



# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

## California School Employees

To the Editor:

Dear Willits community members: FYI, the California School Employees, local Chapter 261 of Willits had high hopes to better our salary schedule, so that community members of all ages will want to apply and work with the children in the greater Willits area.

We have yet to get there, considering our recently approved salary schedule.

Some positions have been impossible to fill: a diesel mechanic for instance starts at \$16.15 an hour, however, depending on experience and knowledge, that employee can enter at step C for \$17.78. Our health coordinator/nurse, meaning a vocational nurse or registered nurse, can only make up to \$15.74 to start. Although the health coordinator position has been filled, it took about four years.

The beginning range in the salary schedule starts at #4 at \$10 an hour with no raise for three years. (See salary schedule below.) Nonetheless, the executive board of the local Willits Chapter 261 would like to thank board members Laurie Harris and Alex Bowlds for their continued support of all employees working for Willits Unified.

## Classified Salary Schedule 2015-16

Range	Step A	Step B	Step C	Step D	Step E	Step F
1	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.31
2	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.09	10.56
3	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.01	10.31	10.84
4	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.10	10.56	11.13
5	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.31	10.85	11.38
6	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.10	10.56	11.14
7	10.00	10.00	10.34	10.86	11.38	11.96
8	10.00	10.10	10.59	11.26	11.68	12.27
9	10.00	10.33	10.86	11.38	11.97	12.58
10	10.11	10.59	11.15	11.66	12.26	12.87
11	10.34	10.87	11.40	11.95	12.58	13.19
12	10.64	11.15	11.69	12.25	12.88	13.52
13	10.87	11.41	11.98	12.56	13.20	13.87
14	11.16	11.72	12.27	12.86	13.55	14.24
15	11.41	12.00	12.59	13.22	13.87	14.56
16	11.72	12.29	12.89	13.52	14.24	14.95
17	12.00	12.60	13.25	13.84	14.58	15.30
18	12.29	12.90	13.56	14.22	14.96	15.72
19	12.60	13.26	13.88	14.53	15.30	16.10
20	12.90	13.57	14.25	14.92	15.73	16.51
21	13.26	13.90	14.58	15.28	16.11	16.92
22	13.57	14.26	14.96	15.69	16.51	17.33
23	13.91	14.60	15.32	16.09	16.93	17.76
24	14.26	14.97	15.74	16.47	17.35	18.20
25	14.62	15.33	16.13	16.89	17.75	18.65
26	14.99	15.70	16.52	17.30	18.23	19.12
27	15.34	16.13	16.94	17.71	18.66	19.57
28	15.75	16.53	17.36	18.17	19.14	20.10
29	16.15	16.96	17.78	18.63	19.60	20.62
30	16.53	17.38	18.24	19.11	20.09	21.12
31	16.72	17.56	18.43	19.35	20.32	21.34

## The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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Jeanne King, Willits

The Willits Chapter 261 executive board is reaching out to Willits residents in hopes someone will step up and better the current system, and ask for appointment to the school board, as there is one empty seat to be filled by appointment. Thank you.

## Classified School Employees executive board, local Chapter 261

### Coastal Cleanup September 19

To the Editor:

Greetings to the greater Willits community!

It's that time again. The California Coastal Cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 9 am to 12 pm.

All volunteers should arrive at City Hall between 8 and 9 am for registration and to choose which area or creek you wish to work on.

Once again we will be focused on the five creeks running through town and a few areas with significant trash buildup. The City of Willits will be providing trash bags, latex gloves and trash bag pickup. Please dress appropriately, with heavy gloves, boots, a hat and long pants.

We have every reason to expect heavier than normal rainfall in the coming winter so it's doubly important that we address the trash before it washes into the creeks and eventually the Eel River. Bring a friend, and let's all have a great time making Willits cleaner.

Please contact me if you have any questions, at 459-7122.

John Sherman, Willits

## Mitigation contractor's good work

To the Editor:

The mitigation work in Little Lake Valley, associated with the Willits bypass project, is now in full swing. Seeing the green gates with "HARC" and the obvious earthwork going on, I got curious as to who HARC was. HARC stands for Hanford Applied Restoration & Conservation, usually referred to as Hanford ARC.

HARC specializes in stream, wetland, revegetation and native grass seeding projects, as well as other related large-scale landscape restoration and construction projects. They have done work in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore, and the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, among many other places. Their website gives in-depth descriptions of various projects they have been involved with, including photographs of projects in process.

One of Hanford ARC's wetlands restoration projects that I found particularly interesting was the Giacomini project in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 550 acre Giacomini Dairy had leveed a tidal zone in the 1940s to reclaim land for cattle grazing. The Giacomini wetlands restoration project restored 12 percent of California's outer coastal wetlands along the central coast and 50 percent of the vegetated intertidal Tomales Bay wetlands.

There is a wonderful 15-minute video on the National Park Service website regarding this project. Hanford ARC was presented with a U.S Department of the Interior award for its work on the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration. Since the work was completed, increases in the duck population and breeding bird species have been noted. Sightings of bald eagles and otters have increased. Rare salt marsh plants have spread rapidly into the new marsh habitat.

According to Hanford ARC's website, after construction is complete, HARC's "maintenance and monitoring crews provide the follow-through to make sure your project achieves the desired results".

It is important to take into consideration that our Little Lake Valley wetlands are not pristine, native wetlands. They have been significantly altered for agricultural use over the past 150 years. Hopefully, the mitigation work being done by HARC will restore some of the natural quality of our wetlands.

Whether you are pro-bypass, anti-bypass or just an acceptor of the bypass, I hope you will go on the website for Hanford Applied Restoration & Conservation to read about and look at some of the wonderful habitat restoration projects they have been associated with.

## Wetlands creation areas

To the Editor:

A letter to Congressman Jared Huffman, State Senator Mike McGuire, Assemblyman Jim Wood, and Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse:

This is an urgent request for an immediate meeting with you to discuss Caltrans' extremely destructive activities in the Willits bypass mitigation lands in the northern part of Little Lake Valley, especially along Davis Creek and Outlet Creek.

Caltrans' earth-moving activities on the mitigation lands, contracted to Hanford ARC, have revealed extensive archeological artifacts that, according to the provisions of the National Historical Preservation Act, should necessitate an immediate halt of such activities until further site identification and avoidance measures can be undertaken, rather than waiting until bulldozing activities have been completed as is Caltrans' current operating plan.

Caltrans' excavation in so-called "wetlands creation areas" has removed several inches to several feet of rich top soil that plays an essential role in carbon sequestration, soil fertility, groundwater retention, wildlife habitat and erosion control, among many other things.

It is unimaginable that this stripping of top soil could be implemented in the name of wetlands mitigation. Most urgently, we would like to see a halt to all ground-disturbing activities in the mitigation lands until resource agencies, tribes and Caltrans meet to agree on cultural site protection.

Also urgently, we would like to request your assistance in arranging a community meeting with Caltrans, where all interested members of the public would be invited to express their concerns about the activities on the mitigation lands, where Caltrans and Hanford ARC could present their activities and plans for the mitigation lands, and where we could develop some improved mechanisms for dialogue between the citizens of Little Lake Valley and Caltrans.

P.S. Please click on this link to view a very informative 14-minute video about Caltrans' activities on the mitigation lands. <http://youtu.be/E2HbRVVqZKA>

Ellen Drell, Willits Environmental Center; Priscilla Hunter, Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians; Madge Strong, Save Our Little Lake Valley; Ana Cox, Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese and Summer Breeze Organic Farm; Sara Grusky, Green Uprising Farm and Save Our Little Lake Valley

## Becoming a charter county

To the Editor:

I am very grateful that Vandana Shiva has offered to make a presentation on September 7 as a fundraiser for our campaign to get a county charter on the June 2016 ballot.

Dr. Shiva is an internationally known author and activist who continually works to uphold the rights of people and of nature. She is particularly known for her fight against the huge seed companies that have been stealing and patenting plants that are the birthright of the people of her native India.

The Charter Project's path is interwoven with hers as we seek to educate our local communities and encourage them to take charge of the decisions that will guide our future and that of the beautiful land that surrounds us.

Why is it important to be a charter county? The California Constitution states that all political power is inherent in the people. Having a charter allows the people of a county to reclaim that power and have a greater say in their own governance. Fourteen California counties already have charters and have been able to implement changes specific to their own situation and needs. For example:

Santa Clara County has no charge for a candidate statement in the voter pamphlet, and they're allowed to have Instant Runoff Voting.

San Francisco (city and county) has established the "precautionary principle" as the framework for their policies. There are parental leave policies for supervisors and other county employees. They also have a ban against the county/city using tropical hardwood and virgin redwood.

Butte County established a Treasury Oversight Committee that allows agencies, school districts and the public to guide investment of the county's funds.

According to the California Constitution, the provisions of a charter are the law of the state and have the force and effect of legislative enactments. We choose to become a charter county to have our voices heard on issues that impact our economy, resources and everyday life.

Becoming a charter county will not instantly create the kind of governance we might visualize. But it's another tool to work with as we seek to build a partnership with our county government that will serve the county, the people and our environment.

I'm a member of the Charter Project of Mendocino County and invite you to join us to hear Vandana Shiva in person. At Little Lake Grange, Monday, September 7 from 6 to 9 pm. There will also be hors d'oeuvres, wine, and a silent auction.

Mary Zellachild, Willits



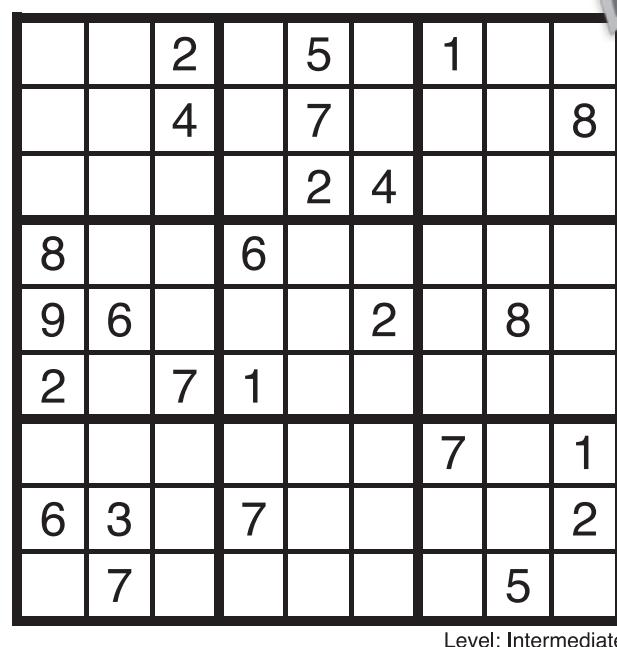
## Welcome home!

Cross-country cyclists raise \$8,425 with 'Pedal for Polio'

A happy, celebratory group of about 60 friends, family, Rotarians, and others gathered beneath the Willits Arch on Main Street on August 12 to welcome Brad Walton and Steve Kesling home. Walton, along with his friend and former WHS woodshop teacher Steve Kesling, completed a 65-day bike ride of 3,760 miles from Williamsburg, Virginia to San Francisco as a fundraiser for the Rotary Polio Eradication Fund. Willits Police followed the

# Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku

PUZZLE  
ANSWERS  
ON  
PAGE 9



## How To Sudoku:

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

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## CLUES ACROSS

- Munich jazz label
- A lump of clay
- Showy ornament
- \_\_\_ Girl, brand of beer
- Aka Kissavos
- Warmest season of the year
- 2nd longest Bulgarian river
- Records the brain's electric currents
- Cutting part of a drill
- Colorful Italian city
- The last part
- Pouch
- "Mad Men" creator
- No (Scottish)
- Actress Farrow
- Focus cars (Co. initials)
- Snakelike fish
- One point E of due S
- Grey sea eagle
- Female "Mad Men" star
- Actress Lupino
- Time units (abbr.)
- Moses' elder brother
- 4th Caliph of Islam
- Treaty of Rome creation
- Theatrical play
- Told on
- "To tie" in Spanish
- Amidst
- Exchange for money
- Bar game missile
- Pluto or \_\_\_ Pater
- In a way, tangled
- WWII female grunts
- Nothing
- Hoover's organization
- Before
- Patti Hearst's captors
- One point S of due E
- Film splicer & viewer
- Something curved in shape
- Possessed
- Patagonian hares
- Gave a formal speech
- Resident of Mogadishu
- Tangles
- Annona diversifolia
- Mures river city
- Same as 15 across
- Explosive

The rest of Walton | From Page 3

Traffic wasn't too much of a problem, but Walton mentioned the coal trucks were nerve-racking because of their massive size, the endless stream of them, and the speed at which they traveled. His first 100-mile day was when they cycled over the Sierras – he didn't find those mountains as difficult as he anticipated because of the gradual climb.

Rotary Clubs throughout Walton's journey across the U.S. offered him and Kesling housing, either in their homes or yards or, in one case, via a donation of a two-bedroom suite at the Ice House in Telluride. Other clubs helped with meals and donations to the Pedal for Polio Fund.

According to the Rotary website, Rotary, UNICEF and their partners have reduced polio cases by 99 percent worldwide since their first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979. While there were only 370 cases confirmed worldwide last year, the remaining countries of Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan have presented a difficult challenge due to geographical isolation, poor public infrastructure, and armed conflict and cultural barriers.

Reflecting on the challenges of the ride, Walton said that for him, the scariest part of the trip was a day he discovered several ticks on his body. He also found the rain and humidity in Virginia a challenge that made the state seem endless. Kentucky and Tennessee's rolling hills were a trial because it would take 15 minutes to climb about 150 feet in elevation, five minutes to go down the hill, and then he would start all over again at the bottom of the next hill. He found the strong head winds made for difficult cycling on a few of the days.

Holly Walton, Brad's daughter, said that donations continue to come in, with donations to the fund drive reaching \$8,425. Donations can be made by check and mailed to 40 West Mendocino Street in Willits or made online at the Brad Pedal for Polio Go Fund Me website, <http://www.gofundme.com/bradpedalfopolio>.

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# SATURDAY SLOT TOURNAMENTS

**EARLY SESSION**

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE...\$100 CASH  
2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE...\$50 CASH  
3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE....\$30 CASH  
4<sup>TH</sup> THRU 6<sup>TH</sup>...\$25 FREE PLAY (EACH)

Registration starts at 11A  
Tournament Starts at 1P  
-40 Points redeemed (points must be earned on the particular Saturday)  
-Limited space available  
-3 Minute Tournament

**EVENING SESSION**

August 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE...\$200 CASH  
2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE...\$150 CASH  
3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE....\$100 CASH  
4<sup>TH</sup> THRU 6<sup>TH</sup>...\$50 FREE PLAY (EACH)

Registration starts at 6P  
Tournament starts at 8P  
80 Points redeemed (points must be earned on the particular Saturday)  
-Limited space available  
-3 Minute Tournament

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**STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON** (R) 2 hrs 27 mins Fri-Sun: 1:40, 4:50 & 8:00pm Mon-Thurs: 3:50 & 7:00pm Movie Times for 8/21 thru 8/27

**THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.** (PG13) 1 hr 56 mins Fri-Sun: 1:00, 3:30, 6:00 & 8:30pm Daily thru Thurs: 2:30, 5:00 & 6:45pm This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

**RICKI & THE FLASH** - One Week Only - (PG13) 1 hr 41 mins Daily thru Thurs: 2:15, 4:30 & 6:45pm

**4<sup>TH</sup> KINETIC CARNIVAL STEAMPUNK FILM "9"** Aug. 21-23 at 9:00pm All tickets \$5.00

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Community HU Song

In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, August 27, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

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Goats for Sale in Willits. 707-483-0741.

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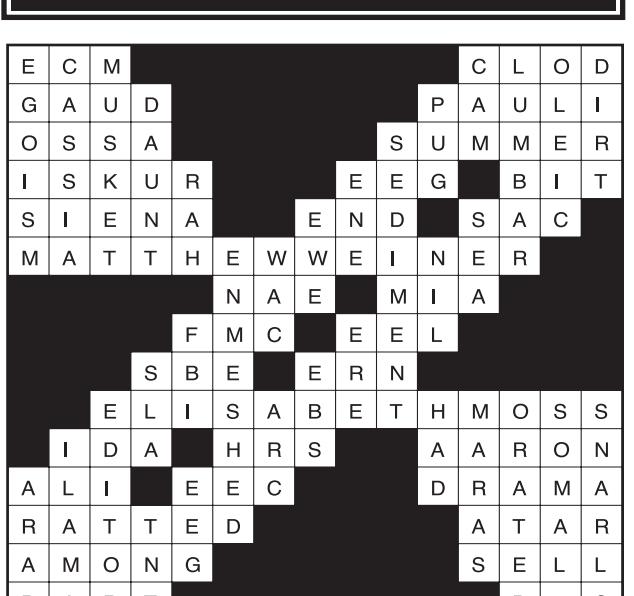
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Willits Weekly | August 20, 2015

The rest of Garden From Page 5

artist in the collective, was also on hand to answer questions about the techniques used in the garden and to outline future plans for further development of the garden and house. He provided information about the huge raised garden bed called a "hugelkultur." This German method uses rotten logs as a base. Compost and dirt are then added to create the garden bed. As time goes by, the logs rot and the bed becomes loaded with nutrients and air pockets. This creates an incredibly rich soil with plenty of room for the root system to develop.

A short walk away was Phoenix Rising, the garden and classroom of Ron Woolsey of Living Sculpture Studios. In just two short years, Woolsey, who studied agriculture at Napa Junior College, has helped transform this empty lot into a fantastic garden filled with raised beds topped with beautiful and sometimes whimsical art created by Woolsey. The tour group was impressed with the "wedding cake" three-tiered raised beds topped with Woolsey's sculptures.

He told the group that a major influence to his gardening style was his two years with Alan Chadwick in Covelo. Chadwick, who is called by some the greatest horticulturist of the 20th century, developed and taught the Biodynamic French Intensive Method of gardening. Woolsey said he is thankful that he could train with Chadwick, and he incorporates many of Chadwick's methods to create his lush garden.

Woolsey said he would have a difficult time watering the garden he has without the help of the well located on the property. He uses drip and timers to water depending on the soil type. He recommended stopping overhead watering, to always deep water your plants' roots, and to water well before summer and fall rains. He said that sprinkling plants with water from a hose just confuses the plants into thinking more rain is coming and weakens them.

Woolsey teaches classes on gardening, in a partnership with North Coast Opportunities, on the first Saturday of the month from 11 to 3 pm. Contact Woolsey either by text or voicemail for more details at 707-489-5408.

Our next stop was the home of Annie Waters and Richard Jergensen. By then, the day was heating up to the mid-60s and the cool shade of Waters' lush garden was a welcome relief. Besides the beautiful antique claw foot bathtub and outdoor shower, the pièce de résistance for the group was Waters's 3,000 gallon water tank. She shared that the tank, which takes advantage of the rainwater from the gutters, takes about one day to fill when the rain is heavy.

Her experience in using greywater for landscape watering from her 1926 house had her warning the group about the difficulties with trying to plumb old houses for this water-saving technique. She has found that the pipes are rarely where you think they are, and everything costs much more than expected.

Waters and Jergensen used a design of berms and swales developed by Max Meyer, founder of Mendocino Ecological Learning Center, in their garden, and have been extremely happy with the results. One unexpected result of the drought has been that their grapes, which have received little water, are doing extremely well, and they expect a bumper crop.

A short walk away, we visited the garden of Scott and Patricia McKeon-Toliver. They decided to take advantage of California's "Every Drop Counts" tax credit, and replaced their lawn with an edible garden. The results are stunning! Their well-planned vegetable garden of tomatoes,

in a conversation about the tour over lunch, many members of the group said they thoroughly enjoyed the different gardeners' ideas on water conservation. Patricia Wilson, who took the tour, said she "enjoyed the tour and was pleased to see so many others interested in gardening during drought conditions. It was nice to learn how ingenious folks can be when natural resources are scarce."

For more information on becoming a member of WELL, please go to www.well95490.org or visit the WELL table at the Willits Farmers Market every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm at City Park.



## Grateful Gleaners

will pick your extra produce

The Grateful Gleaners are looking for orchard owners and gardeners who have more produce than they can harvest. We glean and deliver the bounty to Willits Community Services & Food Bank, Willits Daily Bread, the Kids Club and after-school programs, and other local agencies that serve our community. The drought has affected food prices and availability everywhere. Whatever you can contribute to feed hungry families is greatly appreciated.

Please call 513-9484 and leave a message with your name, phone number, the types of fruit, vegetables or nuts you have, and when you think they will be ready (or if it needs to be picked right away). Someone will contact you within two days.

Thank you to our generous growers and our volunteer gleaners who have helped distribute many thousands of pounds of healthy food over the past decade. You have made a positive difference in people's lives!

(Please note that we only take produce that is not sprayed with pesticides or herbicides. Dormant oil sprays and other non-toxic pest and weed control substances are okay.)

- The Grateful Gleaners

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

## FLEA MARKET & BBQ

SATURDAY, AUG. 22<sup>ND</sup>  
8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.  
HARRAH SENIOR CENTER

Don't forget to check out our low prices in the Thrift Store! Lots of kids clothes just in time for the new school year!

Parking spaces available to rent from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. \$20/each, 2/\$30. Members: \$15/each, 2/\$25. Contact Mariya to Reserve a Space: 459-6826



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cabbage, kale, chard, pumpkins, beans and much more – interspersed with flowers – encompasses their entire front yard. Lava rock was placed in between raised beds to eliminate weeds and gives a tidy look to this urban garden.

Scott said he has a 300-gallon water tank for catching the rain. During a good storm, he said it takes about 15 minutes to fill. He uses most of that water at the end of the growing season when the groundwater is less plentiful. He makes a manure tea with chicken manure and uses it to give the plants a boost during the growing season. It must work, because the tomatoes are huge and the winter squash is growing over the fence!

The group's next stop was at Don Willis and Dobbe Wattenberg's home. As covered in the July 9, 2015 issue of the Willits Weekly, Willis and Wattenberg decided to remove the lawn in front of their home and replace it with an edible "Three Sisters" garden of Anasazi corn, scarlet runner beans and kabocha squash, along with a few sunflowers.

Willis said they prepared their garden plot by digging out as much of the lawn as possible. They then covered the 16 foot by 16 foot area with sheep manure, topped the area with black plastic, and let it rest for three months to kill the remaining plants. He has been very pleased with the condition of the soil and how few weeds have come up this summer.

Jerry Jordan, author of the Willits Weekly article, designed and installed the drip irrigation for this garden in just under four hours. Jordan, with his wife Cheryl, has a Facebook page called "DripLines: Adventures with Drip Irrigation." Willis and Wattenberg decided to use dual wind-up timers and drip lines for the two zones in their yard. Because the rose bed in front of the house, with its heirloom roses, was left in place, they needed a separate drip line with a separate timer to meet the roses' specific watering needs. The other drip line is for the vegetables. This system allows them to set the timer for the vegetables at 15 minutes twice daily, which equals about 15 gallons of water a day. The roses are watered deeply and less frequently.

Willis said the system has "worked beautifully," as evidenced by the prolific growth of the vegetables. The brick walkway that was supposed to allow harvesting of the vegetables is completely overgrown. The squash has pretty much crowded out the beans, but the corn continues to thrive. A few sunflowers poke up between the cornstalks. Willis said that spreading weed-free rice straw throughout the garden, at a depth of 6 inches, has also helped retain the garden's moisture. When Willis mentioned squash thrives as a problem, several of the group moaned in agreement and said these bugs have been a problem this year. Willis found that neem oil has worked best to knock down the infestation.

As the group returned to Brookside School Farm, many members stopped along the way to admire another garden on West Mendocino that transformed a typical suburban front yard into a wonderful haven of beauty.

In a conversation about the tour over lunch, many members of the group said they thoroughly enjoyed the different gardeners' ideas on water conservation. Patricia Wilson, who took the tour, said she "enjoyed the tour and was pleased to see so many others interested in gardening during drought conditions. It was nice to learn how ingenious folks can be when natural resources are scarce."

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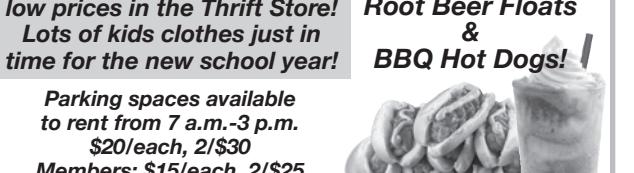


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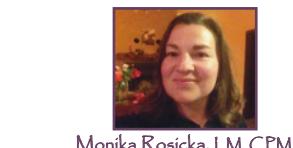
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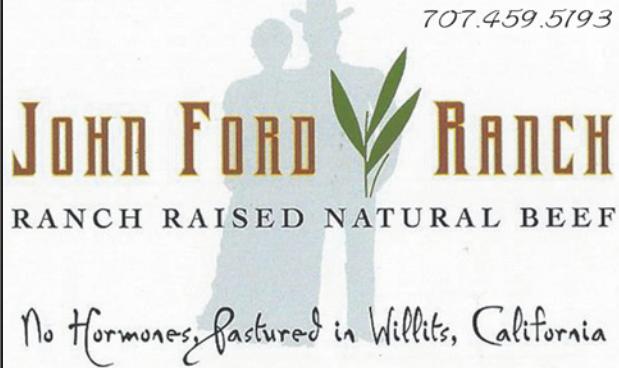
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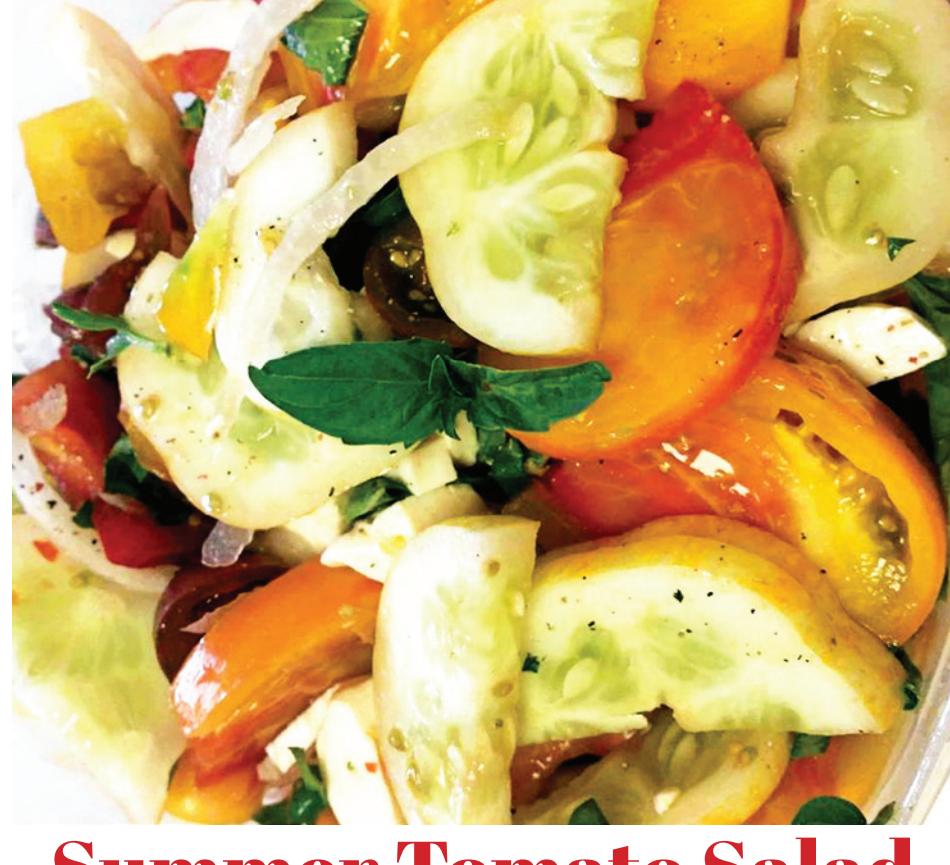
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[nancyrice48@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyrice48@yahoo.com)



Above: Several of the youth exhibitors who received cash prizes from Born and Raised in Mendocino County at the 2015 Redwood Empire Fair. Photo by Maureen Moore



## Summer Tomato Salad

This delightful and refreshing tomato salad is best made just before serving to bring out all of its flavor. Refrigerating tomatoes tend to reduce the quality of the summer's fullest taste. Serves 4.

4 medium heirloom tomatoes  
1 basket pear or cherry tomatoes  
1 small sweet onion, thinly sliced  
4 lemon cucumbers  
1/2 cup basil, julienne sliced  
8 ounces ciliegine (cherry-sized) fresh mozzarella balls  
3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil  
3 tablespoons freshly squeezed Meyers lemon juice  
Salt and black pepper to taste

Cut heirloom tomatoes into wedges, and then cut those in half. Cut pear tomatoes in half horizontally.

Cut lemon cucumbers in half horizontally and, with fleshy side down, cut into quarter-inch slices.

Drain the ciliegine mozzarella balls, and cut each one in half.

Place the cut tomatoes, cucumbers, onion, basil and halved mozzarella balls into a medium-sized bowl and toss gently.

Whisk together balsamic vinegar, olive oil and Meyers lemon juice in a small bowl.

Pour vinegar mixture over tossed tomato mixture.

Season with fresh cracked black pepper and salt. Garnish with fresh basil tops.

- Recipe by Kathryn Sterngold



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A letter from ...

# The Principal of Willits High School

Robert Chavez

**I**t is with great honor, excitement and humility that I, Robert Chavez, assume the position of principal serving our secondary schools in the Willits community. I will work very hard to maintain the spirit and traditions in providing the very best education for our students and families.

New Horizons High School will continue to deliver an independent study program to meet the needs of students that require flexibility in their daily schedule. The staff at New Horizons High School is eager for the school year to begin, and they are looking forward to providing a unique learning experience for the students.

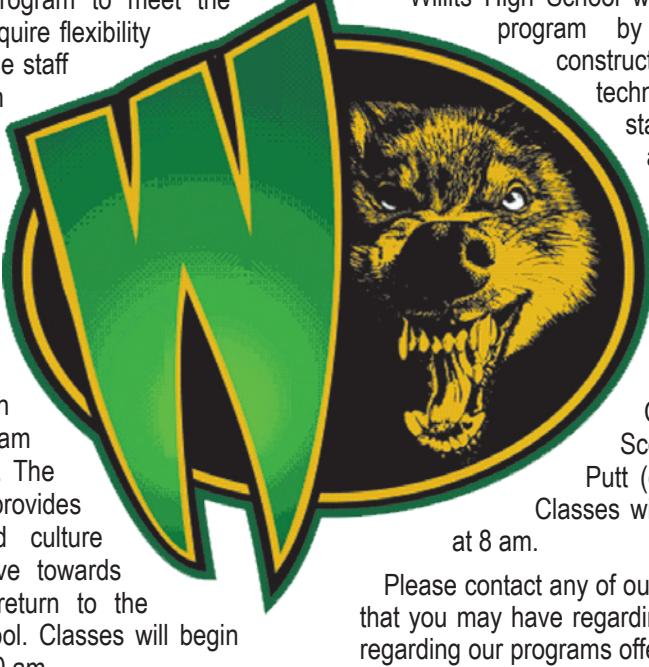
Sanhedrin High School has advanced the elective program through an expanded art program and horticulture activities. The caring staff genuinely provides a different climate and culture for our students to thrive towards a SHS diploma or to return to the comprehensive high school. Classes will begin Monday, August 24 at 8:30 am.

Willits High School is looking forward to an exciting

school year, with the students leading the charge in providing a more cohesive and spirited student body. The student leadership team attended leadership training over the summer in Santa Barbara, and they will bring their newly acquired skills and strategies to their leadership as they build the foundation for a winning school year.

Willits High School will also expand the elective program by adding woodshop and construction classes to our career technical education program. The staff is dedicated to establishing a rigorous, engaging learning experience with a myriad of extra-curricular opportunities in developing well-rounded students. We extend a warm welcome to our newest teachers; Edward Cannon (special education), Scott Rentzer (math), and John Putt (career technical education). Classes will begin Monday, August 24 at 8 am.

Please contact any of our schools with any questions that you may have regarding enrollment or information regarding our programs offered at our high schools. We are here to make a difference in the lives of your children to reach their educational goals and aspirations.



A letter from ...

# The Principal of Baechtel Grove Middle School

Maria de los Angeles Munguia



Basically we have merged several programs into a comprehensive approach to the Common Core State Standards to develop a teaching methodology whereby our students experience success. Every teacher, subject area, student, and staff member at BGMS is to be congratulated for contributing to our success!

All of us at Baechtel Grove Middle School look forward to seeing each of our students back on Monday, August 24. Our students and staff are excited about our learning and teaching, the connection we have made with many local businesses and organizations in Willits, and continuing our award-winning programs. The staff at Baechtel Grove Middle School wants to welcome our sixth-grade families, and welcome back our seventh- and eighth-grade families.

Teachers are implementing the Common Core standards. In our language arts classes we have used the California State University units in expository reading and writing, and exemplary AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) strategies with expected success. Our students are learning to read closely, analyze their readings, access resources, and formulate a position. In sixth-grade language arts and social studies, teachers use project-based learning lessons. This style of teaching proves to be student-centered, project-based, and connected to real world experiences.

In mathematics students learn to justify their answers, and connect the mathematics in their lives. What parents have found is that students do not have traditional textbooks, nor do they perform rote learning as they have done in the past. We are excited to announce that with the use of the CPM (College Preparatory Mathematics) program, students have engaged with mathematical ideas in collaborative work with others. In this way they perform, every day, the mathematical practices in the Common Core standards.

This year we are also adding an AVID elective at the seventh-grade level. AVID is a college preparatory program that supports underrepresented student populations to be prepared to attend a four-year university after high school. Students at the seventh- and eighth-grade level have applied and were selected to take the AVID elective this year, creating two full classes of students who are ready to learn the study skills necessary to prepare for college. This year we will continue to progress in creating a "college-going environment" at BGMS.

Baechtel Grove students continue to be exposed to several exploratory classes, as well as being provided with academic support. We are excited about continuing to offer an opportunity for students to learn music and guitar playing, the arts, ceramics and video production, and career awareness in the "College and Career" class.

This year Baechtel Grove Middle School will once again be partnering with our community help organizations, and our businesses and local work world, to involve students in a Stand Up Week, and a College and Career Week. The purpose of the Stand Up Week is to bring social and societal awareness to students, using experts from organizations that work with social issues. Students research and make presentations about social issues, participate in activities involving social issues, and culminate their week with presentations from our community experts. The same format is used for the College and Career Week, with students researching and making presentations about college requirements, participating in activities involving university systems, and culminating their week with presentations from experts in many different career fields. Both weeks are encouraging and interactive for students, thanks to the help we are provided by the Willits community.

Once again this year we will be involving our incoming sixth-graders in the WEB program, thanks to funding

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

**W**e are very proud to announce that Baechtel Grove Middle School received recognition as a Gold Ribbon School 2015 and a Title I Achieving School by the California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, and the California Department of Education! These awards are a direct reflection of the dedication, hard work and vision of our school's educational community.

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Stand Up Week

College and Career Week

WEB Program

Community Help Organizations

Local Work World

Businesses

Stand Up Week

College and Career Week

WEB Program

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Local Work World

Businesses

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College and Career Week

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WEB Program

Community Help Organizations

Local Work World

Businesses

Stand Up Week

College and Career Week

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# Morning Bus Schedule

Bus #3 am Brooktrails		WHS	7:40
Airport Side / South-West Area		Lenore Gardens (pick up Brookside & Blosser Lane students)	7:43
Robinson	7:08	Creekside Apts. (pick up Baechtel, Brookside & Blosser Lane students)	7:45
Madrone Dr.	7:10	Central & Alameda	7:48
Crawford Dr.	7:11	56 Hwy. 20	7:50
Daphne Dr.	7:12	Blosser Lane	7:53
Poppy at stop sign	7:13	Baechtel Grove	7:56
Harrah Place	7:14	Catholic Church	8:00
Alcott Lane	7:16	Brookside	8:11
Top of Mallard	7:17		
Lupine Dr.	7:20		
Primrose	7:22		
Lilac Terr.	7:26		
End of grass lot before you get to Rose Terr.	7:28		
Tulip Dr.	7:30		
Camellia Dr.	7:32		
WHS (pick up Brookside & Blosser Lane students)	7:42		
Brookside (pick up Blosser & Baechtel Grove students)	7:47		
Raymond Lane (pick up Blosser & Baechtel Grove students)	7:51		
Blosser Lane	7:55		
Baechtel Grove	8:00		
Bus #8 am Sherwood Road / Northwest Brooktrails Lenore			
24441 Sherwood Rd.	6:53		
Mallard	6:58		
28011 Raymond's Dr.	7:00		
Second Gate	7:07		
Third Gate	7:10		
West side of Oriole Dr.	7:20		
Coyote Rd.	7:21		
Bear	7:23		
Perch	7:26		
Poppy & Primrose	7:27		
Goose	7:29		
Robin	7:30		
Golf Shop	7:32		
Birch Terr.	7:35		

# Afternoon Bus Schedule

Bus #3 pm Brooktrails - Southwest Area & Airport Side of Sherwood Road		Reg	Tue	Alameda & Central	3:28	2:07	Poppy Dr. at stop sign	4:03	2:42
Brookside	2:49	1:29		Baechtel Grove	3:33	2:12	Harrah Place	4:06	2:45
Penn St.	3:15	1:54		WHS	3:38	2:17	Alcott Dr.	4:08	2:47
Lenore & E.Valley	3:20	1:59		Robinson Rd.	3:45	2:24	Hawk	4:10	2:49
347 East San Francisco	3:25	2:04		Madrone Dr.	3:50	2:29	Top of Mallard on Poppy	4:12	2:51

Have a great year, Class of 2016!



## Back to School Checkups

School Physicals (CHDP checkups)  
Dental screening FREE (Kindergarten only)  
Immunizations



LITTLE LAKE  
HEALTH CENTER  
(707) 456-9600  
45 HAZEL STREET  
WILLITS  
WE ACCEPT Medicare, Medi-Cal, Partnership and other insurance.  
[www.mchcinc.org](http://www.mchcinc.org)

WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT today announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program. Each school and/or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free, reduced-price, or full-price meal benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown here are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Children who receive Food Stamps (FS), California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (Kin-GAP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits are automatically eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside. Eligibility for a foster child is based on a separate application and solely on the amount of the child's "personal use" income.

### U.S. Department of Agriculture

#### Income Eligibility Guidelines - Willits Unified School District for Free and Reduced-Price Meals or Free Milk in Child Nutrition Programs (Effective from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016)

Participants from households with incomes at or below the following levels may be eligible for free and reduced-price meals or free milk:

Free Eligibility Scale for Lunch, Breakfast, and Milk				Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale for Lunch and Breakfast							
Household size	Year	Month	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Year	Month	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	
1	\$ 15,301	\$ 1,276	\$ 638	\$ 589	\$ 295	\$ 21,775	\$ 1,815	\$ 908	\$ 838	\$ 419	
2	20,709	1,726	863	797	399	29,471	2,456	1,228	1,134	567	
3	26,117	2,177	1,089	1,005	503	37,167	3,739	1,549	1,430	715	
4	31,525	2,628	1,314	1,213	607	44,863	4,380	2,190	2,022	1,011	
5	36,933	3,078	1,539	1,421	711	52,559	5,022	2,511	2,318	1,159	
6	42,341	3,529	1,765	1,629	815	60,255	5,663	2,832	2,614	1,307	
7	47,749	3,980	1,990	1,837	919	67,951	6,304	3,152	2,910	1,455	
8	53,157	4,430	2,215	2,045	1,023	75,647					
For each additional family member, add:											
	\$ 5,408	\$ 451	\$ 226	\$ 208	\$ 104	\$ 7,696	\$ 642	\$ 321	\$ 296	\$ 148	

Read the rest of Bus Schedule | Over on Page B7

Bus #10 am South-West Area/South Hwy. 101 to White Deer Lodge	
Manor Way at stop sign (pick up Baechtel Grove & WHS students)	7:43
Holland's Lane (First dirt turn out)	7:45
Holland's Lane north end	7:48
Ez Living	7:50
Parkside Trailer Park	7:53
White Deer Lodge	7:55
Berry Hill Court	7:59
Alice (pick up Baechtel Grove & WHS students)	7:11
110 Sandy (pick up Baechtel Grove & WHS students)	7:12
Center Valley	7:16
Lois Lane	7:18
22101 Mitomkai	7:23
2740 Center Valley	7:28
2600 Center Valley	7:29
2540 Center Valley	7:30
2430 Center Valley (frog mailbox)	7:31
2210 Center Valley	7:32
1800 Center Valley	7:33
City Park (brown trash box, east of MTA stop)	7:37
WHS	7:40
School & Wood St.	7:43
Blosser Lane	7:47
Baechtel Grove	7:50

Bus #10 am Second run: Blosser Lane & Brookside only	
Little Lake Auto	7:54
Manor Way	7:57
Sandy Lane	8:00
21100 Baechtel Rd.	8:02
Adams Tire	8:03
Blosser Lane (pick up Brookside students)	8:08
Baechtel Grove	8:11
Brookside	8:15

Bus #8 pm Brooktrails North/West Area & Sherwood Road	
Brookside	2:48
Baechtel Grove (Magnolia at stairs)	2:53
Blosser	2:58
Raymond Lane	3:03
Coast & San Francisco (Catholic Church)	3:06
Grange	3:08
WHS	3:11
Baechtel Grove	3:15
Hwy. 20 (pole just past Jack in the Box)	3:18
Raymond Lane	3:21
Brookside	3:26
24441 Sherwood Rd.	3:30
Mom's Country Store (with note only)	3:35
Mallard	3:39
West Side of Oriole Dr.	3:42
Coyote Rd	3:44
Bear	3:47
Perch	3:50
Primrose (stop sign)	3:52
Goose	3:56
Robin	3:58
Golf Shop	4:01
28011 Raymond's Drive	4:10
Second Gate	4:20
Third Gate	4:25

Bus #9 pm North Valley - North Hwy. 101	
Brookside School	2:49
West San Francisco (Catholic Church)	2:52
Franklin	2:54
Blosser School	2:56
Willow Lane	3:02
21100 Baechtel Rd	3:05

Bus #10 pm South-West Area/South Hwy. 101 to White Deer Lodge	




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Wherever you live in Mendocino and surrounding counties, you are never too far from an Adventist Health primary care or specialty doctor. Through these services you'll receive care that is integrated so no matter what office you enter you'll never be a stranger.

**Fort Bragg**  
Fort Bragg Rural Health Center  
Primary and Specialty Care  
850 Sequoia Circle | Fort Bragg, CA 95437  
707.964.0259

**Lakeport**  
Adventist Heart Institute  
Cardiology  
475 N. Forbes St. | Lakeport, CA 95453  
707.263.6346

**Lakeport**  
Lakeport Rural Health Center  
Pediatrics and Internal Medicine  
Lab Services  
487 S. Main Street | Lakeport, CA 95453  
707.263.4360

**Willits**  
Redwood Medical Clinic  
Family Medicine  
88 Madrone | Willits, CA 95490  
707.459.6115

**Ukiah**  
Adventist Heart Institute  
Cardiology  
115 Hospital Drive | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.463.2400

**Mendocino Family Care**  
Family Medicine  
115 Hospital Drive | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.467.5275

**Ukiah Valley Rural Health Center**  
Allergy Oncology  
Behavioral Health Pain Management  
Family Medicine Pediatrics  
Internal Medicine Urology  
Ophthalmology  
260 Hospital Drive | Ukiah CA, 95482  
707.463.8000  
  
Womens Health  
1050 N. State Street | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.462.2945  
  
Ophthalmology  
248-B Hospital Drive | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.467.5250

**Ukiah Valley Medical Specialties**  
Orthopedics and Physical Medicine  
260 Hospital Dr., Suite 107 | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.467.5278

Gastroenterology  
415 Hospital Drive | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.467.5275

General, Bariatric, Plastic and  
Reconstructive Cosmetic Surgery  
246 Hospital Drive | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.463.8011

Ear, Nose, and Throat  
1165 S. Dora St., Ste. C-2 | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.462.8855

Ophthalmology and Optometry  
1165 S. Dora St, Ste. B-1 | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.467.5218

Ophthalmology  
1165 S. Dora St, Ste. B-1 | Ukiah, CA 95482  
707.467.5218

Get connected and start living a healthier and happier life today!



Left: Nayema Sisemore pauses to smile, with Ron Runberg in the background.

Right: WHS Principal Robert Chavez with his wife, Arora, and daughters, Mia, left, and Sophie.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

The rest of Ready | From Page B5

veteran, came to help out, as did Ron and Nancy Runberg, Jayne and Ken Smith, Dan Robertson, Bruce Smith, school maintenance guy Dan Green, and new WHS principal Robert Chavez and his wife, Arora, and two young daughters Mia and Sophie. Student volunteers included Isabel Gutierrez, Camryn Christensen, Nayema Sisemore, Price Runberg, Shivan Patel and Nathan Naples.

The crew finished up the morning's work with a barbecue in the high school quad.

- Jennifer Poole



The rest of College | From Page B3

where we work and appreciate "the personal touch" in our dealings with others. We believe "Everybody's somebody at the North County Center" and, most of the time, you can speak face-to-face with a real person at our front desk, with faculty in our classrooms, or, if we're not nearby, you can usually reach us quickly by phone, fax, or email.

The North County Center is two blocks from Highway 101 (Main Street in Willits) on the corner of Marin and East Commercial streets. To reach the North County Center's front desk, call 459-6224 or email willits@mendocino.edu.

If you can't call or visit the North County Center, information about Mendocino College class schedules, registration details, instructional programs, faculty, staff, special programs and events, and more, can also be accessed in the Mendocino College catalog, semester schedules, and other pages on the college web site: www.mendocino.edu.

It's never too soon (or too late!) to start thinking about what higher education can do for you. Please join us!

- Mendocino College, North County Center

The rest of Munguia | From Page B1

from the Willits Police Department. WEB is a transitions program at Baechtel Grove Middle School. As part of the program, new sixth-grade students are partnered, in groups, with two eighth-grade students for the entire year. The eighth-graders are trained to help their sixth-graders not only have a smooth transition into middle school, but to also coach them throughout the year on how to handle typical problems a sixth-grader might encounter. The eighth-grade students also set the tone of behavior for the rest of the student body, helping in leadership roles. They help identify and address problems of harassment, bullying, isolation and exclusion. To this end, WEB and the relationship between sixth- and eighth-grade students serves as an important part of our overall efforts to help sixth-grade students transition to middle school. WEB hosts numerous events throughout the year. The first is a sixth-grade orientation set for Friday, August 21.

At Baechtel Grove Middle School, we believe in every student's success. We want every student to be a leader, so we encourage them to be a part of these groups:

- Play with one of our sports teams: volleyball, basketball, soccer, track, wrestling, softball
- Be a member of our Student Council along with our president, Tyler Bailey, vice president, Claire Case-Brackett, secretary, Joscelyn Beebe, treasurer, Nyana Bertolino Haley, and activities director, Marissa Gutierrez
- Be a member of the yearbook staff
- Be a member of the Leadership Class
- Achieve honor roll
- Achieve principal's list
- Actively participate during the AVID tutorial
- Be an office aide
- Be a reader
- Be a great WEB leader to our six-graders
- Be an active member of the Friends of Rachel group
- Do the research and present during Stand Up Week
- Get fit participating in PE
- Do the research and present during College and Career Week
- Be a peer mediator
- Be a great band member
- Receive merits
- Be an upstanding bystander
- Stay eligible for the four-week reward activities
- Lead by example and do the right thing

We are looking forward to beginning classes at 8:25 am, on Monday, August 24. Students will receive their full schedules beginning at 7:45 am, in the front of the school, the first day of classes. See you here!

The rest of Johnson | From Page B3

and the integration of special education into the regular education classroom. We welcome 16 new qualified staff members dedicated to serving the needs of our students and community.

WUSD would not be able to perform our duties without the continued support of our bargaining units and community. Our work together makes us stronger as a district and a community. Partnerships forged within our community have provided our students with coaches, job opportunities, mentoring and leadership. We appreciate the dedication and commitment of our community members. Together we are the "WUSD family."

WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT						
DISTRICT CALENDAR						
SCHOOL BEGINS						
August 24, 2015						
SCHOOL ENDS						
June 8, 2016						
HOLIDAYS						
July 4 Independence Day						
September 7 Labor Day						
November 11 Veteran's Day						
November 23 - 27 Thanksgiving Break						
December 21 - January 1 Winter Break						
January 1 New Years Day						
February 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday						
February 15 and 16 President's Day						
April 1 - April 8 Spring Break						
May 30 Memorial Day						
JULY 2015						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
AUGUST 2015						
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30	31					
SEPTEMBER 2015						
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13	14	15m	16	17	18	19
20	21	22m	23	24	25	26
27	28	29m	30			
OCTOBER 2015						
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4	5	6m	7	8	9	10
11	12	13m	14	15	16	17
18	19	20m	21	22	23	24
25	26	27m	28	29	30	31
NOVEMBER 2015						
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15	16	17m	18	19	20	21
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29	30					
DECEMBER 2015						
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27	28	29	30	31		
JANUARY 2016						
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24	25	26m	27	28	29	30
31						
FEBRUARY 2016						
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