Online & Print Willits willitsweekly@gmail.com business contact C A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits Donations Accepted Edition No. 157 **Thursday, May 26, 2016**

County cannabis tax

bonanza predicted

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Tax consultant David McPherson told the board of supervisors last week Mendocino County could make between \$51 million and \$110 million in tax revenues from medical marijuana production in the first year of a regulated and taxed medical marijuana industry.

But before supervisors can get those tax revenues flowing into county government coffers, McPherson said, the board would need to approve a resolution establishing different types of cultivation permits, as well as taxation

Read the rest of Bonanza Over on Page 13

City report tracks water usage

Damian Sebouhian Reporter damian@willitsweekly.com

Homes and business served by the City of Willits used more water during the summer of 2013 than at any time over the last three years, according to a water usage comparison report released by city staff during the May 11 council meeting. The report tracked monthly usage from May 2013 through April 2016.

According to the report, the summer 2013 saw the highest rate of water usage, with a precipitous dip occurring over the following six months. But water use rose again dramatically in June 2014.

Water use during the

Read the rest of Water Over on Page 13

Former LP GM recants Measure V support

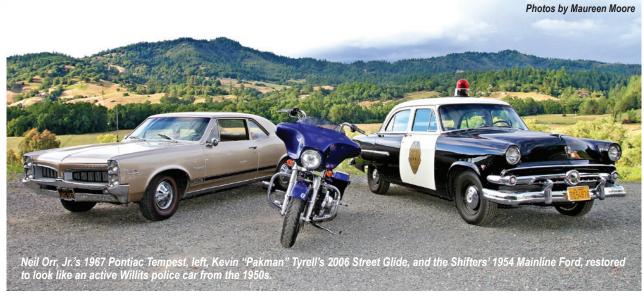
Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Former general of Louisiana manager Pacific's Western Division, Simpson, issued statement supporting Measure V last week, but recanted that statement a few days later.

Louisiana Pacific owned 225,000 acres of prime Mendocino County forestland from 1973 until 1998, when the company sold its land to the Fisher family of San Francisco,

Read the rest of Measure V

Over on Page 15





Annual Memorial Day Car & Motorcycle Show this Sunday, May 29 Memorial weekend, and that means cars will be cleaned and return.

polished and parked at the Rec Grove Park for all to see for the annual Willits Car Show this Sunday.

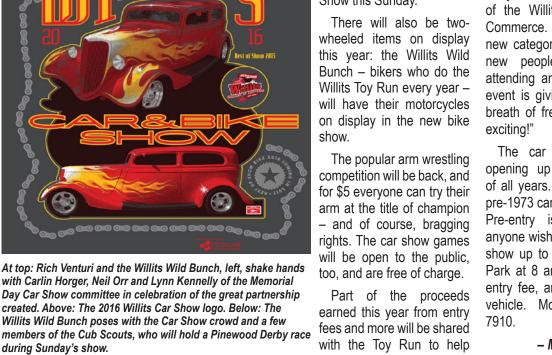
support an organization that supports the community in

Showin' Off

"We're really happy to include the Toy Run bikes this year," said Lynn Kennelly of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. "Bringing in the new categories and getting new people involved in attending and planning the event is giving the show a breath of fresh air, and it's

The car show is also opening up entry to cars of all years. Originally, only pre-1973 cars were allowed. Pre-entry is closed, but anyone wishing to enter can show up to the Rec Grove Park at 8 am, pay the \$25 entry fee, and display their vehicle. More info: 459-

– Maureen Moore





A glimpse of Main Street's possible future

Little Lake Fire Department tests the

turn onto Commercial Street.

Willits residents had a glimpse of what Main Street may look like in the future during last Thursday's "Willits Main Street Corridor Sneak Preview.'

Damian Sebouhian

damian@willitsweekly.com

Organized by the City of Willits and the Local

Government Commission (consultants working on the Main Street Corridor Plan), the section of East Commercial Street between Main and Humboldt was temporarily transformed to help the community visualize and test the proposed improvements for Main Street.

Pop-up street design concepts such as bulb-outs, enhanced crosswalks, and bike lanes were set up using cones and wattles (the tubes filled with straw that are used to reduce sediment along slopes). Landscaping designs were also demonstrated using tree saplings, planter boxes, and public art.

> City staff and consultants were on hand to answer questions and receive feedback. Two tables were set up showcasing a draft map of the Willits Main Street Corridor Plan.

At 4 pm the Little Lake Fire Department tested the street model by driving its largest fire truck onto Commercial Street and back to the fire station a few times. The initial bulb-out models proved too wide, so

Read the rest of Main Street

Over on Page 6

New principals for school

district

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

The Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees hired one returning principal and one new principal, and created the position of Willits High School dean at its May 10 meeting.

The rehired principal was Nancy Runberg, the interim principal at Blosser Lane Elementary School for most of the 2015-16 school year. Runberg will return as principal at Blosser Lane.

Runberg has worked at Willits Unified since 1994. She's been a classroom teacher for grades 3 though 5, an English Language Development teacher for grades kindergarten

Read the rest of Principals

Over on Page 15

GJ report finds working

Dan McKee Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

Despite a few burps and belches, a May 13 grand jury report finds Mendocino County's marijuana restitution program "has proven effective in meeting its intended goals."

Under California's Health and Safety Code, the program permits persons charged with felony state and county marijuana offenses in certain circumstances to plead quilty to misdemeanors after first paying restitution.

As of March 2016, Mendocino County has some collected \$7.5 million in marijuana-related

Read the rest of Restitution

Over on Page 15

Kelsay gets jail for embezzlement

Dan McKee Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

A Brooktrails woman convicted of what has been called the largest embezzlement in recent Mendocino County memory by District Attorney David Eyster was sentenced May 19 to five years in jail.

Christine Kelly Kelsay, 35, was convicted in April of stealing almost \$500,000 from a Laytonville market over a seven-year period.

Following presentation of victim impact statements by Geiger's Market owner Michael Braught and

Read the rest of

Kelsay Over on Page 13

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Safe bicycling

To the Editor:

I was at the Willits City Council meeting Wednesday evening, and one of the speakers spoke about the dangers of the bikes around town. I also was almost hit by a bicycle as I was coming around a building from a parking lot. A friend of mine was turning down Commercial, and a young man on a bike swerved right in front of her and before she could even hit the brake her car clipped his rear wheel, sending the bike and rider to the ground. He jumped up, stating he was unhurt and grabbed his bike and took off. My friend was visually upset and ended up giving the young man a good children. tongue lashing.

There seems to be a penchant for bicycles, with the request of more bike lanes to be provided on the streets. I don't ride a bike anymore, and I have no problem with those that do, I am undoubtedly going to be unpopular, but I think that all bikes should be registered with, maybe, license plates, so if they are riding dangerously they can be identified. Children should have to take a course on safety when riding a bike.

From what the speaker said, the police are busy with other matters, but I feel that some sort of attention should be paid to this problem. Like my friend said, if the young man had been hurt, would she have been held responsible?

I am hoping that maybe someone can come up with a solution.

Carlin Horger, Willits

Thanks from the Gleaners

To the Editor:

Thanks to all the generous and enthusiastic plant lovers who nurtured seeds and divided favorite perennials early in the season in order to share ordinary, exotic and medicinal plant varieties at our fundraising plant sale. All proceeds from the sale will be used to help support our local foodshed, either for equipment needed by the Grateful Gleaners or tools to support local agricultural efforts.

Special thanks to the following plant donors: Malanyon Adams, Mike Adams, Candice Clayton, Tom DeMarchi, Donna d'Terra. Robin Goldner. Norma Hanson. Debra McCarthy, Randy MacDonald, Ursula Partch and Amanda Senseman, and to anyone whom we have inadvertently omitted.

Grateful Gleaner team leaders, Willits: Marilynn Boosinger, The City of Willits and the County of Carol Cox, Thayer Craig, Kimbal Dodge, Earlene Dykes, Karen Gridley, Prana Petru, Marcia Rautenstrauch, Wolfgang Ronnefeldt, and Gail Savarese

Thanks to Mrs. Vaccaro

To the Editor:

I wanted to express my sincere thanks to

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.

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Willits Weekly | May 26, 2016

a very special teacher at Willits Charter School, Erin Vaccaro.

Erin is an amazing teacher and person who truly cares about the education of all students in Willits. She came up with the idea of a "Science Expo" where middle school and high school students would facilitate hands-on-learning "science stations" to the K-2 students in Willits.

She brought together high school students from both Willits Charter School and Willits High School, who worked together to deliver lessons on a variety of topics from light, color, gravity, magnets, rabbits, bones and much, much more. There was much to be learned at the event, for both adults and As we announced at the walk kick-off,

Erin Vaccaro coordinated this entire event while skillfully performing her duties as science teacher and college and career counselor at Willits Charter School, This is all after barely taking a breath from the amazing Mendocino County Science Fair at both the local and county levels.

I am proud of the accomplishments of Mrs. Vaccaro, all of the volunteers, the students at Willits Charter School, and the students at Willits High School for bringing science to life for our younger students.

Mendocino County has so much to offer our vouth in the area of science. I was able to experience the event as both a parent and an administrator, and I couldn't be prouder. A big thank you to all of the schools that participated, and all of the volunteers that made this event a big success.

> Jennifer Lockwood, director, Willits Charter School

sponsored by the Willits Healthy Action also adaptive to individual interests. For Team (WHAT) was a great success. We want to thank all those who walked, the many people who helped make the walk possible, and the Willits merchants and groups who donated money so we could purchase commemorative T-shirts that

> You'll probably see the beautiful blue T-shirts being worn around town. Please support all those who contributed. Their names are on the back of the shirts. "Local First" always makes sense. We support our local people, our local economy, and we make a better life for all in our community.

were given away to all the walkers.

example, a student who wishes to start her

own poultry operation after graduating can

work intensely with the school's breeding

flock of Ohio Buckeyes or pastured

broiler operation, while being mentored

by "Chicken Queen" King. The 35 farms,

ranches, and businesses students visited

become a part of the dynamic network of

Now offered in 14-week sessions, the adult

residential Practicum Student program

covers foundational tools, vocabulary

and skills all beginning farmers need.

In Crop Production, students learn soil

science, botany, genetics, and a variety of

approaches to producing fruits, vegetables

and grains. Animal Husbandry covers

anatomy, behavior, feed and nutrition,

genetics and shelter. The Entrepreneurial

unit teaches students the elements of a

successful business, including financing,

recordkeeping, marketing and planning,

Finally, students engage in daily hands-on

practical experience in the industrial arts,

welding, plumbing and electricity.

including automotive repair, carpentry,

Underlying everything the students

learn is an emphasis on context, goal-

oriented decision-making, leadership and

communication skills, community building,

and adaptability. Graduates leave with

hands-on practical experience, a network

of mentors and peers, and a sense of the

The philosophy of Adaptive Agriculture

· Adapting to changes as they arise in

climate, land, economy, community and

• A dedication to holistic approaches to

• The establishment of ever-evolving

feedback loops of analysis and improvement

· Learning to plan, observe and respond

creatively and appropriately to whatever

situations arise in one's food production

Considering emerging data and

research, and adapting systems to new

The Grange School of Adaptive Agriculture

recognizes that food production methods

are constantly evolving, and as a result the

school itself will need to evolve and adapt

to the realities of the changing nature of

farming, not just in the United States but

The 14-week program costs \$2,500, with

scholarships available. An additional \$1,500

covers room and board, and students are

strongly encouraged to live on site. Each

student gets a beautiful, private canvas wall

tent on a platform near the shared kitchen,

bathrooms and common living area. One of

the first session's students described it as

the nicest house she had ever lived in, and

the view of Mendocino's alternately green

"This ranch and the surrounding community

are rich with learning opportunities." King

muses on a walk around the grounds. "I

don't know of anywhere in the world better

equipped to discover how you want to

Applications are currently being accepted

for the summer session starting in July.

For more information, visit: www.school-of-

Grange School of Adaptive

Agriculture, Willits

Over on Page 6

make an impact."

adaptive-agriculture.org.

Read the rest of

and gold oak-dotted hills can't be beat.

stewarding one's land and livestock.

for one's agricultural enterprise.

developments.

across the entire world.

rewards of the farming profession.

mentors for graduates as well.

this will be the last walk that Carlin and I organize. We're stepping aside so others can take on the leadership of this wonderful event. I'm sure there are people with creative ideas of how the walks can become even better in the future. We have had walks in May and October and look forward to many more. If you're interested in helping in the future, give me a call or drop me a note.

I'm excited about a new project I'll be offering to the community in support of my vision to make Willits the "Healthiest Little Town in America." Beginning June 18, I will be starting The Willits Healthy Action Club for people who want to commit to improving their health and supporting friends, family and community in improving the health of our entire town. If you're interested in learning more, give me a call or drop me a note. Like the walks, the club will be free for all and offered as a community service. I look forward to seeing you around town.

Jed Diamond, Willits

WCS gives thanks

It has been especially busy for Willits Community Services since January of this year. 2016 has brought many gifts and just as many challenges. We are very grateful for all the support we have received.

On behalf of the Willits Community Services Board of Directors, I wish to extend our deep appreciation to everyone and to every organization that has helped support our mission and provided either time, money, food or other materials or services to WCS to help us assist families and individuals who are in need in the greater Willits and north county areas of Mendocino County.

At this time I would like to specifically acknowledge our government sponsors, whose assistance is vital to the general weltare and quality of life in our community.

Mendocino Department of Health and Human Services have always recognized the value of essential human services in our area and have consistently supported these programs at WCS. Their commitment has helped dramatically cushion the effects of low-income, poverty and homelessness in our region.

We are very grateful for this strong support, and look forward to this continuing partnership in providing these important services to our community.

> Jim Marill, director, Willits Community

'Healthiest Little Town in America'

To the Editor:

The 20th Willits Walk

for Health and Wellness

Services

Tim Ward developed the year one curriculum in concert with the school's leadership team and agricultural mentors. Based on their experiences last year as well as student feedback, the Grange School of Adaptive Agriculture has further refined its

The curriculum is comprehensive while

New name for Grange

In a day and age when constant change is more reliable than average rainfall, "Adaptive Agriculture" is the way of the future. The next generation of farmers must be trained and equipped with the diverse spectrum of strategies of sustainable agriculture and the ability to reflect, analyze

The Grange School of Adaptive Agriculture - formerly the Grange Farm School - has been in operation since 2013 and has been a fiscal sponsorship of North Coast Opportunities since 2014. Situated on a beautiful 5,000-acre working ranch south of Willits, students are immersed in the daily life and tasks of a real farm.

By 2015 the school had graduated its first two 12-week classes of Practicum Program students. The graduates went to work on farms related to their interests, started their own small businesses, and took jobs with non-profits and educational institutes related to food production. According to graduate Matt Gal: "Attending the Grange Farm School was the defining moment in my educational career," after which "I knew what I wanted to be doing with my life." Gal is starting his own small, highly diversified organic vegetable operation in St. Louis,

Rachel Britten and Thomas Brower.

Farm School

Director of Operations Ruthie King and Director of Fundraising and Programming curriculum with the help of new instructors

Letters

☐ 6 Months - \$40 ☐ 1 year - \$75 ☐ Additional donation included \$

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

The 57th annual Willits Horsemen's playday, barbecue and rodeo will be held next weekend, June 4 and 5. at the new arena located off East Commercial Street

The weekend is broken into two days of events: Saturday, June 4 is the gymkhana where kids compete in traditional games like barrel racing, poles and more. The gymkhana starts at 9 am and is free to come and watch.

Sunday, June 5 starts off with the jackpot team roping at 9 am (sign-in for riders is 8 am) and will be followed by the beef barbecue at 11:30 am and the rodeo at 1:30 pm.

Team ropers will try their ropes at catching heads and heels of steers, with a pair of riders. Awards will be given to those who have the cleanest catch in the fastest time. Silver mounted stirrups will be given for the

high money header and high money heeler, and handmade breast collars will be given to the winners of the allaround cowboy and cowgirl titles.

BBQ and Playday

Willits Horsemen's annual event coming up next weekend

The barbecue will be run by Jim Yokum and his crew and will offer beef, salad, and bread in the traditional style. Tickets for the barbecue are \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids. The rodeo will finish Sunday's events and will have categories for all ages to compete. The rodeo is free to attend.

Willits Junior Horsemen will be selling tickets to raffle off a Parlin Forks picnic table, 25 pounds of John Ford beef, and other goodies.

For more information on the gymkhana or for raffle tickets, call Kathryn at 489-6565 and for info on the rodeo or roping, call Jim at 354-

Maureen Moore

Getting ready for this left: Kelly Fonsen readies his loop. Jim Bean gets ready to rope the steer's heels. Pat Roland and Joe Dennis try for a clean catch of the steer's head

At right, above: Last year, Bob Baechtel holds up meat fresh from the barbecue. At right, center: Team roping practice in progress. At right, bottom: Pat Roland, left, lines up to catch the heels.

Above, left: Harold Potter checks in at the front table with Sharon Short and Sue Clark, who were manning the ticket table at the 2015 event.

Photos by Maureen Moore









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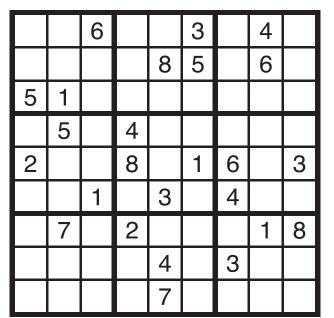


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Willits Weekly | May 26, 2016

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Crossword Puzzle 8 Sudoku



M M A N U F A

HYDRAULIC

LANES

LEAKS

LIGHTS

MANUFACTURE

MAP

MEASURE

MODULATOR

MOTOR

PISTON

POWER

PROPORTIONAL

ALTERNATOR

AUTOMOTIVE

BALLBEARING

BRAKES

CALIPER

CAR

CYLINDER

DIRECTIONS

DISTRIBUTOR

FANBELT

FITTINGS

HOSES

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!

REVERSE

RINGS

RIVET

ROADS

SENSOR

SIGNAL

SPECIFICATIONS

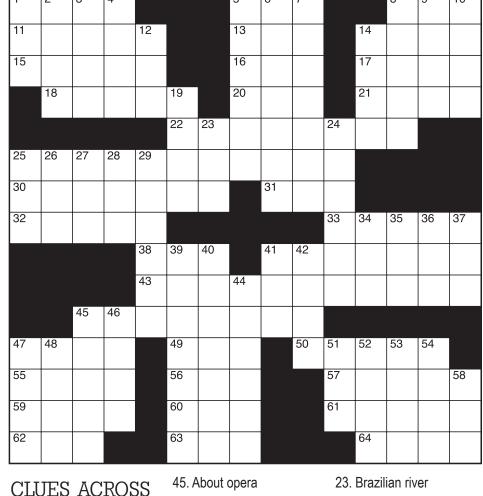
SPEED

STEERING

VALVES

WINDSHIELD

WIPERS



AUTOMOTIVE WORD SEARCH

1. Groan 5. Engine additive

8. Atomic mass unit

11. One-time emperor 13. Martial art chi

14. Extinct algae 15. The leading performer

16. Autonomic nervous 62. Keeps us warm 63. Type of account 64. Cheek

47. Wings

49. I (German)

55. Wild mango

56. The woman

59. Look furtively

60. Large integer

61. Spiritual leader

57. Afflicted

50. Sportscaster Brett

17. Pirate who went by

18. Encourages

20. Small tactical munition 21. One-time Tribe closer 22. North, Central

and South 25. Repossession 30. Conveys air to and

from the lungs 31. A renowned museum 32. One hundred (Italian)

33. Synchronizes solar and lunar time

38. Calendar month (abbr.) 41. They bite

43. The Mets played here 19. Low prices

7. Island in Lake Michigan 8. True firs 9. Operates

CLUES DOWN

1. Helps you get there

4. Everybody has one

5. Conditions of balance

2. Plant

3. Apron

10. Approves food 12. Tell on

54. Big guys grab these 14. __ mater, one's school (abbr.) 58. Mickey's pet

24. Et-__

25. Supervises interstate

commerce

28. Shock therapy

35. Singer DiFranco

36. Kazakhstan river

37. 1920's woman's hat

39. Corpus ___, Texas city

27. Sprinted

29. Decide

34. Lodging

40. Helps kids

41. Tires have this

45. Made of wood

47. Automatic data

processing system

53. Napolean came here

46. The top

48. Exchange

51. Swiss river

52. Prejudice

42. Physical attraction

44. Goddess of wisdom

26. Occurs naturally

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459-2775 104 W. Mendocino, Willits I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction



New Online Kindergarten Registration Our Kindergarten program is for children 5 years old

Our 2-Year Transitional Kindergarten Program is for children turning 5 between September 2 and December 2, 2016.

In order to register please login to the following link: https://abi.willitsunified.net/enrollment/

In order to complete enrollment, please bring the following documents to the Brookside Office:

- 1. The confirmation page
- 2. Birth certificate
- 3. Immunization records

Your student will receive a FREE "Welcome" bag. See you then!

If you have any questions, please call the Brookside office at (707) 459-5385 or visit our website at brks.willitsunified.com

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The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 220 Bradley, 21, of Willits were stopped in the 1500 block

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

2 am: Reported burglary in a residence in the 200 block of Bonnie Lane.

the 100 block of North Main Street. After conducting an

evaluation, officers determined CLEARWATER, Pueo, 26,

of Comptche had been driving while under the influence of

alcohol and with an infant child in the vehicle. Clearwater

7 am: Officers conducting foot patrols in the 800 block

of Railroad Avenue contacted two campers. One of the

campers, SCHLEICH, Aaron, 30, of Healdsburg was the

restrained party of a protective order which prohibited

contact with the other camper. Schleich was arrested

pursuant to 273.6(a) PC (Violation of a Domestic Violence

3:45 pm: Officers initiated an investigation of a

disturbance with possible criminal threats in the 1400 block

5 am: HAND, Pat, 26, of Willits was stopped in the

1 pm: SHED, Kiera, 19, of Willits and MAXFIELD,

100 block of North Main Street and cited for an active

8:45 am: Officers were dispatched to contact a subject causing a disturbance in the roadway in the 200 block of South Main Street. They arrived and contacted BAILEY, Skyler, 21, of Willits. While speaking with Bailey, they determined he was under the influence of a controlled substance and that he was in possession of drug paraphernalia. Bailey was placed under arrest pursuant to 11550(a) HS (Drug Influence) and 11364 HS (Drug Paraphernalia).

(Child Endangerment).

Restraining Order).

of Baechtel Road.

Mendocino County warrant.

May 18

May 16

Prepared by WPD Sgt. Jake Donahue 8:30 pm: Officers were alerted to a possible DUI driver on Sherwood Road, and stopped the vehicle in

Fort Bragg. WPD

Report May 14 to May 20

Activity

Mendocino County warrants.

3:30 pm: A vehicle was reported stolen from the 1600 block of South Main Street. It was ultimately recovered in

of South Main Street and arrested pursuant to active

4:45 pm: WOLF, Nikole, 27, of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Coast Street and arrested pursuant to an active Mendocino County warrant.

5:30 pm: A 6-year-old male juvenile attempting to cross the roadway on a scooter was struck by a vehicle in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue. The juvenile was transported to Howard Hospital and treated for minor injuries.

May 19

10:20 am: MORRIS, Dena, 54, of Willits was contacted in the 1000 block of South Main Street and arrested pursuant to an active Mendocino

12:30 pm: A vehicle reportedly stolen in Fort Bragg was located, abandoned, in the 1200 block of South Main was arrested pursuant to 23152 VC (DUI) and 273(a) PC Street and recovered.

12:45 pm: An assault was reported in the 300 block of

9 pm: An assault was reported in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:30 am: An assault was reported in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

7:50 am: Officers responded to a vehicle roll-over that began on Sherwood Road and landed in the 300 block of

9:45 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

12:10 pm: A vehicle was reported stolen from the 300 block of Robert Drive. Shortly afterwards a WPD officer

Read the rest of Over on Page 11



'Borrowing' a garden

Willits Library starts up a free lending library for seeds

The Willits Branch Library has added something new to its list of lending materials: seeds. The Willits

Seed Lending Library had its grand opening on **Jennifer Poole** Saturday, with a seed swap table by the door giving away free seeds, soil and

recycled containers to plant the seeds in.

"It's a perfect day for a seed library opening," said volunteer Will Minor at the seed table, about the wet weather. "You can go right home and plant the seeds and not have to worry about watering them right

Inside, at the back right of the library, a wooden card catalogue cabinet has been "recycled" into a seed storage cabinet. A couple dozen of the narrow pull-out drawers are already labeled as "Peas" and "Zucchini" and "Cabbage" and a whole lot of other vegetables. along with "Herbs" and "Flowers."

The Willits Seed Lending Library "is a depository of seeds held in trust for the members of the Mendocino County Library," the info sheet about the seed library says. The seed library "is a free program committed to increasing our ability to feed ourselves wholesome food by offering seeds and education."

Read the rest of Seeds



Above, left: County Librarian Karen Horner, left, with Teri Wilcox, Wendy Copperfield and Will Minor, at the seed storage cabinet. Above: Bailey Petterson, left, and Kathy Maples pose with Bailey's newly planted columbine

Below from left: This drawer holds packets and envelopes of cucumber seeds. Volunteer Will Minor shows off some dried horseshoe green beans, grown by a local gardener and available at the seed swap. Will Minor, right, makes a packet of horseshoe green bean seeds for Clara Reid, who took them home for her







Redwood Run 2016

Motorcycles, music and wild times coming up in June

The time is quickly approaching for that ever-so- The Run chairperson for the past five years, she present rumble in downtown Willits ... Redwood Run explained that the increase in ticket prices was due 2016, June 10 to 12. This will mark the last year that to the run losing \$60,000. This was mainly due to the the bikers on their way to the run will have to travel through our downtown.

Next year the bypass will be open, and the rumble may be a bit quieter.

In checking out the Redwood Run's website the first striking piece of information you see is the increase in ticket prices. Presale tickets are going for \$130 per person with a \$180 price tag at the gate. This is an increase of between \$20 and \$50 per ticket from last year. Proceeds from ticket sales, after expenses, go to help Redwood Run hosts Kiwanis of the Redwoods, Garberville Chapter, fund their Toys for Tots program as well as scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

During my interview with Danielle Whitmore,

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the Millers have been inspecting homes for real estate sales and

to a party on the coast (and that company is not affiliated in any

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way with Matt or Montana).

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Willits Weekly | May 26, 2016

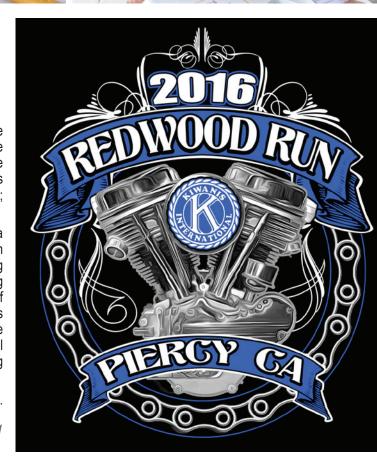
committee's decision to book three headliner bands last year in hopes that it would increase ticket sales;

I also learned that they are changing things up a little bit this year. For an additional \$60, a biker can enter The Run site on Thursday afternoon beginning at 4 pm. In the past, entry was only granted beginning on Friday morning at 6 am, the first official day of The Run. The advantage to the early entry ticket is you get first pick of the choice campsite spots on the grounds. Along with early entry, the ticketholder will get a small barbeque dinner and a movie on the big screen Thursday night.

The committee set aside 500 early entry tickets.

Read the rest of Redwood Run

Over on Page 11









X-MEN: APOCALYPSE **ALICE: THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS 2D/3D** 2D/3D



Fri: (3D) 5:45, (2D) 3:30 & 9:00pm Sat/Sun: (3D) 12noon & 5:45pm (2D) 3:30 & 9:00:m (2D) 2:30 & 8:00pm Tues-Thurs: (3D) 4:45

(PG) 1 hr 53 mins

-SPECIAL 3D PREVIEW -Thurs., May 26th at 7:00pm Fri: (2D) 6:00, (3D) 8:30pm Sat/Sun: (2D) 12:30 & 6:00pm (3D) 2:40 & 8:30 pm Mon: (2D) 5:00. (3D) 1:40 & 7:30pm Tues-Thurs: (2D) 5:00, (3D) 7:30pm



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Fri: 4:15, 6:30 & 8:45pm Sat/Sun: 11:45am. 2:00. 4:15, 6:30 & 8:45pm **Mon:** 1:00, 3:15, 5:30 & 7:45pm Tues-Thurs: 5:30 & 7:45pm

(PG) 1 hr 37 mins

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

lovie Times for 5/27 thru 6/2

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

Piercy man held for shotgun robbery of wheelbarrow

A 46-year-old man was arrested May 22 after he allegedly stole a wheelbarrow from the front yard of a home in the 81000 block of Highway 271 in Piercy after firing two rounds from a shotgun.

At about 11:40 am, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the area of the 81000 block of Highway 271 in Piercy regarding the illegal discharge of a

When sheriff's deputies arrived on the scene just before noon, they were told that while a woman was preparing a meal inside the house, she heard a gunshot, then saw Bradley Nystrom "standing in front of her house with a shotgun," said sheriff's Lt. Kirk R.

Nystrom then took a wheelbarrow belonging to the victim, fired another round from the shotgun, and walked to his nearby residence, Mason said.

Deputies and state traffic officers confronted Nystrom in front of his home and arrested him without incident, he

Nystrom was arrested on an outstanding warrant, suspicion of armed robbery, suspicion of possessing a loaded firearm in a public place, and the discharging a shotgun within 500 yards of an occupied dwelling.

He was taken to county jail where he is being held on \$75,000 bail.

This report was based on a press release from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

Garbage contract wins final OK

Dan McKee Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Brooktrails board of directors gave final approval to a new garbage collection contract with Solid Waste of Willits on Tuesday following a public hearing township residents avoided like the plague.

That's probably because, as Brooktrails General Manager Denise Rose noted: "The proposed rates under the new agreement are the same as the current rates for SWOW's collection of solid waste."

The new/old rates take effect June 1.

In an otherwise routine meeting, directors also approved the township's annual tax appropriation limit as required by state law after passage of Proposition 13 in 1979.

Under the California Department of Finance's adjustment provisions, the township's property tax appropriation limit was set at \$3,298,353, up from last year's \$3,124,328. The total is arrived at through a formula calculating personal income changes from last fiscal year and population growth in Mendocino County's unincorporated

However, as Rose told directors, district property tax revenues are estimated to come in at about \$291,000.

Before adjourning to a closed session concerning current district litigation, the board also approved the appointment of cartographer Crystal L. Schiffbauer-Bowles to the township's Greenbelt, Conservation Recreation and Committee.

Schiffbauer-Bowles, who moved to Brooktrails with her family from Fair Oaks almost three years ago, is a geographic information system analyst for Black & Veatch, and has been working with Brooktrails board Vice President Tim Ramming and Greenbelt Committee member Adam Sherf to develop a comprehensive map of







Main Street From Page 1

truck to make its turn safely.

the berms modeling the concrete had to be moved back a couple of times for the

Although traffic is expected to be reduced by an estimated 20 to 25 percent once the bypass is opened to traffic this fall, one big concern regarding changes to Main Street centers around the ability of emergency vehicles to navigate and move efficiently. Some of the streetnarrowing design ideas – such as trees in the median or removing the middle lane altogether downtown – may present too much of a barrier to emergency vehicles.

Examples of changes to the three-mile stretch of Main Street displayed on the maps include: decorative paving, street trees and other furnishings between Wood Street and Mendocino Avenue, with bulb-outs on the street corners and a raised intersection at Commercial and Main Street.

The entire draft plan will be made available for viewing soon at www. willitsmainstreetplan.com. Up already on the website is the complete Power Point presentation that was shown to the public at the former Rexall building on Friday, April 22, which illustrates the preliminary design concepts for Main Street.

All design plans remain in the draft stage; they won't be finalized until the end of the year. Construction is due to start in the fall 2017 as part of the Caltrans relinquishment project.

The planning portion of the project is funded through a Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant award to the City of Willits.

For more information call City Hall at

At left, from top: City workers mock up bike lanes on East Commercial Thursday, to get ready for the Main Street Sneak Preview The table with the draft map of the Willits Main Street Corridor Plan, crowded with

A model of an extended sidewalk, complete with public art, in front of the Willits Center

interested residents

Photos by Jennifer Poole

Letters | From Page 2

Yes on Measure V

It isn't often that we are given a chance to perhaps mitigate and lessen a catastrophic occurrence.

Measure V declares that when intentionally killed trees are left standing they are indeed a public nuisance. I agree.

The fire in Lake County last year was fueled by dead and dying trees due to the drought. Agricultural Secretary Tom Vilsack reported that there are still 40 million dead trees in California, and in his words, "You've got 40 million opportunities for fire."

Add the poisoned tan oaks left standing, and the amount of combustible material escalates. More fuel, more fire.

Flyers are being sent in the mail declaring "Remember the old days of Mendocino timber?" It reminisces about our logging history and the loggers being the true Western heroes. It encourages a no vote

Logging was (and is) a dangerous, honorable and necessary occupation. For many years it was our area's largest industry, but are we talking about the true practice of logging now when a tree is "hacked and sprayed" and left?

I have been told by people who have lived in our area all their lives that at one time the ranches on the outskirts of Willits were completely on fire.

Timothy Egan wrote about the 3,000,000 acres that burned Washington, Idaho and Montana in 1910. Today, Canada's massive Fort McMurray fire has burned over 1,235,526 acres and hasn't yet

We can't play with fire and must do all we can to staunch it when possible. We had no control over the drought, but we do over this practice of (logging?)

Please vote yes on Measure V. Thank you.

Lena Hofmaister, Willits

Heritage Initiative

Mendocino County, as we all know, is a slice of heaven, and I am proud to call myself a Mendonesian for the past 15 years. I know I'm not a Mendocino native, but I am a fourth-generation Californian, and I feel deeply for this land and its people and recognize that it is a unique and productive area.

My heart goes out to the small cannabis farmers in Mendocino - many of whom have perfected the art of cultivating the best cannabis in the entire world. We are ready and willing to comply, eager to obtain permits and licenses to become legitimate farming businesses, with a product that is true medicine. Yet, it is difficult, practically impossible, to do that in Mendocino County.

Our board of supervisors has passed the urgency ordinance for the 2016 season, and we are thankful even for that - but we will be safer and able to contribute more to our communities when cannabis is finally considered an "agricultural product," and we can pay our taxes and open bank accounts and carry on like all other businesses

The Heritage Initiative will help bring a smart cannabis policy for a safe community to Mendocino County. It will encourage economic growth and protect the environment through regulation.

Let's bring an end to prohibition and all the problems stemming from it. I heartily encourage all registered voters to sign the petition for the Heritage Initiative in Mendocino County. You'll notice people with sign boards out there gathering signatures, so give it a thought let's get it on the ballot for the November 2016 election, and give the voters a voice. An urgency ordinance is OK for right now, thank you, but an initiative is more long-term. Let's have legalization of medical cannabis and put Mendocino on the map as being the home of the best cannabis in the world. We can finally recognize what the responsible small farmers of our county can offer us all.

Nikki Lastreto, Laytonville

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Haehl Creek Cleanup

Damian Sebouhian damian@willitsweekly.com

Organized and managed by Willits Code Enforcement Officer John Sherman, the 14 community volunteers

had what, at the start, appeared to be a Sisyphean project

Not only was the thickly wooded area the site of an extensive homeless camp, a cascade of evidence revealed it has also been used as an illegal dumping ground.

From electronic equipment, to dog beds; from a plethora

The cold rain couldn't keep a dedicated group of of shoes to children's toys; from tin cans to countless volunteers from performing the arduous task of cleaning syringe tip caps, the volunteers had their work cut out for up the Haehl Creek site behind Microphor last Saturday them in returning the Haehl Creek site back to its natural

> Despite the harrowing challenge, the crew did just that, removing over 7 tons of garbage in roughly four hours.

> Solid Waste of Willits' Jerry Ward, as he has done in previous cleanup projects, comped all the dump fees.

Sherman was extremely grateful to all the volunteers and expressed special thanks to those who, along with their muscle power, donated their tools and trailers towards the

Read the rest of Cleanup

Over on Page 11





Above: Clean-up volunteers Jerry Albright, left, and Tom Woodhouse, with a tarp-full of trash.

Below, from left: Mark Herbert loads trash into a plastic crate. An artful pile of trash. A discarded shoe and toy.





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Thursday, May 26

Last Weekend for Art Under 20: The 17th annual "Art Under 20" exhibit, presented by the Willits High School art department, continues through Sunday, May 29 at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Student artists from Willits High School; plus Willits Charter School, San Hedrin High School and Laytonville High School. "Please join us to celebrate the creativity of our Willits and Laytonville youth. Their artworks are impressive!" New gallery hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 am to 3 pm; Thursday from 2 to 7 pm; Friday from 11 am to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 3 pm.

Friday, May 27

Memorial Weekend Book Sale: Friends of the Willits Library presents the annual Memorial Weekend Book Sale, at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Spring into Summer with a Book!" Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28 from 10 am to 4 pm; Sunday, May 29 from 10 am to 2 pm.



Shanachie Pub: he Polyorchids. pm. Polyorchids are Northern California and lay a fast and loose mix of punk and folk music.' www. facebook.com/

Your Hosts

Willits High School Golf Team

Don't Miss the First Tournament of the Year!

Saturday, May 28th

\$40 Entry Fee

(\$20 with annual, includes 1 beverage)
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Lunch \$8.00 Super Burrito

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polyorchids or http://thepolyorchids.bandcamp. com/releases. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194

Saturday, May 28 Willits High School Golf Team Golf Tournament: WHS Golf Team hosts the first golf tournament of the year, Saturday, May 28, at the Brooktrails Golf Course. "Don't miss the first tournament of the year!" 8 am check-in; 9 am tee-off. \$40 entry fee (\$20 with annual, includes 1 beverage). Lunch: \$8 (super burrito). Info: Brooktrails Golf

Course at 459-6761 Memorial Weekend Book Sale: Friends of the to 10:30 am, and at the Little Lake Cemetery Willits Library presents the annual Memorial Weekend Book Sale, at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. See Friday, May 27 listing for details.

Classic Metal Mixer: Willits Chamber of Commerce presents the annual Memorial Day Weekend Classic Metal Mixer at Baechtel Creek Inn & Spa. 101 Gregory Lane, from 5:30 to 7 pm. Mingle with car and motorcycle owners and locals while admiring some of the cool cars and motorcycles that will be on display at the Rec Grove Sunday. Taste award-winning Mendocino County wines and local appetizers

Shanachie Pub: Peter Jong Chang of Emerge & Tuesday, May 31 Friends. 9 pm. No cover. "Showcasing last year's releases of Emerge/Sunset Coast, Blue Ruby/ Rainy Life, and Deep Orchid/As Long As You're Around, as well as the reissue of Emerge (selftitled), on CD." Visit http://peterjongchang.com. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Festival's 2016

Sunday, May 29

35th annual Community Festival and Car & Motorcycle Show: This Willits Memoria Day tradition returns for its 35th year, featuring hot classic cars, antiques, and hot rod automobiles and motorcycles at the Rec Grove, 400 block of East Commercial Street, from 10 am to 4 pm. Get an early start (and a "front-row seat" with the Willits Lions Club's Pancake Breakfast at the Rec Grove from 7 to 10 am. Games of skill open to challengers, including an Arm Wrestling Contest plus vendor booths with food, gift items, arts & crafts, and nformation. American Legion Post 174 will present the colors

at noon at the main Rec Grove stage, followed by the singing of our country's National Anthem. The Mendocino County Museum and Roots of Motive Power will be open for the festivities, and Roots will be offering train rides around the loop track.

Memorial Weekend Book Sale: Friends of the Willits Library presents the annual Memorial Weekend Book Sale, at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. See Friday, May 27 listing for details.

St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble: the annual St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble concert will be Sunday, May 29 at 6:30 pm, at the Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street, across from the Grange. "They will be singing traditional Russian religious and folk music for your enjoyment. Free to the public, though we are putting out a basket

for donations. Light refreshments will be served after the concert." Info: 459-2855.

Monday, May 30

Memorial Ceremonies: American Legion, Willits Post 174 will be conducting Memorial Day services as follows on Monday, May 30: at the Willits Cemetery Highway 20) from 10

ERIC

(off East Hill Road) from 11 to 11:30 Note: Flags will be placed on veterans' graves at both cemeteries on Saturday, May 28 and will be 'taken down" Monday (before sunset), May 30. Also, the Post 174 Color Guard will present The Colors at the Classic Car

Show at the Rec Grove, on

Sunday, May 29 at 12 noon.

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 "The Angry Birds Movie." For showtimes: www. noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-

What's Happening Around Town Thursday, June

Shanachie Pub: Aaron Ford, singer-songwriter out of SF: "His musical style is based in folk, Americana and blues." First Thursday of every month. 8 pm. No cover. Visit www.cdbaby. com/Artist/AaronFord. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info:

Friday, June 3

Willits HomeBREW Club: June meeting on Friday, June 3, starting at 7 pm at the Willits KOA in their meeting hall (pull up to the gate, tell them you are here for the homebrew meeting and then drive straight back to the red meeting hall). The beer style of the month is Pilsners. Come and learn about all things fermentable! Visit http://willitshomebrew. weebly.com/ for more on the Willits club.

Senior Center Drive-Through BBQ Chicken Dinner: Harrah Senior Center presents a Drive-Through BBQ Chicken Dinner for Two on Friday, June 3. Pick up from 5 to 6:30 pm. Pre-sale tickets only! Available at the Senior

Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. \$25 for dinner for two: includes Chicken, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw. Garlic Bread and Brownie, BBQ Courtesy of the Willits Lions Club. Info: 459-

Saturday, June 4

Brooktrails Women's Club Flea Market: the annual Brooktrails Flea Market takes place Saturday, June 4 from 8 am to 3 pm, rain or shine, free admission. "Antiques - plants - household and much more! Treasures are waiting for you! Come visit with your friends, do some shopping and support local organizations!" Fundraising lunch available from Brooktrails Fire Department: hot dogs, hamburgers, sodas and chips. Vendor spaces may still be available: Outdoor spaces

and indoors tables: \$20 each - first-come, first-serve! Call to reserve a space: Arlane at 456-0734. Vendors check in: 6 to 7:30 am. Flea market proceeds go to the Brooktrails Women's Club Scholarship Fund and donations are made to the Brooktrails Fire Department and CERT groups, too.

Laytonville Lions 26th annual Co-Ed Golf Tournament: Laytonville Lions Club hosts its annual tournament on Saturday, June 4, at the Brooktrails Golf Course. 8:30 am signin; shotgun start at 9 am. \$40 non-members, \$30 Lions member, \$25 BGC annual. BBQ Tri-Tip Lunch; raffle; CTP Contest on Hole #1, win a new BBQ/Smoker Grill. Info: Lonnie: 707-357-1130 or Brooktrails Golf Course at 459-6761.

Willits Horsemen's Association Beef BBQ & Rodeo: 67th Annual Gymkhana. Beef Barbecue & Rodeo, Saturday, June 4 & Sunday, June 5 at the Willits Horsemen's Arena on East Commercial

Street. Gymkhana on June

4 starts at 9 am; June 5 schedule includes: Team Roping at 8:30 am, Jackpot Team Roping at 9 am, Bee BBQ at 11:30 am, and Rodeo Grand Entry at 1:30 pm. Rodeo events for all iges; free to spectators! BBQ tickets are \$15 and \$5 for children. For general info or info on Rodeo & Roping: Jim at 707-354-1624, or for Gvmkhana info: Kathryn at 707-489-6565. See article on page 12 for more details.

Mendocino Film Festival / Willits Program: the 2016 Mendocino Film Festival program in Willits

starts Saturday, June 4 at 9:45 am, as a special MFF Skunk Train featuring Train Singer Greg Schindel singing Johnny Cash, departs the Willits Depot. June 4 screenings at the Noyo Theatre, 57 East Commercial Street, include "The Messenger' at 2 pm (\$11): A documentary exposing the plight of songbirds endangered by urban sprawl, including a Q & A with producer Joanne Jackson after screening. At 4 pm, the Noyo Theatre screens "We're Still Here: Johnny Cash's Bitter

Tears Revisited" (\$11), with modern-day

musicians paying homage to Johnny Cash's controversial 1964 album of folk songs dedicated to the plight of Native Americans price includes admission to reception to

follow at Mendocino County Museum. Reception, 5:30 to pm, celebrates the film festival and Mendocino's rich heritage Native American history. "Guests will have the opportunity to explore the museum's exhibits

MENDOCINO

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including Woven Worlds: Native Peoples of County and the current installation of Reservations Not Required-Returning Home, a collection of contemporary art created by local Wailaki artist, Pete Ethan Castro." Fine refreshments; attendance restricted only to attendees of the 4 pm screening at the Noyo. More info about the film fest, visit: www. nendocinofilmfestival.org.

2nd annual WHS Alumni Baseball game: 11 am at Willits High School's Dave Kline Field. "Bring the family for lots of baseball fun." Alumni who'd like to play, please contact Aaron

Branscomb or Ricky Yadon at 354-4516; players are asked to give \$20 donation towards the WHS aseball program. Raffle, \$1 per ticket, for a solid redwood picnic table donated by Parlin Fork Conservation Camp or a tailgating ice chest full of goodies. Raffle tickets are available at Monkey Wrench or by calling Jessica at 707-489-1478, Also silent auction and concessions at the game.

"Drawn from Life: A Show of the Willits Life Drawing Group": Runs June 2 through June

for the Arts. Opening reception on Saturday, June 4 from 7 to 9 pm. Works by Roger Broomfield, Devi Doree Chase, Laura Corben, Kat Emerson, Diza Hope, Judy Hope, Doug Kell, Michael Peter Lopatecki, Margaret Onstad, Pirrouette, Lee Pratt, Jeannie Smith, Harley Steely and Francine

26 at Willits Center

Vlietstra. New gallery hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 am to 3 pm; Thursday from 2 to 7 pm; Friday from 11 am to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 3 pm.

Shanachie Pub: House of Wrongs Krew DJ Night First Saturday of every month. 9 pm. \$5 cover. "All forms of House Music from 1996 to the present concentrating on deep, funky & groovy tunes, with some Latin & Jazz undertones as well as Electro." 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 5

Willits Horsemen's Association Beef BBQ & Rodeo: free to spectators. Team Roping at 8:30 am, Jackpot Team Roping at 9 am, Beef BBQ at 11:30 am \$15 adults, \$5 children), and Rodeo Grand Entry at 1:30 pm. Free to spectators. See Saturday, June 4 listing for more details.

Mendocino Film Festival Seabiscuit Legacy Program: Film Fest events in Willits on Sunday, June 5 start at 9:45 am at Ridgewood Ranch, with a Guided Ridgewood Ranch tour featuring the film, "Ridgewood Ranch: Home of Seabiscuit," with original cinematography by Dr. Raymond Babcock. "This short film features rare film footage, including Seabiscuit's homecoming after his history-making

win at the 1940 Santa Anita Handicap, life and retirement at Ridgewood Ranch, as well as breathtaking horseracing scenes. Reservations can be made at www. seabiscuitheritage.org Then, a Ranch-style BBQ from 12 to 1:30 pm, featuring special Seabiscuit themed musical selections. Tickets for tour + BBQ are \$40. At pm, the Noyo Theatre, 57 East Commercial Street, will screen the MFF Short Films Program, including "Only Human" (\$11), and at 4 pm, the Noyo will host an exclusive showing of "Dark

Horse," an inspirational documentary about a working-class horse who takes the racing world by storm, presented by Jacqueline Cooper, president, Seabiscuit Heritage Foundation. More info about the film fest, visit: www.mendocinofilmfestival.org.

In Remembrance of Dale Dingman: a community celebration of Dale Dingman's life at the Willits Center for the Arts is set for Sunday, June 5 from 1 to 3 pm. 71 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-1726 or wcarental@gmail.com

COLUMN | At the Movies

'Keanu

The Story: Comedy Central comedians Key and Peele – two goodhearted Doinks – are cousins Rell and Clarence. Poor Rell is stoned and depressed, when Keanu, an engagingly cute striped kitten, enters his life.

But then ... Oh my! Say it ain't so! Keanu is kittennapped by the vicious Daniel Essman Cheddar, gangster captain Columnist of the L.A. 17th Street

"Blips." Rell and Clarence

risk everything to get their kitty back. Comedic mavhem is inevitable

My Thoughts: Yeah, it's filled with brutal slapstick violence and outrageous characters, but that's OK. Cruel can be funny.

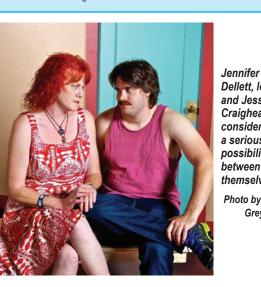
Curiously, movie distributor thinks the mostly white folks of Willits are the wrong demographic for this flick. Idiots. Willitsians loved "Straight Outta Compton." I don't need brown skin to laugh at goofy guys doing stupid funny things. I liked this movie, and I was irritated because

the distributor's attitude perpetuates racial divides, and that's the last thing this country needs ... the idiots.

So ... this is not a race picture, it's a funny picture. I say check it out.

Parents: Some girlie-show type stripper nudity and graphic shoot 'em ups and killings. Teens and up are OK.

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



Dellett, left, and Jess Craighead consider a serious possibility between themselves Photo by Ron

'Beside Yourself

Opens June 10 at Willits Community Theatre

The idea of having an extramarital affair sparks the central action in the comedic play "Beside Yourself" by Nick Hall, opening on Friday, June 10 at Willits Community Theatre. The family-friendly farce directed by Kevin H. C. Moore takes place at an annual genetic research convention held at a beach resort hotel. Four pairs of identical twins are in attendance. When one twin decides she feels like having a little fling to "improve her marriage" — and her scheming husband gets involved — it sets off a hilarious chain reaction of farcical mix-ups.

The confusion becomes delightfully silly when one of each pair of twins pretends to be their identical counterpart. The unpredictable consequences, the fast pacing, and a final stunning surprise all contribute to a comic tour de force. There's plenty of content, not just fluff, Moore explains, and playing multiple characters gives the actors an interesting challenge. Starring in the show are Jess Craighead, BarbaraLee Lilker, David Partch and Jennifer Dellett.

"The logical outcomes never quite happen," Moore says, adding that the play becomes a sexual-tensionfilled, extra-marital romp - without the actors actually taking off their clothes, and for all this sexuality, the connections never exactly take place. Several short monologues help the actors add depth and insight into their roles, and the audience ends up appreciating the unique psychology of each character and the core nature of their relationships

This production is Moore's first time directing at WCT. He brings more than 30 years of theater experience to his effort. He has previously appeared in several productions at WCT, as a gifted character actor with a distinctly charming talent for accents. He explains that the farce is drawn from ancient Roman theater as well as from the Shakespearean tradition of mistaken identities between twins - in this case all ramped up on modern steroids.

"Beside Yourself" runs from Friday, June 10 through Sunday, June 26 with shows on Thursdays at 7,pm, Friday and Saturdays at 8,pm, and Sunday matinees at 2,pm, with the exception of the closing show at 7,pm. A special benefit performance sponsored by Willits Rotary Club will be held on the first Thursday, June 16. For benefit tickets, contact Brad Walton at 459-9082 or any Rotary Club member. Advance tickets for all regular shows are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also available at the door until sold out.

The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

Steve Hellmar

Ongoing Events Willits Summer Farmers Market: the Willits

Farmers Market is now in Bud Snyder City Park, from 3 to 6:30 pm every Thursday afternoon (market will stay open a little bit later into the dinner hour this summer). Veggies, strawberries, cherries, green garlic, greens, artichokes, local meats and local grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Art Under 20: The 17th annual "Art Under 20" exhibit, presented by the Willits High School art department, continues through Sunday, May 29 the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Student artists from Willits High School; plus Willits Charter School, San Hedrin High School and Laytonville High School, "Please join us to celebrate the creativity of our Willits and Laytonville youth. Their artworks are impressive!" Gallery hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 11

am to 3 pm; Thursday from 2 to 7 pm; Friday from 11 am to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 3 pm.

The Emandal Chorale: ongoing rehearsals on Wednesdays, 5 to 6:30 pm, for the Chorale's 21st season, at the Little Lake Grange great hall, 291 School Street. No auditions: Open to all who love to sing.

The Mentoring Program: Free classes for girls in grades 6 through 10 in the Willits school system. Friday afternoons from 4 to 5 pm. Class subjects rotate: Herbs, Crafts, Yoga & Movement, Life Skills, and Cooking and Home Arts. Room 4 in the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, the Cultivate Wellness Studio. Call Michelle Cummins for info: 972-1601.

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

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: Due to popular demand, the Willits Library is holding the drop-in knitting circle every Saturday of the month, from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your projects to share and show off! We will have expert knitters on board who can solve any problems and teach everyone to knit! Bring your own projects - we'll supply the coffee! Sign-ups are not necessary everyone is welcome to drop in."

Willits Library Public Events: "Stories for Crawlers and Walkers," Thursdays at 11 am. Technology group for help with hand-held devices, Fridays at 1 pm. Youth Game Night, ages 10-14, Fridays from 5 to 7:30 pm. 390 East Commercial Street. More info: 459-5908

Soroptimists 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 Pizza, 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

gvm: Sundays and Tuesdays at 7 pm. Some experience desired 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 HMH Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Kids on the Run!: club for kids kindergarten through 12th grade, sponsored by the Sheriff's Activity League. Saturdays at 10 am at the ball fields between the Dog Park and the Mendocino County Museum. Cost for 2016: \$10, includes a T-shirt and free race entries. Questions? Contact: Michelle Kluskiewicz at 267-608-6262 or Gina Henebury at 707-485-1794

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: Kids aged 5 to 10 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/ MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: 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

Karaoke Night at Al's Redwood Room: Every Wednesday night, starting at 9 pm. 207 South Main Street. Info: 459-2444.

Laytonville Winter Farmers Market: Mondays, November through May, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.

Little Lake Fire Department Fun(d)raiser, June 25, Rec Grove

Save the Date

Seabiscuit Legacy Film Series June 4 & 5, 2016

Whether you opt for a single film or event history. Meet Director Antonino D'Ambrosio or enjoy them all, the Mendocino Film and enjoy refreshments at this reception, included in the price of admission to the film and featuring wine from Barra and beer from Seabiscuit Legacy Film Series June 4 and North Coast Brewing Company.

Johnny Cash

Mendocino Film Festival, Willits

5 in Willits will inspire. These captivating films - from Johnny Cash fighting to On Sunday, begin the day with a special tour of Ridgewood Ranch and the film publicize the plight of Native Americans to a Welsh working-class town banding "Ridgewood Ranch - Home of Seabiscuit." together to breed a champion racehorse -Then, enjoy a lunchtime barbecue with will win your heart with stories of resilience, music and refreshments before trotting over to Noyo Theatre, where the afternoon's determination, and a winning spirit. film screenings commence with our Oscar-Start Saturday morning right with a special winning Short Films Program at 2 pm and Skunk Train trip, as Greg Schindel, the culminate in "Dark Horse" at 4 pm, a special famous Train Singer, performs his favorite

screening in partnership with Noyo Theatre. Race to the finish with this remarkable film, as we conclude another wonderful year in Willits with this heartwarming tale of a Here: The Bitter Tears of Johnny Cash" at 4 horse—and a town—that defy the odds and challenge years of tradition on the path to victory. Visit www.mendocinofilmfestival.org/ seabiscuit-legacy-film-series

> submitted by Mendocino Film Festival

Senior Center Lunch Week of May 30

through June 3 Monday: CLOSED for Memorial Day Tuesday: Baked Sole

Wednesday: Tuna Noodle Casserole Thursday: Burger on

Friday: Pork Chops

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, entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-

June 4 & 5 at Benbow Lake "Beside Yourself," a comedy, opens at Willits Community Theatre, June 10 2016 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart "Appearance, Personality and Poise" judging competition, June 18, American Legion Veterans Hall

The 40th annual Summer Arts & Music Festival is set for Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5 at Benbow Lake State Park in southern Humboldt County. "Equal parts community reunion, and open festival celebration of arts and music, the entertainment has expanded to include a broad spectrum of musical genres and dance forms from local to international in origin" as well as the Kid Zone, food, offerings.

90th Annual

Thursday, June 18: Sweetheart Judging, appearance and Veteran's Hall, free

Thursday, June 23:

Friday, June 24: Truck Pulls, 6 pm, Jack Tharp Arena, \$ Street Dance, 9 pm, Rodeo Grounds, f Carnival opens, 4 pm, Old Ball Fields,

day, July 3:

Monday, July 4:

Sunday, June 26: Lions Pancake Breakfast, 7 am, Rec Grove, \$8/Adult, \$5(Child Horse Show, 8 am, Jack Tharp Arena, free

Summer Arts & Music

Festival

explosion delivered by 20 musicians, dancers, and artisans who travel the world year-round, taking audience members on a joy-inducing, foot-stomping, booty-shaking, soul-stirring journey that defies categorization" plus John Popper with Object Heavy & DJ Logi; Dehli 2 Dublin; The Skints; Orgone; Koradub; Grace Love & The True Loves; La Misa Negra; Joe Craven & The Sometimers; Hillstomp; and Tempest, to name a few of the musical Advance tickets for the weekend pass offer a discount and are available

wine and micro-brews, vendor booths and

more. Headliners include the March Fourth!

Marching Band on Saturday night, "a sonic

weekend pass. As always, kids 12 and under free. Gates open at 9:30am and entertainment runs from 10am to 10pm both days. A free public shuttle is offered continuously from Redway, Garberville, Benbow, and Richardson Grove State Park. Check out the Summer Arts pages of www.mateel.org for full schedule.

online only at mateel.org. Admission at

the gate is \$25 per day or \$40 for the

'Come and Play' Starts June 9

Grace Community Church at 25 Hazel Street is sponsoring a free play date every Thursday this summer starting June 9, from 11 am until noon, for kids through sixth grade. Children must be accompanied by a parent. We have an enclosed play yard for the little ones and various activities for older children. Call 459-3106 for additional information.

Willits Weekly | May 26, 2016





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

Johnny Cash songs for those aboard. Over

at Noyo Theatre, our film program begins

with environmental songbird documentary

"The Messenger" at 2 pm and "We're Still

Following the screening of "We're Still

Here," head to the Mendocino County

Museum for a celebration of the festival and

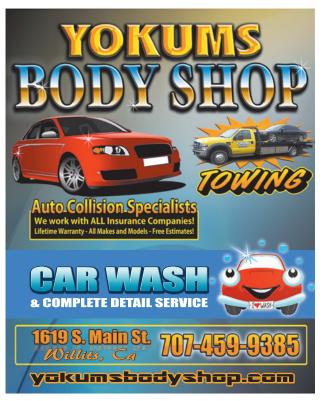
of Mendocino County's rich Native American

Cali is a 2-year-old spayed female Shepherd mix who currently weighs 56 pounds. Cali isn't just gorgeous on the outside (and just look at her!); she has a beautiful heart and soul too! She is young, energetic and playful and needs an active home where she gets daily exercise as well as lots of

Cali is very smart and eager to please, and we think she'd really enjoy training and learning tricks. She seems to really like other dogs and would love a friendly canine friend. She'd also be a great adventure buddy for kids. Cali is a spunky, lovely dog with so much love and loyalty to offer her forever

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road







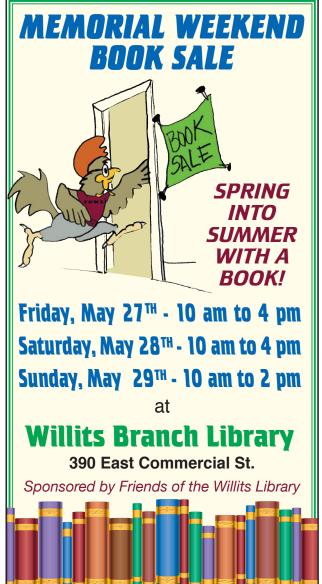
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Willits Science Expo

Older students teach younger ones at new annual event

smashing success.

Held at the Willits Community Center on Tuesday, May the event was

Damian Sebouhian damian@willitsweekly.com

Willits Community science teacher Erin Vaccaro, who credited Brookside Elementary teacher Sharon Hanna, with organizational and creative input. Hanna is the prime organizer for the annual Willits Science

the brainchild of

The idea came to Vaccaro when she realized that the younger kindergarten through secondgrade students in the area have just as much interest in science as the older kids, without the venue to

"The traditional science fair in Willits is grades three through 12," Vaccaro said. "We had been seeing a lot of younger kids wanting to participate, so many so that we thought we needed to have something special, just for

Eureka! The first annual Willits Science Expo was a That something special involved roughly 40 high school students from three different local schools, transforming themselves into teachers by creating hands-on activities 17 and Wednesday May 18. for the K-2 students to participate in.

> "It is only by introducing the young ... to the excitement of great science that we open to them the possibilities that lie within the human spirit — enable them to see visions and

dream dreams."

- Sir Eric Anderson

"By the end of two days, the high schoolers had interacted with over 400 K-2 students," said Vaccaro, whose honors biology class participated in the event.

The high school students created activities that they were interested in, designed lesson plans that would be appropriate for K-2 students, and then led the activities at the event.

According to Vaccaro, "the activities are aligned with NGSS, the Next Generation Science Standards, a new set of science educational

standards adopted by California and many other states." Six different "science stations" were set up and

Read the rest of Science

Over on Page 11





At top, left: Keely Ahders with her rabbits. At top, right: Students line up at a station at the Science Expo.

At left: Aiden Karg, left, and Destiny enthrall some K-2 students.

Above: Students test out paper airplanes that

Photos by Mathew Caine







Senior class fundraising

Round Valley High School students do Highway 162 walkathon

Drivers along the Covelo Road were not only surprised by the rain and sunshine Saturday, Ree Slocum

Features Writer ree@willitsweekly.com walking alongside the road. These were signs of this year's senior class fundraising walkathon by students from Round Valley

The seniors began their more than 28 mile walk along Highway 162 from its junction with Highway 101 and ended it at their high school in Covelo.

707.459.5193 RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF o Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

According to senior Guinan Sloan, students from the class of 2016 voted to take their senior trip to Six Flags they were also slowed by cars with Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo. At Six Flags they will join flashing caution lights and people other high school seniors from California for a safe and sober "Grad Night" on June 9, a full night (and early morning) of amusement rides and dancing to a live band.

> Of the 23 seniors in the Class of '16, 15 were sponsored by family and friends to walk from 101 to the high school in Covelo. The walk was held on two Saturdays. With the money earned, each will be able to attend "Grad Night" and to stay at a nearby motel.



Donna Cook

Donna Kay Cook of Willits passed away Sunday, May 15, 2016 at the age of 75. The daughter of Earl Hughes and Winona "Miller" Hughes, she was born May 8, 1941 in Petersburg, Illinois, A resident of our community for 26 years, she loved animals, collecting angels, cooking, and the outdoors life of camping and fishing. More than anything else, though. Donna loved being a homemaker and took great joy in caring for her family for over 50 years. She will be returning home to Illinois for her final rest.

Donna is survived by her husband of 45 years, Gary; her children: Jackie, Jeff, Tina, Tammy and John; her brother, James Hughes; eight grandchildren and 14 great-

She was preceded in death by her parents, Earl and Winona Hughes; and her brother,

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

The rest of Redwood Run | From Page 5

As of the writing of this article, they are sold out. This is something they will hopefully offer again in the

Danielle wanted to add that this year's run will be dedicated to Doug McCauley, who passed away at the beginning of May. Doug was The Run coordinator for over 30 years, and he will be dearly missed. There will be a remembrance celebration for Doug during the color guard ceremony on Friday. The color guard ceremony is scheduled for 1 pm. There will be another remembrance ceremony on Saturday, on the main stage, with Doug's family present.

This year The Run will feature more local bands including Willits' own II Big, who will take to the stage Friday at 3:30 pm. My Lady Love and I can't wait to see Audrey "Papa" Hansen and the boys rock this year's stage. The headliner for Friday night is Jack Russel's Great White, who will begin rocking the crowd at 9:30 pm, with Royalush closing out Friday's entertainment beginning at 11:30 pm.

On Saturday the Bike Show and Games will begin at 10 am, with the ever-popular Wet T-Shirt Contest soaking the stage at 2 pm. The famous Fryed Brothers will hit the stage as the headliner at 10 pm. They will be following Charlie Brechtel who will play starting at 7:30 pm. Charlie will be filming for a movie while he is on stage. He will be picking folks out of the crowd to be part of the movie, which will be a full-length motion picture. So who knows, attend the Redwood Run, become a star!

Savannah Blue will close things out starting at midnight. For a full schedule lineup, visit The Run's website at www.redwoodrun.org and click on the "Entertainment" link.

The Redwood Run is one of the last remaining true old school biker parties. My Lady Love and I hope to see many of you there. We are always open to have you all buy us a beer. Ride safe everyone.

The rest of Seeds

From Page 5

"Borrowing" seeds from the library is a bit of a leap of faith: Will the borrowed seeds germinate, flourish and seed, so that members can "return" a fresh crop of seeds – the same amount they borrowed or more – at the end of the season?

Beginning seed savers are encouraged to start with The rest of lettuce, tomato, bean or pea plants their first year, all easy-to-grow, self-pollinating plants with seed that is easy to save.

But if saving seeds doesn't work, members are asked to donate "a packet or two of fresh, commercially grown, open-pollinated (non-hybrid) seed to keep our library stocked."

Starting a seed lending library at the Willits branch was Mendocino County Librarian Karen Horner's idea. "The Round Valley Library has a seed library," she said, "and Ukiah and Point Arena. In Fort Bragg [where Horner works as branch manager, too], we've wanted one for a long time."

The Round Valley Library has a good selection of information about seed-saving - and a planting calendar for Covelo – on its Seed Library page at www. roundvalley.org/Seeds.htm.

Horner thanked volunteers Teri Wilcox, Adrienne Arant and Minor, as well as Willits Librarian Jill Dorman and Friends of the Willits Library for helping implement and maintain the Willits Seed Lending Library. More volunteers are welcome.

To join the seed library, fill out the member form. There is no fee. There's a "Member's Seed Record" on the back of the form where you can log information about what seeds you borrowed and then returned. The Willits Branch Library is located at 390 East Commercial Street , 459-5908, and is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 8 pm; Thursdays from to 5 pm.

ROTOMUBDKMMROAD

From Page 10

manned by a group of high school students while the K-2 students spent 10 minutes at each one. Some middle school students participated as assistant teachers

The rest of

7:30

WPD

and a Mendocino County

Sheriff's Office deputy

located the vehicle and

KLEE, Broderick, 23, of Fort

Bragg on Cropley Lane. Klee

was arrested pursuant to

10851 VC (Vehicle Theft).

pm:

responded to a traffic

collision in the 100 block

of North Main Street and

ultimately arrested one of the

drivers BENDER, Thomas,

21. of Willits pursuant to

23152(a) VC (DUI).

From Page 4

Officers

At the first station, students learned about ecosystems and created models of tundras, deserts, grasslands and tropical rain

At the second station, students learned about color and light,

"The high schoolers helped the K-2 students make a secret message that they could decode with a filter," Vaccaro explained.

At the third station, human and animal bones and teeth were on display for holding and comparing. The fourth station served as a construction area where

students had the opportunity to create various items, including hovercrafts. Once a hovercraft was completed from various odds and ends, students could bring it to a wind table where they were able to float their craft on a column of wind.

The fifth station included activities such as having fun with magnets, airplane-building contests, and circuit building to power up lightbulbs and fans.

The sixth station was the cuddliest of the bunch. Two high school students from New Horizons brought in their rabbits, all of various breeds, for the K-2 students to study and measure. "The idea was to let students figure out how the rabbits are the

same and how they are different by using magnifying glasses, rulers and scales," Vaccaro said. Willits High School students ran a booth organized as a pH

testing lab, employing cabbage juice to turn various clear liquids different colors. "Cabbage juice is safe," Vaccaro said. "If you add cabbage juice to vinegar it turns red; if you mix it with a base, it turns blue

or green." The planning process for the Science Expo began four months ago and included a group of Willits educators, parents and community volunteers meeting once a week at various

Vaccaro was grateful for Mendocino College and the Willits Library for allowing the organizers to meet at their respective

Ace Copy and Printing Plus volunteered their services to the cause as well

"It was a true community event," Vaccaro said.

Cleanup

Mike Sweeny of Mendocino Solid Waste Management

Authority donated his trailer along with a two-man crew. Alex Garcia of the "Cleaning Up Mendocino County" group

From Page 7

and Jerry Albright each donated a trailer. Mike Garrity of Willits Power, Bob Doty of Mendo Mill, and Supervisor Tom Woodhouse donated tools

Mike Maples of Caltrans donated plastic bags and tools.

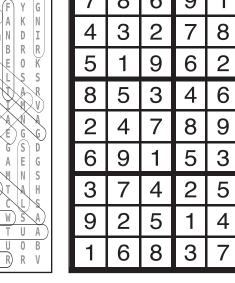
While the cleanup was, by all accounts, deemed successful, many of the volunteers voiced their concern about the site being trashed again in the future. Given that the camp was created and occupied by local homeless people, the question remains: What will keep them from returning?

Given that a large percentage of the trash was created by illegal dumping, what will prevent those people from continuing

Whatever the answers may be, or whatever measures will be taken, it's clear by Sherman's actions that he will continue to galvanize the community to come together to address the encampment and dumping problems.

For more information, Sherman can be reached at 459-4601.

Other cleanup volunteers included: Beverley Coine, Mark Herbert, Mark McKoy, Louis Rohlicek, Dan Perez, Jeep DeLapo, Cameron DeLapo, Gary Owen, April Lynn, Debbie Westbrook, and two mysterious newsmen who came to cover the story, 10 am to 6 pm; and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am but upon seeing the brave efforts of their fellow community members, got swept away in the feeling and joined in.



CLASSIFIEDS

\$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks!

Free Workshop Affordable Tutoring English, Math, Test Prep Unlocking the Spiritual Homework Support, Study World of Dreams" Workshop Skills. Maddie Armstrong - Free - Saturday, June 11, 2 . 707 841-3106. Call to to 4 pm at Ft. Bragg Town arrange free consultation Hall, 363 N. Main Street.

and grade availability.

Tutoring, Test Prep

Mac Smith 459-MATH

Brooktrails

Flea Market

Get your Vendor Space

reserved! Antiques - plants -

household and much more!

Treasures are waiting

Saturday, June 4. 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

In our fast-paced world

are you looking to find

Song, Thursday, May 26

simple, uplifting prayer or

mantra that can help you

experience divine love and

an inner calm. All faiths

are welcome. Sponsored

by Eckankar: Experience

the Light & Sound of

God. Information? Please

call 972-2475 or visi

miraclesinyourlife.org.

for you! 2016 Market is

information Algebra, Geometry The Fruit Group

It's apricot season! Taking orders now. We need coordinators for Brooktrails, Covelo and Garberville. For info, call Brenda at 459-9335 or email thefruitgroup95490@ vahoo.com

Call 707-972-2475 for more

Garage/Estate Sale Saturday, May 28, 9 am to 3 pm. NO early birds! Some vintage plates/ceramics, home brewing equipment, etc. 3201 Primrose Drive in

Help Wanted

Brooktrails.

Transportation Shusters hiring Chip Truck Driver. Community HU Song Class A, 1 year minimum. Application may be picked up at 750 East Valley Street, more inner peace? Join Willits. 459-4131. Please us for a Community HU bring current DMV. Great Medical -Dental. at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E. Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a

> team-oriented assistant, RDA preferred. Approximately 32 hours per week. Please bring or send resume to 12 W. Valley St., Willits, CA 95490. Our

Computer Help Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$40/ hr. Tutoring \$20/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email

macamergin@yahoo.com. Duplex for Rent Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex in Brooktrails All appliances. Laundry room, central heat & air,

garage. Incredibly nice. No smoking, no pets. \$900/ month plus \$1,800 deposit. Call 984-6479. For Rent

bedroom, 1 bath home. Fenced yard, garage, beautiful country setting. No smoking. \$1,400/month, \$2,800 deposit. 707-984-

> For Sale Classic Car '65 T Bird, excellent condition, one owner. 459-9228. Sears Tractor, less than 60 hours. 24 hp, \$500. 459-9228.



Current Job Openings:

Administrative Services Manager II Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist Eligibility Worker III

For more information and to apply: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr EOE.

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Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | May 26, 2016

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Help Wanted Dental Assistant: Our patient-friendly and patientcommitted staff is looking for an energetic, reliable dental

phone # is 459-2163. Help Wanted Barber wanted. Real barber shop experience desired.

Kenny's Barber Shop, 1569 Main Street. 456-1174. Help Wanted

Adventist Health Homecare

Hospice Services Mendocino County. F/T P/T & Per Diem. RN's and PT's needed. Call Trudy H/R 456-3230.

SEWING AND ALTERATIONS Seamstress and Sewing

Teacher Barbara Carlon Visit my webpage: Zibergirl.com 707-367-6182, Willits.

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Above from left: Attendees at the Healthy Family Fair check out samples from Howard Memorial Hospital's Roots Restaurant. Walkers along the five-mile WHAT Walk. Jed Diamond talks to registrants before the walk begins.

WHAT Walk and Healthy Family Fair

Sunday's events took place under cloudy skies



Above, left: A young WHAT walker shows off the gift bag she got for completing all the stations at the Healthy Family Fair. Above, right: Walkers take a rest at the Rec Grove. Below, right: Saprina and Martin Rodriguez, center, with family, friends and Supervisor Tom

Woodhouse, back row, right, at the "3,000 Step" station.



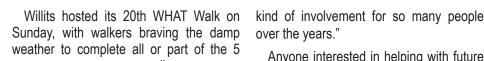
Redwood Meadows is an active independent senior community featuring 101 apartment homes, primarily a mix of one and two bedroom apartments which are single story 4-plex cottage-type set amongst seven acres of park like landscaping.

We are a smoke-free and pet friendly community. We boast a community center where activities are held like card games, Bingo, birthdays and socials. We also have a barbecue area for residents to get together for social functions.

Redwood Meadows is conveniently located adjacent to the William F. Harrah Senior Center with a thrift store, cafeteria and taxi service, and Howard Memorial Hospital is just blocks away.



1475 BAECHTEL ROAD WILLITS, CA 95490 707-459-1616 MON-FRI 10:00-4:00



town.

around **Iennifer Poole** Editor & Reporter jennifer@willitsweekly.com Registration at J.D. Redhouse

started at 9:30 am, and everybody who registered for the walk this year got a free commemorative T-shirt, listing 30 local businesses and individuals as sponsors.

Co-founder of the Willits Healthy Action Team Walk, Jed Diamond, and his wife. Carlin, undertook host duties for the final walk this spring. "It was somewhat sentimental for us," Diamond said, "remembering all the different walks we've done, and all the different people who've been part of them. Both of us felt very Read the rest of blessed to be able to have provided that

Anyone interested in helping with future WHAT Walks should call Diamond at 707-

The end of the WHAT Walk course was at the Recreation Grove where the 2nd annual Healthy Family Fair was set up, starting at 11 am.

"Unfortunately, the turnout was lower than expected, given the unstable weather." said Doreen Blumenfeld of Avenues to Wellness, which hosted Sunday's Healthy Family Fair, "but those that attended reported having a lot of fun and learning more about community resources and outdoor fun in our local area."

> Over on Page 13 Walk







The rest of From Page 1 Bonanza

rates for each permit type. And that resolution would have to be approved by county voters.

McPherson, a consultant with HdL Companies, a Diamond Bar, California-based firm specializing in tax analysis located in eastern Los Angeles County, made his prediction at the board's May 16 meeting.

According to the company website, HdL monitors "client sales and use tax receipts to identify and correct allocation errors that, once corrected, enhance our clients' revenues."

McPherson told supervisors he was asked to appear before the board by the county executive office. He added he and his firm have advised numerous jurisdictions, including Monterey, Santa Cruz and Placer counties, on cannabis taxation strategies over the past six years.

To arrive at an income estimate of a minimum of \$51 million in the first year of a regulated medical marijuana industry. McPherson made a number of assumptions and calculations.

First, he estimated that there are between 5,000 and 7,500 cannabis growers in Mendocino County. Of that number, he believed perhaps 20 to 30 percent would apply for a permit during the first two years of regulation (2017 and 2018). At the low end, he said, that means 1,250 people will obtain a permit in the first year.

McPherson termed that level a "very conservative" scenario for predicting how many cannabis growers will apply for and receive permits. His upper-end estimate calls

Water | From Page 1

summers of 2014 and 2015 remained roughly the same.

of growing area; type 2 at \$3 to \$4 per square foot; and type 3 at \$4 to \$5 per square foot. Type 1A would be taxed at \$4 to \$5 per square foot; type 2A at \$4 to \$5 per square foot; and type 3A at \$5 to \$6 per square foot.

> Assuming 1,250 people apply for permits in the first year, and 60 percent of that number apply for types 1, 2 and 3, while 40 percent apply for types 1A, 2A and 3A, revenues from cannabis taxation would amount to \$51 million. McPherson called this set of assumptions "very

for 1,875 people to secure a county permit to grow medical

marijuana in the first year. That scenario he termed "very

McPherson recommended cannabis be taxed on a

square-foot basis, using actual ground under cultivation as

a baseline for calculation. He referred to six permit types

as defined by the state Medical Marijuana Regulation and

Safety Act: permits 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 3 and 3A. Permits 1, 2 and

3 are for outdoor growing; 1A, 2A and 3A are for indoor

growing. McPherson assumed crops grown under types 1,

2 and 3 would be grown and taxed for two growth cycles a

year, while crops grown under permit types 1A, 2A and 3A

would be grown and taxed for four growth cycles per year.

He also assumed each of the permit types would be

taxed at different levels: type 1 at \$1 to \$2 per square foot

Assuming 1,875 people obtained cultivation permits in the first year, and also assuming a 60-40 split between permit types 1, 2 and 3 and types 1A, 2A and 3A, McPherson said the county stood to make \$110.5 million in tax revenues

McPherson also estimated the county could take in \$73.6 million in taxes under what he termed a "conservative" estimate of how many people might receive a permit, and offered an estimate of \$87.3 million should only a "moderate" number of people apply for and receive a permit to grow medical marijuana.

Board Chairman Dan Gjerde told McPherson his numbers were a little hard to swallow. "Our county has a very tight budget," Gjerde said. "We struggle to spend \$2 million just to maintain our roads. We need to spend \$5 million just to maintain them at the current level, and we're not even doing that. So when I hear a number like that, \$51 million.... I mean, \$15 million would be a tremendous boost to the county's revenues. How conservative do you think these numbers are? So you really think that will

McPherson assured Gjerde his assumptions were conservative and his math correct. "I can't go any lower than a dollar or two a square foot, when other agencies are charging \$25, can I? That's as low as anyone can go in these different categories to get those numbers. Those numbers are as low and as conservative as you can get,"

"Look at Placer County, which has an estimated 4,000 people growing, and [is] looking at only 5 percent of them coming into compliance," McPherson continued. "That's 200 people. And yet they are going to be in the \$35 to \$40 million range, because they are going to have a higher tax

"So, yes, these are very conservative numbers," he

In April of this year, a total of 19,132 units of water were

Over the three-year period, the highest water usage occurred in August 2013, when 40,821 units were used. bringing the city roughly \$330,000 in revenue. In August 2014 city water users consumed 30,938 units of the wet stuff, adding \$236,880 to the city's purse, a figure that dipped to 29,861 units in August 2015, with revenue of

As would be expected, the summer months of each year reflected the highest rate of water use, while February and March recorded the lowest amounts, with February 2014 recording 13,246 units of use, with revenue of roughly \$132,000.

used by the city, resulting in \$193,238 in revenue.

Of that total water used last month, residential homes used the lion's share, at 9.243 units of water. Apartments used 2,469 units; small businesses used 1,183 units; mobile homes and trailers used 1,087 units; public facilities used 997 units; city accounts used 868 units; the hospital used 794 units; and restaurants and bars used 633 units. Industrial water use was measured at 496 units; motels used 490 units; laundromats used 466 units; grocery stores used 195 units; large businesses used 136 units; and churches used 75 units of water.

During August 2013, residential homes used 20,595

units of water; apartments used 4,131 units; public facilities used 3.272 units: mobile homes and trailers used 2,782 units; small businesses used 2,087 units; the hospital used 1,720 units; restaurants and bars used 1,286 units: and motels used 1.125 units. Industrial water use was measured at 943 units; city accounts used 825 units; large businesses used 706 units; churches used 573 units; grocery stores used 425 units; and laundromats used 351

The report can be viewed in its entirety as part of the May 11 agenda packet, which can be downloaded at www. thecityofwillits.com/category/agendas.

The rest of Walk From Page 12

The rest of Kelsay From Page 1

store financial manager Abbe Arkelian, Judge Ann Moorman heard sentencing arguments from Eyster and Kelsay defense attorney Justin Petersen.

The rest of

about \$279,420.

Kelsay declined to address the court or to apologize for the theft before sentencing.

Moorman split the five-year sentence (as required by law, according to a press release from the District Attorney's Office). and ordered Kelsay to spend four years in county iail with one vear of mandatory supervised probation.

intended by the state Legislature to ease prison overcrowding, it is believed Kelsay will be housed in Mendocino County Jail until April 10, 2018.

Mandatory supervision is, in many ways, the same as parole with many terms and conditions, according to DA spokesman Mike Geniella. "Kelsay's terms and conditions will include that [she] not act as a fiduciary or otherwise participate in handling money for any organization or entity.

A restitution hearing will be

Because of day-for-day credits scheduled for a later date. While the court ordered Kelsav

to pay a minimum of \$484,443 in restitution, a future hearing will determine whether that amount will be increased due to additional losses Kelsay caused the victims, the DA's Office said in the press release on the sentencing, "as well as the victims' expenses of investigation."

The restitution order also includes a 10 percent per year interest rate.

ATW teamed up community partners Mendocino Memorial Hospital," she said. Coast Opportunities, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, and various other agencies and programs in the area all supporting community wellness. Walk-Bike

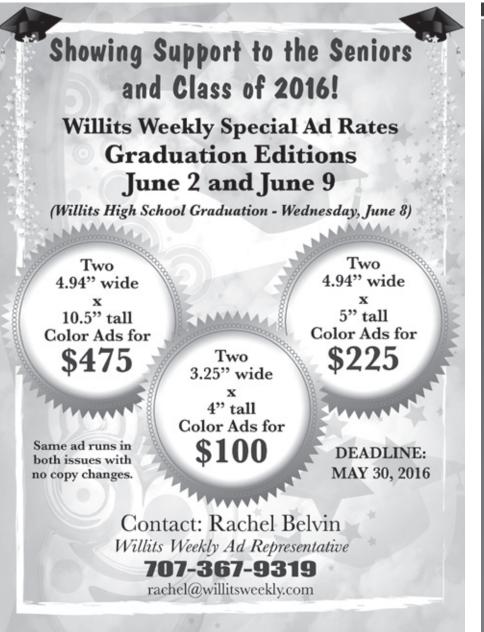
Mendocino brought bikes to teach bike safety. Blumenfeld said the fitness circuit for kids and the Re-Think Your Drink group were both warmly received.

tasty food provided by Roots

"A dog trainer provided lots of valuable information about dog care, while a wellness coach helped people define action plans, and staff offered an opportunity to do a diabetes check." The Healthy Family Fair

Cafe at Frank R. Howard

featured a "passport" theme this year, and individuals visiting different "stations" at the fair "Everyone also enjoyed the received a gift bag donated by Mendocino County.



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> aturday July 16, 2016 - 25 pts/entry Saturday June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 2 & 9, 2016 20 pts/entry Saturday July 16, 2016 - 25 pts/entry Prizes \$3,000 Cash One Winner

One Winner \$1,000 Cash One Winner

Players Club members may only win ONE envelope

Saturday NIGHT FUN! June 4, 11, 18 & 25 **HOT SEATS! FREE PLAY!**

Round #1: 11A to 2P: 2 random winners/hour (6 winners). Each winner will win \$50 in Free Play. Players Club members must play minimally \$20 to



Round #3: 9P to 10P: 3 random winners/hour (3 winners). Each winner will win \$100 in Free Play. Players Club members must play minimally \$40 to be eligible for Round #3 Hot Seat drawings.

Round #4: 10P to 11P: 3 random winners/hour (3 winners). Each winner will win \$150 in Free Play.

Players Club members must play minimally \$50 to be eligible for Round #4 Hot Seat drawings All winners must use their promotional Free Play by 2A 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.



The Players Club Representative will switch the prizes on the bottom of the Plinko Board every four games.

All Free Play won must be played by 2am.

Customers may win up to twice each Tuesday

WEDNESDAY

Two Sessions;

Morning Session: 8A to 1P

Match Play

Players Club customers that play \$50 will receive \$10 in Free Play via the Players Club.

Hot Seats

9A to 11A – 2 winners/hour

Each winner will receive \$25 in Free Play.

11A to 1P – 2 winners/hour Each winner will win \$35 in Free Play

Available only when a customer has claimed their Match Play for a \$2 Food special from 8A to 11A.

Evening Session: 6P to 11P

Match Play

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Free Play via the Players Club.
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they will have to have a minimum of \$100
Play to claim Match Play for the evening session.

-Hot Seats
7P to 9P – 2 winners/hour
Each winner will receive \$50 in Free Play.
9P to 11P – 2 winners/hour
Each winner will win \$75 in Free Play.

only when a customer has claimed their Match Play for a \$2 Food special from 6P to 10P.

HOT SEATS!

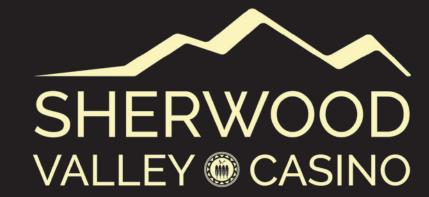
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM 2 winners/hour @ \$30 Free Play each winner (4 total winners)

3:00 PM to 5:00 PM 2 winners/hour @ \$50 Free Play each winner (4 total winners) 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

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Customers may win up to twice each Sunday for this promotion. -All Free play that is won via the Hot Seat drawings must be used by 2A on the same gaming day, or the winnings (Free Play) will be removed from the customer's account

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



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The rest of From Page 1 Restitution

restitution funds since the District Attorney's Office instituted the program here in 2011.

Supporters of the DA's 11470.2 Program cite its effectiveness in clearing prosecutorial and judicial case backlogs, freeing space in county jail, and easing the strain on Probation Department resources, the grand jury report says. Critics call it "pay for play," and claim it gives undue preferential treatment to those who have the money to pay the fees while discriminating against those who cannot pay.

An investigation into the program was "internally generated by the grand jury." the report states, rather than as a response to a complaint by the public although, it notes, "a complaint was later received on this topic."

The intent of that investigation was to "determine the validity of concerns expressed by members of the public and certain public officials of the propriety of the marijuana program."

As part of its probe, the grand jury interviewed members of the DA's Office, Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, Department of the Public Defender, the county's Executive Office, Mendocino County Court Collections, a private criminal defense attorney, and the citizen who submitted the complaint. The grand jury also reviewed documents from the DA's Office and pertinent state statutes.

However, Public Defender Linda A. Thompson "failed to attend a scheduled meeting with the grand jury," the report remarks, "and did not return phone calls to

The report also points out two members of the grand iury were recused from participation in the investigation.

According to the report, when DA David Eyster took office in 2011, he "was faced with [about] 500 open felony cases for violations regarding marijuana, each of which took almost 15 months to resolve.

"The situation placed a heavy burden on the resources of the DA's Office as well as the courts, county jail, and the county Probation Department," according to the report; "resources needed to deal with more serious felonies such as murder, rape and other violent crimes."

So Eyster decided "to approach marijuana prosecutions from a different legal perspective," the report says. Rather than prosecuting most such cases in the courts as felonies, the DA would exercise "prosecutorial discretion to offer plea reductions to certain defendants down to misdemeanors in exchange for 'restitution' of law enforcement costs associated with their pre-arrest conduct, investigation expenditures, and expenses of seizure, storage and/or contraband destruction."

The legal basis for the program was found in California Health and Safety Code Section 11470.2, which allows restitution of costs incurred in the enforcement of laws regarding controlled substances. Eyster, the grand jury report notes, "has broad discretion to prosecute criminal misconduct at any level of prosecution (infraction, misdemeanor, or felony) using any California state statute [he] deems fits the circumstances."

The goals of the DA's marijuana restitution program "are to address criminal conduct in Mendocino County's [relating] to non-medical marijuana, in a way that reduces DA and superior court caseloads (which in turn also mitigates some part of public defense attorney caseloads), county jail population, probation department workioad, and marijuana-related recidivism.

According to the grand jury report, after undertaking some research and analysis, and consulting Sheriff Tom Allman, the County Counsel's Office, and the Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force, Eyster set standard amounts for restitution at \$50 per marijuana plant, \$500 per pound of processed marijuana, and \$100 per pound for marijuana leaves rather than buds.

Despite opposition from some sources, the Mendocino County Superior Court "has allowed the marijuana restitution program to proceed, and there have been no contrary rulings by state appellate courts," the report

The existing program is unique to Mendocino County, the report adds. In other California counties, the county counsel prosecutes defendants to recover restitution.

Program critics decry Eyster's restitution amounts "either as being insufficient or, conversely, being excessive," the grand jury says. However, the report notes, "every disposition under the program is accompanied by a written stipulation executed by the defendant and/or his/her attorney waiving an itemized accounting of law enforcement expenses, and agreeing the amount of restitution sought and paid is reasonable for all purposes."

"The DA personally evaluates and negotiates, where appropriate, all marijuana cases and determines which alleged offenders may be eligible for and offered the program according to a number of criteria," the grand jury report points out.

With few exceptions, only first-time adult offenders are eligible to participate in the program. Moreover, the DA's Office takes into account past criminal history, Department of Motor Vehicle records, and whether firearms were involved, as well as indicators of remorse and willingness to comply with the law in the future, according to the report. And Eyster "normally does not offer" the restitution option if children are involved, or the crime takes place on public lands or involved trespass, or includes the theft of resources such as water or electricity, or if environmental resource degradation occurs during the course of the crime, or the violation involves "pure profiteering."

After reviewing a report and deciding the persons arrested may be eligible for the restitution program, the report says, the DA offers to meet "with the arrestee and his or her attorney to exchange information, which serves as an opportunity for the arrestee and the attorney to provide exculpatory information that may be used in the final charging decision," the report states.

"If the arrestee's conduct is deemed eligible for restitution program participation," the report continues, "program conditions are discussed and explained. The defendant is then given 10 days to consider the offer and

Alleged offenders are not eligible at this point to have a public defender appointed to represent them because the DA has yet to actually charge them with a crime, the grand jury notes.

"The restitution program is more geared for people higher in the structure and hierarchy of an illegal marijuana grow, such as a foreman, labor recruiter, middle and upper management, and owner principals," Eyster told the grand jury.

If the defendant accepts the offer to pay restitution, then additional time is allowed (usually 45 days) for the funds to be paid to the initiating law enforcement agency, according to the report. The DA's Office also prepares two documents: a proposed probation order and a stipulation and order supporting the payment of must approve both, the report points out. "If the defendant declines to participate in the restitution program, then the the practice. DA proceeds with traditional prosecution.'

The average amount of restitution per case amounts to \$14,435. However, a case may have multiple defendants, each of whom pay varying amounts of the total restitution for the case. "A trimmer may pay no restitution," according to the report, "while principals in the marijuana grow operation may [have to] pay the entire restitution amount."

The other probation requirements recommended to the Superior Court judge before whom the parties appear typically include: two years of informal probation, 100 hours or more of community service, a waiver of the defendant's Fourth Amendment rights (meaning the defendant's home, car and property may be searched without warrant), and payment of court costs and fees.

In addition, assets associated with the offense, including weapons, are forfeited.

Persons who successfully participate in the program timber," Simpson wrote. may be able to have their case records expunged after two years under state law.

possess medical marijuana for their personal use as may otherwise be authorized by [California's] medical marijuana law and Mendocino County Ordinance 931," the grand jury notes in its report.

Under the program, restitution must be made in full before arraignment; payment plans, which were available n the past, are no longer offered.

Inability to pay restitution may result in ineligibility to participate in the program. "Despite an assertion otherwise," the report says, Eyster "declined to provide records documenting any provisions for the truly indigent." Most low-level offenders, such as trimmers, are typically charged "only with misdemeanor violations as a matter of course," the DA says.

Payments are normally received, receipted and deposited by the arresting agency (sheriff or city police departments) and a copy of the receipt is forwarded to the DA's Office, where it is recorded in a spreadsheet shared by the DA's Office and the agency.

Any large amounts of cash received in payment to a law enforcement agency, the report notes, "are immediately deposited in the bank."

"Although the DA provided documentation of the legal basis for the program and charging/sentencing recommendations, the grand jury was unable to obtain any other written procedures or policies concerning operation of the program" from the DA's Office, the report

All marijuana restitution funds go to the law not receive restitution funds."

But while program payments to the Sheriff's Office "average in excess of \$100,000 per month for a total of approximately \$7 million," that money is removed from the department's budget during county budget development. the report notes. "Thus, although the program is intended to be revenue neutral for law enforcement agencies, the county ... benefits financially."

This year, the estimated receipts by the county is Crossman will replace Anne Hammond, who will return the amount projected."

participated in the program, and the DA's office reports the recidivism rate for program participants is 10 percent as opposed to an overall recidivism rate of 40 percent for all convicted defendants in Mendocino County

And the average time for a marijuana case, from arraignment to disposition, has dropped to 120 days, including cases that go to court.

The marijuana restitution program has had both supporters and critics, the report points out. "County law enforcement officials, as well as some county supervisors tend to support it. So do some academics that] specialize in criminal justice."

However, the report adds, "others are critical, deeming it to be 'pay for play,' including a superior court judge who, during a restitution hearing for a man with an 800-plant grow, criticized it as 'extortion of defendants."

Nonetheless county judges have approved the terms of over 500 restitution settlements and, as of yet, no state appellate court has ruled against the program.

Therefore, the grand jury report finds the "marijuana" restitution program has proven effective in meeting its intended goals," and its report recommends the DA continue the program "as long as it is pertinent to state statute and county ordinance.

Measure V | From Page 1 which created Mendocino Redwood Company

As general manager of LP's Western Division, Simpson directed timber operations on LP's land in Mendocino County. Simpson is currently the president of Simpson Tanoak Products, a tanoak flooring company poised to start up in Samoa, California, in the near future.

Measure V would make leaving intentionally killed trees standing in the forest for more than 90 days a public nuisance, and make landowners financially liable for damages resulting from that practice. Registered voters in this county will have an opportunity to vote on Measure V on June 7.

Simpson initially said using the "hack-and-squirt" practice of killing unwanted tan oaks in the forest is "about as thoughtless as a neighbor who installs a leach field 20 feet from a neighboring

"As general manager, I halted the short-sighted practice of hack and squirt," Simpson wrote on May 16. "When I first inspected the impacts of herbicide treatments near the Navarro store, I knew it was wrong. In fact, I predicted there would be restitution. The superior court judge hearing the case a major fire if the practice continued. I halted the practice in 1993. Unfortunately, Mendocino Redwood Company restarted

> In his May 20 letter, Simpson recanted his support for Measure V and also corrected some of his statements of fact.

> "I am retracting my support for Measure V because, if approved, citizens may use Measure V to file frivolous lawsuits against landowners," Simpson wrote. "I previously indicated LP eliminated the use of herbicides in 1993. I was wrong. After reviewing LP internal purchase requisitions, it is clear LP's use of herbicides continued. However, by 1995, LP consumed and exported a total of 400,000 green tons of tanoak per year, which resulted in a negligible use of herbicide.

> "A 1995 picture of the Calpella tanoak whole log wood chip yard provides a visual [record] of LP's tanoak program. Unfortunately, the tanoak pulp chip market is no longer available. Until new tanoak markets emerge, I find myself grudgingly willing to support herbicide use because it is the only silviculture practice that will reduce the overstock of tanoak trees. And an overcrowded forest will not grow quality hardwood or softwood

Contacted by Willits Weekly, Simpson confirmed he wrote both the endorsement of Measure V and the letter retracting "The combined plea and sentence bargain may that support. He also restated why he recanted: "The reason not prohibit the offender from continuing to grow or I recanted is because I think it's worse to eliminate herbicides now, before we develop a market for tanoaks, than it would be to wait until there's a market for them. Until we go out and find a market for tanoaks. I think we just have to let them use herbicides."

> Simpson also contradicted claims by Mendocino Redwood Company and some forest scientists who have argued that swathes of dead trees killed in MRC's hack-and-squirt program don't exacerbate the threat of fire.

> "I've seen their maps," Simpson told Willits Weekly. "I can read maps. And what I saw was that the fire in the 2008 Lightning Complex fires that burned on MRC lands went right through the lands that were treated with herbicides. I know that dead trees have less moisture content than live trees. And I know that a tree with a low moisture content will burn hotter - will have more BTUs – than a tree with a higher moisture content of the same

In his May 20 letter, Simpson wrote: "However, I believe the 2008 Mendocino fires would have occurred with or without the presence of dead tanoak trees. And I know MRC did everything possible to put these fires out quickly.

Simpson concluded his May 20 letter with a plea for cooperation. "I encourage supporters and opponents of Measure V to work cooperatively to alleviate safety concerns and to support the effort to open new markets for tanoak trees,"

From Page 1 Principals

enforcement agencies involved in the enforcement through 5, and an extended learning teacher. Runberg was also through grade 12 for the entire district.

> Kathleen Crossman was hired as new principal at Brookside Elementary School. She was head of curriculum development for the Sacramento County Office of Education for 11 years, and most recently was principal of Arena Union Elementary School in the Point Arena School District, where she also worked as director of curriculum and development.

projected to be \$1.5 million, according to the report, "but to the classroom at Brookside. "We would have been happy typically the amount actually received has been above to keep her as an administrator at Brookside, forever," said WUSD Director of Human Resources Laura Sleeper, speaking Since its inception, more than 500 defendants have of Hammond. "Anne did a great job. We loved her, and she was successful as principal. But, although Anne liked being an administrator, she loves teaching and missed it. She decided to go back to the classroom because she loves teaching."

In addition to the new hires, trustees agreed to create the position of Willits High School dean. The dean will be responsible for schoolwide discipline, will collaborate with counselors on student needs, and will help students to obtain necessary school and community resources, and help establish and maintain a positive school climate and culture.

At the same time, the position of Willits High School assistant principal has been eliminated. Willits Unified Superintendent Pat Johnson said the change was due to a decrease in WHS

"The dean position is an entry-level administrative position," Johnson said. "As such, we can look to individuals from within the district to fill the vacancy. We would be receptive to applications from individuals who would like to move into an administrative position who still need to fulfill the requirements for an administrative credential."

Currently, James Madden is Willits High School's assistant principal. The salary for the assistant principal starts at \$70,652; the salary for the high school dean position is \$56,820.

Willits Weekly | May 26, 2016 **Phone:** 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 **Email:** willitsweekly@gmail.com **Mail:** P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490









Willits Dance Academy

First annual spring recital under new director continues long tradition

The first annual Willits Dance Academy Spring Recital took place on Friday, May 13 at the Willits High School Auditorium, entertaining a packed house of excited parents and other dance

Damian Sebouhian

Reporter damian@willitsweekly.com

enthusiasts. Sixty-five students of instructor Tara Ford's Willits

Dance Academy, ages 3 to 15, took the stage, displaying a wide range of styles including ballet, contemporary, hiphop, jazz and creative dance.

Additional dance performances were conducted by the Mendocino College Repertory Company, choreographed by Ayla Decaire and Tara Ford, who is also a member of MCRC.

Ford inherited the Willits Dance Academy, or WDA, in August 2015 from veteran dance instructor Kathleen Ferri-Taylor, owner of the former Cloud 9 Studio. Ferri-Taylor produced 30 years' worth of annual student dance recitals, and it has been Ford's intention of carrying on that honorable and entertaining tradition.

Ford had her hands full organizing the event, produced as a fundraiser for WDA's summer program, and she received a lot of needed support from the community.

"It was amazing that everyone came together to help make it happen, especially since it was my first-ever production I'd ever put on or directed," Ford said. "It was very overwhelming and stressful, and the best thing I've ever done."

Ford studied dance at the Tacoma School of the Arts, taught ballet and tumbling for Metro Parks of Tacoma, and advanced her dance studies at Seattle Community College and then at Mendocino College. She choreographed two pieces and danced in seven pieces for the college's 2015 Spring Dance Concert.

Ford holds classes in Room 9 at the Willits Little Lake Grange on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

For more information, check the Willits Dance Academy page on Facebook or contact Ford at 978-8154 or tara@ willitsdanceacademy.com.

Photos by Mathew Caine

At top, from left: Young dancers in "Let's Go." Tara Ford's Advanced Contemporary class students, performing "In the Everyday Life of a Dancer." A curtain call by young princess dancers. At left, above: Students dance in "Roar." At left: "Butterfly Ballerinas" spread their wings. Below: "Say Something," choreographed and performed by Hannah Kokmann.

Get your Frontier Days tickets from the Sweethearts!



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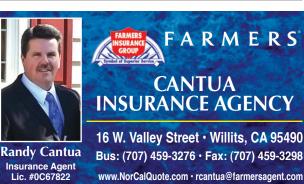
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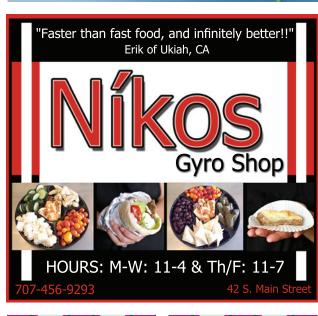
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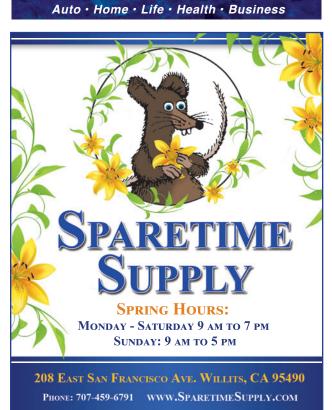
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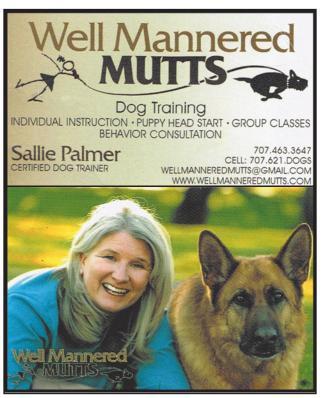
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