

Over on Page 4

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Thank you

To the Editor:

Quack, quack, quack! The ducks and I would like to thank all of the supporters of the annual Sober Grad Ducky Derby race held recently at Brooktrails. We sold every ticket and then some!

We thank and congratulate the winners – Beth Bashore, 1st place; Carmen Thomas, 2nd and 3rd places; and Loraine Patton, last place!

A huge thank you to our "Duckmaster" Robin Leler who cares for the ducks and instructs the senior class volunteers in how this all works.

Special thanks go to these and all senior class volunteers who have worked alongside the Sober Grad Committee all year long to help assure a safe and fun-filled party on graduation night.

A super special thank you to Maureen Moore who does such creative and wonderful work photographing "our kids"!!

Angi Edgar,
Sober Grad Party
Planning Committee

Thanks, Sanhedrin Nursery

To the Editor:

I would like everyone to know that Sanhedrin Nursery honored our gift certificates – and

they were 17 years old!! No expiration date on them. Sanhedrin says there are lots of the certificates still out there, and they will gladly honor yours, too, if you bring it in. That's awesome! Thanks, Sanhedrin Nursery.

Pati Mahler, Willits

Gleaners have a new phone number

To the Editor:

The Grateful Gleaners have a new phone number. We can now be reached at 707-367-7391, if you have fruit trees that need harvesting or want to volunteer. We apologize to those people who called the phone number that was mistakenly given to the Willits Weekly in the article a few weeks ago.

We are looking forward to a bountiful season of gleaning fruit and sharing it with local organizations! Thank you.

The Grateful Gleaners team,
Willits

Thank you

To the Editor:

I would like to thank all of those that helped in making the Willits Community Festival Car and Bike Show the success that it was. This was the first year that we had not had the leadership of Lynn Kennelly. I am thinking that she would be very proud of the

success of the event.

I would like to name those responsible for helping to pull this event together. Many, but not all, of these people attended working meetings starting in January to make certain that everything that had to be done was being seen to. There are a lot of behind-the-scene items that have to be done. Hopefully I am not leaving anyone out: Jim and Judy Montalvo, Neil and Julie Orr Jr., Rich and Kim Venturi, Lee Bryant, Tim and Gloria Westby, Chuck and Jill Persico, Harry Mulhauser, Cici Winiger, Jim and Carolyn Cunningham, Mike, Colten and Grace Horger, Katrina and Norm Kessen, Lisa Epstein, Mike and Gina Giles, Cathy Moorhead and Bill Wilson, who went above and beyond to make certain that all that was needed at the Recreation Grove was taken care of. The Chamber of Commerce staff, Monica Gutierrez and Anna Weber, were real troopers in helping to keep the registration and donations up to date. Thanks to Tom Allman, for being our emcee for the event, to Necole Aguilar for her moving rendition of the national anthem, to Jeff Whitby for playing "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes, and to the American Legion Post #174 for their "Presentation of the Flag" ceremony.

Thanks to the chamber's board of directors who provided wonderful baskets/gifts to be raffled off. They are: Lisa Epstein, Linda Matz, Katrina Kessen, Roxanne Lemos-Neesse, Alison Glassey, Barb Ivy, Cici Winiger, Pam Baskin, Jan Rodriguez, Barb Ivy, Chuck Persico and Carlin Horger.

A special thanks to all of our sponsors: They include our Presidents Circle members, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, Sparetime Supply, Baechtel Creek Inn and Spa, Metal F/X, and Super 8 Willits. Premiere members are Savings Bank of Mendocino County and Moon Lady. The Presidents Circle members each contribute \$5,000, toward their chamber membership. Premiere members have contributed \$2,500. These members, along with all of the chamber members, are critical to accomplishing the chamber's mission of "Making Willits a better place to work and play."

Our other sponsors for this event included Little Lake Auto Parts, Les Schwab Tire Center, SHN Consulting Engineers and Geologists Inc., Willits Rental Center and Automotive Repair, Willits Furniture, Shusters Transportation, Lisa Epstein State Farm, Auto Mart, and Sherwood Rancheria. Other partners were, Perkowski's, Willits Solid Waste, Printing Plus, Auto Mart, City of Willits, Willits Lions Club, Willits Frontier Days, and Flowers by Annette. A big thank you to the merchants who donated door prizes for the event, including Mendo Mill, 101 Trailer and RV, O'Reilly's, Little Lake Auto Parts, Ron's Muffler, Tim and Gloria Westby, Auto Mart, Les Schwab Tire Center, Round Tree Glass, and PG&E.

As usual, the Lions Club put on their typical wonderful breakfast enjoyed by all.

Carlin M. Horger, chair,
Willits Community Festival

Chamber of Commerce hires new coordinator

The Willits Chamber of Commerce announced Friday it has hired Willits local Allison (Deaton) Findley as the new chamber coordinator. Among many responsibilities, Findley will be tasked with advocating for business owners and helping to find ways to improve the business environment in Willits.

Findley will fill the role of Lynn Kennelly, who served as the chamber's director for over 30 years but passed away unexpectedly late last year. Lisa Epstein, chamber president, explains the hiring process and the transition. "It's been tough without Lynn. But we didn't want to rush the process. We wanted to find the right candidate. We owe it to Lynn and to our community so we can continue making Willits an even better place to live, work and play."

"We're so excited to have Allison on our team. With her skills and her knowledge of our community, she will help us take the chamber to the next level. We're working on many projects and to find someone who is passionate about our community and knows this place so well will be a great asset," Epstein shares.

Findley is just as excited. "It's a great opportunity for me. I'm looking forward to working with business owners and finding out how we can help and how we can bring the community together especially after the disruptions caused by the bypass. I feel that, now more than ever, we need to work together to find new ways to keep our town thriving."



New Chamber Coordinator Allison Findley.

Growing up in a small town, Findley found a love for community and that sense of always willing to lend a hand early on. In a place where everyone knows everybody, she learned to connect with people on a personal level. And it's precisely those experiences combined with what she learned from school that she hopes to put to good use as small businesses and her beloved Willits community.

"Willits has so much to offer. And I know everyone probably thinks their hometown is unique, but this place truly is. People here care about their community in a way that you don't see in many places. People here stop and talk at the grocery store, get married to their high school sweethearts or spend a few minutes at the coffee shop to chat. That sense of family that's been lost in a lot of places – we still have it," Findley says.

Findley, who's known to many as "Allie" at the Book Juggler, says the first thing on her to do list is to introduce herself to the business owners and learn more about the challenges they face so she can find ways for the chamber to help them.

"I've worked in the front lines, so I have an idea what it's like for small businesses. These business owners work hard and they give so much back to the community."

She's currently taking her master's program at Northeastern University with a focus on nonprofit management. Findley says it was exactly her love of her community that inspired her to take on this path. Having seen a need and wanting to help, she helped start a non-profit program called "Wood U Give" a few years back to help families who have no access or couldn't afford fire wood to warm their homes. She gathered a group of friends, asked for donations and learned to use a chainsaw to supply fire wood to at least 12 families. "What I learned from that process (besides how to use a chainsaw), is that there are so many people in our community willing to help. All you have to do is ask."

She also learned how gratifying it was to be able to help people. So she thought, what better way to use her passion and turn it into a career so she can help her community.

"I grew up here, my husband, also grew up here. And someday, we want to raise our family in Willits. I want to keep this community thriving for them, so they can have the same experience as we did."

Findley was born and raised in Willits, the oldest child to Edward and Diane Deaton. After graduating from Willits High, Findley went to University of California in Santa Cruz, earning a BA in sociology.

Last year, she married her high school sweetheart, Jesse Findley, and they moved to Texas, but that didn't last long. "We realized how much we missed this place. And how great it was to have all our family close by and that sense of belonging. So we came back after six months."

She talks fondly about her hometown. "There's so much to do. I love having lunch at Loose Caboose, or picking up dog food at J.D. Redhouse or going to the museum. I look forward to the events, the Frontier Days and the Car Show. I even love going to the park with my dad with his metal detector. Sometimes he finds a treasure, but either way it's great to be out and about and visit with people I know."

Asked about following in Kennelly's footsteps she says: "Those are big shoes to fill. It's definitely intimidating, because she (Lynn) was so well-loved and everyone knew her. She had so much knowledge about the chamber, and I can only wish she was here to teach me everything. I can't promise that I can fill her shoes, but I will try really hard and do my best for our community," she concludes.

To reach Findley, call 459-7910 or email info@willits.org. For more information about the Chamber, including more information about becoming a member, visit http://willits.org.

– submitted by the Willits Chamber of Commerce



Above, from left: A boy presses his painted hand to the canvas. Wyatt Hinton with his new paintbrush. Pamalee Thrift teaches about the many uses of a paint brush. Thrift created "Kids Tool Tuesday" in order to teach kids how to use tools. Below, from left: Kids and moms getting ready to learn about tools. Kitara Eller helps her mom, Katie, direct the other kids, as well as participating herself. Robert showing his bucket and brush.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Kids Tool Tuesday

Coast Hardware teaches youngsters how to handle tools

Coast Hardware was looking for ways to involve the community in their store. Manager-in-Training Pamalee Thrift came up with the idea to create a series of fun lessons on how to use tools. She named the series, "Kids Tool Tuesday." If the first two sessions are any indication, the series will be a great success. The first week the lesson was attended by over 80 kids. The second week was a bit more manageable with approximately 40 kids from 7 months to 13 years of age showing up to receive the free tools and knowledge of how to best utilize them. This first series will conclude on June 27, but Thrift and Coast Hardware intend to continue to create new lessons and make them available to more children for years to come.

"We wanted to give away free tools to the kids in the community," said Thrift, "because we know there are not a lot of vocational programs left in Willits. So we figured we'd start with the younger generation and just teach them about some tools, and it would help them to have something they can do with their families and give them a way to play outside in the summertime, so that they're not stuck inside the house all day. It also gives them some confidence in handling tools so that when they get older they're not afraid of them."

Coast Hardware originally posted that they would take kids ages 3 to 10 years old, but had a response from parents with kids as young as 7 months showing up. "We're including them as well even though they can't really participate. But they can begin to learn and appreciate what tools can do. Our oldest attendee is 13. We've been a little lenient with the ages because we want to let all the kids be involved," explained Thrift.

"We're not giving them hammers or screwdrivers or other tools that could be used destructively," she continued. "The first tool we gave them was a bucket so they could store all their other tools. This week we're doing paint brushes. We're also going to do tape measures ... and a level, a

couple others, but on the last week we're going to teach the kids how to take a plant and put it into a pot, and they're each going to have their own flower to take home to their parents."

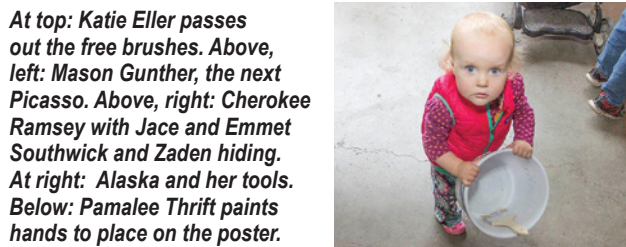
Katie Eller, assistant to Thrift and mother of attendee, Kitara, age 6, commented: "This gives something for the kids to do in the community – teaches them responsibility. I have a daughter too, so it's nice to get her involved. She's the one directing everybody back here from the front of the store. It's good to teach them responsibility early and something to do out in the yard this summer. Kitara is working on building a fairy castle out of sticks and strings."

This week's tool was the paint brush – Coast Hardware gave away 54 paint brushes. The children listened intently as Thrift suggested the many uses of the paint brush: to apply paint (of course), to apply stain, cleaning hard-to-reach places, and cleaning bugs out of windowsills. They also learned about different kinds of brushes and the different ways to apply paint. You could see the wheels of imagination turning within their minds, with the possibilities and creative uses of this tool.

One by one, the kids lined up to have their hands painted – with non-toxic water-based colors – which they then applied to a board to create a cooperative work of art which will be hung at the store for the public to appreciate and enjoy. They were polite and attentive and had a great time. Most said they wanted to continue coming to enjoy this learning experience.

"I think tools are really important for kids to learn how to use, and I think it is really wonderful for Coast Hardware to be doing this," Thrift said, "to be putting tools into kids' hands when they're young. It helps them to become self-sufficient later in life."

If you would like your child to participate, come to Coast Hardware, 101 East Barbara Lane, Tuesdays (June 13, 20 and 27) at 3:30 pm. There will be more series in the near future if you miss this group of lessons. Your children will love it.



At top: Katie Eller passes out the free brushes. Above, left: Mason Gunther, the next Picasso. Above, right: Cherokee Ramsey with Jade and Emmet Southwick and Zacen hiding. At right: Alaska and her tools. Below: Pamalee Thrift paints hands to place on the poster.

The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

Willits Weekly

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P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047
willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / jenniferpoole@gmail.com / 707-459-2633

Maureen Moore, art director and photographer / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047

Mike A'Dair, reporter / mike@willitsweekly.com

Jenny Senter, features writer / jenny@willitsweekly.com

Mathew Caine, photographer / features writer / mathew@willitsweekly.com

Forrest Glycer, reporter / forrest@willitsweekly.com

Ree Slocum, features writer / ree@willitsweekly.com

Joanne Moore, reporter / features writer / joanne@willitsweekly.com

Rachel Belvin, assistant publisher and advertising / rachel@willitsweekly.com / 707-367-9319

April Tweedell, ad sales / 707-972-2475 / april@willitsweekly.com

Dan Essman, calendar editor

Jackie Cobbs, features copy editor

Justin Stephens, webmaster

Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com

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Nicholas Casagrande, EA
855.240.6606
675 South Main Street
Willits, CA 95490
nicholas@ncfinancialgroup.com
nicholas.casagrande@ceterafinancial.com

EA # 105934 - CA DRE # 01854336 - Insurance LIC # 0H68496
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(PG13) 1 hr 50 mins
Fri-Sun:
(2D) 12:45, 3:20 & 8:30pm
(3D) 6:00pm
Mon-Thurs:
(2D) 2:00 & 7:15pm
(3D) 4:40pm

WONDER WOMAN

(PG13) 2 hrs 21 mins
Fri-Thurs:
1:30, 4:30 & 7:30pm

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

Crossword
Puzzle &
Sudoku

Table with 9 rows and 9 columns for a crossword puzzle grid.

Level: Beginner

PET OWNERSHIP WORD SEARCH

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

- ADOPTION BREED CANINE COMPANION CRATE DYSPLASIA EXERCISE FELINE FUR
- GENETICS KINDNESS LICENSE LITTER MANGE MITES NAILS NEUTER
- NUTRITION PAPERS PARASITE PEDIGREE PET PUREBRED QUICK REGISTERED
- REINFORCEMENT SHELTER SIRE SOIL SUPPLIES TRAINING VACCINATION WASTE WHISKERS

Table with 60 numbered squares for crossword clues.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Neither
- 4. Edema (archaic)
- 10. Geological time
- 11. Confidence
- 12. Cerium
- 14. Virtual audio cable
- 15. World's longest river
- 16. A way to inform
- 18. Agents of one's downfall
- 22. Secretly follow
- 23. Put into a position
- 24. Of the desert
- 26. And (Latin)
- 27. Spanish city
- 28. Over there (archaic)
- 30. Regard
- 31. Midway between south and southeast
- 34. Entrap
- 36. Married woman
- 37. A place to explore
- 39. Assist, usually in some wrongdoing
- 40. Arab ruler
- 41. Centiliter
- 42. To which
- 48. 'The Friendly Island'
- 50. Inspire with love
- 51. Being cheeky to
- 52. Up
- 53. Middle Eastern country
- 54. Compass point that is one point north of due east
- 55. Thus
- 56. Covered
- 58. Brew
- 59. Enter hostilely
- 60. Type of bulb

CLUES DOWN

- 1. American state
- 2. Speaker
- 3. Courses for cars
- 4. Deutschmark
- 5. Beloved 'Dubliner'
- 6. Countries of Asia
- 7. Hands have them
- 8. Came down as ice pellets

How To
Sudoku:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a Sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

May 24 to June 4

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 135 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

May 29

8:01 am: Officers responded to a report of a person brandishing a weapon in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

3:12 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

May 30

2:05 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:21 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of Blosser Lane.

10:29 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of Hazel Street.

11:10 am: STEPHENS, Tony Frank (38) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on charges of violation of probation and failure to appear.

6:33 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 600 block of Coast Street.

May 31

12:21 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

4:00 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject causing a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

6:58 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Monroe Street.

7:58 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

10:02 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:59 pm: After a call about a possible rape, DECKER, Jeffery David (18) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of Creekside Drive. He was arrested on multiple felony charges: incest, sodomy, lewd or lascivious acts upon a child under 14 years, engaging in 3 or more acts of substantial sexual conduct with a child under age 14 not less than 3 months, anal or genital penetration by foreign object by force/violence/duress/menace, sexual penetration with foreign object while victim incapable of consent, and sexual penetration of foreign object while victim is unaware.

7:15 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Holly Street and Poplar Avenue.

9:34 pm: PALMER, Timmothy Charles (26) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Manor Way. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on charges of providing false ID to an officer.

11:28 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Bush Street and South Coast Street and issued a warning.

11:35 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

June 1

1:26 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

1:37 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

4:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

4:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Madrone Street.

5:04 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted vehicle in the 400 block of Coast Street.

9:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of North Main Street.

10:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault near the intersection of Creekside Drive and East Valley Street.

4:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

3:53 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

4:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 200 block of Sequoia Boulevard.

June 3

7:29 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Street and South Main Street.

3:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the intersection of West Van Lane and South Main Street.

4:03 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

June 4

1:23 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of South Main Street.



Jeffery David Decker of Willits.

8:55 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

6:05 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 500 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

10:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

The rest of Robbery

Emmanuel Saari of Sacramento, Willits police report.

Instead, at some point during the transaction the seller reportedly himself staring down the muzzle of a handgun and was ordered to the floor. Lafrance and Saari then relieved him of both his pot and his personal belongings.

The two men fled south in a black Chevrolet following the alleged heist, but were spotted by police in the Ukiah area.

The result was a car chase involving both police and state traffic officers that reached speeds of up to 120 mph before Saari, who was driving the Chevy, struck

another vehicle while attempting to pass it on the right shoulder of Highway 101 near Healdsburg Avenue just before 5 pm, police say.

Saari suffered minor injuries in the crash, was detained by officers, and later taken to a Sonoma County hospital for treatment.

Police and state traffic officers found ammunition, the stolen marijuana and a "large amount" of cash in the vehicle, Willits police report.

Lafrance fled the wreck and, chased by police, was arrested about 30 minutes later in a vineyard west of the highway, the Santa Rosa Press Democrat reported. CHP and Sonoma County Sheriff's Office helicopters assisted in the search.

Lafrance was booked into Mendocino County Jail for suspicion of first-degree robbery and false imprisonment. Saari was booked on suspicion of first-degree robbery, false imprisonment, and evading a police officer/reckless driving. Bail for both was set at \$150,000.

Far left: Rashard Lafrance of Miramar. Left: Donovan Saari of Sacramento.



Furry Friend
Hoping for a Home

Handsome
Murphy

Handsome Murphy is a 1-year-old neutered male husky who currently weighs 49 pounds. He greets new people and new environments by sniffing around and exploring. Murphy has a polite manner while taking treats, and he comes when called. Murphy wants to be with people, and he can get jumpy when he's excited. We've heard that Murphy is an escape artist, so his new home needs secure fencing. This beautiful guy will definitely be your best friend! He knows "Sit," "Down," "Shake" and "Give me a kiss!" Murphy is affectionate, and settles down easily and quickly. He's a wonderful dog.

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful dogs and cats here, please visit online at: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453. Please join us the second Saturday of every month at 9 am, June 10 this month, for our "Empty the Shelter" pack walk and help us get every dog out for some exercise!

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful dogs and cats here, please visit online at: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453. Please join us the second Saturday of every month at 9 am, June 10 this month, for our "Empty the Shelter" pack walk and help us get every dog out for some exercise!

OBITUARY |

Rosalee McCarty

Rosalee "Rosie" McCarty of Willits passed away June 1, 2017 at the age of 89. Born to William and Nora "McClarrinon" Stout on March 17, 1928 in Liberal, Missouri, she married Bill McCarty in October 1945 in Reno, Nevada.

Rosie was very much a "people person," enjoying Willits Circle of Friends and being a part of the compassion and service to others of the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital Auxiliary volunteers. She loved animals, gardening, and her many wonderful friends.

Rosie preceded in death by her husband, two sisters, a brother, and her parents. She is survived by her children: Linda Morrison and Dennis McCarty; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Graveside services at Sunset View Cemetery in Berkeley, California are set for June 9 at 1 pm. A Celebration of Life memorial service will be held Sunday, July 16 at the Willits Senior Center from noon to 3 pm.

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



Dick and Barb Walkley's
1940 Ford 2-Door Coupe.

2017
Willits
Car Show
'Best of
Show'

This 1940 Ford 2-Door Coupe owned by Dick and Barb Walkley of Laytonville won the 2017 "Best of Show" award at the Willits Car & Motorcycle Show on Memorial Day weekend.

Congratulations to the Walkleys, members of the Russian River Rods & Coupes car club.

The awards list provided by the Chamber of Commerce for last week's story incorrectly listed a different 1940 Ford Coupe as the winner of the coveted "Best of Show" award this year.

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Along with music, there will be a raffle, silent auction and food available from the Ramirez Taco Truck to help ensure all attendees have an evening of fun and festivity, all while raising money for a great cause.

"We are excited to be holding this event again in Willits this year," said Holly Bennett, co-event coordinator. "There aren't big events held for the Humane Society in Willits, and we thought it was a great opportunity to create a fun event which featured local musicians and to be able to hold it at the Little Lake Grange, which is the sweetest little nugget of a location to hold events!" Bennett is co-planning the event with local resident, and fellow animal lover, Tracey McNamara.

Bennett's partner, Chana Eisenstein, owner of East Hill Veterinary Clinic, is also keenly in touch with the efforts of the Humane Society and is excited for the upcoming event. East Hill works with the shelter for their spays and neuters, and therefore gives Bennett and Eisenstein first-hand knowledge about just how much the shelter does, on a very small budget.

"Each year, they really grind out their budgets just to cover daily operating expenses," explained Bennett. "Anytime they receive larger donations, it really allows them to improve the shelter and to be able to house and place more animals."

Bennett noted there are about four events held during the year for the Humane Society, and those fundraisers have allowed for some amazing improvements including waterproofing the outside dog kennels and expanding the "cattery" to house additional felines of all ages inside a more spacious area.

Last year's Animal Party raised about \$4,000 for Humane Society, and Bennett said the shelter was able to get more animals through their kennels last year than ever before – around 225 dogs and 400 cats.

Being able to move more animals also allows the society to help alleviate the strain on other shelters; Bennett noted the society was able to pull animals from the county shelter in Ukiah and from the shelter in Lake County which had to close last year.

"Helping raise money for the shelter allows good things to ripple through the community and gives these animals more space, better care, and forever homes," said Bennett.

The Humane Society was established in the early 1990s with a donation from Bea Breese, a resident who wished to have a shelter which served inland Mendocino County. The non-profit relies on funds received from donations and contributions from the community to continue Breese's vision.

"As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization we receive no taxpayer funding, nor are we affiliated with any other local, state or national humane organization," said Taffy Montgomery of the Humane Society of Mendocino County. "We therefore depend on the generosity of individuals, volunteers, the business community and our established and ongoing fundraising efforts to take in,

care for, spay and neuter, and find homes for the hundreds of dogs and cats surrendered to us by the public every year. The Animal Party is a new, but exciting addition for our fundraising efforts. Last year's event was so much fun. We anticipate it will be even bigger and better this year. It is a family-friendly event, and we urge you to attend."

This year's party line-up will also include a local celebrity musician, Mona Gnader, a long-time animal lover and world-traveled musician, who still calls Willits home.

Gnader, whose musical roster includes playing with bands from Tommy Tutone of "867-5309" fame to blues musicians Indiana Slim and Sarah Baker to world-wide touring with Sammy Hagar, is excited to play on a Willits stage again all for the benefit of the animals.

"This event is for such a great cause," said Gnader. "There is an over-abundance of animals, and I really support the efforts of the Humane Society and appreciate their active efforts to help find them homes."

Gnader said she'd made similar efforts in the past, trying to help find homes for rescued animals, taking it upon herself to finance the spaying or neutering of the animal, and then offering it for adoption – with a bed and bag of food – to a good home.

"That was about 30 years ago that I was trying to help place animals," Gnader laughed, "but I remember just how much work it takes. I always see a different selection of Humane Society cats at Coast Hardware, and I think it's such a great – and successful – visually beneficial partnership to have them help find the kitties homes."

Over the years, Gnader has had many animals, running the gamut from cats to dogs to guinea pigs, and with East Hill providing vet services to her animals now, it seemed like a perfect opportunity for her to play onstage for the upcoming Animal Party.

"It's a dance, I do music, it's for the animals, it's a great fit!" said Gnader. "I've been playing music since I was about 14 and used to play in clubs all over. I played with local and non-local bands for years afterwards, and then have spent the last 18 years touring with Sammy Hagar. It was such a great experience, seeing the world, but it's exhausting and very demanding."

"He's turning 70 this year and has always had many projects under his belt. It's allowed me some time now to be back at home, but a musician has got to play – and this opportunity was a perfect one to get back onto a Willits stage. I don't think I've played onstage here in my hometown for some 20 years."

Gnader joined forces with Fed Karpik, Paula Bradman, Jimmy Sage, and Matt Blackett who call themselves The Flaming O's. The band mostly plays '80s favorites and "the songs that people want to hear!" Members of The Flaming O's also have some famous ties: Members have played with Lee Rocker, Poison, Eddie Money and Night Ranger.

Come hear some great music, enjoy dancing, eating and mingling with other animal lovers, and support the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County.

For more information: 485-0123.



Above, left: Writer Seth Garcia is in residence at North Street Collective from now until August, to work on and share a collaborative project called "Water Cups." Above, right: North Street Collective summer resident Karina Faulstich is a multimedia artist and performer.

North Street Collective launches summer residency program

By Natasha Hoehn,
North Street Collective

North Street Collective, a nonprofit program dedicated to celebrating Mendocino County by providing time and space for local and visiting artists to do new work and contribute to the community, is thrilled to welcome its first artist residents of 2017: Karina Faulstich and Seth Garcia.

A native of southern California and the Pacific Northwest, Karina Faulstich is a multimedia artist and performer whose work is largely focused on themes of feminism and ecology. Faulstich graduated from Pitzer College in 2015 with a self-designed major "creative practice," and has since concentrated her studies on butoh dance, taking workshops internationally.

Seth Garcia holds a BA in writing and literature from Emmanuel College, where he helped found and edit the school's first literary magazine, "The Saintry Review." Recently his writing has been influenced by assemblage art, while focused on dissecting the process of involuntary memory.

Faulstich and Garcia will be in residence at North Street from now until August, to work on and share a collaborative project called "Water Cups."

Their project will symbolize a purposeful reestablishment of human relationships to water – one more personal and intentional. Engaging archival and ethnographic research, this work will explore both indigenous and Western modes of thought surrounding the natural world, specifically the resource of water.

Faulstich and Garcia explain: "Effects of climate change – drought, flooding, and temperature extremes – become more prevalent each season. Globally, we witness water sources depleting, dangerous weather patterns emerging, and ecological balances being disrupted. This year's relief of California's severe drought has been accompanied by equally severe flooding. With climate change, both droughts and floods will likely worsen, threatening our ability to sustain a balanced life. "Water Cups" is a multimedia project proposed to examine the causes and effects of climate change on water system and peoples in the Mendocino area."

Faulstich and Garcia plan to make clay cups crafted to include overlays of

fragmented texts and images using a process of transferring ink-printed materials onto clay. The cups will receive a translucent glaze to highlight these juxtaposed words and images.

Garcia will create a series of interwoven poems responding to industrialization through local histories and stories about changing water systems and the ways they have affected the area and peoples. These poems will be fragmented and used as source material for transferring onto cups.

Faulstich will draw upon her work with ceramics to sculpt the cups while confronting Mendocino's changing water systems within a global context. "By transferring and overlaying fragments of history and poetic response, we wish to offer a visual and interactive experience that fosters contemplation of our changing experience with water," says Faulstich.

Collaboratively, Faulstich and Garcia will integrate other images and text found throughout their combined research. Although aesthetically linked, and crafted with similar materials and ideas, each water cup in the series will be unique. Accompanied by the cups will be a small handmade edition of "Water Poems" written by Garcia throughout the residency.

North Street Collective's residency program will continue through October. It serves to provide emerging and established artists with the time, space and inspiration to explore ideas and produce work.

The residency program is looking for professionals working in or across the following artistic disciplines: literature; visual art; performance; film and video; gardening, horticulture and wellness; culinary arts; science and research; green building, energy, and design; and political and social organizing.

North Street provides an opportunity for individual artists or duos to create, advance or complete work in a self-guided and self-motivated way. They especially encourage partnerships of artists and scientists or artists and community activists who seek to work together in new ways to apply. Residents may apply to stay for two weeks to three months.

For more information, visit www.northstreetcollective.org or email Natasha Hoehn at natasha@northstreetcollective.org.

Photo by Charlotte Ballenger

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Far left: Gary Martin, WCA curator. At left: One of Nan Trichler's T-shirt-inspired designs.

Above, from left: Debbie Bowles' quilt, titled "Little Miss Muffet Sat on a Tuffet." Rachel Cash and Loni Nagy in front of "Tropical Breeze" by Willits Sit N Sew. Nancy Simpson explains her quilt.

At left: Detail from Ann Horton's "Cottage Garden."

Below: Quilters Barbara Carlin, Nancy Simpson, Ann Horton, Laura Fogg, Gretchen Moore, Nan Trichler, Rachel Cash, Cathy Peterson and Christine Duncan at the Arts Center.



Colorful Quilt Art

'Made in Mendocino' shows at the Arts Center through June 25

The quilts hanging at the Willits Center for the Arts as part of the "Made in Mendocino" exhibit are warm, lovely and inviting – it's extremely difficult to refrain from feeling the materials, the stitching, the textures, the dimensionality – but don't touch. These quilts should be treated like any other wall-hanging forms of art.

Gary Martin, WCA curator, has compiled quilts from 20 individuals from mostly inland Mendocino County. "Everything was hand-selected," he explains. "I had no idea there were so many quilts. We have them from ages 15 to 80."

"I didn't know anything about quilts," Martin said. "A quilter, a teacher – Rachel Cash – told me there was a group in Ukiah that did amazing quilts, so I went down there to talk to the ladies about getting some quilts for a show. There were about 50 or 60 women in this group. I thought it was all the quilters in the world. I had no idea that there were so many quilters. And then I find out there are two other groups in Ukiah as well as a couple of groups here in Willits and more in Laytonville. So I started asking around and got them from just everywhere I could. It took me about eight weeks to put this elaborate show together."

The fabric-based art covers the walls in both the downstairs rooms at the WCA and much of the hallway. The colors, textures and themes are varied and eclectic; they display a creativity that supersedes the medium. There seems to be, after seeing this incredible exhibit and speaking with many of the participants, an entire subculture of (mostly) women who partake in this pastime. It is good to see so many examples of different forms of this medium in one place.

Nancy Simpson made a particularly striking art quilt based on photos she took in the Southwest. "I took a theme from the environment of Sedona, which has striations of geological formations, and I built them using different colors of fabric. I also added a red-tailed hawk, which was sitting on a branch nearby, which I photographed and printed on fabric on my home printer, and sewed to the quilt."

Nancy Simpson explains the basics of quilting: The quilting is actually the stitches that sew three layers together. Three layers make a quilt, a front, a back, and an insulation layer inside. The quilting holds those three layers together. "Originally it was just a practical application to hold the material together," Simpson said, "but now it's being used

as a creative outlet."

Sometimes the thread itself becomes a major element in the design, utilizing many colors to delineate the patterns. Applique is another technique which involves sewing one piece of fabric down to another. Some of the artists actually paint on the fabric directly, further breaking down the limitations of traditional quilting and expanding the ability to create what they see.

There is even humor in some of the pieces, as evidenced by the three-dimensional work of Gretchen Moore. "I thought that quilting was just little squares that you put together," Moore said. "I took some classes, and I found out that that's not true. There are curves and shapes, triangles and applique. I've done a couple of bed quilts, but I'm really a quilter artist. I do vertical quilts versus horizontal quilts, ones that go on the wall rather than on a bed. I've been quilting about 10 years. I found that I like the art quilts better than bed quilts. Art quilts are more creative, more original."

Hanging quilts on the wall can still be functional, too. According to Simpson, quilting and fabric art "serve a purpose, not just for beauty, but they also add sound insulation, make a cozy, homey feeling in a room. Additionally, they give a feeling of well-being, especially if it is a quilt made by someone in your family. There is a special quilt for your soul."

Many of the quilters in the show have been practicing their craft for multiple decades, including Laura Fogg of Ukiah, who came here as part of the "Back to the Land" movement from Berkeley. "I was trained as an artist, but I hate paint. I love landscapes and figures. I discovered about 20 years ago, after the kids grew up, that I could actually do what I wanted to do with little pieces of cloth instead of smearing messes of wet paint. I'm very happy with art quilting, especially in retirement."

Nan Trichler of Willits has been quilting for over 40 years. "I started out doing very traditional-type work," she says. "I started out doing larger work, but now I'm doing smaller pieces. The three pieces in the show tonight are indicative of my recent work. I've gone and found images, mostly on T-shirts, that I've made the central image of the piece. It's a lot of fun. You just wouldn't believe what's on T-shirts these days. I like to work small. It's very daunting to me to work large. I go through a lot of ideas. There's a kind of 'Pop Art'

Read the rest of
Quilts | Over on Page 11

Thursday, June 8

“Grace and Glorie” Soroptimist Fundraiser at WCT: Willits Soroptimists are hosting a special fundraiser evening at “Grace and Glorie,” a drama on aging by Tom Ziegler, at the Willits Community Theatre on Thursday, June 8. Snacks and drinks will start at 6:15 pm; play starts at 7 pm. Proceeds go towards local scholarships and awards. Tickets are \$15. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. To purchase tickets: Marilyn Harden, 459-5649.

Friday, June 9

Enchanted Forest Gathering: Day 1. Award-winning festival pairs live and electronic music from around the globe. Also art, workshops, presenters, vendors, comedy, camping and kids activities. Friday, June 9. Black Oak Ranch, Laytonville. Tickets: www.enchantedforestmendo.com.



“Egyptian Art”: A free art presentation at the Willits Center for the Arts on Egyptian Art by Curator Gary Martin, Friday June 9 at 6:30 pm. Light refreshments and great company will be provided. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-1726.

“Grace and Glorie” at WCT: A spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler, featuring Kelly Kesey and Hafsa Stewart in the leading roles, at Willits Community Theatre. Friday, June 9, 8 pm. “Grace and Glorie” runs through June 18, with performances on Thursdays at 7 pm for \$15, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$20, and some Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$15. Advance tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 North Main Street, online at brownpapertickets.com, or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

Shanachie Pub: Djpt, sound crafting, remixes, warehouse grade electronic fusion. Friday, June 9. 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, June 10

Enchanted Forest Gathering: Day 2. Award-winning festival pairs live and electronic music from around the globe. Also art, workshops, presenters, vendors, comedy, camping and kids activities. Saturday, June 10. Black Oak Ranch, Laytonville. Tickets: www.enchantedforestmendo.com.

Summer Reading Kick Off Party: The summer reading program “Reading By Design” starts with a party at the library. Reading, snacks, sign-ups for the reading program. Saturday, June 10. 11 am. No charge. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.



Wildfire Preparedness Open House: Brooktrails Fire Department hosts a wildfire preparedness program. Representatives from public safety agencies on hand to discuss and answer questions regarding what to do before, during and after a wildfire. Plus, attendees can meet Ashes, the Arson K-9, view fire equipment and meet local firefighters. Free hot dogs! Saturday, June 10, 10 am to 1 pm. Brooktrails Fire Station, 24860 Birch Street. Info: Brooktrails Fire Department 459-4441.

City Pool Starts Summer Schedule: Starting June 10, open swimming Mondays through Saturdays, from 1 to 4 pm. Lap swimming and water aerobics

will be held at the same hours, with special sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays. Pool closed on Sundays, but available to be reserved for pool parties. 299 North Main Street. Message phone: 459-5778. Pricing information, reservations and schedules, please see: www.facebook.com/willitscitypool.

Ecology Action Farm Tour at Jeavons Center: Cynthia & John Jeavons will lead a 6-hour interactive tour of their Biointensive gardens. \$25 per person. Pre-registration required. Saturday, June 10. 10 am to 4 pm. 5798 Ridgewood Road. Info: 459-0150.

Open Garden: Brooktrails Community Garden will have an open garden event from 1 to 3 pm. A garden tour at 2 pm. Author Anthony Ward will read from his book “Being with Flowers: Floral Art as Spiritual Practice.” Plus, music, refreshments; all profits to benefit the garden. Saturday, June 10. 1 to 3 pm. Brooktrails Community Garden, Birch Street, across from the old Brooktrails Lodge.

“Main Street Then & Now”: Exhibit Opening and Reception at the Mendocino County Museum: Guest curators Kim Bancroft and Judi Berdis present “Main Street Then & Now,” in the Museum’s Long Gallery. Community reception, 1 to 3 pm, features a curated tour of “Main Street,” followed by tastes of local food. The new exhibit, which recreates the feel of Main Street Past, will be on display through November, 2017. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-2736, or visit www.MendocinoMuseum.org.



Sit N Sew: Monthly drop-in sewing group meets at the Willits Library. Free to all and open to the public. Bring your sewing machine, tools, and any project you would like to work on. Saturday, June 10, from 1 to 5 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Information: Rachel at 354-0605.

Animal Party at Little Lake Grange: The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County hosts the 2nd Annual Animal Party. Dance to the music of Mystic Sol, Pick N Pull, and The Flaming O’s. Doors open at 6 pm; music until 11 pm. Plus raffle and silent auction, beer and wine, and food by Ramirez Taco Truck. “Come kick off the summer season donating to a great cause!” All proceeds go directly to the animals. Saturday, June 10. Tickets \$20 at the door. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Info: 485-0123.

“Grace and Glorie”: a spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler continues at Willits Community Theatre. 8 pm. Tickets \$20. See Friday, June 9 listing for more details.

Shanachie Pub: Shoring,

a quartet: “Too driving to be Folk, too thoughtful to be Pop.” Plus second band, Smoky Knights, indie rock trio out of L.A. Saturday, June 10. 9 pm. \$5 cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 11

Father’s Day Breakfast at the Senior Center: Complimentary Bloody Mary, pancakes, bacon/ sausage/ ham, any style eggs, grandma’s biscuits, country sausage gravy. Sunday, June 11. 8 to 11 am. Adults \$7, Senior Center members \$6. Children under 8 years old \$5. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

10th Annual Benefit Scramble: Fundraiser golf tournament for the Adventist Christian School of Willits. Registration: 8 to 8:30 am. Shotgun Start: 9 am. \$50 for non-members; \$30 for members. Includes green fees, proxy holes, picnic lunch and prizes. Mulligans available. Sunday, June 11. Brooktrails Golf Course, 24860 Birch Street. Info: 459-6761.



Outlet Creek Monitoring: Eel River Recovery Project and Friends of Outlet Creek are organizing citizen monitoring of Outlet Creek, e.g. tree canopy, water temperature, signs of fish spawn. Bring lunch, weather appropriate clothes. Transportation available with reservation. Sunday, June 11. Leaves 10 am from Willits Hub, 630 South Main Street. Info: Robin 459-0155.

Enchanted Forest Gathering: Final day. Award-winning festival pairs live and electronic music from around the globe. Also art, workshops, presenters, vendors, comedy, camping and kids activities. Sunday, June 11. Black Oak Ranch, Laytonville. Tickets: enchantments.

“Grace and Glorie”: a spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler continues at Willits Community Theatre. 2 pm afternoon matinee. Tickets \$15. See Friday, June 9 listing for more details.

“Learn How to Live a Better Life”: 4th session in a free 6-part series. Improve mental performance and increase emotional intelligence with this series by Dr. Neil Nedley. Use the practical tips and information presented to think clearly , manage emotions, improve creativity, and overall life satisfaction. Sunday, June 11. 6:30 pm. The Friendship House, 363 West Mendocino Avenue.

Youth Dance Party: Middle schoolers and high schoolers, “Celebrate Summer” with DJ music, inexpensive food, non-alcoholic beverages. Sunday, June 11. 6 to 9 pm. \$6. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

Tuesday, June 13

Promotora Training: Mendocino County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services sponsors Promotora training workshop

by Visión y Compromiso. Tuesday, June 13. 9 am to 4 pm. Willits Integrated Service Center in Atlantic Conference Room, 472 East Valley Street. Pre-registration required: 472-2319, or surveymonkey.com/r/PromotoraWillits. For more information, see article elsewhere on Calendar page.

Discovery Day: A craft day, children will be taught how to construct Cosmic Sun Catchers. Tuesday, June 13. 1 to 2:30 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

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 movie: “Wonder Woman” and “Captain Underpants.” For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

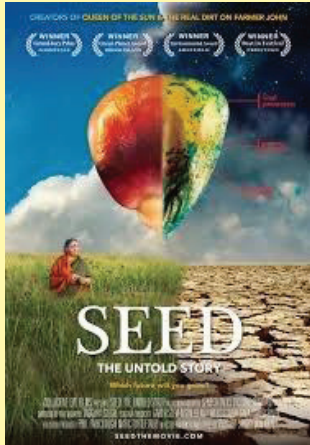
Wednesday, June 14

Cannabis Roundtable Discussion: Small Farmers Association is hosting a Mendocino County Cannabis roundtable discussion at Sparetime Supply. Experts explain the permitting process, answer questions, and speak on topics surrounding sustainable certification and Biodynamic Application. Admission: free for members, \$35 for the general public. Wednesday, June 14, 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Sparetime Supply, 208 East San Francisco Street. To attend: RSVP at smallfarmersinfo@gmail.com. Also, please send any questions and concerns.

Thursday, June 15

“Willits Reads”: Every Thursday, beginning June 15, from 10:30 to 11 am, the Willits Library will be inviting special guests from the community to find out what books they are reading, and to kick off the weekly Story Hour by reading the first book. Brooktrails Fire Chief Daryl Schoeppner and Ashes the Arson Dog will be the first guests on June 15. 390 East Commercial Street, 459-5908.

Now and Then Film Series: “Seed: the Untold Story” reveals the “harrowing and heartening” story of Seed Keepers as they wage a David vs. Goliath battle against chemical seed companies, defending a 12,000-year food legacy. Featuring Dr. Jane Goodall, Vandana Shiva, and Andrew Kimbrell. Local Seed savers and growers will be on hand to talk about how the concerned and informed public can help save our genetic plant diversity. Thursday, June 15. Doors open 6:30 pm, film starts 7 pm. \$5 donation requested. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.



“Grace and Glorie”: A spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler continues at Willits Community Theatre. 7 pm. Tickets \$15. See Friday, June 9 listing for more details.

Shanachie Pub: TV Mike & The Scarecrows, a Cosmic Twang Stamp band from the West Coast

via Indiana. Thursday, June 15. 8 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, June 16

Extreme Science Magic Show: Don O'Brian combines science, magic and humor. Friday, June 16. 10:30 am. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.



“Grace and Glorie”: A spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler continues at Willits Community Theatre. 8 pm. Tickets \$20. See Friday, June 9 listing for more details.

Melvin Seals & JGB: Live and direct at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Friday, June 16. Doors open 6 pm; music starts at 7 pm. Cream of the Crop Productions. \$40 adults; \$10 kids club.

Shanachie Pub: Garson Sloan from West Texas brings “Americana Gothic” to Willits. Friday June 16. 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, June 17

Forest Health Field Trip: Eel River Recovery Project is sponsoring a trip to the headwaters of the South Fork Eel River near Branscomb to investigate the question: “What has forest health got to do with Coho salmon?” Bring lunch, weather appropriate clothes. Transportation available with reservation. Trip departs June 17, 9 am from the Willits Hub, 630 South Main Street. Info: Robin 459-0155; or www.eelriverrecovery.org.

Guided Meditations: Claudia Wenning, N.D. will facilitate an interactive workshop on guided meditation. Saturday, June 17. 11 am to 1 pm. Free admission. Cultivating Wellness Studio: Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Room #4. RSVP 354-3111.

Dads in the Library: All fathers with their families invited to sign up for the summer reading program. Saturday, June 17. 1 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.



Relicensing Eel River Dams: Friends of the Eel River and American Whitewater Association invite the public to hear speakers and participate in discussions, pro and con, on the advisability of relicensing the Eel River/ Potter Valley diversion, and the relicensing of 50-year-old dams on the Eel River. Also, effects of the dams on fish populations and overall ecological health of the river. “How safe are Eel River dams?” Saturday, June 17. 4 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

“Grace and Glorie”: A spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler continues at Willits Community Theatre. 8 pm. Tickets \$20. See Friday, June 9 listing for more details.

Shanachie Pub: Courtney Chambers Duo brings her melodic guitar and “powerful and soulful vocals.” Saturday, June 17. 8 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 18

“Learn How to Live a Better Life”: 5th session in a free 6-part series. Improve mental performance and increase emotional intelligence with this series by Dr. Neil Nedley. Sunday, June 18. 6:30 pm. The Friendship House, 363 West Mendocino Avenue. See Sunday, June 11 listing for details.

“Grace and Glorie”: The final performance of this spiritually powerful drama of unexpected connection by Tom Ziegler at Willits Community Theatre. 2 pm afternoon matinee. Tickets \$15. See Friday, June 9 listing for more details.

COLUMN | At the Movies



‘Wonder Woman’

The Story: Starring Gal Gadot and Chris Pine, this is the origin story of the supernaturally powerful Diana, princess of the Amazons, who lives on an idyllic, hidden island of women ... only women. She rescues an American pilot (a man!) who crashes in the sea. He tells her of the terrible war taking place in the outside world, WWI aka “The War to End All Wars.” Diana decides it is her obligation to save the innocents who are being slaughtered. Thus, the Amazon princess becomes Wonder Woman.

My Thoughts: There are two great finds in this movie. They both play Wonder Woman. Lilly Aspell, an 8-year-old horseback riding champion/child model, plays Diana as a girl. Her close-ups are charming, are invigorating. Gal Gadot, of course, plays the woman. Both actresses, younger and older, are charismatic. Like the Roaring Twenties movie star Clara Bow, Gal Gadot possesses the

indefinable “it,” she owns the screen. The story line is fine in the usual good guy/bad guy way. What makes this flick so exciting and sets it apart are Diana’s idiosyncrasies, her humanity, her kindness and her off-hand hauteur, her essential sense of duty as a queen. Honestly, Gal Gadot’s heroic form mesmerized me. I really believed that she is better than I am. The truth is: She is a goddess.

Parents: If they can handle the nightmare violence of the Western Front, (older) children can watch this love story/adventure saga of duty, war, self-sacrifice ... and lost innocence.

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



Promotora Training in Willits

Mendocino County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services and Visión y Compromiso are sponsoring a Promotora Training on Tuesday, June 13, 9 am to 4 pm at the Willits Integrated Service Center building, in the Atlantic Conference Room, located at 472 East Valley Street. “This training strengthens the understanding and builds skills necessary for participants to apply the Promotor Model to their work in the community. The training will include topics such as adult learning, popular education, communication, group formation, emotional intelligence, project planning, presentation techniques, and an overview of community participation, as they relate to the Hispanic/Latino community and health services.”

Pre-registration is required as space is limited. To register, contact Mendocino County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services: 472-2319, or register online: surveymonkey.com/r/PromotoraWillits.

Ongoing Events

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

“Made in Mendocino”: The June show at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, runs through June 25; the show features quilts made by central Mendocino County quilters, including quilt-makers from Willits, Ukiah, and Laytonville. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. If you are interested in volunteering to be a docent, call the art center at 459-1726.

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

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

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

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

Willits Library Activities: Wednesdays: (except the first Wednesday of the month), 9 to 10 am, “Ancestry.com”(limited space, pls. sign up in advance), 11 to 11:30 am, “Play Group” and 3:30 to 5:30 pm, “Leggo Day” (bring your imagination and start building); Thursdays: 11 to 11:30 am, “Crawlers and Walkers Story Time” (ages 0-3), 4 pm, “Farmers Market Story Time”; Fridays: 3:30 to 4:30 pm, “Therapeutic Art Coloring” (all ages); Fridays: 5 to 7 pm, “Youth Game Night” (ages 10 to 14). Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

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

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

Drop-in Knitting Circle: every Saturday of the month, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. “Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles; we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn to knit or crochet. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in.” Info: Lotus Baker at 456-9037, or lotusb3@earthlink.net.

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 Piazza, 1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

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

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

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

Free Sheriff’s Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 pm; Karate: Thursday, Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6, 5 pm to 6 pm; Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 pm to 7 pm; Teens to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Singer songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday. 8 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday. New time: 6 pm. No cover. “Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable.” Open Mic Night every Wednesday. 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7:30 pm; pre-signup list starts at 3 pm when the Pub opens. “An eclectic array of local musicians and even performers from around the world!” 50 South Main Street, behind Adam’s Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

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

Get included in our calendar: willitsweekly@gmail.com



Drive-Thru Dinner for Two

Friday, June 23 Harrah Senior Center, with the courteous and generous BBQ help of Willits Lions Club, present: Drive Thru Dinner for Two, on Friday, June 23, from 5 to 6:30 pm. The menu will include BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Garlic Bread, and Cookies! All for the small price of \$25. Presale tickets only purchased at Harrah Senior Center. Pick up the dinner at the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Information: 459-6826

6th Annual Jesse Pittman Memorial 5K Run/5K Walk

Saturday, June 17 The Jesse Pittman Fund offers a college scholarship for Mendocino County high school students, and every year a 5K run or 5K walk is organized to raise monies for the for the Fund. This year, registration and sign in will be on Saturday, June 17, from 7:30 to 8:30 am, at Ky-en Recreation Area, Pomo ‘C,’ 1250 Marina Drive, Ukiah. The Race Day registration fees are based on age: 6 & under is \$10; ages 7-12 is \$15; ages 13 -19 is \$20; ages 20 and up is \$25. Participants may register the day of the race or online: http://rdysetgo.com/jesse-pittman-memorial-fund-5k-runwalk-6-17-17.html.

For those of us who did not know why we honor Jesse Pittman, he was a Willits native and Willits High School graduate who served for a year in Cal Fire in 2003-2004, then enlisted in the Navy to become a Navy SEAL. On August 6, 2011, Jesse was serving in Afghanistan when the helicopter carrying him and 29 other American service men, plus 7 Afghan soldiers was shot down, killing them all. We will always remember his courage, and his name.

– Michelle Cummings, KLLG

This week at KLLG!

On Sunday from 6 to 9 pm, KLLG 97.9 FM will be broadcasting the Grange Youth “Celebrate Summer” dance. All junior high, high school, and college age students are invited to attend. No alcohol event. Also, on Monday, Michael Foley’s “All Along the Watchtower” show will feature an interview with John Michael Greer, author of “The Long Descent.”



Senior Center Lunch

Week of June 12 through June 16 Monday: Ham & Cheese Sandwich Tuesday: Veggie Lasagna Wednesday: Shepherd’s Pie Thursday: Reuben Sandwich Friday: Oven-Fried Chicken Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55: \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entree, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Willits Charter School Senior Class Graduates



Caitlin Breen



Makaylah Coleman



Vanessa Hernandez



Daisy Hinker-Tye



Natalie Lopes



Eladio Mendez



Sol O'Greenfield



Josh Wear

Willits Charter School Eighth-Grade Graduates



Kyren Anderson



Sky Aragon



Alexiz Blower



Farrah Breen



Ahanu Casey



Caleb Christman-Mihelcic



Devon DiFazio



Sky Greystar



Dustin Haglund



Zoe Jordan



Bella Karg



Gabriel Komes



George Koro



Alexandra McClusky



Heath Moen



Amarah Potter



Joshua Redding



Jasmine Rosado

Baechtel Grove Middle School Eighth-Grade Graduates

Liliana Acevedo	Rey Ceja	Kristan Frost
Viviana Acevedo Duran	Jonathon Chavan	Dylan Gijon
Amayah Alexander	Cody Chesser	Michael Grimes
Amy Andrade	Nathan Coleman	Matthew Harries
Samantha Arms	Jacob Compa	Laney Hendry
Skylar Arnold	Alyssa Conrad	Alvaro Heredia
Alyssa Bacon	Martin Coughlin	Aleen Hernandez
Manuel Banuelos	Jayden Crabtree	Andres Hernandez
Joscelyn Beebe	Cecilia Cramer	Brendan Hodge
Steven Beers	Evan Crandall	Tanysha Hudgens
Geovanni Bertolino	Don Donahoo	Kira Humphries
Nyanna Bertolino Haley	Taylor Drew	Aydin Hutzenbuehler
Karina Brito	William Duncan	Xander Jennison
Nomiah Britton	Christian Dzui Erickson	Kylie Jergenson
Callie Brown	Treasure Estes	Justin Johnson
Jack Brown	Cole Faherty	Nicholas Karkar
Kaiden Butler	Dominica Favallora	Jace Kroh
Hayden Byer	Izabelle Foster	Teophil Labus
Mariana Calderon Medina	Michael Frahm Jr	Conner Lech
Mark Cardona	Daven Framke	Jessica Lewis
Jazmyyn Carrigg	Alyssa Fraser	Riley Lewis



Jacobi Smith



Genevieve Van Meter



Sarah Warrick

Elias Lindburg	Christopher Rodriguez	Pedro Tafolla Orutilla
Ceder Lowham	Joliana Rosado	Brandon Tehrani
Jacob Loya	Kaitlyn Rose	Tianna Thompson
Joseph Loya	Angel Sanchez	Mandy Thurman
Isabel Mandujano	Briana Sanchez	Luis Vega
Sierra Mayfield Unangst	Juan Sanchez	Valeria Velasco
McKenna McNelley	Nathan Sauers	Casandra Villalobos
Zandria Mondo	Traven Sayad	Ayla Walker
Claire Moyle (Case Brackett)	Gage Schmid	Micah Warner
Myra Nava	Coral Schnur	Ryan Watson
Kailani Newbern	Sakora Scott	Parker Watts
Amanda Nunez	Jordan Scroggins	Rhyann Whaley
Isabella Nunez	Sarah Silva	Sonni Willburn
Luis Osorio Urbina	Zannah Sischo Haendle	Emily Williams
Julissa Perez	Jada Smith	Kasandra Wood Huffman
Adriana Rodriguez	Collin Spackman-Rowles	Jayson Yamamoto
	Davian Steffen	Alejandro Zuniga

LEGAL NOTICES

WW116

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, at 5 pm, the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees will conduct a Public Hearing at the Willits High School Media Center, located at 299 North Main St., Willits, California, on Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Adoption for:

Algebra 1 & 2 Hybrid Package (8 yrs.): grades 9-12
Copyright 2015
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Digital and Print Components
1601804, 1601807, 1601857, 1601860, 1651821

Information may be obtained from the Willits Unified School District Office, 1277 Blosser lane, Willits CA 95490; 707-459-5314.

Publication Date: June 8, 2017

WW117

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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AP US History: grades 10-12
Copyright 2016
Kennedy & Cohen: SSBH
Print and Digital (6 yrs) Components
1337094323, 1337094315, 1337090166, 1337227463,
9781337094320, 9781337094313, 9781337090162,
9781337227469

Information may be obtained from the Willits Unified School District Office, 1277 Blosser lane, Willits CA 95490; 707-459-5314.

Publication Date: June 8, 2017

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willitsweekly@gmail.com or 459-2633 for info



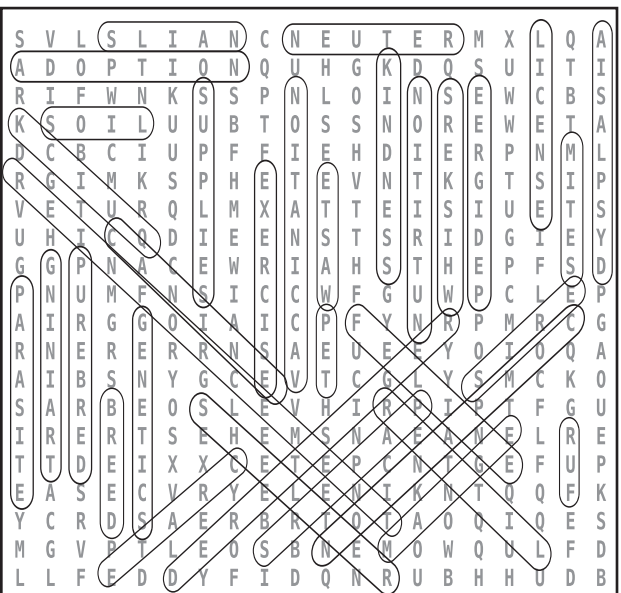
Current Job Openings:

Branch Librarian - Ukiah
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I-II
Deputy Probation Officer I-II
Eligibility Worker I-III
Nurse Case Assistant
Planning Technician II
Program Specialist I-II
Registered Veterinary Technician
Senior Nurse Case Manager
Social Worker III-V
(Includes Immediate Openings for Temporary Extra-Help Work)

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr EOE

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The rest of Quilts | From Page 7

feel to it because I'm taking something that already exists, and embellishing it and creating something new from it."

Debbie Bowls moved to Mendocino County in 1973 to teach in Laytonville and retired in 2004. "We restored a building in Laytonville and started a quilt shop – one of the top 10 quilt stores in the country. I love all fabric. I love batik, big quilts, little quilts, art quilts. I guess I'm in the right place. If I don't have any customers, I get to design the quilts I like. I also get to teach quilting as I used to do in middle school. We have a quilt show every year the last weekend in August."

Rachel Cash and Loni Nagy worked together on the quilt, "Tropical Breeze," with their sewing group, Sit N Sew. Their compilation quilt is being raffled off (raffle tickets are \$1 or six tickets for \$5). "This quilt was made by 10 different ladies so there is the personality and soul of 10 different people in this quilt," says Cash. Sit N Sew meets once a month, usually on the second Saturday of the month, at the library. "Everybody is welcome. Bring your sewing machine or your hand work," Nagy says.

Christy Bergenson's quilt is also a compilation piece. "Both of my pieces here are round robins, which are exclusively quilt guild kind of things. It means that one person makes the center and then other people make the outside. This purple one, I made the center and others made the rest, and then I quilted it. I've been quilting about four years."

Twenty women artists. Twenty different visions, tied together with a love for an under-appreciated but extremely creative and beautiful art medium; a medium that is warm and tactile. "This show is a knockout," says Holly Madrigal, WCA art manager. "Made in Mendocino" shows at the WCA, 71 East Commercial Street, through June 25. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. More info: <http://willitscenterforthearts.org> or 459-1726.

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Mac Smith 459-MATH

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Applicants Sought for School Board
Mark Westenburg, Superintendent of the Willits Unified School District, announced that applications for the interim open seat on the Governing Board will be available through Thursday, June 29, 2017 at the District Office, 1277 Blosser Lane, Willits, CA or online at willitsunified.com.

Persons wanting to submit questions for the existing Board members to consider during interviewing should do so by Thursday, June 29, 2017.

Interested persons who live within the boundaries of the Willits Unified School District and are registered voters are welcome to apply for the one existing interim vacancy. All applications are due to the district office by Thursday, July 13, 2017 and will become public records upon receipt by the District.

Candidates will be interviewed in open session by the current Governing Board members at the Regular Meeting scheduled for August 2, 2017.

Garage Space Wanted
WANTED: Garage space for my small classic car, currently on non-op. Will pay \$50 a month. Call Mary at 459-1798

Hair Stations for Rent
Hair Stations for Rent. Full time \$350. Willits Salon & Spa. 91 So. Main St. 707-841-1100.

Help Wanted
The Skunk Train is looking for energetic folks to work in a quick-paced and fun environment. We have openings for Track Maintenance Workers – working outdoors all day making repairs to track; equipment operators preferred. Applications can be obtained at the Skunk Train Depot in Willits 9am – 3pm daily. Or via email SkunkTrain@gmail.com. Applicant must be willing to submit and pass a pre-employment drug screen, physical, and background check, and have a valid driver's license. EOE.

Cannabis Growers!!
Need a Water Board NOI prepared? Call Don McEdwards. 707 354-4618. The McEdwards Group, Willits.

Community HU Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song: Wednesday, June 28, at 6 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

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

Estate Sale
Saturdays, June 10 and 24, 9 to 3, 1411 Buckhorn Road, off of Muir Mill Road and Highway 101. Follow yellow signs. Tools, antiques, garden, art, Scouts, jewelry, furniture, vinyl records.

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

Fruit for Sale
The Fruit Group: Apricots, 24 lbs. \$28. Yellow & White Eating Peaches & Nectarines, 23 lbs. \$28. The-fruitgroup95490@yahoo.com. For more info call: Brenda, 459-9335 or cell, 485-4294.

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Weight Watchers
Join us! New location: Willits Center for the Arts - 71 E. Commercial St., 5 pm every Monday. Feel better. Look better. Have fun. More information? Call 707-841-7758.

Yard Sale!
Best yard sale of the day! Come here FIRST! Saturday, June 10th at 9:00. 70 Nancy Ln, Willits.

Help Wanted
Maintenance/Janitorial position available at The Skunk Train, Willits Depot. Must pass drug, physical and background check. Applications available at Willits depot between 9 am and 3 pm. Call 707-459-1052, ask for Pam.

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

Highlander House Cleaning Services
Efficient reliable house-keeper uses non-toxic solutions to keep your home healthy and clean. I have all the right products to keep your stone and stainless looking great. 707-513-5603

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Rhonda (707) 367-6178. See at <http://www.oakrvine.net/tp>

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

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

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

Weight Watchers
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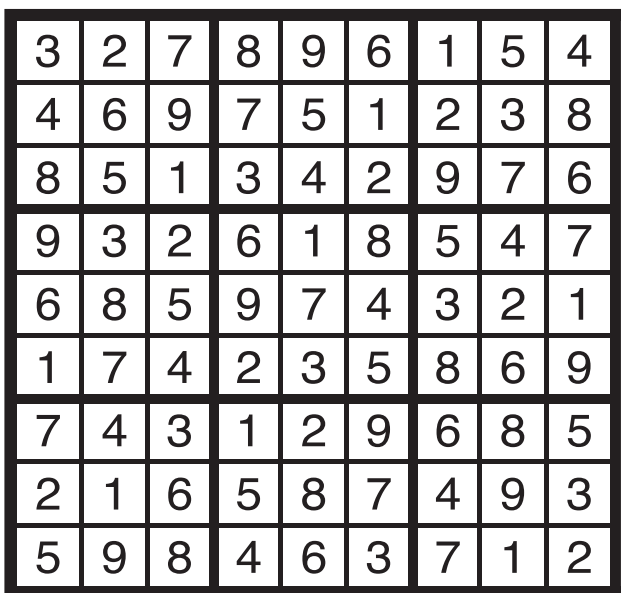
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1,000 Sunflowers project volunteers – from left, Chris Hardaker, Christa Pickens, Claudia Wenning and Paul Jacobson – hold sunflower starts destined for new homes on local streets.

Photo by Joanne Moore



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1,000 Sunflowers

WELL group invites community to share in creating flower-full town

Everyone loves flowers, and sunflowers are particularly striking. Imagine seeing them all around town. Imagine the smiles that would put on your face and on the faces you see as you go about your business. Everyone a little happier. Happy children. Happy birds. Happy visitors. Happy bees. Especially happy bees.

Joanne Moore
Features Writer
joanne@willitsweekly.com

There is a project afoot in Willits devoted to making this a reality. From its beginnings at a WELL (Willits Economic Localization) brown bag lunch, the idea has taken hold and taken off, and a core group of dedicated people has been working to make it happen.

Some of them got together recently at the Willits Hub with other interested people to continue planning the transformation of downtown Willits into a sea of sunflowers by recruiting businesses to plant and care for their very own small gardens of the cheerful plants. The project is well under way, with sunflowers ready for adoption available at the Willits farmers market (Thursdays from 3 to 6 pm at the Rec Grove) and discounts locally available for the purchase of flowers, planters and soil.

The Grange and the Chamber of Commerce have signed on with their support. Willits Weekly plans to feature one business a week with a noteworthy sunflower display. A friendly competition for the most beautiful and most creative planting is in the works.

Business owners challenged by having less than ideal available planting areas or lacking in skills when it comes to planting or caring for flowers need not worry. Help will be available to solve all problems. All that is needed is the desire to participate.

Though off to a strong and determined start, there is plenty of room for anyone, business owner or not, to join in and make this vision something to really see. Donate a planter. Start some sunflowers. Keep your eyes open and your trowels ready for upcoming “planting parties.” Donate funds to “sponsor a sunflower.” Be a “sunflower ambassador” by contacting businesses in town. Turn a part of your yard into a home for sunflowers. Possibilities for participation are limited only by your imagination.

Project coordinator Paul Jacobson is the person to contact to get on the list for discounts at Sparetime Supply and Dripworks, get plugged in where your interests meet the project’s needs, find out about more places sunflowers will be available for adoption, or get the latest updates on this rapidly evolving labor of love to beautify Willits. Contact him at 4paulj@gmail.com or at 459-1418.

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Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital and the Willits Senior Center invites you to

Lunch and Learn at the Senior Center

RX CHECK-UP: Do my prescriptions play well together?

Free seminar on how to manage medications effectively



Have you wondered if you’re taking too many medicines? Maybe you’ve seen numerous specialists, each prescribing medications. Do you wonder if the medications you’re taking interact well with each other? Join Carrie Winter from Howard Pharmacy to learn about common drug interactions, questions you should ask your pharmacist and how to maximize your medicine’s effectiveness at our free seminar.

Tuesday, June 13
11:30 a.m. Presentation
12:00 p.m. Lunch

Willits Senior Center
1501 Baechtel Rd, Willits, CA 95490

FREE Lunch will be served by
HHM’s Rooth Restaurant (or make
a donation to the Senior Center)

Everyone is welcome!

**Frank R. Howard
Memorial Hospital**

The rest of
Little | From Page 1

2017 that the Third District did not have a supervisor, and he will have served briefly during the term of newly appointed Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey. He recently notified the county executive office that the June 15 planning commission meeting will be his last.

Contacted by Willits Weekly, Little said the greatest achievement of the planning commission during his time there was the cordial way in which it operated.

“In all those years, with all those different commissioners, I can’t think of a single commissioner who did not do an outstanding job of representing their constituents,” Little said. “In this county, where we have such a diverse community, to have somebody from the Fifth District be able to sit down with somebody from the Third District, discuss an issue and reach some kind of understanding about it, I think that’s remarkable. Yes, we didn’t always agree on every issue. But when we disagreed, we voted on it, and then we moved on.”

Asked what was the greatest liability or failure of the commission, Little said it was housing. “I would like to have seen us be a little more proactive on housing. Affordable, decent, adequate housing is an issue all across this county. Now, it may not have been within our purview as a planning commission, but I would like to have had us do more in this regard,” Little said.

According to Little, the county’s greatest asset, from a planning perspective, is its environment. “It’s the setting: the weather, the landscape, the resources. There’s so much here that can be utilized without abusing, if we plan appropriately. There’s so much potential to have a diversified economy, while protecting the environment, which is why most people are here,” he said.

One of the most important of the pending tasks facing the government of the county, including the planning commission, he believes, is to rewrite the county’s general plan. “I would hope that – because of the changes that we’ve seen over the past 10 years, and because of the changes that we are expecting to see over the next 10 years – we should throw out the old general plan. We should start from scratch.

“We need to look at the assets the county has, and we need to ask ourselves, how we can use those assets to reach the goals that we want to reach in the future,” he added. And the next general plan needs to have a minimum of boilerplate language, he said. “That ‘boilerplate’ stuff really used to drive me up the wall.”

Asked for his view on the greatest challenge facing the county, Little picked cannabis. “I see cannabis cultivation as a continuing problem,” he said. “I don’t support the cannabis industry, but the reality of the situation is, it’s here and it’s a big part of peoples’ lives in our community. Now, 80 or 90 percent of the people who are cultivating now can in no way conform to these regulations. I just don’t think small-scale growers can follow the regulations and stay in business.

“If the regulations fail, or if the marijuana industry transfers to large corporate farms, it’s gonna have a devastating impact on our community,” Little said. “I think the county really needs to look at the potential outcomes of legalization, and not wait until the industry goes one way or the other.

“If it’s successful, it will take care of itself,” he added. “If it fails, I don’t think we’re ready for that.”

During the 18 years he sat on the planning commission, Little said had never consulted with the district supervisor on how to vote on certain issues. “I never spoke to a supervisor about an issue that was before the commission,” he said. “I never had a supervisor come to me and tell me how to vote, and I never went to a supervisor to ask him how I should vote.

“Obviously, it could have happened somewhere, but in my experience, I never knew a time when that happened with anyone on any of the planning commissions I was on. It just didn’t happen.”

Little added he and his wife have decided to move out of the county. “It was a tough decision,” he said, and did not elaborate.

“I think the county has a great future,” he said. “They just need to plan for it.”

The County of Mendocino has announced it is accepting applications for the position of Third District planning commissioner. Applicants must live in the Third District (Willits/Laytonville/Covelo). The next Third District planning commissioner will be appointed by the board of supervisors, based on the recommendation of Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey.

Those interested in serving on the planning commission should contact Croskey or the Mendocino County Executive Office at 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010 in Ukiah or 463-4441.

The rest of
No funds | From Page 1

operations.

First 5 Executive Director Roseanne Ibarra asked supervisors to direct that 20 percent of the county’s revenues from the cannabis business tax be directed to her organization to fund the Future Generations Fund, which would alert the public to the dangers of cannabis use for children of all ages, including the unborn.

Ibarra noted cannabis use can cause cognitive impairment in young people, whose brains do not stop growing until age 25.

West Company and the EDFC told supervisors the two organizations want to merge, with one board of directors and one executive director, so they can be a “one-stop shop” for economic development in Mendocino County.

West Company specializes in strategic and organizational consulting for small businesses, primarily serving women and minorities. The EDFC offers state and federal money to small businesses.

EDFC board member John Curry said the EDFC thinks of itself as the “lender of last resort” in this county and also as a “source of gap funding” for local businesses.

The government of Mendocino County currently does not have any agency or department that is responsible for economic development. Economic development has been often mentioned as a pressing need here.

The proposal West Company/EDFC brought to the board would cost \$780,000 a year for three years, a total of \$2.3 million. The companies are asking for \$200,000 for program development, \$150,000 for staff (a government affairs liaison, data analysis coordinator, and loan officer); and \$180,000 for specialists and trainers. In addition, the proposal asks for \$250,000 a year in matching funds.

Supervisors were sympathetic toward both proposals, but chose not to hack away at the proposed county budget, which the board approved minutes after dealing with the two requests.

Speaking of the First 5 request, Supervisor

The rest of
Budget | From Page 1

by the county shows incremental increases in several budget elements. The Sheriff’s Office will receive \$27.5 million in 17-18, up from \$23.1 million in 16-17 and \$22.7 million in 15-16.

General Fund expenditures for the next year are estimated to be \$196.4 million, up from \$183.1 million in 16-17 and \$184.9 million in 15-16.

The Department of Planning and Building Services will receive \$630,000 more than last year; the Department of Agriculture will receive \$407,000 more; the mental health division, together with programs run under the Mental Health Services Act, will receive \$2.9 million more than last year, and the county’s social services program will receive an additional \$5.3 million.

The county is adding 15.5 positions to its workforce. Seven new positions are being added to enhance the county’s efforts to regulate the medical cannabis industry here. Four new staff positions are being added in the county library system. Two additional positions are being funded in the Health and Human Services Agency, two in the Sheriff’s Office, and half a position is being added in the Alternate Defender’s office.

County Counsel Katharine Elliott told supervisors she expects her office will be fully staffed by July of this year. With full staffing, Elliott says she will be able to dedicate one attorney and half a staff position to work fulltime on cannabis compliance. She also will dedicate 2.5 attorneys to working on behalf of the Health and Human Services Agency.

Elliott said during much of 2016 she was forced to send certain cases to outside legal firms, but that, with a full staff, she will be able to handle most everything in-house.

“With the influx of inmates from the state, we have seen more writs from jail inmates against the county,” Elliott said. “We’ve been able to defeat every one of them.”

Sheriff Tom Allman said his department has been awarded a \$20 million grant to build a new wing for the county jail. The new structure will be erected alongside the slowly crumbling buildings along Low Gap Road in Ukiah that now constitute the county’s aging jail infrastructure. The buildings will be used to house inmates suffering from mental illness as well as inmates sent back to Mendocino County from the overcrowded state penal system.

Allman added the county match of more than \$1 million will be covered by the District Attorney’s Office.

County Museum Director Alison Glassey told supervisors the museum had a bad year in fiscal year 2015-2016. It was closed for several months in mid-summer and early fall due to a mold issue. It reopened on November 3, 2016, the same day the Willits bypass opened.

Dan Gjerde told his colleagues he would be uncomfortable with allocating 20 percent of cannabis revenues for children, when in Measure AJ, the board promised voters it would expend a majority of any pot revenues for cannabis enforcement, roads, enhanced mental health support and support for the county’s firefighting organizations.

“I personally would feel guilty of some sort of betrayal if we funded this program before we gave any funds to two of the four items the voters approved just a few months ago,” Gjerde said.

Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey echoed Gjerde. “As a mother, and as a volunteer in the schools, I see a lot of the things this work is dealing with,” she said. “I recognize the importance of this work. But I’m uncomfortable with the percentage – especially when we don’t know how much we’re going to get.”

Gjerde told Ibarra the state’s cannabis taxation rate was going to be 15 percent, compared to the county’s rate of 2.5 percent. He noted the state was going to be bringing in a lot of money from the cannabis industry and would likely be sending a lot of that money back out. A good strategy for Ibarra’s organization, he said, would be to seek state funding.

First District Supervisor Carre Brown said she wanted to add support for children’s organizations to the list of organizations and issues funded by cannabis revenues, but her suggestion didn’t fly. Supervisor John McCowen again pointed out that the four issues mentioned above had been approved by the voters, and he didn’t feel he was able to add any more items to that particular list.

Ibarra asked the board when would it be an opportune time for her to return to ask for funding in the future. McCowen replied “early and often.”

Supervisors were cool regarding the West/EDFC proposal as well. McCowen told representatives from the two companies that their “ask” was “pretty ambitious.”

Gjerde also tried to talk down the figure. “Maybe \$50,000, maybe \$100,000. But I don’t see \$800,000 being available.”

Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg argued in support of the plan, reminding his colleagues that economic development is one of the supervisors’ main goals and noting the county has no economic development agency and has no ambitious, comprehensive plan to promote economic development.

“We are really only doing three things on economic development,” Hamburg said. “We have put out \$100,000 to hire two grant writers. We have agreed to let the Rural Community Housing Development Corporation build a housing complex for low-income people with mental health issues. And, we have given \$40,000 to the Broadband Alliance. That’s it.

The two agencies are “trying to do something we haven’t done very much of,” Hamburg said. “This is a way for the board to say, ‘Yes, this is important, and we think these two companies can do this for us.’”

Supervisors told West/EDFC to keep coming back and to keep the board abreast of any progress they make toward their alliance. McCowen held out the possibility that some sort of regular allocation might be available down the road.

Supervisors also expressed concern over the fragile financial state of West Company. Paul Garza, president of the West Company board of directors, said his company’s reserves were nearly gone due to difficulties with processing the county’s Community Development Block Grant.

The board discussed making a \$200,000 to \$250,000 line of credit available to the company, discussed ways the money could be loaned out without showing up as a draw on the county’s general fund.

However, Assistant CEO Alan Flora said doing that would be impossible.

The board decided not to extend any lines of credit at the moment, but to reconsider the question in October or November, when the county looks at the First Quarter Budget Report for the 2017-18 fiscal year.

The rest of
Horses |

From Page 1

Wednesday, May 31. Witnesses also reported seeing vehicles from the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office at the scene later that evening, when the brown foal – which had broken its leg – was euthanized by an area veterinarian.

Pictures of the foal taken the next day – lying dead in the field, reportedly about 85 feet from the road – have been posted and shared by a number of Facebook accounts with plaintive and angry comments about “why isn’t something being done?”

According to Capt. Greg Van Patten of the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office and George Hodgson, senior animal control officer for Mendocino County, after authorities got a call about the situation on Wednesday, a deputy sheriff went to the scene, but saw no evidence of criminal negligence in the death of the foal. Hodgson said the euthanized foal was removed sometime on Thursday.

Hodgson told Willits Weekly he can only enforce what the law requires. “The law requires that you provide food and water for your horses, and get treatment if it’s injured. Barring any of those things happening, I can’t seize someone’s animals.”

Hodgson confirmed there is an ongoing investigation of alleged problems with the horses and, like Van Patten, encourages anyone with information about mistreatment of any animals to contact Animal Control so the complaints can be investigated. Both say the best way to do that is to call Ukiah Dispatch at 463-4086 and ask for Animal Control. A written complaint can also be mailed to Animal Control, 951 Low Gap Road, Ukiah CA 95482.

“We are hoping for the best resolution for everyone involved, including the horses,” Hodgson said.





Willits Area Mendocino College Graduates

The Mendocino College 44th Annual Commencement was held on the Stadium Field on the Ukiah campus, on May 26 at 6 pm. This year, 367 graduates were honored at the ceremony, which was held outdoors for the first time. This year's honored guest speaker, above left, was Congressman Jared Huffman.

Tanya M. Aaron	Sichel F. Cox	Mary C. Kelly	Astrid F. Mercado Brizuela	Bryan Rosales
Evangelina Alvarez	Kirstin M. Cunningham	Sean M. Kettering	Jordan C. Myers	Simba Dawn Marie Sousa
Sabrina M. Angell	Kristina N. Dunlap	Calayan S. Lawner Knight	Ruby A. Nieto	Possatom Sutcharitchun
Natasha S. Azbill	Rachel S. Farkas	Nirayl W. Kuba	Mary J. Norris	Tony F. Tucker
David S. Ballintine	Todd B. Foster	Filemon Lara-Lopez, Jr.	Ariel A. North	Brittany M. Tymn
April S. Beebe	Alexis F. Gamez	Crystal Lawrence	Gabriel R. Ochoa	Jose C. Velarde
Ashley N. Beltran	Jesse Tyler Garcia	Mandela Linder	Deloan M. Owen	Ashley A. Walker
Victoria A. Brekelmans	Marissa Greene	Maria G. Lopez-Acevedo	Tami L. Pleck	Kira A. Wear
Taylor A. Cameron	Asure J. Hammack	Christiana L. Lovell	Elizabeth A. Ranger	Jordan G. West
Kathleen M. Carlson	Yolanda L. Hoaglen	Armando Madrigal	Natalie L. Rico	Cambria Whipple
Irma Castaneda	Aiko Michiko Kasahara	Brittany Ann Maxwell	Saprina R. Rodriguez	Joleen J. Whipple
Ira W. Caughron, III	Melany M. Katz	Mia Monica E. Mendoza	Annie Marie Romberg	



Above and below: Sanhedrin and New Horizons graduates



New Horizon Graduates

Keely L. Ahders
Emily R. Bishop
Kylee B. Clatty
Iahloni Clingman
Sierra Darlene Hayes
Rachelle Luedemann
Rebecca Louise Mandeville
Natalie Ann Moss
Jesus A. Ruiz
Hannah Anndrew Shed
Autumn LaRae Strock
Thomas Thurman
Joseluis Vazquez Cendejas
Cheyenne Walters

At left: Sanhedrin students who received special awards, from left: Sarah Duncan: Student of the Year; Mandy McCloud: Hawk Award; and Matt Guevara: Principal's Award.

Sanhedrin High School Graduates

Mercedes Abel
Ricardo Alejandres Bravo
Rebekah L. Arab
Samantha J. Bartow
Andrew Bench
Sharlene Michelle Caldwell
Patrica Maye Hanna Clark
Destiny DeCent
Alejandro Del Aguila
Jaedyn Lynn Larae Denise Dondero
Lilliana K. Duncan
Sarah Duncan
Eduardo Lalo Escobedo
Cheyenne D. Faustina
Shawn L. Faustina
Damian Michael Steven Foxx
Julian Gomez
Christopher M. Gutierrez

Matt Guevara
Sydney Hamner
Nicholas S. Harrington
Tyrell R. Hopkins
James Jewell
Cameron Johnson
Jonathan R. Lech
James Lewis
Sebastian M. Lopez
AJ Massengale
Mandy Aleka Rochelle McCloud
Miangel Cecilia Perez
Steven Perez Gonzales
Keith David Potter
Anthony Shaul
Latreasa Beverly Sheridan
Teresa Vazquez Ortega
Simon Vigil

Bay area man hailed as 'hero' for saving five in fiery crash

A 45-year-old Bay Area man is being hailed as a hero after saving five passengers involved in a fiery traffic collision on Highway 101 just north of Reynolds Highway.

Dan McKee
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Anderson, officers say, was "one of the first people to arrive at the scene" of the two-vehicle, head-on collision that took the lives of 44-year-old Gilberto Delgado of Eureka and 23-year-old Eugene Weist of Boulder Creek just after midnight on May 26.

Weist's 1994 Ford Bronco reportedly crossed over the double-yellow line into the southbound lane of the highway while making a left turn and struck Delgado's 2008 Dodge Ram. The two drivers were trapped in their seats by the collision and died when their pickups were engulfed in flames.

Anderson "quickly and decisively moved into action," helping remove Delgado's severely injured wife, Rosa, 43; son 24-year-old Gilberto Delgado, 24; and daughter Anajelico, 19, from the burning vehicle. He then went to the aid of 7-year-old Jacob Douglas Clifford of Fortuna and 1-year-old Natalie Grace Delgado. Both escaped with minor injuries.

"Without Anderson's heroic efforts," state traffic officers said, "this tragic event could have been a lot worse."

Drunk driver faces child endangerment charges

A Willits man faces felony child endangerment and drunken driving charges after Willits Police officers allegedly found him unconscious in the driver's seat of a car blocking the southbound lane of South Main Street just north of the Highway 20 intersection on Monday just before 3 pm.

Officers were able to wake 35-year-old Brian Martinazzi and later determined he was under the influence of alcohol.

Also in the car were two children, ages 2 and 1.

Martinazzi was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol content over .08 percent, excessive blood alcohol content, and two counts of felony child endangerment.

He was booked into Mendocino County Jail.

This report was based on a press release from the Willits Police Department.

The rest of Fire | From Page 1

so Little Lake contacted CalFire for mutual response, and Howard Forest station dispatched a helicopter to the scene.

"It wasn't a true running fire," Wilkes said. "It was more backing down the hill, burning what it could," with multiple "fingers" among the green grass. "It wasn't getting out of control, although it did get into a fence on the neighboring property ... but if we let it go, it would've caused some problems."

Little Lake and Brooktrails Fire Departments have both suspended burn permits as of May 31, but in the state responsibility area – outside of Willits proper and Brooktrails – burning has not yet been suspended. CalFire expects to announce the suspension of burning later this month.

Wilkes emphasized the importance of creating defensible space around your home. "We always try to put that warning out there," he said, "to protect your infrastructure." If you live in town and can't create a defensible space clearance of 100 feet around your home, the most important thing you can do is cut any long grass, Wilkes said.

"The grass is the problem, really, the tall grasses," he said. "If you take a piece of grass that's 4 feet tall, it can have 12 foot flames. If you cut it off and lay it on the ground, it'll only be 3 inch flames. By knocking the grass down you're not allowing for ladder fuels, not allowing the fire to move from the grasses to the trees."

Brooktrails Fire is hosting a Wildfire Preparedness Open House on Saturday, June 10 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Brooktrails Fire Station, with representatives from public safety agencies on hand to discuss and answer questions regarding what to do before, during and after a wildfire.

CalFire is offering state residents a new "Ready for Wildfire" app this year, with a library of step-by-step, ready-for-wildfire checklists that can help homeowners maintain defensible space, harden homes with ignition-resistant building materials, create a family evacuation plan and emergency supply kit, and plan for evacuation.

The app features customizable alerts that will send a text or notification to electronic devices when CalFire responds to a wildfire of 10 acres or more in your zipcode or within 30 miles. To download the ready-for-wildfire app and to learn more about creating defensible space around a home, visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.

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Report: Tourism commission shaky, but holding

"Despite challenges posed by the transition, Visit Mendocino County's solid foundation held and has been further strengthened through the effort of committed staff and the Mendocino County Tourism Commission board and committee members."

That's the conclusion reached in the Business Improvement District's Advisory Board's 2017 annual report, approved by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors last month. The report was written by village of Mendocino hotel owner Wendy Roberts and Manchester hotel owner Pauline Zamboni.

The authors reviewed the commission's achievements and challenges over the past two years, concluding that tourism continues to thrive and that total dollars spent by tourists in Mendocino County continue to increase. For 2015, the most recent year for which fully vetted numbers are available, the tourist industry generated a record \$375 million in the county, 5.3 percent higher than in 2014.

The tourism and hospitality industries sustained nearly 6,000 jobs and generated earnings of more than \$166 million. According to the report, the industry generated \$957 of tax revenue per every household in Mendocino County.

The Transient Occupancy Tax paid by hotel and hospitality owners situated in the unincorporated part of the county in 2015 was \$4.7 million, all of which went directly into the county's general fund. That amount was 8 percent higher than 2014's TOT and 45 percent higher than the bed tax contributed to the county in 2011. The TOT is 10 percent of the hospitality establishment's flat rate and is paid by guests, not by hotel owners.

Hospitality owners with businesses located in the four cities in the county generated \$3.3 million, which went into the general funds of the cities of Ukiah, Fort Bragg, Willits and Point Arena.

According to the report, the projected budget for the tourism commission for 2017-18 is \$1.48 million. Of that amount, \$886,519 is expected to come from a 1 percent BID (Business Improvement District) assessment levied upon guests.

Mendocino County will contribute 50 percent of its share of the BID assessment to the commission. That assessment, including the county match, plus other funds and a reserve fund will yield a total BID budget of \$1.4 million.

The authors recounted some of the recent history that has limned the hallowed halls of tourism: the ad hoc committee of the board of supervisors that created a new governance system for the Business Improvement District in 2014; naming the new body the Mendocino County Tourism Commission; seating the commission's board of directors in January 2016; and hiring Brent Hougen as executive director in early 2016.

However, Hougen resigned in March 2017, which necessitated the search for a new executive director. In April 2017, Alan Humason was hired as the tourism commission's new executive director.

But finding a replacement, according to the report, was made more difficult by the behavior of one of the tourism commission's parent organizations, the Mendocino County Lodging Association.

According to the report: "The [MCLA] has failed to redefine

its mission and purpose since transfer of the county contract for BID oversight to the MCTC. The last regional elections were held in 2014. All but two board members are termed out, and many seats are empty. It has failed to notice and hold regular meetings, to post agendas, and to conduct business in a manner consistent with its bylaws."

The MCLA board failed to appoint members to fill open seats on the tourism commission board of directors, and to appoint new members to the BID Advisory Board when those seats were due to be filled.

The report mentioned several other issues affecting the new tourism commission. "High turnover caused gaps in institutional memory and discontinuity in established policies and procedures," the report notes. The salesperson on the tourism commission staff became a contract position shared with the North Coast Tourism Council, which led to reduced costs and clarified the scope of work. While the commission ceased for a time to host First Friday events in Fort Bragg, it is now once again doing so.

Despite these obstacles, the commission continued to sustain and expand the tourist sector of the county economy, the report notes. The commission's board of directors hired TheorySF to "undertake rebranding and website analysis and to prepare a marketing plan for the coming fiscal year." That contract continues through 2017-18. Also, in March 2017, the commission adopted a three-year strategic plan for the organization.

At the May 16 meeting, the county board of supervisors approved a revision of the county ordinance that establishes the governance and functioning of the BID. The new version of the ordinance accounts for the alleged problematical functionality of the MCLA by adding language to the ordinance that allows for the names of candidates to the BID Advisory Committee to be submitted to the county board of supervisors by the board of directors of the MCLA and/or the board of directors of the designated contractor, which is currently the Mendocino County Tourist Commission, although that may change in the future. Proposed candidates must then be approved by the county board of supervisors.

The changes to the ordinance clarify that the 3 percent administrative fee levied against the BID will be collected by the county no later than September 30 of the following fiscal year. In addition, the revised ordinance clarifies that BID assessments, which are collected by the county, shall be transferred to the designated contractor within 30 days following assessment.

The report also suggests the county should consider doubling its funding match, paying the tourism commission the same amount the commission collects in BID assessments from hotel owners. For the 2017-18 fiscal year, that would mean the tourism commission's budget would swell from \$1.4 million to \$1.9 million.

The authors of the annual report argue doing so would help Mendocino County's tourism agency keep pace with other tourist agencies in California. For example, the report states, Napa County's tourism commission has a budget of \$6 million; Monterey County pays more than \$4 million to its promotional agency; and both San Luis Obispo and Sonoma counties have tourism budgets of approximately \$3 million.

"It will become increasingly difficult to remain competitive in key markets if revenue is not significantly increased in the not too distant future," the report warns.

A weekend of north county fun – and potential danger

The Piercy area's annual Redwood Run kicks off Thursday, June 8, while Laytonville's Enchanted Forest festival starts Friday, June 9. And that means heavier-than-usual traffic on north county roadways.

The California Highway Patrol is deploying additional units to monitor traffic and ensure motorists are driving safely, says Garberville Area California Highway Patrol Commander Randy England. "Those units will be concentrating enforcement efforts on impaired drivers, distracted drivers and all primary collision factors in an effort to keep the entire motoring public safe."

The California Highway Patrol's primary mission is to "the loss of life and injury to all motorists," England pointed out. That mission parallels the Strategic Highway Safety plan, a roadmap for improving safety on state roadways that all state traffic safety organizations follow.

One element of the plan is to improve motorcycle safety.

State traffic officers are encouraging drivers "to be vigilant in observing motorcyclists," he adds, and urges "all riders to wear the proper safety equipment."

"Creating a safer highway environment is the shared responsibility of both drivers and motorcyclists," he noted, and both are urged "to stay alert and use common sense and courtesy while on the road."

The CHP reminds all motorists the best way to ensure their own safety and the safety of others is to "buckle up,

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2017 Willits Rotary Club high school scholarship winners

Congratulations to the 2017 Willits Rotary Club high school scholarship winners! Rotary Club was able to give out 14 scholarships this year, each for \$1,000, to 14 graduating Willits area high school students

"As chairman of the Willits Rotary Club's Scholarship Committee," said Rotarian Tim King, "I would personally like to congratulate the students for their dedication in the classroom and in the community. Their hard work paid off. The Willits Rotary Club wishes them nothing but the best in their future endeavors."

Rotary hosted a meet-and-greet lunch for the scholarship winners at the club's regular Thursday lunch meeting – moved from Szechuan Asian Restaurant to the Willits Center for the Arts for the special occasion and catered by Scoops Deli.

Scholarship winners are, from Willits High School: Sherry Atalig, Tyler Austin, Angel De Los Santos, Caitlyn Forrester, Tatyana Guevara, Isabel Gutierrez, Ryann Hee, Colten Horger, Jamie Johnstone,

Julia Johnstone, and Izak Walker; and from New Horizons Independent Study: Keely Ahders and Natalie Moss.

The Rotary scholarships are open to all Willits area high schools – "We've always encouraged the charter school kids to apply," King said, "but only get one or two a year."

King emphasized that Rotary always has two or three scholarships "earmarked for kids going to trade schools," but they seldom get applications from interested students. Rotary Club encourages students interested in furthering their educations in a trade to apply next year.

The scholarship committee this year consisted of King, Holly Madrigal and Andrew Hosford, "all of us Willits High School graduates," King commented. King also wanted to thank WHS counselor Nicole Burke, who helps coordinate the scholarship applications from all the service clubs.

– Jennifer Poole

Above: 2017 Willits Rotary Club scholarship winners. Back row, from left: Tyler Austin, Izak Walker, Tatyana Guevara, Caitlyn Forrester, Ryann Hee, Colten Horger, Angel De Los Santos, WUSD Superintendent of Schools Mark Westerberg. Front row, from left: WHS counselor Nicole Burke, Natalie Moss, Isabel Gutierrez, Jamie Johnston, Sherry Atalig, Chanel Alexander, Julia Johnstone, and Keely Ahders.

Photo by Jenny Senter



Photos by Missy Smilgys

Brookside classes win field trip to KOA Campground in reading competition

Last week, Brookside Elementary School had a PTO-sponsored field trip to KOA Campground in Willits. Throughout the year, the kids are encouraged to read. This trip was created as an incentive! The classes that read the most won this trip – one class from each grade level gets to go on this trip.

The field trip is all-inclusive: The Brookside Parent Teacher Organization pays expenses for all children and parent chaperones, and this year we even ordered pizza for their lunch from Pizza To Go! The kids played mini-golf, splashed in the water at the Spray Park, were able to go on a

lovely hike, and even visited and fed the animals!

PTO works hard all year to raise money to be able to do things like this for the students at Brookside Elementary.

Other children who worked hard and read, but whose classes didn't win the trip (as it is a group effort), were still acknowledged in a "Top Readers" assembly, where top readers from every class were called up to the stage to receive an engraved gold medallion.

– submitted by Chrystina Patterson, president, Brookside PTO



Above: Kindergarteners Wyatt, Meghan, Ava Rose, Emily and Destiny, from Mrs. Recina's class at Brookside, on the "old west" bench at KOA Campground. At left: Kindergarteners Tanner, Destiny, Dahlia, Courtney, Cole and Juan, also from Mrs. Recina's class, enjoy the water's edge.



La Vida Charter School 2017 Graduates

12th Grade:

At top, from left: Samantha Thomas, Alexandra Acevedo, Jaycee McLean, Emily Blake, Gaven Powers, and LilyAnna Gutierrez

8th Grade:

Above, from left: Leif-Eric Rawson, Raeanne Nelson Ross, Robert Fetzer, Steven Benavidez, and Alexis Ricci

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Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration
Sundays - 10:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.
459-2855
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Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

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

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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

St. Francis Episcopal Church

1 North Main Street, Willits
707-459-3066
Church Services / Communion
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
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If you want to be included in
this column please call:

April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com