

Willits Weekly

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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Thursday, June 18, 2015



Don't miss the B section inside today's 20-page paper!

Supes approve budget; Woodhouse votes no

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
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Supervisors approved a \$239.5 million recommended budget for 2015-16 on Tuesday. The vote was 4-1 in favor, with Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse voting no.

The budget supervisors approved is not the final budget. It is called the recommended budget, but it is actually more of an interim budget. It governs how the county is run from the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1) until the final budget is approved in early

Read the rest of **Budget** | Over on Page 8

Supes renew trapper program

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Supervisors unanimously approved renewing the county's contract with the federal government's Wildlife Services on Tuesday, in spite of heartfelt testimony from a number of community residents who pleaded with the board to cancel the contract and move instead to non-lethal means of predator control.

The issue arose late last year when a number of citizen's groups, including the Coyote Project and the Animal Legal Defense Fund, sued Mendocino County in order to force the county to reevaluate its

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

Mail theft suspects arrested

Two out-of-county residents were arrested June 9 after allegedly stealing money orders from a residential mailbox in Leggett.

The victim of the theft, a 65-year-old Leggett man, became suspicious after seeing a vehicle with a man and woman inside parked next to his mailbox at about 1:30 pm last Tuesday. As he approached the vehicle, he later told deputies, the vehicle sped off.

The man followed the couple to Boomer's Bar in Laytonville, where he called sheriff's deputies.

When deputies arrived to investigate, the couple sped off and a short high-speed chase ensued, according to sheriff's Capt. Greg Van Patten. Sheriff's officers "caught up to the vehicle and initiated an enforcement stop."

Read the rest of **Mail** | Over on Page 8



A bright future envisioned for old Remco property

Zack Cinek
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The Skunk Train wants the city's approval to turn the Remco property into a thriving tourist hub for Willits, but a group of Willits businessmen have a grand plan of their own.

Skunk Train leader Robert Pinoli is working to close a deal to buy the property from the Willits Environmental Remediation Trust. Pinoli needs approval from the city for a project that would turn the property into an epicenter of Skunk Train tourism.

Read the rest of **Remco** | Over on Page 8

Hey, it's Western Wear Days in Willits

Zack Cinek
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Hearty applause and laughter in the Willits City Council chambers? Willits Frontier Days' Jeff Cook was telling council members about upcoming events and the power of Western-wear clothing.

"It has been going for 89 years," Cook said, "and we are sure excited about the culmination of all this effort, anticipation, community spirit and now a brand-new hospital."

The Hometown Celebration on Thursday, June 25 and the Truck Pulls at Jack Sharp Arena, followed

Read the rest of **Jeans** | Over on Page 8

City government reorganized

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City council members approved Friday the city manager's request to eliminate three jobs from city books and add new positions, including a position in the planning department.

Council members voted 5-0 to approve the changes, which eliminated the jobs of a lead public works employee, the city engineer's position and an administrative assistant.

"We feel with resolution of some major issues we have dealt with for some time, it is time to fully implement this reorganization plan," City Manager Adrienne Moore said.

Several workers from
Read the rest of **City** | Over on Page 9



Dads & Roots

Fun for dads and kids of all ages

All little boys seem to love trains, and some of those little boys grow up to be dads and some of those dads make the full circle back to working on trains, becoming members of Willits' Roots of Motive Power organization.

Chip Jones and Keith Rongey are two of those used-to-be boys, enjoying the time-honored "dad" hobby of getting greasy and working with one's hands on wrenches, oil cans and biiiiiiiiii gears.

Jones is a father of three: Chuck Jones, who is a mechanic for Volkswagens, Karen Snider, who runs a commercial real estate office, and Sharon Gutierrez, who works at her sister's business. Between the kids, Jones is a grandfather to five grandchildren, including the youngest, Harrison, 4, a picture of whom grandpa carries around in his wallet to show off proudly.

Chuck, who makes annual motorcycle trips around the country, makes a point to swing back through Willits on his way back to Ontario, California to check out the latest projects at the yard.

Keith Rongey is the father of two: Adam Rongey, who is a third-grade teacher, and Lisa Rongey, an executive assistant. He is also a proud grandpa to two grandchildren.

Adam visits from his home in Colorado, and enjoys checking in with his dad to see what's happening at the Roots yard.

Read the rest of **Roots** | Over on Page B3



At top: Keith Rongey supervises as Chip Jones fits a wrench on a bolt of a large wheel.

At left, center: Chip Jones shows off the photo he carries in his wallet of his grandson, Harrison.

At left: Keith Rongey oils up some parts on one of the engines at the Roots yard.

Photos by Maureen Moore

County to address public records shortfalls

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Supervisors have approved unanimously a plan to address shortfalls and inconsistencies in how the county responds to requests by the public for public information.

According to Deputy CEO Jennelle Rau, who moved recently into the Executive Office from the General Services Agency, in February the CEO's office created a public records committee, consisting of numerous department heads. The committee met regularly for three months to arrive at a plan that will be implemented in three phases.

In the first phase, the county will create a county website for Public Records Act requests and information. The website will contain information defining what is, and what is not, public information; how to request public information; and links to various county departments and their agendas.

The website also will include a standardized application for public information and guidelines to county employees on how to process requests for information.

Phase 1 will be enacted immediately.

In Phase 2, the county will consider the advisability of providing public access to a list of all current county contracts. If this is technically and legally possible, it is to be done by November 1.

In Phase 3, the county will consider implementing a

document imaging project, where other county records and documents not currently available can be made available to the public.

"The committee feels strongly about these recommendations," Rau said. "We feel if we take these steps, it will address a lot of the concerns we've heard the

public has."

Contractor and water board member Lee Howard told supervisors about an experience he'd recently had with a public records request.

In April of this year, Howard had requested copies of a public document. The county employee charged him 10 cents per page, which is legal, and added a service charge of \$15.75, which Howard argues was not legal. When Howard told the county employee he couldn't do that, the employee replied the service charge was legal and he charged it all the time.

Board members agreed with Howard the employee shouldn't have added the service charge.

Howard said he was pleased with the progress the county had made on this issue. "I applaud you for goin' through the process, and I applaud the staff for goin' through it," he said. "It definitely appears to me that it's getting better."

Plans for Remco site

To the Editor:
Have I died and gone to heaven?
At the June 10 city council meeting, not one but two accepted offers for the Remco property were presented to the council.
The council does not sell the property. They are responsible only for approving the usage of the site for a future business. And they are able to approve both plans.

The Skunk Train's offer is in first position. It involves a train depot and promenade and gift shop, but also will afford an indoor area from which to board and park trains in the winter. A museum, theater, and a shop for constructing railroad cars is also planned. Building railroad cars and the full-time jobs it will offer is the most exciting part of this plan for me. An almost life-sized statue of a rail car by Main Street will really put this depot on the map!

A business park comprises the second offer. In it will be a brewery and adjoining restaurant, areas for smaller businesses, a conference room for first responders, space for a furniture construction business, and a new home for our local fire department.

My vote is for an expanded Skunk Train complex with its accompanying jobs and increased tourism. But it's clear to me that the city needs to accept both usages for this site.

April Tweddell, Willits

It's a darn shame!

To the Editor:
I always thought some services like the Post Office were provided to the public and paid for by taxes. Some were never intended to be "for profit." Breaking even didn't always happen either. That's why I find it hard to understand why the community pool may be closed due to not enough money. The high school swim team gets to use the pool all season. Are our taxes paying for that? Have they been subsidized all this time, and if so, why not the rest of us?

Having a swim party on days the pool is usually closed costs \$100 an hour. We were told that this was what was needed to cover the cost to be open, which included a lifeguard. If this is true, then the cost of the water aerobics classes last year and previous years (and not even counting all other swim activities), would have been more than enough to cover daily pool costs during the two summer months when the pool was open to the general public.

The public paid \$4 and \$5 each. The aerobics swim group alone stayed one hour, three times a week. Usually there were 25 to 30 in that group. This group (now members of The Country Pond Club ... a private club) had a popular aerobics instructor who generously gave her time free to the community pool.

This same group also financed (along with other anonymous donors) a defibrillator to be kept at the pool for emergency use. This was presented to the city. It cost approximately \$1,000. The instructor's time and the defibrillator were accepted without much thanks by the city council. Other items on their agenda had a much higher priority, it seems.

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

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What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

It's a darn shame there isn't a Parks and Recreation Department to coordinate efforts and budget for them separately instead of being mixed in with the high school. That would be "a better way" for the public to be served in this "contentious" matter.

Bobbie Recio, Willits
Can you help?

To the Editor:
I was disappointed (but not surprised) to learn that the Catholic church in Willits will no longer rent its dining hall to the city's "soup kitchen," Willits Daily Bread. Possibly, in the day-to-day priorities of running the church, they forgot that their namesake, St. Anthony de Padua, is the patron saint of finding things or lost people, and that his "heart was ever full of human sympathy."

Frankly, I have volunteered at WDB for years and have never witnessed one act of "human sympathy" offered to WDB's clients by the church. And now it has decided that its burden as landlord is too heavy. WDB will serve its last meal there on June 30, and will become as homeless as some of the people it has been caring for. Nevertheless, the church feels it can no longer offer a home to the place that has given love, meals and a sense of community to the needy and the lost in our city for more than 20 years.

Across the nation there are 48 million people who are food insecure – meaning they don't know where their next meal is coming from. Even as the government continues to cut funding for so-called safety net programs, it says not to worry because local churches and the community will pick up the slack to help feed and clothe our neighbors in need.

But St. Anthony's is pulling out of the game. Where do the hungry go for help now? Does anyone fully understand the depth of the services WDB provides? It's more than just doing the right thing by your brother; hunger has a lot of side effects: desperation, anger, frustration, confusion, bitterness, blame. At WDB, the hungry are fed, and it improves our community. It has been providing (and wants to continue providing) meals, emergency groceries, clothing, pet food – and most of all love and a sense of belonging to those who have nothing else and nowhere to go.

Willits needs WDB, and WDB needs a new home – complete with a landlord that cares. Can you help? Thank you!

Mary Burns, Willits

Seeking veterans memorabilia

To the Editor:
Mendocino County Museum in conjunction with, Dennis Miner and Willits Post 174 is looking for help in locating any photos, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia associated with Mendocino's Vietnam veterans killed in action.

The Miner family has graciously purchased a permanent memorial for Mendocino County's fallen veterans from the Vietnam War and are seeking to erect that memorial either in front of the museum (county property) or in the park directly across from the

museum (City of Willits property) and will obviously need the support of Mendocino County veterans in achieving this goal.

In addition to the memorial the museum is looking for memorabilia related to the fallen veterans listed by their home of record and date of death below.

Comptche – John Hollister (June 27, 1970)
Covelo – Clyde E. Rains (March 4, 1969), Lewis L. Short (August 7, 1969)

Fort Bragg – Billie E. Sandefur (November 27, 1967), Louis C. Schiote (April 16, 1968), Daniel G. Dawson (November 7, 1965)

Mendocino – Clyde A. Lucas (March 26, 1969)

Redwood Valley – Eugene C. Campbell (August 27, 1967), Charles E. Crain (July 2, 1967)

Ukiah – Donald G. Armstrong (April 2, 1970), Stephen C. Brunton (August 18, 1968), Dennis P. Dunsing (May 6, 1968), Edmund H. Frenyca (January 22, 1966), Michael W. Green (May 11, 1969) G. B. Jackson, Jr. (September 17, 1968), Ronald L. Wafford (August 24, 1965), Jeffrey S. Wesolowski (June 19, 1971)

Willits – Lee A. Adams (April 19, 1966), Kenneth A. Butler Jr. (July 23, 1968), Clinton B. Fackrell April 13, 1966, Robert M. Lathrope (August 24, 1965)

As always, all memorabilia can be loaned, rather than donated, to the Mendocino County Museum. Museum Director Allison Glassey can be contacted at 459-2736 or info@mendocinomuseum.org for information on how to loan or donate memorabilia for the veterans' exhibit.

Thank you in advance for your help with the veterans' exhibit.

Robert Ireland, commander,
Post 174 Willits

Pine Mountain Firewise

To the Editor:

Thanks to everyone who attended our community BBQ and raffle event, held this past Saturday, 6/13, on Pine Mountain at 5701 Ridgewood Road, otherwise known as "Manzanita Flat." The Pine Mountain Firewise-Fire Safe Council has been in existence since 2005 and, as part of our affiliation established in 2012 with the Firewise Communities/USA organization, is a subsidiary of the National Fire Protection Association.

We hold an annual community event to reach out and educate the public on fire prevention and preparedness. Emergency preparedness, the development of

"defensible space" around homes to prevent ignition, home modifications to prevent ignition from embers through replacement of shake roofs and installation of vent screens (one-eighth inch metal screen mesh), and the management of "landscape" fuels (through establishment of shaded fuel breaks and temporary refuge areas, removal of fuel loading on roadsides and at intersections, and around community assets such as water reservoirs and water tanks) were topics that were covered.

Speakers at the event included: Deputy Chief Norm Brown, Fire Protection, Cal Fire, Mendocino Unit; Fire Chief Carl Magann, Little Lake Fire Protection District; Sheriff Tom Allman; Jeff Tunnell, fire mitigation and education specialist, Bureau of Land Management, Ukiah; Erin Creekmur, vegetation management/program manager, PG&E.

One speaker who caused a hush to come over the crowd was Mary Vance, a member of the Black Bart Trail Fire Safe Council, who testified as to her and her mother's experience confronting the horrific fire that swept her land and destroyed five homes in the Black Bart Trail community last fall. The use of a pre-prepared "Go Bag" with valuables, a set of clothes, flashlight, and other essentials, to grab onto during evacuation – and an emergency checklist to follow in the midst of a disaster – were highly recommended in her testimony.

The event also included a raffle of prizes donated from local businesses, including Home Depot, Mendo Mill, Friedman Brothers, Tractor Supply, Rainbow Ag, Scott's Tank, Mendocino Farm Supply, Coast Hardware, and Sparetime Supply. A big thank you goes out to each of them.

Given that fire is a natural component of Pine Mountain's environment and its ecology, and given that the Pine Mountain community is an "intermix" community, meaning that it exists within an abundance of ground vegetation and trees, and given the preponderance of vegetative fuel, unpredictable changes in climate, and the severity of the ongoing drought and its effect on forest health, and the tightening of state and federal budgets, the unavoidable conclusion is that community residents must strive to take continuing steps to provide for their own safety in a wildfire eventuality. This is our ongoing message.

The event was held on a meadow owned by Ron and Charlie Prickett.

George Britton, president, Pine Mountain Firewise-Fire Safe Council



The raffle tent at the Pine Mountain Firewise-Fire Safe Council BBQ.



'Celebrating Our Independents'

8th annual Hometown Celebration kicks off Frontier Days

Downtown Willits is the place to be on Thursday, June 25 for the 8th Annual Hometown Celebration. From 5 to 9 pm, downtown Willits businesses will be open late, and vendor booths and food stalls will fill the parking lots, side streets and alleyways. Live music, entertainment and kids' activities will provide something for everyone at this opening event of the Willits Frontier Days Celebration.

Created by the Local First committee of the Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by local businesses, the first Hometown Celebration was planned as a thank you to the Willits community for supporting its hometown businesses. Due to overwhelming popularity, the celebration became a biannual affair with an early summer event followed by a fall Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration, usually held in late October.

Each successive year has brought more variety, more food and more fun to the downtown. This year's event will feature rides for kids (and adults who still feel like kids) on antique fire equipment, a bounce house, live acoustic music throughout the evening, a food court, and the ever-popular prize wheel with hundreds of great prizes and discounts donated by local businesses.

In addition to the street performers at various locations, this year's Hometown Celebration will feature the first-ever "Center Stage Local." A central performance space will be available for local

talent to give short (5 to 15 minute) performances. Participants may offer a song, dance, joke, story or hidden talent they wish to share with the community. No auditions are necessary, but space is limited by the time available, so interested performers should contact the Local First entertainment coordinator to schedule a slot for the Hometown Celebration Center Stage at 459-5926 or ateasthill@gmail.com.

Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contestants will also be on hand selling tickets to Frontier Days events, and the infamous Black Bart Gunfighters with their Shady Ladies will stroll through the streets with hijinks on their minds.

According to national organizations like the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, supporting locally owned businesses helps create stronger local economies and promotes greater community well-being. Studies show that locally owned businesses recycle a larger share of their revenue back into the local economy, contribute more freely to local causes, and work more closely with local government to ensure that important decisions are made by people with vested interest in the health of the community. To remind residents of the importance of shopping locally the theme for this Hometown Celebration is "Celebrating Your Independents."

For more information, contact Lynn Kennelly at the Willits Chamber of Commerce, 459-7910.

– Greta Kanne for the Willits Chamber

Music at Hometown

Street performances at Hometown Celebration start at 5:30 pm, with the **High Five Band** in the Hathaway Parking Lot and **Willits Brass** across from the fire station, between the Noyo Theatre and It's Time. **The Dorian May Jazz Trio**, with local guest musicians and vocalists, will be in the Food Court (Main Street Music parking lot) for the entire event.

The second set of performances features **Shindig** in the Hathaway Parking Lot and **Self-Fulfilling Prophecies** at Noyo/It's Time. **Redbud** will be playing at the north end, and "Blues, Rock and Bar-B-Q" will be offered at Al's Redwood Room.

Firefighters Open House

The Little Lake Firefighters Association invites all to its 89th annual Open House and Fundraiser during Hometown Celebration on Thursday, June 25, from 5 to 9 pm. Those who haven't yet bought raffle tickets for the big drawing can do so at the East Commercial Street firehouse – before 8:45 pm when the drawing begins – or can hit up a strolling firefighter offering tickets on Main Street.

Apparatus from three different fire departments will be on display, and North Humboldt Street will be closed between East Commercial and State Street from 6 to 10 pm to accommodate. Firefighters will also be serving up tacos by Emilio Flores (from El Mexicano).

In addition to the big prize raffle (see Calendar page for the full list of prizes), firefighters will be giving away door prizes every hour donated by local businesses: You must be present to win!



Left: The sidewalks of Main Street are filled with the community shopping and enjoying samples from booths. Above, left: Ananda and Keith Johnson sit at the Avenues to Wellness booth. Above, right: Local author Roni McFadden showcases her book "The Longest Trail."

Below: Food options were plentiful at the 2014 celebration, including a hot dog with Asian slaw. Bottom: It's Time was a popular destination for their tasty sushi and more.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Willits Frontier Days' Community Art Project

Sponsored by J.D. Redhouse

The first annual WFD Community Art Project looks like it will be a smashing success, with more than 50 decorated wooden boot cutouts already returned to event sponsor J.D. Redhouse.

Boots have been decorated by school kids, adults, groups and businesses and will be on display at Thursday's Hometown celebration. The boots are available **FOR SALE** as a fundraiser for Willits Frontier Days.

Come by J.D. Redhouse and vote for your favorite boot to help decorators win prizes, then buy a boot to help support the non-profit organization that puts on the annual Fourth of July festivities. More information: Ashtan Bloomquist at 459-1214.

Left: Kaleb Whitehurst holds one of the boot blanks ready for its pending decoration.

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." 11 am to noon. More programs in July and August. For more info, call the library at 459-5908.

"Rock Your Ride" Bicycle Show: free, family-friendly event starts at 5 pm at City Park (near Farmers Market); judging at 5:45 pm. "Show off your Schwinn and bring out the BMX: All Bikes Welcome! No matter the condition. Win bragging rights for Best in Show, Best Cruiser, Best Beater Bike, Best Family Bike, Best Road Bike, and more.... Bring the family, and enjoy the helmet decorating table." Sponsored by WELLY. Info: Holly at 842-0612.

WHS Boosters Club Meeting: 6 pm at the Willits High School - meet at the Quad. Help support athletics and other extracurricular activities at WHS.

Community Hu Song: "In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community Hu Song, Thursday, June 18 (third Thursday this month), at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. HU (pronounced "hue") is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome." Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit www.miraclesinyourlife.org.

"Tiny Houses": a program of short films about tiny houses: "While the structures often measure less than 300 square feet, the tiny house movement isn't necessarily about sacrifice. Check out these impressive small houses that maximize both function and style. These tiny house owners will give you hints for a simple life - they thank their lucky stars for a tiny home and the simplicity that comes with it." 7 pm. Room 10 at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Suggested donation: \$5 to \$10. Also, for sale by the Grange: heirloom "Tiny but Mighty" popcorn with organic butter and Fair Trade chocolate. Info: 459-6362 or check out: http://tinyhousetalk.com/

"Kill Me, Deadly": at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. 8 pm. A hilarious spoof of film-noir crime capers, written by LA playwright Bill Robbins. Co-directed by Damian Sebouhian and Lee Stipe. Starring Lee Stipe, Gloriana Lucero and Gretchen Andersen. Plays 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: New Singer-Songwriter Night, every third Thursday, features local musicians "coming together for a night of original, improvised and rare moments in music." 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, June 19

Willits Power & Hardware Grand Opening: "Come Friday and Saturday to see the exciting new changes at Willits Power & Hardware, that's right hardware: We have more power tools by Milwaukee, a paint department, hand tools, bird feeders and seed, dog food, plumbing, electrical and more." 1600 South Main Street. Free hot dogs from 11 am to 3 pm, and a chance to win a table saw (free raffle tickets for attending).

"Kill Me, Deadly": 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

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

Saturday, June 20

Willits Otters Swim Meet: Annual swim meet starts 9 am on Saturday, June 20 and on Sunday, June 21 at the Willits Community Pool, at Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. "A Short Course C/B/A+ Meet sanctioned by Pacific Swimming. Our 25-yard heated pool with six competition lanes will see lots of action during the two-day event. Come down and watch our Willits Otters compete!" Snack bar serves breakfast, lunches, beverages. Free admission. Programs available for \$5.

Opening: See Friday, June 19 listing for details.

Weekend Plant Sale: to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts. Starts Saturday, June 20 and continues 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.

What's Happening Around Town

Tuesday, June 23

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." Grateful Dead cover band from the Bay Area, plus opening act the Phil Savell Band from Sonoma County. Tickets: \$20 in advance; reduced to \$20 at the door; \$10 for youth 11-15; kids under 10 free. Tickets available at The Headroom, Harrah Senior Center, Main Street Music, and Shanachie Pub. Beer & Wine. Live & Silent Auction. Chicken Dinner: \$10. See article on page 10 for more details.

"Kill Me, Deadly": 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Ismay, traditional Americana from Petaluma. Opening: local pickers Pick & Pull. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 21

Willits Otters Swim Meet: 9 am. See Saturday, June 20 listing for more details.

Weekend Plant Sale: to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts. 10 am. See Saturday, June 20 listing for details.

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 Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

Monday, June 22

White Hot Summer Black Light Zumba Party: Studio Joy is throwing a party, and you're invited! 6 to 7:30 pm at Studio Joy, 1262 Blosser Lane. Wear white and let's glow! Free. Kids welcome. Visit www.studiojoywillits.com for info on Studio Joy.

Tuesday, June 23

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: "Jurassic World" (in 2D), "San Andreas," and "Spy." For showtimes, visit: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Wednesday, June 24

Willits Library Summer Reading Program: Today's program is Origami: "Kathy Silva will teach us to fold some insect and animal heroes!" 1 to 2 pm. For more info, call the library at 459-5908.

Thursday, June 25

Willits Library Summer Reading Program: The program is: Puppets and Stories: "Emmy Good will be here to share some of her storytime magic and special props," 11 am to noon. For more info, call the library at 459-5908.

Hometown Celebration: 8th annual celebration of local businesses and local community, from 5 to 9 pm. "Willits businesses will be open late, and vendor booths and food stalls will fill the parking lots, side streets and alleyways. Live music, entertainment and kids' activities will provide something for everyone at this opening event of the Willits Frontier Days Celebration." With rides on antique fire equipment, a bounce house, live acoustic music throughout the evening (High Five Band, Willits Brass, Dorian May Jazz Trio, Shindig, Self-Fulfilling Prophecies and Redbud), a food court, and the ever-popular prize wheel with hundreds of great prizes and discounts donated by local businesses. New this year: "Center Stage Local," featuring local talent giving short (5 to 15 minute) performances. To sign up, call 459-5926. See article on page 3 for more details, including musical lineup.

Little Lake Firefighters Open House and Fundraiser: 89th annual Firefighters Association open house and fundraiser



from 5 to 9 pm. Apparatus from three different fire departments will be on display, and North Humboldt Street will be closed between East Commercial and State Street from 6 to 10 pm to accommodate. Tacos by Emilio Flores (from El Mexicano). Door prizes donated by local businesses will be raffled off every hour: You must be present to win a door prize! The main raffle prizes will be drawn at 8:45 pm: a 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; and two oil changes at Auto Mart Auto Repair. Tickets are \$10 each; you don't need to be present to win. Also, a raffle for a .300 Weatherby Magnum from Coast To Coast Hardware, with raffle tickets one for \$5 or six for \$20. All raffle tickets can be purchased at the Firehouse or from an association member. Little Lake Fire Department will also offer fire engine rides up and down Main Street during Hometown Celebration.

Willits Frontier Days Community Art Project: Viewing and voting during Hometown Celebration at J.D. Redhouse. "Artists of all ages have diligently worked to decorate a wooden boot out for the first annual Community Art Project. The boots will also be available for sale as a fundraiser for Willits Frontier Days. Info: Ashtan Bloomquist at 459-1214.

20th annual Kate Wolf Music Festival: Thursday, June 25 through Sunday, June 28 at beautiful Black Oak Ranch in Laytonville. Features 45 acts on four stages on 150 acres: just a few of the headliners: Smokey Robinson, Angelique Kidjo, Playing For Change Band, Steve Earle and the Dukes, Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks, and Judy Collins. On-site camping; international food court; dozens of vendors and nonprofit booths; workshops; The KidZone; music jamming area, and more. Tickets range from \$45 (single day youth ticket) to \$115 for a single-day adult ticket, \$220 for a two-day adult ticket (including camping), to \$300 for a full festival (4 day) ticket including camping. Visit http://katewolfmusicfestival.com/ for more information and to buy tickets.

"Kill Me, Deadly": 7 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

Friday, June 26

20th annual Kate Wolf Music Festival: See Thursday, June 25 listing for info.

Willits Frontier Days Truck Pulls: 6 pm in the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. "Come cheer on local drivers and professional pullers as the motor-clad machines try and take The Terminator sled across the finish line." \$13 for adults; \$5 for kids under 12. Tickets available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Entry forms for locals are available online at www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. Info: Marcy Barry at 272-5395.

"Kill Me, Deadly": 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: The Crux, "Klezmer jams & pirate shanties." 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Willits Frontier Days Street Dance: 9 pm at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Live music by Chad Bushnell. Free admission; no host beer and soda.

Carnival Opening Night: Opens at 6 pm at the old ball fields next to the rodeo grounds. Wristbands are available at J.D. Redhouse, presale for \$20. At-carnival prices: \$25 for weekdays and \$30 for weekends.

Saturday, June 27

Willits Frontier Days Gymkhana: 9 am at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Free admission. "A fast-paced, event-driven display of fast and furious horses and focused riders. Events at the gymkhana include Cloverleaf, Speed and 5-Can Barrels, Washington Poles and Single Stake. Two winners of each age group are selected to win the high point and reserve high point awards. There are also three lead line events, which gives the littlest cowpokes the chance to participate. Come cheer on riders as they bend poles, weave steaks and round barrels during this fast-paced event. Entry forms for riders are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. Info: Kathryn Baechtel at 489-6565.

Willits Frontier Days National Anthem Singing Contest: 10 am on the lawn at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Free to attend. Singers of all ages are welcome to come and try out to be the official singer of the National Anthem for the 2015 Willits Frontier Days events, including the parade, junior rodeo and both the July 3 and July 4 CCPRA rodeos. Entry forms for singers are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Kera Colvard at 272-0584.

Mendocino Farmers Guild Farm Tour & Work Day: 10 am to 2 pm, at Ecology Action Garden, 5798 Ridgewood Road. Call for directions: 443-610-3226. More info about the Mendocino Farmers Guild: visit or www.mendocinofarmersguild.com.

Weekend Plant Sale: to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts. See Saturday, June 20 listing for details.

Willits Library Summer Reading Program: Today's program is: Make a Dance! "Join us in exploring some great movements! We will express, share, create and make new friends! Jenna Byrne will share her expertise and experience working with all types of movement activities for all ages." 11 am to 12 pm. For more info, call the library at 459-5908.

Spaghetti Fundraiser for Rey Amador: 4 to 8 pm at Willits Community Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$15 for kids. Willits resident Rey Amador was diagnosed with colon cancer in October 2014, has undergone chemotherapy, radiation and surgery, and now more intensive chemotherapy. Amador's wife, Juanita, says: "We remain optimistic about our future, and that Rey will make a full recovery." In addition to the dinner to help raise money for medical expenses, there will be a raffle with a great selection of prizes.



Juanita and Rey Amador

20th annual Kate Wolf Music Festival: See Thursday, June 25 listing for info.

"Kill Me, Deadly": 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: The Mark Sexton Band. 9 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 28

20th annual Kate Wolf Music Festival: See Thursday, June 25 listing for info.

"Kill Me, Deadly": Closing performance: 2 pm matinee. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 18 listing for details.

Willits Frontier Days Horse Show: 8 am at the Jack Tharp Arena. Free admission. "Equestrians showcase their skills as accomplished riders in both English and Western disciplines and a high point and reserve high point winner are selected from each group and are awarded prizes for their day's efforts. Five local perpetual trophies are available: Barbara Hamilton, John Fish, Randy Clark and Don and Petie Coleman, the R Horse Ranch, and the Goss family. These trophies are for local riders aged 17." Entry forms for riders are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. Info: Mattie Pinon at 367-5550.

Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Judging: takes place during the horseshow at the Jack Tharp Arena and also mid-afternoon at the Veterans Memorial Building, 189 North Main Street. "Cheer on your favorite Sweetheart contestant as she rides her horsemanship pattern and answers equestrian questions during the riding portion of the judging at the arena. Speeches, poise and personality and fashion are then judged at the Veterans Memorial Building." Free to attend. Info: Loraine Patton at 459-5363.

Weekend Plant Sale: to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts. See Saturday, June 20 listing for details.

COLUMN | At the Movies



BBQ Drive-Thru Dinner for 2

Friday, July 3

The Harrah Senior Center hosts a BBQ Drive-Thru Dinner for 2, on Friday, July 3 at the senior center, 1501 Baechtel Road. With a BBQd half chicken, rice, coleslaw and dessert. Pre-Sale Tickets only: \$25 each, available at the senior center. All proceeds will go towards a new roof for the Senior Center. Sponsored by 101 Drive-In. Tickets come with a coupon for 101 Drive-In for a free Thai iced tea or \$2 off a burger. Info: Mariya at 459-6826.

Advertisement for Hometown Celebration 2015. Celebrating Our "Independents" locally owned & operated businesses! Thursday June 25th 5pm to 9pm Downtown Willits. Includes prize wheel, store specials, local artisans & entertainment, family fun and food, and boot decorating contest. Lists valued sponsors like Buster's Burgers & Brew, City of Willits, and Mariposa Market.

Advertisement for the 20th Annual Kate Wolf Music Festival. Lineup includes Smokey Robinson, Angelique Kidjo, Steve Earle & The Dukes, Iron & Wine, Judy Collins, and The Waifs. Location: Black Oak Ranch, Laytonville, California.

Willits City Pool is now open

Willits City Pool, just north of Willits High School, is now open Monday through Friday, with lap swim from 6 to 8 am, swim lessons from 9 am to noon, open swim from 1 to 4 pm, and swim lessons/lap swim from 4 to 6 pm. Water aerobics offered noon to 1 pm, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. On Saturday, the pool offers open swim, aqua workshops and private parties; with the pool available for private parties on Sundays as well. \$4 per person; \$70 for 20-swim pass. Swim lessons: \$50 first child; \$45 second child; \$40 each additional child. Pool Parties, \$100/hour for up to 40 people; \$110/hour for up to 90 people; and \$120/hour for up to 120 people. Info: call 459-5778 or leave a message at 459-7125.

Book Buddies Program

at Ukiah Animal Shelter

School will soon be out for the summer, and you may be looking for something fun and educational for you and your children to do. Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency, Animal Care Services, has a wonderful summer program to offer. It's called Book Buddies. This program provides a place for parents and children to spend time together while helping to socialize cats and helps children improve and maintain their reading skills through the summer. Win, win, win!

ACS has created a special reading nook in the air-conditioned cat adoption area at the Ukiah Animal Shelter. The space is complete with books, comfortable seating, cushions, and cats who love to be read to.

Children, first graders and older, are welcome to come with their parent to read to a cat. Studies have shown remarkable growth in reading skills when children read to an animal. The non-judgmental presence of an animal helps children relax and enjoy reading. Even beginning readers can hold a book and "tell a story" while petting a cat. The purrs the child will hear will relax them and add important human contact to a cat's experience while they live at the shelter.



Lachlan Palmer and her mother, Hadley, read to Angel the kitty cat. Photo by Sage Mountainfire

The shelter is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 am to 4 pm and until 6 pm on Wednesdays. The shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah.

For more information, please call 707-467-6453. Please ask for Amy, and she will help you set up a time to begin reading to a cat!

- Sage Mountainfire, for the Ukiah shelter

Reggae on the River tickets on sale

The 31st annual Reggae on the River music festival is set for July 30 through August 2, at French's Camp in Garberville. Tickets are now on sale online or in Willits at Main Street Music and in Laytonville at It Takes Two to Tangle. All event passes include tent-camping: Three-day passes are \$200, four-day passes are \$250 or the new "Ambassador Pass," with "unprecedented perks and access" is available for \$500. Lineup includes: Stephen "Ragga" Marley, Cham, Alborosie & Shengen Clan featuring King Jammy's, Tarrus Riley & Blak Soil, Protoje & The Indignation, Ce'Cile, Collie Buddz, Nahko and Medicine For The People, Ghetto Youths International featuring Jo Mersa, Christopher Ellis, Black-Am-I, & Wayne Marshall; Emmanuel Jal, The Congos, Flavia Coelho, Stick Figure, Zvulun Dub System, Aleria Kamarada, Bassekou Kouyate & Ngoni Ba, Fortunate Youth, Mr. Williamz, Aaradhna, HIRIE, Empress Unification, and many more. "Plus more than 60 vending and non-profit booths, the ever-lively KidLandia, an opportunity to assist with the Tools For Change African outreach program (and support other worthy causes!); plus the camping, community, and irie vibes that made Reggae On The River famous." Visit www.reggaeontheriver.com for tickets and full information; videos at: www.reggaeontheriver.com/videos.htm.

Advertisement for Willits Frontier Days 2015 Schedule of Events. Lists dates, times, events, locations, and costs for various activities like Hometown Celebration, Truck Pulls, Street Dance, Gymkhana, National Anthem, Horse Show, Sweetheart Judging, CCPRA Rodeo, Western Dance, Parade, Barbecue, Black Bart Gunfighters, CCPRA Rodeo, Lions Pancake Breakfast, Junior Rodeo, and Cowboy Poetry.



'Jurassic World'

The Story: Aunt Claire (Bryce Dallas Howard), the manager-director of Jurassic World, invites her young nephews (Ty Simpkins and Nick Robinson) to be her guests at the now-perfect and safe, third generation of the original dinosaur park ... a lively and idyllic world of saurian creatures ... most of whom are giant vegetarians.

But ... and movie-goers always know there's a but ... the corporate owners want more visitors and more profits so they create, through gene-splicing, a new, larger, more intelligent and more brutal dinosaur. Bad things happen.

My Thoughts: I'm not a fan of the new 3-D movies. In general, the added "dimension" adds nothing and is more gimmick than gift. But, without caveat or equivocation, the 3-D imagery of "Jurassic World" is stunning. There is a point-of-view chase through the night-time jungle with velociraptors that's breathtaking. I felt like I was there.

This movie is a thrilling spectacle. It's fun. It's dinosaurs. And its 3-D is actually worth the couple dollars extra.

Parents: Violent. Bloody. Scary. Random people get eaten up like soda crackers. They scream until they can't anymore. On the other hand, what kid doesn't like dinosaurs?

Note: Steven Spielberg is the executive producer. One can feel the solid influence of Spielberg, who directed the original "Jurassic Park."

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

Coaches Wanted

Wanted: Willits Youth Football and Cheer coaches for the upcoming 2015 season. Applications are available at Roundtree Glass or by calling Brad Coleman at 707-354-2813.

WHS Class of '55 Reunion

Willits High School's Class of 1955 is planning a reunion - all 1950s classes are welcome! - at the Recreation Grove on Sunday, July 5, starting a 12:30 pm. "Bring lunch & chair and come visit!" Call Dee Tolman at 456-9980 or Mary Durupt at 459-5052.



Sober Grad

29th annual grad night party a great time

Excited graduates ready to celebrate safely are lucky in the Willits community, as the annual Sober Grad party allows for a festive night – chock-full of free food, fun, games, activities and prizes – and a way to make it to their future.

In years past, deaths have occurred on the night of graduation when over-celebrating led to tragedy. For 29 years now, the Sober Grad alternative has become a must-attend event and a great time.

Seniors from all Willits-area schools – Willits High, Willits Charter, San Hedrin, New Horizons and La Vida – are all welcome, and this year, 105 out of the 157 total grads attended the party, along with 66 guests. Seniors can invite underclassmen to join, and all can participate in the activities, but only the graduates are eligible for the plethora of prizes given out during the night. The guests, however, are eligible to win casino prizes.

Though doors open at 9:30 pm, attendees have until 11 pm to arrive. In order to be eligible for the prizes, they must remain at the Willits Community Center until 4 am. Prizes start to be awarded at midnight and finish at 4 am with the big ticket items. Each graduate is also given a \$50 check.

This year, four \$1,000 cash prizes were drawn and given to Alyssa Alvarez, Lakota Lebo, Billy Mann and Sam Grossman. Another big-ticket prize, a La-Z-Boy recliner, donated again this year by Willits Furniture, went to Datzman Engfer.

Several \$100 and \$125 cash prizes were given to attendees, and other swag included mini-fridges, flat screen TVs, Roku, headphones, speakers, dishes, blankets, pots and pans, themed baskets, bedding, sheets, towels, coffee makers, toaster ovens, camping gear, and much much more. A pair of San Francisco Giants tickets was even given to a lucky grad.

Those students who helped Sober Grad over the past year also received Ventura Perez Memorial Merit awards – cash



money! Sober Grad's Joyce Waters noted there were more awards given out this year than for any other year. "The way the kids received these awards was by helping out a lot throughout the year," explained Waters. "They attend meetings, help at fundraisers, sell tickets for fundraisers, help design the T-shirt, etc."

Recipients included \$150 winners: Ian Bertolino-Haley, Taylor Buzzard, Victor Cardona, Andrew Cavanaugh Hopper, Lijia Lamkin, Billy Mann, Ankit Patel, Levi Phillips, Naomi Ramirez, Kara Rodriguez, Kaylee Seaton, Kira Wear, and Mikaela Wright. \$250 winners: Jordan Elliott, Annie Romberg, Brandon Thiel, Tori Troum, and Maya Valley. \$500 winners: Antonio Amador, Dara Collicott, Izabel Hageman, Irene Labus, Leslie Leon, Kaeleigh McKey, and Hailey Riley.

During the six-hour event, all attendees were welcome to bounce on the blow-up Velcro wall, get a henna or glitter tattoo, have their photo taken through a fun cutout of a dancing couple, sing karaoke with DJ Ken Steely, dance out on the floor, nosh on sandwiches, cookies, chips, fruit and pizza, play basketball in the outside court, watch movies, or hit the casino, where chips were earned to "buy" graduation-themed gifts at the prize table.

"We really want to thank the community for all of their support yet again this year," said Waters. "It's really heartwarming that the community feels it's so important to support these kids and to keep Sober Grad continuing. Since our beginning, there has not been a graduation-night death, so this really works. We have a 100 percent success rate, and we are really proud of that!"

– Maureen Moore



At top, from left: Hilary Kocher of Hilary's Henna creates a design. Boys at the poker table in the "casino." Erin Fitzpatrick helps deliver slices of pizza to the grads.

Above, left: The \$1,000 winners: Billy Mann, Lakota Lebo, Alyssa Alvarez and Sam Grossman.

Above, right: Leslie Leon proudly displays her loot from the event, including a mini-fridge, toaster oven, flat screen TV and cookwear.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Above, right: The Velcro wall is always a popular Sober Grad activity.

Left: Datzman Engfer, the winner of the La-Z-Boy recliner.

Right: The end-of-the-night, blurry-eyed madness that ensues prior to awarding the large prizes.

Photos by Maureen Moore



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SAN ANDREAS
(PG13) 1 hr 54 mins
DAILY: 1:00 & 6:00pm

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Movie Times for 6/19 thru 6/25

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Sudoku

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



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

Level: Intermediate

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12					13
14							15		16
		18					19		20
				21	22			23	
				24	25	26		27	
				28	29	30	31		32
				33	34	35			
36	37	38		39		40		41	
42			43			44	45		
46							47	48	
49				50	51			52	53
				55		56		57	
				60				61	
									63

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Cambridge

Cambridge is a 1-year-old female mixed breed dog who currently weighs 33 pounds. Cambridge had a family who did not have the time for her, and we're grateful for the chance to find her the kind of loving home that she deserves. She spent a lot of time outside in her previous home, so in her forever home we really want her to be able to have a nice fenced yard to hang out in and the option to be inside. With her happy playful personality, she will remind you of a large puppy. This is her second chance at finding a great home with adopters who will spend time with her and allow her to be a part of the family.



Photo by Rod Coats

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 or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

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We can help you achieve your fitness goals! We are currently offering 21 classes a week! Suzanne returns with Ballet Barre Wednesday, June 24! Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Cleopatra's vipers
 - Slanted printing style
 - DWTS' Italian judge
 - Slender tower with balconies
 - ___ Aires
 - Practice fight
 - Forged using a metal bending block
 - Male parent
 - National Asset Mgmt. Agency
 - Not this
 - Middle East chieftain
 - 7th tone
 - A role of insulation
 - Midway between S and SE
 - The longest division of geological time
 - Oolong, green or Earl Grey
 - Disorderly crowd
 - Children's author Blyton
 - A radio band
 - Assist in some wrongdoing
 - Measures speed of rotation (abbr.)

- Bring up children
- Mitt's spouse
- Light, narrow paddle boats
- Unstressed-stressed
- Oriental water pipe
- Miser
- "The Hobbit" director
- Traditional German frock
- This (Spanish)
- Defy
- Dear husband (abbr.)
- A blood group
- Make lacework
- Golf ball support
- Having a particular scientific skill
- Chit
- Head louse egg
- Pomace
- West Indian sorcery cult
- A. Hutton drew this Br. comic
- Popular 1950's hairstyle
- A unit of girl or boy scouts
- 3.6% of the earth's crust
- Drug agent (slang)
- Supplemented with difficulty
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Br. slang for donkey
- Supervisor
- Of she
- Research doctorate in law
- Took possession
- Point midway between NE and E
- Care giver degree

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Grateful Dead 50th Anniversary Party
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Willits Community Center
Saturday, June 20, 2015 • 6-11 p.m.

"A Roof Over Our Heads" Fundraiser for Harrah Senior Center

"Totally Dead" will be playing live music. Beer & Wine • Live and Silent Auction
Chicken Dinner: \$10 (\$10 is in addition to ticket price)

Tickets: \$20 in Advance and At The Door
Kids 11-15 Years: \$10 • Under 10 Years: FREE

Tickets available at: The Headroom, Harrah Senior Center, Main Street Music and Shanachie Pub

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The vehicle's driver, 34-year-old Donald Powell of Cottonwood, and his passenger, 30-year-old Lawanda Parks of Corning, at first denied stealing any mail, Van Patten said.

However, during their investigation deputies discovered pieces of stolen mail in the vehicle from at least 11 victims, all from other counties,

by live music, on Friday June 26, kick off the festivities. As Willits folks know, there is an Independence Day parade, rodeo, barbecue and carnival, too. And Western wear.

Mayor Bruce Burton – in a snap-button style Western shirt – read a proclamation declaring that in Willits it is now Western Wear Days until the 4th of July.

"Now, therefore, I, Bruce Burton, mayor of the City of Willits, do hereby proclaim June 25 through July 4, 2015, to be Western Wear Days, and urge all citizens of the City of Willits to observe said days and the spirit of Frontier Days, by wearing Western wear in all of its manifestations of color, variation, gaiety and distinction during said Western Wear Days," said Burton, reading the proclamation.

Burton then presented Cook with a plaque. "As you know, a lot of people ask me, 'Jeff, how do you have this cool, calm and confident demeanor?' Western wear," said Cook.

"You, too, can have the ability to have cool and calm in the face of an angry 1,000-pound animal," said Cook. "Western wear: You can wash it again and again and again."

Frontier Days extended an invitation to council members to put on their Western wear and ride in the parade, seated in a wooden wagon pulled by draft horses.

"I bought this shirt in California, is that Western?" Councilman Ron Orenstein asked.

Not to be turned away by an already standing-room-only crowd, Frontiers Days supporters lined the doors to support their event.

The council meeting was packed that night with citizens hoping to hear firsthand about Robert Pinoli's plans to convert the old Remco property into an urban hub of tourism, train repair and history.

Pinoli plans a train work facility, a theater for train films, and a museum showcasing Skunk Train and Remco history.

The Skunk Train boss said the Skunk turns passengers away in September and October. "We are at capacity," Pinoli said.

The Skunk Train pitched its project to city council members at last week's meeting, along with Ed Mitchell, who pitched big plans of his own.

The trust must obtain city approval by July 28, or the buildings at the Remco site will be torn down.

A letter from trust attorney Phillip Hunsucker to City Attorney James Lance stated the trust has no preference, but the letter did say Mitchell's project was a backup plan should the Skunk's offer falter.

Hunsucker also stated the trust needs city approval for the transfer. The letter also asked the city to approve one project or the other.

Another trust attorney told council members they could approve one or both projects.

Benefits of the Remco property reach beyond Main Street and Highway 20 frontage for the Skunk Train.

Pinoli explained how the train is challenged to make repairs to its cars, currently rusting out in the salt air of Fort Bragg.

In addition to repairing what it already has, Pinoli said the Skunk will be building new cars in Willits as well.

Pinoli estimated his project would bring eight to 12 full-time jobs to Willits and 10 to 11 part-time positions.

"We are recognized world-wide," said Pinoli, "We are the fabric of this county."

Mitchell's project would utilize the property as a brewery, the home of a new police and fire training facility, a new firehouse, a business park to support other businesses, and a redwood furniture manufacturing facility.

"They are good jobs, jobs you can support a family on," Mitchell said. Mitchell said he did want to own the

totaling more than \$22,000 in altered money orders or checks, Van Patten said.

Deputies also found two money orders from the Leggett man's mailbox. The money orders, Van Patten said, "had already been altered by having Powell's name written on them."

to mid-September. However, the recommended budget is certainly the framework and the foundation of the final budget.

The recommended budget estimates the county will spend \$70.8 million within the budget unit 1000 category, which is sometimes called the "discretionary" part of the budget. The \$70.8 million is \$12 million more than was actually spent in 2010-11; however it is \$500,000 less than was budgeted for discretionary expenditures last year.

The discretionary budgets for each of the past five years are: 2010-11: \$57.2 million; 2011-12: \$57.53 million; 2012-13: \$62 million; 2013-14: \$67.1 million; and 2014-15: \$71.3 million.

In the recommended budget, certain departments were losers while some were winners. Among the biggest losers was the General Services Agency, which was absorbed into the executive office and, as a result, saw its departmental appropriations decrease by 31.7 percent. The budget for the Alcohol and Other Drug Programs will shrink by 37 percent. In 2014-15, the budget for the program was \$338,551; this year the county will support the AODP to the tune of \$84,997, plus kicking in designated reserves of \$127,772 for a total of \$212,769.

Among the departments that took smaller hits was Environmental Health, which saw its budget fall from \$314,000 to \$295,282, a net decrease of 6.2 percent.

Some departments will see their individual budgets increase in the next fiscal year. Among those are the executive office, which years ago absorbed the functions of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and this year took over the management of the General Services Agency. In addition, the executive office is performing the functions of the county Water Agency.

The executive office's budget rose from \$1.1 million to \$1.28 million, an increase of 11.7 percent. The office of Economic Development saw its budget increase from \$405,600 to \$568,036, an increase of 25.5 percent.

According to a staff report on the recommended budget, the Office of Economic Development "is primarily used for the Business Improvement District match payment and special contracts related to economic development."

At the direction of the CEO, the Office of Economic Development is using an increase in revenues from the Transient Occupancy Tax of \$59,000 to fund the costs of administering various contracts related to economic development.

The office of the District Attorney will see its budget increase by 12.8 percent, from \$4.1 million to \$4.7 million. This is due to the fact DA David Eyster requested five additional positions and increases in services and supplies.

The six departments with the highest budgets are the Sheriff's Office at \$13.1 million, the county jail at \$9.2 million; the Health and Human Services Agency at \$5.4 million (not

And Shasta County had issued an arrest warrant for Powell on burglary charges, deputies learned.

During the course of the investigation, Van Patten said, deputies also found methamphetamine inside the vehicle.

Powell and Parks were arrested on suspicion of forgery, possessing or receiving forged notes, criminal

conspiracy, receiving stolen property, and possession of a controlled substance.

They were taken to Mendocino County Jail where they were held in lieu of \$15,000 bail.

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

continue to pay down the Mendocino County Employee Retirement Fund's Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability, which recently swelled to \$179 million.

The board decided that \$100,000 of surplus funds from the state be directed toward the Mental Health division of HHS in order to implement "Laura's Law," or Assembly Bill 1421. According to the budget staff report, Laura's Law "allows courts to compel individuals with severe mental illness and a past history of arrest or violence to stay in treatment as a condition of living in the community." The money will allow program implementation to begin without reducing financial support for other programs.

Woodhouse votes no

Woodhouse voted no twice on Tuesday. He voted against approving the recommended budget as a whole and against taking \$100,000 from the Mental Health Prudent Reserve fund.

When asked why he voted no on the budget as a whole, Woodhouse said: "We just got the budget before the last meeting, for the first time. It was put together by staff and our CEO. We supervisors did not have enough input on the budget. That's our budget. I am not here to rubber-stamp somebody's else's budget."

Woodhouse also explained why he voted against removing money from the Mental Health Prudent Reserve fund.

"There is something terribly wrong with mental health," Woodhouse said. "The finances are not working. It's been a challenge for many years. [I voted against taking the money from the prudent reserve] because it was an opportunity to highlight that there are problems with mental health, and to say I am aware to the employees that something is going on wrong."

"To take money out of a prudent reserve like that, and to not deposit the \$450,000 last year, and also not to deposit \$450,000 in the prudent reserve this coming year, that's a million dollars," he said. "That's to be used in years where you don't get your regular funding. This year we have more funding than ever."

"Why in the world would we be dipping into prudent reserve? It doesn't make any sense at all," Woodhouse said. "It tells you there is a hunger for money – that they are grasping for it. To reach into a reserve not meant for that for \$100,000 shows you they are desperate about running out of money. That's the pattern I see."

"It's not properly funded and there's something wrong," he added. "We should be putting money into reserves now, getting ready for any downturns. We're not doing that in mental health. That's going to affect the whole budget."

When asked what taking from the prudent reserve fund would leave in the fund, Cryer replied approximately \$2.1 million.

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trapper program. In April, the county agreed to hear a presentation from representatives of the Coyote Project, and on May 5 the presentation was given.

The upshot of the presentation was that many non-lethal means of effective predator control are available. According to Project Coyote Executive Director Camilla Fox, lethal means of predator control are cruel, sometimes exposing animals to unnecessary pain, mutilation and anguish.

The "spin factor" on some of the expert testimony was extreme and sometimes counter-intuitive. Fox noted expert testimony by Robert L. Crabtree, an associate professor at the University of Montana and the founder of the Yellowstone Ecological Research Center in Bozeman, Montana, that killing coyotes actually causes them to breed more.

According to a paper written by Crabtree, "Although removal of offending individuals (i.e., coyotes) may temporarily alleviate predation rates on the protected species, the alleviation is usually short-term and has long-term side-effects that can result in increased predation rates and increasingly ineffective control activities."

On the other hand, University of California Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor John Harper told supervisors that shifting to a non-lethal means of control would actually result in more lethal means being used by inexperienced ranchers, which would actually result in more cruelty and more unnecessary animal deaths.

"I urge the board and the public to recognize that using trained professionals to control wild predatory animals is likely to minimize the number of animals that are killed," Harper said.

One of the more cogent bits of testimony was given by Stephanie Larson, director of the Sonoma County office of the University of California Cooperative Extension, and the livestock and range farm advisor for Marin and Sonoma counties. Larson told supervisors on May 5 that the cancellation of the Wildlife Services contract in Marin County in 2001 resulted in the decline in the sheep industry there.

By 2005, according to Larson: "I found the number of sheep producers had decreased, as they had gone out of business due to predation losses. Those that remained in business reduced sheep numbers and converted to cattle production. However, the number of estimated coyotes killed increased by over 100 percent."

"Today, in Marin County, there are fewer sheep producers and sheep numbers than at the beginning of the non-lethal program," said Larson.

Of the many at the meeting who were in support of cancellation of the contract with Wildlife Services, one of the most incisive was Kate Marionchild, a Ukiah naturalist and author. Marionchild wrote a letter offering

four reasons why switching to non-lethal predator control would help the community; the letter was read to the board by Michael Charnes.

"Use of non-lethal predator control methods would provide jobs and income to county citizens," Marionchild wrote, "such as shepherds, fencing contractors, building contractors, veterinarians, and suppliers of predator deterrents (electric fencing, lights, water sprayers, sirens, etc.)."

Marionchild's letter continued: "Additionally, I object to the use of Mendocino County taxpayer money to subsidize ranching interests, especially when it is ultimately counter to ranchers' interests. I recognize, however, that something must be done to protect livestock. I therefore support taking the money that has been spent on Wildlife Services and spending it on non-lethal control methods."

In the end, supervisors voted unanimously to maintain the status quo, adopting a resolution declaring the Wildlife Services' Integrated Wildlife Damage Management Program exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (i.e., that the county does not have to do an EIR to continue the trapper program), to adopt a resolution approving the IWDMM program, and to execute a contract with Wildlife Service for \$143,799.

the city's water plant attended, and Public Works Director Rod Wilburn, Finance Director Susan Holmes, a union representative and two reporters also took seats in the room.

Moore laid out plans for the new positions of assistant or associate engineer and a public works supervisor, both of which are considered "mid-management", to replace those positions that were eliminated.

The city undertook an organization study not long after Moore became Willits city manager in 2013.

A city report Friday stated the study identified concerns about "turf" conflicts among employees, communication protocols, and the structure or separation of some departments like public works, water and sewer.

The noon meeting was brief and, after comments from an International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers representative, the vote was made.

Mayor Bruce Burton said these were people he knew and that cutting people loose is a difficult part of a council member's job.

Councilwoman Holly Madrigal stated a sentiment similar to Burton's earlier in the meeting. "This is challenging in a city our size," said Madrigal. "You cannot look at these and not think of specific people."

Beyond the restructuring, Burton also had an eye on the city's affairs following completion of the Willits bypass. "We have a number of issues ahead of us," Burton said.

The council's move boosts the planning department, which has been staffed two days per week since August by planner Dusty Duley from Mendocino County Department of Planning and Building Services.

John Sherman, the city's building inspector and code enforcement officer, addressed council members at the last regular council meeting.

"We have some stuff stacking up in the Planning Department," Sherman said; one project, Sherman said, is a building at the Roots of Motive Power facility.

The new reorganization means the city has approval to hire an associate planner, another mid-management position.

In addition, a human resources analyst and a police lieutenant are to be added, the city's report stated.

These changes happened during the city's budget writing process; City Hall planned to have these changes included in the new budget.

The realignment of the city will also yield a Grade IV job at the city's water treatment plant and a tiered classification for public works employees, like Public Works Maintenance Worker I, II or III, for example.

Moore said the city wants to clearly establish a mid-management level and create a growth path for its employees.

Organizational weaknesses

Source: City of Willits staff report

- City manager has too many direct reports
- Ambiguous and confusing organization
- Need for improved team work, communication and chain of command
- Council-staff roles
- City engineer function: unusual as a separate department and more commonly contracted out in cities of Willits size
- Water and sewer functions: usually part of public works
- Water and sewers supervisors dual-reporting relationships
- Succession planning



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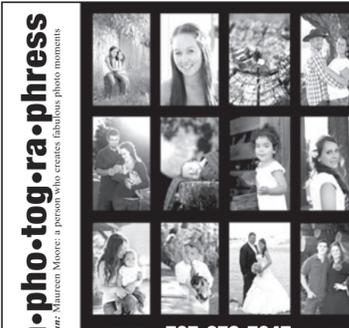
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Horseman's Playday and BBQ

Fun event for riders – and barbecue eaters – the first weekend of June

It was a weekend full of events at the Willits Horseman's arena on the first weekend in June. Youngsters came to rope and ride in the Saturday gymkhana, and riders of all ages came out for Sunday morning's jackpot roping and the afternoon rodeo. Sunday also was the day for hungry barbecue eaters to get a full belly before cheering on the riders.

The younger generation of riders competed in several events to earn points towards being the high point winner, including cloverleaf barrels, Washington poles, open-ended figure eight, two barrel cow horse, single stake, and the gated keyhole event. The top rider in each age group won a high point award (a headstall), and the second highest won a fly mask and fly spray. In 12 and under, high point went to Sierra Mayfield on Yellow and reserve to Hazel Cooke on Poppy. In 13 to 17, high point went to Emma Wade on Purdy and reserve also went to Emma Wade, but this time riding A Shot at the Bar. In 18 to 34, high point went to Brandi Miner on Squirrel and reserve to Carmen Coleman on Sugar. In 35 and over, high point went to Leanne Mills on Tommy and reserve to Jennifer Seymour on Sizzle.

The barbecue – always a big hit – was headed up this year by crew members Jim and Jeff Yokum, Bob and Debbie Baechtel, Art and Annette Cooley, Doug and Kathy Goss, and Ray Hebrard. The Yokum boys are third-generation Horseman's barbecuers and still use the hand-blended spice mix on the beef that was created by Glen Yokum, Jim's dad and Jeff's grandfather. A whole beef was cooked long and slow all night over a wood fire and watched over carefully by the BBQ crew. In addition to the meat, event-goers enjoyed beans made by Dan Pinon, the bean specialist, made with his own recipe and cooked over an open wood fire. The rest of the kitchen crew was made up of non-members and



At top, from left: Jim Bean presents buckles to All Around winners Kayla Zilch, left, and Mark Lucchetti, right. Robbie Burgess hands Boot Scootin' Boogie winner Caterina Wear with a \$100 gift certificate to Rainbow Ag. Jim Bean presents spurs to High Money Heeler Janelle McCormack, left, and High Money Header Mark Lucchetti, right.

Above: Gymhana winners from left to right: Carmen Coleman, Emma Wade, Leanne Mills, Sierra Mayfield, Hazel Cooke, Brandi Miner and Jennifer Seymour.

Photos by Rachel Belvin

volunteers who created a well-orchestrated team.

Eight events were presented to the afternoon rodeo riders, including girls breakaway roping, girls steer daubing, steer stopping, girls barrel racing, team roping, girls goat tying, ribbon roping, and chute dogging.

First place in breakaway went to Shanna Gayski and second to Kayla Zilch. First place in steer daubing went to Gracie Bauer, second to Brandi Gamble, third to Lana Vlastelica, and fourth to Dalli Fonsen. First place in steer stopping went to Mark Lucchetti, second to Anthony McKemy, third to Kayla Zilch, and fourth to John Weiss. First place in barrel racing went to Shanna Gayski, second to Domanique Penny, third to Jennifer Seymour, and fourth to Claire Brackett. First place in the team roping event went to the team of Joe Dennis and Mark Lucchetti, second to Mark Lucchetti and Keith Thornton, third to John Weiss and Pat Rowan, and fourth to Walt Niesen and Ron Hogenstead. First place in goat tying went to Kaley Wilson, second to Kayla Zilch, third to Gracie Bauer, and fourth to Brandi Gamble. First place in ribbon roping went to Kelly Fonsen, second to Anthony McKemy, and third to Walt Niesen. First place in chute dogging went to Kelly Fonsen.

After the rodeo points were tallied, a silver buckle

and All Around Cowboy title went to Mark Lucchetti, and another silver buckle and title of All Around Cowgirl went to Kayla Zilch. Mark Lucchetti also took home a pair of silver spurs, as the morning's jackpot roping event's High Money Header, and Janelle McCormack, the High Money Heeler, took home a matching pair of silver spurs, as well.

During the rodeo, two events were held for youngsters who got to come into the arena on foot from the grandstands. The mystery scramble allowed kids to chase loose chickens around the arena: If you catch one, you keep one! The second, the Book Scootin' Boogie event, is a jumble of kids' boots in the middle of the arena. Kids run barefoot, find their boots and race back across the finish line. First one back across with her boots on was Caterina Wear, who won a \$100 gift certificate to Rainbow Ag.

"The Willits Horseman's Association would like to thank the Willits community and our award sponsors for their support of our Annual Play Day and BBQ," said Cindy Mihelic. "Many thanks also to our announcer Kathy Goss, the rodeo crew: Jim Bean and Robbie Burgess and Rachel Belvin, and the arena crew: Bob Weiss, Stetson Burgess, and many other hard-working individuals who kept the rodeo fun, well-organized and fast-paced."

Event sponsors included: Little Lake Auto Parts, Garman Construction, 101 RV and Trailer Sales, Spacetime Supply, Yokums Body Shop, Redwood Empire Quarter Horse Association, Adams's Tire, and Sheri Cronin, DVM.

– Maureen Moore



Left: Harold purchases tickets to the barbecue from Sharon Short and Sue Clark. Above: Casey Persico reaches for the steer in the daubing event.

Photos by Maureen Moore

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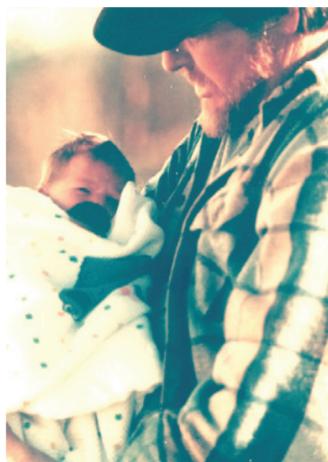
Enjoy photos of Willits-area dads and their kids in our free community photo collage, continued on page B3



A sweet little girl and her very first love. Happy Father's Day Daddy! Love, River and Shawna



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Adam Lawrence and his two girls, Madison and Macy



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Soroptimist Special: Peer Education Summit

One of the projects Soroptimists International of Willits has taken on is the annual "Peer Education Summit" at Willits High School, formerly known as the "Sister to Sister Summit."

The summit invites Willits eighth-graders to meet with a group of high school students to help orient them to the big step they'll be taking next school year: becoming freshmen at Willits High.

"The Willits Soroptimists generously donated \$2,500 for us to be able to continue to provide the Peer Education Summit," organizer Aurelie Clivaz of the Mendocino County Youth Project said. "Since last year, we have expanded the program to include teen boys, too, so we have renamed the project."

"Sister to Sister" was sponsored by the American Association of University Women for 11 years.

This year, 90 eighth-graders from Baechtel Grove Middle School came to the May 21 workshop at the high school. Thirty-one high school students, boys and girls, acted as facilitators for the day, most of them members of WHS's Peer Counseling program.

Willits Weekly visited with some of the facilitators at a recent celebration

lunch, featuring taco makings and a salad with greens from Clivaz's garden, at her office and hang-out space on the WHS campus.

Students said they were pleased with the summit, and their part in it, and felt the "awesome" orientation was helpful to the eighth-graders. Feedback from the younger kids – collected as part of the evaluation progress – was positive, too. "It's not a miracle thing," Clivaz said. "It's just a one-day thing," but what she hears from eighth-graders is mostly along the lines of: "I learned so much about the high school, and now I'm ready to come here." She was happy that this year's summit also included a tour of the whole high school campus, instead of just taking place in the gym, as in previous years.

Some of the girls remembered being the nervous newcomers themselves when they were entering high school.

"I participated in this program as an eighth-grader," student facilitator Irene Labus said, "and I loved it. It helped out a lot. It was kind of intimidating, though, to hear all the guys talk – not the girls, the girls were fine – but in the "Fishbowl," for me some of the comments the guys made were a little bit crude." Irene felt in recent years the comments had been "toned down" and kids were more aware of "what to say and what not to

say."

"Over the years, it's gotten to be like a well-oiled machine, which is really nice," she concluded.

The "Fishbowl" part of the summit – which is many kids' favorite part – is at the end of the day: orientees and facilitators are divided by gender. "The eighth-grade girls listen to the high school girls, and then listen to the high school boys, and vice versa," Clivaz said.

"We go to the junior high a month before, and gather up questions they have for high school students," Clivaz said, and then during the training day the anonymous questions are screened and the facilitators decide which questions get answered.

Some of the questions this year: "Are we allowed to use our phones at the high school? Can you switch classes if you don't like them? What happens if you don't graduate? Do you get to go off campus for lunch? How many periods do we have? What time do we need to be at school? How many sports can you play in a year? Are there any ROTC programs/police or military-related programs to be involved with? Does everyone get a locker? What is the food like? Are drugs allowed on campus? Do you

Read the rest of **Summit** | Over on Page B9

The high school students who were facilitators at the Teen Summit, with Aurelie Clivaz, front row, left, Soroptimist Loraine Patterson and WHS psychologist Daniel Drickman, back row, left, and Soroptimists Divora Stern and Vicki Ham, at right.

Photo by Jennifer Poole

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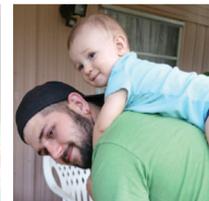
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I love you Daddy – Ursula and Jon Orantes, 2013



My husband, Joshua Bollinger, and our 2-1/2-year-old, Caleb. They picked our first strawberry from the garden



Happy 1st Father's Day, my love!



Sean and Lily Wilson



Danielle and Fred Barry



Bobby and Brandon Washburn with their daddy, Happy Father's Day to the best dad ever!



My husband, Patrick, and our new baby Addison Leigh. The proudest Pop around



We love you dad!! Happy Father's Day!! Thanks for climbing to the top with us <3 Liah and Emma



My son Eric and daughter-in-law Jodee and little Ashlee. Eric's first Father's Day is coming up in 2015



Happy Father's Day! Love, Grady and ... the chicken



Anthony Willcutt and his kids, Jordan and Austin



Tom Jones with his munchkins Aiden and Abigail. We love you, Daddy!



Lance Christensen and Camryn Christensen



We want to thank our daddy for all he does for us and for his service in the Marine Corps. We love you so much and hope you come home soon! Love, Buggy, Hammy and Mousey



Happy Father's Day Brahm and dad! Tristan, Tina and Savanna Hofmaister



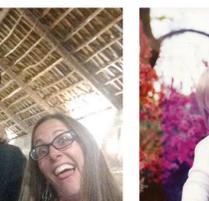
Happy Father's Day, dad! Thanks for being an amazing dad and granddad! We <3 you!!



You're the greatest Dad and Gramps. We love you lots! Karen and AJ. Happy Father's Day!



Happy Father's, Day dad!! We love you!! Love Daniel and Kara. (Above: Don Harris, Daniel Link and Kara Garman)



Happy Father's Day, Pops! Love, Vanessa (Vanessa and John Hofmaister, 1976)



Happy Father's Day, Dad! Love, Keane and Danya

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Howard Hospital's longest-serving employees

remember the past and look forward to the future

By Cecilia Winiger, for HMMH

In the changing world of health care and modern technology, there is a common perception that bigger is always better. But Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital employees pride themselves in being a small hospital and believe it makes a difference in the care provided to the community.

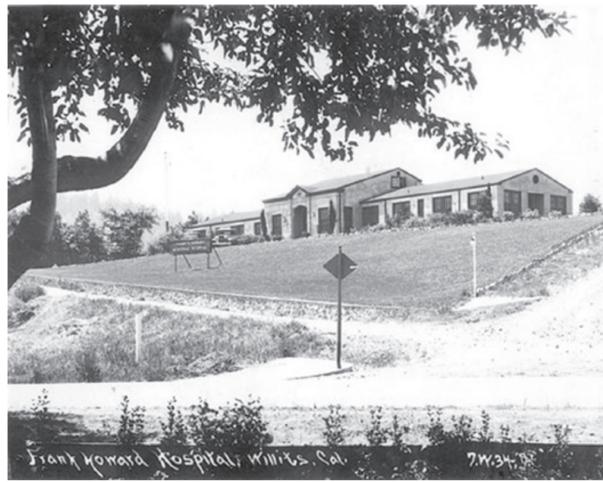
As HMMH prepares to enter a new era by opening a new facility, long-time employees who have been part of the hospital's rich history say the one thing that won't change is their quality of care and the family atmosphere patients and employees have come to love.

Cindy Bodensteiner recalls vividly when she first applied for a job at HMMH. It was 1977 – there was no internet and no online employment sites – so she showed up at the Human Resources office, with resume in hand. Now 38 years later, Bodensteiner says she still enjoys her job and is proud to be part of HMMH's rich history.

"Back then, I was getting paid \$2.95. But gas was only 60 cents per gallon," she says, recalling just how much times have changed. Originally from Laytonville, Bodensteiner learned about the hospital in a Nurse's Aide class in high school. She then went to school to become a surgical technician and came back to Willits to apply for her dream job.

Having spent half of her adult life at HMMH, Bodensteiner says the hospital has helped shape her as a nurse and as a person. Starting out as an OR tech and nurse's aide, she became an LVN in 1985 and three years later, became an RN and now an RN first assistant and director of surgery.

Kathleen Grupp's story started in high school as well, when she was "chosen" to work for the hospital as a lab assistant in November 1971. "I was a junior, when then pathologist Joseph Stetz, MD was looking for a new lab assistant to work with him part-time," she recalls.



Left: A historical photo of "Frank Howard Hospital, Willits, Cal."

Right: The longest-serving employees at Howard Memorial Hospital. From left: Chris Borycki, Cindy Bodensteiner, Arpad Peter, Robin Rose, Kathy Grupp, Julie Harris and Jodie Dalton.



"I was a good student and interested in the medical field, so my teachers chose me." She worked for three hours as a volunteer, which turned into a full-time job a year later, making \$1.35 per hour. "It was the best decision of my life and I never looked back."

Grupp looks back at how much the hospital has grown. "We had four employees in the lab back then, two technologists, one phlebotomist and a pathologist. Now we have 20 employees."

Born and raised in Willits, Grupp feels a connection to the hospital in more ways than one. "I was born at HMMH. My grandfather was a maintenance worker here in 1954 and he was on duty on the day I was born," she adds.

She remembers even doing something that is unheard of these days – house calls. "We used to go to people's homes and draw their blood, out of courtesy."

Almost everyone has a good story to tell.

Jodie Dalton laughs when she recalls how she got the job at the hospital, "I showed up in my Levi's, T-shirt and tennis shoes. Then someone asked me 'do you want a job?' and I said yes, and I was told to come back the next day." And so she did.

Back then she made \$3.10 an hour. "I thought I was rich," she exclaims. It was supposed to be a 6-week position, helping out at the billing department. Four departments and 35 years later, she's still "helping out."

As a PC technician, Dalton says she is thankful for the opportunity to grow and learn in her job. She remembers typing

every bill and entering patient information by hand. Slowly they made the change to AS400. "And even that is obsolete now," she adds. "I learned so many things here, without having a college degree. You can't put a price tag on that."

Julie Harris, who started working at HMMH in 1975, remembers writing everything by hand when registering patients and only seeing 20 patients a day. "The billers used to smoke at their desks and drink coffee all day. The cafeteria would be full of people smoking while having lunch."

"They were just starting to realize back then how bad secondhand smoke was. So it was still OK to smoke everywhere," she says, remembering how times have changed. She started in the kitchen then moved on to registration and human resources. "My mission was to take the grumpiest person and turn them around and make them happy by the time they leave."

Robin Rose, a pharmacy technician who has worked at the hospital for almost 40 years, has also worked at many departments. Starting out in the kitchen making salads, she moved on to the mail room, central supply, data entry and now she works at the pharmacy. "Each time I learn something new. And because of that, I was able to get my license to become a pharmacy tech based on work experience."

Like most employees at HMMH, Rose loves what she does for the hospital and for the community. "This is my home away from home. We all live and raised our families here. We've seen each other through tough times, and sometimes we spend more time with coworkers than our families. That's why

we truly take care of each other, and it translates to how well we take care of our patients, as well."

"There's a different kind of respect when a doctor insists that you call them by their first name. You know it's a unique hospital," Rose adds.

Harris tears up when she talks about her hospital family. "They have been so wonderful to me. When my husband died unexpectedly, they all came together, organized the service, brought food and even decorated for me."

"And when I had to take some time off, my coworkers stepped in and made sure things were done so I didn't have to worry about it," she adds.

"I wouldn't want to work anywhere else. We all go through tough times, and I feel good knowing I always have somebody to lean on at work," Dalton chimed in. "This is my family. It sounds clichéd, but it's true. We are friends outside of work, we do things together," she shares.

Arpad Peter, who has worked at HMMH for 20 years, feels the same way. "It is such a joy to work here. I feel fortunate to be part of an amazing team, and I love working with, and taking care of, my friends and neighbors. No amount of money will give you the satisfaction that you get from working here."

Chris Borycki, who moved from San Jose and has worked at the hospital for 35 years, says this was a new experience for her. "The family atmosphere is what sets us apart. We genuinely care for each other and that translates to our patients as well. We care for our friends and family members, so we make sure they get the best experience. I've worked at other hospitals, and this by far is the best."

Borycki remembers one patient in particular that she will

never forget. "A very dear friend of mine came by one time for X-rays since he was having back pain. The diagnosis was not good. I knew what it was, but I did not have the authority to tell him. I had to tell him to go home and that his doctor will call about the results. I cried so hard after he left."

"Our job is not easy. We see people at their happiest and also most vulnerable times, but I realized that it's my ability to empathize with him is what makes me a good caregiver. That's why we truly feel like every patient is family," Borycki explains.

A sentiment that Bodensteiner agrees with: "We really care for each other while at the same time caring for our patients. And it is the essence of 'Neighbors Helping Neighbors.' Because we are a small community, it's our own friends, neighbors, and family members who end up here. It gives them such comfort to come here, because they already know the people that are caring for them."

Like her colleagues, Dalton is also thankful and proud of the care the HMMH provides for the community. "This is my job. My life. And if not for the hospital, I would not have two of my loved ones with me today. The doctors and nurses here are the best."

Another topic they all agree on is excitement for the new hospital at One Marcela Drive scheduled to open this year.

Having had the longest tenure as any nurse at the hospital, Bodensteiner says she's seen her fair share of changes. But the change that she is most excited about is moving to the

new hospital. "I have been waiting for the new hospital for 38 years! It's amazing how we have functioned this well for this long in such a small facility. But this new hospital will be great, not just for the staff but also the community," shares Bodensteiner.

"I have seen four remodels and now the opening of the new hospital – a once in a lifetime experience, in my

book," adds Bodensteiner.

Grupp says the bigger space will help tremendously. "Our lab is fast, and we can do so many sophisticated testings you won't usually find in small hospitals. And that can only get better in the new facility," shares Grupp.

Peter shares his sentiments: "Being part of opening a new hospital is a dream come true. I remember we started talking about this in the year 2000, 15 years ago. Back then, it just seemed like a dream. Now we're just months away from that. It's very exciting."

Borycki, who has also been part of opening a new hospital in San Jose, says this is an exciting and challenging time.

"This doesn't happen often in many people's careers. It's challenging, and everyone must get on board and be grateful that they get to be part of this once in a lifetime experience," she adds.

For Dalton, moving will be bittersweet. "For 35 years, this was my home. It will be sad but it will be great for our community. We will be able to offer them new services and serve them better."

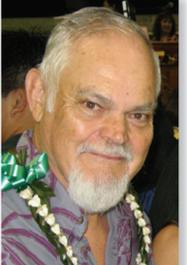
Rick Bockmann, CEO of HMMH, says these longest-serving employees are a testament to how the hospital cares for its employees. "It tells you that this is a great place to work. And when employees are happy, it translates to excellent care for our patients."

"These employees are part of our legacy, and they will play a big role into our future as we open the new facility."

HMMH, which was founded in 1928, celebrated its 87th birthday this year. While its history is rich, the future looks just as promising with the new hospital at One Marcela Drive scheduled to open this year. Twice the size of the current facility, it features a spacious emergency room, all private patient rooms complete with their own private bathroom, and a restaurant with seating for 80.

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital is part of Adventist Health, a faith-based, not-for-profit integrated health care delivery system serving communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Adventist's workforce of 28,600 includes more than 20,500 employees; 4,500 medical staff physicians; and 3,600 volunteers. Founded on Seventh-day

Adventist health values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 19 hospitals, more than 220 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 14 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies, and four joint-venture retirement centers. Please visit www.howardhospital.com for more information.



HUGH JAMES CLARK
May 20, 1940 - June 11, 2015

Hugh James Clark, who grew up in Willits and was a reporter and editor on the Big Island of Hawaii for nearly 40 years, died on June 11, 2015. He was 75. He died in the Hilo Hospice after a year-long illness.

Hugh was born in Santa Rosa, CA, and resided with his family in Washington State, Idaho and Willits. He attended Willits schools through High School and was very active in local journalism as a teenager. He was a leader at Willits High School where he participated in football and band and served as student body president in 1957-58.

His parents, Hugh (who died 1962 in Willits) and Maxey Clark (who died 2005 in San Leandro) came to Willits in 1946 and owned and operated the former United Food Center until 1956. In the 1950s-1960s they also owned and operated the former DeLong's Motel in Willits and were developers and owners of the former Star Super Market in Willits. Maxey owned the former Chevrolet dealership property (now Les Schwab Tires) in Willits until 2002.

Hugh graduated from Humboldt State. There he was active in college publications and worked his way through college as assistant sports editor of the former Humboldt Times.

Hugh started in journalism in the early 1950s, as a student writing for student publications, the former Noyo News, The Willits News, the Ukiah Daily Journal and the Santa Rosa Press Democrat. After college he worked with daily newspapers in Idaho, California, Texas and Nevada. He served as editor of the Levelland Daily Sun and Ely Daily Times prior to his transfer for a two-year Hilo assignment that became a lifelong stay.

Hugh came to Hilo in 1966 as news editor of the Hawaii-Tribune-Herald where he worked for five years before joining The Honolulu Advertiser as Big Island Bureau Chief in 1971. He retired in November 2002 and later worked as a part-time independent consultant.

In 1981, he studied at Tufts University in Massachusetts under a national foundation grant for mid-career journalists.

Hugh was a founding member of the Big Island Press Club, its president and member of the year several times. He was also involved for 30 years as a volunteer with the American Lung Association, serving 10 years on its national board of directors and in various state and local positions.

In 2004, he was inducted into the University of Hawaii-Hilo Athletic Hall of Fame for reporting on sports. He covered five national women's volleyball championships and two national basketball events.

Hugh was a beginning member of the Nissan Hall of Honor, a statewide Hawaii high school sports recognition program and served 32 years through 2014.

Hugh loved travel and often reflected on his 1968 attendance at the Olympic games in Mexico and his many visits to Asia from 1969 through 1987, including several stops in Korea, Taiwan and Thailand.

After his marriage to Anne Uma in Fiji in 1988, they traveled to Australia and New Zealand, later to Europe three times including Wales on a roots' trip and to China and several other Asian countries on a memorable cruise in 2011.

The Clarks and their daughter Sandhya Victoria saw more than 30 countries before she enrolled at the University of Washington where she received a biology degree in June 2014 and went on to New York City where she is now a graduate student in public health in epidemiology at Columbia University.

In addition to Hugh's immediate family, he is survived by his younger brother Tom (wife Judie Swope Clark) of Piedmont, CA, a retired lawyer, his younger sister Joan Sinclair (husband David Sinclair) of Hayward, CA, a property manager, and his niece Olivia Clark of Pleasant Hill, CA.

A farewell gathering to celebrate Hugh's life will be held at 4PM, Friday, June 19, at the Dodo Mortuary, 199 Wainaku St., Hilo, HI 96720. Family requests memorials to Big Island Press Club (BIPC) Scholarship Foundation or the American Lung Association.

Hugh's ashes will be placed in Hilo Bay where he joins his brother, Paul, who died in 2007.



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Below: Mariposa's ATW special, the Mediterranean salad.

Right: Hanna Willoughby, counter worker at J.D. Redhouse, with an ATW special smoothie she just made.

Below: Longtime Mariposa staffer Tasha Lee White, at right, offers customer Matt Marchand a Mediterranean salad, with Mariposa deli supervisor Amber Roberts, at left, and Suzanne Picetti of Avenues of Wellness.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



Avenues to Wellness specials:

Highlighting healthy food options at local eateries

Looking to pick up a quick lunch in Willits that's also tasty, healthy and – ta-dah – low-calorie? Look for a growing number of "Avenues to Wellness specials" at local to-go and sit-down eating establishments.

Avenues to Wellness, the community wellness and health program sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Foundation, has started working with local businesses to "increase the community's awareness of the availability of choice for healthy food," said Doreen Blumenfeld, ATW director.

The ATW specials must be 600 calories or less, as well as low in sodium, fat and sugar.

As an added incentive, those buying the ATW specials can participate in a monthly drawing – just fill out a raffle

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ticket when you buy your special – for a prize which is usually, Blumenfeld said, a \$15 gift certificate at Mariposa Market.

Businesses are offered stickers for their window to show they are participating, as well as "ATW special" stickers to put on ready-to-go items.

Mariposa Market has added an ATW special sticker to its Mediterranean salad, offered with other prepared foods in the cooler at the front of the store. The salad features a variety of olives – chopped and whole – and feta cheese on top of mixed greens, with grated carrots, chopped purple cabbage, cherry tomatoes, marinated pepperoncini peppers, and a house-made olive oil balsamic vinegar dressing, served on the side.

J.D. Redhouse and It's Time are two other "early adopters" of the ATW special program. J.D. Redhouse offers a fresh fruit smoothie, made with all organic fruit, in four different flavors. It's Time has a custom-made spicy veggie sushi roll. You can ask for the "ATW Special" if there's no ready-made rolls in the to-go cooler at It's Time.

Suzanne Picetti has recently joined the ATW team to help recruit cafes and restaurants to participate in the ATW specials program. She offers tools and tips – including a special handout – on how to create a popular and healthy menu item. One of the tools is a link to the Calorie Count website, which can do a nutritional analysis of any recipe: www.caloriecount.com/cc/recipe_analysis.php.

"The educational aspect

is so important," Picetti said. "People are not aware of the calories that they are consuming, and when you see an analysis or you have a specific number, it's shocking."

Picetti told Willits Weekly about some newly signed up participants in the ATW specials program, including El Mexicano, which is offering an "ATW special salad," and Paradise Cafe, which has a fresh fruit smoothie and will soon be offering an Asian beef salad that meets ATW special requirements.

Adam's Restaurant's ATW special is called "Field of Greens," and features greens and fresh seafood topped with lemon garlic vinaigrette. Chef Adam says he is happy to accommodate dietary requests for gluten-free and vegetarian dishes.

La Siciliana Restaurant & Pizzeria's "Insalata Salad" qualifies as an ATW special, too, and features organic romaine lettuce, crumbled bleu cheese, currants, organic Roma tomatoes, and Kalamata olives, topped with homemade vinaigrette. La Siciliana also hopes to offer a pasta ATW special, too, "but we are still working on the calorie count," Picetti said.

Local restaurants interested in finding out more can contact Avenues to Wellness at 459-2777 or atwforhealth@gmail.com. For information about the whole range of programs and workshops ATW is offering the Willits community, visit www.avenuestowellness.org.

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Kermit is a 2 1/2 year old, male, Chihuahua-Pomeranian mix. He is a shy quiet little sweet one who was fortunate to find a family of his own thanks to the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County.

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Soroptimist Special:

Scholarship winners from Class of 2015

Family and friends joined Willits Soroptimist members in honoring six Willits High School award recipients on Tuesday, June 2 during the annual Soroptimist Scholarship and Sweetheart luncheon.

The scholarship committee selected Irene Labus, Rachel Kanonchoff, Lijia Lamkin, Amanda Mason, Leslie Leon and Kayla Smith to receive the 2015 awards. Candidates must provide a certificate of enrollment to receive their award.

Kanonchoff, Lamkin, Mason, Leon and Smith all received \$1,000 awards, and Labus will receive two \$1,250 awards as a part of the Evelyn K. Kennedy scholarship.

"Irene will receive one \$1,250 check now, and another next year, keeping at least a 2.75 grade point average," explained Divora Stern, chair

of the Soroptimist scholarship committee. "The recipient of the Evelyn K. Kennedy scholarship has to be entering into the field of science or medicine, and Irene was a great candidate."

All of the girls were selected for their academic excellence and community service, Stern said. "Lijia and Rachel were co-valedictorians for their graduating class; Lijia was also a past Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart and did a great job co-emceeing the Senior Awards night."

Lamkin plans to attend University of Rochester in Rochester, New York, where she will be majoring in biology, doing pre-med. She enjoyed playing volleyball all four years of high school, and softball her freshmen and junior year. Kanonchoff will attend UC Davis, where she plans to study civil engineering. She

enjoyed playing cross-country and tennis for the past two years, and was captain of both teams during her senior year. She was also selected as the Girls State delegate last year. Leon enjoyed playing sports, including soccer and cheerleading, and is looking to go into the nursing program at Mendocino College. Mason is also an avid sportswoman, enjoying softball and cheerleading, and although undecided on a major, she is looking to attend Santa Rosa Junior College or the College of the Redwoods. Labus is planning a career as an emergency room nurse and has already been certified in CPR and first aid. Smith is going to Mendocino College to "knock out my pre-reqs," then she will be off to Sonoma State, and UC Davis for medical school.

Above: Soroptimist scholarship winners hold their awards while wearing the festive sashes and sparkle mortarboard hat pins. From left: Lijia Lamkin, Leslie Leon, Irene Labus, Amanda Mason, Rachel Kanonchoff and Kayla Smith.

Below from left: Winners Amanda Mason and Rachel Kanonchoff pose with Soroptimist Linda Posner in center. Winner Irene Labus poses with Soroptimist Jane McCabe. Soroptimist Divora Stern poses with winner Leslie Leon. Winner Kayla Smith poses with Soroptimist Elizabeth Sinofsky. Soroptimist Divora Stern poses with winner Lijia Lamkin.

Photos by Maureen Moore

– Maureen Moore



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The Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Contest

The role of Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart is coveted by all little ladies in the saddle who see the glamorous, tiara-clad annual winner make her way around the ring during her Sweetheart Run and Grand Entry. Candidates for Frontier Days Sweetheart are responsible for helping create awareness of the Fourth of July events by selling tickets in the community. Those crowned Frontier Days Sweetheart help out in the arena every year, handing out awards, chasing cattle, riding in the parade and posing with winners for photos, as well as making appearances at other rodeos in the name of Willits Frontier Days. Many families have a legacy of several generations of Sweetheart winners, and other Sweethearts blaze their own path to the coveted silver spurs and tiara given to the winner by the Soroptimist International of Willits, which helps put on the contest. Contestants must compete in a poise and personality contest, demonstrate their mounted horsemanship skills, answer questions about rodeo and the equestrian lifestyle, and start selling event tickets in early summer. Ticket sales continue until the last minute before the Sweetheart Dinner where the winner is announced.

Sweetheart Contestant

Dalli Fonsen



School and home: graduate of Del Oro High School, Willits resident
Horse: Joseph, 16, Quarter Horse
Contact: 530-790-5421 / d1713@yahoo.com / on Facebook under "Dalli Fonsen"
Photo by Maureen Moore

Dalli Fonsen is one of three contestants running for the title of 2015 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart. A graduate of Del Oro High School in Placer County, Fonsen returned to Willits "the day after graduation" and started classes at Mendocino College where she is working towards a degree in Business Accounting.

Her family has been ranching and riding in this community for years – her dad is Kelly Fonsen, who is the son of Marie Jenkins. Dalli Fonsen's grandfather was the late Don Fonsen. Don's widow, Ginger, still lovingly called "grandma," and Ginger's now-boyfriend, Ronnie Miner, also enjoy riding and ranching, and they support Dalli in her run for Sweetheart.

Dalli continues to enjoy team roping and barrel racing here in the Willits area. She rode in the California High School Rodeo Association's District 3 for a year before graduating, is a Willits Horsemanship member, and has looked forward to running for Sweetheart to be a role model for her three younger cousins.

"I want to show the girls that you can be the ranching beauty; smart, tough, beautiful, determined, not afraid of hard work, gutsy, courageous and a winner!" said Fonsen, noting her feelings of similarity towards Sandra Bullock's character in the blockbuster movie "Miss Congeniality." "Not all cowgirls are rugged; we can be glamorous, but still tough, princesses!" Dalli expressed her appreciation to all her friends, family and sponsors.

Fonsen asks for your support in her run for the title and is currently selling tickets to all the Willits Frontier Days events.

Sweetheart Contestant

Thais Reed



School and home: Graduating this year from New Horizons Independent Study, Willits resident
Horse: Princess, 9, Mustang
Contact: 707-354-0784 / thaisreed@gmail.com
Photo by Maureen Moore

Thais Reed took her first ride on a horse way back in preschool and says she has "been in love ever since." Running for Sweetheart was something she always wanted to do, despite her friends and family thinking this whole "riding" thing might just have been a phase.

"No way!" Thais laughed. "I never grew out of it, and I never plan to!"

During the 2015 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart campaign, Reed hopes to get to meet new people, to gain experience with public speaking, and to "get me and my horse out there!"

Reed moved to Willits from Palm Springs in 1998 and has lived in Willits ever since. Reed has enjoyed riding in many local horse shows and gymkhanas, being out on trail rides, jumping fences, and more. She has taken lessons from local trainers Elaine Mancini and Lana Grieve, and currently boards her horse at San Vicente Ranch in the Willits valley.

Currently a full-time student with New Horizons Independent Study, Reed hopes to move to the "horse country" in Montana, where she will attend college with plans of becoming a diesel mechanic and then a pilot with the U.S. Air Force.

Reed noted her thanks to Brian and Maureen Scarbery of San Vicente Ranch and to her sponsor, Bar Bell Cattle Company, for all of their help with the run for Sweetheart.

Reed asks for your support in her run for the title and is currently selling tickets to all the Willits Frontier Days events.

Sweetheart Contestant

Caitlyn Forrester



School and home: Sophomore at Willits High School, Willits resident
Horse: Peppy, 11, Quarter Horse
Contact: 707-972-7803 / on Facebook "Caitlyn Forrester 4 Sweetheart"
Photo by Natalie Campbell

The youngest contestant for this year's Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contest is Caitlyn Forrester. Caitlyn has been riding, technically, since before she was born as her mom, Amy Forrester, enjoyed riding while pregnant with Caitlyn.

Now riding in the saddle, Forrester enjoys attending gymkhanas, horse shows and clinics, riding English and Western, and most recently, reining. She has been working with Olivia Wilburn on her reining skills and hopes to join the California High School Rodeo Association soon and compete in the recently added reining events.

When not on a horse, Forrester enjoys sports at Willits High School; she is a member of the swim, basketball and volleyball teams and also is a member of FFA and 4-H. Through her livestock groups, she enjoys showing sheep, goats, beef and horses at the local fairs.

What is the plan after graduation? Still to be determined, but Forrester thinks it will be along the agriculture lines, including attendance at Cal Poly State University. "Maybe a vet? Maybe an ag teacher? I just don't know yet," explained Forrester.

Caitlyn wanted to note her thanks to her friends and family, Natalie Campbell, Gravier's Chevron, and Geiger's Long Valley Market for all their support.

Forrester asks for your support in her run for the title and is currently selling tickets to all the Willits Frontier Days events.

Q&A about our club

Soroptimist International of Willits is an organization for women who are working to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world. Almost 95,000 Soroptimists in about 120 countries and territories contribute time and financial support to community-based and international projects that benefit women and girls. The Willits Soroptimists are among them. Let's clarify what this mysterious club is up to, and debunk any myths out there.

– Elizabeth Sinofsky, SIW president

1. Do you have to be a business owner?

No, you just have to possess a desire to help women and girls in the community to live better lives. It's great if you are a business owner, but we love housewives and retired ladies, too!

2. Do I have to be a college graduate?

Not at all. We accept all levels of education.

3. How many meetings do I have to go to?

Well, Soroptimist meets the 2nd and 3rd Tuesday every month at noon. We do not have mandatory meeting participation, although we would love to see you every week. Come when you can; there's always email, phone and smoke signals to communicate anything that's missed.

4. Does it cost a lot of money to join?

Soroptimist dues are roughly \$109 per year. You also pay \$2 per meeting. That money is to help the club sustain itself. We also may throw a couple of fundraisers a year, but the costs are minimal. We do have a payment plan for people who need one for the dues.

5. What is my time commitment to the club?

Well, that's up to you! If you can only manage a couple of hours per year, that's great. Some people are able to share more time. It really depends on what's happening in your life. It's like the old saying: "Every little bit helps." On average the time commitment is about one hour a week.

6. Is Soroptimist religious, or does it follow a certain political belief?

NO. We do not engage in any of that. We are there to focus on helping women and girls in the community. That's all.

7. Can I be in more than one club?

YES! The beautiful thing about service clubs is that doing this kind of work is so gratifying you'll want to do more! Go for it! We love community super stars!

8. Why women & girls?

Soroptimist means "best for women," and that's what we strive to be – an organization of women at their best helping other women to be their best. As a women's volunteer organization, we feel uniquely qualified to help women and girls live their dreams. It's true that both men and women live in poverty, face discrimination and must overcome obstacles. But throughout history – in every country in the world – women and girls face additional obstacles and discrimination solely because of their gender.

9. What projects are the Soroptimists doing?

Scholarships to graduating students. The Women's Opportunity Award, to support a single parent's or head-of-household's re-entry into education to provide for her family and improve her life. The Violet Richardson Award, recognizing a young woman for her efforts in the community. 8 Schools 1 Dream, the donation of books geared toward women and girls to all eight schools in our district. A co-sponsor of Project Literacy. Brown Bag Lunch, serving lunch to the community on Saturdays in the park. The Community Phone Book. Collection of goods and clothing for Project Sanctuary in Ukiah. And the Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Contest.

10. How can I contact Soroptimist of Willits about membership?

Call President Elizabeth Sinofsky, 707-972-9320 or check out the club's facebook page under "Soroptimist International Willits" or website: www.Si-Willits.org/

From Page B8

- 1954: Joan Neary Von Weien
- 1955: Shirley Merritt Nikolashin
- 1956: Betty Ann Stansberry Erbes
- 1957: Patricia Moreno Door
- 1958: Letha Schumaker Willey
- 1959: Marian Whitley Ross
- 1960: Carol Collier McClendon
- 1961: Mardi Wilson Hinton
- 1962: Linda Allen Banks
- 1963: Susan Fonsen Neilson
- 1964: Sue Hardaway
- 1965: Sharon Baker Arno
- 1966: Leslie Cogburn Scaglione
- 1967: Joan Scholegel
- 1968: Clydeen Smith Dick
- 1969: Mousey Clatty
- 1970: Kam Maize LaLaguna
- 1971: Margaret Smith
- 1972: Paulette Wilcott Somdahl
- 1973: Jann Clatty Rickey
- 1974: Kathy Persico Graves
- 1975: Lorraine Soulliere Crabtree
- 1976: Tami Tharp Romberg Mayfield
- 1977: Kelly Bielenberg Eoff
- 1978: Julie Canepa Belvin
- 1979: Liz Persico Day
- 1980: Cindy Kostanecki Kelly
- 1981: Stacey Blalack McKinley
- 1982: Caroline Kostanecki Durupt
- 1983: Sandra DuCross Norman
- 1984: Chrissy Kostanecki
- 1985: Tracey Ford Moody
- 1986: Kristine McBride Tyrrell
- 1987: Kim Colwell Lebo
- 1988: Nicole Kostanecki Kunka
- 1989: Dina Pinon Parker
- 1990: Melanie Ulvila
- 1991: Lanae Shuster Lamkin
- 1992: Amanda Hiatt Hower
- 1993: Amy Ford
- 1994: Marta Trevey
- 1995: Tori Nunnemaker Minton
- 1996: Georgeanne Dawson Crosby
- 1997: Patricia Garrity
- 1998: Leah Leone
- 1999: Mary Garrity Fonsen
- 2000: Olivia Grupp
- 2001: Katherine Whitby
- 2002: Sandi Short
- 2003: Mattie Pinon
- 2004: Tina Holguin
- 2005: Ashtan Bloomquist
- 2006: Darcy Ford
- 2007: Courtney Figg-Hoblyn
- 2008: McKenzie Barlow
- 2009: Lindsey Bowlds
- 2010: Stephanie Standley
- 2011: Riata King
- 2012: Rachel Belvin
- 2013: Lijia Lamkin
- 2014: Haley Schuck

From Page B2

have to take a shower after PE? Or change in front of people? Is there a dress code?"

Second- and third-year peer counselors help Clivaz plan the summit, meeting weekly to develop the content, create lesson plans for small break-out groups and work on the logistical aspects of setting up the summit. The training day held a couple of weeks before helps to train the first-year peer counselors to facilitate the small break-out group discussions on topics like alcohol and other drugs, relationships, and self-esteem/body image. The facilitators are trained in how to lead small groups, how to develop a conference from beginning to start, how to practice healthy communication, and how to be role models for the incoming class. Peer counselors plan to do follow-up lessons on the topics discussed at the summit in the upcoming year's freshman health class.

Soroptimists Divora Stern and Loraine Patterson came to the lunch celebration, too, and both praised Clivaz for her work with young people in northern Mendocino County. "Aurelie does such an amazing job," Stern said. "She's so matched with the kids, her heart is totally in the right spot, and the students really relate to her. She's just such an amazing support for the kids, and amazing for this community."

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Sweethearts over the years:
1926: None (first year of Rodeo)
1927: Marie Scholegel Novagile
1928: Martha Warner Kelton
1929: Lola Butts
1930 & 1931: None
1932: Enola McKenzie Reed
1933: Betty Akins
1934: Amy Gardner
1935: Jemma Pedroncelli Serventi
1936: Elizabeth Wendt Ferguson
1937: Alice Gibellini Wade
1938: Dorce Brown
1939: Ermitime Casteel DeBoer
1940: Evelyn Robley Bergson
1941: Pauline Standley Perez
1942: Melba Dempsey Lewis
1943: Ann Cox McGinnis
1944: Anna Ford Hardwick
1945: Lillian Kroh Nolan
1946: Georgia Stovall Welch
1947: Anne Crabtree Henderson
1948: Lillian Kroh Nolan
1949: Betty Mast Campbell
1950: Wanda Lane Johnston
1951: Gretchen Mullen Weber
1952: Yvonne Dusseau Leever
1953: Claire Huffman Robertson
Read the rest of Sweetheart
Over on Page B9

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One of the leaks in the Senior Center roof.
Photo by Jenny Senter

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Totally Dead.
Photo by Bob Minkin

Totally Dead:

Grateful Dead cover band plays Senior Center benefit Saturday

Fifty years later, Grateful Dead fans keep on truckin' to the sound that is synonymous with the Grateful Dead. This Saturday, June 20, the Bay Area band Totally Dead will fill the need to hear a little Dead at the Willits Community Center, from 6 to 11 pm. The proceeds for the evening will go to the Willits Senior Center's A Roof Over Our Heads fundraiser. Tickets at the door are \$20; a chicken dinner is also available for \$10, along with a no host bar.

The senior center was built in 1987, and the almost 20,000-square-foot roof is original to the building. The leaky roof has been an ongoing problem for the past several years, but last winter it reached a crisis point. Many of the repairs to stop the leaks last winter were unsuccessful, and it became apparent that the roof needs to be replaced as soon as possible.

A hardy group of senior center volunteers will be on hand at the event to serve chicken dinners, wine and beer. Dennis Nooneman, chairman of the concert benefit event, told Willits Weekly a silent auction will include a Tré Cool autographed drum head, Tré Cool Zildjian drumsticks, and the CD "American Idiot," autographed by the 2015 Hall of Fame inductees, Green Day. Tre Cool, drummer with Green Day, grew up in Willits. Auction treasures also include a rare Jerry Garcia Band collector's pin, passes to the Brooktrails Golf Course, a drip system donated by Dripworks, and many other generously donated items.

Totally Dead has garnered the notice of experts in the field of "Deadom." David

Gans, host of the weekly syndicated radio show "The Grateful Dead Hour," has said of the band, "I really enjoyed Totally Dead's performance at the Berkeley Shakedown Street Festival. [This is] a big, muscular interpretation of the Grateful Dead's music with strong vocals."

Rosie McGee, photographer and author of "Dancing with the Dead," a book about the Grateful Dead band's halcyon days, says: "Totally Dead is NOT a run-of-the-mill Grateful Dead tribute band: their happy energy and professional chops are uncommon and worth seeking out."

Will McCosker, drummer for Totally Dead, told Willits Weekly that the band includes lots of upbeat tunes for the audience's enjoyment. He said the band – based in the Bay Area – loves to interact with the audience, as the audience's energy drives their performance. The band began when seven musicians and friends decided it would be fun to play a Grateful Dead show from the classic spring 1977 tour. "We gave it a go and discovered not only that we had a blast, but people loved it too," the band reports. "We initially began by playing Grateful Dead set lists, but over time discovered the joy of creating our own original set lists. We try to incorporate songs from the late 60s all the way up to mid-90s."

Opening for Totally Dead will be the Phil Savell Band, a three-piece band out of

Column | Relationship Ins and Outs

Differences

Dear Doris:

My husband is more of an introvert than me. He likes to stay home, and I like to go out and be social. Those differences bring frustrations on both sides. I have stopped cutting my needs of being social, and I participate in a lot of events without my husband. At the same time I miss spending time with him, and I know that he would like to spend more time with me, too. Is there a way out of this dilemma?



Doris Wier
Columnist

– G.

Dear G.:

That can truly be a dilemma. I know that many couples experience similar conflicts.

I think there are two risks that could possibly damage the connection between the two of you in the long run. The first one is that we have a tendency to think the other is wrong for being or feeling different. The other risk is giving up our individual hopes and dreams for our partnership and in our lives together.

Let's look at the first risk. It is so easy to make each other "wrong" for being and feeling differently. And yet we all are different from each other in so many ways. Our differences are often the reasons why we were attracted to each other in the first place.

Instead of tentatively making each other wrong for being different, I recommend you consciously look into the benefits that your differences bring to each other and your partnership. Perhaps have a conversation about what staying at home has to offer and what is attractive about being more of a social butterfly? I am sure that you will find wonderful qualities in each other's "expertise" if you are open to finding and discussing them. Qualities from which both you as individuals and your partnership can benefit.

Neither of you has to sacrifice his or her hopes and dreams, either. Being in a committed relationship means that we naturally will expand each other's comfort zones. The beauty of your situation is that your differences will enrich each other's life experience if you both allow and encourage each other to move beyond his or her comfort zone.

I recommend you make a commitment to intentionally go out together and intentionally stay home together in an equal and balanced manner to start. Figure out a schedule that will accommodate both of you. You can do a soft start by letting the person who is being pulled out of his/her comfort zone to choose the event or the activity.

If you learn to accept your differences, you will be able to appreciate what you have to share when you come together after spending time apart.

And last, I want to mention that couples who already have a strong connection and feel strongly supported by each other, usually give first priority to their partnership and the well-being of each other. This does not mean that you have to do everything together, but only that you consult with each other regarding time and schedules and when making important decisions.

Enjoy your differences and each other!

If you have any relationship questions, please send them to doriswier@embraceconflicts.com or to WW directly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490. I am happy to answer them anonymously on the third Thursday of the month.

Doris Wier is a certified relationship and life coach who works and lives in Willits. She coaches individuals, couples, families, and professionals. In addition she offers Explore-Shops on conflict resolution and deepening your intimacy and connection in your partnership. For more information on the process, call 707-456-9246. www.embraceconflicts.com and www.facebook.com/doriswier

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