



**Thank you. Paul Lambert**

To the Editor:

I am not sure why Paul Lambert's farewell provoked such a personally bitter response from Bill Ray. Besides saying goodbye to a community he loved, Paul's primary comment was to say that polarizing our positions and creating "us" and "them" ways of talking and dealing with each other is counter-productive to a cohesive community culture.

Certainly Paul has his own opinions about things, just like everybody else in our community. I believe that part of what he is saying is that it is not as important to agree with each other, as to respect each other. I think he felt that the "them" and "us" mentality has gone somewhat out of control and that we all could be working on better ways to work together to accommodate all of our lifestyles and social and political viewpoints.

Admittedly, this is not an easy task, but Paul offered unique opportunities for different sides of important issues to begin to be discussed and literally "aired," especially on KZYX. Paul should be lauded for his even-handed approach to our region's vital concerns and thanked for his important contributions to Mendocino County. He was an important asset to our community and he will be missed.

Jim Marill, Willits

**'A Dog's Plea'**

To the Editor:

Please print this in memory of Snickelfritz, December 8, 2006 to May 6, 2015. Thank you.

Max Meyer, Willits



Treat me kindly, my beloved friend, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me.

Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I might lick your hand between blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me learn.

Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you know by the fierce wagging of my tail when the sound of your footstep falls upon my waiting ear.

Please take me inside when it is cold and wet, for I am a domesticated animal, no longer accustomed to bitter elements. I ask no greater joy than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth.

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Keep my pan filled with fresh water, for I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst.

Feed me clean food that I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding. To walk by your side and stand ready, willing and able to protect you with my life, should your life be in danger.

And, my friend, when I am very old and I no longer enjoy good health, hearing and sight, do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I am not having any fun. Please see to it that my life is taken gently. I shall leave this earth knowing with the last breath I draw that my fate was always safest in your hands.

- Author Unknown

**Thought-provoking exhibit**

To the Editor:

Last Sunday afternoon I drove down to Willits Center for the Arts for their latest exhibit, which had just opened Friday.

Photographers David Weitzman and Ree Slocum were there manning the store, ready to answer any questions, so I was very glad I was able to attend on the weekend.

The exhibit is both beautiful and thought-provoking: Pictures from around the world, and most in black and white.

Admittedly squeamish and overly sensitive, I asked Ree Slocum about three of her prints I found disturbing. She agreed. They were meant to be unsettling.

I don't mean for this to keep you away. As I said, "thought-provoking." Life's work selections from Weitzman and Slocum bring forth many questions: Where was that, why was that taken, how long ago, are those true colors or time of day, a farm abandoned long ago but with a horse obviously healthy, where are the owners, puppets in Prague.... See what I mean? Questions.

I enjoy all the art exhibits at Willits Center for the Arts, in one way or another, and this one is no exception. It's a wonderful exhibit. Go if you can.

Gail Richards, Willits

**Thank you**

To the Editor:

The Grateful Gleaner team leaders would like to thank all of the generous persons who contributed their plants, time and efforts to making our annual plant sale a

success. These include: Monica Gowan, Bill Boosinger, Jaqueline Morninglight, Tom DeMarchi, Robin Goldner, Ananda Johnson, Norma Hanson, Sheryl Smith, Ursula and David Partch, Greg Savagian, Prana, Heidi Gundlach and Peter Smith, Ann Vanderhorck, Sara O'Brien, Ellen Bartholomew, Ellen Drell, Barbara Sicard, and Peter and Pat Norris.

We give special thanks to Edie Ceccarelli, who lent us her yard for a day or two and sat with us for several hours because she didn't want to miss anything!

The monies raised will help us with any future equipment needs, and will give us the ability to continue to offer grants to local agricultural efforts which provide our community with wholesome organic produce.

Grateful Gleaner team leaders: Marilynn Boosinger, Carol Cox, Thayer Craig, Earline Dykes, Kimbal Dodge, Karen Gridley, Marcia Rautenstrauch, and Wolfgang Ronnefeldt



**Thanks to WHS Boosters**

To the Editor:

Third-grade students from Blosser Lane Elementary School were treated to a day on the Skunk Train through the generosity of the Willits Boosters.

There were 110 third-graders from all five third-grade classes, along with teachers and parents, on the May 28 trip from Willits to Northspur and back. Train singer Greg Schindel enchanted the kids with his lively American folk songs. There was a real sense of community as everyone truly enjoyed the trip on a beautiful spring day.

The event was fully sponsored by the Willits Boosters. Thank you, Boosters, and a special thanks to Margaret Arnold, who has worked tirelessly for many years on behalf of our children. We are grateful that such a giving group exists to provide such a wonderful experience for all of our children.

Janice Haschak, for the third-grade teachers and students of Blosser Lane Elementary School

**Thank you**

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Seabiscuit Heritage Foundation, located at Ridgewood Ranch, home and final resting place of the legendary racehorse, Seabiscuit, thank you to everyone in Willits and Mendocino County who contributed to making the 10th anniversary of the Mendocino Film Festival the tremendous success it was!

We were delighted to showcase Ridgewood Ranch and present the Seabiscuit Legacy Series in this, the year of the Biscuit! Some of you might know that earlier this year, we celebrated the 75th

Read the rest of Letters | Over on Page 4

anniversary of Seabiscuit and Red Pollard, both of whom had come back from catastrophic injury, breaking the track record and winning the coveted Santa Anita Handicap of \$100,000.

Anita showed a vintage movie, produced by Kip Hannan, of their remarkable win on all screens at this year's Santa Anita Handicap. This vintage film, along with "Ridgewood Ranch: Home of Seabiscuit," produced by the Mendocino County Museum, and "Riding My Way Back" was part of the Seabiscuit Legacy Film Series at the film festival on May 31.

The Rotary Club of Willits once again came through to provide, for the 1940s-themed reception, a tremendous variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres, in addition to delicious samplings provided by Tres Bien Creamery. The Rotary Club is such a good friend of the foundation, and we appreciate their support and generosity very much. Fine wine from Barra and Seabiscuit Ranch added a refreshing touch to the event. Ag Unlimited Farm Supply sponsored delightful entertainment by the Dorian May Band, the jazz quartet who wowed the audience with classic Bing Crosby tunes. Author Roni McFadden joined us for a book signing of her book "Josephine: A Tale of Hope and Happy Endings," including a foreword by best-selling author of "Seabiscuit: An American Legend" Laura Hillenbrand. The day wouldn't have been complete without a classic Buick on the grounds. Silvestri Machine Shop showcased a classy 1938 Buick, adding the ambiance of a bygone era to the

setting. This special community event was generously sponsored by the Baechtel Creek Inn and Spa, as well as our Legacy Sponsors Frank R. Howard Foundation and the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. A huge thank you also goes to our community partner the Noyo Theatre, also celebrating their 75th anniversary, who featured "Harry & Snowman" where the hometown premiere of the award-winning movie "Seabiscuit" was held. A big thank you to our community partner, the Mendocino County Museum, as it is always a pleasure working with them.

Proceeds from the historic walking tour and reception benefit the Ridgewood T.R. A.I.L. Riders Association and our appreciation to all who supported that special event. All of this would not have been possible without the support of Michael Fox, executive director of the Mendocino Film Festival and his team. It was exciting and fun to work with them, and we look forward to future events.

We also want to thank Col. Michael Howard (USMC retired) and his son Nate who travelled a great distance to join us. As the great-grandson of Charles S. Howard, it was very meaningful to have Col. Howard represent his family and Seabiscuit. The films were hosted by the capable Cynthia Ariosta, owner of Saucy Restaurant in Ukiah, a skilled equestrian with a passion for acting and directing.

# Willits High School Class of 2015

continued on pages 7 and 10



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

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

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"When the students were asked to come up with a name for the new K-9, lots enjoyed throwing around funny names - Jeff, Sparky and the like - but Loni decided to go home and research German names that would be fitting for a police dog," said Lohne. "When she came back with 'Lutz,' I thought it was a great contender and something very appropriate for the new K-9 officer."

Lutz will be under the care of Willits Police Sergeant and K-9 handler Mark McNelley, who Lutz underwent an intensive five-week training with earlier this year.

"The training was kind of a refresher course for me, and a good intensive training for Lutz," explained McNelley who also served as a U.S. Army dog handler in years past. "It was a rigorous time, long days and long nights, but he excelled."

Lutz will stay at a kennel at McNelley's home during his time in active duty. He will also get to meet the McNelley family's house dog, a black female Labrador named Phebe. McNelley hopes the pair will become good friends.

McNelley expressed his appreciation to many locals who helped create Lutz's new home, including Willits Equipment Rental, Logan Gamble and the city's Public Works department, who helped set up the groundwork for the kennel, to Olenik Fencing for the enclosure, J.D. Redhouse for the special dog food blend, and to Mary Ann Underhill who created Lutz's custom leather collar.

Out in the field, Lutz's training in narcotic interdiction, tracking, and building and area searches, as well as handler protection, will be utilized. However, he is also expected to be a good "crowd and community dog," being an ambassador and positive connection to the department for the community.

"He did really well meeting and greeting all of the students of Room 26 in the school's cafeteria," McNelley said. "Everyone wanted to pet him, and even with all the scents and excitement, he showed no signs of aggression, was obedient, and he made us very proud."

The City of Willits contacted a police trainer from C.J.'s Police K-9s to select and purchase a German shepherd from a European breeder in late March. The trainer selected a dog with specific traits and personality in mind that would best serve the WPD's Community Policing strategy, which will allow Lutz to excel in public and community settings in addition to completing his official duties in the field.

Lutz will make his first official appearance at the Willits High School graduation ceremony Thursday at 6:30 pm, greeting the crowd, and he will also be introduced at the Willits City Council's June 24 meeting. McNelley plans to bring Lutz to the Hometown Celebration the following day, and to many more of the Willits Frontier Days events in the coming weeks.

For more information, contact the Willits Police Department at 459-6122.



Holly Madrigal of the Willits Bicycle Show.

Below: Winners from the last bike show.

Bottom: Willitsians came out to show off their bikes during a past show.



## 'Rock Your Ride' at the Willits Bicycle Show on Thursday, June 18

There is still time to pull that old worn bicycle out of the garage, dust it off, and bring it down to the second annual "Rock Your Ride" Bicycle Show, coming up Thursday, June 18 at 5 pm, at City Park.

Willits Economic Localization (WELL) is hosting this free, family-friendly event to remind everyone how fun it is to get around on two wheels.

Bikes will vie for bragging rights in a number of categories, including: Best in Show, Best Family Bike, Best Vintage Bike, Best Beater Bike (the funkier the better), Best Cruiser Bike, Best Road Bike, and more.

At the last Bicycle Show, Wayne Colby took home honors for his cool 1970s Stingray bikes, complete with banana seats and gear shifters on the crossbar. Debbie and Alan Grossman's road bikes were built for speed and long distance, with handcrafted leather seats. Devin Heiken won for Best BMX with his matte-black bike. Bike show organizers are hoping that some of the kids (or adult kids) from Wowser will show off some of their welded creations. All entries are welcome. A helmet decorating station will be available, to remind everyone of the importance of safety while riding.

Early summer is the perfect time of year to tune up your ride and take it out for a spin around town. Bring the whole family down, next Thursday, June 18 at the City Park, next to the Farmers Market. Show starts at 5 pm, and judging will begin at 5:45 pm. See you, and your wheels there.

- Holly Madrigal

WELL Willits Economic Localization presents:

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Contact Holly for more information 841-0612

the private detective's affections, and the outcome becomes doubtful.

Shows are on Thursday at 7 pm for \$10, Friday and Saturday at 8pm for \$15, and Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$10.

The Howard Memorial Hospital Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor a benefit performance of the show on the First Thursday, June 18 at 7 pm. For benefit tickets, contact Dianne Menzies at 707-354-1809.

Reserved-seat tickets for the gala and advance tickets for all regular shows are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

- Steve Hellman, for Willits Community Theatre



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(PG13) 1 hr 54 mins  
Fri: 6:00 & 8:30pm  
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### SPY

(R) 2 hrs  
Fri: 5:30 & 8:00pm  
Sat-Thurs: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00pm

**Thursday, June 11**

**Shanachie Pub:** twice-monthly Jazz Night with local musicians. Jazz standards infused with funk, hip hop, world and free-form jamming. "Fellow jazz musicians are encouraged to bring their and partake during the second set, so long as it fits within the moment of sounds!" 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

**Friday, June 12**

**"Kill Me, Deadly":** opens tonight at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. 8 pm. A hilarious spoof of film-noir crime capers, written by LA playwright Bill Robins. Co-directed by Damian Seubian and Lee Stipe. Starring Lee Stipe, Gloriann Lucero and Gretchen Andersen. Plays June 12 through June 28. Thursday at 7 pm for \$10, Friday and Saturday at 8 pm for \$15, and some Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$10. Advance tickets for all regular shows are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.

**Shanachie Pub:** "An Ill-Witted Pound of Comedy and Music" with comedy variety show by Ambria and Friends with music by 454, "a high-octane power trio ready to deliver high-energy sets of solid rock and roll." 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.



lessons learned. This summer program will be arranged into two groups, ages 8-11 and 12-18. \$25 registration fee. Info: Billy Hetherington at (707) 367-5724 or bheterington@willitscharter.net.

**41st annual Laytonville Rodeo:** this weekend at the rodeo grounds, Harwood Park, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Saturday's event is an All Terrain Vehicle / ATV Rodeo, starts at 10 am. Features 12 and under division; 13 to 18 years; and 18 and older. Events include: Barrels, Pole Bending, Figure 8, and a Side-by-Side five lap race for 18 and over. Also: Hide Race, Boomerang Race, and Bloomer Race. Contestants can still enter: Call Jakob Dryden: 707-354-3417 for information. On Sunday, June 14, is the CCPRA – California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association – Rodeo, with grand entry at 1 pm. All admission tickets are \$5; free for kids 12 and under.

**Brooktrails Picnic:** All residents of Brooktrails welcome! Hosted by the Brooktrails Property Owners Association. Saturday, June 13, 4 to 8 pm at the Ohl Redwood Grove, Clover Road and Birch Street. "Bring something to grill, a side dish or dessert to share. Bring your choice of beverages. Lawn games encouraged!" Visit http://brooktrailspoa.org/ for more information on the Brooktrails Property Owners Association.

**"Kill Me, Deadly":** Special annual WCT Gala performance. 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, June 12 listing for details about the play; see article on page 4 for gala info.

**Shanachie Pub:** Sissy Brown with Abraham and the Old Gods, "bare bones country." 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

**Sunday, June 14**

**Senior Center Pancake Breakfast:** at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 8 to 11 am. Pancakes, eggs,

# What's Happening Around Town

and your choice of sausage, ham, or bacon. Adults \$7, Members \$6, Kids \$5. Questions: 459-6826.

**Adventist Christian School Golf Tournament:** the 8th annual fundraising Golf Tournament for Adventist Christian School, "to benefit any student who wishes to attend our school," is set for Sunday, June 14 at the Brooktrails Golf Course. "Best Ball Scramble" format; registration 8:30 to 9:30 am; "shotgun" start at 10 am. Prizes and BBQ lunch (both regular hamburgers and vegetarian) included in \$50 entry fee. \$30 for golf club members; \$5 for lunch for non-players. "Mulligans" available for purchase.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners at the end of the tournament. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call 707-954-0649 or 459-6761 for information and sign up.

**41st annual Laytonville Rodeo:** this weekend at the rodeo grounds, Harwood Park, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. CCPRA Rodeo today; see Saturday, June 13 listing for details.

**Frankie J in Concert:** 7 pm at the Willits Community Theatre, as part of its "Neighborhood Lighting: Local Musical Talent at WCT" series. Frankie J will perform solo on the piano for the first half of the show; during the second half, he will be joined by his band, The Frankie J Orchestra, to play selections from his new album, "Songs of Love," including "A Woman's Touch," "Everything Is Gonna Be Alright," "The Day I Become a Man," and "Ella." "Frankie is known as a piano man with a ton of soul. He plays rhythm and blues, blues, jazz, soul, gospel, rock 'n' roll, and even classical. He's been influenced by such greats as Ray Charles, Little

Richard, Nat King Cole, Otis Redding, Earth, Wind and Fire, Fats Domino, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Sly and the Family Stone, Sam Cooke and Duke Ellington." Tickets are \$10; available online at brownpapertickets.com, by phone at 1-800-838-3006, or in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main.

**Monday, June 15**

**Opening Night for Wowser Cafe:** the new, members only cafe at Wowser, 330 East Commercial Street, opens tonight, and will be open nightly from 6 to 10 pm. "The business is self-contained in a gypsy wagon type structure inside the 20,000-square-foot makerspace. It will serve members Thanksgiving Coffee and Mendocino Tea Lady tea, along with locally made food items." See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details; visit http://wowser.org/special/ for information about becoming a member.

**Willits Dances of Universal Peace:** aka Sufi Dancing, honors all faiths and wisdom traditions in sacred song and dance. Easy to learn, live music, fun and deep, donation. Monday, June 15 at the Muse, 30 East San Francisco Avenue, 7 to 9 pm. All most welcome. 459-9085.

**Tuesday, June 16**

**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 Tuesday movies: "San Andreas" and "Spy." For showtimes, visit: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.



**Mendocino Farmers Guild:** meets at 7 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Every third Tuesday meeting of farmers, ranchers, and sustainable food system advocates. Guild membership is free. With an informal potluck dinner: 6 pm social; 7 pm potluck. Also, on Saturday, June 27, the Farmers Guild is sponsoring a tour and work day at Ecology Action Garden, 5798 Ridgewood Road. 10 am to 3 pm. Bring a potluck dish to share. Call for directions: 443-610-3226. Visit www.farmersguild.org for info on the farmers guild.

**Wednesday, June 17**

**Long Valley Dance Annual Student Showcase:** 7 pm at Willits High School Auditorium. "Fabulous entertainment and raffle prizes: Our annual dance showcase and fundraiser with students performing Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop, Acrobatic Yoga, Belly Dance and more!" Tickets: \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door; kids under 10 free are free. For more info, visit www.longvalleydance.org or call 707-984-8100.

**Thursday, June 18**

**Willits Library Summer Reading Program:** The theme of this summer's Summer Reading Program at the Willits Library is "Every Hero Has a Story." The program kicks off Thursday, June 18, and runs on most Thursdays, from 11 am to noon, and some other days, through August 15. The June 18 program features a Rhythm Workshop by Anthony Melville. "Come and march, dance, play the drums, and have a great time! We'll get to make our own drums, too." Wednesday, June 24 program: Origami: "Kathy Silva will teach us to fold some insect and animal



**Shanachie Pub:** Shotgun Jesus, psychedelic rock. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

**Saturday, June 20**

**Roof Benefit Grateful Dead 50th Anniversary Party:** A benefit for the Senior Center's "A Roof Over Our Heads" fundraising campaign. At Willits Community Center, 6 to 11 pm, with live music by "Totally Dead." \$20 advance; \$30 at the door; \$10 for youth 11-15; kids under 10 free. Tickets available at The Headroom, Harrah Senior Center, Main Street Music, & Shanachie Pub. Beer & Wine. Live & Silent Auction. Chicken Dinner: \$10.

**"Kill Me, Deadly":** 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, June 12 listing for details.

**Sunday, June 21 - Happy Father's Day!**

**Last Chance for Lincoln / Civil War Exhibit:** "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War," a nationally traveling exhibition on display at the Mendocino County Museum, closes June 21. The exhibit examines how President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three intertwined crises of the Civil War – the secession of Southern states, slavery and wartime civil liberties. A second Civil War exhibit, "Uncivil Homefront: Mendocino County during the Civil War," curated by Rebecca Montes, professor of history at Mendocino College, focuses on the local effects of the Civil War through politics, the military experience, and the indentured servitude of Native Americans. Admission to the museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is free during the "Lincoln" exhibit.

**"Kill Me, Deadly":** Matinee at 2 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, June 12 listing for details.

**Add your event to the calendar!**  
Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

**Redwood Run**

June 12 through June 14  
Motorcycles will start rumbling through town on Thursday, June 11 – that's the day the onsite Redwood Run ticket office opens – for the Redwood Run's destination. Riverview Ranch in Piercy. "The best Old School Biker Party on the West Coast," featuring live music all weekend, bike & people games, wet T-shirt contest, vendors, food & full bars, on-site camping and hot showers. For details and tickets: visit www.redwoodrun.com.

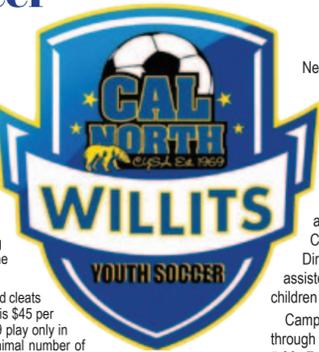
## Willits Youth Soccer

Registration is Open for 2015 season

Registration is open for the 2015 season of Willits Youth Soccer, for children between the ages of 3 and 15. Registration closes July 19; team selection starts July 20, British Soccer Camp, July 27-31, and practice starts August 1.

"Willits Youth Soccer has been inspiring players and building community leaders for 33 years! The organization was formed in 1982 and is affiliated with Cal North and CYSA (California Youth Soccer Association). The nonprofit program – run by volunteers – serves more than 240 children each year in the Willits community. WYSL offers both recreation and competitive play while keeping the focus on fitness, teamwork, skill building, and overall love of the game!"

Registration is \$30 for soccer play group (3-year-olds); uniform and cleats are not necessary, meets on Saturdays. Registration for ages 4-15 is \$45 per player (covers insurance, equipment and a trophy). Players age 4-9 play only in Willits. Ages 10-15 travel on Saturdays for games, with only a minimal number of



## Willits Kids Club Summer Camp

June 15 - August 14

Need a safe place for your kids or grandkids this summer? Kids want something fun to do with friends? Would you like your kids to keep up their math and reading during the summer? Willits Kids Club has the place for you! Arts & Crafts, Sports, Games, Swimming, Cooking, Gardening. Camps will be held at the Willits Kids Club, Willits Elementary Charter School and Brooktrails Camp. Directors: Diane Heath and Tina Stanley, assisted by our excellent after-school staff. For children pre K through Seventh Grade.

Camp runs June 15 through August 14, Monday through Friday. Half Day: 7:30-12:30 or 12:00-5:30. Full Day: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm. Participation options: One week half days \$65. One day \$35. Two full days \$65. Three full days \$90. One week full days \$125. Two weeks full days \$235. 4 weeks \$450 – Prepaid. 9 weeks \$975 – Prepaid. 9 am - 12 only \$30/week. Space is limited to 50 per week. Register early. Application packets available at school sites. For more information call Diane: 841-8012 or Tina: 841-8013 or visit www.willitskidsclub.org.

## Little Lake Firefighters Association Open House and Fundraiser

Thursday, June 25

"Hello, Willits! Our 89th annual Firefighters Association open house and fundraiser is set for Thursday, June 25, the day of Hometown Celebration. These departments' apparatus will be on display. There will be door prizes donated by local businesses that we will raffie off every hour: You have to be present to win the door prizes! We will also have tacos by Emilio Flores (from El Mexicano). "Our main raffle prizes will be raffled off at 8:45 pm (redwood picnic table; two \$500 gift certificates to Sparetime Supply; one \$500 gift certificate to Les Schwab Tire of Willits; Barrel BBQ Smoker donated by John Thomen and Fred Berry; two oil changes at Auto Mart Auto Repair. These raffle tickets are \$10 each – you don't need to be present to win these raffle prizes. "Additionally we are raffing off a 300 Weatherby Magnum from Coast To Coast Hardware of Willits. These tickets are one for \$5 or six for \$20. "All tickets can be purchased at the Firehouse or from an association member."

## Junior Giants Signups

The Willits Jim Hale Junior Giants Program, in association with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Youth Activities League, starts its 2015 season on June 15. Sign up at www.jrgiants.org or in person May 5 through June 26, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4:30 pm with Keith Terrell at the Willits Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Info: 707-459-0594 or cynthiapurdue@yahoo.com.

## Senior Center Lunch

Week of June 15 through June 19

**Monday:** Creamed Chicken on Noodles  
**Tuesday:** Lemon Tilapia  
**Wednesday:** Goulash Americana  
**Thursday:** Baked Chicken  
**Friday:** Baked Cod  
Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55 \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

COLUJMN | At the Movies



## 'Spy'

**The Story:** CIA agent Cooper (Melissa McCarthy) is tied to her desk back at headquarters. She yearns to work undercover out in the field. She gets her chance.

**My Thoughts:** I'm often asked if I can recommend a good comedy. That always makes me nervous. When I first saw Monty Python's dead parrot skit, I laughed until I choked. But try telling someone about it. You'll find that not everyone thinks a bunch of snotty Brits arguing over the corpse of a bird is funny. There's no class of film criticism more open to disagreement than what makes funny ... and what's just stupid.

That said, "Spy" made me laugh so hard and so continuously that I will state unequivocally that you gotta see it ... and that you'll thank me afterward. And if not, well, I drink coffee most mornings at Tom Mann's coffee house on the corner of Commercial and 101. You can tell me off there. (But I won't apologize.)

Rotten Tomatoes gave "Spy" a 95 percent positive rating. Slapstick comedy gold couldn't gleam any brighter.

**Parents:** Though this is slapstick, there is bloody violence and continuous sex talk and sex jokes. Not For Children.

**Note:** The script is clever, and the actors are solid. For all you neophyte screenwriters and thespians, this movie is worth studying.

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

**HOMETOWN CELEBRATION 2015**  
Celebrating Our "Independents"  
Our locally owned & operated businesses!

**Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup> 5pm to 9pm**  
Downtown Willits

Prize Wheel - Store Specials  
Local Artisans & Entertainment  
Family Fun and Food!

Our Valued Sponsors:  
Bianca's Burgers & Brew, City of Willits, Mariposa Market, George's Goodies & Gains, Noyo Theatre, Kimberly's Jewelry, George's Goodies & Gains, Scoops Frozen Yogurt, J.D. Redhouse & Co., Celtic Heritage Destinations, The Coast KOZT-FM, REACH Air Services, Les Schwab Tire Center, Alfred Kern, DDS, Henry Rosel, DDS, Lisa Epstein State Farm Ins., The Willits News, Willits Online, Main Street Music & Video, Willits Weekly

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Info: (707) 459-7910

## New Wowser Cafe gets \$6,000 grant; to open June 15

Wowser is delighted to announce that The Community Foundation of Mendocino County has awarded Wowser a \$6,000 grant to equip the youth-driven micro-business, "Espresso Yourself Cafe."

The members-only coffee shop will open on June 15 inside Wowser, 330 East Commercial Street. Espresso Yourself Cafe is a project of 17-year-old Wowser member Tara Logan. The business is self-contained in a gypsy wagon type structure inside the 20,000-square-foot makerspace. It will serve members Thanksgiving Coffee and Mendocino Tea Lady tea, along with locally made food items.

As a part of her preparation, Tara has taken business management classes at Mendocino College. She has found mentors and, with the help of the West Company, Thanksgiving Coffee, Brickhouse Coffee, Patricia Baumann, Kitty Norris, and Wowser members, she has brought this project forward to near completion and opening. The cafe will be open nightly from 6 to 10 pm and will be open to all Wowser members. For added entertainment, there will be scheduled live music and "open mic" evenings.

The grant funds are coming from the Community Foundation's Community Endowment Fund, which is a collection of permanent, undesignated endowment funds, the income from which supports annual grants for the enrichment of local communities. Donors to

the Community Endowment Fund understand this is a permanent and flexible way to ensure their donations are used where the needs and opportunities are greatest.

This is Wowser's first collaborative project with a member. This is one way the non-profit makerspace fosters economic development within the community. Young Wowser members will be eligible to work as interns, with all aspects of the coffee shop being accounted for by the teens running the cafe.

Megan Barber Allende of the Community Foundation says, "It's exciting to support the efforts of local youth to create a positive meeting space for young people in a location where they can be stimulated to explore their creativity and to follow their dreams – while furthering our goal of economic development in the county."

"I'm grateful for the support of the Community Foundation of Mendocino County. It's a thrill to see what started out as an idea turn into a real business," says Espresso Yourself's Tara Logan. "The vision is to provide a safe, drug-free space for kids of all ages to hang out during the evening. Please come join us!"

Wowser has an incredible discount membership special running from now until June 15. For more information and to sign up, please visit: http://wowser.org/special/

– submitted by Wowser



Gardener Devi Chase

## Plant sales to benefit arts center

Weekend plant sales to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts will start Saturday, June 20 and continue in June and July. Gardener Devi Chase will be offering 16 varieties of perennial flowers, 16 varieties of annual flowers, 12 varieties of herbs, and also lettuces. 363 Boscabelle Avenue, between San Francisco and East Valley. 10 am to 4 pm. Dates: Saturday, June 20 and Sunday, June 21; Saturday, June 27 and Sunday, June 28; Sunday, July 5, Saturday, July 18 and Sunday, July 19; and Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26.

## Ongoing Events

Willits Summer Farmers Market: from 3 to 6 pm every Thursday at City Park on East Commercial Street, with produce, local meats and fish, local grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

The Emmandal Choral: this community chorus based in Willits is in its 20th season, and you are welcome to join! Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm. No auditions necessary. The Choral meets upstairs at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

WCA June Show: The June show at the Willits Center for the Arts, "You Show Me Yours and I'll Show You Mine: From Negative to Print," features 35 mm film photography by Ree Sloum and David Weitzman. 71 East Commercial Street. Runs through June 28. Gallery hours: Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 pm. Info: Ree Sloum at 972-2163 or reesloum@gmail.com.

Civil War Exhibits at the Mendocino County Museum: "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War," a nationally traveling exhibition on display through June 21, examines how President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three intertwined crises of the Civil War – the secession of Southern states, slavery and wartime civil liberties. A second Civil War exhibit, "Uncivil Homefront: Mendocino County during the Civil War," curated by Rebecca Montes, professor of history at Mendocino College, focuses on the local effects of the Civil War through politics, the military experience, and the indentured servitude of Native Americans. Admission to the museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is free during the "Lincoln" exhibit.

Free English class/Clase de ingles gratis: Every Thursday at 7 pm / Cada jueves a las 7 pm. At the LDS church, 265 Margie Drive. Info: 707-758-8709.

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Monday night session at the Willits Center for the Arts. New beginner class runs from 7 to 8 pm, with dancing to follow from 8 to 9 pm. Singles and couples and all ages are welcome. Caller/teacher Lawrence Johnson. Singles and couples and all ages are welcome. \$20/month (to help pay the caller), with young dancer scholarships available. Questions? Contact Emmy Good at Emmy@pacific.net or Jenny Watts at Watsapp@gmail.com.

AI-Anon Meeting: Every Thursday Night from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Rite-Aid at the Evergreen Shopping Center. "AI-Anon Family groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience strength and hope to solve their common problems. We believe that alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery."

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

Cards and Games at Willits Library: free games in the Willits Library's Community Room. Tuesday bridge sessions from 1:30 to 3:30 pm; Thursday bridge sessions from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Saturday free bridge classes, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm, for new and review students. Info: Donna at 459-9035. "Friday Night Magic": Youth game night, for kids ages 10 to 14, runs through June. Bring cards and games to share. Parental contact info required to sign in. From 5 to 7:30 pm, but library doors close at 6 pm, and no admission after 6 pm. Info: the Willits Library at 459-5908. Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4:30 pm: Chess; bring your chess set and have some fun with friends. All ability levels welcome. Info: Raymond at 841-0473.

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

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.

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

Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 10 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic every Wednesday. 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7 pm. Movie Night every Tuesday. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Karaoke Night at AI's Redwood Room: Every Wednesday night, starting at 9 pm. 207 South Main Street 459-2444. With Mr. Larry's New Orleans Outside BBQ Cafe Catering serving from 9 pm until 1:30 am. Questions? Call Mr. Larry: (707) 367-7865.

Open Mic Jam at AI's Redwood Room: Every Friday night, hosted by Dream Capsule Entertainment, featuring talented, established local musicians from all over Northern California. Jazz, Blues, Rock. New talent welcome. AI's Redwood Room, 207 South Main Street; starting at 9 pm. Mr. Larry's New Orleans Outside BBQ Cafe Catering serving from 9 pm until 1:30 am. Questions? Call Mr. Larry: (707) 367-7865.

Laytonville Summer Farmers Market: Mondays from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, crafts, hot soup, baked goods, and more.

## Save the Date

Father's Day, June 21  
Hometown Celebration, June 25,  
downtown Willits  
Willits Frontier Days, June 25 through July 5



# Starchild Chocolate

## New Willits factory hand-roasts organic cacao beans from around the world



At top, from left: Cacao beans from one of Starchild Chocolate's small farmer suppliers. A close-up of unhusked cacao beans. After roasting and grinding, cacao beans are conched – heated and agitated – to get rid of acidity.

Above: Ash Maki offers some of his hand-crafted artisan chocolate.

Below, left: The glass case with chocolate treats in the Starchild storefront. Right: The Starchild Chocolate factory and storefront, a block north of Commercial Street.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

Is chocolate a gift from the gods? Many would agree with chocolatiers Ash and Brittany Maki, owners of the new Starchild Chocolate factory in Willits, that "cacao is truly one of nature's finest fruits ... said to be a gift from the gods."

But most of us haven't tasted the kind of artisan, varietal "from bean to bar" chocolate – roasted in small batches and sweetened with coconut blossom sugar – that the Makis make.

"What makes us different from other folks," Ash Maki said, "is that we give a light roast to our beans. We accentuate its dynamic, individual flavor profile."

Starchild has just put a new website up, and its beautiful new storefront and cafe at 101 North Main Street is now "open for business," Tuesdays through Fridays, from noon to 6 pm.

Maki buys his premium, organic raw cacao beans from a "direct marketing network" of small farmers and co-ops in a dozen countries in Central and South America, Mexico and Africa. The whole roasting, cracking, winnowing, grinding, conching (heating and agitating), testing, tempering and molding process happens right here in the factory's back rooms. Then the chocolate is sweetened with coconut blossom sugar and flavored with vanilla, and enhanced with any number of other organic ingredients.

The fair trade beans arrive in bags by variety – there are three main kinds of cacao beans, Criollo, Forastero and Trinitario. But, Maki says, not only is each variety different, and each season's harvest different, each farmer's harvest is different, too: "Each bean is individual," Maki said, "depending on how each farmer or each co-op

ferments them at the beginning ... starting on the ground, depending on the rain and things like that, and how the farmers take care of them.... We're not afraid to pay extra so that we can get the really cared-for, high-quality beans."

And how each chocolate maker roasts and prepares the beans makes a big difference, too. The factory has a log book, where exact details about time and temperature used to roast each batch of beans are kept. For test roasts, the crew stops and tests the beans every two minutes. "Each bean has its optimum point where all of its flavors balance out," Maki said, "and everything that's in it comes together. We do our best to try to grab on to that sweet spot to accentuate the bean to its fullest potential."

Starchild Chocolate is one of two finalists for the International Chocolate Awards "Americas" competition for 2015, in the category "Plain/origin dark chocolate bars made with alternative natural sugar." The winner will be announced soon, but just to be a finalist in a world-class chocolate competition is a big achievement. "I'm continually, every day, surprised by people's reactions to this chocolate," Maki said.

The consistent taste that most chocolate lovers are used to in chocolate "like Hershey's," Maki said, is the result of over-roasting cacao beans, "creating a kind of burned cocoa flavor," which is then smoothed out in the conching process: conching removes the acidity in cacao beans with heat and motion.

With the lighter roasts, Maki said: "Flavors explode out of the chocolate. We're not burning off all the fruits and different flavors: It's a lot more like wine tasting."

How did this high-end chocolate

The rest of **Chocolate** | From Page 10

manufacturing company end up in Willits? Ash, who's been in Willits about 15 years, and Brittany started making chocolate in their own certified cottage kitchen here in town, but demand soon outstripped what they could produce at home, especially for wholesale customers. At first the couple was interested in raw dark chocolate with herbal and "medicinal" ingredients, but Ash ended up going to school to become a commercial chocolatier, at the online Ecole Chocolate in San Francisco. A lifetime of traveling around the world, Ash said, helped him make the connections he needed to deal directly with far-flung cacao farmers and co-ops.

And using coconut blossom sugar – which Ash describes as a "low-glycemic" sweetener – and other healthy ingredients means he can "sleep at night with good conscience," he laughed. "Kids and old folks can get healthy treats, and that's what makes all the work worth it."

The newly remodeled storefront – across the highway from the 101 Drive-In – has a high glass case filled with many chocolate treats. Some items available Friday were: Brazilian chocolate, plain or with almonds or cashews; Caramel Pecan Bon Bon; Coconut Cream Pie and Chocolate Cream Pie; Chocolate Covered Bananas and Apricots; Almond Crunch Truffle; "White-ish Chocolate"; 72% Ecuadorian Raw; Peruvian with Currant or Almond; and Dominican with Toasted Coconut.

And then there are drinks, including hot or iced chocolate, of course. You can even "Drink a Bar": "Melt down any plain chocolate bar of your choice for strong drinking chocolate!" But Starchild also offers juices and fruit smoothies with a wide selection of healthy and tasty ingredients, including house-made sprouted nut milks. Fancy teas, house-made syrups and fair trade Thanksgiving Coffee and espresso drinks are also on the chalkboard menu, and everything is organic.

For more information – including more details about the "bean to bar" process – visit [www.starchildchocolate.com](http://www.starchildchocolate.com), stop by the storefront, or call 707-841-3104.

The rest of **Polio** | From Page 14

and was held at Country Skillet. Surprise guests were Walton's wife, Jill, and daughter Holly, along with long-time employee Carol Gibson.

Walton said he's been in training for this trip for some time, so he's not worried about biking this distance and looks forward to the experience. He did confide that he is worried about his lack of culinary skills, since the group will be taking turns cooking as they camp along the way to San Francisco.

As word got out about his trip, he received a couple of emails from Williamsburg Rotarians who want to support his cause and have offered space on their property for his group to camp.

The rest of **Rotary** | From Page 14

room nurse. Irene was active in swimming, cheerleading and cross country at WHS. She was also very involved in Peer Counseling and completed more than 100 hours of community service. She also completed certification as an emergency medical technician and plans to work as an EMT during her time at college.

**Mykayla McClellan** plans to take courses at Mendocino College in the fall to further her career plans of working as an occupational therapist. She participated in high school basketball, tennis, soccer, volleyball and cheerleading. She currently works at Families United – Respite.

**Ankit Patel** intends to be a cardiologist and will start his education at Santa Rosa Junior College in the fall. Ankit ran on the Wolverine track and cross-country teams. He was captain of both teams in both his junior and senior years. He was also very involved in student government, and is the Associated Student Body president.

**Naomi Ramirez** will attend Chico State University with a double major in history and theater. She plans to either become a teacher or a museum curator. Naomi swam all four years with WHS swim team. She has also worked at Willits Kids Club since 2011. She currently is the Willits High School Associated Student Body representative on the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees.

**Hailey Riley** plans to continue her education this fall at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno. Her course of study in human anatomy and physiology will help her in her objective to become a radiologic technician. Hailey was very involved in 4-H and Future Farmers of America throughout her school career. Sports are important to her, and at times during her four years in high school she swam, played volleyball, and played soccer. She played basketball all four years, and was the basketball team captain her freshman, junior and senior years.

**Kayla Smith** will attend Mendocino College this fall to study biological sciences. She plans to transfer to UC Davis, after completing her prerequisites at Mendocino College, in order to continue in her goal of working in the field of neonatal-perinatal, pediatric medicine. She was involved in FFA, track and cheerleading in high school.

**Tori Troum** plans to become a police detective and will major in criminal justice at Mendocino College in the fall. After completing her prerequisites at Mendocino College, she plans to transfer to Sacramento State to complete her Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. Tori was a student athlete at WHS playing softball and soccer.

# Coast hotels pull out of tourism district

Hospitality establishment owners in the cities of Fort Bragg and Point Arena have filed valid protest letters sufficient to pull all the hotels, motels and inns in those cities out of the countywide Business Improvement District, the board of supervisors learned Tuesday.

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
[mike@willitsweekly.com](mailto:mike@willitsweekly.com)

Supervisors decided to postpone a final vote on reauthorizing the BID until June 16. If the board votes to reauthorize the BID, the district's budget will be reduced by roughly one half from a projected \$1 million. It also will mean the "all for one, one for all" spirit of the BID will be torn asunder, and hotel and motel owners in other areas of the county will have more reason than ever to regard the BID as a failed and futile endeavor.

Motel owners in Ukiah, Willits, Laytonville and Hopland will, in essence, be contributing to a marketing machine that benefits the Mendocino Coast, but to which motel owners in that area are not contributing financially.

The BID was created in 2006 to provide a funding source for putting the word out about Mendocino County on both national and international tourism markets. Under the agreement, hospitality owners charge their customers 1 percent of the cost of a night in their accommodations, and contribute that money to the BID. The BID then gives that money to Visit Mendocino, Inc., which executes the marketing program for the county as a whole. Mendocino County also contributes a sum equal to 50 percent of the BID assessment revenues as a matching contribution.

Five organizations have a hand in BID governance, including four boards (the county board of supervisors, the board of directors of the Mendocino County Lodging Association, the Mendocino County Promotional Alliance, and Visit Mendocino, Inc.) and an advisory committee. Altogether, five bodies comprised of 56 people with four overlapping contracts have a hand in governing the BID.

Despite this "structure," no one body actually runs the BID. This state of affairs reduced the efficiency of the BID, and in fall 2014 the BID structure itself began to unravel. In August, the MCLA board of directors voted to reject a BID marketing study; in September it voted to terminate its contract with VMC.

Last November, supervisors

appointed John McCowen (Ukiah) and Dan Gjerde (Fort Bragg) to an ad hoc committee charged with fixing the problem.

McCowen and Gjerde worked for six months with board members from MCLA, MCPA and VMC, as well as with members from the BID Advisory Committee. The committee essentially overhauled the BID structure, determining there would be one governing body, and that Visit Mendocino, Inc. would redesign itself to become that body. The committee also proposed raising the BID assessment to 2 percent of hospitality revenues.

The protest votes were filed in response to supervisors' plans to reauthorize the current BID structure.

During a public hearing on the issue held Tuesday, several heavy-hitters in the tourism industry decry the current state of affairs.

"Supervisor Gjerde and Supervisor McCowen spent an incredible – an inordinate – amount of time during the last six months, to try and bring this together into a governance system, into a publicly transparent system that would resolve the issues that have accrued and fermented, if you will, in the last eight years, and put them out on the table, and move forward," said Fort Bragg hospitality owner and past-chairman of the MCLA Jim Hurst, who has sat on the BID Advisory Committee for the past eight years.

"The most disappointing thing to me is, in talking with other lodging owners, the lack of understanding and appreciation of what has been accomplished," Hurst said. "There is simply no recognition that anything other than the economy has resulted in the improvement and growth in our industry."

"I think you should consider stopping the BID," Hurst told supervisors, "not renewing the BID. Give that serious consideration. Let's see what the consequences are."

"I am so concerned there is a lack of understanding, and we have busted our tails, and you have busted your tails for the last eight years to show that," Hurst said, "and it doesn't matter how much you show has been done, it's not believed. So, let's see what happens."

"There could be some pretty bad consequences," he added, "but I think that it's worth the risk."

"Tourism," Hurst conceded, "is the lifeblood of this county, and I don't want to see it go backwards. But if everything that's been done is so totally rejected –

in Fort Bragg it's 54.9 percent and we have 25 percent countywide – if we are willing to go forward without Fort Bragg and Point Arena, I am willing to bet you that next year you'll have 51 percent countywide."

"It is time for this board to recognize that, essentially, it has all the reins sitting right here," said former Third District Supervisor Hal Wagenet, chairman of VMC. "It is no longer a lodging BID. It's a county BID, and the structure – the seating of the board and the financing of it – resides on this dais. It is the supervisors' BID, and it is to the benefit of the county as a whole."

"I am very proud of VMC," Wagenet said. "It's won awards. It's changed the image of the county. It's gotten national recognition, and international recognition. It's even reached Willits. I think that the way you should be seeing it is, 'the way it is,' not what people's opinions are. It has become a fractured deal; it is not being well-supported, and it is going to fade away."

Opposition to the BID is "being done in an interesting way," Wagenet said. "People are wrapping themselves in the flag of fiscal prudence and great, wonderful oversight, and then are destroying the very thing that has so benefited the county and changed its momentum in a much more positive direction. I don't think you should be swayed by that."

"Naturally, you could decide to continue based on what you've got, based on a reduced budget," he added. "Today you could do this. You can take the possibly \$600,000 in BID revenues – maybe it's been reduced a little to \$500,000 – backfill it from your own general funds, and maintain the \$1 million budget for a single year."

"You can use that bought time to put together a different plan. Maybe you raise the TOT another 1 percent. You would have a lot of support for that. You've got the organizational structure. You've got everything, except the support from the lodging community. Please recognize that, and prop it up with your own funding, if you must, because, eventually, that's what you are going to have to do."

The board will vote on that rewritten resolution at next week's board meeting.

# Della Avenue to get new water line

The city saved money in April when its public works crew replaced a Main Street water line, and the same in-house approach will soon be applied on Della Avenue.

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
[zack@willitsweekly.com](mailto:zack@willitsweekly.com)

The city said its crew saved about \$125,000 when it replaced a decrepit portion of water line from Commercial Street to State Street.

With a new project to be undertaken by the county, things are looking up for Della Avenue, a well-used street just outside city limits near Blosser Lane Elementary School.

The Mendocino County Department of Transportation has a project ready to go that will repave the street, but first the city must dig down and replace an aging water line.

The four-inch wrapped steel pipe is in poor condition, according to a report from the city.

Public Works Director Rod Wilburn said corrosion in the pipe has reduced it from four inches to about two inches inside.

On Della Avenue, the city plans to contract with Mendocino Construction Services for trench digging and dirt disposal.

MCS's contribution to the project was expected to cost about \$42,000.

The city and public works employees will manage the remainder of the work, including ordering materials, Wilburn said.

It makes good sense to replace the waterline before paving Della Avenue: County officials told the city it would not permit a trench to be dug in the asphalt for five years after the repaving was complete.

**SATURDAYS CHOPPING WOOD**

**Wood Splitter and Chainsaw Set!**

5 Sets to be given away!!

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Earn entries (13 points/entry) from 8AM to 11PM

**1PM to 5PM**  
2 random winners/hour (8 winners)  
Each winner will win \$50 in Free Play

**7PM to 10PM**  
3 random winners/hour (9 winners)  
Each winner will win \$75 in Free Play

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**SUMMER 2015**  
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**Elisa A. Charlson**

On Sunday, May 31, 2015, Elisa A. Charlson passed away. She was 96 years old. Elise A. Charlson was born January 8, 1919 to Allen C. Abbott and Paula B. Abbott in Seattle, Washington. She had one brother, James W. Abbott. Elise was active volunteering for many years with Meals on Wheels and the Hospice Association and enjoyed original membership in the Choraleers Women's Group. She was a supportive friend of the Monterey Presbyterian Church. She moved into Forest Hill Manor but later moved to Sunrise Senior Living where she passed away.

She is preceded in death by her forever and loved husband, Ray. She is survived by two children, Paula Reidt of Scotts Valley and her husband Gordon; her son, Patrick Charlson of Willits and his wife Sally, two granddaughters, Cheyanne Charlson of Northern California and Amy Elise Reidt of New Haven, Connecticut.

No services are planned but donations can be made to The Friends of the Monterey Library.



**NEW HORIZONS**

**Class of 2015**

Ian Bertolino-Haley, Caylin Collicott, Byron DeGraw, Crystal Haas, Kailana Madrigal, Virginia Murray, Matthew Nelson, Colton Pinson, Thais Reed, Rebecca Rodriguez, Kiera Shed, Lisa Sheridan, Clifford Smith-Konopasek and Savannah Stansberry.

**SAN HEDRIN HIGH SCHOOL**

**Class of 2015**

Jesus Alvarez, Casey Arms, Julio Avalos, Dominic Barajas, Hayley Chesser, Robert DeNeef, Robin DeNeef, Nathanaul Johnston, Lakota Lebo, Juan Lopez, Daciah McDonnell, Tyler Miner, Esperanza Nieto, Kyle Patten, Jerrod Paulson, Jasmin Rains, Tyra Riley, Aryanna Rockey, Joseph Said, Jorge Sanchez, Emily Nicole Shannon, Erica Simpson, Brittany Simpson, Joseph Slaughter, Brook Stroecker, Lucita Vaughan and Kaelie Yadan.

**Willits High School graduates not pictured:**  
**Judith Bordeleon**

List of graduate names and photos provided by schools. Willits Weekly did our best to check names and spellings.

**FOR GRADS**  
Willits High School Graduation is June 11

Graduation leis \$30 (purple, white or green)  
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Tickets: Mendocino Transit Authority, 241 Plant Road, Ukiah, CA 95482  
Available on board an MTA bus or at the MTA office in Ukiah or Fort Bragg. This pass not valid on MTA Dial-A-Ride.

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Mac Smith 459-MATH

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Pesticide-free fruit by the field lug.  
Apricots, \$26  
Yellow and white eating peaches & nectarines, \$25  
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First truck June 11, second truck June 18. Order by the Sunday before.  
Willits: Brenda, 459-9335  
Ukiah, Potter & Redwood Valley: Deanna, 391-7736  
Laytonville: Heather, 984-7430  
Lakeport: Linda, 279-8840  
Fort Bragg: Karen, 937-4664  
Brooktrails: Toni & Rene, 513-3640

**Rental Available for July 2015**  
\*3 bdrm/1bath w/ large fenced yard and paved parking \*suitable for a family or small business \*no smoking/no pets \*\$1,000/mo. W/ 1st, last, and security \*location: Hwy 20 and Blosser Ln \* references required \* for applications call 707.459.0373.

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**Storage Sale**  
Wagon Wheel Mobile Park. Every Saturday in June, 9 am to 2 pm. TVs, computers, furniture, specialized bike, Bow-Flex Ultimate, 8' Camper Shell, camp gear, HH misc

**Thermography**  
Thermography Breast Examination: Breast Screening by Digital Infrared Thermal Imaging available at Willits Chiropractic Clinic, June 17, 1225 South Main Street \$185. Reserve your appointment today by calling 707/459/4689.

**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.

**Volunteers Wanted**  
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 Mariya at 707-459-6826.

**Yard Sales**  
Saturday from 8 am to 4 pm, 234 Alice Drive. Furniture, appliances, household items, clothes, tools, tires and more!

**Help Wanted**  
Janitorial position: Yokum's Body Shop. Mon-Fri, 8 am to 5 pm. Come by in person. References required.

**Help Wanted**  
Pizza Maker/Line Cook at La Siciliana, Willits. Evening hours making pizzas, salads, bread, & pasta sauces from scratch. 21 and older. Send resume and experience to kapilabenz@gmail.com.

**Help Wanted**  
Shop Help/Laborer: Use of hand tools, read a tape measure, willing to do some digging and cement work. 707-459-2320.

**Help Wanted**  
Handyperson wanted for busy hotel. Job includes weekends and some days during the week. Job includes watering, pool cleanup, and various jobs and duties that are unique to hotels. Please apply in person at 101 Gregory Lane, Willits, CA

**Help Wanted**  
Housekeeping - Must be reliable, a team player and willing to work weekends and have a way to get to work. Apply in person: 101 Gregory Lane, Willits, CA

**Help Wanted**  
Front Desk at Baechtel Creek Inn. Friendly, reliable and willing to work weekends. Please apply in person at 101 Gregory Lane, Willits, CA

**Housing Wanted**  
2 bedroom house with yard, accepting two dogs and Section 8. In town or Brooktrails. Ready to move now: 293-3039.

**For Sale**  
Tool Sets: Bearing separator, rear axle puller, punch & chisel, body frame hammer, cooling tester (matco), Mac/ Snap-on. Tri-Stack portable compressor/nozzles. 1/3 of new prices. Msg: 707-354-2801

**For Sale by Owner**  
12 X 60 Mobile Home at Grange Mobile Home Park. Space #1 Facing Pine St. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath. Large living room, 55+ Senior Park. Clean and ready to move into. 707-621-1551.

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**OBITUARY | Henry 'Bud' Crews**

Henry R. "Bud" Crews passed away in Ukiah on May 18, 2015 at the age of 94. A resident of Willits for 50 years, he had been in the logging industry as an equipment operator and mechanic for 40 years. Bud was a World War II Army veteran, April 1942 to December 1945, having served in the 254th Engineer Combat Battalion - Battle of the Bulge 1945. He served in Central Europe - Normandy, France. He was a member of the Willits American Legion Post 174 for 22 years, including serving with the War Honor Guard for several years.

Bud is survived by his sister, Gertrude Yochun; nephew, Chuck (Marie) Foley; nieces Linda (Len) Valasek and Pat (Ed) Jablonowski; and many more nieces, nephews and cousins.

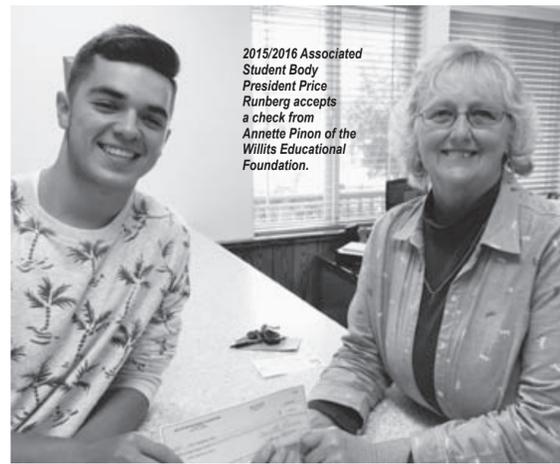
Bud was predeceased in 2008 by his beloved wife of over 50 years, "Bernie"; and by the unexpected loss in 1973 of his son David at the young age of only 18.

Graveside services with military honors will take place at 1 pm, at the Willits Cemetery on Friday, June 12, 2015.

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

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7	4	3	6	8	9	2	1	5



**Willits Educational Foundation gives six students money to attend leadership camp**

This July, six students will get to enjoy attending a CADA Leadership Camp in Santa Barbara, courtesy of a \$1,080 donation made by the Willits Educational Foundation. In attendance will be: Price Runberg, 2015/2016 Associated Student Body president; Kyle Martinez, 2015/2016 ASB vice president; Brandon Johnson, 2015/2016 senior class president; Camryn Christensen, 2015/2016 junior class president; Alexis Rayes, 2015/2016 sophomore class president; and advisor/teacher Kelly Case-Brackett. Students will get to participate in and learn about crowd involvement techniques, including new chants, songs and cheers to help build school spirit. They can also participate in a talent show, listen to motivational speakers who will discuss effective leadership skills, learn the elements of running a proper rally, and enjoy a closing-day ceremony.



**Father's Day 'Foto Call'**

published for free in the hometown newspaper for all to see? And to have something you can clip and hang on the fridge for months to come?

Photos can be sent to willitsweekly@gmail.com. If you only have a printed copy of a photo, they can be taken to Ace Copy and Shipping to be scanned and sent digitally. Please include a caption, with the names of those in the photo from left to right.

**PHOTOS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY MONDAY, JUNE 15**

We will try and print as many photos as we can in our June 18 edition. We look forward to helping create a happy Father's Day for all!

**Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Orlando**

Orlando is a 3-year-old male Pit Bull mix who currently weighs 75 pounds. He is a big dog with the personality of a little puppy! Orlando is very social and really enjoys being around people. He would be happy to have a party or picnic seven days a week, where he gets to meet new folks and romp around! Because of his size, this guy will need room to explore, but will probably be most comfortable in your lap!

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6 pm. We have many wonderful dogs and cats, awaiting their forever homes here. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: [www.mendoshelterpets.com](http://www.mendoshelterpets.com) or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

Photo by Rod Coats



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# 'Pedal for Polio'

New Rotary president raises funds with bike trip

Brad Walton, president-elect of Willits Rotary, was given a boisterous send-off by Willits Rotary last week, as he made his last-minute preparations to ride his bicycle across country to raise funds for polio eradication. Walton arrived in Williamsburg, Virginia on Monday, with two other bicyclers, including Steve Kesling, retired Willits High School woodshop instructor. Walton and his group will ride their bicycles 3,760 miles from Williamsburg, Virginia, part of America's "Historic Triangle," to the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco this summer.

Jenny Senter  
Features Writer

At left: Tom Herman, current Rotary president, left, with Brad, Jill and Holly Walton, and Carol Gibson in front.

Photo by Jenny Senter

The June 4 party, complete with a large decorated cake, was organized by member Jolene Carrillo. Read the rest of **Polio** | Over on Page 15

# Willits Rotary Club awards 11 scholarships

One of the highlights of the year for Willits Rotary members is the awarding of scholarships to high school seniors. Eleven scholarship winners were recognized for their achievements at the weekly lunch meeting held on June 4 at the Country Skillet.

Tim King, who graduated from Willits High School 10 years ago, commented that during the scholarship interview process, he likes to ask each student if they plan to come back to Willits. He noted he "was happy this year to hear from the majority of the students that they want to come back to Willits. Many of the medical profession students were obviously very excited about opportunities at the new hospital."

The 2015 Willits Rotary Scholarship recipients are as follows:

Kylie Doty plans to go to Chico State University in the fall, to begin her prerequisites for nursing, with an objective to become a nurse anesthetist. During her high school career, she was a scholar athlete in her

freshman through junior years and is a member of the California Scholarship Federation. Kylie also volunteered at the Humane Society. On May 15, 2015 she graduated from the Medical Assistant course offered by Mendocino County Office of Education-Career Technical Education. She plans to work her way through college as a medical assistant.

Raymond Hebel will attend Mendocino College this fall to major in business and psychology. He hopes to become an index fund manager. During high school, he a co-founded an investment club called the "Prosperity Club." He was also a member of Peer Counseling. He currently works at Ardella's and the Brooktrails Lodge.

Nicholas Johnson will head to Sonoma County in the fall to attend Santa Rosa Junior College. Once he completes his schooling at SRJC, he plans to then transfer to Sonoma State or Humboldt State to advance his goal of becoming

an architect. Nicholas was active in high school sports, and he lettered in soccer, basketball and baseball. He was the captain of the varsity soccer team his senior year, also earning accolades as All-League Goalie and Second-Team, All-Empire Goalie. He is also currently the Associated Student Body secretary. Recently, Nicholas began an internship with a local architect.

Ian Killmer plans to be an auto mechanic. He will attend Mendocino College in the fall to enter the certificate program for automotive technology. He has been working at Adam's Tire in Willits since 2013.

Irene Labus heads off to Chico State University in the fall, where she will major in nursing with the career goal of becoming a forensic and emergency

In back, left to right: Ankit Patel, Nicholas Johnson (Bill Carillo Scholarship), Raymond Hebel, Ian Killmer, and Kylie Doty. In front, left to right: Irene Labus, Kayla Smith, Naomi Ramirez (Ruth Rockefeller Scholarship), Mykayla McClellan, Tori Troom, and Hailey Riley.

Read the rest of **Rotary** | Over on Page 15

Photo by Jenny Senter



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## The rest of Board

From Page 1

and Technical Education, how to get involved in clubs, and student leadership opportunities.

In addition, the district will offer a two-week half-day session of summer support. This session will offer support in English language skills and in algebra. The session will begin August 3 and will run through August 12.

## Substitutes to get more pay

The board approved an increase in pay scale for substitute teachers. For teachers who substitute between one and 10 consecutive days, pay will increase from \$100 per day to \$130 per day. For teachers who substitute between 11 and 20 days consecutively, pay will increase from \$110 per day to \$135 per day. For those who substitute for 21 consecutive days and over, pay will increase from the current \$185 per day to \$227 per day. The board approved this item unanimously.

## Lighting retrofit

The board unanimously approved a proposal to apply for \$570,000 in Proposition 39 funds to replace and modernize lighting at Willits High School. Trustee Alex Bowlds, who has taken a special interest in the project, told the board the district would have to pay an upfront cost of \$40,000, which would be defrayed in energy savings in a year and a half. Bowlds said the project should be completed by August 2015.

## Bowlds wants to look at seven periods for Willits High

Bowlds also asked Superintendent Johnson to provide the board with information on the benefits and liabilities of instituting a seven-period day at Willits High School.

Bowlds wants to determine if switching to a seven-period day at the district's flagship institution would encourage more students to take non-college-directed electives, such as wood and metal shop.

He asked Johnson to find out how many college-bound students wished they had taken more electives, and would have done so if there had been more time in the school day.

"I would like to think we could meet the needs of students who only want to graduate from high school, as well as the needs of students who wish to go on to college," Bowlds said.

In recent months, the school board and administration have been under pressure from local residents and taxpayers who are unhappy because the \$1.3 million they will pay under the 2010 Measure B bond, which was used to build and modernize the high school's wood and metal shops, is not being used to its full capacity due to underutilization of the CTE section of the high school.

School administrators have stated they cannot have more periods of wood and metal shop because of lack of student interest.

The anecdotal rationale for why the Career Technical Education facilities at the high school are not being used is that many students are on a college track, and don't have time to take the non-collegiate electives like wood and metal shop.

The issue is complex, because adding another period to the day could mean shortening the length of each class, making it more difficult to teach the school's curriculum.

Bowlds told Johnson he would like to have more information on the issue, and Johnson promised to provide it.

## The rest of WUSD

From Page 1

Uncle Sam; \$761,000 is from "other [state] sources"; and \$1.3 million comes from taxes paid by area taxpayers.

After listening to staff suggestions made at the May board meeting, District Superintendent Patricia Johnson has agreed to hire two reading specialists (one for Brookside and one for Blosser Lane) and also will attempt to hire an English Language Development coordinator.

The ELD coordinator will work with teachers and school principals to coordinate English language development services at all district schools.

English Language Development is education-world jargon for teaching students who don't speak or read English how to do so. In our area, most of these ELD students are Spanish-speaking.

This move, proposed by Johnson and endorsed by the board of trustees, was praised by veteran teacher and outgoing Brookside School Principal Olga O'Neill.

"I completely support filling this position," O'Neill said. "I think it's something our district really needs, from kindergarten to grade 12. It's something we haven't had that I think will really benefit our district."

The board approved a job description for the position and encouraged Johnson to try to fill it.

In addition to holding a public hearing on the proposed budget, trustees heard a presentation on the Local Control Accountability Plan. The superintendent reminded the school board and the public of the benefits the district has enjoyed over the past year through the implementation of the LCAP, including hiring an assistant principal and some counselors at Willits High School, a dean at Baechtel Grove Middle School, a lead transportation specialist at the district bus barn, and filling other positions.

According to Johnson, "the majority of funds [provided under the LCAP] were allocated to salaries and benefits to meet the needs of the targeted population." Johnson noted that the district spent \$702,309 on enhancements to employee salaries and benefits, \$29,500 on consultants, \$9,150 on travel and conferences, and \$42,000 on "transfer of direct costs."

Even though student enrollment in the district has declined over the past five years, under the state's Local Control Funding Formula plan the district's budget is increasing, and is predicted to continue to increase over the next several years.

Willits Weekly asked anyone at the board meeting who would care to answer whether this was a long-term political reality, or whether it might be expected to change with the election of a Republican governor or a Republican majority Legislature in California.

District's Financial Officer Tanya Michel said it looked to be a long-term reality in the educational landscape in California.

"The LCFF was the first major revision to funding for education in 40 years," Michel said. "I don't imagine - and this is just my opinion - that they would unravel everything they've worked so hard for."

Michel also noted California Gov. Jerry Brown has successfully directed his administration to pay down the "gap" between what the state needs to pay under LCFF, and what the state actually pays.

Statewide, Brown and the Legislature have arranged that the wheels and gears of state government will pay down the funding gap over an eight-year period. After only three years, the state already has reduced the gap by 51 percent.

"These are really good times," Michel said. "The state hasn't seen eight years of continuous economic growth - ever. So we will have to face an economic slowdown, or an economic reversal, at some point. We know that. But we don't know when."

The board did not approve the budget, however. Instead, Superintendent Johnson has scheduled two informational sessions on the budget, for Friday, June 12, and Monday, June 15, both at 3 pm, and both at the Media Center at Willits High School.

At these sessions Johnson will explain the budget, the LCAP and the LCFF to the public.

The school board will hold another session on the budget at 4:30 pm on Wednesday, June 24, also at the WHS Media Center.

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## Willits Unified The Big Picture

	Enrollment	Staff*	Expenditures (in Millions)
2011-12	1676	220	\$15.2
2012-13	1607	212	\$15.6
2013-14	1592	203	\$14.6
2014-15	1595	223	\$16.78
2015-16	-----	235**	\$17.98

\* includes both classified and certificated staff  
\*\* includes posted, but unfilled positions

## The rest of Budget

From Page 1

yield taxes are projected to be up, too.

In fact, of 34 line items in the Budget Unit 1000 Revenue Forecast for 2015-16, 21 are projected to come in higher than the same line item for 2014-15.

Total revenues dedicated to funding supervisors' Budget Unit 1000 are up \$2.1 million, to \$64,645,400.

The county executive office is recommending the county spend \$239.5 million during the next fiscal year, including state and federally funded programs.

The county is expecting to see a carryover of \$3.3 million from this year's budget. Added to that is another \$2.8 million the county will receive in the form of a pre-2004 mandate debt repayment.

According to a staff budget summary, historically the state has imposed mandates on local governments for which it has not paid. "Prior to 2004, California law allowed the state to avoid reimbursing local governments for mandates by paying small token amounts and deferring portions to pay later. As a result, local governments amassed millions in unfounded mandate debt due to insufficient reimbursement payments from the state.

"In response, the people of California approved Proposition 1A in November 2004, requiring the state either to fund legislative mandates on local agencies or to suspend the mandates."

The upshot is Gov. Jerry Brown has decided to pay down pre-2004 mandates now, to the tune of \$765 million. Mendocino County will receive \$2.8 million of that money by August 18.

That means the county is looking at a budget carryover of \$6.2 million.

After talking with Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse during Tuesday's board meeting, the question of what to do with that extra \$6.2 million will be the subject of some discussion at the June 16 meeting.

## The rest of Pool

From Page 1

scheduled for June 24; the city will announce it with a public notice 10 days before the meeting.

City Manager Adrienne Moore said this week city staff wants to suggest rates similar to those in Fort Bragg and Ukiah, meaning fees for regular use of the pool could increase by \$1.

Madrigal said she wanted to double the rates to stress the fact the city cannot sustain going forward with the pool.

"I do not feel that by doubling it we will not have anyone come to the pool," Madrigal said. Madrigal said she did not want to double swimming lesson charges.

During the last budget year, it cost the city about \$63,000 to operate the pool. Pool revenue was \$24,596, which left the city \$38,435 in the red, city budget documents show.

Councilman Larry Stranske said the community must be aware the city can no longer afford to operate the pool.

Stranske opposed raising rates at that earlier meeting. "I think what is wrong with that is it will not dawn on people until they take their kids to the pool," said Stranske.

Moore also cautioned council members against a pool rate increase that night. The rate increase was

not noticed to the public, and there had been no talks yet between the city and the Willits Unified School District, or discussions about a cost-sharing plan with the Willits Otters swim team, Moore stated.

"I think all of those things need to be considered," Moore said.

A draft of the city's new budget penciled in a loss of \$45,170 for pool operations this season.

A rate increase at the pool could negatively impact the city's finances if enough pool users simply stayed out of the water altogether.

"If nobody shows up, we lose \$100,000 and not \$45,000," Mayor Bruce Burton said.

A draft of the city budget for the new fiscal year, which begins July 1, indicates the city's general fund spending will exceed revenue by about \$80,000.

The Willits Otters children's swim team is one of the pool's biggest users.

Otters Vice President Jamie Bouthillier expressed a willingness to work with the city.

"I did not know the pool was in the situation that it was in," Bouthillier said. "The town is not rich, and the majority of the people coming down there are not rich."

The rate increase was



## The rest of Arrest

From Page 1

The investigation began in mid-January after the sheriff's office was contacted by the owners of the Long Valley Market, who reported the market had been the victim of embezzlement at the hands of an employee, Barney said. The owners further reported they suspected the embezzlement had been occurring for approximately seven years.

Detectives obtained nine separate search warrants for the 33-year-old woman's residence, three different banking institutions, and an internet service provider, seeking banking, financial, and electronic evidence of the reported criminal activity.

After their investigation was complete, detectives presented a case to the DA's office, alleging the Kelsay had embezzled in excess of \$450,000 dollars from the market over a six-year period. The district attorney subsequently filed a criminal complaint, seeking an arrest warrant for Kelsay.

Kelsay was taken to Mendocino County Jail, and later released after posting \$50,000 in bail.

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



## The rest of Bomb

From Page 1

Hickam in crisis negotiation, he eventually surrendered and, after being taken into custody, told police he had no explosives in the vehicle and that the threat he made was false.

While officers were negotiating with Hickam, the area around the police station was evacuated, including East Commercial Street from Humboldt Street east to Mendocino Mill and the streets surrounding City Park.

A bomb squad from the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office came to town to confirm that Hickam's vehicle was free of explosive devices, police stated.

The City of Willits announced, right after 1 pm, via the city's Facebook page, that the streets were open again.

Sonoma County Sheriff's Office was one of multiple agencies to lend their resources to Willits police Saturday.

WPD thanked other departments for their support: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol, CalFire and the Little Lake Fire Department were named by WPD for lending a hand.

# Baechtel Grove Middle School

## 8th Grade Graduates



In alphabetical order: Monte Abel, Emily Acevedo, Shira Adams, Giovanni Alvarez, Nicholas Amador, Bianca Anderson, Jacob Apodaca, Araceli Arellano, Ciaran Avansino, Shayla Banzhaf, Daisy Barrett, Emily Bartow, Jeffrey Behrens, Emerald Belville, Logan Blackburn, Mikayla Blake, James Brown, Taylor Brown, Bryan Browning, Kiley Butler, Darrell Buzzard, Jr., Jesus Cabrera Lopez, Taylor Campbell, Jairo Carrillo, Jorge Carrillo, Brenda Carrillo Lopez, Nancy Chavez, Matthew Colvig, Sarah Compa, Sophia de Treville, Ritchel Engstrom, Evan Flamer, Ricky Flynn, Casey Ford, Lilah Garman, Asia Grant, Alyssa Harries, Jayden Heilig, Samuel Heller, Karen Hernandez, Orion Hernandez, Yulissa Hernandez Zuniga, Heidi Herold, Eden Hincker Tye, Tomas Hoaglin Perez, Savanna Hofmaister, Ashley Huffman, Karley Humphries, Elijah Jones, Mychaela Knight, Roman Knight, Jonathan Lara Lopez, Melody Leon, Barry Lockhart, Bernardo Lopez, Isabella Lopez, Melissa Loya, Shelden Lund, Nadia Malagon Ramos, David Mann, Ramneet Mann, Nathan Maples, Corey Mayer, Bailey McAlister, Jasmine Mendoza, Lillian O'Malley, Arnold Partridge, Marlene Pena, Aldo Perez, Keegan Reed, Nashoa Rockey, Ryan Rodriguez, Sean Rodriguez, Carlos Saldana, Danitza Saldana, Chloe Sanchez, Mariah SanDiego, Guadalupe Santamaria, Dominic Shaul, Yazmin Tafoya, Anna Taft-Victoria, Byron Torres, Alondra Vasquez, Sagen Vaughn, Hailey Walker, Ian Watson, Taylor Watts, Damon Webb, Cilest Wolfe, Janine Wright and Dayne Yee.

Photo by Jamie Blake

## La Vida Charter School

12th Grade Graduates

At right, top, from left: Melany Katz, Nicole English, Emilee Tucker, Cecelia Ortiz and Mollie Moore.

8th Grade Graduates

At right, from left: Garrett Davis, Jonathan Marcus Phillips, Julia Coatney and Meghan Andrews.

Photos from La Vida



# Willits Charter School

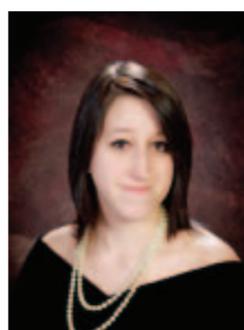
## Class of 2015



Shephard Aragon



Brent Dunbar



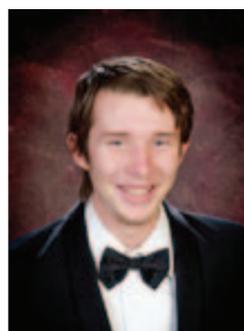
Elish England



Bryce Jamison



Haoyang Li



Trenton Lorenz



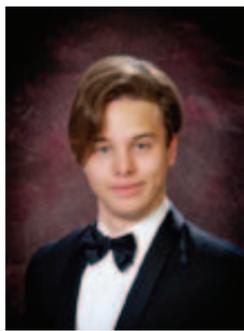
Caleb MacArthur



Jade Marchese



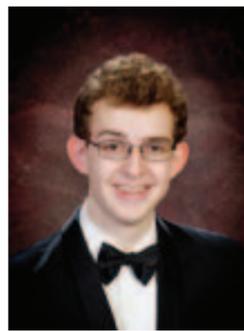
Aurora O'Greenfield



Gaelan Skye

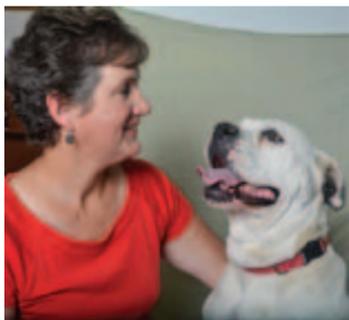


Fiona Valley



Alec Wade

COLDWELL BANKER MENDO REALTY INC. PRESENTS  
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 Our Realtors...Helping You Find a Home,  
 and Helping Shelter Dogs Find a Family



### Meet Pandora

Pandora is a 4 year old female American Bulldog mix. She weighs 81 lbs. She is 81 lbs of love and one of the sweetest dogs we've met. Pandora has a mellow, easy going disposition that makes her great company. Given her temperament we think she'd do well in any kind of loving home, including one with kids or other dogs. Pandora loves to lounge and play in the shelter yard. She also really enjoys water so some quality time at the river would suit her just fine.

### Meet Patsy

Patsy has lived in Willits for 40 years, & joined the Coldwell Banker Mendo Realty, Inc. family in January. She is ready to work for you with the same integrity & dependability that has always been a part of her work ethic. Patsy has owned dogs and cats since she was in college, & is currently in the search for her new dog partner since her sweet Mugsy died. The new dog will need to be approved, though, by her 14-year old cat Cessna!



To adopt, or learn more information about "Pandora", or other animals, please contact Animal Care Services of Mendocino County

707.467.6453

Mendocino County  
 Shelter Pets

# Studio Joy

THE Place for ZUMBA® and Group Fitness in Willits



MELISSA WILSON

## 21 DAY BURN!

21 Days Forms a Habit!



KERRI GRIGGS

For the rest of June Kerri and Melissa will be hosting a 21 Day Burn. We will be offering extra Insanity™ and R.I.P.P.E.D.™ classes. Insanity™ M-F at 6:30 am and Monday at 5:15 pm. R.I.P.P.E.D.™ at T, W, Th at 6:30 pm and Friday at 5:30 pm. Take the FIT TEST with Kerri Monday at both AM or PM Insanity™ class. Get nutritional tips and group support. Begins June 8, but join any time. Contact Kerri at 489-3702 for more information.

**We can help you achieve your fitness goals!**  
**We are currently offering 21 classes a week!**

See our webpage for our full schedule: [www.studiojoywillits.com](http://www.studiojoywillits.com)

Studio Joy has 1400 square feet of dance floor AND A/C!  
 Lots of room to dance and work it!

### STUDENT SPECIALS FOR JUNE:

- New Student and Welcome Back! special: 5 Class Card for \$35!
- We are currently offering Zumba®, Zumba Gold®, R.I.P.P.E.D.™, Insanity™, and Flow Strengthen and Stretch!
- Whether you are a new or existing, have ONE FREE CLASS with Kerri at 6:30 am Insanity™!

### NEW STUDENTS!

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- Children under 13 are always welcome and always FREE

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