

Willits Weekly

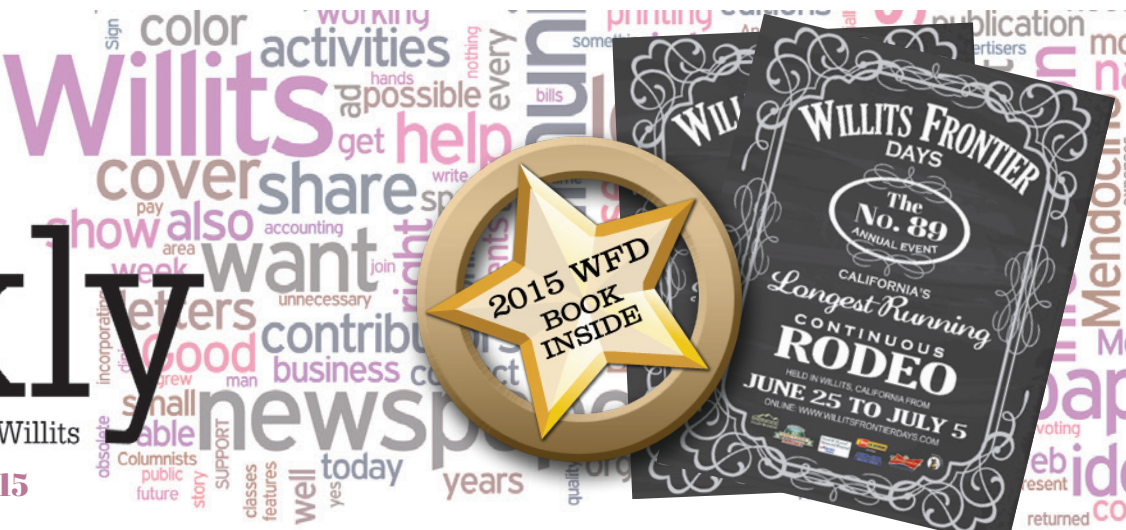
EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 111

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Online & Print



Brooktrails approves budget

Mike A'Dair

Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The Brooktrails Community Township Board of Directors approved a nearly \$3.5 million district budget for 2015-16 on a 4-1 vote at their Tuesday meeting this week.

Trustee Tim Ramming cast the lone dissenting vote, saying he thought the district was spending too much money on lease-purchases. But after explaining why he cast his no vote, Ramming said he wasn't outraged, just a little bit miffed.

"It's not a huge 'no.' I'm not upset and raving mad," Ramming said. "It's just I think that, in a family budget, you try to buy as little as you can on credit. You try to buy what you need with cash. You rein it in tight until you

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

Retirement Association trustees delve into issues

Ursula Partch

Contributing Reporter

The Mendocino County Employee Retirement Association's fund performance continues to be strong, representatives from investment advisor Callan Associates Inc. told trustees during their May quarterly investment review. Over the past five years, total fund returns were 9.64 percent, annualized.

The main driver for the returns has been a strong U.S. stock market. MCERA has 39 percent of its assets invested in U.S. stocks, which earned 14.99 percent annualized over the past five years.

Callan's Greg DeForrest

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

Burn permits suspended as of June 29

As drought conditions continue to increase fire danger in the region, CalFire has suspended all burn permits for outdoor open residential burning within the State Responsibility Area of Mendocino County. This suspension takes effect Monday, June 29, and bans all residential outdoor burning of landscape debris including branches and leaves.

CalFire Mendocino Unit Chief Rowney explained: "Mendocino County fire history shows that suspending debris burning is an effective way of preventing wildfires that result from debris burn escapes. Although all fires

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



Above: Contestants pose with 2014 Sweetheart winner, Haley Shuck (with blue sash) including from left: Dalli Fonsen, Thais Reed and Caitlyn Forrester.

Below, the 2015 contestants give their speeches and showcase outfits, from left: Caitlyn Forrester, Thais Reed and Dalli Fonsen.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Below: Soroptimists pose with the Sweetheart contestants, including from left: Fran, Marilyn, Loraine, 2015 contestant Dalli, 2014 winner Haley, 2015 contestant Thais, 2015 contestant Caitlyn, Divora, Vicki and Jane.



Woodhouse expands on 'no' vote for budget

Willits Weekly had the opportunity to sit down and talk with Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse Monday about why he voted "no" on the county's recommended budget last week.

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Woodhouse said he was concerned about three issues: the county's Planning and Building Services department, big commercial marijuana grows, and mental health services.

Woodhouse believes that the county's Planning and Building Services department employs an unfair double standard when dealing with the public. Woodhouse said the planning department requires honest people who are "part of the system" to get permits for improvements to their property, but makes no effort to ensure pot growers living in outlying areas obtain permits for their projects.

"The large marijuana grows are taking over the county and are turning Planning and Building into a laughingstock," Woodhouse said. "People are up there putting in greenhouses without a permit, putting in septic systems without a permit. Whereas law-abiding citizens go in

there, they have to get a permit for all these things, and those people have to be thinking, why should I do that when all these other people just ignore the law and do what they want? So this situation is weakening all of us, plus destroying the environment.

"If it was me doing that, I would have to get permits all over the place," he added. "I would be bogged down in red tape, and I would have to be paying fees for permits."

The department's permit policy "is not being enforced equally across the county," Woodhouse argues. "There is no point in making more rules if we don't enforce what we have now."

Woodhouse believes the basic, underlying attitude in Planning and Building doesn't encourage growth. "Planning and Building is the vehicle that allows growth - everything that needs permitting - in our county. And if [the department is] not encouraging that growth, we're not going to get it."

"We need to encourage growth, welcome it and assist it, so we can all benefit," he said. "I don't mean [turning into] some different, crazy kind of county, but just normal growth. Our kids building houses and having some jobs."



When asked if the county needed to streamline Planning and Building or if the county needed to add more jobs to the department so more work could be done, Woodhouse said: "I want to talk about it with the other supervisors, and find out what they think. I want to ask them if they think it's something to invest in - something that will pay dividends for years; if it's a worthy thing to invest in."

Read the rest of **Woodhouse**
Over on Page 15

Large-scale pot raids underway in Island Mountain area

Dan McKee

Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Armed with search warrants, sheriff's deputies from Mendocino, Humboldt and Trinity counties this week launched a major eradication operation targeting large-scale marijuana farms in the Island Mountain area of the pot-rich Emerald Triangle.

The Eureka Times-Standard reported deputies with the Humboldt County Drug Task Force have seized more than 15,000 marijuana plants, 30 pounds of processed marijuana, and four pounds of hash. Law enforcement sources estimated more than

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

Daily Bread soon to be homeless

Mike A'Dair

Reporter
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Willits Daily Bread, the food program that has been providing hot meals for local people for the past 20 years, has only a few more days left on its current lease with St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church. As of noon Monday, the program does not yet have a new home.

"Actually, a lot of the people on Our Daily Bread are in denial, and that includes me," said Willits Daily Bread board President Eric Glassey. "We've been looking really really hard for a new place, and that's where I've been putting my energy."

Glassey said if Willits Daily Bread fails to find a new home by July 1, it

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

Skunk Train fires tunnel contractor

Mike A'Dair

Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Skunk Train general manager Robert Pinoli confirmed Monday he has terminated the rail line's contract with Caves Unlimited, the firm doing tunnel restoration work on the west end of tunnel number one, east of Fort Bragg.

Pinoli said Caves Unlimited had previously promised to have all work done by May 16, and then by May 23. Most recently, the contractor said work would be completed by July 1. It was after the firm gave the July 1 deadline that

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

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Fundraiser for Rey Amador

To the Editor:

My name is Juanita Amador, and my husband, Rey, was diagnosed with colon cancer in October 2014. Since that time we have made several trips to Stanford, at times staying there for a week receiving treatment for various issues that arose prior to his surgery. Rey underwent chemo therapy and radiation for several weeks and finally, in March, was scheduled for surgery. The surgery was successful in removing his tumor. He is currently undergoing intensive chemo therapy for the next few months, and then will have a CT scan to confirm our hope that the tumor is completely gone.

During this time Rey has been unable to work and has taken a leave of absence from his job as a tree trimmer. I have also had to take several weeks off of work from my teaching assistant position at our local high school to help take care of my husband during his treatment and recovery.

We have two wonderful kids that have been a source of optimism for both of us. Kyleena is 15 and a sophomore in high school; Justin is 19 and currently attending junior college while holding down a job at UPS.

We remain optimistic about our future and that Rey will make a full recovery.

Unfortunately our situation has become a financial burden. We are blessed to have lived our entire lives in such a wonderful community that is coming together to help us.

We are holding a spaghetti feed fundraiser on Saturday June 27 from 4 to 8 pm at the Willits Community Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. We are also selling raffle tickets and have a great selection of prizes!

Again, thank you from the Amador family.

Juanita Amador, Willits

Garden Party news

To the Editor:

We would like the Willits community to know that we will not be having our annual fundraiser, the Garden Party, this summer. This has become a summer tradition, and a wonderful fundraiser for the Ed Foundation; but we find it impossible to carry this event through this year, and we are very sorry.

We do intend to resume the tradition in the summer of 2016, and we will be most appreciative of the community's support at that time.

In partnership with Willits Rotary, we have raised over \$65,000 for music, art and library programs in the Willits Unified School District. This would not be possible without the support we have received from Willits and beyond, including our generous sponsors, businesses and attendees at the party!

And of course, not to be forgotten ... Willits Weekly and our publicist, Gail Richards! We

are continually amazed at the generosity of Willits folks, and we are always so grateful for your support!

We are planning a mail campaign for this summer, and we will continue to give our fall grants for teachers, students and programs within our district. We do everything in our power to support Willits Unified schools!

We wish you all a wonderful summer!

Kathleen Lewis, secretary, Willits Educational Foundation

Thank you

To the Editor:

The Willits School Employees would like to say "Thank You!" to the local businesses that donated gifts to Willits Chapter 261 for their end-of-the-school-year dinner. Your generous donations put smiles on many school employees' faces. The gifts were greatly appreciated, and your ongoing support is "awesome." Thank you.

Dany Laurent, chapter president, Willits

Firefighters fundraiser

To the Editor:

Please join us for the 89th annual Firefighters Association Fundraiser and Open House 2015, held during Hometown Celebration this year, Thursday, June 25 from 5 to 9 pm at the Little Lake Fire District Main Station, 74 East Commercial Street.

Little Lake Firefighters Association is a nonprofit organization made up of 40 volunteers who respond to the community's fires, rescues and other emergencies, 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. Money raised from this fundraiser is used to purchase equipment, to provide the most current training and education to volunteer firefighters, and to fund activities of the association.

With your donation of \$10 per raffle ticket, you have a chance to win the following prizes (the winning tickets will be drawn at the end of the Open House on Thursday, June 25, and you do not need to be present to win):

- Redwood Picnic Table donated by Willits Redwood Company
- Two \$500 Gift Certificates donated by Sparetime Supply
- \$500 Gift Certificate donated by Les Schwab
- Barrel Smoker built by John Thomen & Fred Barry (supplies by Sparetime)
- Stihl Weedeater and Mask donated by Willits Power Equipment
- \$250 Gift Pack for a World Champion San Francisco Giants Game
- Two Oil Changes donated by Auto Mart
- Auto Repair

(\$100 value)

One free ticket for the prizes above is available for each person at the Open House, between the hours of 5 and 6 pm.

This year we will also have a separate raffle and drawing for a 300 Weatherby Rifle from Coast Hardware valued at \$750. Those tickets are being sold separately for \$5 each or 6 for \$20, and they must be purchased from a member of the fire department or at our main station.

We'll also have fire apparatus on display, rides for kids (and those who wish they were), tours of the firehouse by volunteer firefighters available, food available for purchase, and fire department T-shirts and sweatshirts available for sale. Great door prizes will be given away during the Open House (you must be present to win the door prizes). Thank you for your support of the Little Lake Firefighters Association!

Kevin Reedy, president

California fisheries in crisis

To the Editor:

Senator Mike McGuire (D-North Coast), chairman of the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture, announced this week that a hearing on the impacts of the drought and marijuana grows on fisheries will be held Wednesday, July 1 at the State Capitol in Sacramento.

"In our fourth year of this historic drought, we have to find ways to protect our fisheries from the impacts of the driest years on record, and the devastating impacts of rogue marijuana grows. The combination of the drought and rogue grows have resulted in unprecedented fish kills, have put endangered species on the brink in many California watersheds, and are hammering away at our coastal and port economy, which contribute billions of dollars annually to our state," Senator Mike McGuire said.

The Fisheries Hearing will focus specifically on the historic drought, marijuana and fisheries needs. The gathering will bring together an unprecedented number of fishery experts, state agency leaders, commercial and recreational fishing representatives, and river advocates.

John Laird, California's natural resources secretary, and Charlton Bonham, director of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, headline this year's list of speakers and presenters.

Experts from fishermen's associations will discuss the drought's impact on fisheries, and environmental experts and representatives from the cannabis industry will discuss the impacts of illegal marijuana grows on fisheries.

The hearing begins at 10 am and will be held in Room 2040 of the Capitol. The

public is welcome to attend. Sitting on the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture with Chair McGuire are: Vice Chair Assemblymember Jim Wood (Mendocino County's representative in the state Assembly), Senator Jerry Hill, Senator Jim Nielsen, Senator Fran Pavley, Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, Assemblymember Philip Ting, and Assemblymember Das Williams.

Kerrie Lindecker for state Senator Mike McGuire

MTA bus service expands

To the Editor:

Beginning July 1, Mendocino Transit Authority will expand its Route 65-CC Rider bus service between Ukiah and Santa Rosa from one to two round trips per day on Monday through Saturday. Riders will now have expanded choices of travel times for going to and returning from Santa Rosa for shopping, medical appointments and connections to Greyhound or the Sonoma County Airport.

The existing Route 65 trip, which operates seven-days-a-week from Fort Bragg to Santa Rosa and back, via Willits and Ukiah, will remain unchanged. On weekdays, it will be joined by a new afternoon Route 65 trip which will begin and end in Ukiah. Riders from Willits will be able to use the Route 20 bus to travel to Ukiah and connect to the Route 65 for trips to Santa Rosa.

On Saturdays (when Route 20 does not run), the new afternoon trip will begin at the Willits City Park at 12:25 pm and be called Route 66. This will provide Willits and Redwood Valley residents with added Saturday service to Ukiah and continuing service to Santa Rosa.

Routes 65 and 66 stop at a number of locations in Willits, Redwood Valley, Ukiah, Hopland, Windsor and Santa Rosa. A complete schedule and route map can be found online or in MTA's Route 65/66 guide. In Santa Rosa, the bus makes stops at the 2nd Street Transit Mall, Greyhound, Amtrak (Courtyard by Marriott), and the Sonoma County Airport. Furthermore, passengers can pay an additional \$2 fare to be dropped at Santa Rosa locations within a three-mile radius of the Transit Mall.

The one-way fare from Ukiah to Santa Rosa is \$18; from Willits to Santa Rosa is \$20. Local trips between Willits and Ukiah are only \$3. Seniors (62+) and person with disabilities, with a valid MTA discount card, pay half fare on all MTA routes.

Complete information is available at www.mendocinotransit.org or by calling 1-800-696-4MTA.

Wendy Taylor, for Mendocino Transit Authority



New sheriff substation and K-9 training facility

Speculation was rising around Willits about what would be contained inside the new 10-foot, barbed-wire-topped fence surrounding the historic log cabin and lawn on the south end of the Rec Grove, but all concerns were put to rest when the facility was officially dedicated as the new Willits substation for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office last Thursday.

A ceremony and ribbon cutting was held, formally dubbing the new location the Bob Davis Memorial Substation and, alongside, the Morgan Ruddick Training Facility for the department's K-9 fleet.

Merging the two facilities into one place was serendipitous. The need for a new location for the sheriffs was looming, with talk from the county about selling the Justice Center, where the Willits substation was previously located. With the arrival of a generous donation from a Ukiah family who wanted to create a permanent K-9 training facility for the sheriff's office, the move was set into motion.

When discussing options for a new substation, it was suggested the 80-year-old log cabin and adjacent lawn area covering about an acre – already owned by the county – could work. After a tour, subsequent remodel and technology upgrade, and with fencing installed, mold cleanup and new ventilation, it became the perfect spot.

The historic log cabin is home base for the new substation, and during the ceremony, Willits native Lee Persico spoke about the history of the cabin, which originally housed the landowners of a large cattle ranch on the east side of Willits.

"We are honored to now be a part of that history," said Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman. "We respect it and are excited to still have plenty of space

to grow our workforce inside the cabin – it's really roomy. With all this new infrastructure, we hope it will be able to serve as the substation here in Willits for the next 50 years!"

The K-9 facility was also christened Thursday, with demonstrations by the dogs of their agility, balance and determination.

"We heard a lot of worry about the fence surrounding the K-9 facility," said Allman. "But we really stress, that's mainly there for keeping the dogs in!"

Sheriff Allman even got in on the fun, braving the training sleeve and enduring a mock attack from K-9 Fargo and his handler Davis.

"Well, I'll either get a raise, or ... if this goes bad, fired!" laughed Davis, as he was prepping for the demonstration with his boss Allman.

Happily, and according to plan, Fargo let go right on command, leaving Allman to get away scratch-free.

Currently eight dogs are part of the Mendocino County Sheriff's K-9 unit under commander Lieutenant Kirk Mason. The unit is run by Sergeant Mike Davis. His dog is Fargo, and they work out of Willits.

Other K-9 handler teams include Deputy Sheriff Joey DeMarco and Ruddick of Willits, Deputy Sheriff Jason Cox and Rex of Willits, Deputy Sheriff Jeff Andrade and Doc of Ukiah, Deputy Sheriff Craig Walker and Zeke of Boonville, Deputy Sheriff Jonathan Martin and Cam of Fort Bragg, Deputy Sheriff Dan Lockart and Red of Ukiah, and Deputy Sheriff William Hardman and Britt at the county jail in Ukiah.

Plans are on the horizon to get on the K-9 training circuit and to bring in temporary bleachers on the north side of the lot for watching the dogs at work and during events.



Across top from left: K-9 Fargo with Sergeant Mike Davis, K-9 Zeke with Deputy Sheriff Craig Walker, and K-9 Cam with Deputy Sheriff Jonathan Martin.

At right, top: Fargo bites the training sleeve worn by Sheriff Tom Allman during the demonstration Thursday at the new substation. Center: K-9 Fargo jumps over a stationary wall obstacle at the request of handler Sergeant Mike Davis. Bottom: The new sign for the substation.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Above: The dedication plaque in memory of Deputy Sheriff George "Bob" Davis. Photo by Richard Venturi

Left: K-9 Cam and handler Deputy Sheriff Jonathan Martin walk along the high-rise obstacle. Photo by Maureen Moore

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Homes For Dogs Project

Our Realtors...Helping Your Find a Home,
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Meet Roxanne

Roxanne is a lifetime resident of Mendocino County with ties to Willits and Ukiah. Her experience in the real estate industry began with five years of experience in escrow before becoming a Realtor in 2006. Roxanne brings honesty, integrity, and professionalism to her real estate relationships. Roxanne adopted her pet Bella from the Humane Society and she has become a permanent member of Roxanne's family.

Meet Snoopy

Snoopy's been adopted! Snoopy is as cute as it gets! He is a 6 month old, tan, mix breed pup with very good manners. He will grow to be around 50 lbs and has passed the "chicken test". He is going to be such a great addition to a family looking for a pet.

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The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

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!

Crossword Puzzle

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
					11			12			
13	14				15			16		17	18
19				20				21			
22								23			
			24					25			
26	27	28					29		30	31	32
33										34	
35				36	37	38		39	40	41	
				42			43		44		
45	46	47					48		49	50	51
52							53				
54							55			56	
							57			58	
							59				
							60				
							61				
							62				

CLUES ACROSS

- Sunscreen rating
- Military mailbox
- 12th month (abbr.)
- Sunrise Mount of Shandong
- Escape from the law
- Similar suffix
- Pyrrrole
- Anger
- Blue-billed diving ducks
- J.K. Rowling's pseudonym
- Projecting part of a rampart
- What St. Helens did
- Large integers
- Adhesive or digital
- Writing providing information
- Inscribed upright stone slabs
- The night before
- Black tropical American cuckoo
- Heartache from loss
- Hush money payer
- Geological times
- Types of fish eggs

CLUES DOWN

- Posts or stumps (Scott.)
- Painter's board
- Containing more fire
- In a way, adjusts
- 1/100 Serbian dinar
- Breakfast egg dish
- Throw into disorder
- Prisoner on the lam
- 1st Hindu month
- Treats high blood pressure (abbr.)
- A plural of zoon

CLUES ACROSS

- Young pichard
- Lack of momentum
- "Blue Bloods" A.D.A. actress
- Rust fungi
- Make lace
- Small lardis
- Energy Savings Measure
- Before
- Lilly, drug company
- Comic book character rooted in Japanese mythology
- Radioactivity unit
- Tear apart
- Ourray Res. Tribe
- Doctor of Philosophy
- Large quantities
- Ladies undergarments
- Foot (Latin)
- Macao monetary unit
- Prefix denoting "in a"
- Research workplace
- Midway between NE and E
- Title of respect
- Somewhat crimson
- Folding paper art
- Gradually diminish
- Too osseous
- Go in again
- A citizen of Israel
- Irish, English or Gordon
- Had a wild disturbance
- Helps little firms
- They ___
- Brown, wild & long-grained
- Thysanopterous insect
- Gandalf actor
- Initials of Dannielynn's mother
- "Dragon Tattoo" actress Rooney



Questions? Comments?
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21 DAY BURN! KERRI GRIGGS

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

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July

Intuitive Patterns

Suzanne Wagner
Columnist

Osho Zen Tarot: Traveling, Transformation, Compromise
Medicine Cards: Antelope, Spider, Dragonfly
Mayan Oracle: Eb, Unity
Ancient Egyptian Tarot: Queen of Disks, Three of Swords, Judgment
Aleister Crowley Deck: Lovers, Swiftness, Luxury
Healing Earth Tarot: Three of Rainbows, Tower, Eight of Pipes
Words of Truth: Abuse, Form, Primal

The first few weeks of July are beautiful if you want to be in love. With the Venus conjunct Jupiter, there is love in the air and the feelings of warmth and good times are infectious. So if you wanted to be bold and ask that special someone out then this would be the time.

The Full Moon in Capricorn is going to allow you to take even your old relationships to a new level. July 25 to September 5, there is a Venus Retrograde in Leo so expect a few wrinkles in those plans of yours. It will be important to play your cards right and to look beyond your own needs into something bigger. Timing may feel a bit off, so be patient. This will be the time to try to force your will. Just move consciously and consistently from the place of love.

Some of you might use this energy to break up or to change the standing of your relationships, others of you will be using this time to discover and reshape your relationships into a new and more powerful place.

Regardless there is a complex spider's web of energy being woven to bring you to the next level. Action is called for, with the Antelope being in the cards, and you will have to move promptly when asked to do so. Try to not get lost in the illusions of

All and all this month is a blend of the Rainbow Serpent. It is designed to be a joyful sharing which produces happiness and abundance. But to do that you will have to bring your confidence, enthusiasm, kindness and feelings of well-being together with your passion, communication, creativity, insight and intuition. I know that might feel like I am asking a lot, but in the greater flow of goodwill it can move effortlessly and come from the place of great healing.

This month has the potential to be a joyful dance where your soul can find its fullest expression.

Suzanne Wagner is a professional psychic who teaches the intuitive arts throughout the United States. She is the author of "Integral Tarot" and "Integral Numerology," which can be found on Amazon.com. To learn more, visit www.suzannewagner.com or call Suzanne at 707-354-1019.

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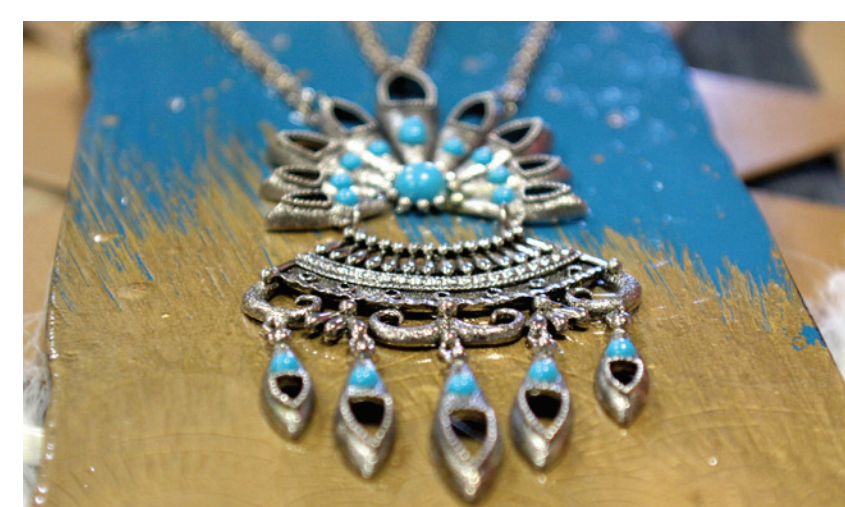
Community Art Project gets 60-plus entries

The turnout was great for the first annual Willits Frontier Days Community Art Project hosted by J.D. Redhouse, with more than 60 decorated boots already returned in time for display and judging during Thursday's Hometown Celebration.

Students from Brookside, Blosser, Baechtel Grove, Willits High and Willits Elementary Charter schools all turned in entries, as did businesses, individuals and community groups. The boots will be offered for sale Thursday as part of a silent auction to fundraise for Willits Frontier Days. Starting bids are \$10, and everyone is encouraged to come see all the hard work, and buy a boot to enjoy for themselves.

Project coordinator Ashton Bloomquist expressed her appreciation to Willits' Marcus Kelley, who cut out all the boot bases. J.D. Redhouse covered the cost of the wood and labor to create the blanks. Bloomquist was excited to offer an fully inclusive contest for the community that allows participation in a fun, positive and artistic project that engages people of all ages and lifestyles. Come see all the boots displayed in front of J.D. Redhouse in downtown Willits Thursday from 5 to 9 pm. More information: 459-1214.

At top and at bottom: Just some of the wonderfully decorated boots turned in for judging and sale as a fundraiser for Willits Frontier Days.



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2015 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Candidates



Dalli Fonsen, 20
Contact: 530-790-5421
df713@yahoo.com

Caitlyn Forrester, 16
Contact: 707-972-7803
Facebook
"Caitlyn Forrester 4 Sweetheart"

Thais Reed, 18
Contact: 707-354-0748
thaisreed@gmail.com

Willits Frontier Days events run from:
June 25 to July 5
Get your tickets early and see you at the Fourth!

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4th July
 Noon to 3 PM
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 Come & See The Equipment That Helped Build This Great Nation!
 Step Back In Time & Get An Up Close & Personal Look at Days Gone By

Fun For The Whole Family!

- Free Train Rides
- Limited Paid-Ticket Cab Rides
- Live Music On Board
- See Vintage Steam Equipment Running
- Kid's Postcard Coloring Table
- Self-Guided Scavenger Hunt
- Noon to 3pm

The Cowan Trio

420 East Commercial St., Willits, California (Next to the Mendocino County Museum.)

Roots of Motive Power July 4th Steam-Up

Roots of Motive Power's family-friendly 4th of July Steam-Up events going to be better than ever this year, with the superb Cowan Trio singing on board the free train rides, as well as the always impressive display of operating steam and diesel equipment, such as the 1913 Willamette Yarder, the ever-popular Raymond Crane, and many other old and antique items which you can watch working.

This year, there will also be a very limited number of paid tickets available for rides in the diesel locomotive cab.

And, for the first time, there will be a kids' coloring table and self-guided scavenger hunts.

Come on over from noon to 3 pm to take a step back in time, and see the machines run that built this great nation -- on her birthday. And, don't forget to ask to blow a steam whistle!

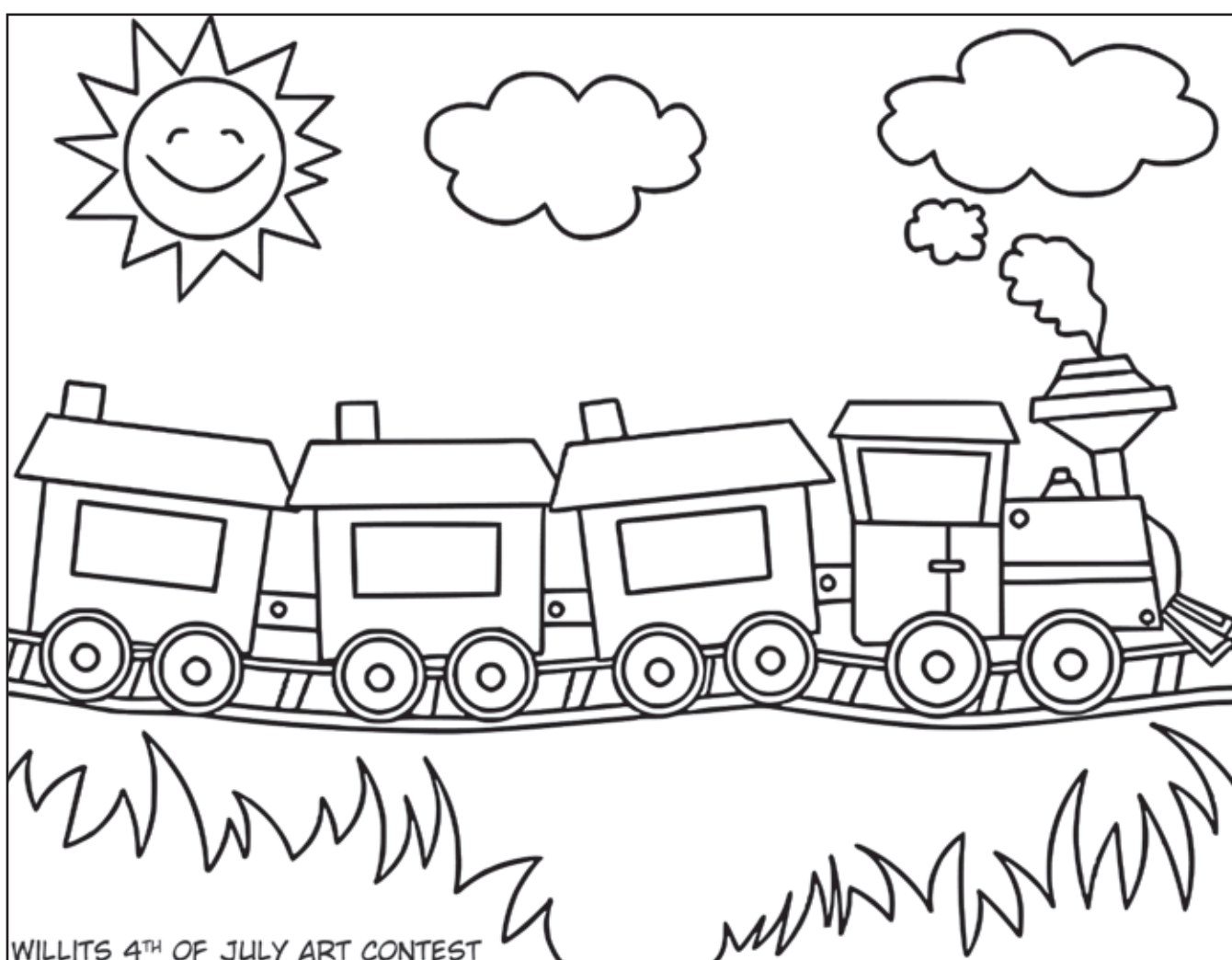
Roots of Motive Power is located at 420 East Commercial Street, right next to the Mendocino County Museum. Visit www.rootsofmotivepower.com for more information on Roots.



Above, left: The Raymond Steam Crane will be steamed up and running on the 4th of July.
 Above, right: The poster for the upcoming Roots of Motive Power 4th of July Steam-Up event.
 Left: The Cowan Trio, from left to right: Jeff Cowan, Jeff Martini and H. Leal.

Roots of Motive Power Coloring Contest

Roots of Motive Power holds coloring contest for kids during Fourth of July weekend



Make sure to get an entry form for the Roots of Motive Power's coloring contest, found inside the fold of today's Willits Weekly, online at www.WillitsWeekly.com, or at many local businesses.

Three age groups will receive prizes for their work, and awards will be given during the Willits Frontier Days barbecue on July 4 at the Rec Grove.

Colorers aged 6 and under can color the train image on the entry form (also at left). First prize will be \$70, second place \$50, and third place is \$30. Those kids a little older, aged 7 to 12, are welcome to submit a piece of original artwork on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper themed for Roots of Motive Power or Willits Frontier Days. First place for this division is \$125, and second place wins \$75. The oldest kids, aged 13 to 18, are welcome to submit a piece of original artwork on an 11" x 17" sheet of paper themed for Roots of Motive Power or Willits Frontier Days. Their prizes will be \$150 for first place, and \$100 for second place.

All artwork needs to have contact information included on the reverse side, including name, age and phone number, and must be dropped off at Printing Plus, 262 East Commercial Street, by July 1 to be eligible. Blank paper is also available at the print shop if needed.

Winners will have their art displayed at the amphitheater at the Rec Grove and will receive additional prizes from local businesses. Winners will also be published in the July 9 edition of Willits Weekly.

More information: 459-9401.



Above, left: People's Choice winner Linden Adams and Best Kids Bike winner Quinn Schadeck.

Above, right: Some of the entrants at the 2015 bike show.

Right: Voting was done by judges and by the community.

Below, from left: Jimmy McKee, winner of the Best Road Bike, poses with Holly Madrigal.

Jon McKee, winner of Best Beater Bike, poses with Holly Madrigal.

Best in Show winner Wayne Colby poses with Christopher Moore, Best Vintage Bike winner.

Photos by Maureen Moore



'Rock Your Ride'

2015 bike show showcases 20 entries from community riders

There was more to do than check out the Willits Farmers Market at City Park last Thursday, as the 2015 "Rock Your Ride" Bicycle Show offered riders an opportunity to show off their bikes for a chance at a prize.

Some 20 bikes were on display, and event coordinator Holly Madrigal enlisted the help of judges Kevin Coffman and Jed Diamond to choose the winners of several categories.

After carefully checking out each entry, the following awards were given, along with customized T-shirts with the award titles:

- Best in Show:** Wayne Colby, Mini Twin
- Best Family Bike:** Tim Rice and Beth Riedel, Modern Bicycle Built for Two
- Best Utility Bike:** Bill Boosinger, "Bob" the Bob trailer
- Best Vintage Bike:** Christopher Moore, '68 Blue and White Schwinn
- Best Kids Bike:** Quinn Schadeck, Superhero Bike
- Best Beater Bike:** Jon McKee, Rusty Black Schwinn
- Best Road Bike:** Jimmy McKee, Off-Roader

Coollest Helmet: Pooba, Chicken Bike

People's Choice: Linden Adams, Light Up Bike

Madrigal said next year she would have to adjust the prizes. "I wish we'd had a BMX class for those cool kids that came over from Wovwer with their BMX bikes!" she said.

Madrigal thanked Walk & Bike Mendocino, Mendocino County's bike-boosting organization (visit www.walkbikemendo.org), which gave out safety bike lights donated by Dave's Bike Shop in Ukiah as prizes also. Madrigal hopes the bike show -- sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization) -- encourages people to ride bikes to get around. "Lots of local folks have some pretty spiffy bikes," she said, "and Willits is small enough that trips to the grocery or movies can be done by bicycle."

"I want to show that it is fun and safe to get around on two wheels. It is healthy and good for you. The Bicycle Show is intended to be a community, family-friendly event, and I hope it grows each year. Now we just need to work on more bicycle-friendly and walking-friendly trails in the area!"

— Maureen Moore



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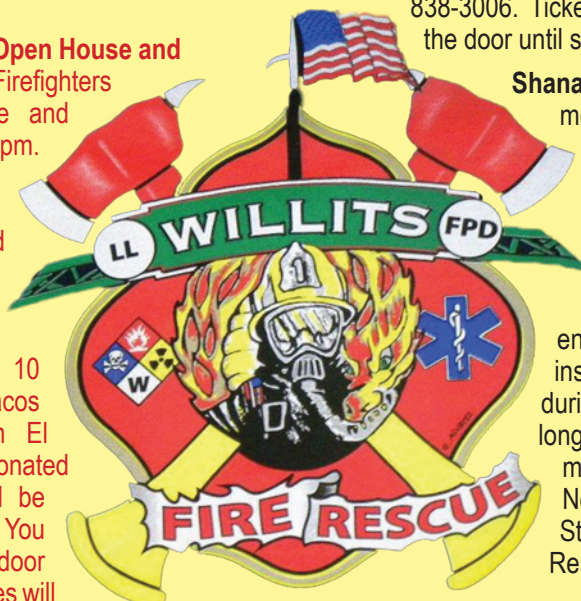
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Thursday, June 25

Willits Library Summer Reading Program: Today's 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. Don't miss Willits Weekly's Hometown Celebration table, with a raffle for a free subscription and Willits Weekly T-shirts! To sign up, call 459-5926.

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 cut out for the first annual Community Art Project. The boots will also be available for sale as a fundraiser for Willits Frontier Days. Info: Ashton 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": at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. 8 pm. A hilarious spoof of film-noir crime capers, written by LA playwright Bill Robins. Co-directed by Damian Seibohian and Lee Stipe. Starring Lee Stipe, Gloriana Lucero and Gretchen Andersen. Plays through June 28. Thursday, June 25 at 7 pm for \$10, Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27 at 8 pm for \$15, and Sunday matinee, June 28 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: twice-monthly Jazz Night with local musicians. Jazz standards infused with funk, hip hop, world and free-form jamming. "Fellow jazz musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments and partake during the second set, so long as it fits within the moment of sounds!" 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, June 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. \$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 25 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: The Crux, out of Santa Rosa: "multi-instrumentalists, performing barn dance tune, Klezmer jams, pirate shanties and bluesy dirges in a theatrical performance style." Visit http://thecruxmusic.com/. 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. Entry forms for riders are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. Info: Kathryn Baechtel at 489-6565.

Willits Frontier Days National Anthem Singing Contest: Noon on the lawn at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Free to attend. 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, through 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 lettuce. 363 Boscabelle Avenue, between San Francisco and East Valley. 10 am to 4 pm. Dates: 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.

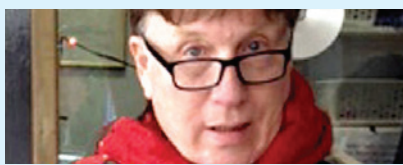
Willits Library Summer Reading Program: Today's program is: Make a Dance! "Join us in exploring some great movements! We will express, share, create and make new friends!" Jenna Byrne will share her expertise and experience working with all types of movement activities for all ages." 11 am to 12 pm.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



The Crux.

For more info, call the library at 459-5908.

COLUMN | At the Movies



'Inside Out'

The Story: Riley, a lively young girl, has moved to a new home in San Francisco because her father needs to be for his business. Riley misses her old home in Minnesota; still, she struggles to maintain a brave face for her mother and father. She is in emotional turmoil. Each one of her primal emotions is a pushy, noisy and unruly animated character. The noisy struggle between her Fear, her Sadness, her natural Good Humor and her Anger, each personified as a raucous character and her inner life, fuels the story. It's an action comedy, but it's also very much a drama.

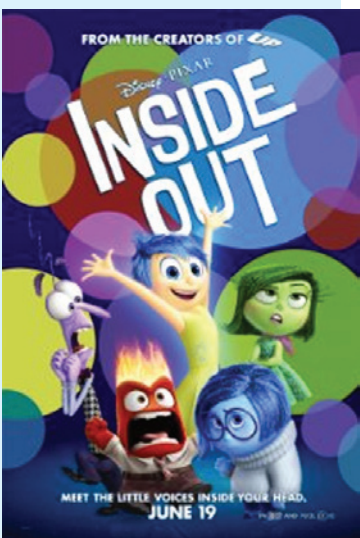
My Thoughts: Pixar does it again ... psychological depth in an animated feature. There's tremendous ambition to this movie. Pixar has tried to articulate the inner world of a human being in as amusing and as cuddly a way as they could. There are some solid laughs. I salute the filmmakers. Great storytelling.

Rotten Tomatoes gave this movie a resounding 98 percent approval rating. I gladly side with the majority.

Parents: A fine movie for children. You adults will like it, too.

Self-Promoting Note: On July 15 at 7 pm, I'm going to be performing my poetry (along with the amazing beat poets Robin Rule, Andy Clausen and Pamela Twining) at The Muse, 30 San Francisco Street here in Willits. Not for children.

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



Music at Hometown Celebration

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 new "Center Stage Local" (at East Mendocino Avenue) performances also start at 5:30 pm, with short (5 to 15 minute performances) by local talent, including: Greg Schindel, Twining Time, Emandal Chorale, Cloud 9 Dancers, Willits Drum Circle with Chris Chavez, Just for Fun Choir, Mystic Sol Drum Ensemble, New Blu Trio, and Pick'n Pull.

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, starting around 7 pm, 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.

July 4th Kitten Sale

\$17.76 for kittens ready to go home

Celebrate the spirit of Independence Day by helping a cat or kitten living at the Ukiah Shelter find independence and a life of love and freedom in a good forever home!

The Animal Care Services division of Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency has declared that adoption fees for cats and kittens who are already spayed and neutered will be just \$17.76 through August 1. If the feline you choose needs to stay at the shelter to be spayed or neutered then the adoption fee will be \$50.

All felines who are placed for adoption are up to date on age-appropriate vaccinations, tested for FELV/FIV, spayed or neutered, and micro-chipped. This is a firecracker of a deal!

The Ukiah Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road, in Ukiah and adoption hours are 10 am to 4:30 pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 10 am to 6:30 pm on Wednesday. Info: call the Adoption Desk at 707-467-6453.

American Legion Raffle

Willits Post 174 is conducting a raffle to benefit its community programs, with raffle prizes including a 1898 Springfield 30-40 Krag-Collectors Rifle donated by the estate of Art Eck, WWII U.S. Army veteran, German POW, and Purple Heart recipient, at his request after his death. Prizes also include thermos, a Gas BBQ and many more prizes. Look for members of the American Legion selling raffle tickets in front of Safeway and at the Hometown Celebration and Willits Frontier Days Rodeo. Raffle drawing held on July 4; last chance to buy tickets at the Legion's table at the Rodeo Grounds on July 4. Raffle proceeds go towards: academic and vocational scholarships for two Willits High School graduates; American Legion Boy's State Program for a WHS junior; American Legion Oratorical Contest (subject: U.S. Constitution); holiday "gift packs" for deployed military personnel; local veterans in need; Boy/Girl Scouts; Willits Food Bank and Phoenix Hospice.

Dust in My Coffee

cowboy band at WCT Sunday, July 12

Dust in My Coffee, a six-piece cowboy band of real cowboys, will perform at Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, July 12 at 2 pm. The group of five men and one woman hails from the Sierra Nevada foothills and performs original songs that capture the spirit of the North American west. Their performance also expresses many of their own personal experiences in the saddle, at the ranch or the rodeo.

Lead singer and songwriter Brett Bush offers a lineup of sounds and lyrics that combine the folklore of the past with a realistic vision of present-day cowboy life. The band's sound blends traditional Western instruments of guitar, banjo and drums, with the unique and fresh flavor of Celtic fiddles and bagpipes.

Banjo player Randy Keith has more than 20 years experience on his instrument and has worked rodeo chutes from a young age. Chuck Jamison, on cowboy drum and bagpipes, has more than 25 years experience playing music and has worked many years at the Roseville Cattle Auction.

Guitarist Eric Holmberg is a graduate of the University of California at Davis, played formerly for the band, Victory or Death, and rides horse for Thunderstruck cattle ranch. Brett Bush on guitar, bagpipes, and lead vocals is the owner of Thunderstruck cattle ranch and a long-time bull rider. Laura Tjoelker on fiddle has played with numerous groups over the past 10 years.

Patrons searching for a taste of the Old West and the real cowboy life will find this band feeding their hunger. Advance tickets are \$15 and available at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane, behind Shanachie Pub.

— Steve Hellman for WCT



Dust in My Coffee, from left: Randy Keith on banjo, Chuck Jamison on drum, Eric Holmberg on guitar, Brett Bush lead guitar and lead vocals, Laura Tjoelker on fiddle, and Brian Wolf on guitar.

What's Happening Around Town



Katherine Houghtby.

daytime festival events, as well as help at ticket booths, information booth, selling refreshments, and coordinating do-it-yourself artwork and craft activities. Volunteer sign-ups can also be done at the museum's reception desk, during open hours, 10 am to 4:30 pm, Wednesday through Sunday. Info about Kinetic Carnival: visit: www.kineticcarnival.com. Questions about volunteering: volunteers@mendocinmuseum.org.

Spaghettifundraiser 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.

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

"Kill Me, Deadly": 8 pm. Willits Community Theatre. See Thursday, June 25 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: The Mark Sexton Band, funk and soul from Reno, Nevada. http://marksextonband.com. 9 pm. \$5 cover. 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 25 listing for details.

Willits Frontier Days Horse Show: 8 am at the Jack Tharp Arena. Free admission. 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. Free to attend. Info: Loraine Patton at 459-5363.

Weekend Plant Sale: to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts. See Saturday, June 27 listing for details.

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

Tuesday, June 30

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad Tuesday movies: "Inside Out" in 2D; "Jurassic World" and "Aloha." For showtimes, visit: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Friday, July 3

Senior Center BBQ Drive-Thru Dinner for 2: 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 BBQ'd 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 from 101 Drive-In for a free Thai iced tea or \$2 off a burger. Info: Mariya at 459-6826.

CCPRA Rodeo: 7 pm at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Admission is \$15 for box seats, \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. "The California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association is a group of top-ranked cowgirls and cowboys who participate on a circuit of professional grade rodeos throughout the state. The contestants participate in eight events – bareback, saddle bronc, team roping, calf roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing and bull riding – hoping to win the coveted All-Around title."



Lee Stipe and Gretchen Andersen.

Photo by Ron Greystr

Western Dance: 9 pm at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Music by Chris Gardner Band. Free admittance to event; beer and soda available for purchase.

Shanachie Pub: Texas band Picklefish. 9 pm. \$5 cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, July 4

WFD Horseshoe Competition: at 9 am at the Rec Grove. Free to attend. Entry forms for competitors are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. Info: Stephen Summers at 367-2435.

Main Street Independence Day Parade, starting at 11 am in downtown Willits. Free to attend. Theme this year is "Hee Haw Revisited," referencing the vintage "hillbilly" television show of the 1970s and 1980s. Entry forms for parade floats are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. Info: Kera Colvard at 272-0584

Beef Barbecue, starting at noon at the Rec Grove Park. Lunch is \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Tri-tip, bread, salad, beans and corn fill the plates and you can pick a spot on the lawn or at a picnic table in the shade to enjoy your meal.

Roots of Motive Power July 4th Steam-Up: featuring free train rides, with the Cowan Trio singing on board, as well as the always impressive display of operating steam and diesel equipment, such as the 1913 Willamette Yarder, the ever-popular Raymond Crane, and many other old and antique items. Noon to 3 pm. This year, there will also be a very limited number of paid tickets available for rides in the diesel locomotive cab. New this year: a kids' coloring table and coloring contest (see page 6 for more info) and self-guided scavenger hunts. "Take a step back in time, and see the machines run that built this great nation – on her birthday. And, don't forget to ask to blow a steam whistle! Roots of Motive Power is located at 420 East Commercial Street, right next to the Mendocino County Museum. Info: www.rootsofmotivepower.com.

Independence Day Block Party: at Grace Community Church, 25 Hazel Street (behind Flyer's Gas Station), right after the parade. Free hamburgers and hot dogs, plus singing, bounce house, cake walk, games, and lots of fun.

Black Bart Gunfighters Showcase, starting at 3 pm at the Rec Grove Park. Free to attend. Gunslingers and saloon girls put on a historical skit that's sure to wake even the fullest of bellies. Blanks are inserted into the pistols, but the noise and smoke will grab your attention quick! Importance is given to a pre-skit gun safety demonstration. More information: Al "Crusty" Robinson: 459-3409

CCPRA Rodeo, starting at 4 pm at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Admittance



The Raymond Crane

is \$15 for box seats, \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants.

Shanachie Pub: The Self-Fulfilling Prophecies. 9 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, July 5

Lions Pancake Breakfast, from 7 am to 11 am at the Rec Grove Park. Breakfast is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Let the Willits Lions Club and other volunteers serve up a stack of hot cakes alongside eggs, ham and juice or coffee on this last day of Fourth of July festivities. Grab a seat at the picnic tables and enjoy.

Junior Rodeo, starting at 10 am at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Tickets are \$5 for adults and children are admitted for free. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Entry forms for competitors are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Bobbie Tilley at 485-8749.

Weekend Plant Sale: to benefit the Willits Center for the Arts. See Saturday, June 27 listing for details.

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 at 12:30 pm. "Bring lunch & chair and come visit!" Call Dee Tolman at 456-9980 or Mary Durput at 459-5052.

Class of 1995 Reunion: Willits High School class of 1995 will hold a reunion at the Recreation Grove on Sunday, July 5 from 2 to 6 pm. Check "1995 Willits High School - 20 year reunion" on Facebook for details or call Mary Colvig at 1-703-966-7531 or Shelley Harwood Rountree at 707-841-7927.

Cowboy Poetry, 3 pm at the Willits Community Center. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12 for children aged 6 to 12. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Reciting poems and singing songs.... perfect ways to unwind after a busy day. Come enjoy Western Entertainer of the Year, Juni Fischer, and Poets Extraordinaire, Jim and Karen Ross, while they regale you with poetry and music, cowboy-style! More information: Tam Adams: 459-5439.

Grateful Dead "Fare Thee Well Concert" Party: for the 50th Anniversary of the Grateful Dead, live streaming of the Grateful Dead's goodbye show from Chicago Soldier's Field, at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. The Dead's July 5 show in Chicago is the last show – streaming worldwide – of a final 50th anniversary tour, with the four remaining original band members performing together for the last time. 5 pm until dark. A "sock hop" dance to protect our newly refinished maple floor. Donation of \$10 for the Grange Hall floor repair. More Dead will be shown after the live streamed show. Catered food and drink, an alcohol-free event. Info: 459-9716.



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.

Free Summer Meals for Kids

A healthy breakfast and lunch are provided free to children 0-18 years old regardless of income. Available Monday to Friday, June 22 to August 14. Blosser Lane Elementary, 1275 Blosser Lane. 8 to 8:30 am for breakfast; 11:30-12 noon for lunch. Questions? Call Willits Unified School District Nutrition Services, 459-7700 ext. 1554.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of June 29 through July 2

Monday: Chicken Fried Steak

Tuesday: Roast Pork

Wednesday: Taco Salad & Watermelon

Thursday: Beef Tomato Bake

Friday: Closed for the 4th of July

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

Mendocino County Health & Human Services Animal Care Services Presents

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Cat and Kitten Independence Day SPECIAL!
All spayed or neutered cats & kittens go home for \$17.76!
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Info: The Adoption Desk at 467-6454

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Willits City Pool is now open

Willits City Pool, just north of Willits High School, is 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. Current prices (may be increased): \$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.

Free Introduction to Phonics

Free "Introduction to Phonics" at the Willits Library. Materials for 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds. No pressure, no censure, no "wrongsl!" Taught by Devi Doree Chase, CA state credential and Montessori teacher. Available Tuesday, Wednesday Friday; times to be arranged when space is available. Call 459-6284 for info.

The Willits Senior Center Presents

COWBOY POETRY

Sunday, July 5th at the Willits Community Center 41 E Commercial St, Willits

Featuring Western Entertainer of the Year **Juni Fisher** along with Cowboy Poets **Karen and Jim Ross**

Silent and Live Auctions! Open Mic!

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		Dall Finsen (530) 790-5424
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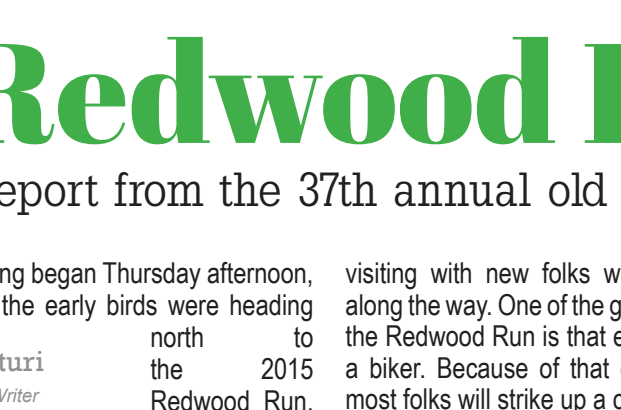
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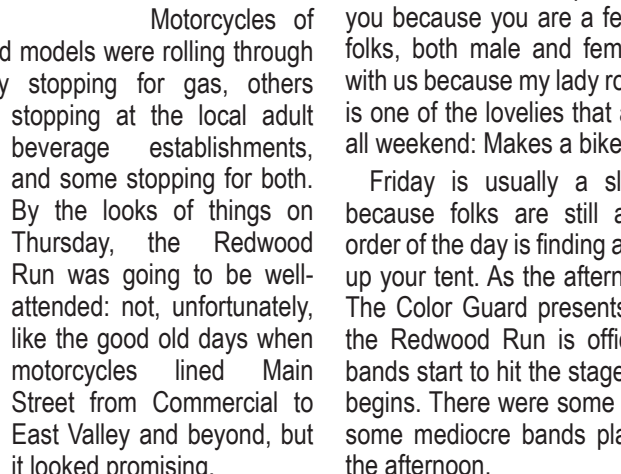
Above from left: Patrons enjoy watching the contests at the 2015 Redwood Run. Backstage with musical performer Night Ranger. A contestant reaches to grab the balloon.



Below: Another contestant in the balloon toss event.



At bottom, left: A wienie bite contest entrant impressed the crowd with her bite.



At bottom, right: Bikes parked in front of Riverwood, a biker-friendly bar in Phillipsville, where a number of bikers always gather at the Redwood Run and local Poker Runs.

Photos by Richard Venturi

Redwood Run 2015

Report from the 37th annual old school biker party in Piercy

The rumbling began Thursday afternoon, June 11, as the early birds were heading north to the 2015 Redwood Run. Motorcycles of all makes and models were rolling through Willits, many stopping for gas, others stopping at the local adult beverage establishments, and some stopping for both. By the looks of things on Thursday, the Redwood Run was going to be well-attended: not, unfortunately, like the good old days when motorcycles lined Main Street from Commercial to East Valley and beyond, but it looked promising.

This reporter's journey began on Friday afternoon with a nice relaxing ride north from Willits with my lady riding her Street Bob and me on my Road Glide. After a lunch and beverage at Boomer's Bar in Laytonville, we arrived in Piercy at the front gate and ticket booth of the Redwood Run. We were immediately greeted by friends and acquaintances, some of which we only see once a year at the run.

After setting up camp, we began to wander the pit, checking out vendor row and

visiting with new folks we were meeting along the way. One of the great things about the Redwood Run is that everyone there is a biker. Because of that common thread, most folks will strike up a conversation with you because you are a fellow biker. Many folks, both male and female, like to chat with us because my lady rocks a corset and is one of the lovelies that attracts attention all weekend: Makes a biker proud.

Friday is usually a slow activity day because folks are still arriving and the order of the day is finding a spot and setting up your tent. As the afternoon progresses, The Color Guard presents Old Glory, and the Redwood Run is officially open. The bands start to hit the stage and the rocking begins. There were some great bands and some mediocre bands playing throughout the afternoon.

Before things got moving on stage, we paid a visit to the Piercy Fire Department's Steak Dinner Booth. This is always a great meal every year: \$15 gets you a barbecued New York strip, corn on the cob, salad, and a bun with all the fixin's ... and for an additional small fee, a wonderful slice of homemade pie!

Everyone was anxiously awaiting Night Ranger to take the stage, and at around 10:30 pm they did. Night Ranger put on a great show, drawing from their own songs as well as songs from Ozzie Osbourne and Damn Yankees. The evening was wrapped up with Rad Company, who took the crowd into the wee hours of the morning.

Saturday morning rolled around, with the biker games beginning at 9 am with

the ever-popular slow race, wienie bite and balloon toss. There were not a lot of entries in any of the games, and the crowd of spectators was small. I'll just say that the young lady who won the wienie bite contest left the crowd in awe, as there was only about 1 inch of dog left on the string after her bite. She received a long round of applause, mainly from the men in the crowd.

After the games, things slowed a bit, and there was nothing on the agenda until 2 pm, when the world-famous Redwood Run Wet T-Shirt Contest began. This year the contest was sponsored by Gunninks Harley Davidson, our local Harley Dealer in Ukiah. The girls were supplied, in the beginning, with T-shirts from Gunninks.

As I have stated in past articles, the fine art of the wet T-shirt contest has, in recent years, been lost. After about the second song, all the contestants are wet and naked. They should just rename it Miss Naked Redwood Run and skip the whole T-shirt thing. But this reporter endured this contest to accurately report the event to you. The winner was again the most deserving contestant, who took home the grand prize of \$1,000 put up by the Brass Rail Saloon in Garberville.

My lady love and I then took a ride into Phillipsville, on the Avenue of the Giants, and the Riverwood Bar where about 100 bikes were parked and the party was just getting started. After an adult beverage and

Read the rest of **Run** | Over on Page 13



The rest of **Raids** | From Page 1

100,000 plants may be seized during raids in the three-county area.

Humboldt County sheriff's Lt. Wayne Hanson described his department's operation as "normal marijuana eradication" activities. "The Island Mountain search warrants were served because of the magnitude of the operations."

Mendocino and Trinity sheriff's officials were more circumspect about their operations, declining to reveal the number of search warrants served, plants seized, or whether any arrests have been made.

"Due to the remote location of Island Mountain it has been difficult to obtain updated information on the progress of the activities," Mendocino County sheriff's Capt. Greg Van Patten said.

Sheriff Tom Allman has scheduled a press conference Friday at 4 pm to discuss the scope of his department's activities. "No information about the marijuana investigation/eradication ... will be released until the time of the press conference," Van Patten said.

In a June 9 interview with the PBS Newshour, Allman said his department will go after "people who are illegally growing marijuana and stealing water." PBS aired a nearly 9 minute segment, "Are marijuana growers sucking California dry?" that evening with special correspondent Spencer Michels, who accompanied enforcement officers from the state water board and Fish & Wildlife on an inspection of cannabis

The rest of **MCERA** | From Page 1

said the U.S. stock market has been profitable for the past six years, cautioning however the market has never had a seven-year positive run. Thus, the bad news is that "the easy money is gone," he said.

Foreign stock markets and bond markets are not expected to make up for a potential downturn in U.S. stocks, so Mendocino County, like all other investors, could soon see tough financial markets again.

A custodial bank relationship also received lively discussion. The Callan representatives remarked that MCERA is their only client without a custodial bank, although some of their clients are much smaller. With a custodial bank, service fees could be partially offset by reduced investment management fees. Other benefits include "real-time" information of asset market values, simplified internal administrative procedures, less complex audits, and access to highly successful investment funds.

Trustees voted unanimously to approve a request for proposal for a custodial bank presented by county Retirement Administrator James Wilbanks at MCERA's June meeting.

Also at the May meeting, trustees held lengthy discussions concerning the 2015/2016 budget. Trustee Randy Goodman presented the budget proposed by MCERA's audit and budget committee, with total expenses of \$2.16 million, compared to the prior year budget of \$1.88 million. The proposed increase in spending was mostly comprised of \$100,000 for services from a custodial bank, \$125,000 for the implementation of an electronic data management system, and \$100,000 for maintenance on the building owned by MCERA.

A lot of the discussion was devoted to expenses for staff and trustee training. Trustees grappled with the question of how much training is necessary and how little money is available.

Trustee John Sakowicz and legal counsel Jeff Berk reminded board members that although Mendocino County is the smallest of the 20 counties

The rest of **Skunk** | From Page 1

Pinoli decided to terminate Caves Unlimited's contract.

Currently Pinoli has contracted for services from two engineering firms to inspect the tunnel and estimate how much work will be required to open it: LACO Associates and Condor Engineering.

According to Pinoli, LACO will be doing the main inspection and cost and time estimates, and Condor will be reviewing LACO's work.

Pinoli said the reports from the two companies should be completed and in his hands by next week.

"We are in the process of planning the next step," Pinoli said. "Right now, we are not sure when service out of Fort Bragg is going to be restored."

Trains have been running out of only Willits – not Fort Bragg – since March. Residents who think they've been hearing the Skunk whistle more often in recent months are correct:

farms in Humboldt County. (Stream this segment at: www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/marijuana-growers-sucking-california-dry/.)

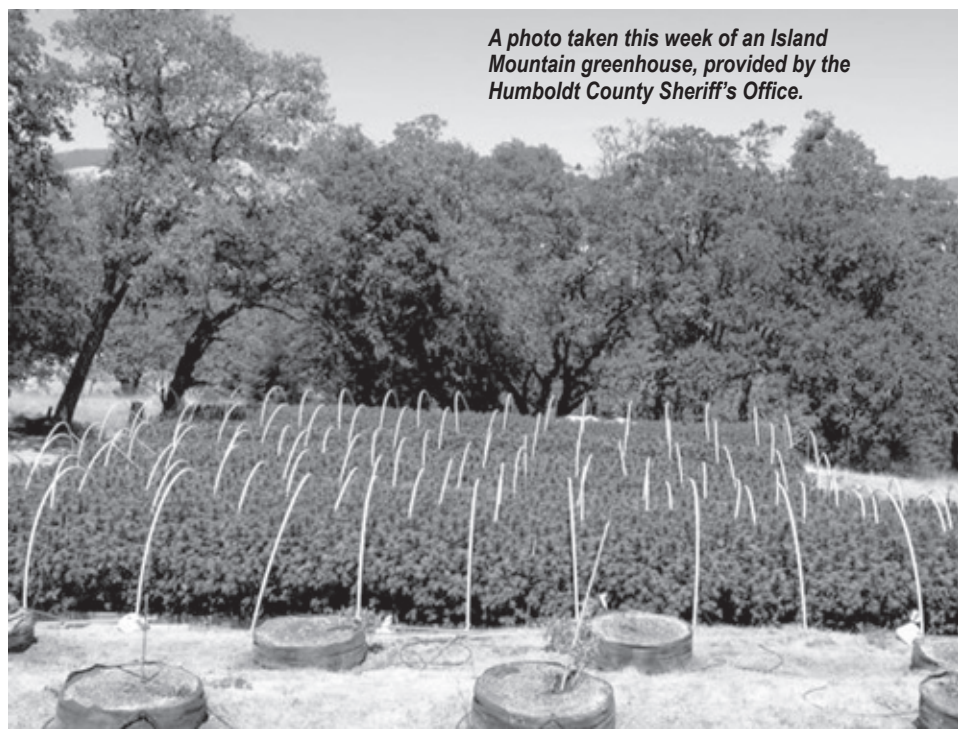
This week's raids, which began Monday morning, include a combined environmental and law enforcement team from the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. The department's Watershed Enforcement Team is assessing environmental damage associated with marijuana cultivation, Fish and Wildlife Capt. Patrick Foy told the Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

Foy said he expects the team will encounter the types of problems typically found in dense marijuana growing regions, including misuse of pesticides, illegal water diversions, illegal grading, and damming of streams.

Adult marijuana plants use between five and 10 gallons of water per day, Fish and Wildlife environmental scientist Scott Bauer told the Newshour in the June 9 report, in discussing how remote large-scale marijuana growers are aggravating current "low-flow conditions in Northern California streams" due to four years of drought.

Pot-growing operations have been blamed for sucking small creeks dry, leaving no water for threatened and endangered fish and other wildlife, and polluting the streams with pesticides, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lt. Chris Stoots said officials have seen "significant" evidence of environmental damage resulting from grows searched during the operation.

"What we've seen are several reservoirs



A photo taken this week of an Island Mountain greenhouse, provided by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office.

... that deal with mountain streams and springs being diverted into ponds and used for unlawful cultivation," Stoots said.

It remains unclear how many law enforcement officers are participating in the raids. But Island Mountain residents reported convoys of vehicles driving into the area from southern Humboldt and northern Mendocino counties, according to reports from Garberville-based public radio station, KMUD.

To protect their crops, growers' tactics have changed over the past 15 years, Lt. Hanson told the Times-Standard.

In the beginning, he said, eradication

efforts targeted small growers that cultivated small numbers of marijuana plants outdoors hidden under tree canopies. After those first raids, growers switched to growing indoors using diesel generators for power, leading to diesel spills and oil dumping.

When these types of grow operations became targets of annual summer raids, Hanson said, growers switched to greenhouses. Greenhouse growers use massive amounts of fertilizers, he said, which leak into the watershed, causing algae blooms.

The current Island Mountain operation is expected to last until Friday.

The rest of **Burn** | From Page 1

cannot be prevented through a burning suspension, their numbers can be significantly reduced. This is particularly critical in our current situation."

"With record-setting drought conditions we must take every step possible to prevent new wildfires from starting," said Chief Ken Pimlott, CalFire director: "One Less Spark, means One Less Wildfire."

This year, like last year, CalFire has already responded to significantly more wildfires than the average. CalFire is asking residents to ensure that they are prepared for wildfires, including maintaining a minimum of 100 feet of defensible space around every home.

Here are some tips to help prepare your home and property:

- Clear all dead or dying vegetation 100 feet around all structures.
- Landscape with fire resistant/drought tolerant plants
- Find alternative ways to dispose of landscape debris like chipping or hauling it to a biomass energy facility.

The department may issue restricted temporary burning permits if there is an essential reason due to public health or safety.

Agriculture, land management, fire training, and other industrial-type burning may proceed if a CalFire official inspects the burn site and issues a special permit.

Campfires within organized campgrounds or on private property that are otherwise permitted will be allowed, if the campfire is maintained in such a manner as to prevent its spread to the wildland.

For additional information on preparing for and preventing wildfires visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.



The rest of **Bread** | From Page 1

could possibly decide to distribute sandwiches or a "bag dinner" at a location in Willits which remains to be determined. However, Glassey said he has not yet secured permission to distribute those "bag dinners" at any location in the city.

One option for children is the Willits Unified School District's "Free Summer Meals for Kids" program, which started this week. A healthy breakfast and lunch are provided Monday through Friday for free to children 0-18 years old, regardless of income, at Blosser Lane Elementary School, 1275 Blosser Lane. Breakfast is from 8 to 8:30 am, and lunch is from 11:30 to noon. The program continues through August 14.

For more information, call Willits Unified School District Nutrition Services at 459-7700, ext. 1554.

The rest of **Budget** | From Page 1

have something saved up to buy what you want. That's my belief. There's just some things I don't agree with. So like I say, it's a little "no."

The Brooktrails board and staff held seven public meetings on the budget over the past three months: two planning meetings and two Saturday meetings, with the full board. The finance ad hoc committee held three public meetings on the budget.

Brooktrails General Manager Denise Rose said those meetings were well-attended; about 25 people attended the meeting at which the budgets for the fire department and parks and recreation were discussed.

Rose provided a comparison between the 2014-15 budget and the 2015-16 budget. In the prior year, the district spent a total of \$3,383,695. During the next year the district plans to spend \$3,499,162, an increase of 3.3 percent.

The area of greatest increase is in the supplies and services section of the budget for the fire

department. In 2014-15, the district spent \$148,726 on supplies and services for the fire department; for the next fiscal year the district plans to spend \$222,800, an increase of 33.3 percent. That increase was made possible by the June 2014 passage of Measure K, which provided for an average 50 percent increase in the fire tax on Brooktrails properties.

Rose said the financial position of Brooktrails was helped by the settlement of its lawsuit with the City of Willits over the Willits wastewater treatment plant. "We reduced the cost of the Nielsen property, and we also reduced our payment of sewer plant operation costs from 37.69 percent to 36 percent," Rose said.

Asked for the two brightest areas of the budget, Rose noted this year the district had been able to set aside money to special reserve funds for the water department and to enter into a lease purchase agreement to purchase 26 breathing apparatus units for the fire department. The district also deposited \$30,000 into the fire department's reserve fund.

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Willits resident wins California Book Award

On June 1, California's 84th Annual Book Awards were held at the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, awarding eight gold medals in various categories of California books. Author and Willits resident Kim Bancroft was awarded a Gold Medal Award for "Contribution to Publishing," for her book, "The Heyday of Malcolm Margolin: The Damn Good Times of a Fiercely Independent Publisher," published by Heyday Books.

According to friends from Willits who attended, the award night was a sell-out event held in a venue attended by many writers, historians, poets and bibliophiles from all walks of life.

"California's literary tradition is alive and well and in ample evidence this year," wrote Mary Ellen Hannibal, chair of the book awards and an author herself, in the press release announcing the awards. "The book jury read hundreds of submissions across multiple categories. We absorbed, we compared, we argued, we deliberated. The winners of these awards represent our state's intellectual capital and our literary excellence.

"This year," Hannibal continued, "our Californiana and Contribution to Publishing awards acknowledge books that celebrate our unique state, demonstrating once again that while intrinsically influenced by our geographic location, California is also, indeed, a state of mind."

The 2015 Californiana Gold Medal went to a book also published by Heyday Books: "San Francisco's Jewel City: The Panam-Pacific International Exposition of 1915," by Laura Ackley.

There were many speeches at the awards event, one of the most engaging being given by honoree Bancroft, who had only been informed less than 24 hours before the event that she was to speak.

Bancroft brought down the house, using

an acceptance speech of a poem woven together of pithy quotes gathered from the writings of and her interviews with Margolin.

In 1974 Malcolm Margolin wrote, typeset, designed and distributed his book, "The East Bay Out," and thus was born Heyday. The press's mission statement today reads "Heyday is an independent, nonprofit publisher and unique cultural institution. We promote widespread awareness and celebration of California's many cultures, landscapes, and boundary-breaking ideas. Through our well-crafted books, public events, and innovative outreach programs we are building a vibrant community of readers, writers, and thinkers."

Some additional new titles on Heyday's list: "California Bees and Blooms: A Guide for Gardeners and Naturalists," "Fylling's Illustrated Guide to Pacific Coast Tide Pools," and "LATitudes: An Angeleno's Atlas."

Later, at a reception at the Metropolitan Club, Kevin Starr, the preeminent living California historian, paid a superb tribute to Margolin and his 41 years of contribution to California's history and its people, saying that the titles and contents of the many books published by Margolin would live on as a magnificent anthology of the best of people and events in California.

Margolin and Bancroft had many family members in attendance as well as most of the Heyday staff. Also in attendance were many community supporters of Heyday, including well-known award-winning Bay Area author Maxine Hong Kingston.

Bancroft, a long-time teacher turned editor and writer, now resides and writes here in Willits and is the editor of another recently published Heyday book; an abridged edition of "Literary Industries: Chasing a Vanishing West" (written in the 1890 by her great-great-grandfather Hubert Howe Bancroft, founder of the Bancroft Library at U.C. Berkeley), which "reveals the life and thoughts of a witty, opinionated publisher dedicated to recording and collecting the history of California and the American West."

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Cowboy Poetry ... downtown

Sunday, July 5 at the Willits Community Center

On Sunday, July 5, Willits Senior Center, in conjunction with Frontier Days, and sponsored by Shuster's Transportation and Emmandal-A Farm on a River, is hosting a Cowboy Poetry Event, featuring Western Entertainer of the Year, Juni Fisher, along with poets Jim and Karen Ross. The show, at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, begins with an Open Mic at 3 pm, and the concert starts at 4 pm.

Tickets may be obtained from any Sweetheart contestant: Caitlyn Forrester, 707-972-7803; Dalli Fonsen, 530-790-5421; or Thais Reed, 707-354-0748. What tickets they don't sell prior to July 4 will be available at the door. The evening will include a silent auction, as well as a short live auction during intermission, featuring Rachel Britton as auctioneer.

Juni Fisher

More than a singer, more than a songwriter, Juni is a horsewoman with a message.

Juni Fisher's name is synonymous with the kind of songwriting that, according to cowboy poet Waddie Mitchell, "plumbs the depth of your soul..."

Born in the San Joaquin Valley of California, Fisher grew up in a farming family, but between school and countless

singing performances with her two sisters, Juni found a way to have horses, and 4-H and FFA honors followed her throughout her school years. While studying Equine Science at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia, she rode young horses for her customers, and became known as a good horse show "catch rider": she rode her way through college, with top honors at intercollegiate and quarter horse shows. Meanwhile, she was earning horse show entry money singing big band standards in a dance orchestra.

In her early adult years she apprenticed with a cowhorse trainer, and trained cowhorses from snaffle bitters to bridle horses, winning her first Snaffle Bit Futurity (IARCHA) in '81, her first Bridle Horse Championship in '83 (the Monterey Classic), while working on a cow calf operation and running a roping arena.

Her bridle horses did day work on the ranch, and competed weekends. If there was a campfire gathering with music, Juni was there with her guitar, singing the songs of the west she'd learned from her father. In 1984 she moved to Santa Ynez, California, to work for a cutting horse trainer, taking her blossoming songwriting skills with her.

A local band was quick to ask her to play rhythm guitar and sing leads and backups, and soon she was working L.A. area clubs with a country dance band, which was playing Western and cowboy music. Juni's ability to ride at speed across the hills found her working as a foxhunting professional, and she accepted a one-year position with a hunt club in Tennessee. Point to point racing, steeplechasing, and horse trials took the place of cowhorses, while she honed her songwriting skills among Nashville's finest.

Her first Western release, "Tumbleweed Letters" (1999) reached Monterey Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival director Gary Brown in late 2003. He shared Juni's music with other promoters, and soon Juni would shift to music full-time as her



Read the rest of Poetry | Over on Page 13



Above: Juni Fisher.

Below: Jim and Karen Ross at Emmandal.

Photo by Tonya Giusso

NEW Saturday Bus Service from Willits to Ukiah With Continuing Service to Santa Rosa

MTA now offers a Saturday trip between Willits and Ukiah, which continues on to Santa Rosa. This is a great way to go shopping, travel to the airport in Santa Rosa or even get to a Saturday afternoon job.

SATURDAY SCHEDULE FOR ROUTE 66

Leave Willits City Park	12:25 PM
Arrive Ukiah	1:15 PM
Arrive Santa Rosa	2:25 PM
Leave Santa Rosa	6:15 PM
Leave Ukiah	7:40 PM
Arrive Willits City Park	8:12 PM

On weekdays, riders will continue to be able to ride the Route 20 from Willits to Ukiah and transfer to the Route 65 for trips to Santa Rosa.

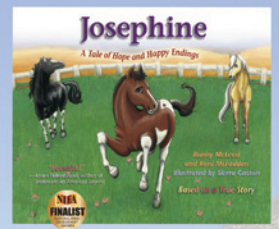
The one-way fare from Willits to Ukiah is only \$3.00
The one-way fare from Willits to Santa Rosa is \$20.00

Seniors (62+) and persons with disabilities pay half fare on MTA.

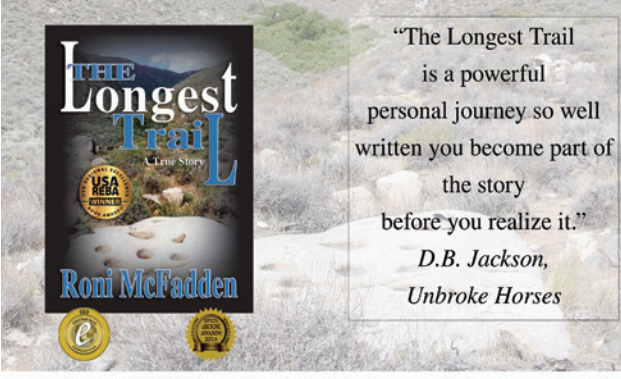
The complete schedule is available online at mendocintransit.org or in our **Route 65/66** guide.

1-800-696-4MTA
www.mendocintransit.org

"This beautiful little story explores resilience of heart and demonstrates that even in grief, happy new beginnings await us. I will not soon forget this book."
Laura Hillenbrand,
Seabiscuit: An American Legend



Roni McFadden



"The Longest Trail is a powerful personal journey so well written you become part of the story before you realize it."
D.B. Jackson,
Unbroke Horses

www.thebiscuitpress.com - or - see us on Facebook

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Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$35/hr. Tutoring \$15/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email macmergin@yahoo.com.

For Sale

1993 GMC Vandura Van. 350 V8 engine. Runs good / new battery / nice interior (*but has been sitting for 3-5 years). Price: \$600 or best offer. Seats 8-9 people. Also: Seats fold down into bed. Portable potty & table included. Call 707-841-7337 to see or inquire.

For Sale

Composting toilet, never used: Del Mar. I paid \$2,600; you get it for \$1,999. Call Bobbie: 459-9228.

For Sale

Very nice Facial Salon Chair for sale: \$200 or best offer. Also 1940s-1950s Barber Chair for sale, \$400 or best offer. Call 707-841-7337 to see.

Celebrate Independence!

Join Willits Weekly this Fourth of July in celebrating independence! We are the community's only independent and locally owned newspaper offer! Get a subscription and celebrate with us! In-the-mail delivery is \$40/6 months and \$75/ year and at-home delivery is \$30/6 months and \$50/year.

The Fruit Group

Pesticide-free fruit by the field lug. Tomatoes, \$27. Yellow and white freestone peaches & nectarines, \$25. Next truck July 9, then every other week until fruit runs out. Order by the Sunday before.

Willits: Brenda, 459-9335
Ukiah, Potter & Redwood Valley: Deanna, 391-7736
Laytonville: Heather, 994-7430
Lakeport: Linda, 279-8840
Fort Bragg: Karen, 937-4664
Brooktrails: Toni & Rene, 513-3640
Covelo: Jennifer, 354-0579

Garage Sale

Sunday, June 28, from 8 am to 3 pm. 184 State Street in rear, Antique roll-top desk plus many miscellaneous items.

Help Wanted

Head Start-Willits: Cook I/II & Aide - For full job description details & appl go to www.ncoinc.org/about-us/jobs or 707-467-3200 x 302. Closes: 7/6 @ 5pm (Postmarks not accepted). EOE.

Railroad Tie Carrier

Will the gentleman who sold me the railroad tie carrier at the Brooktrails Flea Market please call 459-2787?

Yard Sale

Sat., June 27th only, from 10 - 4, at 359 Laurel St. Twin bed, camping gear, dishes, couch, TV, power tools, and much more. Come take a look.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$390 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Rhonda (707) 367-6178. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/tp>

SEWING AND ALTERATIONS

Seamstress and Sewing Teacher Barbara Carlon Visit my webpage: Zbergirl.com 707-367-6182, Willits

Volunteers Wanted

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

Volunteers Wanted

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

Wanted

Wanted: Small good running electric vehicle ... maybe a golf cart. Call Bobbie Reico: 459-9228.

Yard Sale

Sat., June 27th only, from 10 - 4, at 359 Laurel St. Twin bed, camping gear, dishes, couch, TV, power tools, and much more. Come take a look.

The rest of

Sweetheart |

From Page 1

their lives. All told funny stories of riding, family fun and overcoming tough situations.

The girls will finish the second half of the contest judging this Sunday during the Willits Frontier Days Horse Show, where they will ride a horsemanship pattern and answer additional questions from a different group of judges.

There's still time to support your candidate for Sweetheart by purchasing tickets to any of the Willits Frontier Days events, including the CCPRA Rodeos, Junior Rodeo, BBQ, Pancake Breakfast and Cowboy Poetry.

Contact any of the Sweethearts via the below information:

Dalli Fonsen:
530-790-5421
df713@yahoo.com
on Facebook under "Dalli Fonsen"

Thais Reed:
707-354-0748
thaisreed@gmail.com

Caitlyn Forrester:
707-972-7803
on Facebook
"Caitlyn Forrester 4 Sweetheart"



Get your entries ready!

Entries due mid-July for 2015 Redwood Empire Fair

Before we know it, entries will need to be signed, sealed and mailed to ensure inclusion in the 2015 Redwood Empire Fair, held August 6 through 9 at the Ukiah Fairgrounds. This year's theme is Western Round up.

Entry guides are available online and at many local businesses, including J.D. Redhouse, the Willits Chamber of Commerce, the Willits Library and Gateway Realty. They are also available online, along with entry forms, at www.RedwoodEmpireFair.com.

The first set, needing entries postmarked by July 10, are the featured exhibits: entries for the Home Arts building, including crafts, baked goods and canning, and for the Fine Arts building, including photography, poetry and paintings. All Junior Building exhibits must also be submitted by July 10.

The second set, needing entries postmarked by July 17, are entries into the Floriculture, Agriculture and Horticulture buildings, including flower arrangements and produce.

More information: 462-FAIR or www.RedwoodEmpireFair.com.

- Maureen Moore

The rest of

Poetry |

From Page 12

profession. Fisher now performs at the major festivals, and concert venues of all sizes across the U.S., and spends saddle time on her cutting horse, keeping her tuned up for competition.

"Juni Fisher's luminous intensity ignites her writing and her performances. At the heart of her unique and complex artistry is her ability to bring alive what become unforgettable characters and images, stunning stories that often carry a deep and compassionate reflection of the human spirit. Known for her flawless performances and recordings, she blazes a unique trail of excellence in craft and entertainment" - Margo Melagrano, editor, Cowboy Poetry.com

Jim and Karen Ross

Jim is a third-generation rancher, raised in the Sierra Foothills of Northern California. He started cowboyboying for wages when he was 12 years old, and later he left home and buckaroo'd in the Great Basin, near Plush, Oregon. The bunkhouse had old cowboy poems pasted on the walls, and Jim spent the evenings swatting mosquitoes, playing cards with the Irish hayting crew, and learning the old classics. Karen, a silversmith, has been interested in poetry for many years, after reading poems in farm journals growing up. She is noted for her famed recitation of "Rinderfella," a comical parody on the Cinderella story, which brought the house down at Emmandal last September. Karen and Jim live in Jamestown, California.

Interesting tidbits? They are crazy about heirloom tomatoes, usually grow a couple dozen each summer. Every chance they get, they load up their bedroll and coffee pot and head out across the Great Basin in search of hot springs. According to Karen, "Not much in the awards department, but Jim is a world-class baker of Dutch oven sourdough biscuits."

- submitted by Emmandal, including info about Juni Fisher from: www.junifisher.com.

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SATURDAYS CHOPPING WOOD

Wood Splitter and Chainsaw Set!

5
Sets to be
given away!!



Players Club members will earn entries (15 points/entry) on each Saturday of the promotion for a chance to win a Wood Splitter and a Chainsaw set. Five sets will be given away on July 4th.

HOT SEAT DRAWINGS

On June 27;

Earn entries (15 points/entry) from 8AM to 11PM

1PM to 5PM

2 random winners/hour (8 winners).
Each winner will win \$50 in Free Play.

7PM to 10PM

3 random winners/hour (9 winners).
Each winner will win \$75 in Free Play.

July 4th!!! Giveaways!!

Earn entries
(15 points/entry)
from 8A to 9:58P

Hot Seat Drawings (Cash):
1P to 5P - 2 random winners/hour (8 winners).
Each winner will win \$50 in Cash.
7P to 10P - 3 random winners/hour (9 winners).
Each winner will win \$100 in Free Play.

Grand Prize Drawings

6P - One Winner (Log Splitter & Chain Saw)
8P - One Winner (Log Splitter & Chain Saw)
9P - One Winner (Log Splitter & Chain Saw)
10P - Two Winners (Log Splitter & Chain Saw each winner)

**SHERWOOD
VALLEY CASINO**

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



Keith Rosen
sharpening
knives at
the Willits
Farmers
Market.

Photos by
Maureen
Moore

Get sharp!

Keith Rosen provides sharpening services in Willits

A dull knife can be more unsafe than a sharp knife, since more force is needed when chopping and slicing. Keith Rosen, owner of Keith's Knife and Tool Sharpening, a mobile sharpening service, is hoping to help with this problem and make it easy for the community to have professionally sharpened knives in homes everywhere.

However, knives aren't the only thing

Rosen is able to sharpen: Garden tools including shovels, shears, clippers and loppers, are all possible, as are lawnmower blades, scissors, pocket knives and kitchen cutlery.

"A sharp knife is a pleasure!" said Rosen. "Sharp tools are like a new pair of shoes - a valuable thing to have, and for just a couple of bucks, having a sharp knife makes a huge difference."

Rosen noted that he sees his business almost like a community service. He notes his prices are about half of other sharpeners.

"Around \$3 to \$5 sharpens most anything," explained Rosen. "Scissors are a little more though, about \$6 to \$8 per pair."

Rosen is a staple at the Willits Farmers Market every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm at the Willits City Park, and the Redwood Valley Farmers Market on Sunday mornings from 9 am to noon at the Lions Cub Park. Rosen encourages everyone to "bring your knives to the market and have them sharpened while you shop!" He is also available to travel locally to your home or business by appointment.

Contact Rosen for more information or to set up an appointment at 541-297-5378 or keithrosen46@gmail.com.

- Maureen Moore

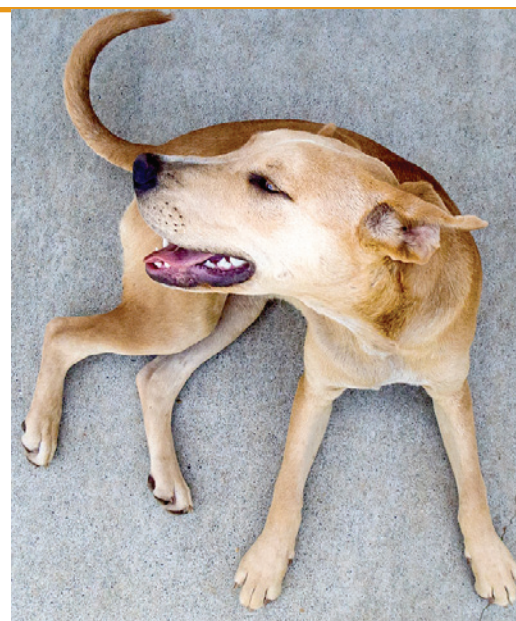


Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Simba

Simba is a 9-month-old neutered male Labrador Retriever mix who currently weighs 73 pounds. Simba was adopted from us as a puppy and recently brought back, because he and his dog friend started digging under the gate when they got bored. This is common when dogs are not given the attention or exercise that they need. Simba's owners did a great job of socializing and training this guy, which is great news for his new family. He is a great family member, and just needs a home where he gets more activity and affection. He is nearly full-grown at 73 pounds, which feels manageable, since he does not jump up and is great on a leash. Anyone who has wanted a young, big dog, but doesn't want to deal with training them should meet Simba! He does well with other dogs and ignores cats, and we think he would love a family with kids to play with!

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.

Photo by Rod Coats



Magnificent
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SUMMER MATCHUP*

THURSDAYS,
JUNE 25-JULY 30
Two winners every hour!
2-10PM

Every hour, one earned entry winner and one hot seat winner will play our match game to win up to \$5,000 in Cash and FREE PLAY!

Earn weekly entries starting June 20! 250 points = one entry.
*Prize structure based on one person selecting three of each game piece.

Friday Night Tumble FRIDAYS | 1-9PM
Play to be one of 16 hot seat winners each Friday to roll the dice for up to \$100 in Free Play!

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COYOTE VALLEY CASINO

Below: From left to right: Larry Stropes, Alan Falleri and Keith Baker with one of the new trailhead posts.

Photo by Donna Stropes

At right: Alan Falleri digs a hole for the new post.

Far right: Alan Falleri, left, and Larry Stropes install a new trailhead post.

Photos by Mike Aplet



New trailheads installed at Haehl Creek Trail

The Haehl Creek Trail volunteers took another step forward late last month, when they put up three trailhead posts on the walking trail out by the new Frank R. Memorial Hospital.

Larry Stropes, Keith Baker, Alan Falleri and "Trail Boss" Mike Aplet set two of the new posts at the south and north ends and one in the middle, by the Commonwealth Garden entrance to the trail.

"The posts were made of lumber donated by Willits Redwood," Stropes said, "and Tom Lucier did the letters. They look great."

Stropes also thanked Linda Buletti for arranging the donations of materials and labor.

Benches, stepping stones and plaques - all commemorating donors - are placed along the trail, and the next step is building a kiosk, which will include a plaque to thank trail volunteers and supporters, as well as a place to leave trail newsletters for the taking or to post community information.

"We've been so fortunate people have been so generous," Stropes said.

- Jennifer Poole

Native American Spirit Runners arrive in Willits Friday

Returning for the second year, Native American Spirit Runners arrive in Willits on Friday, June 26 at 1 pm, culminating a week-long 500-mile relay race marathon. The runners will assemble at the south end of town at the Evergreen Mall, where community supporters will be welcome to join them. The runners will run relays down the length of Main Street to Bud Snyder Park (City Park), one block east of Main Street on Commercial Street, for a rally.

At City Park, the Spirit Runners will be welcomed with refreshments and plenty of water, followed at 2 pm by speeches from members of the team and local supporters, including Priscilla Hunter, tribal representative of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, and Willits City Council member, Madge Strong. Songs and prayers will be part of the ceremony.

The Spirit Run organizers provide the following message about the nature and purpose of this marathon:

"The Spirit Run follows the leadership and tradition of early Native American runners who were messengers. It is a multicultural group of individuals dedicated to preserving the tradition of spiritual running. Our principal message is "All Life is Sacred." We run and train together

in different locations about once a month. In June, we run across California in our annual 500 Mile Spiritual Marathon. It's a non-competitive relay where teams of runners participate in a running prayer by carrying a sacred staff. Runners will often pray for those who are sick or in prison. We also pray for the preservation of sacred Native American sites and Mother Earth. At the end of each day, the teams gather in a circle to drum, sing songs, and participate in ceremony and share stories.

"The emphasis in our events is spirit, not only running ability. We have men and women runners from many cultures and of different ages. There are also non-running team members who support the runners by driving vehicles, preparing meals, setting up camp etc. During the year the team also participates in service projects for those in need. All of our events are alcohol and drug-free."

Local organizer Kim Bancroft said last year's event in Willits was attended by more than 100 people. "We are very happy to have the Spirit Runners here again this year," she said. Info: www.ca500milespiritrun.org.

- Kim Bancroft

Humane Society
For Inland Mendocino County

OPEN HOUSE!

July 19th
2015
Annual Summer Raffle
and
Supporter Appreciation Day

1:30 Barbecue · 3:00 Raffle Drawing

We've come up with any number of wild ideas on raising money to keep the shelter going, but we always come back to the good old tried and true!

So here we go again with the annual Raffle for the Animals!

Lots of great prizes have been donated. All you have to do is fill out the tickets and mail them back to us in the enclosed envelope. We've included 2 sets of 6 tickets each. You may purchase both sets, or purchase one and sell one to a friend!

TICKETS ARE \$2.00 EACH OR 6 FOR \$10.00
FREE RAFFLE TICKET GIVEN OUT ON JULY 12TH!

See the back of this flyer for the list of our fantastic prizes!
Winners need not be present to win.

9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, CA 95470 · 485-0123 · hsmc@pacific.net

The rest of
Woodhouse

From Page 1

Marijuana

At the June 16 board meeting, Woodhouse argued the county must do something to stop "large commercial marijuana grows" in northern Mendocino County. His remarks began by mentioning Madeleine Melo, widow of slain Fort Bragg Councilman Jere Melo.

"I want to mention] Madeleine Melo, whose husband was killed," Woodhouse said. "She's been working for years to get the forest cleaned up and deal with the illegal trespass grows and the large-scale commercial people that are destroying our environment."

"I think we can't wait until Sacramento does something," he said. "We need to do something as a county - to work with [Mendocino County Sheriff] Tom Allman and the board."

"We have to take steps forward. If we delay this - wait for ballot measures while two or three more years go by - that's not acceptable," Woodhouse said. "We are going to have to deal with this; I think you are all in agreement with that, and I need your partnership to get it done."

Talking with Willits Weekly, Woodhouse expanded on why large-scale growers need to be stopped.

"Last week," he said, "a group of people was present in the chambers to discuss the Wildlife Services contract, and we spent quite a bit of time hearing about the list of all the animals killed over this past year. This stuff happening up in the north, I guarantee you, is two or three times the volume of death, so why do we fight about a quarter of the problem?"

"Somewhere way out in the middle of nowhere, any animal coming to get a drink from the springs and creeks where they live is going to get shot, because they are competing for water with someone who is trying to make money," Woodhouse said. "That's not right."

"I would like to see if there's any money available to assist law enforcement in doing something about the huge commercial grows, because no one's going to do it for free." Such a program "would almost fund itself," he argued, "if we gave it seed money."

"We could stop that behavior and send a message that we are not going to allow the destruction of our county."

"Most people," he added, "and even most growers are appalled at these huge commercial grows: 500 or 1,000 or 2,000 plants. That doesn't help any of us. So I think there's widespread support for stopping that."

Mental health

During the budget discussion on June 16, Health and Human Services Director Stacey Cryer recommended supervisors remove \$100,000 from the Mental Health Prudent Reserve Fund to partially pay back some \$3.9 million owed to the state of California for improper MediCal billing submitted to the state from 2007 to 2010.

Cryer noted there is currently about \$2 million in the prudent reserve fund.

During board discussion, Woodhouse pointed out the county failed to deposit \$450,000 into the account for the year

2014-15, and is planning to omit a second allotment of \$450,000 for the next fiscal year, as well. Altogether, the failure to deposit the expected amount of money, plus the request to borrow \$100,000 from the prudent reserve, means that the Mental Health Prudent Reserve Fund will be reduced by \$1 million from what it would have otherwise been.

Mental health is a huge division within the Health and Human Services Agency, with an annual budget of approximately \$20 to \$25 million, but the county contributes very little of its own funds to support mental health. With state and federal funding, the county has hired two companies to provide "privatized" mental health services to adults and to children: Redwood Children's Services and Ortnr Management Group.

Ortnr has had a difficult time avoiding complaints, adhering to deadlines and fulfilling its commitments.

Both companies are entering their third year of a five-year contract with the county.

Woodhouse commented at length on mental health issues at the June 16 board meeting, as reported in last week's Willits Weekly. During his recent meeting with Willits Weekly, Woodhouse elaborated on why he thinks supervisors need to have a conversation about mental health: If the department is "spending out their prudent reserves in a year when there is more money than expected, there's something wrong. They are spending too much, and not getting reimbursed properly. We're not doing the billing right. We're not getting paid back."

"When we hired Ortnr Management Group they said they had electronic billing. They did not. And they still do not have it set up properly."

Other counties are billing "better than we are," Woodhouse said. "We need to learn from them and do it better. If it takes more investment, then that's something to talk about at budget time: Pay the people more, hire somebody to help us. But let's first admit we have a problem."

When asked whether he was considering using part or all of a \$250,000 general cushion fund (currently part of the recommended budget), or whether he would like to go into the allocated budget to free up more money to tackle the marijuana issue or mental health problems, Woodhouse said: "It's a commitment that five supervisors are going to make. What is your commitment - not just to paying dollars this year, but looking at next year, and the following year. What kind of results do we want? And how much are we willing to invest in it? What's our vision of what the future should be?"

"I can't put a limit on what we are going to spend," he said. "We don't have a lot of money."

Asked what it would take to change his "no" vote into a "yes" vote on the final budget, Woodhouse said: "My bottom line is to be involved in the budget, and make sure we change this pattern. Next year, we need to start being involved in January, month by month, helping to shape the budget. That what we're elected to do."



Laura McBride on Twinkie. Laura is wearing a festive red sparkle blouse, silver scarf and black cowboy hat, an outfit ready for the dance, the Sweetheart dinner, or a great photo op.

Photo by Maureen Moore

A Willits Tradition

Laura McBride welcomes all to 2015 Willits Frontier Days

One of the first sights noting the official arrival of Willits Frontier Days and the famous Fourth of July celebration is that of Laura McBride riding through town in full Western-wear glory.

This year McBride posed, atop her mare Twinkie, under the Willits Arch on Main Street.

"We've been enjoying participating with Willits Frontier Days for 48 years now," explained Laura McBride. She and husband, Dan, have enjoyed riding in the parade, helping work on the giant Cowboy Willy statue at the rodeo grounds, and attending all the official events.

"We welcome everyone from Willits (and those traveling through!) to attend the events this year, and hope to see lots of new and familiar faces!" said McBride.

— Maureen Moore

Willits Frontier Days 2015 Schedule of Events

Thursday, June 25:

8th annual Hometown Celebration, from 5 to 9 pm in 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." 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, Greg Schindel, 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.

WFD Community Art Project Viewing and Judging, during Hometown Celebration at J.D. Redhouse. Artists of all ages have diligently worked to decorate a wooden boot cut-out for the first annual Community Art Project. Boots will be displayed during the celebration for viewing and voting in numerous categories. The boots will also be available for sale as a fundraiser for Willits Frontier Days. More information: Ashtan Bloomquist at 459-1214.

Friday, June 26

Truck Pulls, starting at 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. General admission is \$13 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Entry forms for locals are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Marcy Barry at 272-5395.

Street Dance, starting at 9 pm at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Music by Chad Bushnell. Free admittance to event; beer and soda available for purchase.

Carnival opens, starting 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

Gymkhana, starting at 9 am at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Free to attend. The Willits Frontier Days Gymkhana is 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. Like the horse show, age groups are specified, and two winners of each 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 stakes and round barrels during this fast-paced event. Entry forms for riders are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Kathryn Baechtel at 489-6565.

National Anthem Singing Contest, starting at noon 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. The song is performed at 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.

Sunday, June 28

Horse Show, starting at 8 am at the Jack Tharp Arena. Free to attend. 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. More information: Mattie Pinon at 367-5550.

Sweetheart Judging, during horseshow at the Jack Tharp Arena. 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. Free to attend. More information: Loraine Patton at 459-5363.

Friday, July 3:

CCPRA Rodeo, starting at 7 pm at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Admittance is \$15 for box seats, \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. The California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association is a group of top-ranked cowgirls and cowboys who participate on a circuit of professional grade rodeos throughout the state. The contestants participate in eight events – bareback, saddle bronc, team roping, calf roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing and bull riding – hoping to win the coveted All-Around title.

Western Dance, starting at 9 pm at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Music by Chris Gardner Band. Free admittance to event; beer and soda available for purchase.

Saturday, July 4

Horseshoe competition, starting at 9 am at the Rec Grove. Free to attend. Entry forms for competitors are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Stephen Summers at 367-2435.

Main Street Parade, starting at 11 am in downtown Willits. Free to attend. Theme this year is "Hee Haw Revisited," referencing the hillbilly television show of the 1970s and 1980s. Get there early to grab a coveted spot in the shade or a great vantage point to see the vintage cars, horse groups, motorcycles and floats as they pass down Main Street from Commercial to East Valley Street. Entry forms for parade floats are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Kera Colvard at 272-0584.

Beef Barbecue, starting at noon at the Rec Grove Park. Lunch is \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Tri tip, bread, salad, beans and corn fill the plates, and you can pick a spot on the lawn or at a picnic table in the shade to enjoy your meal.

Black Bart Gunfighters Showcase, starting at 3 pm at the Rec Grove Park. Free to attend. Gunslingers and saloon girls put on a historical skit that's sure to wake even the fullest of bellies. Blanks are inserted into the pistols, but the noise and smoke will grab your attention quick! Importance is given to a pre-skit gun safety demonstration. More information: Al "Crusty" Robinson: 459-3409.

CCPRA Rodeo, starting at 4 pm at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Admittance is \$15 for box seats, \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. The California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association is a group of top-ranked cowgirls and cowboys who participate on a circuit of professional grade rodeos throughout the state. The contestants participate in eight events – bareback, saddle bronc, team roping, calf roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing and bull riding – hoping to win the coveted All-Around title.

Sunday, July 5:

Lions Pancake Breakfast, from 7 to 11 am at the Rec Grove. Breakfast is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Let the Willits Lions Club and other volunteers serve up a stack of hot cakes alongside eggs, ham and juice or coffee on this last day of the Fourth of July festivities. Grab a seat at the picnic tables and enjoy.

Junior Rodeo, starting at 10 am at the Jack Tharp Arena at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. Tickets are \$5 for adults, and children are admitted for free. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Events at the junior rodeo include many of the CCPRA events, just on a smaller scale. Calf and steer riding offer the little ones a chance

to get ready for the bulls, and the Mystery Scramble gives everyone – contestants and spectators – a great giggle. Entry forms for competitors are available online, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com/events. More information: Bobbie Tilley at 485-8749.

Cowboy Poetry, 3 pm at the Willits Community Center. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12 for children aged 6 to 12. Tickets are available presale from any of the Sweetheart contestants. Reciting poems and singing songs ... perfect ways to unwind after a busy day. Come enjoy Western Entertainer of the Year Juni Fisher and poets extraordinaire Jim and Karen Ross, while they regale you with poetry and music, cowboy-style! More information: Tam Adams: 459-5439.