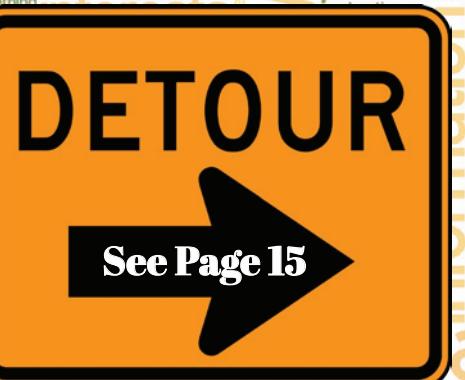


Willits Weekly

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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 75

Thursday, October 9, 2014

Teenage Willits hunter found safe

Zack Cinek
Reporter
zack@willitweekly.com

A 16-year-old Willits boy is safe after being found in the Mendocino National Forest Monday, some 15 miles from where he was hunting two days before.

Kristopher Novo was hunting with family in the area of McCoy Ridge Road when he went missing, according to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

Novo was known to be in good physical health and dressed for cold weather. He had a rifle and a small amount of food and drink, according to the Sheriff's Office.

At about 12:45 pm Monday, searchers found Novo in good spirits and health. The teenager,

Read the rest of Hunter
Over on Page 15



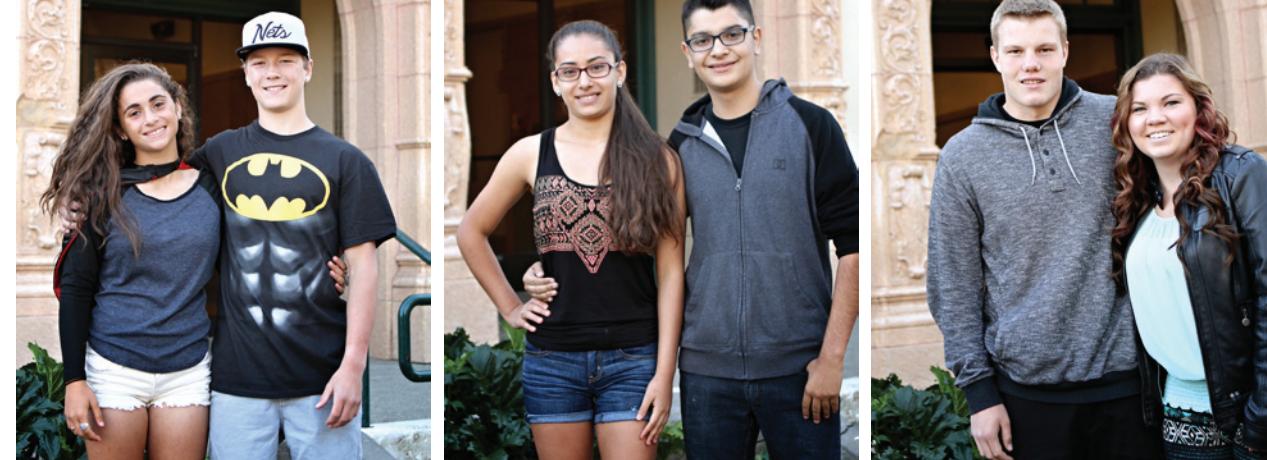
This week at WHS: Homecoming 2014

This week has been full of spirit and fun as the students and staff of Willits High School gear up for Friday's big Homecoming game and Saturday's dance. The superhero theme is running strong, as students participated in Superman Day on Monday, Batman Day on Tuesday (shown here), Captain America Day on Wednesday, Spiderman Day on Thursday, and the traditional Green and Gold Day on Friday. The football game starts at 5:30 pm for JV at Maize Field. Alumni are encouraged to come cheer on the 2014 teams.



Top: Senior Homecoming court nominees for King and Queen, from left: Amanda Mason and Ankit Patel, Brandon Slater and Kaylee Seaton, and Izzy Hageman and Antonio Amador. **Above:** Batman Day participants Chanel Alexander, Nicole Karkar, Vanessa Camp and Sierra Hayes pose in the hallway Tuesday morning. **Below:** Homecoming Court Princes and Princesses, from left: freshmen Nicole Karkar and Austin Wilcutt (also dressed for the theme day), sophomores Maria Sanchez and Alexis Martinez, and juniors Mitchell McKinley and Gabby Agenbroad.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Eyster slams Losak, supes

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitweekly.com

Mendocino County District Attorney David Eyster excoriated the board of supervisors Tuesday for its conduct during the process of promoting acting County Counsel Doug Losak to the position of interim county counsel.

Supervisors promoted Losak during a September 22 meeting, but scheduled a time to reconsider the matter during a Tuesday, October 7 closed session.

Although board Chairman John Pinches declined to comment on what went on in that closed session, he

Read the rest of Eyster
Over on Page 15

Questions for the Candidates

Here are questions from Willits Weekly's city reporter, Zack Cinek, for the three candidates for Willits City Council: incumbents Larry Stranske and Ron Orenstein, and challenger Robin Lelel.

Summarize your background and tell Willits voters about yourself.

Robin Lelel: I've always been independent and resourceful. When I was in high school, my family moved to Ohio. I stayed and worked my way through senior year on my own. In the '70s I volunteered with Common Ground and spent 20 years teaching sustainable mini-farming, moving to Willits in 1982 to help John Jeavons set up his research farm. In the '90s I moved into town, with two daughters, and began a 22-year career teaching public high school (algebra, English and Spanish). I accumulated sufficient business experience over time to understand how deeply economics and ecology are intertwined.

Ron Orenstein: Born and raised in Pennsylvania, graduated from college with a business administration degree, followed by a successful career in industrial management. I bring many years of experience in the private and public sectors, solving problems, getting things done. Before my first campaign, I attended every Willits City Council meeting for four years to learn all I could about the issues and how

the city worked. In 2002, I was elected to my first term on the city council, and I'm currently finishing my second term. I serve on the County Civil Service Commission, Community Care Board, and the Community Foundation.

Larry Stranske: I moved to Willits in 1964, to teach high school woodshop, which I did for 35 years, also working at a sawmill on weekends and in the summer. My wife, Virginia, and I purchased what was to become Kimberly's Jewelry in 1979, and I became a jeweler and jewelry teacher along with the woodshop classes. We have two children and four grandchildren. Experience: teacher, school board member, adviser for vocational education, retailer, jeweler, college instructor, business and property owner on Main Street, and two terms on the Willits City Council.

How can the city better serve the community with the services it provides?

Ron Orenstein: We are in the midst of a reorganization to make the city's operations more efficient and cost effective. A combination of cost-cutting measures, upgraded facilities and equipment, employee training, and attention to customer (citizen) needs and satisfaction will all work toward delivering more high-quality services to the public. It all comes down to providing the most and the best services at

the lowest possible cost to the public. With finite sources of revenue, delivering the services that the public needs and wants is dependent upon making the dollars stretch.

Larry Stranske: We are working on the infrastructure, making repairs before we become responsible for Main Street at the time we assume full responsibility after completion of the by-pass.

Robin Lelel: The City of Willits can take steps to ensure safe, clean drinking water.

What do you think about the future of the Willits Municipal Airport?

Larry Stranske: I think the airport is important, but must pay its own way, not relying on the city to carry it financially.

Robin Lelel: It's up in the air (so to speak), but from what I hear at city council meetings, our airport has a good future and new potential.

Ron Orenstein: Several years ago, I realized that the airport was underutilized, and I got involved with all aspects of the facility. Along with several city staff members, we lobbied REACH to bring their operation to Willits, and we are seeing the result of that effort. With REACH as a new tenant, we expect other airport-related businesses to follow suit. I have advocated for a closer connection between the airport and downtown, with shuttle

New building for district office?

Don't count on it

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitweekly.com

The Willits Unified School District board voted unanimously to defer consideration of a proposal by Superintendent Patricia Johnson to hire local engineering firm SHN to assess district property near the intersection of Locust and Walnut streets as a new, permanent office site for the district's administration.

Johnson told trustees the current situation, cramming district administrators into two classrooms at Blosser Lane Elementary School, is not working well for either the district or the school.

"It's been a strain at the school site, having the

Read the rest of Office
Over on Page 15

City, county candidates challenged

ON environmental issues

Kate Maxwell
Reporter
wllitweekly@gmail.com

Candidates for Willits City Council and Third District supervisor answered questions on environmental issues in front of a full house at a Thursday forum sponsored by the Willits Environmental Center and the Little Lake Grange.

City council candidates Larry Stranske, Ron Orenstein and Robin

Read the rest of Forum
Over on Page 15

Stranske, Leler and Orenstein on Willits issues

service and package deals offered by local businesses to fly-in customers. I want to make the airport an integral part of the Willits economy.

What are the top three challenges facing the City of Willits today?

Robin Lelel: Economic development: I would like to see us develop sustainable jobs using all our resources wisely. Water: continuing our excellent conservation efforts and improving the quality of our drinking water. Transportation: upgrading streets and sidewalks, creating bicycle lanes and developing alternate routes through town.

Ron Orenstein: Water, jobs, and economic development! Without a sustainable water supply, the city could fail. Without good-paying jobs, we would continue to lose our young people, literally the future of Willits, with the result that Willits could become stagnant. Economic development covers a broad range of activities that include job creation and quality of life.

Larry Stranske: The four challenges are water, sewer, roads and the aging infrastructure. All are equally important and work together.

Read the rest of Questions
Over on Page 14

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County (HSIMC) in Redwood Valley would like to thank the owners and staff of Coast Hardware in Willits for their many years of showcasing our cats and kittens in their store.

More than 10 years ago Don and Teri Buchanan, who at the time owned the store, approached HSIMC, suggesting the program. We jumped at the chance and have been adopting out a steady stream of felines from the store ever since. We have not really kept an adoption total, but know it's in the hundreds.

The program has been beneficial to all parties: more cats and kittens find homes and an amazing number of people are drawn into the store to see and frequently adopt the cat or kittens on display. While they are there, they shop.

We were concerned when told that Don and Teri were planning to sell their business. Fortunately the new owners Sean and Wendy Morgan are totally on board and recognize the benefits of the program not only to the cats but to their business.

We expect Humane Society cats and kittens will continue to be available at Coast Hardware for many more years to come. Cats and kittens and dogs and puppies will continue to be available for adoption at our shelter at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley, a short drive from Willits. Call 485-0123 for information.

Taffy Montgomery, volunteer cat adoption coordinator, HSIMC

Meal time, game time!

To the Editor:

Building team camaraderie, ensuring a tasty, filling meal and spending time together are all great outcomes from the team dinners we hold before every Willits High School home-field football game.

On the Thursday night before the game, all members of the junior varsity and varsity teams and their coaches gather at the Willits High School cafeteria and enjoy a meal provided, and sometimes even cooked completely, by the team moms. But making a meal for 50-plus people can be a daunting task, so sometimes, we purchase meals from a local restaurant and the kids love it. However, this can be costly.

When it was my turn this last week, I decided to purchase the meals from Taco Bravo (which the kids always enjoy!) and hang up my store's banner – Monkeywrench Mens and Womens Wear – on the serving table. I used the cost of the meal as an advertising cost to my businesses. The idea went over very well, and the moms thought that perhaps other businesses would like the same opportunity to feed the kids and use it as a business advertising expense for their own company.

We would also like to extend the invite to the restaurants to maybe offer us a bulk-purchase price, helping lower the around \$300 cost. Even if a few businesses wanted to go in together and sponsor a dinner, or even if we could get some of the meals sponsored each time, then we could cover the rest. There are only about four or five dinners left in this season, but we are hoping to gather interest for next year and next season.

This has been going on as a tradition for some years now, since Marsha Sanderson started cooking for her son



Some of the Willits High School football team members enjoying last week's Taco Bravo meal, by the Monkeywrench sign.

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.

Wyatt's class four or five years ago. We hope to keep it going for years to come, and also to find a way to help support it through the community. If anyone is interested in donating, please contact me at Monkeywrench Mens and Womens Wear at 456-9647.

Shannon Germann, Willits

ROOTS: new hospital restaurant

To the Editor:

Something that Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital (HMH) excels at – in addition to quality, patient-centered care – is food. Known as the father of modern medicine, Hippocrates is quoted as saying, "Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food," which is a philosophy that HMH Chef Kyle Evans wholeheartedly believes in.

According to Chef Kyle, the new restaurant will bring so much to the community, in addition to the patients that will be served on a daily basis. "The new restaurant will be a lot of fun," said Chef Kyle. "It will have an open kitchen which will create a great experience for both our patrons and our cooks to share in the creation of their food. I have always enjoyed cooking and creating culinary offerings in an open kitchen. There is an energy that happens and is shared when patrons are able to see us in action cooking tasty food."

"This will be a great space for our community to gather and eat healthy and flavorful cuisine with produce that is sourced from the Frank R. Howard Foundation Commonwealth Garden," Kyle continued. "The large dining area will stretch from our open kitchen towards an expansive window that will allow natural light and views of the outside in. We will also have a large communal table inside, for our community to share conversation and dine together. Guests can also delight in an outside patio seating area."

So what will this new space be called? Earlier this year HMH launched an employee-wide campaign to name the new hospital restaurant that will be part of the new facility when it opens in 2015. "We had over 100 potential names submitted by our employees," said Chef Kyle, "There were lots of very creative names. So, it was a really tough decision. The most fitting name of them all was ROOTS."

ROOTS was a name submitted by Human Resources Specialist Leslie Smith. When asked what inspired her to submit that name Smith said: "I happened to be driving with my mom in Vallejo in traffic and we were both just brainstorming names. Most of the names I thought of were based around earth and nature. ROOTS, just really seemed to fit with HMH in so many different ways. For instance, roots signify how our food that we serve in the cafeteria is grown – fresh and out of the garden. It also symbolizes our deep roots in the community, like the strength of a redwood tree's roots in the ground, and storied ties with Charles Howard and Seabiscuit. We are "deep rooted" in this community and plan to be here for generations to come!"

In closing, Chef Kyle shared: "The HMH culinary team is really looking forward to cooking up sustainable high-quality healthy food for everyone that comes through their doors. My hope is to have a restaurant for our community that is comfortable and inviting so everyone can enjoy incredible cuisine prepared by our passionate culinary team."

So ROOTS it is!

Nick Bejarano, regional communications manager, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital

Bashing protesters

To the Editor:

I'm glad Randi Covin and Jeanne King and "two or three others" are enjoying their roles as bypass boosters, but if they're trying to "keep it positive," why do they keep on bashing "the protesters" instead of engaging on the issues?

The bypass protests aren't intended to torment Covin or her friends; protesters aren't bragging about "delaying"

the bypass; if Caltrans followed the laws and the agencies enforced them, the courts upheld them, and our political representatives stood up for them, citizens wouldn't need to stand in front of heavy equipment to protect un-surveyed bird habitat and fragile stream banks or block dump trucks to prevent the destruction of wetlands and desecration of Native American cultural sites.

When all else fails, nonviolent direct action can still focus the spotlight of scrutiny on the bypass' many unresolved problems, bringing awareness to the wider taxpaying public's attention, and proposing solutions, such as redesigning the northern interchange to significantly reduce impacts to wetlands; protecting, reclaiming and restoring Pomo heritage sites in Little Lake Valley; and reducing carbon emissions to combat global climate change.

The emissions from bypass construction are estimated to create about 90 times the amount of carbon saved over time from any potential traffic reduction through town. That reduction is also iffy, as it remains to be seen how many locals will actually drive on the exit-less bypass. I expect Covin and King to lead the pack.

Protesters aren't trying to hurt workers, whose unions should take care of them and who could still be employed on a downsized interchange. The workers we've met say they aren't happy about having to take a bypass job but need the work due to economic pressures.

Bypass protesters aren't Randi Covin's annoying personal pets to be shooed "away" to Richardson Grove. We live here, remember? After all, this is America, where we have the right, even the duty at times, to protest. Unfortunately, there's never a shortage of environmental and cultural degradation to ameliorate. But as far as I know, there's still no such thing as a free lunch.

Instead of braying about delayed construction, bypass supporters might want to take a closer look at the proposal for a smaller northern interchange that actually would save significant time and money as well as wetlands and cultural sites.

Your pesky protester,

Naomi Wagner, Willits

Holly Madrigal for supervisor

To the Editor:

Holly Madrigal and Tom Woodhouse have taken very different paths to their candidacies for 3rd District supervisor. Madrigal studied economics at UC Santa Cruz before returning to Willits to work at Sparetime Supply and, at age 26, won election to the Willits City Council, where she has served for 10 years, six of those years as mayor. Woodhouse has had a long career as a realtor in the Willits area and has worked behind the scenes with various civic organizations. Both candidates have contributed admirably to their community, but which of these candidate's life experience has better prepared them to be our county supervisor?

Woodhouse likes to point out that though he is not a "career politician," his business and personal experiences have prepared him well for the rigors of public office. But during the course of his campaign he has given virtually no indication of how he would handle Mendocino County's many pressing issues. Other than his stated intention "to use my knowledge and experience to advocate for the needs of the entire district," the closest Woodhouse ever gets to making an actual policy statement is: "I have never pretended to have all the answers and I refuse to make promises that are impossible to keep." (quotes from the 9/11/2014 Mendocino County Observer.) Woodhouse is all sizzle and no steak.

Meanwhile, Madrigal, who gets paid a pittance for serving on the Willits City Council, has worked with four other council members to manage a multimillion-dollar city budget while maintaining the city's public services. As a city councilwoman, Madrigal has also worked with many other groups to successfully bring civic improvement projects to Willits, including installation of solar panels at the water plant and construction of the city skate and dog parks.

The personal connections Madrigal has made working on these and many other projects will hold her in good stead as she works with other supervisors to create a county water budget, promote local agriculture, prepare for the legalization of marijuana, maintain and improve county public services, deal with the economic dislocation caused by the Willits bypass, and protect our precious natural environment.

Besides being the better-prepared candidate based on experience, Madrigal also brings the intangibles of youthful

Read the rest of Letters | Over on Page 4

Congratulations Column



Newbie

Private Gabriel Micah

Carl and Neka Huffman welcome their second grandson, Private Gabriel Micah, born September 2, 2014, at 8:59 pm, to Mrs. Tech Sgt. Chynn Nicole and Mr. Master Sgt. Jeremy Dale Henderson. Gabriel is also welcomed by his big brother Caleb J., age 14. Mom and dad have been in the Air Force for 16 years. Congratulations to all, and a prayer goes out to all our service personnel and their families.



Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Gary and Diane Ford

Gary and Diane Ford have been sweethearts since their days at Willits High School, and on October 3, 2014, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a party of family and friends at the Willits KOA. Cake, barbecue, drinks and a "trip down memory lane" presentation were all enjoyed by the group of attendees. The Fords were married at a church in Reno and are the proud parents of three girls: Deena, Tracey and Tia, all pictured above.

Happy Birthday to Trent

Happy #13 birthday to Trent. We are so proud of you and are so happy to see you growing in to a great young man. We love you! Love mom, Fankie and little sis Mariah.

Send us your Congrats entries! They're free and fun to read!
Email a photo and paragraph to willitsweekly@gmail.com



Sunday Sale raises \$258 for

Willits FFA Chapter

"The bake sale was great!" said Willits High School FFA advisor, Kelley Case. The sale was held on Sunday, October 5, in front of ER Energy Kitchen & Hearth at the Safeway plaza, and many students prepared homemade goodies for the event.

"We had lemon bars, cupcakes, coffee cake, Key lime pie, chocolate chip cookies, sugar cookies, pumpkin bread, banana bread and other yummy goodness," Case said.

Above: Willits FFA's Jessie Turner, Sierra Skinner, Kylie Reed, Hailey Riley and Colton Pinson pose at the bake sale table. Not pictured: Ben Branscomb, Bailey Ferguson and Marina Beckwith. Below: FFA Farmhouse tickets are still available!



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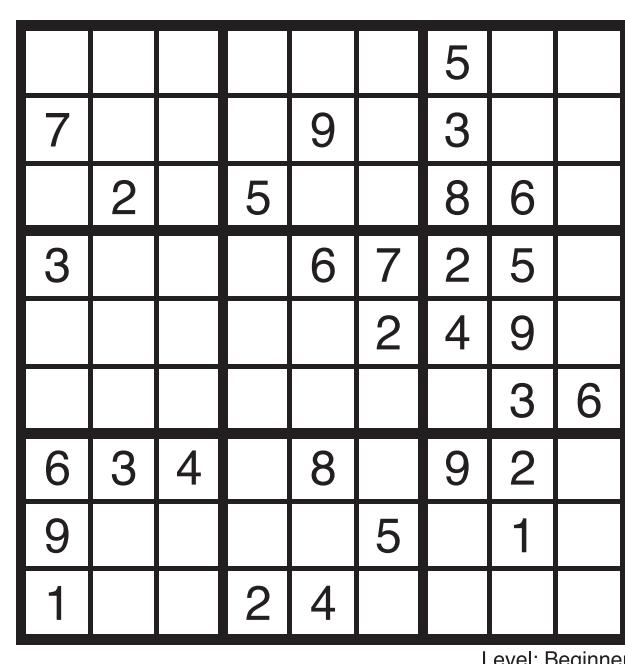
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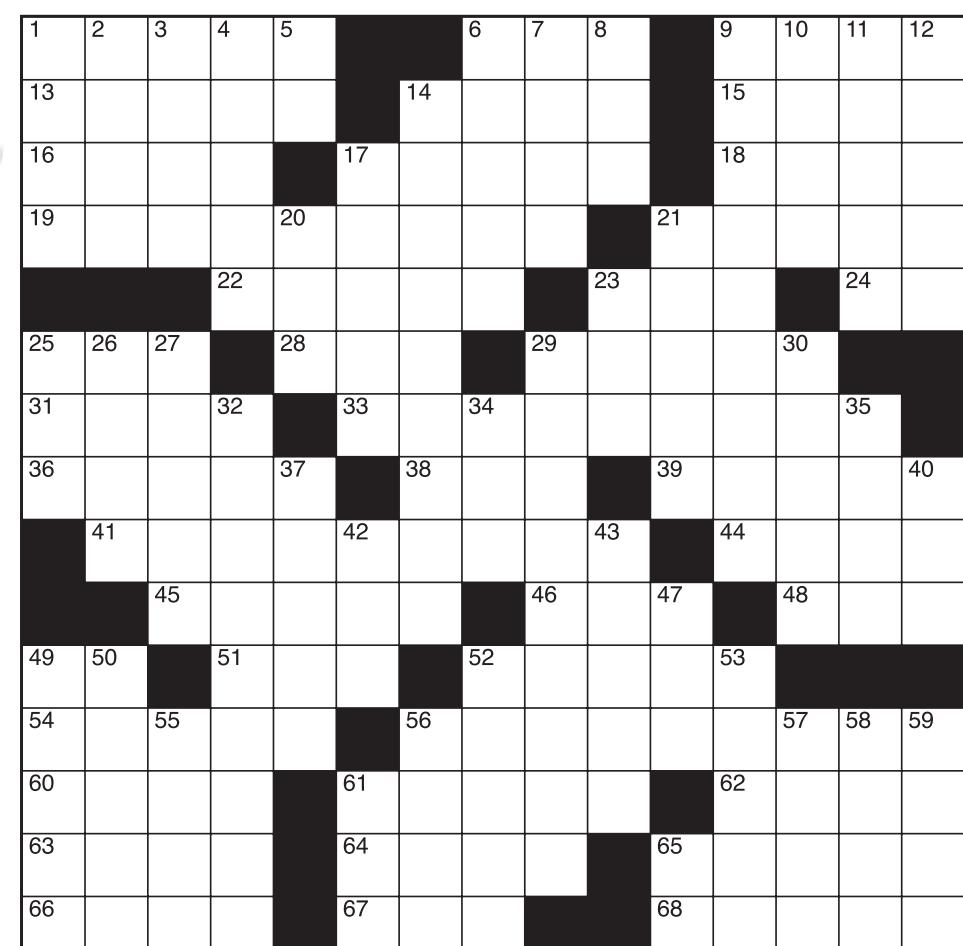


**PUZZLE
ANSWERS
ON
PAGE 13**

How To Sudoku:

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

Crossword Puzzle



In The Stars

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you have a natural sense of what people want. You may find yourself playing the role of peacemaker this week, and it's a role you will excel in.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Your goals are commendable, Taurus. By Friday you may find there are some things you need to take charge of. Don't worry when things get hectic, as you will get the job done.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21

This is a good week to reshape and renew a personal philosophy on spirituality, Gemini. You'll experience breakthroughs in compassion and communication.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you are pondering a trip out of town. A secluded cabin or campsite may be the way to go. You will find plenty of great options if you ask around for recommendation.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

There's more to you than meets the eye, Leo. But people often seem content with what they gleam from the surface. This week you will show them a different side.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

You're not content to be just part of the party this week, Virgo. You want to be the center of attention. You just may get your chance later in the week when a social occasion pops up.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, don't grow discouraged when your first try at something doesn't work out as you had expected. You will have plenty of opportunities to try again.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Patience has not always been your strong suit, Scorpio. When you set your eyes on a prize this week, Pisces, you will benefit from few responsibilities and no worries.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

Simplify your life any way you can this week, Pisces. You will benefit from few responsibilities and no worries.

OCTOBER 12: Hugh Jackman, Actor (46), OCTOBER 13: Paul Simon, Singer (73), OCTOBER 14: Stacy Keibler, Wrestler (35), OCTOBER 15: Emeril Lagasse, Chef (55), OCTOBER 16: Tim Robbins, Actor (56), OCTOBER 17: Ernie Els, Golfer (45), OCTOBER 18: Erin Moran, Actress (54),

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, you know that complaining about a situation is not likely to make it change anytime soon. Instead, put your words into action and attempt to change things for the better.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

Restlessness has you looking for a brief vacation to somewhere within driving distance, Capricorn. It is a great time of year for a road trip to take in the foliage.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

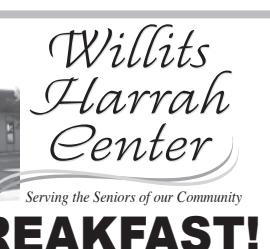
Aquarius, it may take a while to wrap your head around a particularly trying problem. If you cannot come to a resolution on your own, ask a friend to share his or her perspective.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

Simplify your life any way you can this week, Pisces. You will benefit from few responsibilities and no worries.

Famous Birthdays



The rest of Letters

From Page 2

vigor and a female voice: two

qualities our board of supervisors sorely needs right now as we head into the complex challenges of the future. Holly Madrigal has my vote for 3rd District supervisor.

Jon Spitz, Laytonville

WELL's 10th anniversary

To the Editor:

As noted in last week's article celebrating WELL's 10th anniversary, it all got rolling in 2004 when Jason Bradford and his family chose Willits as their new home, in part because of its location and natural resources, and in part because it was already a spawning ground for innovative thinkers and doers (not just salmon).

He started with showings of the film "End of Suburbia" – an eye-opener that predicted we would need major changes in light of peak oil and other global challenges. Each month more people showed up. Those who had already seen the film began organizing working groups: food, energy, water, housing, transportation, and social structures.

Bradford's ideas met with fertile soil: people in the Willits area were eager to work on the solutions to global issues by acting locally. Indeed many had already been doing so for years, but now they were coming together with group energy.

Eventually (not without some growing pains), the group called itself Willits Economic Localization (WELL) and became a membership-based non-profit organization with an elected board to oversee the various activities. For several years, with grant funding, WELL had a staff and office. It has been almost entirely volunteer-run and locally funded for the past five years.

Many guest speakers came to Willits from near and far. Two regional conferences were held to stimulate localization efforts in other communities. WELL became, in part, the model for the Transition Town movement that now has spread across the world. The idea is that localization – more self-sufficient communities – is the solution to the unsustainable globalized economy.

In addition to its own projects and events, WELL has helped spawn many spin-off groups and continues to play an important role in networking, publicizing, as a fiscal sponsor, or providing seed grants. To name just a few: Grateful Gleaners, Now & Then Films, local community gardens, Local First, Grange Grains & Kitchen, Willits Community Alliance, Willits Town Halls, Willits Healthy Action Walks, Wowser, solarization projects, Community Rights Network, and many more.

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TNT MARKET

Visit us during the Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration! Enjoy freshly prepared Indian food and take 15% OFF between 12 and 6 p.m. SPECIAL THIS SATURDAY! (Usually only served on Fridays) 35 WEST COMMERCIAL WILLITS • 707-456-1290

World Music Mondays Open Mic as well as **Wednesday Open Mic** for the season starting at 8 p.m. with sign-ups at 7 p.m.

50 S. Main St. • Willits • 459-9194
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Ron Orenstein for City Council

What are the qualities of the Ideal City Council member?

- The ability to listen and to understand the issues!
- The ability to use intelligence and common sense to make appropriate decisions.
- The ability to adapt and evolve — to meet the changing needs of the community.
- The ability to fight for the interests and benefit of the community.
- The ability to look forward, to help create a vision for the future.

Qualities I constantly work toward!
Let me continue to work for you!

See you at the Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration!



Harvest Moon

Hometown Celebration this Saturday

By Jennifer Poole

The truly beautiful Harvest Moon in the sky this week signals that it's time for the annual Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration in downtown Willits, on Saturday, October 11, from noon to 6 p.m.

For the eighth year, the Willits Chamber of Commerce's Local First Committee is celebrating local businesses and the benefits of shopping locally – this year on a Saturday instead of a Thursday evening.

"Everybody seems to be looking forward to it," said Lynn Kennelly, executive director of the Willits chamber. "We've had a lot of positive comments about it being on a Saturday this time."

are always family-friendly: this Saturday's activities for kids include the Boy Scouts' Monkey Bridge, the jump house donated by Yokum's Body Shop, lots of face painting (by the PTOs of Brookside and Blosser Lane schools), henna painting, and a kids pumpkin carving contest sponsored by Scoops Frozen Yogurt and Deli.

Lisa Davis at Scoops says kids are welcome to bring their own pumpkins up to 110 North Main Street for the contest, or carve one of the pumpkins from the pumpkin patch growing at Willits Soils that Scoops will have available for purchase. Carving tools will be provided, and a supervised carving area, and kids (and parents) "can leave the mess behind." Scoops will also be giving out free baby cones of Double Rainbow pumpkin ice cream.

The Hometown Celebrations are a great opportunity to bring your family, tour downtown, and check out the local businesses, Davis said. "I think of the Harvest Moon Celebration as a kick off to the holiday season."

Live music on Saturday includes harmonies by the New Blu Trio, funky dancing music by Funkacillin, jazz by the Dorian May Jazz Trio, acoustic swing by High Five, and more.

The Little Lake Fire Department will be offering rides on a fire engine making a loop up and down Main Street. "Sometimes it's like a little taxi service," said Fire Chief Carl Magann. "We'll have the fire station open for Open House, too. It's nice to meet people other than in their



Family | Children | Couples | Seniors | Portraiture | Maternity

Photography by Maureen Moore

[fuh-tog-ruh-fress] noun: a person who creates fabulous photo moments



707-972-7047 | maureengets@gmail.com

Rascal's Rescue

Mission Statement: Rascal's Rescue is dedicated to raising money to help pets in need whose families cannot afford emergency care. To bring awareness of taking general care of your pets, understanding how important it is to spay and neuter, and to learn about adopting versus breeding. We strive to help our local community and give their pets a second chance.

Come see us at the Hometown Celebration October 11 from 12 to 6 pm

Awareness for general care
Vaccinations
Spay & Neuter
Adoptions
Heart worm Prevention

SPONSORED BY:
Willits Power Equipment & ER Energy

Scoops
Frozen Yogurt & Deli
110 NORTH MAIN STREET • WILLITS

Scoops is sponsoring the pumpkin carving contest BYOP (bring your own pumpkin). Tables and carving supplies will be set up. Carve your pumpkin and leave the mess. Photo booth with Creative Snapshots Bring your pet in their costume and get your picture taken together!

Animals from the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County will be there Down at the food court (Main Street Music Parking lot) they'll be BBQing tri-tips, ribs & chicken SEE YOU AT THE Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration

Georges GEODES & GEMS
Unique and beautiful gems, crystals, fossils, beads, jewelry and more!

Proud sponsor of the 2014 Willits Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration

Donating to the Chamber for the event as well as donating prizes for the prize wheel. No booth this time but the store will be open during the event! 600 South Main Street, Willits (707) 472-7412

Mariposa Market
Organic & Natural Foods

Mariposa Market is a proud sponsor of the Willits Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration

NON-GMO Project VERIFIED nongmoproject.org Stop by for locally grown, organic, Non-GMO food!

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emergencies." Colorful T-shirts designed by firefighter Eric Alvarez will be on sale, too.

Other highlights: the REACH Air Ambulance Service will have a booth for the first time; the Willits Center for the Arts will be open with their October show, "Songs in the Key of Life"; and new sponsor Peter Mann of TNT Market will be offering Indian food at 15 percent off at his West Commercial Street market a couple blocks west of the highway.

A few blocks east on Commercial Street, the Wowser industrial arts facility will be open for tours on Saturday afternoon. Wowser will have a booth downtown, too, said Wowser's Roger Wilson, and those interested in what they learn at the booth can visit the facility that afternoon to take a tour.

Don't forget to stop by Willits Weekly's booth in front

Opposite page: top left: booths and vendors line Main Street to speak to passers-by about their services and products. Top right: David and Geri Hulse-Stephens stopped for a quick photo op during the 2013 celebration. Below left: American Legion Post #174 members pose at their booth. Lisa and Kylie Reed show off their festive scarves in Wolverine Green and Gold.

This page: Above: J.D. Redhouse is always a popular stop at the Hometown Celebration events. Right: Willits Fan Page's Eldon Miller and his wife, Kristen, pose by the prize wheel at the 2013 event.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Photography Basics and Beyond

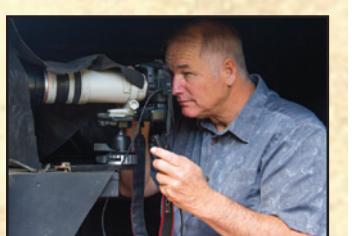
Small Group Tour on the Carnival Inspiration



Improve your Photography Skills with Professional Photographer Chris Hansen

This tour is for those who really want to take their photography skills up a notch. But mostly, we want to have FUN! No pressure or competition!

In addition to three classroom sessions on board the Inspiration, our group will go together on excursions to Catalina Island and Ensenada. These "field trips" will offer you the opportunity to put the skills you have learned to practice under the helpful eye of an expert.



Stop by my Hometown Celebration booth, next to Buster's, to learn more about the Photography Basics and Beyond Cruise

FESTIVAL SPECIAL: We can take sign-ups at our booth from those who are interested and then give a \$25.00 discount, per photographer, when the cruise is actually booked. Hurry, space is limited.

We also have a small group sailing down the Rhone from Lyon to Arles on a wine-themed river cruise over Thanksgiving 2015. Optional additional days in Paris and Barcelona available. We will have information on why this is a great travel option.

Other travel plans? Let me do the "heavy lifting" and make your travel planning easier.

Jenny Lyn Senter
Travel Counselor/Owner
jenser@celticheritedestinations.com

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Get Included Ad deadline: October 17 Contact: Tatiana at 367-2115 tatiana@willitsweekly.com

Willits Weekly | October 9, 2014

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Thursday, October 9

Aleaten Support Group: for teens ages 12-17 that are friends and family members of problem drinkers and/or addicts. For teens only. Every Thursday, starting October 9, 6 to 7 pm, Room 44 at Willits High School, north of gym near pool. Contact: Aurelie at 707-489-1258 or Cindy at 707-972-4748 or cynlamon@gmail.com.

Friday, October 10

WHS Homecoming Football Games: All alumni welcomed back to Willits High School for tonight's events: Junior Varsity game starts at 5:30 pm; Varsity at 7 pm. WHS leadership class has a cake for the alumni when they enter the gate. At halftime of the varsity game, check out the Parade of Floats and the Homecoming King and Queen are announced.

Shanachie Pub: The Crux. 9 pm. \$5 cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Pub info: 459-9194.

Diggers Dancehall Fridays: Joey D Productions presents: Dancehall, Dubstep, Hip Hop, Reggae, Trance, Latin: Positive Music / Positive Vibes at Diggers Bar, 244 South Main Street. 21+. 10 pm to close. No cover. Tonight: DJ Chris Tafari of Mountain Lion Hi-Fi Birthday Kickoff Bash along with DJ Rhett of Blazing Fire Sound.

Saturday, October 11

Harvest Moon Hometown Celebration: from noon to 6 pm in downtown Willits. Local businesses and downtown restaurants will offer deals, samples, goodies, special deals and activities. Live music by New Blu Trio, Funkacillin, Dorian May Jazz Trio, High Five, and more. Plus food vendors, fun activities for kids (including a pumpkin carving contest, a bounce house, and face-painting), the Chamber of Commerce's famous prize wheel, and more. Don't miss Willits Weekly's table and your chance to win a free six-month subscription. See article elsewhere in this week's edition for more details.

"Autumn Art on the 101": Join local artists, crafters, and food vendors for a community art event centered in downtown Laytonville. A raffle will be held at the end of the day! 10 am to 5 pm. All proceeds will benefit the Laytonville Healthy Start Angel Fund for the Arts. Registration still open

for booths: \$25 fee, plus a donation of artist's work for the raffle; registration deadline is October 5. Info: Healthy Start at 707-984-8089.

Shanachie Pub: Them Travelin' Birds. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Pub info: 459-9194.

Sunday, October 12

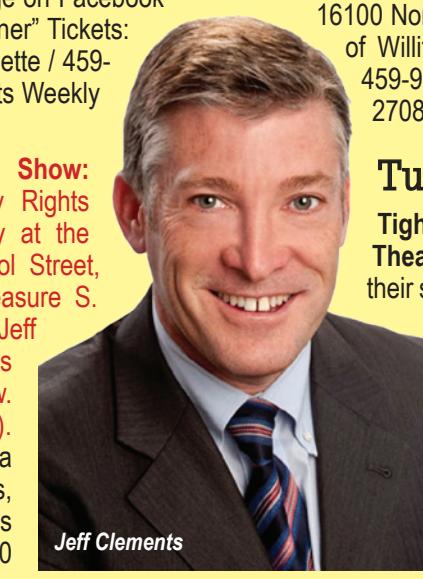
Harrah Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am at the center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Pancakes, eggs, and your choice of ham, bacon, or sausage. Adults \$7, Members \$6, and kids \$5. Info: 459-6826.

Willits Junior Horsemen Schooling Horseshow: final event for the season. Starts at 8:30 am at Willits Horsemen's Arena, 901 Hearst-Willits Road. Free to spectators, and refreshments and lunch available for purchase. Riders will compete in English and Western disciplines and trail and halter classes, as well as a bareback event and horsemanship class which challenge riders a step further. Info: Kathryn at 707-489-6565 or willitsjrhorsemen@gmail.com.

Willits FFA Farmhouse Dinner: A farmhouse dinner featuring farm-raised chicken, Emandal bread, tri-tip, ranch potatoes, salad, lemonade, iced tea. No-host wine and beer. 3 to 6 pm; dinner at 4 pm; dessert auction at 5 pm at the Willits Frontier Days Grounds on East Commercial Street.

To raise awareness and community support for the Willits Future Farmers of America and Willits High School ag department. Funds to go toward a new ag truck, money for conferences, travel expenses, farm improvement and more. Sponsored by Willits Frontier Days. Check event page on Facebook for: "Willits FFA Farmhouse Dinner" Tickets: Annette Pinon / Flowers By Annette / 459-6588 or Maureen Moore / Willits Weekly / 972-7047.

Community Rights Road Show: presented by The Community Rights Network of Mendocino County at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, to support the passage of Measure S. 6:30 to 9:30 pm. Featuring Jeff Clements, author of "Corporations Are Not People" (www.corporationsarenotpeople.com). The evening will also include a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, and live music with Steven Bates and the Raging Grannies. \$10



Jeff Clements

'Grants 101': a free workshop

Willits Library is delighted to provide a free workshop, "Grants 101: An introduction to grant seeking and grant writing for community organizations," on Monday, October 27, from noon to 4 pm. This presentation by Michael Kisslinger will teach where to find information on grants and grantmakers, the parts of a good grant proposal, and how to package a grant proposal.

Kisslinger is the supervisor of the Foundation Centers Funding Information Network partnership for the Mendocino County Library. He has been helping local non-profits with grant seeking, fundraising, governance, and management issues for 20 years.

Please call 459-5908 to reserve your seat.

National Fire Prevention Week

Working smoke alarms can make a life-saving difference in a fire. That's the message behind this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!"

CAL FIRE is joining forces with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide during Fire Prevention Week, October 5 to 11, to remind California residents and visitors about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home and testing them monthly.

According to the latest national research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following smoke alarm messages:

• Install smoke alarms in every

bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.

• Make sure all smoke alarms are interconnected. This way, when one sounds, they all do.

• Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.

• Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.

• Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

For more fire safety tips, visit the CAL FIRE website at www.fire.ca.gov.

Free Feral Cat Fix Day

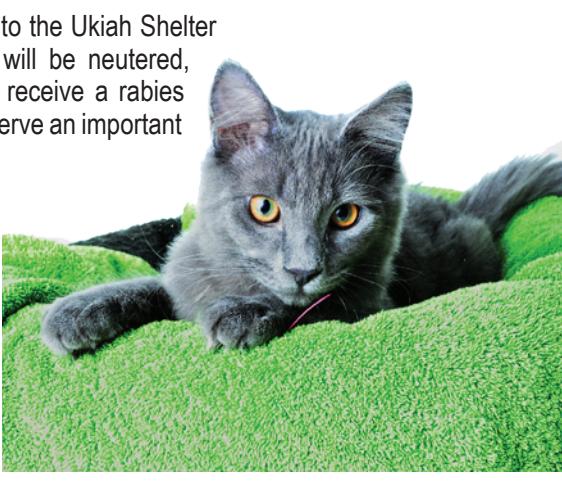
Thursday, October 16 in Ukiah

On Thursday, October 16, Mendocino County Animal Care Services and Anderson Valley Animal Rescue will team up to provide a Free Feral Cat Fix Day.

A feral cat, often referred to as a "Community Cat," is a feline who has lived independent of human contact. They are working cats who keep the rodent population in check and provide a valuable service in fields and neighborhoods. However, unaltered they produce most of the hundreds of kittens that come into Mendocino County shelters every year.

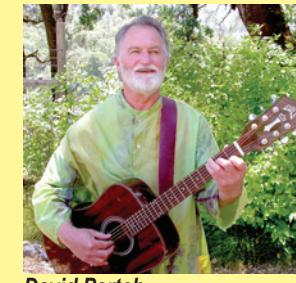
Feral cats who are brought in to the Ukiah Shelter on Plant Road on October 16 will be neutered, have a basic health exam, and receive a rabies vaccine so they can continue to serve an important function in our community.

To find out more information about trapping a feral cat and getting an appointment for the free spay and neuter clinic on October 16, please call Julie Folk at the Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency, Animal Care Services, Ukiah Shelter at 463-4782.



What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits



David Partch



Just Enough

Wednesday, October 15

"Coffee with your Congressman":

The public is invited to attend "A Casual Conversation with Congressman Jared Huffman." A new date and venue: Wednesday, October 15, 8:30 to 10 am at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. One of a series of district events Huffman is doing around the Congressional district. This is a free event; please RSVP to Huffman, CAScheduling@mail.house.gov or 707-962-0933.

Mendocino County Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting: The MHAB meeting will be held in Willits this month, at 10 am at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial in the Wanacott Room. The meeting is intended for members of the public interested in supporting their local mental health services system. Public members are encouraged to attend the meeting to ask questions and give testimony." Agenda: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hhsa/mh_board.htm. For info: contact MHAB chair John Wetzler at johngwetzler@gmail.com or 707-937-3116.

Voters Education Community Forum: A community forum with supervisorial candidates Tom Woodhouse and Holly Madrigal and candidate for county superintendent of schools Warren Galletti is set for Wednesday, October 15 at 6:30 pm at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street.

Moderated by Joe Oslund. Candidates will speak for three minutes each and answer prepared questions and written questions from the audience. "Come meet the people who may be making decisions for your future!" Also, Mendocino Women's Political Coalition will host a discussion on the State Ballot Propositions and Measure S, the local anti-fracking measure. Cablecast live on Comcast Channel 3 by Willits Community Television. Sound by Modern Music Sound Service.

Willits Economic Localization 10th Anniversary!

with Films including "End of Suburbia"

Displays, Special Guests and Birthday Cake!

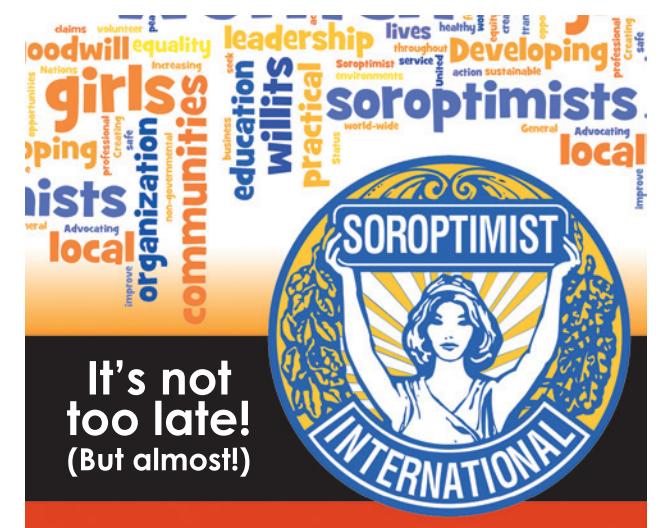
Thurs, October 16 @ 6:30 pm Little Lake Grange, 291 School St. Willits info: 459-1493

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Send an email to:
willitsphonebook@gmail.com
and get your business included this year!

Ad copy for changes can be sent to
WPBAdCopy@gmail.com

Annual Fall Book Sale October 16-19

Thursday, 6-9 pm
(FOWL members only)
Friday, 10 am-6 pm
Saturday, 10 am-4 pm
Sunday, 10 am-3 pm
(\$3 a bag day!)

Community Center
111 E. Commercial St.
Willits

Bring your book bag.

Rollo the Reading Rooster just loves a good bargain. He'll be first in line at the Annual Fall Book Sale!

New Balls for Blosser

I want to give a shout out to Les Schwab Tire Center in Willits, who recently donated 20 playground balls to Blosser Lane Elementary School without even being asked to donate! We just want everyone to know how much we appreciate Mr. Kirk Reed and his crew!

- submitted by
Windi Kvasnicka,
Blosser Lane PTO

Right: Students pose with the new playground balls.



We've got Spirit, How About YOU!?

Students dressed up for superhero days this week during Willits High School's Spirit Week and Homecoming Celebration, including counter-clockwise from left: Superman Rachel Kanonchoff, Batman Brian Huddle, Lois Lane/Superman and Career Center Tech Juliana Kang, Batman and Yearbook Editor-in-Chief Izzy Hageman, and Supermen Naomi Ramirez and Hailey Riley. Don't forget, the Homecoming football game will be Friday, with JV starting at 5:30 pm at Maize Field, and the students' Homecoming dance will be Saturday from 9 pm to midnight. Go Wolverines!



Mammograms save lives.

**\$195* Mammogram
for the Month of October!**

Howard Memorial Hospital is offering uninsured women the opportunity to have a screening mammogram at the reduced price of \$195.

Schedule your mammogram today. Call 707.456.3095.
Physician referral required.

Medical Imaging | Howard Memorial Hospital | One Madrone Street | Willits, CA

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital
Adventist Health

*\$195 is the price for uninsured patients. If you are insured, please call for an estimate of your costs.



Chickadoodles: a showcase for local artisans

If you're looking for unique gifts - or looking to sell items you have made - Chickadoodles Artisan Gifts and Novelties may be the store for you. The new shop, located at 377 South Main Street (between Peter's Sushi and Monica's Laundromat), features a variety of items from local artists, authors and artisans.

"I'll take one piece or 100 pieces," owner Malissa Donegan told Willits Weekly. Her only requirements are: "It's gotta be handmade, local, and a 'giftable' item."

"I've been open three weeks," Donegan said. "People come in and say, 'Wow, this is so cool!' They get really excited."

Chickadoodles does include a few items that are not locally made, Avon products being chief among them. Donegan said she'd sold Avon for about a year, but the costs of booth space at events, bazaars, and festivals where she sold the beauty products were expensive.

"Then I got offered this building," she said. "I thought, 'I'll bet I'm not the only person who's had that problem.' Everyone wants to keep their taxes local and shop local, so I decided to get local artwork, price it reasonably, and showcase it here. Some bazaars have really cool stuff, but now there is a place where people can come all the time."

Donegan plans to feature the work of a different artist each month. Octobers' featured artist is Lillian Rubie. Rubie has been making art since she was a child, when she first showed attention to detail by drawing eyelashes on her early portraits. People have always been her favorite subject. Today, her love of portraiture includes custom portraits in paint and pencil, as well as Old

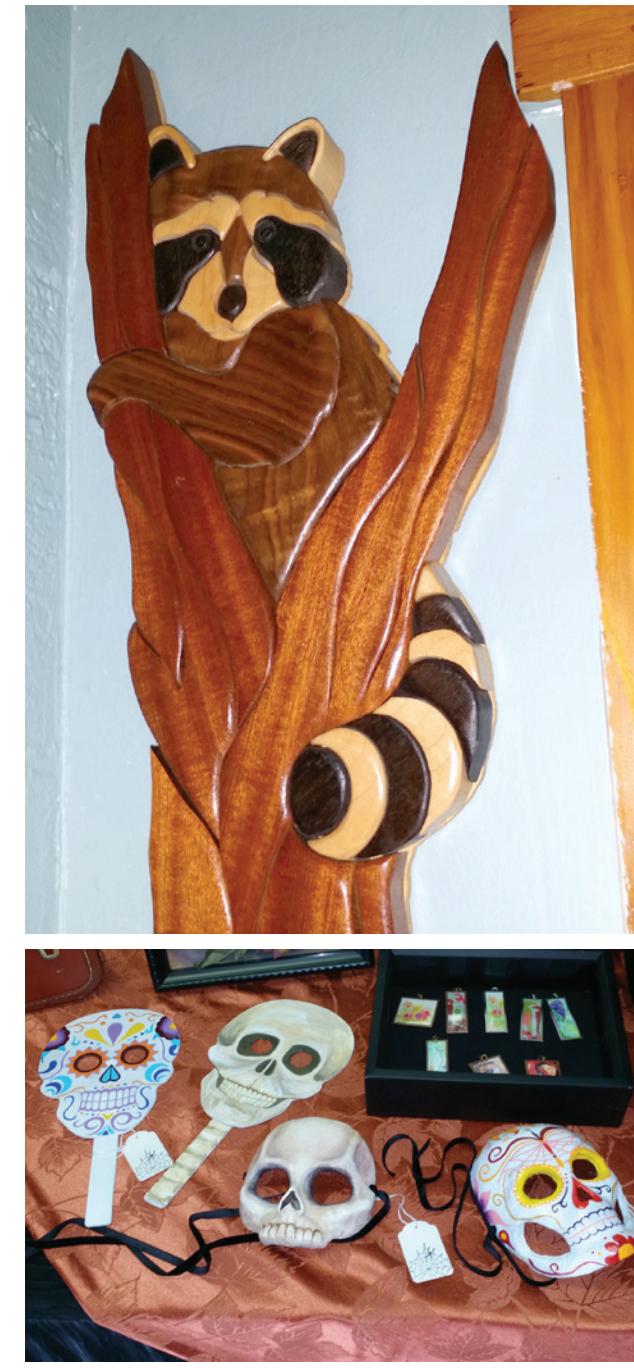
Hollywood style photographs. Rubie has prints, cards, and jewelry, as well as original works of art.

Chickadoodles is also featuring Rubie's current holiday pieces, inspired by her love of autumn and Halloween.

Another artist prominently displayed is intarsia artist Barry Parmely. Intarsia is a form of wood inlaying that is similar to marquetry.

"I've got music CDs from local artists coming soon," an excited Donegan said, "and a mural coming outside from Alison Doran.

"It's a work in progress," she said. "Once you buy something in here, you'll never find the same thing again."



At top, left: This table shows off the work of October's featured artist, Lillian Rubie.

At top, right: Chickadoodles owner Malissa Donegan and her husband, Daniel Rockey, Sr., with their children Kainen and Kalaya.

Above: A raccoon intarsia piece by artist Barry Parmely.

Above: Masks and other items, suitable for celebrating Day of the Dead.

At right: Barry Parmely's intarsia dragon.

Below: copper bracelets by Russell Maidrand.

Photos by Kevin Klay



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All printed ads INCLUDE online advertising too! All editions go online to www.WillitsWeekly.com

Weekly Promotions for October

MONDAYS — Rooster & Owls

3X Points for the Morning and Evening Session.

Morning Session: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 9, 10, 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Evening Session: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 7, 8, 9 and 10 p.m.

May win once per promotion day!

For both Morning and Evening sessions: Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay and a \$2.00 Food Coupon

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay.

Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6:00-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

TUESDAYS — Guys Night

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay.

Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6:00-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

WEDNESDAYS — Ladies Night

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay.

Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6:00-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

THURSDAYS — Super Senior Day

The Senior Freepay will be preloaded to the Players Club Card.

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: Hot Seat Drawings each hour. Winners receive \$40 Cash.

Half off lunch coupon for those participating. Specials posted at Creekside Café.

11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Lunch hours.

FRIDAYS — Friday Fun

1:00-9:00 p.m.: Earn 100 points, receive \$10 freeplay

2:00-8:00 p.m.: Hourly hot seat drawings for \$75 Cash

9:00 p.m.: Hot seat drawing for \$100 Cash

SATURDAYS — Saturday Night Paydays

6:00-11:00 p.m.

Tickets will be randomly handed out twice an hour starting after 6:00 p.m.

Drawing at 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 p.m. for \$200 Cash.

SUNDAYS — Football Frenzy

12:00 Noon-9:00 p.m.

Random Hourly Hot Seat Drawings

The Winner will choose a Football of their choice and have a chance win up to \$150 Cash.

100 Kawi Place in Willits 459-7330

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2014 Buckle Winners

Final event of WJHA buckle series held September 27

With summer coming to an end, it was also time for the conclusion of the Willits Junior Horsemen Buckle Series Gymkhana events on September 27. Daily high point and reserve winners were named in each age group, including Jennifer Irwin who won high point and Bob Cronin who won reserve in the 35 and over group, Lindsey Decker who won high point and Carmen Coleman who won reserve in 19 to 34, Thais Reed who won high point in 15 to 18, Emma Wade who won high point and Jaden Doak who won reserve in 11 to 14, and Samantha Arms who won high point and Hazel Cooke who won reserve in 10 and under.

Since this was the final event in the series, the overall highest point holders for all the gymkhanas and therefore winners of the Year End Buckle Awards were: Misty Gayski in 35 and over, Lindsey Decker in 19 to 34, Shanna Gayski in 15 to 18, Jaden Doak in 11 to 14, and Samantha Arms in 10 and under.

Willits Junior Horsemen mentioned their thanks to those who sponsored the year end buckles, including 10 and under: Monkeywrench Mens and Womens Wear; 11 to 14: T&T Towing; 15 to 18: Fred and Marcy Barry; 19 to 34: Pacific Coast Timer; and 35 and over: Willits Junior Horsemen.

The final event for the season overall will be the Willits Junior Horsemen Schooling Horseshow, which will be held on Sunday, October 12 at 8:30 am at Willits Horsemen Arena, 901 Hearst-Willits Road. The event is free to spectators, and refreshments and lunch will be available for purchase. Riders will compete in English and Western disciplines, and trail and halter classes, as well as a bareback event and horsemanship class which challenge riders a step further. For more information call Kathryn at 707-489-6565 or email willitsjrhorsemen@gmail.com.

A listing of additional class results from Sunday's gymkhana follows:

Cloverleaf barrels: 35 and over: first place went to Jennifer Irwin on Mad Eyed Jack; second to Bob Cronin on Joe; third to Briana Jenny on Big Bill; fourth to Sheri Cronin on Nyx; and fifth to June Richmond on Cash. 19 to 34: first place went to Lindsey Decker on Stella; second to Carmen Colmen on DJ; third to Lana Vlastelica on Potter; fourth to Aura Johansen on Mesa; and fifth to Brandi Gamble on Pineapple. 15 to 18: first place went to Brooke Hanson on Boo and second to Thais Reed on Zephyr. 11 to 14: first place went to Emma Wade on Purdy; second to Jaden Doak on Goldie; third to Lillyanna Fridley on Willie; fourth to Jessica Cronin on Otis; and fifth to Emma Wade on Cash. 10 and under: first went to Samantha Arms on Callie; second to Hazel Cooke on Poppy; third to Canella Coleman on Red; fourth to Kiera Dragness on Rusty; and fifth to Kiera Dragness on Princess.

Slot Barrels: 35 and over: first to Jennifer Irwin, second to Bob Cronin, and third to June Richmond. 19 to 34: first went to Lindsey Decker; second to Lana Vlastelica; third to Aura Johansen; fourth to Carmen Coleman; and fifth to Carolyn Simpson. 15 to 18: first place went to Thais Reed. 11 to 14: first place went to Emma Wade; second to Jaden Doak; third to Lillyanna Fridley; fourth to Emma Wade; and fifth to Lillyanna Fridley. 10 and under: first place went to Samantha Arms; second to Hazel Cooke; third to Kiera Dragness; fourth to Canella Coleman; and fifth to Kiera Dragness.

Lead Line Participants: Cole Simpson on Wrangler, Arya Sizemore on Goldie, Maycie Harbour on CoCo, Stoney Bauer on Bill Bill, Jenna Bean on Mare, and Tessa Simpson on Callie. Lead line participants did Cloverleaf Barrels, Slot Barrels, Washington Poles and Single Stake Race.

Results provided by Willits Junior Horsemen



Top left: Katelyn Germann on Rusty and Samantha Arms on Callie ride around barrels at the Willits Junior Horsemen Arena during the September 27 event. Above: Jaden Doak stands with her palomino Goldie.

Below: Kiera Dragness rides Princess between two barrels at the last Buckle Series gymkhana event.

Photos by Shannon Germann



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Holly is an experienced, knowledgeable leader who brings a clear vision for our county's sustainable future.

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ENDORSEES:
Jim Marill, Cindy Morninglight, and Melinda Clarke

This ad was paid for by Jim Marill, Cindy Morninglight and Melinda Clarke, and was not authorized by a candidate or committee controlled by a candidate.



The church bells will be ringing again!!

AS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of WILLITS

Welcomes their new Senior Pastor,
Reverend Mark Zeek and family to Willits
Sunday, October 12 at 11 a.m.

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and reception to follow after the service.

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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, October 23, 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.

For Sale

Good Quality Furniture: 7 foot couch, like new, \$350. 5-piece king bedset, with extras, approx. 1970s, very nice, \$500. Outdoor BBQ w/tank, \$35. 2-drawer metal Pendaflex file, \$20. Outdoor metal bench, \$25. Come by to see or call: 459-8570: Space 50, Golden Rule Mobile Village, 16100 North Highway 101, Willits.

Help Wanted

Veterinary Technician position open at the Willits Pet Care Center. Experience Required. 90 South Street, Willits, 95490.

Home Delivery

Help support your locally owned community newspaper with a mail subscription: Willits Weekly is delivered in Friday's first-class mail to Willits addresses: \$75/year or \$406/6 months. We are now also able to offer home delivery to some 95490 residents as well. \$50/year or \$30/6 months. Home delivery papers will come in the early morning hours on Friday and be tossed onto driveways.

Professional gardening tools, massage table and chair, guitars, acoustic-electric bass, gardening books, men's clothing, household items, supplements, etc... 20 Pine Street, #11, Willits.

Estate Sale

October 11, 12, 24, 25, 26.

Professional gardening tools, massage table and chair, guitars, acoustic-electric bass, gardening books, men's clothing, household items, supplements, etc... 20 Pine Street, #11, Willits.

For Rent

Spacious home for rent in Willits. See http://sfbay.craigslist.org/nby/reo/4687163487.html.

For Rent

Large office space with 3 adjoining rooms in healing arts complex. A total of 1500 sq. ft. Rooms rented separately \$250-\$350, or \$800 for complete space.

Off-street parking. Vintage setting. 354-2473.

For Rent

Nice 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath Townhouse/Condo located in country setting, washer & dryer hook-up, garage paid. \$735 per month. Armc: 459-9601.

Rummage Sale

Every Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm at 1st Baptist Church, 145 Wood Street. Rain or shine. We accept rummage donations, and have an ever-changing selection of goods!

For Rent, Office Space

300 sq ft office space, water, electricity, & alarm system included: \$375/month rent and \$375/security deposit. Call Matt for info: 459-4599.

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250 sq ft downtown office space plus 105 sq ft waiting room area; shared bath; electricity and garbage included: \$395/month rent and \$395 security deposit. Call Matt for info: 459-4599.

For Sale

Mobile home in downtown Willits, \$24k. Seniors only. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, small extra room, large living room, good storage, fenced yard. Small pet okay. 459-2305.

Volunteers Wanted

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

For Sale

Couch with recliners, in good shape: \$150. Bike, new: \$40.

5000 Watt Generator, \$100.

Tow Bar (to pull car or truck): \$100. Day Bed: \$35. All items: "or best offer." 707-513-7241.

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The rest of
Questions | From Page 1

Of these challenges, pick one and tell us about a solution.

Ron Orenstein: The city is working to secure our water supply by upgrading the water treatment plant, along with plans to repair and replace most of the aging water infrastructure, and we are well into the construction of an emergency water supply system. I have identified a potential threat to the Little Lake aquifer that could affect everyone who pumps water. The state is just starting to implement regulations that cover ground water. This leaves the possibility open that a water speculator could buy land in the valley and pump water for sale on the open market. I'm proposing steps to prevent this.

Larry Stranske: We're going to come up against these obstacles. The half-cent sales tax isn't going to be able to suffice for everything we need. We will have to figure out how to raise more money for infrastructure – it comes down to that, or you're going to have to make cuts in services.

Robin Leler: A good water treatment operator starts the day with a water sample and performs a bench test, perhaps more than one. When the water is optimal, the treatment is rationed up to treat the day's supply. The City of Willits needs to allocate the resources for the equipment, the expertise and the chemicals to make sure our water meets optimal standards for health, taste and clarity.

Describe what your ideal Willits of the future looks like.

Larry Stranske: We need more business, service-oriented. I would like to work toward a walkable, friendly downtown, which would allow outside dining, located in an area safe from auto traffic.

Robin Leler: Imagine Pomo villages teaching the skills that sustained people for 5,000 years, using deer, wild turkeys, acorns, blackberries, and successfully restored salmon runs. Add ranches and organic farms, where people can work and learn. We have grass-fed beef, wool spinning, and heirloom apple and pear orchards. We offer bicycle and horse trails through redwood and oak country. Visitors come to raft the Eel River, ride a restored steam engine, or stroll along one of our leafy creek walks. At the end of the day, there's live music. People are hungry for the types of authentic living experiences Willits offers.

Ron Orenstein: "Ideal" might be an unattainable fantasy, so I'll stick to a feasible reality! I see Willits as the charming, small town that it is, with the absence of big trucks rumbling down Main Street, and pleasant, walkable neighborhoods and commercial districts. The stores are well-kept and prosperous, and there are good-paying jobs in clean, light manufacturing companies. I see many of the new entrepreneurs are locals who have been given the tools, guidance and help to develop their home-grown businesses. Perhaps a merry-go-round or roller skating rink in City Park to create a family-friendly city square.

What are your thoughts about challenges facing the Willits Police Department, such as comparatively low pay or difficulties staffing positions like dispatch?

Robin Leler: We are lucky to have a police chief like Gerry Gonzalez, who works hard to keep our town safe and friendly. I look forward to talking with him more before taking up the challenges facing our WPD.

Ron Orenstein: I have always been a big supporter of the police, and would like to pay them as much as possible to honor the work they do. But the fact is, the police department, like most police departments in the state, accounts for 57 percent of the general fund budget. Any way you look at it, that's a big chunk of the budget that has to pay for all of the other services that the city provides, except sewer and water. Finding the money to do everything is an ongoing source of frustration for city officials, and funding options are limited.

Ron Orenstein: The reality is that 71 percent of the budget is payroll-related. Making any significant cuts to balance the budget requires that we fire employees. That is not my preference, because it's not the right thing to do, and there aren't any excess employees on the payroll anyway. Occasionally, we can make cuts without taking this action.

Larry Stranske: This is a difficult question, and I don't have an easy answer.

but that's rare. The cost of everything increases every year, and eventually, the taxpayers will need to make some hard decisions: what services are they willing to give up? Or, is the public willing to pay more to keep all of their services?

Larry Stranske: These questions are too broad for a quick answer, and there is no quick fix. We live in an old city with worn-out buildings and infrastructure. We need all to work together to have a better community: citizens within and outside of the city limits. I do feel our staff and city employees are our biggest assets.

Tell Willits Weekly readers about something you think the city is doing right.

Ron Orenstein: Nationwide, cities are struggling to stay afloat, facing rising costs and decreased revenues, and forcing massive layoffs to balance their budgets. The best thing a city can do is to stay as close to a balanced budget as possible, without decimating city staff, while continuing to provide services to the citizens. Starting with a half-million dollar deficit this year, we adopted a budget with one quarter of that amount, and enough cash reserves to cover the shortfall. For the past decade, the city has sustained budget deficits without hurting the reserve fund, by controlling costs.

Larry Stranske: We can always make improvements; the city is completing a water plant with an up flow clarifier and a charcoal unit.

Robin Leler: I am so pleased with our new Public Works Director Rodney Wilburn, for pushing ahead on all those deferred maintenance programs, despite a tight budget. Also I see the city now allows sidewalk tables downtown. I love to see so many businesses thriving and a vibrant nightlife growing.

What role should the city play in approving plans or permits, ranging from food trucks and outdoor dining to new businesses and industry?

Larry Stranske: I'm not in favor of the food trucks, as I feel they would take too much from our restaurants.

Robin Leler: This is another area I will have to listen well and learn about.

Ron Orenstein: Obviously, the city plays the key role in these actions, and city staff has always been helpful in guiding the applicants along, because we all want to see development in the city. But the real question should be: what do the citizens want to see in the city? Do we want food trucks that compete with established businesses, or do we want more competition? Do we want outdoor dining to create an ambiance, or will it interfere with pedestrians? What types of businesses don't we want in our town, or does the public favor "anything goes"?

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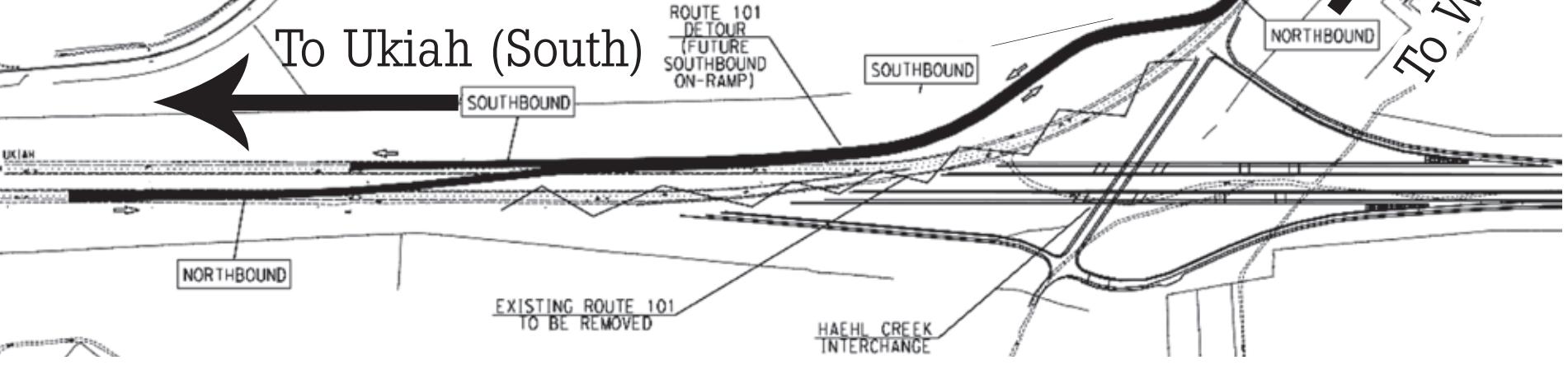
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CLOSED Sunday

Last-minute traffic warning from Caltrans

On Thursday, October 9, traffic on Highway 101 on the south end of the Willits bypass project is being diverted to a long-term detour. In order to tie the detour into the existing highway, one-way traffic control with a pilot car will be in effect from 2 am to (at the latest) 9 pm on Thursday only. Motorists who can't reschedule their travel should anticipate major traffic delays, which could reach one hour or more during peak traffic times, with southbound traffic on Highway 101 backing up into the northern end of Willits. This work is being done during the day due to nighttime temperatures which are too cold for successful paving, Caltrans' Phil Frisbie said. Frisbie said the agency hopes the work will be finished early, by late afternoon Thursday, and emphasized that emergency vehicles needing to get through will have minimal delays. The detour, which will eventually become the southbound onramp to Highway 101 from Route 20, will remain in place until the bypass is completed in summer 2017. The detour has a 20 mph curve, so motorists are urged to use caution.



The rest of
Eyster | From Page 1

confirmed supervisors upheld their earlier decision.

"Doug Losak is the interim county counsel now," Pinches said.

Eyster's comments were given in open session during the public comments portion of the meeting.

Eyster first accused supervisors of using the upgrade of Losak from acting to interim county counsel as a way of circumventing county policy concerning salary increases.

Eyster had estimated Losak's starting salary, before he became acting county counsel, would have been that of a deputy county counsel: \$97,627 a year.

He cited Mendocino County Policy 41, which states a pay increase for a department head should not be greater than 10 percent.

Eyster then cited an exception, which exists when an assignment is for a term longer than six months. In that case, according to Eyster, supervisors may grant the employee an additional 5 percent, meaning Losak should have been entitled to a raise of no more than 15 percent, or \$14,643, bringing his annual salary to a sum of \$112,271.

The move from acting county counsel to interim county counsel increased Losak's salary from \$107,390 to \$143,291, a 33.4 percent hike.

Eyster noted the county's human resources policies do not contain a definition of, or codify, the use of the term "interim" to define employee positions. "Has the board created a new employment category without telling staff or the public?" Eyster asked.

The DA noted there are two rating systems for attorneys in Mendocino County, and argued under both systems Losak did not look that impressive.

"The old school rating service, Martindale-Hubbell, conducts peer reviews of attorneys," Eyster said. "After evaluating confidential responses solicited from local peers and judges, Martindale issues an attorney a rating, the highest of which is the AV rating."

"People wonder how we could be in such good financial shape when we have flat growth. One of the reasons is, we got Doug," Pinches added. "He's in there working on these cases, and when they go to court, he's in there, too. And the result is, we don't have to pay nothing like we might have to if someone else was doing it. I would hate to think of what would happen if we didn't have him."

When asked why Sheriff Tom Allman and the district attorney would team up to try to crush Losak, Pinches said he didn't know.

Under the other lawyer rating system, the AVVO, attorneys are rated "based on a confidential algorithm that factors experience,

"I think we're making a mountain out of a mole hill," he said.

however, did exhibit some slight symptoms of dehydration.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office would like to thank all personnel and public safety agencies that assisted in the search-and-rescue operation, Sheriff Tom Allman says.

Assisting in the search were personnel from the Marin County Sheriff's Office, Lake County Sheriff's Office, Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, Napa County Sheriff's Office, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Bay Area Mountain Rescue, California Rescue Dog Association, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement, U.S. Forest Service Fire, and the California Highway Patrol.

Candidates were asked for their

industry recognition, and professional conduct," Eyster said. "Six of the top 15 rated attorneys in Mendocino County – out of 209 attorneys –

thoughts on vehicle emissions, the "rush hour commute" on Highway 101 through Willits, and whether they considered this traffic a priority, and how to address it.

Stranske supported an expansion of MTA routes and frequency, with passenger parking lots, adding the bypass will prevent "idling in town." Leiter also favored an improved bus system – citing her personal experience with MTA – better bike lanes, and the possibility of a gas tax to incentivize mass transit.

Orenstein agreed on transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, also detailing "a little dream" he has of solar-powered city-owned electric vehicles available for downtown use.

Woodhouse proposed more local jobs "so people aren't driving long distances," youth job training, and an expansion of residential/commercial mixed-use zoning. Madrigal felt "the key is building infrastructure," creating modes of transportation, bike and walking paths like one planned for Covelo, and improving the county's access to broadband high-speed internet access. Woodhouse responded: "Taking on big projects like building infrastructure ... we don't have a lot of money, we need small steps."

The development of local alternative energy sources, particularly solar, was the last specific issue addressed by candidates, who were asked to consider the role of local government in encouraging such projects and how they would personally promote them.

Orenstein spoke of his past work with city solar projects, and of upcoming plans to further the use of solar on city properties. Leiter described her experience with Ecology Action, utilizing solar building design instead of solar panels for better energy use. Stranske said he supported solar, but expressed concerns over funding for large projects due to uncertainty over city revenues once the bypass is operational.

Madrigal favors local management and further research, and currently attends meetings of the county drought ad-hoc committee. She plans to work with the county building department to incentivize rainwater catchment and similar practices, and believes the county needs stronger policies advocating for water rights.

Finally, Mr. Losak's recent opinion that county department heads not respond to grand jury reports is an affront to the grand jury system, and contrary to law."

One board observer said after Eyster had concluded "the board and Losak seemed stunned."

Contacted on the day after the meeting, Pinches stood by his earlier remarks when he said Losak's work had been "extraordinary."

"I stand behind that," Pinches said.

"Grown men can have a difference of opinion. I can back up my comment by looking at Losak's work product, I mean the job he's done for the county. The results have been tremendous. He's been the county's chief litigator for some time now and he's saved the county hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"For example, Eyster mentioned that baby's death over in Fort Bragg," Pinches said. "Losak was the litigator on that and got us off for \$100,000. Now that was one that could have cost us much, much more than \$100,000."

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Leiter was against Phase Two, and uncertain the bypass would diminish truck traffic. Stranske expressed worry the state would request county monies due to bypass construction delays, and felt the city should be working actively to protect its "sphere of influence" around interchange development.

Woodhouse did not support using MCOG funds for Phase Two, but favored money for local projects, such as a Brooktrails second access route.

Woodhouse believed "large scale commercial marijuana grows are the most environmentally damaging thing," calling for development of a "united plan with the northern counties." He also referenced wildfire danger and the need to create additional Brooktrails emergency routes.

Madrigal cited "how we respond to drought as a community, and how we're going to change" and create smart county-wide water policy as her top concern, with potential changes with the Potter Valley Project, statewide legislation, and Lake Mendocino all upcoming. She also mentioned energy use, wildfire and forestland management, and jobs.

Other board members tended to agree with Rodriguez, but wondered if it might be better to find out what would be involved in constructing a new building, before rejecting the idea.

Johnson said the proposed site includes many plusses. The land is owned by the district and is currently unused. It is located to the west of the 90-degree turn where Walnut Street bends into Locust Street, on the eastern edge of a vacant field formerly owned by Harwood Products. If the district built there, the new office building would be located roughly midway between Blosser Lane school, the Kids Club of Willits, and Baechtel Grove school.

The district office has bounced around various properties in Willits for decades. For a long time it was located in a small cottage in front of Willits High School. Later it moved to what is now a residence between the old location of Mariposa Market and the headquarters of the Willits Environmental Center. District administration repeatedly grumbled about the inadequacy of the building.

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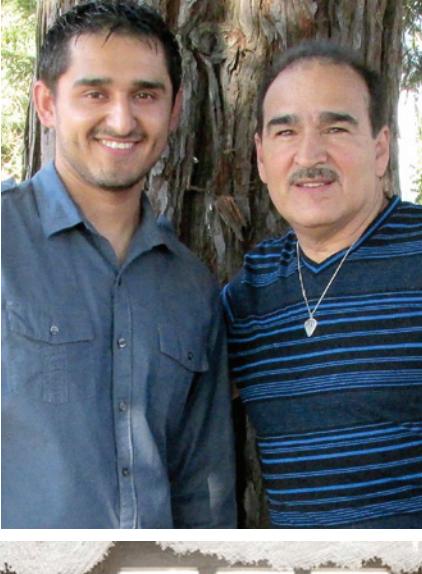
Above: David Lopez before he left Willits for Southern California.

Far right: David Lopez bids goodbye to the Willits arch.

Right: David Lopez and his father, songwriter David Lopez, Sr.

Below: the cover of Lopez's single "Mi Soledad."

Photos by Jennifer Poole



David Lopez follows his dreams

David Lopez, 21, who grew up in Willits, has just moved to

Jennifer Poole

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Southern California, to pursue his goal of working as a singer/songwriter and an actor. Lopez graduated early from Willits High School in 2009.

Lopez has had roles in a number of Spanish-language films, starting with "Cazador De Cholos" (2008) and "Los 12 Apostoles Del Narco" (2008). The two most recent films he worked on were both released this August.

In 2012, Lopez had a supporting role in an English-language suspense movie by Oscar Dominguez called "Sand and Bones."

Lopez's father, David Lopez, Sr. had a role in "Sand and Bones," too, and can be seen as well in the film's trailer.

Lopez, Sr. is also a songwriter, or "compositor" in Spanish. Ten of the 11 songs on Lopez's first album, "Inicio" were collaborations between father and son. "Inicio" ("Home" in English) was released in 2012.

Lopez's latest musical work, a new single released in August and produced by Grammy-nominated producer Toby Sandoval, is called "Mi Solidad."

"It's a ballad; a break-up song," Lopez said. His music is all within the genre of "pop," he said. "I've experimented with a little more upbeat sound,

but it's all pop: American pop and Mexican pop." Lopez is interested in releasing songs in English, too, as well as Spanish.

When asked if he preferred music to acting, Lopez said: "It comes hand in hand, the whole acting thing and the music."

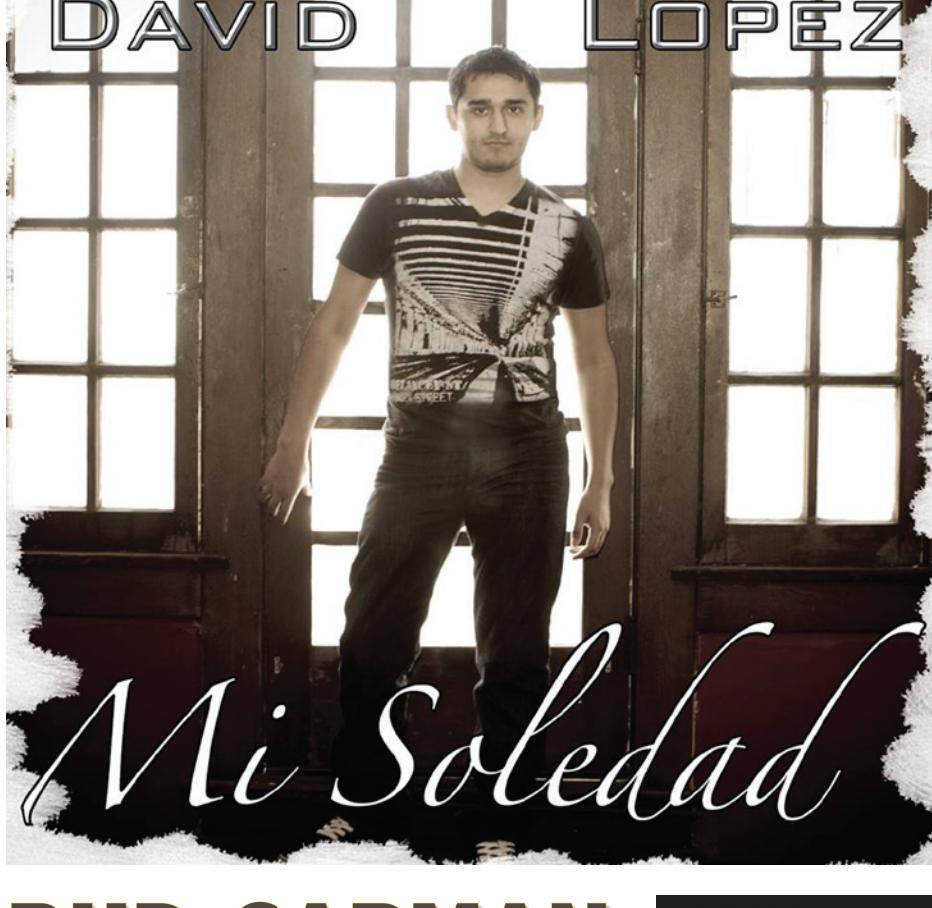
Lopez has been doing music "pretty much my whole life," he said. "My dad and I did a lot of music stuff together: He would teach me basics, and I would help him write his songs." Lopez, Sr. has written songs for many Spanish-language singers over the years.

Lopez also studied music in the Willits schools. "I did the concert band at Baechtel Grove – I did a lot of performances at Baechtel – and the Willits High School band as well," he said. He also took a college singing class with Don Willis at Mendocino College.

Lopez's album "Inicio" – and now his single "Mi Solidad" – have gotten play and coverage on Spanish-language radio and TV and a number of internet radio stations in the U.S. and Mexico. "Mi Soledad" "opened a lot of doors," Lopez said. It's on iTunes at: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/mi-soledad-single/id902862753>.

Lopez has been nominated for awards in three different categories at the Premios Key Musical award show coming up on November 27 in Fort Worth, Texas, where he'll be performing. Lopez has been nominated for: 1. best pop singer, 2. most promising male artist; and 3. best singer in a different language.

To keep up with David Lopez, visit his website at <http://davidlopez.tv/> or his "official" Facebook page at www.facebook.com/davidpaginaoficial.



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