





# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

## Bring your ID!

To the Editor:

A reminder from Willits Frontier Days: If you are planning on attending the Western dance on July 3, please remember that you MUST bring and present your ID to be granted admission. This applies to everyone of ALL ages. If you do not show ID, you will not be admitted into the beer area, NO exceptions. Thank you for understanding; we'll see you all there!

Willits Frontier Days

## Stolen ladder

To the Editor:

The weekend of June 19 and 20, the Willits Otters held their annual swim meet. The school district and city graciously lets us use the pool for that weekend, and the Otters are responsible for the pool during that time. Sometime after Sunday at 5 pm when the meet was done and the pool grounds locked, it is assumed someone jumped the fence and stole one of the ladders used in the pool. This is a ladder that cost upwards of \$1,000. As it was stolen during the Otters time, we feel responsible for replacing it.

I want whoever stole this to know that you have stolen from the kids of this community. You might have felt this would fall under the jurisdiction of the city or school district but it does not. The Otters have agreed we should replace this. This is a non-profit organization that operates on the dues collected from the families. This is not subsidized by the school district or any public program. It operates completely on fundraising and money collected from the swimmers. If you know of the whereabouts of this ladder and would like to return it, please, drop it off at the pool.

Melissa Perez, board president, Willits Otters

*Editor's Note: Anybody who wants to help with the replacement costs for the ladder for the city pool can send a donation to Willits Otters, P.O. Box 1445, Willits CA 95490.*

## Down the garden path

To the Editor:

August 26, 2017. The annual Garden Party at Phil and Kathy Shuster's, 1660 Center Valley Road.

A party for sure with live music, delicious

food and drink, and live and silent auction items, but it should also be remembered that this is a major fundraiser for our schools. Event co-producers, Willits Educational Foundation and Willits Rotary Club, make sure all proceeds benefit art, music and libraries for schools within Willits Unified School District.

Open to everyone, it's important to know that tickets will not be sold at the door this year. Sometimes there's a tendency to let things like this slide, but in this instance that would be unwise. The pre-sale ticket limit has been set at 400. Once they're gone, it will be too late. Don't delay – contact any WEF member or Willits Rotary Club member now. Or call Warren Lewis at 459-4429.

Believe it or not, tickets are still just \$20 for tasty small-plate treats before or after you've enjoyed that incredible stroll through the Shuster garden.

Gail Richards, Willits

## Wonderful entertainment

To the Editor:

I was recently out of town. Upon my return, I read Carlin Diamond's "Letter to the Editor" in Willits Weekly's June 15, 2017 edition, regarding what a delight the play "Grace and Glorie" was. I am pleased Carlin took the time to write to Willits Weekly in time for my husband and me to attend Friday night's performance before my husband went out of town Sunday afternoon.

I enjoyed the play so very much that I wanted to see it performed again. I was willing to go by myself. However, two friends went with me for my second viewing on Sunday at the matinee. Our friends, too, loved the play. One friend's only complaint was, "You didn't warn us we needed to bring Kleenex!"

The Willits Community Theatre has my wholehearted support in their worthwhile endeavors creating wonderful entertainment for our little community!

Patricia Wilson, Willits

## Thank you

To the Editor:

A huge thank you to the community from the Willits Center for the Arts. Our Y'Art Sale last weekend raised over \$2,780! It was a huge organizational effort by Emmy and Bill Good, June Ruckman, Jerry Albright, Sandy Strong, Ann and Jon Magline, Ursula Patch, Carole Aleshire, Barbara Willens, Lynne Whiting-Robertson, Jennie Jergensen and Gary Martin.

Nancy Reed kept us cool with lemonade. We had wonderful donations from Patrick Charlson, Lisa Montez, Karen Gridley, Emmy Good and many others. Thank you to Mike Griggs, Sr. of Sparetime Supply who loaned us a great temporary fence to secure all the Y'Art Sale goodies.

Read the rest of Letters

Over on Page 13

## Mendocino County grand jury report on elections

The Mendocino County grand jury 2016-17 released five reports over the last week, titled, "Elections Redux," "Formula Business Restriction – Nimby Overreaction?," "Planning and Building – Code Enforcement Division," "Health & Human Services – Another Look at Family and Children's Services," and "Mendocino Coast and Parks District and Their Field of Dreams."

Willits Weekly is reprinting the "Elections Redux" grand jury report, released June 22, 2017, in the grand jury's own words and formatting style (almost in full: those who'd like to see footnotes, a glossary, and information about which officials must respond to this report, should visit [www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showdocument?id=9309](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showdocument?id=9309)).

Willits Weekly strongly agrees with the grand jury's finding that "lack of timely [election] results frustrates candidates and voters" and its recommendation that the county should "change the current ballot counting procedures for more timely results."

– Jennifer Poole, editor, Willits Weekly

## Elections Redux

### SUMMARY

The Mendocino County voters can be relieved to know that every possible attempt is made to count their votes. Many manual procedures are in place because some voters fail to follow ballot instructions. The Registrar of Voters is determined to ensure accuracy and accountability for election results. Due to changes in voting procedure, 80% of voters are now obliged to vote by mail. As a result, the actual final tally is delayed for up to 30 days after an election. Both the public and elected officials find the delay unacceptable.

Reporting intermediate vote counts could cost \$5,000 each and any improvement in the speed of the final count will require new expenditures for equipment and additional temporary hires to count mail-in ballots before Election Day. For example, 21,700 mail-in ballots were available for counting prior to November 6, 2016 Election Day. While the Registrar had 10 days prior to Election Day to count them, approximately only 6,000 were counted by Election night.

It is clear to the Grand Jury that election counting procedures need to change. This will either be forced on the County by public opinion or the implementation of State law.

### BACKGROUND

The 2016-17 Mendocino County Grand Jury received a number of complaints about the election observation process during the June 7, 2016 Primary Election and about the continual lack of timeliness for the reporting of election results. Pursuant to Elections Code §15104(b) the Grand Jury reviewed the election process in Mendocino County during the November 6, 2016 General Election.

The Grand Jury has reviewed and reported on the County election process in the past and has an ongoing responsibility. Past investigations are from 2004-05, "Report on the County Clerk and Assessor's Office," and 2007-08, "Your Vote Does Count, A Look at Mendocino County Voting." Grand Jury reports are available online at <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/grandjury>.

### APPROACH

During the investigation, the Grand Jury reviewed general election law and, specifically, the General Rules and Election Observation Rights & Responsibilities and other pertinent election documents. The Grand Jury also reviewed newspaper coverage past and current of both the Primary and General Elections, and the September 13, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting during which the Supervisors interviewed the County Registrar of Voters. The Grand Jury interviewed the complainant, the Registrar of Voters, and members of the Board of Supervisors. The Grand Jury observed the election process on numerous occasions at various locations, and interviewed staff in the Elections office. During the observation of ballot counting, the Grand Jury questioned a voter's eligibility on a ballot.

### DISCUSSION

#### Reporting Election Results

Following the 2000 Presidential Election, Congress passed and President Bush signed into law the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), which mandated that states and localities update their voting procedures and equipment. This included requiring that all polling places be accessible to and have specialized equipment for the disabled to vote independently and privately. To decrease the cost of implementing HAVA, California Elections Code §3005 permitted precincts with fewer than 250 registered voters to become mail-in ballot only.

Effective January 1, 2006, the former Registrar of Voters implemented changes to many of this County's voting procedures in line with the updated California election law. Precincts with more than one special district were reorganized, increasing the overall number of precincts from 274 to 388. Precincts with fewer than 250 registered voters became mail-in ballot only, eliminating at that time 28 polling places. Mail-in ballots were preferred for decreased cost, and difficulty in finding polling place workers and locations accessible to disabled voters. Also, expected was an increase in voter participation. For the November 2006 election, approximately 70% of the County's registered voters voted by mail.

Currently there are 250 precincts, 69 of which can vote at 24 polling places located throughout the County. Each polling place can accommodate more than one precinct, with each precinct having its own polling place workers and ballot.

For the November 6, 2016 General Election, 41,566, or 81%, of the 51,035 registered County voters were issued vote-by-mail ballots. 31,729, or 82%, of the 38,730 ballots cast were mail-in ballots. Of these, 21,700 vote-by-mail ballots were received before Election Day, and 10,029 vote-by-mail ballots were received on Election Day. The majority of those, 80%, were dropped off at the Registrar of Voters office or at the polls on Election Day. There were approximately 900 provisional ballots that had to be reviewed and counted manually.

A result of moving from polling place to mail-in balloting is that the reporting of election results is delayed. Ballots completed on voting machines at polling places must be counted by the end of

Election Day, making those results available for posting by the end of that day or the next. The counting procedures for mailed provisional ballots, mail-in ballots, and mail-in ballots dropped off at polling places, postpone the availability of results for up to 30 days. This is the time limit imposed by State law for the submission of certified results.

Our County Registrar of Voters policy is to

Read the rest of Elections

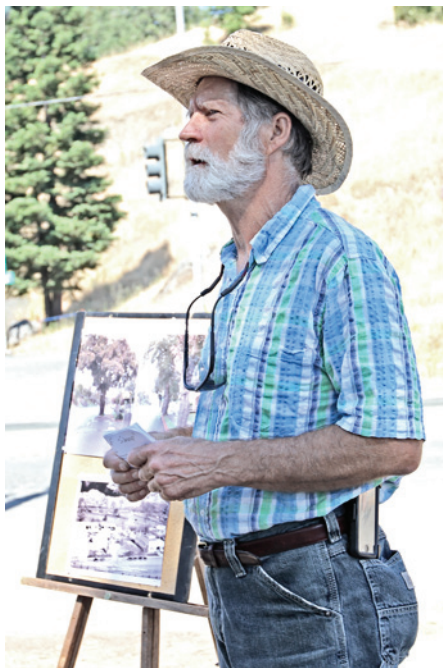
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Saturday's memorial service for the cork oaks, counter-clockwise from top right: Dave Watts tells Corky's story; the group poses in front of the Veterans Memorial Hall; cork oak seedlings growing against the fence, before and after photos and flowers; posterboard showing the Caltrans' plan for the Sherwood Road realignment project; and Willits City Councilmember Madge Strong takes a turn in the circle.

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## Goodbye to Corky and friends

Nurseryman Dave Watts of Sanhedrin Nursery organized a public "memorial service" last Saturday morning for the four cork oak trees unexpectedly taken down by Caltrans two weeks ago on North Main Street.

The group of concerned citizens who came expressed their own opinions, anger and sadness about the loss of the trees, sang a song or two, and heard Watts' imaginative eulogy to "Corky" and his relatives, which Willits Weekly is re-printing below. Watts is also collecting signatures to petition the City of Willits to save the seedlings of the removed cork oak trees.

"[We] realize that the four Quercus suber, cork oak trees, cut down by Caltrans, on North Main Street the week of June 12, cannot be retrieved," the petition begins. "What can be done is to save some of the seedlings from these trees growing near the site and allow them to grow. We urge the Willits City Council to do everything in their power to save these seedlings by working with Caltrans, city staff, the Willits Unified School District, Mendocino County (the owners of the Veterans Memorial Building) and other concerned citizens to save these seedlings."

– Jennifer Poole

## Corky's Story

Thank you all for coming to this memorial for Corky and his friends. It means a lot to his children and relatives. I want to share a few thoughts before opening it up for others.

Corky could not use words so he could not tell us his story, so we must piece his story together with what we do know and our imagination.

Thus, Corky was born sometime in the 1920s or 1930s. A photo from the 1920s, when this site was the offices of the California Highway Commission (the precursor to Caltrans) Division 1 Headquarters, shows what may be Corky and his friends as slight sticks, that can barely be seen in the photo.

What maybe what happened is that two emigrant brothers, from Italy or Spain, came to Willits in the early 1900s. They brought to their new country

– Dave Watts

**The Rules: LETTERS**  
Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to [willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com). Letters focusing on Willits and 3rd District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once a month.  
Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

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Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$50/hr. Tutoring \$30/hr. Call Liam 459-2474 or email macamerger@yahoo.com.

### Estate Sale

Large Estate Sale. Follow green signs. Treasures! Friday, June 30, Saturday, July 1, 9 am to 3 pm. Brooktrails, 1827 Tulip Place. No early birds!

### For Rent

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

### Hair Stations for Rent

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

### Help Wanted

Bountiful Gardens Seeds is seeking a germination tester. Requires strong organizational skills, plant knowledge, and record keeping skills. Please email resume to contactlet-ter@growbiointensive.org.

### Help Wanted

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

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### Hiking & Outdoor Group

Join our new group for people who love to hike and enjoy the outdoors. We love dogs, so there will be hikes for doggie, too. Register at [www.north-coastexplorers.org](http://www.north-coastexplorers.org).

### Kenny's Barber Shop

Kenny's Barber Shop will be closed from Sunday, June 25th to Wednesday, June 28th.

### RV/Trailer Space for Rent

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

### SEWING AND ALTERATIONS

Seamstress and Sewing Teacher Barbara Carlson Visit my webpage: [Seamqueen.blog](http://Seamqueen.blog) 707-367-6182, Willits.

### The Fruit Group

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### Willits Mini Storage

MASSIVE YARD SALE (Flea Market Style). Harrah Senior Center will be cooking up hot dogs and serving drinks! Saturday July 8th, 9am-4pm, 261 Franklin Ave, Willits.

### Weight Watchers

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

**\$10 for 30 words for two weeks!**

## Adam's Restaurant

50 S. Main St. Hwy. 101, Willits, CA

New phone number

**707-409-4378**

Open Tuesday through Sunday  
Closed Mondays

# LEGAL NOTICES

VWY18

### Fictitious Business Name Statement

2017-F0457

The following person or persons are doing business as: Willits Salon & Spa, 91 S. Main Street, Willits CA 95490. Willits Salon & Spa is conducted by a limited liability company: Caelie Steele, LLC, 659 Cherry St. #107, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 6/7/2017.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on June 7, 2017.

s/Macaela Steele

Pub dates 06/22, 06/29, 07/06 and 07/13/2017

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Above, left: Laytonville High School junior Hailey Finnegan and her horse, Beach Cat. Above, right: The pair rounds a barrel.

## National Finals Rodeo bound

Hailey Finnegan, a junior at Laytonville High School in California High School Rodeo Association's District 2, recently qualified for the National High School Rodeo Association Finals Rodeo in the barrel racing event. The rodeo will be held July 16 to 22 in Gillette, Wyoming.

Finnegan and her horse, Beach Cat, finished fourth in the state in barrel racing at the CHSRA State Finals, which qualified her to be part of the California team at the national level. She is one of four girls representing California in the

barrel racing event.

The National High School Finals Rodeo is the world's largest rodeo, with over \$200,000 in prize money and over \$350,000 in scholarships. The rodeo features more than 1,750 contestants from 43 states, five Canadian provinces, and Australia.

The rodeo will be streamed live at [www.nhsratv.com/](http://www.nhsratv.com/) en from July 16 to 22. Please wish Hailey Finnegan and Beach Cat the best of luck!

OBITUARY |

## Jack Vassar

Jack "Jaspar" Edward Vassar of Willits passed away June 20, 2017 at the age of 76. He was born July 18, 1940 to Henry Edward and Zelma "Haia" Vassar in Ukiah, CA. He married Carolyn Marion "Groom" Vassar on July 22, 1961 in Petaluma, California. "Jaspar" loved traveling this country as a long-haul truck driver for 40 years. Many in Willits will remember enjoying pizza at his Vassar's Pizza Restaurant where families were always welcome and the fun began when you walked in the door. A handy mechanic, he enjoyed keeping his trucks running smoothly, seeing this beautiful country while he worked, and cooking.

"Jaspar" leaves behind his very loving wife, Carolyn; a son and daughter, Brett and Julie; five grandkids and six great-grandkids. Always together in love, God rest his soul. Per his wishes, there will be no services.

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

OBITUARY |

## Denise Kreps

Denise Kreps, my sister, died at home in Willits on Friday, June 9.

Denise was born October 15, 1954 in San Luis Obispo and lived in various locations throughout California her whole life. We both grew up in the SF Bay Area where she became a Contra Costa County deputy sheriff. Later she lived in San Diego for several years before moving to Willits to be near our mom.

Denise was a very intelligent, introspective person and had several hobbies. Over the years she enjoyed traveling by train and taking various cruises. She was very service-to-others- and people-oriented ... always there to give a hand. She helped with the Harrah Senior Center and other local efforts. She was incredibly attentive to our mom. They both held a special bond with one another.

She did not want a service, but wanted the community to know how much she cherished living here. Her words from her final instructions: "I would not mind a short note that I have passed - along with a message from me that I wish everyone well. I do not need a long historical account of who I was or what I did. Just a big thank you to Willits for having me as part of their community. I enjoyed my time here, and blessings to everyone."

Her death was very untimely and created shock throughout. Our mother, Kathy Hutchinson, still resides in Willits.

Denise requested in lieu of flowers that any donations go to the Harrah Senior Center in Willits.

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



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Department Analyst I-II  
Deputy District Attorney I-III  
Deputy Probation Officer I-II  
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I  
Grounds Maintenance Technician II  
Information Systems Technician I  
Library Assistant  
Mapping Coordinator  
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Planner III  
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# Golf Benefit

Annual tournament at Brooktrails course raises funds for Phoenix Hospice

Eighteen holes for Hospice: Members of the community once again supported this worthy cause by doing something they love for the 19th year - playing golf. This fun and entertaining event last Sunday, June 25, was put on by Phoenix Hospice and the Willits Rotary. The event was hosted this year by new Brooktrails Golf Course operators Donna and Michael Rice.

Tammy Long, head of marketing and fundraising at Phoenix Hospice, has been the driving force behind the tournament for the last five years, and according to observer Jerry Turner, sergeant-at-arms for the Rotary Club: "Tammy has done a great job managing this event. She has tripled the revenue over her five-year tenure."

There were 10 teams, mostly of four players, competing in the tournament. Each player paid \$55 to \$75 to participate, as well as buying chances to win prizes in the raffle and buying mulligans (do-overs). In addition, money and prizes were donated by various supporters. Last year, approximately \$20,000 was netted for Phoenix Hospice.

In addition to the top three teams, prizes were awarded for the player getting closest to the hole from the tee on the first and ninth holes in the second round. If a player were to get a hole-in-one in the first round on the 177-yard ninth hole, that player would receive a \$10,000 special prize.

The tournament has a "shotgun start," which means that the participating teams go to their respective holes and all start at the same time. In the past, an actual shotgun blast into a stand of redwoods was utilized to signal the start, wielded by Gary

Roussan, the tournament master for the past 10 years.

"Ten years ago, every time we would start the tournament, we'd let everybody go out to their individual tees," Roussan said, "and then I'd shoot a shotgun into this row of redwoods right here. That was the start. One year, the Rotarians stole my shotgun as a joke."

Pre-game introductions and instructions were given by Tammy Long, Hospice Medical Director Dr. Charlie Hott, and Mike Smith, owner of Willits Furniture.

"We are here today for the Willits Rotary and Phoenix Hospice 19th annual golf tournament," announced Long. "This is a great tournament. It grows every year. We appreciate everyone's support of this event."

"We also want to thank the sponsors who have contributed with raffle prizes and contributions to Hospice. We especially want to thank Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, Mendo Health Respiratory Services, Bear Health. They consistently through the year make significant donations to our organization. These donations go to helping families in our area that cannot financially afford our services," Long said.

Long also explained that the money raised from the golf tournament will go directly to patient care at Phoenix Hospice, an organization that "provides end-of-life care for people who have been given a diagnosis of six months or less to live, by providing their expertise toward pain control

Read the rest of Golf | Over on Page 13



Above: Jackie, Hospice coordinator, signs in Bruce Burton. Below, from left: Glenn Helton of the Lions Club waits for the fire to be lit down to begin cooking lunch. Operators of the Brooktrails Golf Course Jaclyn Christian and Donna and Mike Rice. Mike Smith, sponsor of the 19th annual Willits Rotary / Phoenix Hospice Golf Tournament addresses the participants.

## Willits Mini Storage

Hot Dogs & Drinks offered by Harrah Senior Center

## Massive Yard Sale (Flea Market Style)

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**Saturday JULY 8 9am - 4pm**

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**Next Week: SPIDERMAN: HOMECOMING**

### DESPICABLE ME 3

(PG) 1 hr 36 mins  
**Fri-Sun:** 1:15, 3:40, 6:05 & 8:30pm  
**Mon-Thurs:** 12:15, 2:40, 5:05 & 7:30pm

### TRANSFORMERS 5: THE LAST KNIGHT

(PG13) 2 hrs 29 mins  
**Daily thru Thurs:** 1:00, 4:15 & 7:20pm

### BEATRIZ AT DINNER

- Official Film Club Selection -  
(R) 1 hr 23 mins  
**Fri-Sun:** 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 & 7:30pm  
**Mon.-Thurs:** 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 & 6:30pm  
The Monday 6:30 Show will be followed by a discussion at AI's Redwood Room at 8pm on the patio.

Movie Times for 6/30 thru 7/6 This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

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1170 South State Street  
Ukiah, CA 95482



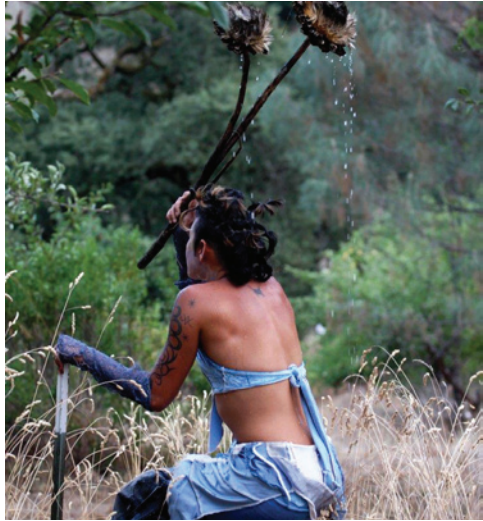
## Pg. 7



At right: Performers at the Dance Brigade's "Summer Feast," which promises a magical afternoon of dance, music, drumming and poetry in Dos Rios on Sunday, July 2.

Photo at right by Noelle Durant

Photos at center and far right by Mily Trabing



## Summer Feast

4th annual Dos Rios event features 20+ Bay Area dance theater artists

Known widely throughout Northern California, Dance Brigade is presenting its fourth annual Summer Feast, an outdoor dance theater extravaganza in rural Dos Rios on Sunday, July 2. This year the performance will include dance, music, and a 100-gallon tank of water. Featuring over 20 artists from the Bay Area plus local dancers from Laytonville, the magical afternoon of outdoor performance will consist of breath-taking modern dance, pulsating American rhythm tap mixed with Mexican Zapateado, and gorgeous site-specific work that takes advantage of having the rolling Mendocino hills as its backdrop.

San Francisco-based Dance Brigade is celebrated for its scrumptious dancing and delicious fun. Dance Brigade is biting, intellectual, insightfully witty, and provocatively original. This dynamic multi-racial troupe of women proves that socially relevant dance can be technically brilliant, as well as exuberant, with down-home hilarious fun. This company dances at full throttle. The company, under the direction of Krissy Keefer, explores the intersection between art and social politics with fierce inventiveness and deft comic touch.

Summer Feast will include several other performers and dance companies in addition to Dance Brigade. Ramon Ramos Alayo, founder of Alayo Dance Company, is known for his synthesis of Afro-Cuban modern, folkloric and popular Cuban dance. La Mezcla presents work rooted in Mexican and Chicano/a traditions and explores

cultural identity and social issues

Sarah Bush Dance Project promotes innovative artistry, community interaction, and feminist ideals through the creation and presentation of multimedia dance, as interpreted by the artistic work and vision of Sarah Bush. Nina Wise has devoted her career to developing theater and writing stories that address the complex relationship between body, intellect and spirit. She is the founder of Motion Theater, an original form of autobiographical improvisation.

Dance Brigade will present a new piece that honors Crazy Horse and today's "water protectors," as well as looking at the effect of oil spills and global warming on today's wildlife. La Mezcla will look at the Zoot Suit Riots of 1943.

In addition to performance, Summer Feast artists were set to teach a special set of classes June 24 and 25 at Long Valley Dance in Laytonville, to offer local dancers a chance to work intensively with Dance Brigade and create work to be performed at Summer Feast.

The show starts at 5 pm (gates open at 3:30 pm) on Dos Rios Road. Tickets are \$30 at the gate, \$10 for youths 12 years and younger. Discounted advance tickets available at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com), by phone 1-800-838-3006, and at Mazahar Boutique. For more info, visit: [www.dancemission.com](http://www.dancemission.com), or call 415-826-4441.

- Stella Adelman,  
Dance Mission Theater

## Road realities hit supervisors

Mike A'Dair

Reporter  
[mike@willitsweekly.com](mailto:mike@willitsweekly.com)

The roads are very bad in Potter Valley, and even though Transportation Department Director Howard Dashiell lives there, he can't find money to put even a temporary patch on West Road, the valley's main arterial now that East Road has fallen into disrepair. But he thinks he may be able to get West Road fixed – in 2036.

That's the upshot from discussions at Tuesday's board meeting.

Potter Valley resident and First District planning commissioner Marilyn Ogle appeared before the board to gripe about the condition of West Road, adding she had submitted a petition signed by 300 Potter Valley residents demanding the county fix the two-lane road.

Those folks are not asking for a deluxe fix, Ogle noted, just a semi-permanent repair with asphalt or hot mix in the worst spots.

Road conditions are so bad, she said, that local motorists are sometimes forced to drive as slow as 5 mph to get over the potholes and one particularly bad culvert that has formed a barrier or obstacle in the middle of the road.

Dashiell agreed there are potholes in the road, but said there are potholes in roads throughout the county and there isn't enough money – and there aren't enough employees in his department – to fix all the potholes that come to his attention.

"It's not just Potter Valley, Dashiell said. "It's many other roads in this county. There are citizens who call me who are just as adamant about many other roads in this county."

Longtime political player and president of North Coast Builders Exchange Lee Howard pointed out the Department of Transportation could hire independent contractors on an emergency basis to get the work done.

But Dashiell said he has no money in his budget to do that; he has allocated every penny in a very tight budget, and the money that might go to pay independent contractors has been apportioned to pay the county match on numerous emergency road and bridge repairs resulting from last winter's heavy rains.

Supervisor John McCowen told Dashiell several times that something had to be done, and a way had to be found. "If you can do the work, we can find the money," McCowen said.

But Dashiell replied that even if he had the money, he doesn't have the employees to do the work. "We have to find a way to get to the \$2 to \$3 disparity [between what the county pays per hour and what competitors like the City of Ukiah, Caltrans, and the County of Sonoma pay] that Chamise [Deputy Director Chamise Cubbison] and I informed you of last month. Because that, in the end, gets you to the 20 or so positions we have vacant, and that will give you the capacity we need in the winter to get to the routine maintenance; and in the summer, it gives you the crews to get the permanent patching done."

Dashiell said he has evaluated the department's capacity to undertake routine maintenance, assuming the influx of new money from California's recently approved Senate Bill 1 – what is called RMRA [Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account] money – which is predicted to bring some \$4.5 million more to the county each year, starting in 2019.

And West Road will have to wait for its makeover for another two decades.

## SWOW to partially reopen coast recycling centers

The County of Mendocino will assume an economic loss to satisfy public demand for solid waste and recycling options at the extreme north and south ends of coastal Mendocino County.

Meeting Tuesday, the board of supervisors voted unanimously to assume one-quarter of a \$48,000 annual cost to reopen the Gualala Buy-Back Center for six hours a day, two days a week.

The county will pay \$12,000. The Surf Market and Gualala Supermarket, both of Gualala, will each pay \$12,000 a year, and Solid Wastes of Willits will contribute \$12,000 a year in employee wages and operating expenses.

The Gualala Buy-Back Center was closed – along with numerous other recycling centers and small, rural solid waste transfer stations – in January as part of a package deal designed to help Solid Wastes of Willits become financially solvent.

However, owners of the two Gualala markets recently were notified by the state they are liable to face a fine of \$100 a day if they do not provide buy-back facilities for recyclables within three miles of downtown Gualala.

According to state recycling law, stores that gross \$2 million and upwards a year are required by law to provide recycling buy-back services, or they can defer to another local facility if that facility is located within three miles of the center of town. Surf Market and Gualala Supermarket are the only two grocery stores in Gualala that gross over \$2 million a year.

Previously, the two stores relied on the South Coast Transfer Station to meet their recycling obligations, but with the closure of that facility in January, they both became liable to provide the service or face the \$100 per day fine. Store owners were told fines would begin accruing on July 1.

Mendocino Solid Waste Solid Waste Management Authority General Manager Louisa Morris said the fine would be for every day the service is not provided, not for every working day. Since there are 365 days in a year, Second District Supervisor John McCowen quickly calculated the fine would amount to more than \$36,000 a year for each store, or \$73,000 a year for both stores, if the service is not provided.

Supervisor Dan Gjerde said he felt confident the arrangement would be temporary. There is a hope that Cal Recycle – the agency which governs recycling in California – will change the law, either by raising the dollar threshold for when the responsibility kicks in, or by expanding the mileage requirement, so basic recycling services could be provided a little further from the center of town.

If the state expands the distance from the center of town within which the buy-back service must be provided, and if the number is expanded to 4.5 miles, then the buy-back center could be sited at the South Coast Transfer Station, which is run by SWOW and is located 4.4 miles from the center of Gualala.

If that happens, the estimated cost of providing the service would decline from

\$48,000 a year to \$34,000 a year.

McCowen floated a proposal under which, should the South Coast Transfer Station be allowed to be the location of the buy-back center, the two markets would continue to pay \$12,000 a year each, and the county and SWOW would split the remainder. The remainder being \$10,000, the county and SWOW would pay \$5,000 each.

The board approved the four-way split with the proviso that if the Fishrock Road facility is reopened, the second, less expensive financial scenario would become operative.

SWOW President and CEO Jerry Ward told Willits Weekly he has received a verbal promise from Cal Recycle that it will hold a public hearing on the proposal of placing the buy-back center at the South Coast Transfer Station. If the public is OK with the idea, then Cal Recycle will grant SWOW an exemption, so the buy-back center can be sited at the transfer station.

"I believe Gualala will be solved," Ward said. "We will open it up in August or September. and Cal Recycle won't fine the stores."

### Waste at Westport

Supervisors voted unanimously to help Solid Wastes of Willits reopen the Westport Transfer Station for six hours a week on Saturdays. The agreement was reached between Ward, members of the Westport Municipal Advisory Council, and the board of directors of the Westport Water District, which owns the property where the transfer station is located.

The agreement calls for the county to forgo collecting the \$1,100 environmental review fee for an annual inspection of the facility. The inspection will be conducted by a staff person at the county Department of Environmental Health. SWOW would add a \$1 per can surcharge on to the gate fee. Money collected from the surcharge, estimated to be only \$100 to \$150 a month, would go to the Westport Water District to pay the rent for the facility.

After hearing a staff report on the proposed deal presented by Supervisor Dan Gjerde, McCowen said he wasn't happy with the plan and offered a revision. He wanted a set monthly rent to be established, and for anything above that rent to be split 50-50 between SWOW and the county.

After McCowen made his proposal, representatives from the water district said they were OK with it – the main thing was getting the transfer station reopened at least for one day a week. Third District Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey said she favored Gjerde's original proposal, with all the money – \$100 to \$150 a month – going to the Westport Water District for rent. Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg said he supported Croskey.

Gjerde moved McCowen's proposal, but it did not get a second. Then he moved the staff proposal (which had been supported by Hamburg and Croskey) and that motion passed 5-0.

"In Westport, we're ready to rock 'n' roll," said Ward. "As soon as the community finds me a person to run the facility we'll open up."

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

slot to perform at the Rodeola at the Frontier Days BBQ at the Rec Grove on July 4.

Elevenzies Cafe from Brooktrails will be offering pulled pork; Sho'Nuff dem Biscuits from Laytonville is doing wood-fired pizza; there will be a shaved ice truck; and the Taco Ramirez taco truck will be north of the St. Francis Church parking lot.

Willits Shifters will show off their classic cars, and the Willits Wild Bunch will show their shiny motorcycles.

Family-friendly entertainment will be everywhere, including face-painters, henna artists, the Boy Scout monkey bridge, horse and buggy rides and a bounce house.

"I'd say the main thing about Hometown this year, besides it being inclusive of more businesses, is that we're trying to encourage families to come out and visit each booth and business," Bloomquist said. "Rather than just gathering at the bounce house, we're trying to get people to walk into doors and visit each booth."

This year's new Scavenger Hunt is designed to do just that, with a clue list pointing towards

finds at businesses and booths. When scavengers are finished, they can turn their lists back in at any business, and be entered into a drawing with prizes of multiple \$25 gift certificates for three lucky winners.

"That way they can come in to look for that item, and they may see a brand or product or a service at booth that they didn't realize was offered in Willits," Bloomquist said.

Bloomquist credited Willits Frontier Days for stepping up and making Hometown Celebration a free event – no fees for vendors or businesses – and WFD paid for the printing of the posters, too.

"I talked to Ashton," said WFD's Marcy Barry, "because I knew Lynn Kennelly had passed away, we had started the July Hometown for Willits Frontier Days, and I didn't want it not to happen. I went to Ashton because she's a past Sweetheart, and besides being a Sweetheart, their business has supported Willits Frontier Days for years. I said, 'Can you help me, Ashton? I can't do it by myself, and I don't want Hometown to die,' and she said, 'I'll help you, Marcy,' and it worked out perfect."

## Two hurt in three-car pileup

Two people were injured Tuesday morning in a three-vehicle chain-reaction accident on Highway 101 south of Dora Creek near Piercy.

The pileup occurred when a northbound 1993 motorhome driven by 69-year-old Harlan Myers of Portland, Oregon, reportedly failed to stop while approaching an active construction zone just before 10 am, according to the Garberville office of the California Highway Patrol.

The motorhome rear-ended an unmarked Mendocino County Sheriff's Office 2013 Chevrolet Silverado patrol truck driven by 55-year-old sheriff's Sgt. Bruce Smith that had stopped in the northbound land at the end of a line of backed up traffic, state traffic officers said.

The impact sent the Silverado crashing into the rear of a 2007 Honda CRV driven by 58-year-old Timothy Hyland of Novato, which then rammed the rear of a 2004 GMC Yukon XL driven by 36-year-old Tana Rodriguez of Lake Elsinore.

A passenger in Rodriguez' vehicle, 43-year-old Jesus Mora of Lake Elsinore, suffered moderate injuries in the accident and was taken to Jerold Phelps Community Hospital for treatment, the CHP said.

A ride-along passenger in Sgt. Smith's Silverado, Paul Trouette, also suffered moderate injuries in the pileup and was taken to Howard Memorial Hospital for treatment.

*This report was based on a press release from the California Highway Patrol.*

## CHP provides tips for safe summer driving

The call of the open road may be one of summer's great attractions. Before drivers head off on a road trip however, the California Highway Patrol would like everyone to remember some crucial advice for a safe trip.

"Prevention and planning may take a little time up front, but can spare you from the consequences of a breakdown later." CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow said. "Getting to your destination and back safely is priority number one."

- Plan your trip. Know where you are going and where you will stop. Before you leave, research road conditions and construction to anticipate delays. The California Department of Transportation has a mobile app for traffic information, or visit <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/> for highway conditions.

- Check your vehicle. Regular maintenance will help keep it road-ready. Tires, belts, hoses, wiper blades, the cooling system, fluid levels, lights, and air conditioning should be in good condition. After California's unusually wet winter, windshield wipers have seen a lot of wear and tear and may need to be replaced.

- Be sure everyone in your vehicle is using their seat belt. Double-check that young passengers are using the correct child safety seat for their height and weight.

- Use your cell phone only if it is properly mounted and in hands-free mode while driving. A new California law prohibits drivers from holding a cell phone while driving. Program any Global Positioning System devices before you start your trip.

- If you have a vehicle issue, such as a flat tire, drive off of the highway if at all possible. The shoulder of a freeway, no matter how wide, is not a safe place for repair work.

- Never leave a child or pet alone in a car, not even for a minute. California laws address situations in which children or pets are left in heated cars. However, the best approach if you see an unattended child or pet is to call 9-1-1.

Summer driving can be more dangerous than winter for several reasons. More teenagers, who are inexperienced drivers, are more likely to be on the road. Vacationing drivers, unfamiliar with an area, may also drive erratically or unpredictably, either admiring the scenery or trying to find their way. Road construction requires extra caution and may create delays.

- submitted by the  
**California Highway Patrol, Sacramento**

# Scoops

Frozen Yogurt & Deli  
Ice Cream & Catering

## CELEBRATION!

### 5-Year Anniversary

**Friday  
June 30<sup>TH</sup>  
5:00 to 9:00 P.M.**

**110 N. Main Street**

# FREE

**Hot Dogs and Ice Cream  
Plus Giveaways!**

## Come Join Us!

## MIKE THE RAT'S YARD SALE

**SATURDAY  
JULY 8  
7 AM to 12 PM**

**NEW LOCATION:  
475 EAST SAN FRANCISCO AVE.  
WILLITS**

**Huge Selection  
of  
Discontinued,  
Closeout &  
Damaged  
Items**

**SPARETIME  
SUPPLY**

No returns | Limited to stock on hand | No deliveries

All proceeds, less tax, will be donated  
back to the Willits community

PAST THE RETAIL STORE, DEAD END INTO 475 AT THE END OF EAST SAN FRANCISCO AVE.  
PHONE: 707-459-6791

## ALL TOTES

# 10% OFF

**SELECT TOTES OVER 25% OFF!**



Sunshine #4  
w/Myco 31% Off  
**WAS \$406.29**  
**NOW \$278.00**

LIMITED STOCK | SUBJECT TO STOCK ON HAND

**SPARETIME SUPPLY**  
208 EAST SAN FRANCISCO AVE. • WILLITS







# Willits Pet Adoption Day

## Saturday, July 8

Mark your calendar for the next Willits Pet Adoption Day, set for Saturday, July 8 from 10 am to 1 pm at the parking lot of Coldwell Banker Mendo Realty, at 1460 South Main Street.

Share your love with a wonderful dog or cat as the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County sponsors a Pet Adoption Day right here in Willits. This is your opportunity to meet and adopt the wonderful pets available to good homes. You'll find the friend that's just right for you. Complete adoption assistance will be available.

Adoption fees for dogs are: \$225 for puppies up to 6 months old; \$175 for adults up to 5 years old; \$50 for seniors more than 5 years old. Adoption fees for cats are \$80. All animals are spayed or neutered.

For more information on adoptions or how to help with the Humane Society's work please call 485-0123. You can visit the Humane Society at 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley or online at <http://mendohumanesociety.com>

– Submitted by the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County and Bill Barksdale

# Willits Frontier Days

## Friday, June 30:

**Hometown Celebration,**  
5 pm to 9 pm, Downtown Willits, free

## Saturday, July 1:

**Sweetheart Crowned**

## Sunday, July 2:

**Lions Pancake Breakfast,**  
7 am, Rec Grove, \$8/Adult, \$5/Child

**Cowboy Church with Coy Huffman,**  
10 am, Jack Tharp Arena, free to attend

**Junior Rodeo,**  
4 to 9 pm, Jack Tharp Arena, \$5/Adult

## Monday, July 3:

**CCPRA Rodeo,** 7 pm, Jack Tharp Arena, \$15/Box, \$12/Adult, \$5/Child

**Western Dance - Chad Bushnell,**  
9 pm, Rodeo Grounds, free

## Tuesday, July 4:

**Horseshoe Competition,**  
10 am, Rec Grove, free

**Parade,** 11 am, Downtown Willits, free

**Country Music Rodeola,**  
12 pm, Rec Grove Park, free

**Barbecue,** 12 pm, Rec Grove, \$15/Adult, \$8 Child

**CCPRA Rodeo,** 4 pm, Jack Tharp Arena, \$15/Box, \$12/Adult, \$5/Child

## Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



Photo by Rod Coots

### Loving Peaches

Peaches is an 18-month-old Shar-Pei mix who weighs about 40 pounds. She has been in foster care since February, and is ready for her forever family. She does well with other dogs and loves people. She's crate-trained and housebroken. She also walks well on a leash and has basic obedience skills. She's a very happy and loving girl, but would do best with a mentor dog, as she can be timid and looks to other dogs for cues. She would also do best in a calm household.

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful dogs and cats here, please visit online at: [www.mendoonimalshelter.com](http://www.mendoonimalshelter.com). More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453. Please join us the second Saturday of every month, coming up on July 6, for our "Empty the Shelter" pack walk and help us get every dog out for some exercise!

### Sweet Cali

Cali came in with her sister, Luna, when their owner could no longer care for them. Now her sister is adopted and Cali is looking for a home that she can call her own. Cali is very aggressive toward other cats, so she would have to be the only cat in your house. Though she is very loveable and loves giving kisses, she can get overstimulated and would probably not do well with small children. She is such a sweetie and is very curious about everything. Cali will hold your heart in her paws and never let go.

For more information on Cali or other adoptable animals, call Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County at 485-0123, check [www.mendohumanesociety.com](http://www.mendohumanesociety.com), or visit the shelter at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday.



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

the board of supervisors to authorize putting the most effective of those procedures into practice here.

"We will be looking into what are the best practices that have been used effectively on this problem in other areas," Molgaard said, "bringing them back to Mendocino County, vetting them, talking with all the partners: other agencies and the police, Planning and Building, and asking ourselves what should we be trying that hasn't been tried before?"

"We need a countywide plan," Molgaard said. She told supervisors she, her staff and program partners will return in August with a plan and with contracts for supervisors to approve.

Molgaard said she would also be coming back to the board in October with data on the effectiveness of various solutions.

Supervisors will determine the shape the program will ultimately take, Molgaard said, but she cautioned that whatever program the county comes up with won't be perfect.

"It's going to take a whole lot of effort," Molgaard said. "There's no one solution. It's going to take a whole lot of little pieces that we will have to put together. And, it's not going to be perfect, even after we put it together. There are too many things that have changed in our community to think we're gonna be able to solve this overnight, or quickly."

Before Molgaard told board members of her intentions to take arms against a sea of troubles, supervisors were treated to a symposium on homelessness by Gary Colson. The HHSA program specialist and administrator of the county's Homeless Management Information System, reported on the most recent "Point in Time" count, taken in the middle of winter by county staff and volunteers, who run all over

the county to count the hardcore homeless.

The latest count, taken on January 26, found 1,238 homeless people in the county on that day. That's 16.7 percent higher than the 2015 count, and 5 percent higher than the 2016 count.

HHSA Acting Deputy Director of Adult and Aging Services Kelsey Rivera told supervisors how the Mendocino County statistics compare with other jurisdictions.

In terms of the number of homeless individuals per 10,000 people, the Mendocino County rate is 1.66 times higher than Humboldt County, 1.75 times higher than the rate for San Francisco, 2.4 times higher than Sonoma County, 2.7 times higher than Lake County, and 7.77 times higher than the national rate of homelessness, which is 18 homeless people per 10,000. The Mendocino County rate is 140 homeless people per 10,000 people.

Ukiah Police Department Capt. Justin Wyatt presented statistics which demonstrated that, in Ukiah, the homeless take up the biggest single part of the department's time and resources. Of the 1,747 arrests that Ukiah cops made last year, 693 arrests, or 40 percent, were of homeless people, Wyatt said. Of those arrested, 32 percent were people who had residences in Ukiah, 19 percent were people who lived at another fixed address in the county, and 9 percent were people who had a permanent residence in some other county or state.

Wyatt said fielding phone calls dealing with complaints about homeless people made up 11 percent of the 2,556 telephone calls the department received last year. Each of those took an average of one hour. There was an average of seven calls per day, taking up seven hours a day or 213 hours per month.

The rest of **Golf** | From Page 5

and supporting the family through the dying process and through the grief process after the loved one has passed away, making the patient as comfortable as possible through the end of their life."

"In the 25 years that I've been in hospice," Hott said, "we've helped about 4,000 people with end-of-life issues and their families. It's been a real honor, and at times very sad, and at times a pleasure. Part of the money that is raised here goes to that group of people that are in-between, or that a son is down in Bakersfield and a dad or mom is dying, and we're able to get them a bus ticket to come up here and be with them."

"It's discretionary money, that if we didn't have it, some of these things we do wouldn't happen," he said. "What is raised here in this golf tournament is used very carefully and goes to people who really need it. Thank you so much."

Mike Smith then instructed the players: "Almost golf time. Scattered around the course, we have signs. Those holes, if you get a hole-in-one, you win the prize that's on the card there." He went on to explain the hole-in-one and closest-to-the-hole contests and what to do in case of a tie, then concluded with, "Let's play golf."

No one ended up with a hole-in-one, but Dave Mendez won closest-to-the-hole on hole one and Matt Herman won closest-to-the-hole on hole 18. The first-place winners of the golf tournament were Nat and Shawna Collicott, and Tom and Matt Herman. Second-place winners were Mike Smith, John Fliesach, Randy Weston and David Mann. Third-place winners were Mike and Terry Driscoll, Mike Rice and Rusty Swearingin.

In the end, money was raised for a good cause, fun was raised for all the participants, and awareness of a great organization was raised for all.

The rest of **Letters** | From Page 2

We had other artists and volunteers let us know that they want to clear out their art studios too! The WCA will consider making this an annual affair. For now we are busy starting our ceramics classes, gearing up for Art Camp for Kids, and planning the next gallery show of sculptors, Crystal Kamoroff and Evan Hobart. Our quilt show was a huge success! Thank you Willits for supporting the arts.

Holly Madrigal, manager, Willits Center for the Arts

The rest of **Elections** | From Page 2

release the vote count that is completed by the end of Election Day and the Certified Election results when the canvass is complete. There are no counts released between these two dates. This November 2016 election, 31% of all votes cast were tallied and reported by the end of Election Day. In 2006, the former Registrar announced election results on election night; in 2016, final certified results were posted late in the evening December 1, 2016 on the County website, 24 days after the election.

The method of tabulating votes requires the use of antiquated memory cards. Each election result currently requires the use of 36-50 cards. The Grand Jury was informed that these cards cost \$100 each. That means that each update count would cost up to \$5,000. According to the Registrar of Voters there are currently no State approved replacement tabulating machines.

The counting procedure we observed, excluding provisional ballots, consisted of the following steps:

- opening the ballot envelopes
- tearing off the privacy flap
- scanning individual ballot barcode by hand wand
- visual verification of voter signature individually by staff comparison on computer screen
- sorting of ballots by precinct
- ballots stored and secured
- separated spoiled ballots
- ballot re-creation
- ballots by precinct scanned for count

### Senate Bill 450: California Voter's Choice Act

The State further addressed the requirements of HAVA in 2016 with the passage of Senate Bill 450 (SB 450). This bill will essentially convert all ballots to mail-in ballots.

The Legislature is allowing each county to opt in or out of the provisions of the bill.

SB 450 provides for the elimination of precinct polling places as we currently know them. Instead, the County would have six voting centers. Two of these centers would be open for 10 days prior to the election and on Election Day. The other four centers would open 3 days prior to the election and on Election Day.

Each voting center would be required to have computers that generate a ballot for each

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

the highway signs. After less than a week, Phoenix had already heard from two different tables of customers that they turned off the highway into Willits because they saw the La Siciliana signage.

"I knew I had to advertise on the highway to attract visitors to come into town," Phoenix said. "I have personally made a last-minute decision to pull off a highway, while driving, after seeing a particular sign that caught my eye."

Participating in Caltrans' logo sign project is an investment. Phoenix says getting the four logo signs manufactured – his logo is on the two big blue signs before the northern and southern interchange exits, and also on two smaller signs on the exit ramps – cost \$1,500. There was a one-time installation fee paid to Caltrans of \$300, and a total annual rental fee of \$700, \$500 for the two large signs, and \$300 for the exit ramp signs.

Phoenix encourages other local business owners to invest in the highway signs, which are available for businesses in the fuel, food, lodging and camping categories. "The application process works on a point system," he said. "A business has to score a certain amount of points in order to be qualified."

Phoenix got some personal service from Caltrans representative Aaron Dorsch, who "came into La Siciliana for lunch and helped me with the process," he said.

Phoenix says business at La Siciliana is continuing to grow, even

after the opening of the bypass. He encourages fellow business owners to pay attention to their Yelp reviews. On Friday, members of a band playing at the Kate Wolf Festival pulled into Willits to eat at La Siciliana, after seeing all the five-star reviews on Yelp, and said the rest of the band would stop in, too.

"Yelp is a wonderful too," Phoenix said. "I try to ask every customer 'How did you find the restaurant?' I want to gauge what is working and what isn't. Did my flag out front catch their attention? Did they read the Yelp reviews? Were they referred by a friend? When I find out that they came into the restaurant because of the reviews on Yelp, I ask them politely to please leave a review. I mention that our town was bypassed this past November, and all positive reviews are helpful."

Chief of Public Information for Caltrans District 1 Phil Frisbie said that while additional logos for the Willits signs are already in the pipeline to be placed, there is still room for more businesses to apply.

One reason it took as long as it did to get the signs in place, Frisbie said, was a statewide shortage of specially fabricated "breakaway posts" for the big signs, designed for safety if a vehicle crashes into the posts.

Those interested in finding out more about the Business Logo Sign Program can visit [www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/logo](http://www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/logo).

## Willits man injured when 'hog' tips

A 65-year-old Willits man is recovering in Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital from injuries he suffered last Sunday when his motorcycle overturned on Highway 20 about nine miles east of Fort Bragg.

Steven E. Michels was riding his 1992 Harley Davidson east on the highway at about 3:44 pm on June 25 when he reportedly lost control of his "hog" on a curve and the motorcycle overturned, throwing him off, says the California Highway Patrol.

The roadway was rough going into the curve, the CHP says, but warning signs had been posted. Michels had apparently slowed but was unable to maintain control of the chopper.

Michels was wearing a helmet when the accident occurred, but he suffered major injuries and was taken to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, where he was listed in fair condition, according to a report in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

*This report was based on a press release from the California Highway Patrol.*

# Lamprich Center Open House & Health Fair



## Experience a new facility dedicated to keeping your family healthy!

Here's to a healthy start to your summer! Join us for an open house and health fair to see and experience a whole new facility dedicated to keeping your whole family healthy! Meet our providers and staff, enjoy food, face painting and lots of fun for everyone young and old! Free health screenings including blood pressure, diabetes and total cholesterol, plus body composition testing. Tour our new spaces and learn more about services offered including the Redwood Medical Clinic, Outpatient Rehabilitation and Howard Pharmacy!

### Lots of fun activities for the whole family:

- Meet our staff and tour the facilities: Howard Pharmacy, Redwood Medical Clinic & Outpatient Rehab
- Free health screenings: Diabetes, Blood Pressure, Body Composition, Balance Assessment
- Face-painting, balloon animals, raffles and giveaways

**Sunday, July 16**  
**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Lamprich Center**  
**3 Marcela Drive in Willits**

Free activities & health screenings!

From Main Street, take Baechtel Road, then right on East Hill Drive. Marcela Drive will be on your right. (In front of the new hospital, across from Microphor)

**Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital**  
**Adventist Health**



# JULY 2017 CALENDAR


**MONDAY**

## POINTS DAYS 4X POINTS

All Players Club members will earn 4X Points from 10A to 10P on the days of the promotion!

**TUESDAY**

## POT OF GOLD PLINKO



**Hot Seats**  
12 RANDOM  
**HOT SEAT DRAWINGS**

**Approximate Times of Hot Seat Drawings**  
**1P – 4P (twice per hour = 6 Drawings)**  
**7P – 10P (twice per hour = 6 Drawings)**

Winner will receive one Plinko Chip. The Winner will place the Plinko Chip in a slot of their choice on the top of the Plinko board. The plinko chip will slide down the board and will land in one of 8 prize slots. Prizes will be randomly placed at the bottom of the Plinko board.

The prizes are: “\$20 Free Play”, “\$40 Free Play”, “\$60 Free Play”, “\$100 Free Play”.

If a winning customer has less than 300 points earned (on the day of the promotion) when their name is drawn, they will win the “base” Free Play amount.

If the winning customer has earned more than 300 points on the day of the promotion, they will earn a 50% bonus on the Free Play they won.

The Players Club Representative will switch the prizes on the bottom of the Plinko Board every six games.  
All Free Play won must be played by 2A.  
Customers may win up to twice each Tuesday.

**HOT WEDNESDAYS**

**EARLY SESSION**  
11A TO 3P (2 WINNERS/HOUR).  
EACH WINNER WILL WIN \$30 FREE PLAY

**-EVENING SESSION**  
-7P TO 9P (2 WINNERS/HOUR)  
EACH WINNER WILL WIN \$60 FREE PLAY  
-9P TO 10P (3 WINNERS/HOUR)  
EACH WINNER WILL WIN \$120 FREE PLAY  
CUSTOMERS MAY WIN UP TO TWO TIMES EACH WEDNESDAY.

**BINGO! THURSDAY**

**SUPER SENIOR DAY**

**50% DISCOUNT FOOD COUPONS ISSUED**  
(to be used for that day only) when the customer has earned minimally 50 points from 10am to 7pm.

12PM \$100 FREE PLAY  
1PM \$125 FREE PLAY  
2PM \$150 CASH  
8PM \$150 IN FREE PLAY  
9PM \$175 IN FREE PLAY  
10PM \$300 CASH

Players Club members must have earned minimally 50 points to receive a bingo card for the 12P, 1P & 2P bingo games. Bingo at 12P for \$100 Free Play, 1P for \$125 Free Play and 2P for \$150 cash for each game winner.

Players Club members must have earned minimally 80 points (throughout the day) to receive a bingo card for the 8P, 9P & 10P bingo games. Bingo at 8P for \$150 in Free Play, \$175 Free Play and the 9P game and \$300 in cash for the 10P game.

ANY SENIOR (55+) THAT WINS A BINGO GAME (Not a second chance), WILL WIN A \$50 FREE PLAY BONUS.

Bingo Cards can start being issued at 11A for the 12P game, and 7P for the 8P game. The 1P, 2P, 9P & 10P cards will be issued after the earlier game has ended. If two customer's claim the win together, the prize amount is “split” between the two winners.

For the 2P and 10P, there will be a “Second Chance Win”. After a confirmed bingo for these three games (and the winning customer has been processed), the game will continue until a second “Bingo” is won, and the “Second Chance Win” customer will win \$50 Cash for the 2P game and \$100 Cash for the 10P game. The “Second Chance Win” opportunity will be announced before each of the specific games.

**FRIDAY NIGHT**

Ticket Entry Drawings - 20 Points/Entry  
May start to redeem points for entries starting at 11A  
Each drawing time has a prize value to it.

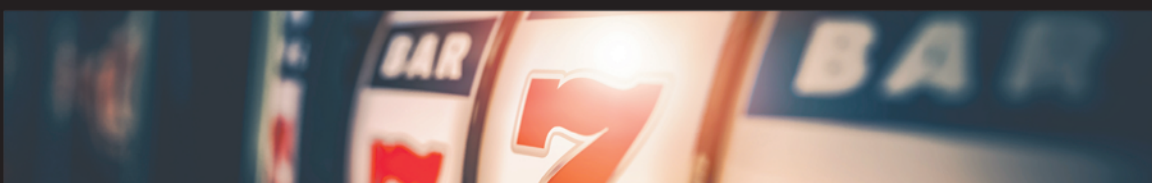
**PROGRESSIVE DRAWING PAYDAY!**

8:00PM WIN CASH FROM 8-11! \$100	9:00PM \$150
10:00PM \$200	10:30 PM \$250
	11:00PM \$300

At each drawing (except the 10:30 & 11P drawing), an entry will be drawn from the Raffle Barrel. The winning customer will have approx. one minute to claim their prize. If the number is not claimed the money for the specific drawing will be forwarded to the next drawing for the night. For example; if the 8P drawing has no winner, the \$100 will be forwarded to the 9P drawing and will be worth \$250.

For the 11pm drawing, if there is no claim on the drawing, there will be an additional drawing. This process will continue until a winner has claimed the cash prize. Customers may win up to 2 times each week of this promotion.

**July 28th BIG WINNINGS!**  
8pm - \$100 9pm - \$150  
10pm - \$200 10:30pm - \$300  
11pm - \$500



## SATURDAY NIGHT FUN • July 1, 15 & 29<sup>th</sup>

### Hot Seat Drawings!

**Round #1:**  
11 AM to 12 PM – 2 random winners per hour  
(6 winners total)  
Each winner will win \$50 in Free Play.  
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$20 to be eligible for Round #1.

**Round #3:**  
9 PM to 10 PM – 3 random winners per hour.  
Each winner will win \$100 in Free Play.  
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$40 to be eligible for Round #3.

All winner(s) must use their promotional “Free Play” by 2AM the night they won, or the Free Play will be removed from their account.  
Customers may win up to two (2) times each Saturday of this promotion.

**Round #2:**  
6 PM to 8PM – 3 random winners per hour  
(6 total winners)  
Each winner will win \$75 in Free Play.  
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$30 to be eligible for Round #2.

**Round #4:**  
10 PM to 11 PM – 3 random winners per hour  
Each winner will win \$150 in Free Play.  
Customers will have to play a minimum of \$50 to be eligible for Round #4.

*Match Play Madness*

**Wednesday July 5th**  
**Buy-In 12:00AM to 12:45AM**

Cage Buy In - \$50 Cash  
(Players Club Members Only)

Cage will give Player's Club member a receipt that will be redeemed at the Players Club for \$100 Free Play.

Free Play must be used by 2AM.  
Only one redemption per Player's Club member

**SATURDAY NIGHT CASH BINGO JULY 22**



**6PM “Buy-In” for the 7P & 8P games: 75 Points**  
**7PM Game - \$100 Cash • 8PM Game - \$200 Cash**

**9:00PM “Buy-In for the 10:00P and 11:00A games: 100 Points**  
**10:00PM Game \$300 Cash**  
**11:00PM Game \$440 Cash**

## Scratch Card Sunday!

### 10am-8pm!

Players Club members that earn minimally 40 points on each specific Sunday, will receive one (only one) Scratch Card (via the Players Club). Each Scratch Card will have a prize (cash or free play), which will be;

<b>\$10 Free Play</b>	<b>\$20 Free Play</b>	<b>\$50 Free Play</b>
<b>\$75 Free Play</b>	<b>\$100 Free Play</b>	
<b>\$20 Cash</b>	<b>\$50 Cash</b>	<b>\$100 Cash</b>

Customers may receive only one Scratch Card each Sunday for this promotion. All Free play that is won via the Hot Seat drawings must be used by 2am on the same gaming day, or the winnings (Free Play) will be removed from the customer's account.

## CASH GIVEAWAY

### JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>

**\$8,000 in cash will be given away to six winners. There will be a top prize of \$3,000. There will also be a \$2,000 winner, two (2) \$1,000 winners and two (2) \$500 winners.**

Earn Entries  
July 4 (20 points/entry) July 5 (25 points/entry)  
July 6 (25 points/entry) July 8 (30 points/entry)

Drawing Times  
7 PM (one winner) 8 PM (one winner) 9 PM (two winners) 10 PM (two winners)

Each winner will choose a sealed envelope from a board in the Players Club. Shortly after the last drawing at 10P, the customers will be given their chosen envelopes to see how much cash they have won.



**Sherwood Valley Rancheria Smokeshop**

100 Kawi Place • Willits  
Hours: Monday-Friday 10am to 6pm  
Saturday 11am to 5pm • Closed on Sundays



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

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





Willits Frontier Days  
2017

# Truck Pulls

Locals and professionals tried for a full pull Friday night at the Willits Frontier Days Truck Pulls event held on July 23 at the Jack Sharp arena at the rodeo grounds. Attendees enjoyed the Street Dance following the pulls, with tunes from the Johnny Young Band.

The arena gets flattened and prepped for giant tires to drag an adjustable weight sled behind, testing engines and drivelines against the stopping power of The Terminator, driven by event promoter MLM Motorsports' owner Brian Massetti.

Full pulls count at a distance of 300 feet – from the north through the south end of the Willits Frontier Days arena. Drivers were divided into weight classes that spanned from 4,500 pounds all the way to 8,000 pounds as well as special diesel and modified trucks and pro tractor classes, too.

In the 4,500-pound class, James Jewell pulled a distance of 184.22 feet.

In the 5,500-pound truck class, first place went to Brad Griffin with a pull of 282.19 feet. Second place went to Kenny Kumpula with a pull of 274.66 feet; third place went to Jeff Whitby with a pull of 243.43 feet; fourth place went to Dylan Avila with a pull of 195.15 feet; and fifth place went to Branden Powers with a pull of 169.12 feet.

Ethan Lewis pulled 189.57 feet in the 5,500-pound Super Stock truck class.

Kumpula also placed first in the 6,500-pound Truck Class with a pull of 272.11 feet.

White Lightning came just short of the 300 mark on the 5,800-pound Tractor Class with its pull of 295.94 feet. Second place went to Mustang Legacy with a pull of 271.28 feet, and third place went to Bail Out with a pull of 234.35 feet.

Chet Hammonds came the closest to the 300 mark in the 6,000-pound Super Stock Class with a pull of 269.23 feet. Second place went to Steve Jenkins with a pull of 250.37 feet, and third place went to Joe Conner with a pull of 231.31 feet.

The Whip was the big winner in the 7,200-pound Tractor Class with a pull of 326.20 feet. Second place went to Poly Thunder with a pull of 281.30 feet, and Show Time earned third place with a pull of 264.61 feet.

Neither driver in the 8,000-pound Tractor class was able to cross the 300-foot mark, but first-place winner Maxx Kaki came close with a pull of 298.97 feet and second-place winner Git R Done wasn't too far behind, completing a pull of 284.06 feet.

Travis Jackson driving Gray Ghost pulled

Read the rest of **Pulls** | Over on Page B7



At top, from left: Fred and Marcy Barry pose with their truck, Time Bandit. Local drivers also got a chance to try to pull against The Terminator. Wild Hare ended up coming in third place in the pro modified trucks class.

Above: White Lightning gets its front tires airborne as it comes barreling down the track.

Photos by Maureen Moore

At left: Fellow photographer Christine Houdashelt.

Photo by Eli Owen

Below, from left: A local driver heads down the track, hoping for a full 300-foot pull. A few drivelines lost the battle against the Terminator, and required some on-track fixing. Long Shot barrels down the track.

At bottom: A large plume of diesel smoke billows out of one of the driver's stacks.

Photos by Maureen Moore



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**SUNDAY**

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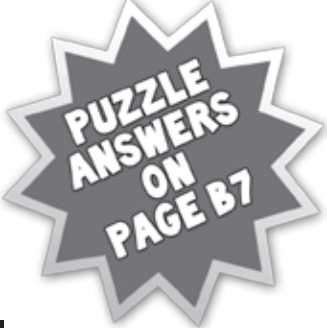
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Crossword  
Puzzle &  
Sudoku

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



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!

SUMMER LIVING WORD SEARCH

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

ARCADE	CARNIVAL	INGROUND	SUMMER
BACKYARD	COOL DOWN	OCEAN	SUNGLASSES
BARBECUE	CRUISING	PARTIES	SURFING
BASEBALL	DEHYDRATION	PROTECTION	SWIMMING
BEACH	DIVING	RECREATION	SWIMSUIT
BICYCLE	FIREFLIES	RELAXATION	TAFFY
BOARDWALK	FISHING	ROAD TRIP	ULTRAVIOLET
BONFIRE	GRADUATE	SAILBOAT	VOLLEYBALL
CAMPSITE	HEAT	SPF	WATER

1	2	3						4	5	6	7
8				9					10		
11									12		
13									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	

CLUES ACROSS

- Character (abbr.)
- Animal companions
- A country in SE Asia
- Of Carthage
- On top of
- Boater hat
- Eat rapidly (slang)
- Paddlers
- Food consumer
- Aeronaut
- Tonto's Kemosabe
- Division of geological time
- Hill (Celtic)
- Towing boat
- Clatter
- Trees of the genus Abies
- Deprive by deceit
- Decomposed
- Nail & hair protein

- A citizen of Iran
- Whitish edible root vegetable
- Actress Winger
- Lessens in intensity
- Afrikaans
- Connected spirals
- Accordingly
- Competently
- Angle (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Clothes storage area
- "\_\_ and her Sisters"
- Revolve
- One who makes puns
- Inspire with love
- Chronograph
- Look over quickly
- French philosopher
- Georges

- A peerless example
- Picture done in oils
- To and \_\_ movement
- Egg cells
- Macaws
- Nerve inflammation
- Energy unit
- Herbal infusions
- Female deer
- Before anything else
- Cotangent (abbr.)
- Run off the tracks
- A small drink of liquor
- Get free of
- A sharp narrow mountain ridge
- Knight's tunic
- Infuriate
- Lines in a drama
- Skewered meat
- Ground dwelling rodent

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
POLICE LOG

June 12 to June 25

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 351 incidents in this 14-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

June 12

2:16 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation near the intersection of North Highway 101 (South Main Street) and Muir Mill Road.

2:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

3:48 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

4:42 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:05 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

June 13

12:04 am: Officers responded to a report of a prowler in the 100 block of Trembley Court.

12:54 am: DURYEE, David Noel Sr. (29) of Willits was contacted in the 1200 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11550 H&S (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance).

1:46 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:56 am: Officers responded to a report of a subject brandishing a weapon in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

11:31 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

2:56 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:46 pm: Officers initiated a burglary report in the 100 block of Bush Street.

June 14

9:22 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of Franklin Avenue and issued a warning.

1:25 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:06 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

June 15

4:13 am: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

6:55 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 800 block of South Main Street.

8:21 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

9:08 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:37 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

10:47 am: Officers responded to a report of rape in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

1:13 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

9:29 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

11:29 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 800 block of South Main Street.

June 16

5:01 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of South Main Street.

6:41 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

3:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 21000 block of Baechtel Road.

6:26 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of Coast Street.

7:51 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Pine Street and Coast Street.

8:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:43 pm: WILLIAMS, Krystal (27) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), 148 PC (Resisting Arrest), and on charges of disorderly conduct.

June 17

1:23 am: JOHNSON, Dakota Spring (20) of Willits was contacted in the 21000 block of Locust Street. She was arrested on charges of violation of probation and driving with a suspended license.

6:07 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of Pine Street.

1:43 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of Nancy Lane.

3:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 25000 block of Brooktrails Drive.

5:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:04 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

9:03 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of Camp Lane.

9:25 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

June 18

3:33 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

7:34 am: HAKE, Chad Tylor (29) of Willits was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 466 PC (Possession of Burglary Tools) and 485 PC (Appropriation of Lost Property).

8:11 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Holly Street.

10:27 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of West Commercial Street and North Street.

June 19

1:52 am: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:19 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Pine Street.

10:44 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person near the intersection of Sherwood Road and North Main Street.

12:05 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping near the intersection of Mill Creek Drive and West Commercial Street.

June 20

6:11 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Highway 20.

10:45 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

1 pm: MADSON, Tate Edward (21) of Willits was contacted in the 500 block of East Commercial Street. He was arrested pursuant to 415 PC (Disturbing the Peace), 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), and on charges of violation of probation, disorderly conduct, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

10:06 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious subjects in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

10:11 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

10:13 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

10:41 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1300 block of South Main Street.

June 21

7:24 pm: HOLBROOK, Darin Shawn Jr. (29) of San Francisco was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on charges of disorderly conduct.

3:49 am: SCHMIDT, JD (31) of Laytonville and SCHMIDT, Dana Eligh (34) of Willits were contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

Read the rest of WPD | Over on Page B7



Carnival  
Fun

Rides, games and treats at the Willits Frontier Days Carnival

Mathew Caine

Features Writer  
mathew@willitsweekly.com

Thrills, fun and food are in store for families at the Johnston Amusements Carnival next to the Willits Rodeo Grounds on East Commercial Street. Classic rides like the Ferris wheel, Zipper, Graviton, Yo-Yo and Spin Out create screams and joy for those who dare to ride. Tamer rides are also there for the younger kids.

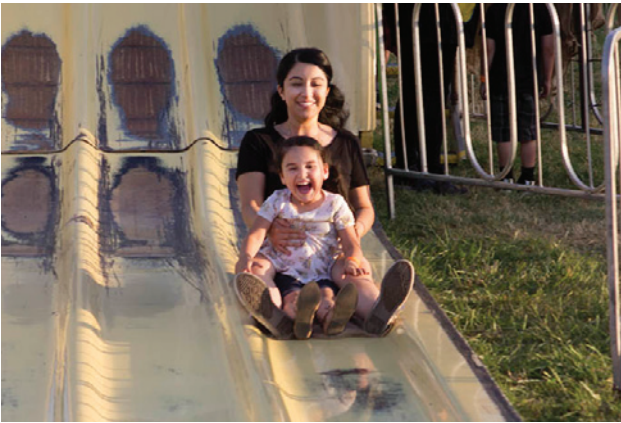
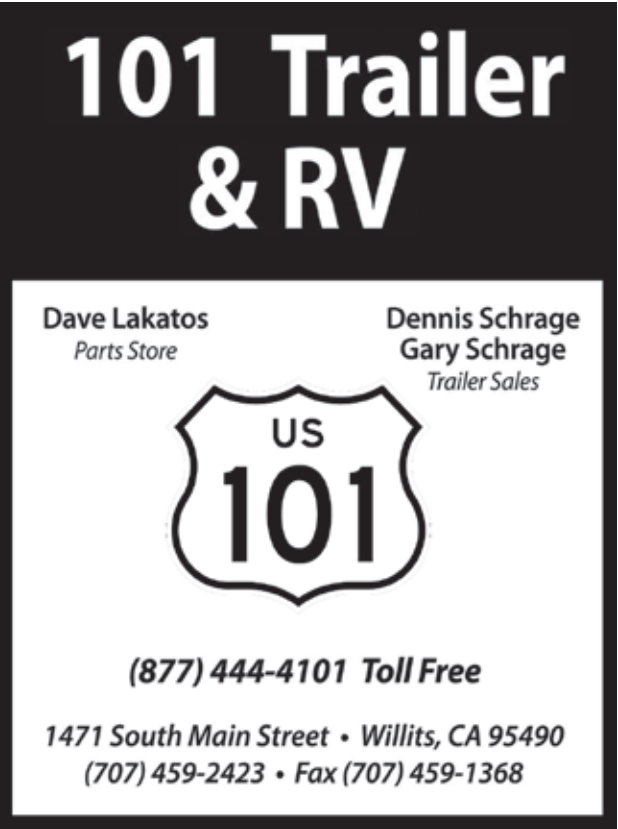
Games of chance and skill challenge all to try and win prizes to take home. Popcorn, ice cream, corn dogs, cotton candy and other classic carnival treats for kids and adults add to the festive atmosphere.

The Carnival is open every night from 5 to 10 pm through the end of the Willits Frontier Days.

At top, from left: Aiden tries to get a ping-pong ball into the glasses to win a goldfish. Classic carnival attractions like the giant slide are fun for adults and kids alike. An adorable little girl tries to pop the balloons and win a doll.

Above, right: The Ferris wheel offers a bird's-eye view of the carnival. Below: The Spin Out creates a colorful swirl of lights.

At right, top: Kids wait in line for the Crazy Surf, which creates stomach-dropping fun. At right, bottom: The crowd enjoys cotton candy and other classic carnival treats.



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*Beverly Henderson*

2017 Heritage Award Winner

Bev Henderson was selected as the 2017 recipient of the Willits Frontier Days Heritage Award for her years of service to the organization, helping in many ways and with many events.

"I started by helping out with the gymkhanas and horse shows in the eighties, then helped with timing, set up and etcetera for the Junior Rodeos," said Henderson. "When the office burned down, I started going down to the grounds and working on the gardens, cooking for the work crews, cleaning, whatever I could do. That same year, I started helping with the line-up team, readying entries for the parade."

Over the years Henderson noted that she's also handed out trophies and ribbons and worked the back gate and sign-in tables. She served on the scholarship committee and held positions as a board member for the organization, as well as being second Vice President under Richard White and Kent Stanley during their years as President.

Congratulations to Bev, and Willits Frontier Days thanks her for her service and support over the years.



Photos by Maureen Moore

## Willits Frontier Days History

In 1926, the Willits Development Association came up with the idea of sponsoring a community activity to raise funds for the construction of a much-needed hospital. Through the efforts of many prominent citizens, including Dr. Raymond Babcock, Frank Taft, Judge E.M. Whitney, Judge Fred Foord, Deed Wimmer, Frank and Bill Whitney, Joe Quadrio, Edward Morris, Carl Edenfeldt, Allen Sacy and the American Legion Post, a plan was hatched, and the first Willits Frontier Days Rodeo occurred in July 1927.

Coincidentally, at this same time, Frank R. Howard, the young son of Charles S. Howard, owner of Ridgewood Ranch and champion racehorse Seabiscuit, was injured in an automobile accident at the ranch. The boy's doctor, Dr. Babcock, approached Howard about erecting a hospital in Willits in memory of young Frank, who did not survive the fatal crash. Mr. Howard agreed and decided to build the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital shortly thereafter.

Even though the original idea of having a rodeo to fund construction of a hospital was no longer necessary, the American Legion

decided to carry on with their plans for the event anyway.

The celebration was an instant success, and the American Legion ran the show until 1932, when the Willits Volunteer Fire Department accepted the leadership role. Looking to the future, the fire department borrowed money to improve the rodeo grounds by having individual volunteer firefighters sign promissory notes.

The Willits Frontier Days Association was born and incorporated in 1950, when a group of local businessmen and ranchers took over the proverbial "reins" of the event. The continuity of Willits Frontier Days has remained unbroken since 1926.

As a non-profit organization, Willits Frontier Days still operates as it did in the beginning, with no associated individual or organization getting any financial reward. Residents and clubs work together to put on the events and decide together how to spend the profits of each show to benefit our community.

Interested in getting involved and helping the tradition of Willits Frontier Days continue into the future? Call 707-459-6330 or email us at: willitsfrontierdays@gmail.com for information on joining.

**Board of Directors, below, right:** Bruce Cartwright, John Thomen, Jeff Cook, Willy England, Bill Rutler, Karen Cavanaugh, Mattie Pinon, Dan Pinon, Kelly Figg-Hoblyn, Alexis England, Cathy Moorhead and Lee Persico. Not pictured: Kera Colvard.



*June Sizemore*

2017 Top Hand Award Winner

June Sizemore is the recipient of Willits Frontier Days' 2017 Top Hand award.

Tirelessly working in the cook shack to help feed the hundreds of people who attend each year's Sweetheart Dinner is just one of the many tasks June takes on each year. June serves as the dinner committee's chair and has also served as treasurer of the club for over a decade.

Willits Frontier Days is proud to honor this dedicated, capable, dependable and hard-working member of our crew who helps make each year a great success.

Thank you, June, from the bottom of our hearts!



## President's Message

From Fred Barry

"Welcome to the 91st Annual Willits Frontier Days! I would like to welcome each and every one of you to this year's Fourth of July events.

"These great events would not happen year after year without the volunteers and the generosity of our community. Hope your visit is not only entertaining, but memorable. Can't wait to see you at all the events.

"I personally would like to thank my family, Marcy and Danielle Barry, for hanging in there with me – you guys are my rock. Thank you again for all the continued support."



Counter-clockwise from left: Noah Willoughby jumps with his horse, Buster in the Hunter Hack class. Danielle Barry and Rebel on the rail. Samantha Arms smiles as she rounds the ring. Willoughby and Buster in an English class. Arms poses with trophy sponsor Olivia Grupp, left, and Kathryn Baechtel, right, after winning the John Fish Memorial/Hawthorne Farm perpetual trophy. Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Zoe.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Willits Frontier Days 2017

# Horse Show

## Equestrians show skills at annual Horse Show last Sunday

Horses and riders alike were both relieved the prior week's heat wave was over by the time the gates opened at the Willits Frontier Days Horse Show, held at the Jack Sharp Arena last Sunday.

Maureen Moore

Graphics & Photographress  
maureen@willitsweekly.com

Western classes and to have their names engraved on perpetual trophies. They enjoyed showing their skills to other riders and to the judges: show judge Sabyl Myers and Trail Course judge Nicol Persico Kunka.

The High Point winners were, in 12 and under: Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel; in 13 to 17: Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch; and in 18 and over: Sherry Boek and her horse, I'm Havin Fun Sassin'. These winners received a red, white and blue bath bag with leather logo made by Mary Ann Underhill of Underhill Western Crafts. The bag was filled with horse supplies and a red, white and blue rosette ribbon.

The Reserve High Point winners were 12 and under: Noah Willoughby and Buster; in 13 to 17: Keely Ahders and Violet; in 18 and over: Sue Lynn and Cee Lee. They each received a red, white and blue hay bag with a leather logo, also made by Underhill.

The perpetual trophy winners received a red, white and blue rosette ribbon and an engraved picture frame to keep. Winners will have their names and their horses' names engraved on the perpetual trophies for 2017.

The first class, Model Horse, 2 and under, first-place winner was Sherry Oncale and her horse, Westside Surprise.

The second class, Model Horse, 3 and over, was sponsored by Joan Craighead of R Horse Ranch. The R Horse Ranch perpetual trophy was presented to the class' first-place winner, Sherry Boek and her horse, I'm Havin Fun Sassin'. Second place went to Noah Willoughby and

Read the rest of Horse show | Over on Page B7



**Executive Board, below, left:** Secretary Tracy Legris, Vice President Marcy Barry, Treasurer June Sizemore and President Fred Barry. Not pictured: 2nd Vice Tyler Yador



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## Frank R. Howard Foundation

2017 Grand Marshal

"The Frank R. Howard Foundation is honored to be chosen as this year's grand marshal for the 91st Willits Frontier Days celebration.

"The Foundation's roots extend to the very first event held in July 1927, which included the christening of our new hospital made possible by the vision of Dr. Raymond Babcock and the generosity of Charles S. Howard in memory of his son, Frankie.

"We at the Foundation are proud to be part of this year's celebration and hope you can join us!"

At left: Howard Foundation Board of Directors members: Director Richard Willoughby, Chairwoman Margie Handley, Executive Director Arnie Mello, and Board Secretary Jann Lamprich

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Willits Frontier Days 2017

# Sweetheart Judging

## Horsemanship, Poise and Personality

Judging for the Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contest takes place over two days; this year, the poise and personality portion was held on Saturday, June 24 and the horsemanship portion was held the following day, on Sunday, June 25.

This year's contestants, Hailey Riley and Keely Ahders, both showed their horses well, spoke eloquently, and have been out selling tickets to help cinch the win for the title this year.

Maureen Moore Both days test the Graphics & Photographress maureen@willitsweekly.com contestants' skills in different areas. During poise and personality, the contestants model their outfits, either a suit or dress: A western suit outfit will consist of jacket or vest, slacks or skirt, shirt or blouse, tie or scarf, belt, boots, hat and gloves. Western dress outfits must have long sleeves and be worn with belt, boots, hat and gloves.

The contestants also give an oral speech that day focused on the theme of the year's events – 2017's theme is "Willits Western: Small Town America" – and also answer questions privately with a panel of judges. Contestants are judged on attractiveness, grooming, posture, poise and behavior in every situation.

The horsemanship portion was held during the Horse Show the following day, and both riders competed under saddle during a rail class where they showed their animals can be ridden and shown under control; they had to memorize and ride a horsemanship pattern which included lead changes, tight turns and quick stops. They also had to dismount and remount their horses in front of the judges, as well as demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the horse and equipment, and their horsemanship, including balance, position of hands, feet and seat, and more.

This year, Linda Buletti, Roxanne Lemos-Neese and Melanie Ulvila were on the judge's panel for the poise and personality contest and Sabyl Myers, Kathryn Baechtel and Riata King judged the horsemanship portion.

Tina Shull and Kathy Graves helped coordinate the Sweetheart contest this year, under the guidance of Evelyn Persico and with the help of Liz Day and Kiri Silva. Shull, Graves, Day and Silva are all past Sweethearts, as are contest judges Ulvila and King.

Now that the contest portion of the judging is completed, the last thing the girls can do to swing the contest their way is to sell their hearts out with tickets. Ticket sales account for 40 percent of the overall score. Horsemanship also makes up 40 percent of the score, with poise and personality making up the remaining 20 percent.

The winner will receive a 15 percent commission on their total ticket sales, along with a bevy of prizes that range from an engraved tiara and saddle to flowers and eventual admittance into the "past Sweetheart club."

The 2017 winner will be announced at the annual Sweetheart dinner on July 1. This event is by invitation only and is not open to the public. Along with the announcement of the winner, both contestants will give their speeches to the gathered crowd, past Sweethearts in attendance are honored, the Grand Marshal, Top Hand and Heritage award winners are introduced, and sponsors of various events and the Fourth of July celebration overall are thanked and honored.

If you still haven't purchased tickets to either the July 3 or July 4 CCPRA rodeo, the junior rodeo, the barbecue or the pancake breakfast, contact one of the contestants right away and help her have the highest number of tickets sold this year.

Contact Keely Ahders by texting or calling 707-391-0092. Contact Hailey Riley by calling or texting 707-272-1139.



Above, left: Keely Ahders talks with judge Riata King during Sunday's judging. Above, right: Hailey Riley races around the arena, showcasing her Queen Run. Below, left: Riley, 2016 Sweetheart winner Halee Reed, and Ahders smile together. Ahders models her Western wear. At bottom, from left: Riley gives her speech on Saturday. At bottom, right: Poise and personality judges pose with the two 2017 contestants, including, from left: Linda Buletti, Melanie Ulvila and Roxanne Lemos-Neese.



# Readin' and ridin'

## Sweetheart contestants help out at library story time

Willits' own readin' and ridin' 2017 Frontier Days Sweetheart candidates Joanne Moore were at the library last week to help out with the little ones during story time, and both chose a favorite book to add to the "Willits Reads" bookshelf.

"Willits Reads" happens Thursday mornings at the library at 10:30 am. Each week, specially selected community members talk about what they are reading and share a pick for a good read, which gets added to the bookshelf next to the front desk.



Above: Sweetheart contestants Hailey Riley and Keely Ahders hold books that were read at Children's Story Time. Below: Riley, left, and Ahders, right, sing along with children's librarian Benjamin MacBearn during children's story time.

Children's Story Time follows at 11 am, beginning with the "Willits Reads" guest reading the first book for the youngsters. This week, on June 29, "Willits Reads" features Brian Bowles from the 4H Poultry Group. Next week, on July 6, Third District Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey will be on hand with her reading recommendations.



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The rest of

## Pulls

From Page B1

280.23 feet in the County Modified Trucks class, earning him first place; second place went to Megan Olson driving Savage Chick with a pull of 274.28 feet; third place went to Russell Steeley driving Bounty Hunter with a pull of 264.53 feet; and fourth place went to Tom Ludwig driving Plum Crazy with a pull of 66.48 feet.

The Stock Diesel Class had nine pullers: topping the list was Steven Allen with a pull of 273.88 feet. Second place went to Brandon Sakai with a pull of 270.25 feet; third place went to Taylor Turner with a pull of 262.32 feet; fourth place went to Matthew Miner with a pull of 249.62 feet; fifth place went to Michael DeMello with a pull of 248.71 feet; sixth place went to Steffen Cantua with a pull of 246.94 feet; seventh place went to Erik Jacinth with a pull of 231.51 feet; eighth place went to Anthony McKemy with a pull of 255.71; and ninth place went to Randy Parker with a pull of 187.24 feet.

Two of the four drivers in the Street Diesel class made full pulls; first place went to Bobby Randel with a pull of 312.59 feet; second place went to Tyler Brownlee with a pull of 303.00 feet. Third place went to Tucker White with a pull of 295.78 feet, and fourth place went to Tom Wallace with a pull of 286.90 feet.

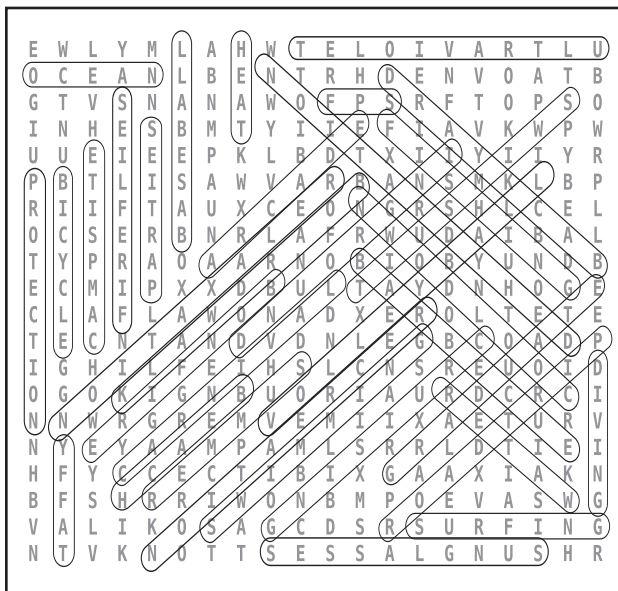
In the Super Street Diesel class, first place went to Keith Powell with a pull of 297.04 feet; second place went to Everett Powell with a pull of 295.46 feet; third place went to Tom Wallace with a pull of 246.82 feet; fourth place went to Tucker White with a pull of 234.15 feet; fifth place went to Brady Satterwhite with a pull of 220.78 feet and sixth place went to Rex Gully with a pull of 48.68 feet.

In the Pro-Modified Trucks class, first place went to Hired Gun with a full-pull, plus, of 302.56 feet. The second-place winner, Long Shot, also made a full pull of 300.36 feet. Third place went to Wild Hare with a pull of 299.29 feet; fourth place went to Yellow Fever with a pull of 297.75 feet; fifth place went to Bara Ka Dara with a pull of 295.90 feet; sixth place went to Triple Throw Down with a pull of 288.40 feet; seventh place went to Agent Orange with a pull of 257.71 feet; and eighth place went to Time Bandit with a pull of 216.08 feet.

In the Blown-Mini Tractors class, the top three pullers crossed the 300 mark. First place went to Mini Fever with a pull of 319.26 feet; second place went to California Mule with a pull of 312.40 feet; and third place went to Unmutes with a pull of 311.25 feet. Fourth place went to Sharecropper with a pull of 260.82 feet, and fifth place went to Not Done with a pull of 83.91 feet.

Jon Steelman driving the Haymaker made a full pull on his second run on the 12,000-pound Hot Farm Tractor Class, passing the 300-foot mark by an additional 3.39 feet.

Results gathered from MLM Motorsports Facebook posts.



The rest of

## WPD

From Page B2

Main Street. JD Schmidt was arrested on felony charges of conspiracy to commit a crime, sale/transport of marijuana, first-degree robbery, and threats to commit a crime resulting in death or great bodily injury and misdemeanor charges of brandishing a weapon. Dana Schmidt was arrested on felony charges of possession of marijuana for sale, sale/transport of marijuana, obstructing justice, and on misdemeanor charges of battery.

### June 22

9:26 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 800 block of South Main Street.

1:22 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of Shell Lane.

4:03 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 300 block of South Main Street.

4:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

5:28 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Pine Street.

5:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Bush Street.

8:34 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of South Main Street.

9:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of East Valley Street.

### June 23

12:57 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 West Commercial Street.

2:21 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

2:23 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:31 am: VEGACARRILLO, Rodolfo (29) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of

The rest of

## Horse show

From Page B5

his horse, Buster. Third place went to Sue Lynn and her horse, Cee Lee. Fourth place went to Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch. Fifth place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel.

The third class, Showmanship, 12 and under, first-place winner was Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Zoe. Second place went to Noah Willoughby and his horse, Buster; third place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel.

The fourth class, Showmanship, 13 to 17, first-place winner was Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch.

The fifth class, Showmanship, 18 and under, first-place winner was Sue Lynn and her horse, Cee Lee. Second place went to Sherry Boek and her horse, I'm Havin' Fun Sassin'.

The sixth class, Showmanship for locals 17 and under, was sponsored by Christopher Neary, in memory of Barbara Neary of Sunnybrook Ranch. The Barbara Hamilton perpetual trophy was presented to first-place winner Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch. Second place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel.

The seventh class, Leadline Rider, 6 and under, first-place winner was Clara Stansberry and her horse, Flower.

The ninth class, English Pleasure, 12 and under, first-place winner was Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel. Second place went to Noah Willoughby and his horse, Buster. Third place went to Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Zoe.

The 10th class, English Pleasure, 13 to 17, first-place winner was Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch.

The 13th class, English Equitation, 12 and under, first-place winner was Noah Willoughby and his horse, Buster. Second place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel. Third place went to Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Zoe.

The 14th class, English Pleasure, 13 to 17, first-place winner was Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch.

The 16th class, English Equitation for locals 17 and under, was sponsored by Olivia Group.

East Valley Street. He was arrested pursuant to 166.4 PC (Violation of a Court/Protective Order).

7:43 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of Railroad Avenue.

9:28 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Valley Street.

1:58 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1000 block of Locust Street.

3:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of unwanted subjects in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

4:07 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

4:21 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

9:17 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

### June 24

12:11 am: Officers responded to a report of a fight in the 600 block of East Commercial Street.

1:39 am: MENDOZA, Lauriana Elizabeth (24) of Willits and QUILTER, James Emanuel III (22) of Willits were contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street. Mendoza was arrested pursuant to 415 PC (Disturbing the Peace), 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), and on charges of disorderly conduct and felony resisting a police officer. Quilter was arrested pursuant to 415 PC (Disturbing the Peace), 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), and on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting an officer or emergency medical technician.

10:32 am: WAKEFIELD, Selah Marie (29) of

Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Coast Street following a report of a disturbance. She was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC (Domestic Battery).

6:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of South Main Street.

6:28 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

10:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious subjects in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

### June 25

10:58 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Alameda Avenue.

11:28 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

11:40 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of Hazel Street.

8 pm: SILVEY, Heather Michelle (37) of San Jose and ALEXANDER, Brian Norman (44) of Sunnyvale were contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street following a report of a vehicle theft. Silvey was arrested pursuant to 10851 VC (Vehicle Theft) and on charges of driving with a suspended license. Alexander was arrested on charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance.

10:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

Editor's Note: Last week's log was not available from the Willits Police Department, due to a technical problem, so Willits Weekly is printing 14 days of the log this week.

horse, Andy.

The 25th class, Western Equitation, 12 and under, first-place winner was Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel. Second place went to Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Buster. Third place went to Noah Willoughby and his horse, Buster.

The 26th class, Western Equitation, 13 to 17, first-place winner was Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch. Second place went to Keely Ahders and her horse, Violet.

The 27th class, Western Equitation, 18 and over, first-place winner was Sherry Boek and her horse, I'm Havin' Fun Sassin'. Second place went to Sue Lynn and her horse, Cee Lee.

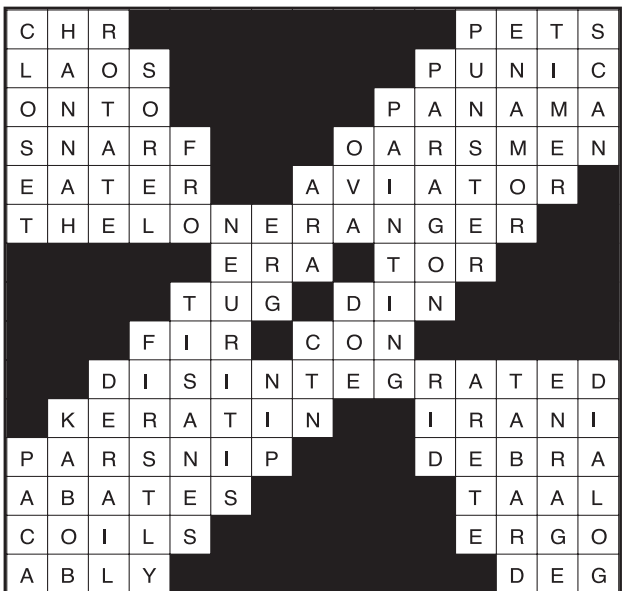
The 28th class, Western Equitation for locals 17 and under, was sponsored by Sue Clark. The Randy Clark Memorial/Mill Iron Ranch perpetual trophy was presented to first-place winner Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch. Second place went to Keely Ahders and her horse, Violet. Third place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel.

The 29th class, Horsemanship Open, first-place winner was Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch. Second place went to Sherry Boek and her horse, I'm Havin' Fun Sassin'. Third place went to Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Zoe. Fourth place went to Noah Willoughby and his horse, Buster. Fifth place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel.

The 30th class, Red, White and Blue Open, first-place winner was Noah Willoughby and his horse, Buster. Second place went Samantha Arms and her horse, S.R. Diamond Dutch. Third place went to Danielle Barry and her horse, Rebel. Fourth place went to Paige Whitcomb and her horse, Zoe. Fifth place went to Callie Brown and her horse, Andy.

Additional sponsors of the 2017 Willits Frontier Days Horse Show are Shuster's Transportation, Coast Hardware, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Flowers by Annette, Loose Caboose Café, 101 Trailer and RV, Alfred Kerr DDS, DripWorks, Rocking 40 Ranch, Sparetime Supply, Dan and Laura McBride, J&M Sheet Metal, and Joan Craighead.

Results provided by Kathryn Baechtel and compiled by Jackie Cobbs.





At right: Hanna Willoughby sings for the crowd during the contest.

Far right: Steven Daniel Hayes smiles when he is announced as one of the contest winners.

Below: All the contestants for the 2017 National Anthem Contest, including, from left: Hanna Willoughby, James Johnson, Camryn Johnson, Kelley Labus, Steven Daniel Hayes, David Walstad, Dawn McClelland, Erin Mendoza, and Julia and Lilian Hardy.

Photos by Maureen Moore



# Willits Frontier Days 2017 National Anthem Contest

The judges had their work cut out for them at the annual Willits Frontier Days National Anthem Contest last Sunday when a hugely talented group took to the lawn to sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

**Maureen Moore**  
Graphics & Photographress  
maureen@willitsweekly.com

Nine singers participated in eight groups to win the chance to sing the national anthem at the four opportunities during Willits Frontier Days: the daytime CCPRA rodeo on July 3, the Main Street Parade on July 4, the night time CCPRA rodeo on July 4, and the Junior Rodeo on July 2.

After each sang for the gathering of family friends and judges Johnetta Thomen, Jeanette Turner and Kera Colvard, two were named victorious. Steven Daniel Hayes of Covelo was named to sing at the two CCPRA rodeos, and Willits' Hanna Willoughby was chosen to sing for the Junior Rodeo and the Main Street Parade.

Hayes was an America's Got Talent contestant in 2013 and auditioned again in 2017. Hays was a contestant on

"The Voice" in 2016 and also auditioned again in 2017. From 2002 to 2004, Hayes sang in Nashville, Tennessee under the Kitty Wells label.

"I'm very honored and humbled to be a part of Willits Frontier Days this year," said Hayes. "I'm happy to be getting back into singing and getting back on my feet after returning from Nashville, and singing the National Anthem is something I'm very excited to do. After spending a lot of time in the South, I was inspired by their patriotism, we can use some more of that here in California. I'm proud to be from Round Valley and Covelo, and am excited to perform for the events this year."

Willoughby has had experience singing in public over the years and enjoys singing in her church choir.

"I love music," Willoughby said, "and have enjoyed taking singing classes at the local college as well as singing at my church, Bible Baptist Church.

"This year is the 90th year since my great-grandmother, Martha May Kelton, was the Willits Frontier Days sweetheart, and I thought it would be a fun experience to try out for the national anthem contest and be a part of Frontier Days too," Willoughby said. "Everyone

did such a great job singing, and hearing that I got second place was such an honor! I am so excited to be able to sing for the parade and the junior rodeo!"

In addition to the winners, singers included: James Johnson; Erin Mendoza, who teaches choir and singing at the Willits Charter School and gives voice lessons; David Walstad; Dawn McClelland, who has sang off and on at the Willits Community Christmas Chorale and spent time singing with the Willits High School Jazz Choir in the 1990s; Kelley Labus; Camryn Johnson; and duo Julia and Lilian Hardy. The Hardy sisters were previous winners of the National Anthem Contest. They have sung at the Hometown Celebration in years past, and plan to sing at the Loose Caboose Café.

"We had a lot of contestants that were all amazing singers this year," said Willits Frontier Days volunteer and anthem committee chair Kera Colvard. "It took some time to pick the winners! I want to thank everyone who came to sing, and hope to see you again next year."

The National Anthem contest was recorded live and is available to watch online. Log onto Facebook.com and look under "Willits Frontier Days Rodeo" for the live-recorded video. You can hear each singer perform as they did for the judges. The announcement of the winner is in a separate video posted just after.

Come see the two winners sing on July 2, 3 and 4.

Below: Contest officials and judges: at left, Johnetta Thomen and Jeanette Turner and, at right, Kera Colvard, pose with contest winners Steven Daniel Hayes, center, and Hanna Willoughby, center right.



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A Christ centered, progressive church  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
286 School St. (at Pine)  
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor  
Worship Celebration  
Sundays - 10:00 a.m.  
Children's Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.  
459-2855  
Facebook: www.facebook.com

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

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

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**  
1 North Main Street, Willits  
707-459-3066  
Church Services/Communion  
10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

If you want to be included in this column please call:  
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