block of Blosser Lane.

4:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

May 16

6:07 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 300 block of North Street.

7:52 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of South Main Street.

11:16 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 300 block of South Lenore Avenue.

1:37 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of North Lenore Avenue.

2:02 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 500 block of South Main Street.

4:06 pm: **RUIZ, Margarito Fuentes** (56) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (A) VC (Driving Under the Influence), 23152 (B) VC (Driving with Blood Alcohol Over .08), and on charges of violation of probation.

May 17

11:51 am: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1100 block of Magnolia Avenue.

1:22 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

May 18

1 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:15 am: **OCONNOR, Virginia Louise** (47) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of North Highway 101 and Monica Lane. She was arrested on charges of misdemeanor failure to appear.

3:25 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 100 block of Creekside Court.

10:40 pm: **CANNON, Isaiah Isaac** (33) of Santa Barbara was contacted near the intersection of Monica Lane and North Highway 101. He was arrested on charges of public intoxication of alcohol.

May 19

4:01 am: **MILLER, Justin William** (43) of Willits was contacted in the 20,000 block of Locust Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication of Alcohol).

7:01 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Madrone Street.

4:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

5:28 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

7:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

8:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of South Main Street.

9:45 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

May 20

2:03 pm: Officers responded to a report of a fight near the intersection of Coast Street and Highway 20.

4:42 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

7:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

7:17 pm: **FRANKGROSSMAN, Samantha Dawn** (30) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Holly Street and Manzanita Avenue. She was arrested pursuant to 10-15 PC (Civil Disturbance) and of charges of felony failure to appear.

7:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

8:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of North Main Street.

9:14 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Holly Street.

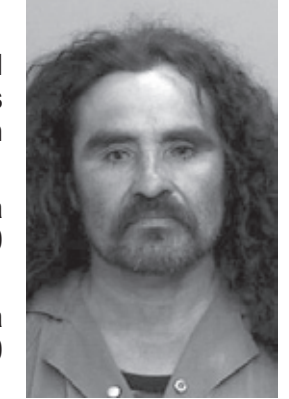
May 21

7:58 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

9:25 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1200 block of South Main Street.



William Jeffrey Lockett of Willits.



Margarito Fuentes Ruiz of Ukiah.



Samantha Dawn Frankgrossman of Willits.



Firefighters' Spaghetti Feed
Brooktrails Fire earns \$2,000 for firefighters association

Despite a bit of unfavorable weather, there was still a good turnout, according to Brooktrails Fire Department's Fire Chief Daryl Schoeppner at the annual spaghetti feed, held last Saturday at the Brooktrails Community Center.

Between ticket sales and swag sales – T-shirts, hats and other department goodies – the event raised around \$2,000 for the department's association, with about \$400 of that coming from the swag booth.

Ashes the K-9 arson dog gave two demonstrations, one at 6 pm and another at 7 pm, showcasing her accelerant-detecting skills to the gathered crowd.

The whole team of firefighters stepped up, taking turns and tag-teaming duties on each of the stations: noodles, sauce, serving, etc., and Schoeppner noted the great combined effort of all the crew to pull off the event again this year.

"We also really want to thank the community who came out to support us and enjoy a meal at our event," said Brooktrails Fire Department Deputy Chief Jon Noyer.

Next on the docket for the crew is to help out at the Brooktrails Flea Market, which will be held on Saturday, June 3 from 8 am to 3 pm at the parking lot by the fire station and Brooktrails community center.

Firefighters will be cooking and selling lunch items including pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and hamburgers. Monies raised from that event will also go into the association's fund.

– Maureen Moore



Above, left: Ashes the K-9 arson dog gives the crowd a demonstration showing her ability to locate a specific spot on one piece of wood (or boxes or cans) where accelerant is present. She lets her handler, Brooktrails Fire Chief Daryl Schoeppner, know she's hit on the "hot area" with a sit and a bark.



Above, right: Gary Martin, Elizabeth Hart, a friend, John Wagenet and Anita Elliott at the feed.

At right, top, near: Saprina and Martin Rodriguez attended the dinner. At right, top, far: Scott Bowman dishes up salad.

At right: Battalion Chief Robert Nowlin, Dustin Dollman and Engineer John Turner work the noodle station.

Below, left: Deputy Chief Jon Noyer and Schoeppner's wife, Sherri Queen, sell department shirts and hats.



Above: Hang out in the pool, or have fun jumping off the diving board during open swim, which starts on Saturday, June 10. Below: Sisters Macy and Madison Lawrence enjoy a quick poolside sunbathe last summer.



CAPABILITY BROWN LANDSCAPING
(707) 459-2237

Stone Retaining Walls
Paver Walkways
Flagstone Patios
Stone Fireplaces
Plants and Irrigation

"Stonework a Specialty"
Louis Rohlicek
License #542392

Serving areas of Mendocino, Lake and Sonoma Counties
W.C. & G.I. insured
Ca. Lic # 927007

B.A.S. ROOFING, Inc
Roofing applications available to fit any roofing need

Residential & Commercial
Online: www.basroofing.com
Office: (707) 462-4514
Mobile: (707) 367-3786
Sonoma: (707) 541-6934
Email: basroofing@live.com



PEO's fundraising dinner at El Mexicano triples scholarship fund

Those craving El Mexicano's tasty enchiladas or tacos were in luck last Sunday, when the restaurant opened its doors on the usual day off, to play host for the PEO's fundraising dinner.

Maureen Moore
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

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

After serving some 148 people during the four-hour event, the club was able to raise \$2,685 for their scholarship program.



"We usually give out a \$750 scholarship to a local girl," said Della Bennett of the PEO. "Now that we have raised all these additional funds, we're excited to decide how to allocate it out – another scholarship this year? A bigger scholarship next year? Multiple scholarships next year? We have to decide!"

Bennett noted her personal appreciation, and that of the club, to El Mexicano, the staff and of course, to owner Tony Madrigal.

"We're so grateful to Tony for allowing us to hold the fundraiser at the restaurant, and on his day off!" said Bennett. "Then, he also decided to donate the cost of the food, too, which allows more of the money to be given as scholarships to the community. We're so grateful to him!"

The staff at the restaurant also worked the event just for tips. Bennett noted that she saw many diners tipping the staff generously, too, which she was grateful to see.

"All and all it was a great event, well-attended and a total success," Bennett said. "We hope that we can make this an annual experience and continue to partner with El Mexicano and continue to give back to the community."

Clockwise from top left: Della Bennett, Charline Ford and Marina Kyne work the ticket table. Mickey Mouoz serves up plates of enchiladas.

Rick Gonzales, Matt Gonzales and John Rosas enjoy their meal.

Restaurant owner Tony Madrigal brings out a to-go order.

Tables filled in at the PEO fundraising dinner at El Mexicano.

Scoop's Deli owner Lisa Davis and daughter Emily took home six to-go meals.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Willits History

'Main Street: Then and Now' opens June 10 at county museum

By Roberta Werdinger

Willits lies at the heart of Mendocino County, and its main street is the heart of Willits. That's why "Main Street: Then and Now," a new exhibit at the Mendocino County Museum that lovingly documents the history of this eventful piece of real estate, will be of interest to anyone who is interested in Mendocino County. The exhibit, rich in both photos and text, opens at the museum's Long Gallery on June 10, with a community reception from 1 to 3 pm, featuring a curated tour of "Main Street" followed by tastes of local food and a chance to share memories old and new. The exhibit will be on display through November.

Guest curators Kim Bancroft and Judi Berdis teamed up for over a year to research and create the exhibit, conducting more than 50 interviews and sifting through archives of the Mendocino County Museum, the Mendocino Historical Society, the Willits Library, Roots of

Motive Power (a neighboring organization that preserves and displays trains and steam engines from the logging era), and more. Berdis curated the photos, while Bancroft conducted historical research and created 12 text boxes that illustrate

the pictures and provide additional context, along with 28 other "site boxes" about specific buildings and scenes on Main Street.

As the Main Street of Willits is no longer a thoroughfare for Highway 101 traffic since the November 2016 completion of the bypass, profound change is once again underway – making this the perfect time to step back and examine its history.

Taking advantage of the museum's architecture, visitors can stroll the length of the Long Gallery and recreate the feel of Main Street past, as it transformed from a Pomo trail to a booming lumber town to an important railway connection with a plethora of hotels, before becoming the uniquely vibrant and creative community it is today. Large-format historical photos line the walkway, sometimes showing building at different points in its history. Still-existing buildings take on a new light as men with waxed mustaches and women in long dresses and aprons stand in front of them, and Model T cars or horses and buggies wait on the curb.

Two industries – railroads and logging – have profoundly shaped the history of Willits in the past 100-plus years, as they have many other towns in the county. The two histories are interlinked. Railroad lines arose to carry logs out, and the increase in the logging industry created the need for people to move about the North Coast.

California Western Railroad connected Willits to Fort Bragg in 1911,



Photos by Ree Slocum

Healthy Fun

Kids Club Carnival and Healthy Family Fair draw a crowd

Fun! Fun! And more fun! Having fun while learning about health or doing healthy things was the underlying theme of this year's "Kids Club Carnival Joins Healthy Family Fair" event on Friday, May 12. This was the third year of the Healthy Family Fair, and the first of many to come that will pair with the Kids Club Carnival annual event.

With the two organizations joining resources, the Healthy Family Fair drew approximately 250 children and family members – three times the crowd of the previous two years, according to Suzanne Picetti, outreach coordinator for the Avenues to Wellness program, one of the event sponsors along with the Kids Club. This cooperative coalition is joined by far-reaching threads – connecting organizations like North Coast Opportunities, the Caring Kitchen Project, Willits Youth Advocates, and health care professionals like Diane Smalley, who was instrumental in creating the first Healthy Family Fair. There were numerous volunteers from the Kids Club running the carnival activities. That's a small list of organizations that were represented at the fair.

The Healthy Family Fair originally began in order to raise awareness about health issues facing children and families. Obesity, diabetes, heart problems, cognitive problems are just some of the chronic health issues confronting people today. The Avenues to Wellness program, funded by the Frank R. Howard Foundation, believes that how and what we eat, along with the types of relaxation and exercise we get, are instrumental in living a healthier lifestyle. Remembering that yearly with compelling and fun informational booths and activities at the Healthy Family Fair event is their goal in helping to solve some of the community's health problems.

There were a few new events that were popular this year. The smoothie bike, loaned to Willits Youth Advocates for the event by NCO, was a hit. Youth Advocates' advisor Tina Taylor-O'Shea said

they ran out of fruit early, because making the delicious, fresh fruit smoothies was so much fun for the students that they gave it away quickly to those crowded around to sample the drink. It was fun to see students peddling like crazy to make something delicious to share.

Another new booth had a nutritional chart displaying various foods that support different systems in the body (e.g., nervous, digestive, respiratory, circulatory, and eliminatory systems). It drew children's and adults' curiosity about food and its effects upon the body, and it exhibited the connections between how eating a balanced diet that includes fruits and vegetables can help us be healthier. "If I eat more vegetables I'll be stronger, I'll be smarter!" exclaimed one student.

Also new was a giant can – "Canzilla" – that looked like a popular soft drink with the words "Diabetes" on the side as well as the Surgeon General's health warning. The inflatable can came from the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California based in Sacramento. In Canzilla's own words: "I'm here to spread the truth about the dangers of consuming sugary drinks. My goal is to decrease consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages in our communities and to expose the truth behind predatory marketing tactics of Big Soda. With your help, we can accomplish this goal and prevent Type 2 diabetes and tooth decay in our communities. These chronic diseases have reached alarming rates, and it is time to take action!"

Nancy New brought ukuleles for students to try, and there were food tastings, prizes for students, a bike safety course, a basketball hoop, blood pressure testing, the Tooth Fairy, a pet consultant, and face painting, to name some of the interesting activities available to explore for all ages of students, parents and grandparents from the Willits area.

To find out more about the Avenues to Wellness program's future activities visit www.avenuestowellness.org. For more information about the Willits Kids Club go to www.willitskidsclub.org.



At left: Bank of Willits: The old Bank of Willits with Model T's parked at the curb. One of many historical photos displayed in "Main Street: Then and Now."

"Bank of Willits" courtesy of the Mendocino County Historical Society

Inset: Grand Hotel 1915: Willits residents stand in front of the Grand Hotel in 1915 (later Rexall Drugs), while a horse and buggy transport travelers down Main Street.

"Grand Hotel 1915" courtesy of the Parkins Collection at the Mendocino County Museum

boasting a gas-powered engine so, well, "aromatic" it was nicknamed the Skunk Train. By 1914 a Northwest Pacific line ran from Eureka to San Francisco. The advent of the railroads meant that up to 100 people might alight from the trains to spend the night in Willits after what was then an eight-hour train trip from San Francisco or down from Eureka. Large hotels sprung up to accommodate the travelers, while restaurants and barber shops slung hash and clipped hair for travelers moving up and down the North Coast.

Like the lumber industry, the heyday of the railroads was short. Automobile transportation as well as the decline in the local economy reduced rail activity to a trickle until the last Northwestern Pacific line shut down in 1963, leaving only the Skunk Train running to the coast, which now exists mainly as a tourist activity.

Densely wooded and surrounded by old-growth redwoods, Willits and the Little Lake Valley underwent heavy logging. At one point, 26 sawmills were operating in the area.

As sawmill and ash from burning mill waste settled on every available surface, locals – with wallets full from easily available jobs in the industry – filled up Main Street. By the 1980s the logging industry was well into a long decline, with most lumber mills closed down, depressing the local economy and creating the need for economic reinvention.

That decline corresponded to a sea change in the entire country, with Willits caught in the cultural crosshairs. Many baby boomers – the largest population group in the U.S. until lately – had flocked to San Francisco in the late '60s. Now a group of them pushed north, wishing to put their

values into action by living simply on the land. That land was being subdivided in the Willits area by former ranchers and timberland owners, many of whom could not maintain their lifestyle. Once their holdings were broken down into 20-acre parcels, it was relatively affordable, especially to these young innovators who sometimes lived in vans or yurts long before the "tiny house" movement was invented. Relations were sometimes tense between locals and the new settlers, but the day-to-day rhythm of life, where residents braved the same roads and brushed shoulders on a Main Street which now boasted several thriving "hippie" businesses, helped ease some of those tensions away.

In addition to its Native American residents, Mexican, Italian and Asian settlers have made their way to Willits and made their mark, encountering both blatant prejudice and welcoming acceptance. In general, the frontier spirit of openness and tolerance has prevailed. As Edie Ceccarelli, one of Willits' most distinguished residents, remarks, "We're all just making a life for ourselves." She should know – she turned 109 this year.

Curators Bancroft and Berdis, both born and raised elsewhere, are enthusiastic converts to what Bancroft calls "the wonders of small-town living." A self-described "urban girl" and longtime college instructor, Bancroft now lives in the woods, where she writes and edits (including the award-winning "The Heyday of Malcolm Margolin," a tribute to the founder of Heyday Books).

Berdis, originally from Pennsylvania, came to Willits in 1990. She thrives on the silence of the woods at night and the close community atmosphere, commenting, "You know you're in a small town when you can misdial the telephone and get a wrong number, and still have an up-close, meaningful conversation with the people on the other end."

With the construction of the new campus for the highly rated Howard Hospital, along with a creative population making innovations in sustainable lifestyles, and the bypass creating both possibilities and perils, the walk down the Main Street at the heart of Mendocino County continues.

The Mendocino County Museum is located at 400 East Commercial Street in Willits. The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4:30 pm. For more information, please call 459-2736 or visit www.MendocinoMuseum.org.



Above, from left: The Baechtel Grove Middle School playground, crowded with booths, students and families enjoying the fun while learning. The Smoothie Bike loaned to Willits Youth Advocates by NCO was a big hit at the Healthy Family Fair: Dennis gives his all peddling the bike. Volunteer Aleen transforms Calleigh's face into a fox: Many children got their faces painted at the Healthy Family Fair event. Below: The beanbag toss, another of the Kids Club games, challenges Cameron to throw the bag through the hole. His friends, Bowdy, on the left, and Buddy, behind him, watch and wait for their turns.



At right: Thalia Canchola from Little Lake Health Dental Center was disguised as the Tooth Fairy. With a giant toothbrush and mouth, she showed Aiden and other kids the best ways to brush their teeth.

Below: The boys have a great time playing basketball. It was fun for the younger boys to learn more about the game.

Photos by Ree Slocum



Pay No Sales Tax

Plus

Sale Prices

Willits Furniture Center

775 Central Ave. (707) 459 4224 www.willitsfurniture.com

BUD GARMAN

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC.

707-459-5859

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

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

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

- Community HU Songs
- Membership Discourses
- Spiritual Discussions
- Worship Services

More information?
Call 707-456-9934

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

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

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

If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com

707.459.5193

JOHN FORD RANCH

RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

Room To Bloom Preschool
Where the love of learning grows

239 South Main Street • Willits
Morning & School Day Programs
8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Art • Circle Time • American Sign Language
Outside Play • Snacks • Group Activities
Inquiry Based Learning • Spanish • Infant Care

Call Today to Enroll Your Child!
RoomToBloomPreschool.com 707-456-9743
Preschool #283008716 & Infant #283008719

NC Financial Group

www.ncfinancialgroup.com

Wealth Management

Taxes | Investments | Real Estate | Insurance | Annuities

Nicholas Casagrande, EA
855.240.6606
675 South Main Street
Willits, CA 95490
nicholas@ncfinancialgroup.com
nicholas.casagrande@ceterafs.com
*Investment email

EA # 105934 • CA DRE # 01854336 • Insurance LIC # 0468496
Advisory services offered through Cetera Investment Advisers LLC. Securities offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC (doing insurance business in CA as CFGS Insurance Agency), member FINRA/SIPC. Cetera is under separate ownership from any other named entity.



For left: SIW president Divora Stern, left, stands with Shining Star award recipient, Loraine Patton. At left: Soroptimist Jane McCabe stands with Maria Sanchez, winner of the Evelyn K. Kennedy scholarship.

Below: Four of the College Bound Scholarship winners, including, from left: Nancy Villegas, Natalee Lopes, Alexia Duran and Keely Ahders.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Ads on this page are purchased by Soroptimist-supporting businesses who also ran ads in the club's annual telephone directory.

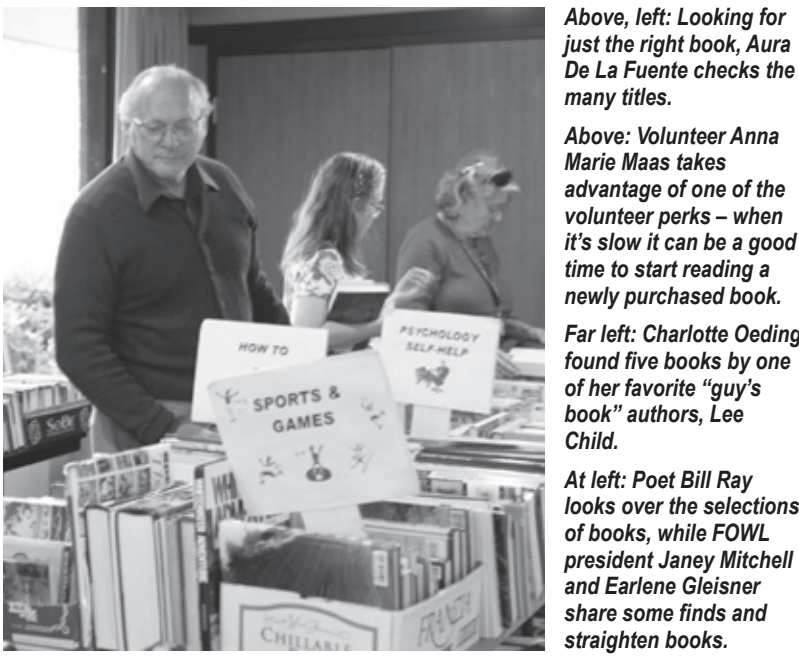


Above, left: Looking for just the right book, Aura De La Fuente checks the many titles.

Above: Volunteer Anna Marie Maas takes advantage of one of the volunteer perks – when it's slow it can be a good time to start reading a newly purchased book.

Far left: Charlotte Oeding found five books by one of her favorite "guy's" authors, Lee Child.

At left: Poet Bill Ray looks over the selections of books, while FOWL president Janey Mitchell and Earlene Gleisner share some finds and straighten books.



FOWL Sale

Friends of the Willits Library's spring book event

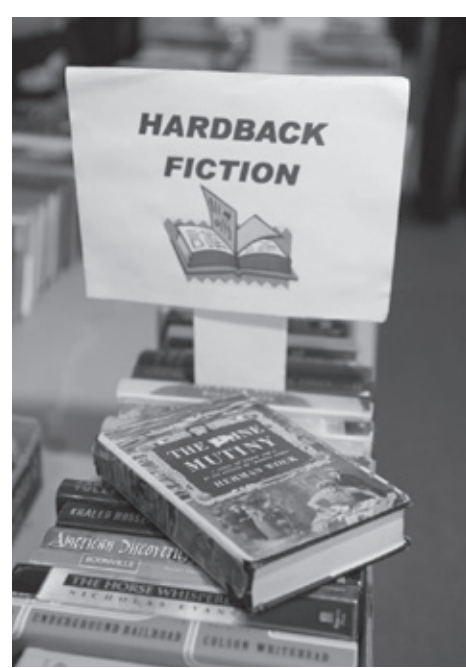
It was slow and quiet for the Friends of the Willits Library book sale last weekend. People dribbled in to browse and buy some books during the three-day sale that took place in the library's meeting room. FOWL volunteers moved around the room finding interesting books to purchase, talking with customers and friends, straightening books and putting them in order – called "fluffing" by board member and volunteer Earlene Gleisner – and, for some, it was a perfect time to read a new book.

There weren't a lot of people filling the room during the first hours on Friday, making it easy to get around and also to find choice books. One man exclaimed excitedly that he'd found a book he'd been searching out for years. A woman ended up getting several books by one popular author she enjoys. There was the ever-popular \$3 for a bag of books on Sunday. Very seldom did anyone leave empty-handed.

Traditionally the FOWL Book Sale has been an event that happens twice a year – a small book sale at the library in spring and another large community blow-out

sale in October. Although the huge sale in October at the community center is popular, it has also been immense work for FOWL volunteers, needing hundreds of volunteer hours to make it happen. In response, the FOWL board is trying different ways to sell the donated books.

According to one board member, last year the sale was during the Memorial Day weekend Community Festival and Car Show, which overshadowed the FOWL book sale and sales were down. The board decided to do something a bit different this year. They're trying out having a smaller sale with a limited selection of interesting and popular reads as well as fascinating old books, and they're considering doing this a few times during the year. FOWL Board President Janey Mitchell is asking for opinions from the Willits community about the idea of having more, smaller sales events throughout the year instead of the small sale in spring and the huge one in fall. People can contact Mitchell at 707-354-0423 to express their thoughts about the options, find out more information about volunteering or sign up to be a volunteer, or inquire about becoming a FOWL board member.

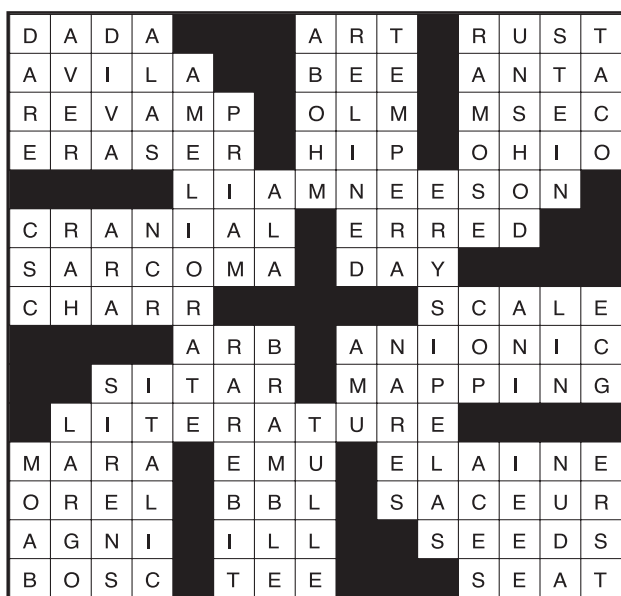
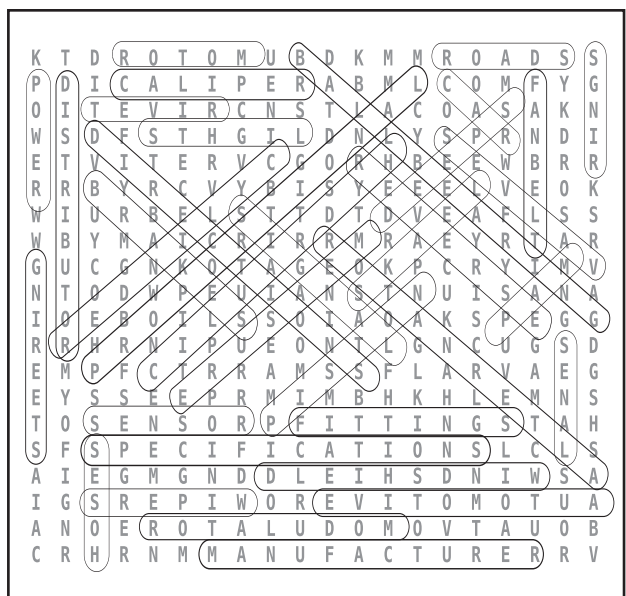


Above, left: Betty Lemmer and Lani Nagy sold raffle tickets for the "Tropical Breeze" quilt designed by Nagy and Rachel Cash. The beautiful quilt was sewn and quilted by the Willits Sit N Sew group, which meets at the Willits Library every second Saturday of the month.

Above: Hardback books sold for \$2 each or three for \$5. There were many old and classic books like "The Caine Mutiny" by Herman Wouk, good for a good read or to make book art.

At left: David West and Hugh Boone share titles Friday morning at the Friends of the Willits Library book sale.

At right: The signs helped people like Maluma who were looking for biographies and memoirs.



CLASSIFIEDS

Affordable Tutoring

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

Algebra, Geometry Tutoring, Test Prep

Mac Smith 459-MATH

Amazing!! Beef Special

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

Brooktrails Flea Market

Get your Vendor Space reserved! Antiques-plants - household and much more! Treasures are waiting for you! 2017 Market is Saturday, June 3. Outdoor spaces and indoors tables: \$20 each - first-come, first-served! Vendors check in: 6 to 7:30 am. Market open: 8 am to 3 pm. Lunch available from Brooktrails Fire Department. Call to reserve a space: Ariane 456-0734.

Computer Help

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

Computer Problems?

Computer problems? I fix them. Laptops, desktops, PCs, Macs, Linux, iPhone, Android, Printers, you name it. Professional and courteous. \$40/hour. Jordan Uggle (650)-248-1539 or jordan.uggle@gmail.com

Computer Problems?

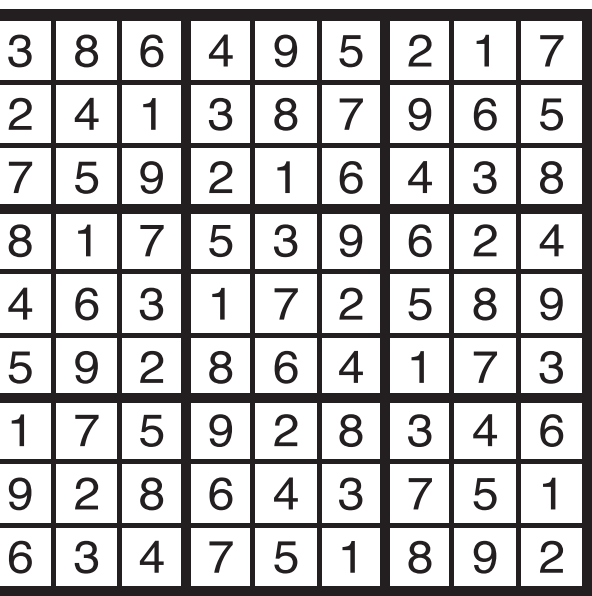
Computer problems? I fix them. Laptops, desktops, PCs, Macs, Linux, iPhone, Android, Printers, you name it. Professional and courteous. \$40/hour. Jordan Uggle (650)-248-1539 or jordan.uggle@gmail.com

Fabric Lovers Sale!

New, top-quality cotton prints for \$3.50/yd. Also upholstery and silk pieces sold by the pound. Bias tape rolls available in assorted colors. Assorted finished goods. Look for me, Karen Gridley (It's in the Bag!) at the Brooktrails Flea Market, Saturday, June 3, from 8:00-3:00 p.m. Brooktrails Community Center Parking Lot, Birch St. and Clover Drive.

Flea Market

Starting May 27 & 28 and every weekend this summer, in the yard next to Auto Mart repair, 101 Lenore Ave, 9 am to 4 pm. To rent a space: 972-8242.



Soroptimist Scholarships

Willits Club honors six women at annual awards luncheon

The Soroptimist International of Willits club lived up to its mission again last Tuesday, when six women received scholarships to help them live their dreams, further their education and pursue goals in their lives.

Maureen Moore
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

A global organization, Soroptimists aim to improve the lives of women and girls through programs which lead to social and economic development, including several scholarships and awards: the College Bound scholarship, the Evelyn K. Kennedy scholarship, the Violet Richardson award, and the Live Your Dream award.

During Tuesday's luncheon, the recipients of these awards came to enjoy a lunch at Old Mission Pizza and smile for the camera during the annual meeting.

Four girls received the College Bound

award, each taking home a check for \$1,000: Keely Ahders, who plans to be a future medical doctor; Alexia Duran, who plans to be a future registered nurse; Natalee Lopes, who plans to be a future Fish & Wildlife officer; and Nancy Villegas, who plans to be a future critical care nurse. SIW's Tracey Musgrave presented the students with their awards.

Villegas also was the recipient of the Ukiah branch of Soroptimists Violet Richardson award. Willits' award went to Dalya Olea, who was unable to attend the luncheon.

The Evelyn K. Kennedy scholarship awards \$2,500 to a student who will be going into the medical or science field. This year's recipient was Maria Sanchez, who plans to be a future registered nurse. SIW's Jane McCabe

presented Sanchez with her award.

Ashlee Milenewicz, the winner of the Live Your Dream award, already received \$1,000 from the Willits club back at the March 21 meeting, but attended the May 16 meeting to receive an additional \$4,000 – including \$1,000 from the Soroptimist International of the Americas Founder Region, and \$3,000 from the Soroptimist International of the Americas directly.

The Live Your Dream award recognizes

women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families. Milenewicz, a single mother, is attending Mendocino College while supporting her daughter and her grandfather's care needs.

Two of SIW's own members were also honored at the luncheon: Loraine Patton and Jane McCabe.

Patton received the Shining Star Regional Award for her tireless work on the Willits Community Telephone Directory project and for "being the glue which helps hold the club together." Patton was honored with a pin and blue sash by SIW president Divora Stern.

McCabe was honored for becoming a Founder Region fellow and received a pin and congratulations from Sharon Valenti, Fort Bragg Soroptimist member and District 5 director for the Founder Region Fellowship.

Congratulations to all the winners and recipients.

Below: Divora Stern stands with Ashlee Milenewicz, the winner of the Live Your Dream award.



Above, left: Jane McCabe, newest Founder Region Fellow, stands with District 5 director, Sharon Valenti. Above, right: Soroptimists Barbara O'Rear, left, and Divora Stern, right, pose with Nancy Villegas, center, who received Ukiah's Violet Richardson Award.

TELEPHONE: 459-2163
FAX: 459-2319

ALFRED F. KERR, D.D.S.
FAMILY DENTISTRY

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

12 W. VALLEY ST., WILLITS

TEDD DAWSON, M.D., INC. F.A.C.S

GENERAL SURGERY
DIPLOMAT, AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY

TELEPHONE (707) 459-3070
FAX (707) 459-3052

1196 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WILLITS, CA 95490

Flowers by Annette

(707) 459-6588

FlowersbyAnnette707@gmail.com

1701 Valley Rd, Willits Ca 95490

www.flowersbyannette.net

NEARY and O'BRIEN

Attorneys at Law

110 S. Main Street, Suite C.
Willits, California 95490

http://www.nearyobrienlaw.com

(707) 459-5551

SOROPTIMIST

Ashlee Milenewicz \$4000

Presented To: From Thousand and 700 Dollars

LIVE Your Dream DISTRICT AWARD

Divora Stern President DIST V

Embrace Conflicts

Relationship System Coaching
for Couples, Individuals and Schools

Every conflict holds the seed of more intimacy, understanding and creativity

Doris Wier
Certified Life/Relationship System Coach
707/456-9246 Willits, CA
www.embraceconflicts.com

SPARETIME SUPPLY

WWW.SPARETIME.SUPPLY.COM

208 EAST SAN FRANCISCO AVE. WILLITS, CA 95490

PHONE: 707-459-6791 FAX: 707-489-1505

Willits Chamber of Commerce

Your Information Center

(707) 459-7910 PHONE
(707) 459-7914 FAX
E-MAIL: INFO@WILLITS.ORG
WEBSITE: WWW.WILLITS.ORG

299 E. Commercial St., Willits, CA 95490

Business • Relocation • Maps • Shopping • Events • Restaurants • Lodging • Recreation

SHN

Engineers & Geologists

www.shn-engr.com

335 S. Main St.
Willits, CA 95490

Eureka, Redding,
& Willits, CA
Coos Bay
& Klamath Falls, OR

- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Geology & Fault Investigations
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Retaining Walls & Foundations
- Planning & Permitting
- Land Surveys & Subdivisions
- UST Investigation/Clean-up
- Wetland Delineation
- Biological/Botanical Studies
- Stormwater Design/Compliance
- Lead, Asbestos, Mold
- Construction Special Inspection (AASHTO Accredited Testing Lab, DSA & Caltrans approved)

707-459-4518

Congrats Grad
Molly Andich

Congratulations to Molly Andich, Willits High School class of 2002, who graduated May 20, 2017 with a Master of Science in Nursing with Family Nurse Practitioner emphasis from Sonoma State University. She will continue to work as an emergency department nurse while she pursues board certification and looks forward to backpacking internationally prior to starting in primary care practice later this year.

Send us your college grad's photo
willitsweekly@gmail.com



Molly Andich.

Congrats Grad
Palmer Runberg

Nancy and Ron Runberg are proud to announce the graduation of their son, Palmer, from the University of California at Santa Barbara. On March 24, 2017, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Film and Media Studies was conferred upon Willits High School graduate Palmer Runberg (class of 2014) from UCSB. While at UCSB, Palmer participated in Club Baseball, was his fraternity's risk manager, was a member of the UCSB Fraternity Council, co-anchored a weekly sports highlight program, held a part-time job, and completed his studies in less than three years. Palmer is currently following his dream as a singer/songwriter in Nashville, Tennessee. Congratulations Palmer, we are so very proud and happy for you!



Palmer Runberg.

MCSO's K9 Rex gets body armor, too

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office K9 Rex has received a bullet and stab protective vest, too, thanks to an additional award through the nonprofit Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

In April the Sheriff's Office announced K9s Cam, Ruddick, and Doc Holiday had each received the potentially lifesaving body armor.

K9 Rex's vest is sponsored by Coburn's Construction & Cabinetry, Inc. of Willits, and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Gifted by Coburn's Construction & Cabinetry." Delivery is expected within eight to 10 weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States.

The donation to provide one protective vest for a law enforcement K9 through Vested Interest in K9s is \$1,050. To learn more about Vested Interest, call 508-824-6978, visit www.vik9s.org or mail P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718. This report was based on a press release from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.



Mendocino County Sheriff's Office K9 Handler Gregory Clegg and his partner, K9 Rex.

Willits Furniture and Yokum's Body Shop sponsor
Car Giveaway

This 2006 Scion XB car is ready to find a new home, and event co-sponsors Willits Furniture and Yokum's Body Shop are looking for the community's input to find that lucky family.

The giveaway is part of wheelstoprosper.org's program where a car is given away to a family or person whose life would be drastically benefitted by the gift of a set of wheels.

Willits Furniture and Yokum's Body Shop decided to join forces and help provide a local with this great gift, while promoting local business and community awareness.

The recipient should be someone living locally who could use the vehicle to get to their job or to go job hunting, or someone who needs extra space to shuttle kids around or otherwise needs a vehicle to make it easier for them to get around town and help them move forward with their lives.

Nominations for the recipients of the car will be accepted between now and June 15 and should be submitted via email. Please include information and details about why that person or family would be a deserving

recipient, so the committee can ensure the car goes to someone who would really benefit from the gift.

Once the application deadline passes, a selection committee formed by the Willits Rotary Club will review applications and choose the winner.

There's no cost to nominate, but you can't nominate yourself, or your family.

The lucky winner will be announced at this year's Hometown Celebration, to be held in downtown Willits on Friday, June 30. Both Willits Furniture and Yokum's Body Shop will have booths at the event, and the car will be displayed there as well.

Once the winner is announced, the keys will be handed to the new owner at the event.

The committee has received about a dozen nominations so far.

For more information, contact Yokum's Body Shop at 459-9385 or email a nomination to yokumsbodyshop@gmail.com.

— Maureen Moore

Below: The Scion displayed outside Willits Furniture is ready for a new home.



Celebrate
Mom this
Mother's Day
Remind her to
get a Mammogram

She packed your lunch. Showed you how to tie your shoes. Helped you find your way in the world. Now it's your turn to look out for MOM. This Mother's Day, give her the gift of good health by reminding her to have her annual mammogram.

Many women put off having a mammogram each year for many reasons. But annual screening mammograms can help detect cancer in its earliest and most treatable stage. A reminder from you might make all the difference. So tell mom to take time for herself, so she can live her healthiest life.

Give Mom the gift of good health.
Tell her to schedule a mammogram today by calling 707.456.3090
Medical Imaging | 1 Marcela Drive | Willits CA 95490

Frank R. Howard
Memorial Hospital

Will be known as:
AdventistHealth
Frank R. Howard
Memorial