

[illegible]Donations Accepted Edition No. 71 **Thursday, September 11, 2014**

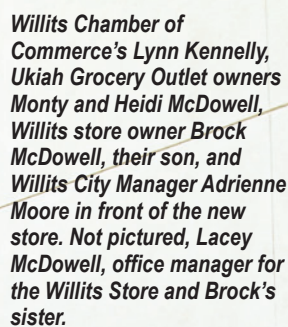
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Over on Page 13

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Read the rest of **Eel** |
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Read the rest of
Crime |
Over on Page 13



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Read the rest of
Trustees
Over on Page 13

Candidates forum

To the Editor:

“Talking with Our Candidates” is the title of the first Willits Town Hall meeting of this new season. This is an opportunity to speak informally with local people running for the Willits City Council and Third District supervisor.

Incumbents Ron Orenstein and Larry Stranske and challenger Robin Leler are vying for two City Council seats in the November election. Holly Madrigal and Tom Woodhouse are running for the empty supervisorial position. Each of these five people will speak for five to seven minutes at the beginning of the meeting and then will be available for questions and comments from the audience, in our usual Town Hall format. This is a good time to find out what your candidates stand for and to ask them the questions you would like answered.

Because we feel this meeting will draw a lot of people, it will be held in the Community Center, across the hall from the City Council chambers, where earlier Town Hall meetings have been held. Microphones and amplifiers will be used, so that everyone can hear what the candidates and members of the audience are saying. Be sure to mark your calendars for this important event: “Talking with Our Candidates,” Sunday, September 21, from 4 to 6 pm at the Willits Community Center. For more information, call Carlin Diamond, 459-4850.

Mary Zellachild, Willits

Quilt Show
Thank You

To the Editor:

Combine blue, smokeless skies with comfortable temperatures and beautiful quilted works of art and you have another successful quilt show by the Long Valley Quilters at The Fat Quail in Laytonville (August 30 and 31). A fitting addition this year was Ron Crane's display of his antique washing machine collection on Saturday. Thank you, Ron!

Quilters from far and near came to purchase a copy of the Fall/Winter 2014 Better Homes and Gardens Quilt Sampler magazine. Debbie Bowles/The Fat Quail is featured along with nine other shops across the country, and Debbie's exclusive quilt design for the magazine, “Autumn Nesting,” was revealed at the show. Stop by the shop to see the quilt, purchase a kit or the magazine, and congratulate Debbie.

Winners of the show ribbons (voted by the visitors): People's Choice for Favorite Quilt: Elaine Carpenter; Quilt You Would Most Like to Sleep Under: KayLynne VanSaut; Most Whimsical: Deb Kvaka; Best Use of Color: Nancy Davis; Best Wall Hanging: Nina Morosi; Nature Challenge: Jody McGeen; and Fashion & Accessory: Sherlyn Good.

Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets to help with our scholarship fund for Laytonville High School seniors. The lucky raffle winners are: Bed Quilt: Garrett Matson; Pets Basket: Phillip Colvard; Baby Basket: Evelyn Roberts; Quilting Basket #1: Jayma Spence; Entertainment Basket: Roberta Miller; Sewing Basket #2: Linda Engles; and Gardening Basket: Gwen McCluskey. Congratulations, and don't forget to stop by The Fat Quail during business hours to pick up your winning item.

Lastly, we would like to thank our families and dear friends who helped set up and take down

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

the quilts each day. Without you there would not be a show.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year, so mark your calendar now for the 4th weekend in August 2015 at The Fat Quail.

Jody McGeen, Laytonville

Caltrans delays

To the Editor:

If Caltrans had 50 years to get their act together, one might conclude they could have come up with a good design. Caltrans is a massive state dinosaur of an appendage and proves it time and time again. Had they actually listened to the input from local residents who said they wanted a two-lane bypass with minimal damage and environmental cost to the valley, they would more than likely have two-thirds of the project completed by now with little opposition.

Caltrans' back-door dealings for a quicker, cheaper source of fill are what has precipitated the latest restraining order. With the help of John Pinches and a complicit board, bypassing their own due process, Caltrans stepped in it again. Dan Hamburg was the lone voice of reason.

The protestors have caused very little delay. They have merely pointed out the violations of proper process and law. Caltrans delays themselves, and charges it to the taxpayers. They have failed miserably on environmental concerns and in their basic design.

I encourage any interested party to take a little drive and carefully observe what this bypass is really costing them. The entrance to Willits from the south used to be a scenic vista with oak and madrone studded hills. That has been obliterated and is currently raw earth. Soon it will be paved over with asphalt and concrete,

making this southern entrance to Willits about as memorable as any interchange in Los Angeles. The northern interchange is just as shocking, with 40 acres of valley land being converted to an unnecessary four-lane interchange and roundabout bypass where a simple interchange for two lanes would suffice.

The good news is that Caltrans has screwed up so unmercifully in so many ways across the state that they are being scrutinized by Sacramento. This re-evaluation of the Caltrans “purpose and need” could produce a cleansing and reordering of this state agency that is long overdue.

John Wagenet, Willits

Sign Envy

To the Editor:

Yes, here we go again. The sign contest is on, along with the critics who say the signs are too big, they spoil the landscape. Why so many on one city block?

I think it's great to have enthusiastic voters putting out signs and rooting for their favorite candidates. That's visible democracy at work. I think some



Willits voters, myself included, have been suffering from “sign envy.” Fear not, I have found the cure!

Design your own, personal sign for your favorite candidate. My favorite candidate for the Third District is Holly Madrigal. It was satisfying to chant, “Go, Holly!” as I cut out the shape of the holly leaf and painted it green. “Go, Holly!” as I cut out the classic Holly-style red

check mark and holly berries. As the ballad goes: “...the holly bears the crown,” and I cheered “Go, Holly!” as I painted on the golden crown.

So, you critics who are weary of the same old signs, big and small, why not get creative and personal and join the sign contest? Create your own sign. Put it up in your yard. Feel good about it.

Please register to vote and then vote for Holly Madrigal.

Greg Schindel, Willits

Vote Madrigal

To the Editor:

Confidence. Trust. Ethics. I have confidence and trust in the choices Holly Madrigal makes as a leader in our community. I trust her ethics.

Please join me in voting for Holly Madrigal for supervisor. A vote for Holly is a vote for all of us!

April Tweddell, Willits

The public's watchdog

To the Editor:

Over the last few months, the 2014-2015 Grand Jury has watched as a number of reports issued by the 2013-2014 Grand jury have attracted considerable comment from county officials, the press and the public. Most of the comments from the county officials have been critical of the manner in which the reports were written, the tone of the language used in the reports, the presentation of the issues in the reports, and the alleged truthfulness of the facts and conclusions contained in those reports.

There has also been expressed concern by the press and the public about why the Grand Jury does not provide responses to comments made by the public and public officials regarding the reports. There is no provision in the law that allows the Grand Jury to make such responses. The purpose of this letter is to inform the public about the roles and responsibilities of the Grand Jury and the procedures that we are required to follow.

In Mendocino County, the Grand Jury is selected each year from volunteers who file an application with the Superior Court to serve on the Grand Jury. These volunteers are carefully interviewed and have background checks to ensure that they are qualified to serve and bring an open mind to the process. The selection process helps to inform the judiciary as to the fitness for duty of those who are willing to give generously of their time and abilities to fulfill the constitutionally mandated duties of a grand juror.

Once the selection process is concluded, the supervising judge instructs the jurors as to their duties and responsibilities, in the charge read to the jurors after the oath of office is given. In part, the charge requires the juror not to discuss

anything they may hear, see or determine while serving their one term as a juror with anyone – forever. The only way any information may leave the report process.

In Mendocino County, the size of the jury is 19 people.

No topic is selected for investigation and no report is approved for issuance without the concurrence of at least 12 of those jurors. The jurors come from all walks of life. Many have had professional careers in fields ranging from law, taxes and corporate positions at the highest level, to construction, farming, ranching and homemaking. What ties them together is a desire to shine a light on the decision-making and financial process in our local governments. This light is intended to allow the public to know, without the filters of self-serving statements from our local public servants, what our local officials are doing with

public monies and the public's trust.

In short, the Grand Jury is the public's watchdog.

State law governs the manner in which the various reports are written and what retention of records is required or allowed. While each Grand Jury is an independent entity intended to exist for only a single year, each Grand Jury is permitted to pass on to the next Grand Jury any pertinent documents that were collected in an investigation, suggested topics for the next year, and the responsibility to collect and publish the responses to the reports issued by the outgoing Grand Jury. What may not be passed on to the next jury is any evidence of testimony heard or even the identities of those persons interviewed. This is in order to protect the identities of witnesses and guarantee the confidentiality of the Grand Jury process.

This guarantee of confidentiality is the basis of what makes the Grand Jury an effective watchdog. The knowledge that a person may report misuse of funds, violations of law and abuse of position without fear of retribution from those who have done any of these things means that the public gets to know what their elective and appointed officials are doing. All this is to ensure the efficient and orderly working of government to the benefit of the public that places their trust in those self/same officials.

Each fact printed in a report from any Grand Jury is carefully vetted to make sure that the fact is indeed a fact. Where a newspaper might use two sources to establish a fact, a Grand Jury must use a minimum of three sources to start to consider a statement as a fact. In practice, the Grand Jury will interview many more than three people to establish whether the statements made in the interview of any one person is a fact. Most facts are also supported by documents that may be obtained by a simple request for the document or by subpoena when necessary.

Interviews are not conducted with just one level of employee within any government department or division. Most levels are included in the interview process, from the top-level official in the department to those working at the front line of the department. This is done to make sure that what is being told to the Grand Jury is not just the grousing of a disenchanted individual, but is what is actually being done in the department.

Each report contains the facts that the Grand Jury used in reaching the determinations listed in the findings and recommendations. When those facts are disputed by the responding parties, the only way the Grand Jury can establish the veracity of the prior Grand Jury's report is to repeat the investigation. This has been done on occasion in previous Grand Juries, with the result being a determination by the subsequent Grand Jury as to the complete truthfulness of the prior Grand Jury.

This vindication was not the result of the same jurors saying we did the job right, but unrelated jurors saying, the facts as stated were properly established and are true. This is the backbone of all Grand Jury work. The process is followed to prevent the issuance of a report based on innuendo and falsehoods.

It should be noted that each report goes through a considerable review process before it is published. This process includes multiple reviews by the jurors of what is in the report and how the facts, findings and recommendations are expressed. Then before a report is sent for independent review, an exit interview is held with the concerned department head to make sure that if a fact has changed from when the investigation was started and the report written, that change is reflected in the report.

When the independent review is conducted, the proposed final report is carefully and thoroughly examined as to whether all facts expressed were properly triangulated or supported by adequate documentation. Everything is double- and triple-checked. Once the report clears this review, it is placed before the full panel of jurors for discussion and a vote.

As I mentioned earlier, the minimum vote for approval of a report is 12 of 19 Jurors. In practice, if a report receives only 12 of 19 votes to publish, the report is placed back on the table for further consideration. In my experience, a report seldom is approved with less than 13 of 19 jurors. Every care is taken to make sure that what the Grand Jury is reporting is accurate, up-



Clockwise from above:

Woolsey's jackass sculpture "The Supervisor" lounges beneath a recently pruned apple tree.

Sculpture by Doug Kell.

First sunlight of the day hits the garden beds.

Woolsey with vertical gardening containers and his "Making a Point" sculpture.

Trays with the next round of sprouting seeds await their new homes.

A view of the garden to the east, with squashes, tomatoes, sculptures, and more.

Photos by Kate Maxwell



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It's been almost a full turn of the seasons since biodynamic gardening experts Ron Woolsey and Fred Marshall first broke ground on an undeveloped residential lot on North Street. In that time the space has been completely transformed. Set for its “coming out party” and first class the weekend after next, Phoenix Rising – equal parts “model village garden,” community educational center, and open air art gallery – is full of thriving plants and local art.

Last fall, Woolsey and Marshall connected with lot owner and local realtor Peter Smith, who generously donated the long-term use of the space to help the two realize a dream of a large community garden focused on education and based on biodynamic principles – that was itself “a work of art,” promoting “a healthy community through gardening.”

Woolsey and Marshall have both grown their horticultural knowledge through decades of organic farming in Mendocino, first meeting as apprentices at biodynamic and French intensive horticultural innovator Alan Chadwick's Covelo Garden Project in the mid-1970s. Woolsey summarizes: “the techniques are drawn from early classic English horticulture and include French and Japanese intensive methods,” though he and Marshall “each in our way add to it.” Chadwick was a student of Rudolph Steiner, and his work at UC Santa Cruz, Marin's Green Gulch Farm Zen Center,

and in Round Valley strongly influenced renowned Mendocino farms such as John Jeavons' Ecology Action in Willits, Covelo's Live Power Community Farm, and Frey Vineyards, as well as the “California cuisine” movement.

Woolsey went on to work with Masanobu Fukuoka (known for his “Do Nothing Farming” philosophy), and to teach horticulture at



Laytonville High School. He initiated a variety of local garden projects in Brooktrails, in Ashland, with the North Coast Opportunities Garden Project, and more. Marshall stayed as staff in Covelo, before managing the gardens at Emandal and teaching gardening at Mendocino College for many years. Marshall also works with Mendocino Renegade certifications and the Mendocino Organic Network.

On North Street, Woolsey started the effort by tilling the soil “about 50 times,” initiating a near-endless battle with blackberries, and planting the first seeds of cover crops. Now, hummingbirds

swoop amidst towering sunflowers, summer vegetables of all kinds flourish in double-dug beds and cake-like tiered containers, and trays of new seeds are poised to sprout. One corner is full of buckwheat ready to be harvested and replaced by favas. Beets and carrots mix with sculptures and strawberries, and butterflies move from marigolds to blue borage flowers.

Phoenix Rising is organized to display the “village garden,” created to “redefine our role in the garden.” In one aspect, it embodies a vision of how a vacant lot could be organized without individual plots, to feed three or four families, with garden care and bounty shared amongst them. The design reduces pathway area, improves crop rotation, and enables “micro-environments” and arrangements by type of plant community and companion gardening to facilitate ease of watering and management. The spaces can potentially be maintained with

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



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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Thursday, September 11

Willits Grocery Outlet Ribbon-Cutting: the new store opens today at 7 am! A ribbon cutting ceremony, Willits Chamber of Commerce officiating, will be held at 9 am. Willits Community Services and Food Bank will be accepting a \$1,000 donation from Grocery Outlet and the Willits independent owner/operator Brock McDowell. 1718 South Main Street in the Evergreen Shopping Center. "We will be opening the store September 11, 2014 at 7 am. In memory of the events that occurred on September 11, 2001, we would like to present the first 500 people through the door that day with a 4" x 6" American flag."

Brooktrails Lodge: Ladies Night every Thursday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge, 8 pm to 2 am. \$3 drink specials. The Dream Capsule Band presents live music and karaoke. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Patriot's Day Ceremony: the Willits American Legion, Post 174, presents its 13th annual Memorial Service and Remembrance Ceremony for 9/11 in front of Willits High School, starting at 11:20 am. The public is invited. WHS students will sing the national anthem. Vice Commander and Legion Post 174 Orator Roger Ham will present the memorial, and the flag will be raised and lowered to half-staff, with a moment of silence. WHS Leadership Class will be providing lunch for emergency first responders at WHS after the ceremony.

Friday, September 12

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show at the Boonville Fairgrounds. Gates open at 9 am and close at midnight. Fun on Friday: FFA and 4-H Horse show, 8 am. Junior Dog show, 10 am. Fiber festival opens, 10 am. Bean spitting contest, 2 pm. Ali De performance, 3 pm. Wine tasting, 5 pm. Open swine show, 7 pm. Circle of champions, 7:30 pm. See full schedule online at www.mendocountyfair.com, and see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more highlights.

Willits High School Football: Come cheer on the jayvee and varsity teams during their second home game of 2014 at Maize Field, behind WHS. The Wolverines will play Elsie Allen. Jayvee starts at 5 pm and varsity at 7 pm. More info: 459-7700.

Willits Library Author Night: local author Jed Diamond is featured at this Author Night at the Willits

GROCERY OUTLET
bargain market

and the author of 10 books including the international best-seller, "Male Menopause," is the founder and director of MenAlive, a health program that helps men and the women who love them to live well throughout their lives. Diamond's latest book is "Stress Relief for Men." Some of the areas Jed will discuss are: "Why Sex Matters": cutting-edge information from the new science of Gender Medicine; "Why Men Die Sooner and Live Sicker" and what we can do to help men and their families; and "How to Use the Tools of Energy Healing to Live Well." This event is free to the public and is sponsored by the Friends of the Willits Library.

Saturday, September 13

Willits Grocery Outlet Grand Opening Celebration: starts at 7 am today, with free coffee and treats and a free eco-friendly reusable bag to the first 500 customers. Free Spin and Win on the Wheel of Bargains, 10 am to 3 pm. \$1 hot dog & drink from 11 am to 2 pm (proceeds benefit Agape Bible Church), and free face painting for children, 11 am to 3 pm. Free "Magic Cart" winners every 30 minutes. 1718 South Main Street in the Evergreen Shopping Center.

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show at the Boonville Fairgrounds. Gates open at 9 am and close at midnight. FFA and 4-H Showmanship, 9 am.

Angora rabbit demonstration, 10 am. Junior beef show, 11 am. Shearing and skirting demonstration, 1 pm. Bubble gum blowing contest, 3 pm. Fleece auction, 4 pm. Parade of champions, 7 pm. See full schedule online at www.mendocountyfair.com, and see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more highlights.

Willits Airport Day & Sixties Fly-In: Celebrate the Sixties at Airport Day today! Wear your bell-bottoms, tie-dies, and sandals. and dance to rock'n'roll oldies as the airport hosts classic aircraft and cars to commemorate Ellis Field's 50th anniversary. See vintage and contemporary aircraft, as well as classic and Sixties cars, from across Northern California. Take a helicopter or airplane ride over the valley to see Willits from the air including the 101 bypass under construction. Airplane rides will be offered at \$35 a person and helicopter rides at \$60 a person. The Lions Club will sell hamburgers, hot dogs, and soda, with the Willits Senior Center providing root beer floats. On hand will be emergency service providers including the Brooktrails and Little Lake Fire Departments, REACH Air Medical helicopter,

What's Happening Around Town

Library. Friday, September 12 at 7 pm. Diamond, a licensed psychotherapist and the author of 10 books including the international best-seller, "Male Menopause," is the founder and director of MenAlive, a health program that helps men and the women who love them to live well throughout their lives. Diamond's latest book is "Stress Relief for Men." Some of the areas Jed will discuss are: "Why Sex Matters": cutting-edge information from the new science of Gender Medicine; "Why Men Die Sooner and Live Sicker" and what we can do to help men and their families; and "How to Use the Tools of Energy Healing to Live Well." This event is free to the public and is sponsored by the Friends of the Willits Library.

Not JUST Cowboy Poetry & Apple Pie Throwdown: annual event at Emandal – A Farm on a River – out at Hearst features headliner Juni Fisher, Western Entertainer of the Year, plus the fourth annual apple pie contest, open mic, swimming, picnicking, and a silent auction. Pie judging begins at 2 pm. \$25, \$10 kids 12 and under, and free if you bring a pie to the contest. For more info, visit www.emandal.com or see article elsewhere on Calendar page.

Shanachie Pub: singer/songwriter folk artist Laura Meyer, aka "Cygne." 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Visit: <http://www.laurameyer.net> Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, September 14

Harrah Center Pancake

Breakfast: 8 to 11 am. Pancakes, eggs, and your choice of ham, bacon, or sausage. 1501 Baechtel Road. Adults \$7, Members \$6, and kids \$5. Info: 459-6826.

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show at the Boonville Fairgrounds. Gates open at 9 am and close at midnight. Church services, 8:30 am. Small and large animal Round Robin, 9 and 10 am. Sheep dog trials, 10 am. Spinning contest, 2 pm. Tortilla tossing contest, 3 pm. See full schedule online at www.mendocountyfair.com, and see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more highlights.

Monday, September 15

Ice Cream Social: from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, featuring music by Train Singer Greg Schindler plus "Name That Tune." Pie, ice cream, coffee. Members \$1, non-members \$1.50. Info: 459-6826.

Willits Dances of Universal Peace: Sacred circle dances and chants drawn from cross-cultural traditions. At the Muse, 7 to 9 pm. Joyful & heart opening. Easy to learn, live music. 459-9085.

Shanachie Pub: the Gonzalo Bergara Quartet,

all-acoustic, modern variant of 1930s Django Reinhardt-inspired gypsy jazz. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Visit <http://www.theqbq.com> Info: 459-9194.

Tuesday, September 16

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movies: "Magic in the Moonlight," "If I Stay," "Let's Be Cops." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

GRID Alternatives Volunteer Orientation: Want to hone up your solar skills? Gain hands-on experience installing solar PV by volunteering with GRID Alternatives! GRID is a non-profit solar organization making renewable energy accessible to low-income families. Bi-weekly installs in Mendocino and Lake counties. Volunteer Orientations monthly. This week's orientation is an online webinar this afternoon from 3 to 5 pm. No experience necessary. Give GRID a call at 707-202-6421 to get involved.

Thursday, September 18

Brooktrails Lodge: Ladies Night every Thursday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge, 8 pm to 2 am. \$3 drink specials. The Dream Capsule Band presents live music and karaoke. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Friday, September 19

Drive-Thru BBQ Chicken Dinner for 2: a fundraiser for the Harrah Senior Center, from 5:30 to 7 pm, 1501 Baechtel Road. BBQ'd ½ chicken, rice pilaf, coleslaw, rolls & dessert. Pre-sale tickets only: \$25, pick up tickets at Harrah Senior Center or Main Street Music & Video. BBQ prepared by Lions Club, and sponsored by Old Mission Pizza & Harrah Senior Center Thrift Store. Info: 459-6826.

"The Nightmare," an unsettling three-act drama written and directed by local playwright Don Samson,

opens tonight at the Willits Community Theatre at 8 pm. With a cast of eight and a plot line that twists its way through slippery-slope questions of right and wrong, guilt and innocence, and legal causation, this play will run for 10 shows through October 5. Performances are Thursdays at 7 pm for \$10, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$15, and Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$10. Advance tickets are available at Mazahar in Willits; online at Brownpapertickets.com; and for credit cards orders, phone the WCT office at 459-0895. Willits Community Theatre is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub) in Willits. Visit www.willits theatre.org or see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more info.

Brooktrails Lodge: Open Mic every Friday at the Lodge's Caminiti's Lounge. Live jams featuring local artists: all performers please see Mr. Larry when you arrive. 24675 Birch Street. Info: 459-1596.

Saturday, September 20

Coastal Cleanup Day: Clean up creeks in Willits today, as part of California Coastal Cleanup Day sponsored by the California Coastal Commission. Coordinated in Mendocino County by Mendocino Land Trust. Meet at 8:30 am at City Hall parking lot for sign-in. Rain or shine. Work: 9 am to 12 noon. Bring boots, pants, long-sleeve shirt and gloves. Then go in teams to zones where there will be a zone captain. Cleanup spots include locations on Baechtel Creek, Broadus Creek and more. "In 2013, over 58,000 Coastal Cleanup Day volunteers removed almost 750,000 pounds of trash and recyclables from California's beaches, lakes, and waterways." Info: www.coastal.ca.gov/public/ccd/ccd.html.

Willits Frontier Days Ranch Rodeo: this 3rd annual event focuses on skills needed by real-life ranch cowboys and cowgirls in their day-to-day activities. Teams of three will complete in activities including: calf branding, ranch doctoring, team sorting, ribbon roping, reverse team roping, saddle cow riding and kids' dummy roping. Admission is free to the public. 11 am check-in; starts at 1 pm: kids' dummy roping at 2 pm. Also on the schedule is a "Calcutta auction" which allows event-goers to win a percentage of the funds raised, by bidding on their favorite teams at the start of competition. A BBQ Cookoff, co-chaired by Sherwood Valley Casino, features great prizes for

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winning chefs, like BBQ smokers, knives and a BBQ basket. BBQ tasting tickets for the public are \$10. For info visit www.willitsfrontierdays.com /yearround.html or call Mary Fonsen at 354-0112.

Sunday, September 21

"Talking with the Candidates": this first Town Hall meeting of the new season features candidates for 3rd District supervisor Holly Madrigal and Tom Woodhouse, and candidates for Willits City Council Robin Leler, Ron Orenstein and Larry Stranske. 4 to 6 pm at Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. All candidates will speak briefly and answer questions. Public discussion moderated by Carlin Diamond. Info: Carlin at 459.4850 or Carlinv@aol.com.

Fair Time!

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show is this weekend

The annual county fair is right around the corner, and the community is encouraged to make the trek over the hills to the town of Boonville where the Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show will be held September 12 through 14.

Along with the rides, food, animals and exhibits, the fair showcases the California Wool and Fiber Festival, the Junior and Senior livestock shows, the popular sheep dog trials, performances by McKenna Faith and Ali De, rodeos, football and soccer games and much more.

Some highlights include:

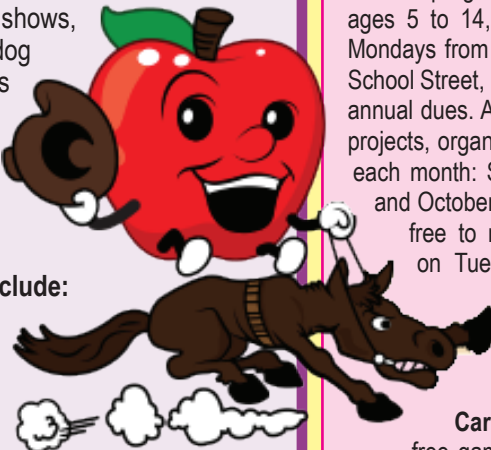
California Wool and Fiber Festival, starting at 10 am on Friday, Saturday and Sunday; Open horse show, 11 am on Friday; Apple Bowl - JV Football, 3 pm on Friday; Apple Cup - Varsity Soccer, 5 pm on Friday; Apple Bowl - Varsity Football, 7 pm on Friday; Gymkhana, 10 am on Saturday; CCPRA Rodeo, 8 pm on Saturday; McKenna Faith performance and dance, 9:30 pm on Saturday; Sheep dog trials, 10 am on Sunday; Classic Car Show Judging, 10 am on Sunday; Parade, 12 pm on Sunday, CCPRA Rodeo Finals, 2 pm on Sunday.

Admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for juniors aged 13 to 18, \$6 for children aged 7 to 12, and admission is free for kids 6 and under. Special pricing promotions include Friday, September 12, when admission for seniors aged 65 is just \$3 and over and children under 12 are welcomed into the gates for free.

Carnival tickets are pay-one-price for unlimited daily rides until 6 pm and cost \$20 presale and \$30 at the gates.

The fair will be open from 9 am to midnight every day.

For more information and a complete list of events, see www.mendocountyfair.com.



Cards and Games at Willits Library:

free games in the Willits Library's Community Room. All activities are free! Tuesday bridge sessions from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Info: Donna at 459-9035. Tuesday evenings: "Dungeons and Dragons, the Adventurers' League," from 6 to 10 pm. Both newbies and experienced players, ages 13+, are welcome to join. Info: Dan at 972-3154. Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4:30 pm: bring your chess set and have some fun with friends. All ability levels welcome. Info: Raymond at 841-0473.

Willits Library Cyber Cafe: Enjoy a fresh cup of coffee in the conference room while browsing the internet. Coffee is \$1 a cup. Bring your own cup from home or buy a ceramic cup from the library for 50 cents. The cafe is open most Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 to noon, or until the coffee runs dry. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

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

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Free Zumba for Teens: Zumba is always free for teenagers on Friday nights at Studio Joy, 1262 Blosser Lane. Class at 6 pm with Melissa. Info: 707-841-7499 or www.studiojoywillits.com.

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

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Monday nights at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, beginners' class from 7 to 8 pm, then dancing until 9 pm, with professional caller Lawrence Johnstone, who will teach and call. Info: 459-9526.

Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to 7 pm, Teens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

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

Just For Fun Choir: directed and accompanied by Nancy New. Meets Mondays at the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, from 1 to 2:30 pm. Accepting new members of all ages and abilities. Info: call Nancy New at 459-1276.

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm in downtown Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, jewelry, aprons, children's clothing, knife sharpening and more.

Save the Date:

Round Valley Indian Days Celebration & Softball Tournament, September 26 to 28, Hidden Oaks Park, Round Valley Reservation

Harvest Moon Celebration, October 11 (yes it's a Saturday!), downtown Willits

Localights with Just Enough and David Patch, October 12, Willits Community Theatre

FFA Farmhouse Dinner, October 12, Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds

Rural Living Skills at Boonville Fair

Please join Anderson Valley Foodshed at the Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show, September 12 to 14 in Boonville. We will have ongoing Rural Living Skills Presentations in our booth adjacent to Apple Tasting in the Ag Building.

— Cindy Wilder

Friday: 12-1 Simply Sauerkraut (and Pickles); 1-3 Composting With Worms; 2-3 Easy Yogurt and Kefir; 3-4 Crop Preservation Techniques; 4-5 Vegetable Gardening Tips; 5-6 Using Undervalued Crops; 6-7 Grape Tasting

Saturday: 10-11 Backyard Honeybees; 11-12 Groundwater Utilization; 12-1 Restoring Our Watershed; 1-2 Seed Saving; 2-3 Homemade Mustard; 3-4 Foraging and Food Forestry; 4-5 Living With Lyme; 5-6 Composting With Worms; 6-7 Grape Tasting

Sunday: 10-11 Basket Making; 11-12 Basket Making (continued); 12-1 Closed for Parade; 1-2 Seed Saving and Processing; 2-3 Meet your Meat; 3-4 Seasonal Farm-to-Table Menus.

Pg. 6 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

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Pg. 7

Third District supervisor campaign off & running



From top: Supporters at Holly Madrigal's campaign HQ opening party. Support T-shirts and gladioli in Madrigal's signature red. Holly and Gabe Madrigal, center, with campaign volunteers, from left, Susan Bradley, Cindy Morninglight, Vern Morninglight, April Tweddell and Brian Varkevissir.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

Holly Madrigal

Campaign HQ: 716 South Main Street
www.voteholly.com | one_visionary@yahoo.com
"Holly Madrigal for Supervisor" on Facebook
707-841-0612 | 707-459-0447
P.O. Box 2014, Willits, CA 95490

Win a New 2014 Jeep Wrangler

Drawing: Saturday September 27, 2014

100 points = 1 drawing ticket from July 1 to September 27, 2014. Must purchase tickets with points. Drawing will be on Saturday, September 27, 2014.

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Holly Madrigal and Tom Woodhouse hold kick-off parties at campaign HQs

Campaign season kicked into full swing the Friday after Labor Day with parties at both Holly Madrigal's and Tom Woodhouse's campaign headquarters.

Both candidates for Third District supervisor put on lovely spreads of finger foods and wine, including wines from Laytonville's Bergin-Sipila Vineyard at Madrigal's party, and homemade pumpkin cookies at Woodhouse's party made by his wife, Carlyn.

The evening open houses also offered up campaign signs, bumper stickers, pins and other campaign swag – Mayor Madrigal's in a bright deep red and white, and real estate broker Woodhouse's in a maroon and yellow gold. Now that it's less than 60 days before the November 4 election, campaign signs are legal to put up in the City of Willits, as well as the unincorporated areas.

Current Third District Supervisor John Pinches attended Woodhouse's opening at the candidate's Creekside Realty office, 2 North Street, along with familiar faces from the spring campaign. Pinches has endorsed realtor Woodhouse, describing his first-hand knowledge about "the pitfalls of a small business" as an asset. Pinches also noted the current board of supervisors has two former city councilmen, Dan Gjerde (Fort Bragg) and John McCowen (Ukiah) and asked if, with three former city councilmembers on the board, "Will it be too city-centric? This is a very rural county."

"We have such great, positive people in our county," Woodhouse said. "If we just get together we can do great things."

Madrigal's campaign headquarters, 716 South Main Street, is south of the Highway 20 light, and supporters on the outside deck often waved and cheered in response to honks and thumbs-ups from passing motorists. A team of campaign volunteers wore "Top 10 Reasons to Vote Holly" T-shirts, and supporters wrote notes on "Why I Support Holly Madrigal" white board. Colorful gladioli and sunflowers adorned HQ, and Vern Morninglight played guitar, as people talked politics and more.

"I felt like our HQ grand opening was a huge success," Madrigal said. "We had over 100 people stop by, and the positive energy was such a boost to our campaign."

The first candidate forum in Willits, "Talking with the Candidates," has been scheduled for Sunday, September 21 from 4 to 6 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. This event, part of the Town Hall Meeting series, will include Holly Madrigal and Tom Woodhouse, and the candidates for Willits City Council: challenger Robin Leier and incumbents Ron Orenstein and Larry Stranske. Each candidate will speak briefly and answer questions; public discussion moderated by Carlin Diamond.

Check www.tomwoodhouseforsupervisor.com or www.voteholly.com to learn more about each candidate.

– Jennifer Poole



From top: Supervisor John Pinches with Gilbert and Ana Cox. Woodhouse campaign signs: made of "wood" in the shape of a "house." Tom Woodhouse, left, with supporters Chuck Davison, right, and Kevin Coffman.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

Tom Woodhouse

Campaign HQ: 2 North Street
www.tomwoodhouseforsupervisor.com
woodhouseforsupervisor@hotmail.com
"Tom Woodhouse for Supervisor" on Facebook
707-459-4677 | 707-367-6334 | 2 North Street, Willits, CA 95490

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS 3RD ANNUAL

RANCH RODEO

CHECK IN: 11 AM SEPTEMBER 20, 2014 STARTS AT: 1 PM

CALCUTTA AUCTION & BBQ COOKOFF
BBQ co-chaired by SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO - \$10 TASTERS / EVENT: 1 PM

CALF BRANDING RANCH DOCTORING SADDLE COW RIDING

ENTER: \$600 per 3 person team Entries due in by 9/8/14
Entries & Info: www.WillitsFrontierDays.com

WATCH: Free admission to event spectators
Fun Kids Dummy Roping event at 2 pm

REVERSE TEAM ROPING TEAM SORTING RIBBON ROPING

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WILLITS REDWOOD COMPANY JOHN FORD RANCH GRAVIER'S CHEVRON BURGESS LOGGING

MORE INFO: MARY FONSEN: 707-354-0112

Puzzle Page & More

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner



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!

In The Stars

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, reexamine the important relationships in your life. Figure out what you learned from each friendship and acquaintance, and put those lessons to good use.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, with so many tasks to complete, you may be tempted to forget about everything and take a mental health day. But everything will still be there tomorrow.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, you're brimming with excitement about learning something new this week. You may finally be on the cusp of mastering a particularly challenging skill.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, it may be challenging to settle your thoughts this week. Work is weighing heavily on your mind, but go easy on yourself and you will still get everything done.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, some people around you may be especially busy this week, so it's difficult to choose how to spend your time. Whatever you choose, it is bound to be a memorable night.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Share your feelings for someone else with that person this week, Virgo. You may regret your actions if you don't take that emotional leap.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, while you are usually the one who plays peacemaker, this week you are in a position to cause trouble. Don't worry what others think or say.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Remember that success comes in many shapes and sizes, Scorpio. Don't be so quick to consider something a failure. You may just need a new perspective to realize your success.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, there are many entertainment options this week, so it's difficult to choose how to spend your time. Whatever you choose, it is bound to be a memorable night.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

Money matters could be taking up a considerable chunk of your time, Capricorn. Focus your concentration on finances and leave other responsibilities on the side for now.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, don't worry if something proves confusing and a challenging nut to crack. Things will sort themselves out in due time, and you will be back on the right track.

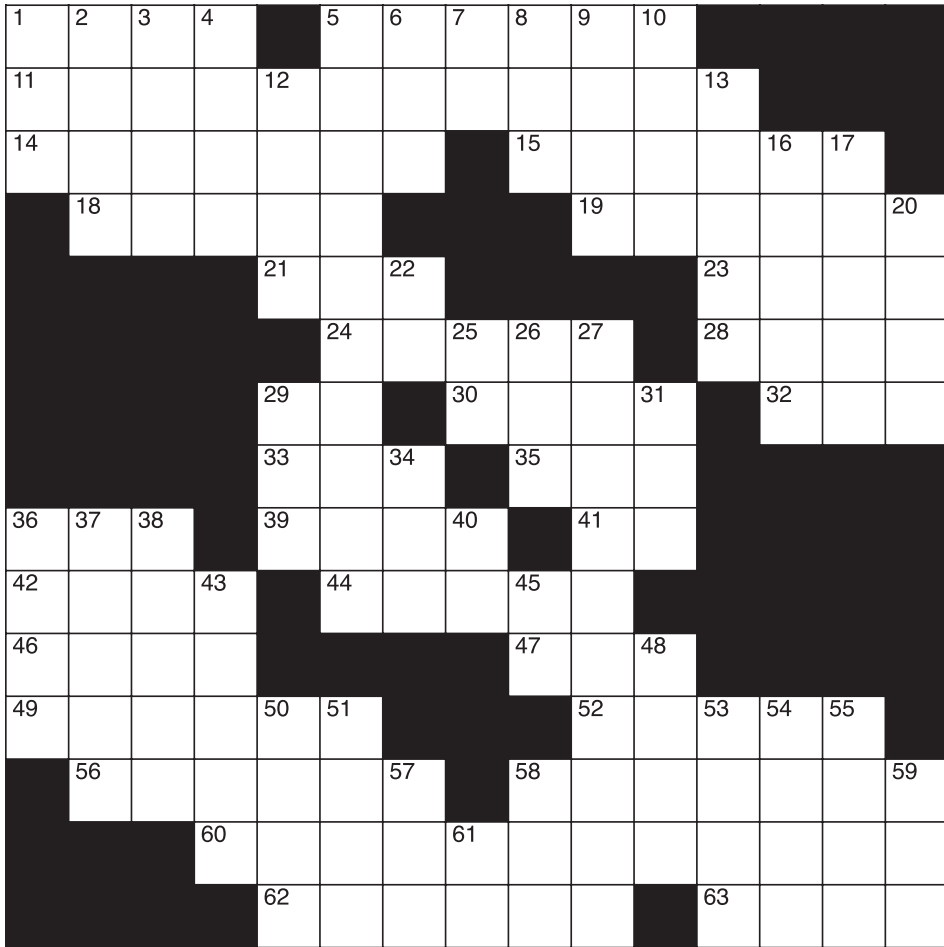
PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

A predicament in your personal life could have you feeling uncomfortable, Pisces. Wait for a clearer picture before taking action.

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- Branch of Islam
- Spookier
- April holiday day
- Assumed authorship
- Skewered foods
- Mails
- A millionth of a meter
- Intentionally so written
- New Zealand parrot
- A light splash
- Appear to be true
- Of I
- 17th Greek letters
- Point midway between S and SE
- Stallone nickname
- NW German river
- Possessed
- Common seasoning
- Integrated circuit
- Hebrew unit of measurement
- Take without consent
- Enlarge a hole
- 9th month (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- A large body of water
- Belongs to "2001" computer
- A small island
- Egyptian sun god
- Saint Anthony's fire
- Election Stock Market
- Atomic #44
- Writing liquid
- Mild Dutch cheese
- Am. Nobel physicist
- Isodor
- Am. football wings
- Boisterous laughs (slang)
- Hillside

- Lordship's rights of holding court
- Entity designation
- Gable's wife's initials
- Atomic #18
- The woman
- The art of preaching
- Manuscripts (abbr.)
- No. Canton, OH college
- '63 NFL MVP QB initials
- German title
- Nautical vertical position
- Abu __, UAE capital
- Initials of GE founder
- Anabaptist sect
- Equally
- Course of action
- Discharge
- Psychic medium
- Solo vocal piece
- Open threadwork
- Heavenly body
- Attempt
- Early TV tube
- NYSE for Callaway Golf Co.
- Atomic #33

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

Community Hu Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, September 25, 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.

**Concerts in Ukiah
Ukiah Community Concert Association:** bringing world class artists to area for reasonable prices. \$70 for 2014-15 season, 5 fabulous concerts starting Sept. 23. Further info: Maggie Graham, Volunteer, 459-2305.

**Dog Training Classes
Puppy & Level 1**

Tuesday Sept. 23 - Oct. 28. Level I, from 5:30-6:30 pm or Puppy, from 6:45-7:45 pm. Willits Community Center: \$150 for six weeks. Info: www.wellmanneredmutts.com or Sallie: 463-3647. "Dogs must be current on vaccinations, especially Bordetella

For Rent
Newly decorated 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Walk to downtown. Water/garbage paid. No pets. No smoking inside. \$795/month. Armcoc: 459-9601.

For Rent
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For Sale
2 year old, gently used **SCOOTER CHAIR** "Streamer - ShopRider" \$300 or B/O 707-456-9204

Garage / Craft Sale
Saturday, 9/13 from 9 am to 5 pm. One day only! 25254 Madrone Drive in Brooktrails. Crafts/Shabby Chic Furniture and Rope Arts. No early birds.

Help Wanted
Now accepting applications at Ardella's Downtown Diner for dishwashers, servers and cooks. Apply in person. No phone calls, please.

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			T	R	Y	S	T	S			A	E	R	Y

The rest of Budget | From Page 1

secured property tax income, and \$240,000 in transient occupancy tax. In addition, the county saw an inflow of some \$2.5 million from what it terms "unanticipated revenue and unanticipated vacancies."

With that extra revenue, supervisors and County CEO Carmel Angelo will attempt to put out several fires at the same time. First, they will spend \$1 million to give each of the county's 741 SEIU employees a one-time payment of \$1,200. Next, the county will finally pay down the Teeter Fund debt.

The Teeter Fund has been in negative territory since it was created in 1994. It began that year with a debt of \$5.4 million and that debt grew to \$11 million by 2009. In 2010, the board decided to pay the debt down, and last year were within striking distance, at \$1.2 million. This year supervisors are allocating \$500,000 in addition to the board's annual contribution of \$770,000 to wipe the debt out.

That move was praised by County Treasurer Shari Schapmire, who said it was about time the county turned the Teeter Fund debt into a Teeter Fund revenue stream. Board Chairman John Pinches said annual income from a correctly functioning Teeter Fund would bring about \$2 million a year to the county.

The county will give \$1 million to the road department to pay for corrective maintenance. That's in addition to the \$1 million the board already allocated a few weeks ago, bringing the total up to \$2 million for corrective maintenance. This is the figure 4th District Supervisor Dan Gjerdre requested be spent on corrective maintenance when he brought the issue before the board on August 26.

However, according to a Pavement Condition Index report presented to the Mendocino Council of Governments last year, even \$2 million is only about a fifth of what needs to be spent annually to keep the county's road system in the "fair" range. The 2013 Pavement Management Report states if the county were to spend \$9 million a year on corrective maintenance for the next 10 years, the overall Pavement Condition Index number for the county's 650 miles of paved roads

would increase only slightly, from 42 to 50.

The county will park an additional \$1.2 million into its general reserve fund, raising the fund to \$10 million. This is the benchmark the county set for itself in 2011, after it had determined to build up its reserves to \$10 million, and watched its general reserves dwindle to exactly \$0 in 2010.

Supervisor Dan Hamburg pointed out that since the county has reached the \$10 million mark, it will no longer have to direct millions of dollars annually into its reserve fund. Hamburg added this state of affairs should free up a lot of money for use in providing services and shoring up infrastructure.

The county also will create a new Pension Gap Reserve Fund and fund it in the amount of \$1.5 million. The fund will be used to pay down the \$131 million unfunded accrued actuarial liability (UAAL), which hangs like dead weight upon the county's retirement fund. In fact, according to county CEO Carmel Angelo, the \$1.5 million won't exactly be used to pay down the UAAL, it will be used to help pay the cost of the negative amortization of the UAAL. That is, the Mendocino County Employee Retirement Fund (MCERA) is paying down its UAAL, but the payment schedule is organized so the UAAL actually increases while being paid off. That's called negative amortization.

MCERA board member John Sakowicz told supervisors the amount by which the UAAL will grow while being paid off will decline slightly each year over the next eight years. Currently it is \$1.8 million. Next year it will be \$1.5 million. So it seems the amount the county has budgeted for its Pension Gap Fund will help stop some of the bleeding of the UAAL payday.

In spite of all the positive news associated with the budget, two dark clouds continue to hang over county government.

Anne Molgaard, executive director of First Five of Mendocino County, a children's advocacy group, criticized the final budget for not providing money to hire more social workers.

"A balanced approach to the budget would have more social workers,"

Molgaard said. "Did you know that at the county's Alcohol and Other Drugs program center in Fort Bragg, you have a waiting list of 25 people? You have a waiting list in Ukiah, too, but it's not as long.

"That means after a person has gone through the hell of addiction or substance abuse and has finally gotten it together enough to ask for help, you are telling them they have to wait," Molgaard said. "Nobody should have to wait for help when they are asking for it."

The second cloud was raised by First District Supervisor Carre Brown, who criticized the board for failing to get its act together with the county's water agency.

Brown noted the water agency has been allowed to shrink until it consists of only one part-time employee. She noted there are a host of water-connected regulations coming from both the state and federal governments, and these regulations are going to hurt people unless the county does something to beef up the water agency.

When Pinches argued all county actions were useless since the county doesn't hold the water right on a single drop of water, Brown disagreed sharply.

"There are many different water policies coming down now that are going to hurt every single water district in this county, unless we step up and deal with it," Brown said. "We may not have a water right, but we do have a responsibility to the people of this county and the various water districts in this county.

"We either need to be more involved, and do the actions of the board of directors of the county water agency, or we need to dissolve it," Brown said.

Supervisors made a deal with Brown to bring the water agency question to the board for a full discussion on October 21, if Brown would agree to approve the budget on Tuesday. Brown agreed.



Menudo on Sunday

Members of St. Anthony's Church put on a successful fundraiser for the church Sunday, with a meal featuring menudo and freshly made tortillas.

The menudo, a traditional Mexican soup with a rich red beef broth, made with tripe, was garnished with chopped onions, fresh cilantro mixed with crushed hot peppers and oregano, and lime.

With at least a few customers always in line, the kitchen was busy. Eba was turning out tortilla after tortilla, rolling the dough skillfully and pressing it in the wooden press. Maria was in charge of dishing out bowls of soup: with bones or without.

Jose and Angie Rodriguez did much of the organizing for this fundraiser, an opportunity for the Mexican members of St. Anthony's Church to share their traditional foods with the community. "In Mexico," Jose said, "we eat the fresh tortillas just with salt and a little garlic. Delicious!"

The group had a "kermes," or church festival, in the Rec Grove last weekend, where there were many kinds of Mexican food for sale. Another kermes is planned for October.

— Jennifer Poole

Photos by Jennifer Poole



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RODEO

BOONVILLE

-DANCE IN THE AUDITORIUM
FEATURING McKenna Faith

APPLE CUP SOCCER

Amazing Athletes

of Willits High School



Soccer | Hannah Friend, 16, Junior

Breakfast of Champions: Sesame seed bagel

Love for the Sport: Being aggressive on the field

Hannah played seven games this past week, where she was part of a rock solid defense. Nicknamed "the mess up," she gets in the middle of other team's plays and messes them up. According to coach Melissa Johnson, "she has super anticipation for play. She is fast and aggressive. She's like a ballerina of defense, just gracefully tough!"

Willits Weekly is once again proud to showcase some of Willits High School's Amazing Athletes. Athletes are nominated by their coaches. With the help of coach and project facilitator, Dave Smith, Willits Weekly highlights two athletes each week to share their achievements with the community.

Football | Blake Leslie, 16, Junior

Breakfast of Champions: Bacon, sausage and eggs

Love for the Sport: Throwing touchdowns

Football coach Sean Leslie nominated his son and varsity quarterback, Blake Leslie, for the title of Athlete of the Week. Blake threw for between 500 and 600 yards and had an interception during a recent game.



Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Happy Matt

Matt, a Maltese mix, is a bubbly, happy guy. He loves to play and prance around. He has a lot to prance around about. He came to us dirty and full of dreadlocks. He must have been very uncomfortable! Thanks to the generosity of a local "doggie spa," Matt had a make-over, and he is now a dog no one would recognize as the "Matt" who came to us. Matt is about 1 year old and weighs just 21 pounds.

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. We have many other wonderful dogs and cats, awaiting their forever homes here as well. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: www.mendoshelterpets.com or visit our shelter. For more information about adoption please call 463-4654.

Photo by Sage Mountainfire



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The rest of

Bypass

From Page 1

Willits Environmental Center, with fillings in support from the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo, filed a lawsuit in April alleging the county and MFP gave inadequate consideration of impacts to biological, archeological, and aesthetic resources when allowing use of the site.

According to Caltrans' Phil Frisbie, Jr., TRO-related delays have potentially cost the agency a year's delay in work, which the agency and contractors are currently hoping to minimize. This week a decision will be made "to see if it's feasible" to schedule double shifts so trucks can run around the clock and deposit as much fill as possible this season. The agency can apply to extend its permits beyond the October 15 end-of-season date, but would have to consider the risks of a weather event occurring during construction.

Caltrans has implemented a traffic management plan with one-way traffic at the mill site entrance and also near the northern interchange area, from 6 am to 6 pm, with 10 minute delays expected.

The fill is to be placed at the foundations of four bridges planned for the northern bypass area and must settle during

The rest of

Eel

From Page 1

Eel River at www.eelriverrecovery.org/doc/Eel_from_air_8_29_14.pdf.

Although the Eel hadn't actually stopped flowing – the running water simply subsided beneath the gravel riverbed – the "disconnection" indicated a historically significant impact to already-strained riparian ecosystems.

The flights, arranged by the nonprofit Eel River Recovery Project, provided another viewpoint on how the river and its tributaries are responding to extreme drought conditions, which ERRP has been researching since 2011.

Surface flow is an essential measure of the overall health of a river – without adequate levels of above-ground running water, habitat for juvenile coho salmon, steelhead trout, and myriad other species essentially disappears, and low-flow levels can create conditions ripe for toxic blue-green algae, which further deteriorates the river's water quality and overall functioning.

The flights covered the river basin ranging from just below the North Fork to Dyerville to Rattlesnake Creek and up the Van Duzen, revealing low flows, algal blooms and browning along the South Fork, which also appears threatened by possible disconnection.

Dry points in the river occurred at Salmon Creek and near Garberville; the lower Van Duzen has been disconnected since July.

"I think the common shared experience of drought will lead to a teachable moment," says Pat Higgins, ERRP volunteer coordinator and natural resources consultant. "It's like a report card; we don't think we're over-allocated, and then this happens."

The primary cause of low flows to the Eel are diversions, whether industrial, commercial, or residential – legal or illegal.

"We try to provide truth without judgment," Higgins says of ERRP. The group focuses on

monitoring and education projects, serving as a hub of research and information to create better public understanding of all things Eel.

The group has collected data and documented drought conditions in a variety of ways. Beyond aerial surveillance, ERRP uses USGS flow gauges and more than 80 additional temperature probes along the river basin to establish baselines.

EERP works in collaboration with local agencies and public health officials, UC Berkeley scientists, and citizen science monitoring efforts.

Evidence of current diversions is apparent by comparing rates of flow between gauge locations, says Higgins. While flow rates should be increasing downstream as tributaries reach the Eel, the flow rates are currently decreasing: for example, the rate of flow in Leggett is higher than in Miranda, about 40 miles away.

Releases from the Potter Valley Project – beginning on August 16 and planned through October 15 – were mandated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and U.S. Fish & Wildlife to ensure adequate levels of water for fish habitat.

Higgins says the releases usually take about two weeks to get to the coast.

Sediment buildup and gravel deposits over time – caused by sediment erosion along riverways – are also a contributing factor to low flow rates.

"We need to stem the flow of dirt to the Eel," Higgins says, explaining that an increasing number of mid-slope roads in landslide areas also cause additional buildup in streambeds, decreasing the depth and rate of flow.

Willits sits on the southernmost section of the Outlet Creek basin, which runs north to connect with the main stem of the Eel. According to the watershed overview on the state's Coastal Watershed program website, "the Outlet Creek Basin is one of the headwaters of the Eel and drains an area of over 160 square miles."

Outlet Creek itself about 118 miles long: it

The rest of

Crime

From Page 1

Deputies ordered Young to stop, but he continued to drive away, the Sheriff's Office report stated.

With lights and siren on, deputies pursued Young for about a mile until he pulled over.

Young was booked at the Mendocino County Jail on suspicion of evading a peace officer, probation violation and making criminal threats – a felony. Bail was set at \$20,000.

Erika Lahtela, 37, a passenger in Young's vehicle, was placed under arrest on suspicion of being under the influence of a controlled substance, and for being in possession of Xanax without a prescription, the report says.

She was taken to county jail. Bail was set

at \$10,000.

Traffic stop yields pot plants

A moving-style rental truck near East Commercial Street and Bray Road was stopped when a sheriff's deputy spotted the driver using a cell phone and speeding.

A strong odor of marijuana was emanating from the rear of the truck, a sheriff's report stated, while the deputy who made the stop spoke with the driver, Agustin Luis Martinez, 22, of Talmage.

Inside the cargo box of the truck, the deputy discovered 21 budding marijuana plants about 7 to 8 feet tall in pots. Martinez allegedly admitted he had been hired to transport the plants to a non-disclosed location.

Martinez was arrested on suspicion of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license and unlawful transportation or sale of marijuana. He was booked into Mendocino County Jail.

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

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The rest of

Trustees

From Page 1

enrollment is due to school board approval to move the third grade from Brookside back to Blosser Lane.

Speaking of the current enrollment, O'Neill said she thought 360 was "a good number for the school."

Newly hired veteran administrator Robert Chavez, principal of Blosser Lane and Sherwood schools, spoke glowingly of both schools. Speaking of Sherwood, Chavez noted the faculty consisted of "a lot of dynamic individuals.... To be able to teach multiple grades, and to see them all working, and still to maintain the values of the surrounding community, it's a great school."

Chavez added he valued each of the teachers at Blosser Lane School, while noting he had a lot of new teachers there. He said he feels it is part of his job to give each of these teachers the support they need and deserve, and promised to offer individualized "professional development support" for each of Blosser Lane's faculty members.

Baechtel Grove Principal Maria de los Angeles Mungia told the board her school has experienced "a great start to the school year." New athletic director, Nate Thompson, recently held tryouts for the girls' volleyball team: 74 girls tried out.

Mungia also touted the support the school's newly adopted AVID program has enjoyed among students and their families. Some 26 Baechtel Grove students are enrolled in the program, and the initial meeting with parents was attended by 19 of those families.

AVID (Advanced Achievement Via Individual Determination) is designed for students who are close to, but not quite at, the academic level required to go to college.

The program provides the extra boost needed to get them college-bound.

The program formerly was available at Willits High School, but was eliminated during budgetary and staff contractions over the last few years. This year it has been reinstated in the ninth grade at Willits High and has been expanded into the eighth grade at Baechtel Grove Middle School.

According to Superintendent of Schools Patricia Johnson, the district intends to continue to expand AVID over the next few years. In 2015, it will be enthusiastic and very dedicated. They're full steam ahead, they're all in on this," Ritchley said.

In addition to hearing reports on the beginning of the school year, the board approved a raft of proposals and job descriptions. Chief of these is a new salary schedule that gives a 5 percent salary increase to district administration. The increase does not apply to the superintendent of schools or to other district office personnel, but only to school principals, Willits High School's assistant principal, Baechtel Grove's dean of students, the special education director, and the director of curriculum and instruction.

The district's faculty and non-credentialed staff received a 5 percent salary increase in June.

flowing, although some algae was visible. As of Wednesday midday, the current rate of flow of daily discharge at the U.S. Geological Survey gauge at Dos Rios was 2.3 cubic feet per second.

One of the public information services ERRP operates is a webpage entitled "Is It Swimmable?" which includes location reports updated throughout the season for popular swimming spots, including the Upper Eel at Hearst Bridge. Information on toxic algae and treatment is also provided for pet owners.

"The Eel still has amazing vitality," Higgins explains. Many native species have the resilience to withstand extreme yet naturally occurring drought conditions, he notes.

"The ecosystem on its own is doing fine," Higgins says. "It's more, can people live in harmony with it?"

Those interested in learning more about the EERP, or participating in monitoring activities, may visit www.eelriverrecovery.org or call 223-7200. A video of the August 29 monitoring flights can be seen by googling "California Drought Watch: Eel River on the Brink."

closing the WHS campus for freshmen and sophomores, meaning younger students can't leave the school during lunch. In addition, Ritchley has imposed a split lunch, meaning not all of the students have lunch at the same time.

"The first day of school at both campuses (WHS and San Hedrin High School) I have to say went off without a hitch," he said. "I was very worried about the split lunches and who had lunch, when they had lunch, the extra bells. But the freshmen and sophomores knew exactly where to go and how long to stay in class. And the juniors and seniors went to lunch, and they went at the right time."

"Only one class was messed up by the bell system," he added. "But it all worked out. And the teachers did a great job supporting the new bell schedule and the split lunch."

"I was really worried this year that people would come to me and have a lot of dislike for not allowing the younger students to go out," he conceded, "but I've had nothing but support from the parents. I've had parents come up to me at Safeway and at other stores and ask why. And when I told them, every one of them said thank you for taking the next step in protecting our children."

"I have not fielded anyone who was upset about the campus closing for freshmen and sophomores."

Ritchley also said closing the campus has had an unintended consequence. "One thing I saw, an unintended consequence, is the kids are playing at lunch. Kickball, basketball, and playing catch. It was great," he said.

Ritchley also reported on the status of his efforts to get the school ready for the mid-cycle accreditation review, which is scheduled for next spring. He has created six planning teams comprised of faculty, administrators and counselors, who will each take on one area of school performance highlighted in the previous report.

Ritchley said each team will spend two months talking about how the school has met the requirements of the WASC report, and then will take the following two months writing a response for their area of concern.

"We will stick straight to the guidelines WASC has laid out for us. The planning teams are very enthusiastic and very dedicated. They're full steam ahead, they're all in on this," Ritchley said.

In addition to hearing reports on the beginning of the school year, the board approved a raft of proposals and job descriptions. Chief of these is a new salary schedule that gives a 5 percent salary increase to district administration. The increase does not apply to the superintendent of schools or to other district office personnel, but only to school principals, Willits High School's assistant principal, Baechtel Grove's dean of students, the special education director, and the director of curriculum and instruction.

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Photos by Eldon Miller of Willits Fan Page



Willits Youth Soccer kicked off the 2014 season this past Saturday with our annual Opening Day Ceremony and Parade. With more than 250 kids between the ages of 2 and 15 registered and playing on 19 different teams this season, it was a busy day! Teams paraded around the field along with their coaches and team parents. Each team is sponsored by a local business, and carried a banner to represent their sponsors. This year's sponsors are Brown's Corner, 707 Apparel, Martin Excavation, Learning Roots Preschool, Old Mission

Willits Youth Soccer Opening Day

By Tatiana Cantrell

after the parade to play their first games! This year we have a total of five travel teams (children ages 10 and up) who not only play games in Willits, but are also playing in Laytonville, Ukiah, and Lake County! The U16 co-ed teams will be hosting a tournament for U16 teams in these other leagues on September 27, and then our U12 teams will be hosting a U12 tournament in October.

Opening Day also kicked off this year's fundraiser, which is aimed at raising funds for new goals so that we have more fields for teams to practice and play on. Players are selling raffle

Pizza, Sparetime Supply, DripWorks, Auto Mart, Ace Copy, Imagination Station, Kemmy's Pies, Les Schwab, Savings Bank, Sanhedrin Nursery, Garman Construction, and 101 Trailer and RV.

Many teams rushed off

tickets this year. Tickets are \$2 each, and the drawing will be held on October 4. Prizes include a night on the coast, a four-pack of San Jose Earthquakes tickets, and a kid's soccer basket full of goodies. A team party will be given for the team selling the highest number of tickets! You can purchase tickets from any youth soccer player or by calling 367-2115.

Tatiana Cantrell is president of Willits Youth Soccer and owner/director of Learning Roots Preschool.



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