



# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

## Thank you to firefighters

To the Editor:

I want to thank Little Lake Fire Department and Cal Fire from the bottom of my heart for their rapid response to the brush fire that broke out off of Black Bart Road up in Ridgewood on October 23. The fire was just below our house, and had it been a few weeks earlier with hotter drier weather, we would have been in real trouble. Copter 101 and the quick response of the fire crews were key in preventing what could have been a disaster.

As I stood on my deck watching it all unfold, with memories of the horrible fires in Lake County running through my head, I realized how very vulnerable we are. I will take steps to be more prepared in the event there is a next time. And I will clear more brush around our house before the next fire season arrives. It can happen in an instant. Again, THANK YOU to LFLD and Cal Fire! Your quick action saved our mountain!

Roni McFadden, Willits

## Transparency

To the Editor:

After the Tuesday, October 6 board meeting, and the recent article in Willits Weekly, I feel the need to clarify a few things that many people may not be aware of.

First the accusations by Trustee Sabrina Rodriguez against Trustee Laurie Harris. The Brown Act was put into place to guarantee that trustees would not be able to do block voting or make deals without the awareness or approval of the public. Since Pat Johnson's term as superintendent, there have not been many group communications to keep board members informed – in exactly the same way – as to what's going on in the schools, or of any controversial issues that arise. Instead, there have been a number of individual communiques sent to various members of the board and non-board members – myself included – that haven't been shared with everyone else.

I've known Laurie for over 10 years, and she has always been transparent in her opinions, and sincere in her presentations. I find it very ironic that anyone who claims to be interested in the welfare of our students and school district would be opposed to her transparency and truthful accounts – especially where the Brown Act is clear in that discussions are the issue, not a balanced disclosure of information. Rodriguez makes it a discussion when she responds – thus she is the one "breaking the Brown Act," if that type of application to the Brown Act is to be considered.

Also, although over \$1 million of new monies have come into the district, there are still monetary/budgeting priorities that seem to directly hurt our students. For example, for the last three years at all of the school sites, employees have been asking for replacement furniture/equipment, or replacement parts for student furniture that is falling apart. The answer has always

been the standard, "We don't have money, make do." Yet the General Fund could come up with \$51,000 to buy all-new furniture for the district office complex. What happened to the previous furniture? Laurie Harris and Alex Bowlds asked that question publicly, yet it has still remained unanswered.

There are also concerns about a lot of 2-3 votes, instead of 5-0 votes, but the interesting part is that the "two votes" come from the two people most involved in the district. The two that are very accessible to staff and the community, as well as being the two most interested in making sure that the students are thought of first. For example, it has been the same two trustees that have not voted for additional administrative and management positions because there are enough administrators in this district. Are we all aware that we still have a full-time principal and assistant principal at Blosser Lane? "No votes" for additional administrators certainly seems reasonable to me.

These same two members are accused of divisiveness when they ask about why negotiations weren't done according to the contract with CSEA when dealing with the \$10 an hour minimum wage issue, or why there's a need for additional supervisory positions when there are only two to three people to supervise.

It seems that in the past eight months, the district has taken some odd turns. Before this past year, only apparently credentialed or experienced people were supposed to fill the various openings. When asked about why that is not the practice, the current explanation is that Willits Unified School District can't get qualified applicants. That's difficult to believe because there are three Universities within a three hour distance from Willits. It is, however, important to note that although our certificated (non-administrative) and classified (non-managerial) salary schedules are low, the reputation WUSD has acquired for working conditions and morale has become a big deterrent.

Another concern is that a divided board of trustees may be difficult to deal with. Well, let's look at what that means. As a person who has spent more than 25 years attending WUSD board meetings, I think it looks as if three trustees are more interested in rubber-stamping issues and ending the meeting, than doing their "homework" (talking to the community, going to school sites, etc.), and coming up with valuable solutions for the district's controversies. For example, there have been a number of personnel complaints from various departments that make it to the superintendent's desk, but never get resolved, and never go before the board's closed sessions to get resolved. Although this is a serious breach of board policy, the board doesn't take care of it because only two of the five voters seem to be interested in resolving issues.

There are many other issues of major concern happening in our district, from less and less transparency of the issues that surround our district's policies, to the treatment of employees, and the future of our students. There are so many questions that remain unanswered by the people that should be privy to the information, and it's done so inconsiderately that instead of the lack of information being considered an annoyance, it's felt to be a blatant insult; one which cannot be easily tolerated.

As a parent, community member, taxpayer, or just an interested bystander, come listen to what's being

discussed. It's the first Wednesday of the month, at 4:30 pm, in the Media Center at Willits High School. Especially as a parent, it's important to know why particular classes are, or aren't, being offered, and where your tax dollars are going. It's important to consider why the various departments are set up the way that they are, how discipline issues are being resolved, and what you can do to put the district back on track.

Maybe with the new board member, things will improve, but at the very least it needs to be remembered that these are public meetings where you have the right to express yourself and feel represented.

Paula Nunez, Willits

## 'Good Will Appeal'

To the Editor:

For many of us, the heartache will not go away concerning the acres and acres of an ancient seasonal lake that were systematically turned into a wasteland, despite the best efforts of hundreds of good people to stop this unnecessary destruction.

Was the fight worth it? Like the Civil Rights struggle, or Redwood Summer, which so many of us were also part of, we won by speaking up and putting our ideals into action. We have a hundred new heroes here in Little Lake Valley and beyond, as well as dozens of sweet memories. We were not silent....

We are still awestruck by Will Parrish's dedication to what is right. He is a thoughtful and eloquent writer, as well as a leading journalist on California water issues. And when writing and speaking alone did not get through on the awful destruction – caused by more than 50,000 wick drains being inserted 80 feet deep to suck northern Little Lake valley dry – Will hoisted himself up into one of the stitcher machines and kept it idle for 11 days.

Every act of civil disobedience has its price, as Thoreau noted 150 years ago. In Will's case, Caltrans sued for \$450,000. The judge insisted on a clear itemization of actual costs; as a result the fine dropped to 2 percent of that amount.

One of the not-so-nice outcomes is that Will is still required to pay \$9,460.45 for his courage and eloquence.

He should not face this alone.

A dozen of us met with Will to talk about fundraising. Dances and events take an exhausting amount of energy, and most of us are still tied up fighting the ongoing destruction of Pomo village sites and the threatened poisoning of wetlands on 60 acres of mitigation land. Often it is easier to write a check.

We decided to do both. Robin Leler agreed to organize a campaign of direct contributions to pay half the fine. Sara Grusky and friends are organizing a New Year's Eve dance to raise the other half.

All contributions are welcome. So far we have 11 people contributing a total of \$1,085, more than 20 percent of our goal for direct contributions. The smallest contribution in October was \$20. The largest was \$200.

If you would like to stand with us, please call Robin Leler at 459-0155. She is collecting contributions of any amount in cash, checks or pledges. Some people find it easiest to set aside a small amount each month. These pledges will be collected in December. We plan to pay the fine at the beginning of the new year. In January any remainder of the fine starts accruing interest.

In November, we'll print the names of

additional contributors in the newspaper (unless you request anonymity, of course). Here's hoping you will join us publicly and/or at the New Year's Eve Dance!

Robin Leler, Carol Orton, Cynthia Raiser Jeavons, Madge Strong, Naomi Wagner, Tom Fristoe, Rosamond Crowder, Ellen Drell, Kim Bancroft, Freddie Long, and Marcia Rautenstrauch, Willits

## Sportsmanship

To the Editor:

I don't know what to say about tonight's Willits vs. Fort Bragg football other than tonight I'm embarrassed to be a Wolverine. Not because of the score of the varsity game – you deserved that (Willits lost 81-0) – but rather the poor sportsmanship of the JV game and how you humiliated another team of young impressionable kids by running up the JV score, Willits over Fort Bragg, 86 to 34.

I'm horrified that no one told the coaching staff enough is enough. No excuses that the starters were pulled, or the "what are we supposed to do, give up?" lame excuse. That kind of talk is reserved for people who have no respect for the sport. Now ask yourself how you feel after having the shoe on the other foot.

I'm disappointed that the athletic director and school administration would let this go on. My biggest concern is that they keep hiring off-campus coaches who don't see the impact they have on these young athletes and the community. There needs to be daily contact with these students so their interaction is not just at practice.

What happened Friday night is an embarrassment to Willits High School, and only ignorance would have thought it was a good thing. I played at WHS and always tried to represent the school and community to the best of my ability. My name is on the Hall of Fame in Steve Short Gym: a man that I played my butt off for, and the reason why I played football in college and coached the sport.

I'm embarrassed to be part of something like what happened Friday night, and have a sick feeling in my stomach about it. No one ever thinks about the other side of what took place. For example, a kid who is playing his first year of football, what do you think his impression is of the game after something like that? That kid might never play again, and that's not what an ambassador of the sport promotes.

As ambassadors of the sport you should display sportsmanship. When you score 86 points you humiliate the other team. There's dominance, and once you cross that line, it's humiliation. It's an unwritten rule in coaching that you don't do this.

What exactly did those coaches think was going to happen in the varsity game? Why would you wake a sleeping giant? There are ways to work on your game without running the score up, and I don't blame the Fort Bragg coaches for not shaking the hands of the Willits coaching staff.

Ignorance reigned supreme Friday night, and those who don't know this have never played or coached football.

Karma wasn't kind to the Wolverines tonight and both Wolverines teams "lost," because there are no winners tonight. In high school I would've died representing the Wolverines, and tonight a little piece of my heart died.

Scott Maclean, WHS '82

Read the rest of **Letters** | *Over on Page 4*

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At top, left to right: Pie samplers Tom Peters, left, and Anderson Marshall, right, pose with Kate Moss from Kammy's Pies, who was handing out samples of chocolate-covered cherry pie. Daniele Ashton with Annie, left, and Indie, a sister-and-brother pair who like to visit J.D. Redhouse. Jose Carmen, Melissa Arena (the winner!), and Kevin Reedy, after their pie-eating efforts.



# J.D. Redhouse celebrates 8th anniversary

J.D. Redhouse was busy Saturday afternoon, as new faces and old friends stopped in to celebrate the general mercantile's eighth anniversary.

The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County drew a crowd at the south corner outside the store with a display of cats and dogs available for adoption. Three pretty kittens brought up from the Redwood Valley shelter – one calico and two Siamese mix – were adopted, and one beautiful – and large! – 10-week-old husky mix puppy named Marsha was adopted, too.

Another crowd favorite was the pie-tasting and the pie-eating contests. "I think everyone will agree that the pie-eating contests were the highlight of the day," said J.D. Redhouse manager Ashton Bloomquist, "and the best part was watching a girl out-eat two full-grown men!" That was Melissa Arana, who ate her chocolate cream pie faster than competitors Jose Carmen and Kevin Reedy.

Bloomquist called the 8th anniversary sale "a way to say thank you to our customers." With giveaways of more than \$1,000 worth of retail merchandise, the event "was a huge success," she said. "The kids loved the bounce house and face painting." And they loved the ice cream, too, as was evident to anybody walking into the store.

J.D. Redhouse's Sweet Shoppe has grown and evolved, Bloomquist said. When Rexall closed, Redhouse owner Darlene Bixler purchased Rexall's fudge kettle, and has been continuing with Rexall's tried-and-true fudge. **Read the rest of Redhouse** | *Over on Page 13*

At left, top to bottom: Treats for everybody: ice cream and Frey organic wine. More pie-eating contestants, including Willits Fan Page's Eldon Miller, in the pink T-shirt. Willits firemen give out rides in Little Lake Fire Department's antique fire engine.

At right, top to bottom: J.D. Redhouse's Aybrie checks out the kittens. Reese enjoys her favorite flavor: vanilla. Clarence Tarver holds great-grandson Salvador Guzman, Jr., with his granddaughter Tia Brand.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



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

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

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Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Volume 3, Number 129  
P.O. Box 1698  
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## November 2015

**Osho Zen Tarot:** The Master, Harmony, Possibilities  
**Medicine Cards:** Snake, Owl, Hawk  
**Mayan Oracle:** Realm Shift, Manifestation, Cimi  
**Ancient Egyptian Tarot:** The Devil, Justice, The World  
**Aleister Crowley Deck:** Strife, The Star, The Emperor  
**Healing Earth Tarot:** Six of Pipes, Judgment, Four of Crystals  
**Words of Truth:** Breakthrough, Inappropriate Form, Clarity

Does it feel as if the world is spinning out of control or more specifically out of "your" control? You are not alone. There are undercurrents and patterns of perception that are breaking down and being destroyed in order for you to find your own center and true energetic power potential.

The repeating theme is the Justice or Judgment card. When we are in the control of the Wheel of Fortune, the mechanisms are visible and understandable. Work is rewarded, idleness is not, and there seems to be a clear order to the cause and effect of karma. But now we are in the grasp of the Justice energy, and justice sometimes has an invisible and remote way of enforcing karma.

This month there are going to be moments when there is no obvious logic, no apparent cause, yet only the effects are seen. You will feel as if all actions have an equal and opposite reaction. First and foremost you have to recognize that balance requires an understanding of the opposite polarities within us. It is time to find the balance of the conscious and subconscious parts of the mind. You are the sun and the moon. You are the balance of nature and cosmic harmony.

The Egyptian Goddess Ma at is where we get the archetype and symbol of justice that is universal. She weighed the hearts of men carefully against the feather of truth to test their goodness on earth and their right to eternal life.

This month you will feel tested by the fates of karma. The balances or imbalances in your life will reveal themselves to you. There is a potential debt to pay in order to find where you are in correct action or where you are in a place of guilt because of incorrect action or of omission. Take a look backwards, and see how one choice lead to another and how that has arrived you at your present circumstances. For some of you this could feel like a dire warning. For others of you this could feel like a reassurance. And remember, you can take all things and events both ways. It becomes your choice as to how you twist the facts into the perspective of pain or pleasure.

The predator medicine cards of Snake, Owl, and Hawk and in the forefront, and this is a reminder that there are forces afoot that require you to have a keen sense of awareness. You are being asked to keep your eyes sharp and looking ahead to the situations that are looming in the distance. Life sometimes requires a strong sense of presence in the moment to be able to move and shift with the changing circumstances. We are moving towards the winter and the direction of reflection and review. It is time to become more in tune with the rhythm of your own inner silences. The Universe is asking for your life to become simple. Simplicity is arduous, because to be simple costs everything that you have. Often you have to lose all to be simple. It is time to find your own heart and to let that heart sing in the voice of connection to the universe.

You are in actuality boundary-less. By its very nature life and existence cannot have a boundary. Look at what you have settled on and recognize where you are not content. Contentment allows you to remain small. But you are bigger than that. Your smallness is how your own mind has imposed a limitation upon your freedom and upon your unlimited potential. But you have to at moments be brave and do what seems opposite to being small. You have to be still. Sometimes stillness feels small but it is not. Stillness allows you to go deeper; it allows you to drop into the vast limitlessness of your essence. It allows you to see and feel the power within your formless potential.

So, this month do not look outside for the answer. Simplify, slow down, and move into the stillness. Feel and move from that stillness into the boundary-less potential that is stirring within. This type of energy you cannot grasp and hold onto from your ego. You have to slow down and move within the rhythm of your organic life essence as it is aligned with a much larger life-force potential that surrounds all things.

Suzanne Wagner is a professional psychic who teaches the intuitive arts throughout the United States. She is the author of "Integral Tarot" and "Integral Numerology," which can be found on Amazon.com. For more information, visit [www.suzannewagner.com](http://www.suzannewagner.com) or call her at 707-354-1019.

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## Niyah Vazquez

Our angel, Niyah Daniel Vazquez, was born on October 9, and just a short week later was called back to heaven. He was born at the Ukiah Valley Medical Center, weighing 7 pounds 4 ounces, and he was 19 1/2 inches long.

Though his time here wasn't long, he managed to impact so many lives. His handsome little face and cute little chubby cheeks made him irresistible to hold. In fact, it almost felt as if you had to take a number to hold him. We are very heartbroken to know that he is no longer here, but we are firm believers that his spirit lives on. Now he's up in heaven watching over all of us, wearing his brand-new wings.

He is survived by his mother, Stephani Whitman; father, Victor Vazquez; big brother, Aiden Vazquez; and many more loving family members in Willits, Redding and Southern California. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made at: [www.gofundme.com/babyangelniyah](http://www.gofundme.com/babyangelniyah).

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

OBITUARY

## Mary Rand

Mary Marjorie Rand of Willits passed away on October 8, 2015 at the age of 95. She was a native of Wells, Minnesota, and was a former resident of Pleasant Hill, California, where she had worked in the Contra Costa assessor's office for 20 years.

Mary was married to Arthur Riley Frankum for 30 years, and they had 10 children together, eight boys and two girls. She was married to her second husband, Hariman William Rand, for 20 years.

Mary was twice widowed, and also predeceased by three sons: Larry Frankum, David Frankum and Timothy Frankum.

Mary is survived by seven of her children: Thomas Frankum, Douglas Frankum, Judy Welks, Joyce Komes, John Frankum, Daniel Frankum and Gregory Frankum; and 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Inurnment will be at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Lafayette, California.

Services will be held at a later date.

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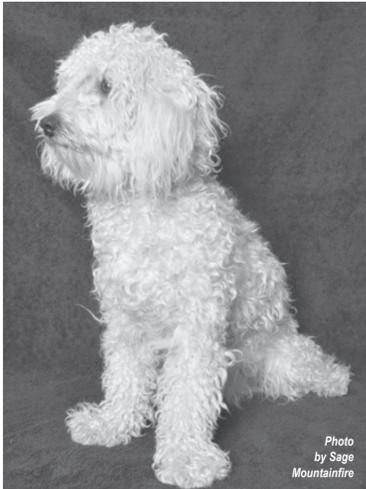


Photo by Sage Mountainfire

## Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

### Adorable Tommy

Tommy is an adorable young male Poodle-type dog found running on Highway 101 several weeks ago. He is healthy, joyful and full of love to give to his new family. He weighs 18 pounds. We think he is about 10 months old.

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6 pm. We have many wonderful dogs and cats, awaiting their forever homes here. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: [www.mendocinoshelterpets.com](http://www.mendocinoshelterpets.com) or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

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# Wowser auction

Table saws, bench sander, sewing machines and more still up for sale

Wowser held a benefit auction this past Saturday to raise money in order to pay bills it owes after more than two-and-a-half years of business. Because the non-profit maker space wasn't able to financially sustain itself at the current location on East Commercial Street, Wowser is closing its doors. A big part of that process includes selling off much of the industrial shop equipment housed in its 20,000-square-foot facility. For sale are such items as table saws, an English wheel, a pan brake, bench sander, and sewing machines. Other items put up for auction included sculptures large and small made by local artists.

According to Wowser co-founder Cyndee Logan: "The live auction was lightly attended. We still have a lot of stuff [to move]."

The all-day event included a barbecue, live bands including Pick & Pull, a poetry reading by Liam UiCearbhaill, three silent auctions, and a lecture on the future of nano particles by Ron Cole, an instructor at Wowser.

"I was teaching the process for acquiring free energy," Cole said. "We got all the way through making nano materials using ordinary household chemicals and copper wire. We were getting ready to use that material as a stepping stone to gravity control."

With a background in electronics and nuclear physics acquired during his time with the Navy, Cole came upon the unique technology of Mehran Keshe, founder of the Keshe Foundation, in 2012. "I read his books and found the concepts to be breathtaking, and the implications were beyond that," said Cole. "I started doing what he was teaching to see if I was getting those results. Then I put it in the form of a workshop to teach other people."

It's classes and workshops like these that co-founder Logan said can't be found anywhere else in the area. "The kids were in the process of making a computer program," she said. "There's only one other in existence for the use they're making it for. They'll be able to sell it. These are the kinds of things that a maker space does in help jump-starting an economy."

Other important work taking place at Wowser was a prototype for a hospital appliance "that will cut down on hospital-borne infections," Logan said, adding: "The kids built a robot last summer. There is no robotics class anywhere else."

While this specific site on East Commercial is no longer tenable to house Wowser, Logan is hopeful they will find a more suitable location to start up again.

"Whatever's not sold off to help get us get funded, comes back to support the maker space, so we can have a place where people can come up with inventions and do cutting-edge stuff."

Wowser members who attended the event on Saturday expressed their disappointment that the maker space has to move. Michael Adams, an original member who helped clean the warehouse during its start, said: "I helped build some bikes during the Christmas bike drive. I'm sad about what's happening. They have such high rent and high overhead. It makes things hard to manage." As far as the future outlook for Wowser, Adams said the maker space could continue: "If they could negotiate a lower cost of doing business or find a smaller space."

Wowser has 128 youth members, including Alexander Rodriguez, who graduated from Willits Charter School and is currently taking classes at Mendocino College. With little prior experience with using tools, Rodriguez learned to build a large German wheel, used for acrobatics. "Wowser is an awesome space," he said. "I've been here for over two-and-a-half years, and it's been a huge part of my life, and yet I haven't even begun to scratch the surface of all the things I could have learned here."

Wowser chairman and co-founder Roger Wilson iterated the importance of community support for the maker space's future success, something, he said, they didn't get enough of from Willits. "If the high school and college and city government isn't interested, and people aren't interested, how do you go forward?" He emphasized that there was some support from the Willits Charter School and a few schools outside of the area, as well as a small handful of individuals who donated money and time, but it just wasn't enough.

Despite the financial setbacks and uncertain future, both Wilson and Logan are focused on paying off their debts. "We want to go out with a good name," she said.

For more information about how to purchase Wowser equipment, or to volunteer to help the maker space in its next phase, call 459-9697, or find them on the web at <http://wowserilc.com/>.

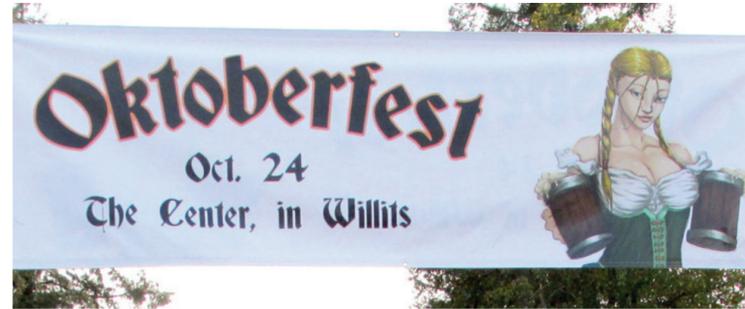
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## Oktoberfest at The Center

Willits Brass, Pick & Pull featured during Saturday fundraiser

Damian Sebouhian  
Reporter  
[damian@willitsweekly.com](mailto:damian@willitsweekly.com)

held at The Center on Main Street and East San Francisco. All in all, it was a successful "o'zapft is" turnout for the several businesses who had come together to put on the event as a fundraiser for a brand-new sign. ("O'zapft is" is the phrase – meaning "it's tapped!" – the mayor of Munich says every year to open the Oktoberfest in Germany.)

The principal organizers of the Willits version of this fall-time event were Dan Church from Gateway Games, Jeannine Iverson from Unique Boutique, and Eric Champion from Hidden Pearl.

"All the business owners in the shopping center got together," Champion said. "And we had a meeting and said, we need to make a real sign at the corner." That is, one sign to represent all the businesses, the three mentioned above as well as Peter's Sushi, Professional Business Services, and Hidden Agenda. Being that it was October, and Dan Church plays in a polka band (Willits Brass), and most everyone enjoys beer, the group decided on an Oktoberfest theme for the fundraiser.

"We know a bunch of vendors in town, so had them over to bring people together and make it happen," said Champion, who is also owner of the silk screening design company, Redneck Hippie.

Among the several vendors was a salon/spa/boutique company out of Laytonville called "It Takes Two to Tango." According to owner Judy Coughlin, she will be opening up a branch in Willits soon.

A large bounce house set up at the center of the parking lot kept the younger kids entertained, while vendors served food, beer and various products and services to attendees.

Sheryl McFadden from the preschool Room to Bloom was on hand, offering face painting services. "All the proceeds are going towards the sign making, to help beautify the plaza here," she said.

Other vendors included: Little Divas, Dorothy's Photography, Guam Barbeque, Misty Made Candles, Energize Willits,

Drinds, polka and "bier from the bierzelt" (beer from the beer tent) highlighted Saturday's Oktoberfest event.

Arriving almost directly from their gig at the Wowser benefit,



Jennuwine Design, Ellie's Adorable Oddities, Dogstar Grooming, Silver Chic, and Zocalo Collective (serving up Jamaican barbeque).

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

Photos by Damian Sebouhian

At top, from left: Megan Freudenberg, Winter Wilson, Jahlana Coughlin (in front), Jennifer Sloan and Judy Coughlin of It Takes Two to Tango (out of Laytonville, coming soon to Willits), Landon and Dane in the bounce house. Jeannine Iverson with Unique Boutique.

Above: Chelsea Rule, Jeremy Miller and Megan Wolf, dressed for the occasion.

Below, from left: Carol Hughes with Bernie Sanders for President, Willits Group. Elijah Champion of Hidden Pearl Tattoo and Skate Shop.

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# WILLITS

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## Thursday, October 29

**FOWL Fall Book Sale:** annual fundraiser sponsored by Friends of the Willits Library starts Thursday, October 29 for FOWL members only (6 to 9 pm); and continues Friday, October 30 (10 am to 6 pm), Saturday, October 31 (10 am to 4 pm), and Sunday, November 1 (10 am to 3 pm). Sunday is "\$3 a bag" day: Bring your book bag! Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street.

**Dia De Los Muertos Fiesta:** Energize Willits Presents, Thursday, October 29, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Featuring: a Zumba Glow Party, \$5, plus Costume Contest; FREE T-shirts to the first 10 people; A tamale sale by sponsored by Mujeres Unidas de Willits (all proceeds will benefit Willits High Peer Counseling: pork or chicken, \$18 a dozen / \$9 half-dozen, limited amount, can be purchased in advance at any Energize Willits class). At Hidden Agenda 399 South Main Street. Info: 707-583-9386 or the "Energize Willits" page on Facebook.

**'Fright Night':** Last weekend for WCT's seasonal selection of four short tales of horror and humor, including adaptations of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart" and W.W. Jacob's "The Monkey's Paw," and two short dramas, "10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse" by Don Zolidis and "Starla" by David Skeele.

Director Jason Edington says "Fright Night" is "guaranteed to leave willing patrons chuckling and covering in their seats."

Performances of "Fright Night" are set for Thursday, October 29 at 7 pm, and Friday and Saturday, October 30 and 31 (Halloween) at 8 pm. Advance tickets are \$10 for the Thursday show and \$15 for the Friday and Saturday shows. Tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door for each performance until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

**Shanachie Pub:** Pató Y Elvin, on Thursday, October 29. The duo (who met in Barcelona) play a sample of rhythms and styles across Latin folklore music, played on guitar, charango, accordion, quena, zamponas and percussion. 8 pm, No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

## Friday, October 30

**Hazmobile in Willits:** The HazMobile household hazardous waste collection team will be at the Willits Corporation Yard, 380 East Commercial Street, on Friday, October 30 and Saturday, October 31, from 9 am to 1 pm. HazMobile accepts toxic materials like paint, antifreeze, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, gasoline, solvents, acids, bases, toxic cleaners, auto and household

batteries, mercury and fluorescent light tubes, that can't go in the trash, for recycling or special disposal. Free to households; 15 gallon limit/per day. See Saturday, October 24 listing for Laytonville pickup for more details. Info and schedule, call the Recycling Hotline, 468-9704, or visit [www.mendoRecycle.org](http://www.mendoRecycle.org)

**FOWL Fall Book Sale:** Friends of the Library book sale continues today from 10 am to 6 pm. See Thursday, October 29 listing for more info.

**Congressman Jared Huffman visits Ukiah:** U.S. Congressman Jared Huffman will discuss the issues and chat with his constituents at a "brown bag" lunch at the Alex Rorabaugh Center, 1640 South State Street on Friday, October 30, at 12 noon. The Ukiah Valley Democratic Club will provide light refreshments to accompany your "brown bag" lunch. "Everyone is welcome, so please join in welcoming Rep. Huffman to Ukiah, and be sure to bring along any questions you have for him."

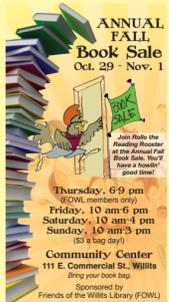
**WHS Peer Counselor Haunted House:** The Peer Counselors are having a haunted house on Friday, October 30. Admission for 5 years and under is free; ages 6-17 is \$3; 18 and up is \$5. Starts at 6:30 pm at Willits High School. "There will be disturbingly delicious snacks provided. Be there or be scared!!!! The event will be held in the Quad and hallway near the lockers."

**Hot Buttered Rum / Bruce Burton & Friends:** Halloween Weekend Party on Friday, October 30, featuring a return engagement of Hot Buttered Rum, who rocked the Little Lake Grange last time they were in Willits at a sold-out show. A benefit for the Grange Farm School. Opening act: bluegrass from Bruce Burton & Friends. A Costume Ball with the theme: "Where the Wild Things Are," "in dedication to all the wild things on the farm, especially the farmers." Including costume contest with prizes, a silent auction, local beer and wine for sale, and dinner and snacks from Zocalo catering. Doors open at 6 pm; music from 7 to 11:30 pm. Tickets at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), search for "Hot Buttered Rum Willits".

**'Fright Night':** 8 pm at Willits Community Theatre; see Thursday, October 29 listing for details about the play.

**Shanachie Pub:** Comedy with Rio Hillman: "Rib-tasting, attention grabbing, split comedy coming from real life experiences ... Original. Out the Box.

# What's Happening Around Town



**Annual FOWL Book Sale**  
Oct. 29 - Nov. 1  
Join the Friends of the Willits Library (FOWL) for the Annual Fall Book Sale. Book sale continues today from 10 am to 6 pm. See Thursday, October 29 listing for more info.

**Thursday, 6-9 pm** (FOWL members only)  
**Friday, 10 am-6 pm**  
**Saturday, 10 am-4 pm**  
**Sunday, 10 am-3 pm**  
111 E. Commercial St., Willits  
Sponsored by Friends of the Willits Library (FOWL)



**HOT BUTTERED RUM**  
Friday October 30  
Hot Buttered Rum, who rocked the Little Lake Grange last time they were in Willits at a sold-out show. A benefit for the Grange Farm School. Opening act: bluegrass from Bruce Burton & Friends. A Costume Ball with the theme: "Where the Wild Things Are," "in dedication to all the wild things on the farm, especially the farmers." Including costume contest with prizes, a silent auction, local beer and wine for sale, and dinner and snacks from Zocalo catering. Doors open at 6 pm; music from 7 to 11:30 pm. Tickets at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), search for "Hot Buttered Rum Willits".

**Trick-or-Treat at the Library!** Come join the staff of the Willits Public Library, to celebrate Halloween, with costumes, stories, music and a little Trick-or-Treat fun! 3:30 to 4:30 pm. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

**Haunted House at the Firehouse:** Enjoy a free Haunted House and Trick or treat at the Little Lake Firehouse, 74 East Commercial Street. 5 to 9 pm.

**Family Friendly Costume Party:** "All community children are invited to this Family Friendly Costume Party, 5 to 6:30 pm, at the LDS Church, 265 Margie Drive. Trick or treating for children, games, prizes and refreshments. Please, no masks, cross-dressing or gory costumes."

**Enchanted Pumpkin Path:** annual Halloween event at the Waldorf School of Mendocino County, 6280 3rd Street in Calpella. "An enchanted evening for families: Enjoy a magical walk with stories, food, activities and music" Featuring actors lining a path complete with decorated stage scenes of well-known children's stories plus The Train Singer, Greg Schindel, who will be performing along with marionette puppeteers. Healthy treats will be available from the Smokey Cauldron Cafe. 5 to 8 pm. Tickets, \$8 for adults and children; babes in arms are free, are available at the Mendocino Book Company in Ukiah and Cat's Meow in Willits. Info: 485-8719

**Rascal's Rescue Pet Parade and Halloween Celebration:** Come to Willits Power & Hardware from 12 to 4 pm on October 31 to enjoy fall-time festivities. 1600 South Main Street. A pumpkin patch, pumpkin bowling, pumpkin ring toss, pet photos and the pet parade. The parade will start at 2 pm. Prizes will be given to the first, second and third place winners of Best Costume, a first-place prize to the winner of Best Pet/Owner Team; a first prize to the Most Original; and a first-place prize to the Scariest. Tom Allman, Bruce Burton and Lisa Epstein will judge, and entries will be accepted up until October 30.

**Remembering Kayla at the Grange:** "We will be honoring and remembering Kayla Grace Chesser on Saturday, October 31. Please stop in any time between 1 and 6 pm, to show your love and support. There will be music, candles, photos and precious memories."

**Making 3-D Art from Recycled Books:** free workshop by Laura Wiecek at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, on Halloween, from 2 to 3 pm. "Come and check out some of her art work in our lobby display case to see what a treat you are in for on Halloween!" Info: 459-5908

**HONORING Kayla Grace**  
Little Lake Grange - Willits Ca  
October 31, 2015  
Time 1:00 to 6:00  
We invite Kayla's family and friends to come and join us in honoring her life.

**Haunted House at the Firehouse:** Enjoy a free Haunted House and Trick or treat at the Little Lake Firehouse, 74 East Commercial Street. 5 to 9 pm.

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**FOWL Fall Book Sale:** Friends of the Library book sale continues today from 10 am to 3 pm. See Thursday, October 29 listing for more info.

## Tuesday, November 3

**Election Day:** Polls are open 8 am to 8 pm; you can drop-off your mail-in ballot at the voter office in Ukiah (501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020) or at your polling station: Willits Community Center, Brooktrails Community Center or the Old High School - Weight Room in Laytonville, or the Covelo Post Office, where it will be picked up by the county voting office.

**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: "Bridge of Spies" and "The Last Witch Hunter." For showtimes: [www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com). 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

**Avenues to Wellness Speaker Series:** This month's talk is "The Road to Success Is Always Under Construction," a presentation by Margie Handley, president, Frank R. Howard Foundation. Tuesday, November 3 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center Lakeside Room, 1501 Baechtel Creek Road. "1) Learn what leads to success. 2) Follow your passion. 3) Embrace your failures. 4) Face your fears (even if it's skydiving for your 70th birthday). And, 5) Grab every opportunity."

**Shanachie Pub: Whistlin' Dyl's Wild Cowboys,** on Tuesday, November 3. A serious dancing party, with whistling hillbilly soul country with a mountain goat style. Texas waltzes and ballads with hooting jammers on either end." Visit "Whistlin' Dyl" on Facebook. 7 pm, No cover, 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

**Halloween at Digger's:** Annual Halloween party at Digger's. Cash prizes for best costumes. Best Original, Funniest, and Scariest. Costume judging at midnight, plus a special Halloween raffle. 244 South Main Street, 459-4977.

**Reggae Halloween in Laytonville:** featuring music by DJ Selekt Lou, food, beer & wine, Costume Contest with prizes for "Scariest, Sexist, Funniest, and Most Original." Wheels Cafe & Pub, 44930 Highway 101, Laytonville. Music starts at 10 pm; 21+ over. Joey D. Productions. Wheels Cafe: 984-8811.

**Thursday, November 5**

**"The Cannabis Hour" Radio:** Mendocino County District David Eyster will be Jane Futcher's guest on the pledge-drive edition of "The Cannabis Hour," Thursday, November 5 at 9 am, on KZYX radio, 91.5 FM or [www.kzyx.org](http://www.kzyx.org). They will talk about cannabis and the law in Mendocino County - past, present and future. There will be time for a few call-ins toward the end of the hour at 895-2448. To hear programs you may have missed, visit [jukebox.kzyx.org](http://jukebox.kzyx.org)

**Friday, November 6**

**Q&A on Foster Care:** Love children? Redwood Children's Services offers a Q&A presented by Rebeca Diaz, to learn about foster care and how you can make

a difference in your life and the life of a child. 5:30 to 7 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: [www.RCS4KIDS.org](http://www.RCS4KIDS.org) or 467-2000.

## Saturday, November 7

**B.R.E.W. Club Beer-Making Demo:** in conjunction with "Learn to Homebrew Day," starts at 10 am at Coast Hardware, 113 East Barbara Lane. Free and open to the public, 21+, but reservations are recommended: call 459-1338 or email to: [chewett1@aol.com](mailto:chewett1@aol.com). "Home B.R.E.W. club members will be brewing a 5-gallon extract beer kit donated by Coast Hardware. All steps in the brewing process will be demonstrated. All raw ingredients will be on display and equipment will be available for inspection. Home B.R.E.W. (Home Brewing Research Engineers of Willits), dedicated to all forms of fermentation and slow food including beers, ales, wines, ciders, meads, preserves, pickles, bread and more, meets the first Friday of every month at 7 pm at Peter's Sushi & Chinese House, 383 South Main Street. Info: <http://willitshomebrew.weebly.com>."

**Annual Souper Luncheon and Bazaar:** at the Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street (across from the Grange) is set for Saturday, November 7. The Bazaar is from 10 am to 2 pm, and the Souper Luncheon is from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. \$7 for soup, bread, and dessert for adults and \$3.50 for children. For pie and coffee only, \$3.50.



## 'The Last Witch Hunter'

**The Story:** Vin Diesel plays Kaulder, a warrior and witch hunter (the bad kind of witches, not the sweet good kind). Curiously, Kaulder has lived 800 years. We find out how and why, but that's the past, and really we are only concerned with the present day because the evil Witch Queen has returned from the dead and, boy, does she not like Kaulder, or people... Wants to kill 'em all in fact. Nothing wishy washy about her. She's what I mean by the bad kind of witch ... a perfect example.

**My Thoughts:** I have been told that Vin Diesel is a huge "Dungeons and Dragons" fan, and that this is the kind of movie he has always wanted to make. Well, he made it, and it is, in fact, a real D & D extravaganza of spooky caves, burning swords, treacherous beauties and magical battles royale.

"Witch Hunter" is not really a "necessary" movie. It's not profound or amazingly good, but I liked the flick well-enough. And it's a Vin Diesel, Elijah Wood, Leslie Rose, Michael Caine movie. So, OK, file it under "guilty pleasure."

Sorcery stuff! Magic stuff! What it is! Great for fanboys and fangirls!

**Parents:** No younger than 10. The wee ones as a group will be especially frightened of witches. I believe it has to do with the myth of the evil stepmother. Wherever that witch-fear comes from, younger children won't have the intellectual distance as protection. So parents, "Witch Hunter" is not for those children, regardless of how much they may whine.

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

## Love Children?

Please join us for a Q & A and learn about Foster Care in our Community. You will receive real insight about Foster Care that will give you the answers that may just make a difference in your life and the life of a child.

Presented by Rebecca Diaz  
Friday, November 6th • 5:30pm-7:00pm  
390 E. Commercial Street, Willits

REDWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.  
[WWW.REDCS4KIDS.ORG](http://WWW.REDCS4KIDS.ORG)  
(707) 467-2000

## Halloween Costume Ball at the Grange

**Menu by Zocalo Catering**  
"This Friday, October 30, be sure to catch the All Hallow's Eve Costume Ball at The Little Lake Grange. Live! performances by Hot Buttered Rum and special guest Bruce Burton. Chef Mama Jay and The Zocalo Collective will be serving dinner, starting at 5:30 pm, using only the best local, fresh, and organic ingredients. Desserts will be expertly prepared by local organic/vegan Chef Anna Gross."

**Choice of Main Course:** Local Beef Short Ribs, slow-cooked with carrots and broad beans; Jamaican Curry Goat (\*sourced locally); Mendocino Coast Barbecue Oysters with organic lemon garlic butter

**Choice of Sides:** Sweet Potato Mash with aromatic spices; Tomato Cucumber Salad; Jamaican Coconut Rice-n-Peas; gluten-free Cornmeal Biscuits

**Dessert:** Decadent gluten-free Chocolate Cake; Pumpkin Spice Cake with vegan cream cheese frosting



**Willits Summer Farmers Market:** from 3 to 6 pm every Thursday at City Park on East Commercial Street, with summer produce, local meats and fish, local grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Farmers Market will switch to the Little Lake Grange for the winter on November 5.

**The Emandal Chorale:** ongoing rehearsals on Wednesdays, 5 to 6:30 pm, for the Chorale's 21st season, at the Little Lake Grange great hall, 291 School Street. No auditions: Open to all who love to sing.

**Inner Resources Institute:** three just-started free programs at the new Inner Resource Institute, 1500 Hearst Road (at Hearst and Valley roads in the old Grace Baptist Church building). • Morning Meditation: Every morning at 6 am. • Kirtan: Every Thursday at 7:30 pm. Devotional singing and chanting led by Chinmayan. • Sunday Morning Service: 10:30 am. Satsang and fellowship consisting of a short talk on practical spirituality; meditation; Kirtan and worship; and a prayer service in which we pray for individual, family and humanity's needs. Info: 707-357-4676 or [innerresourceinstitute@yahoo.com](http://innerresourceinstitute@yahoo.com).

**Thursday Night Bingo:** Potluck dinner and bingo every Thursday at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 6 to 8 pm; \$5 buy-in; 50 cents per card.

**Willits Frontier Twirlers Square Dance Club:** Monday night workshops at the Willits Center for the Arts, upstairs in the great room. Newer dancers from 7 to 8 pm; plus dancing from 8 to 9 pm. Lawrence Johnstone, caller. Guests always welcome! Info: Jenny Watts, 459-9526.

**AI-Anon Meeting:** Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Ride-Aid at the Evergreen Shopping Center. Saturdays at 10 am at St. Francis Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 66 East Commercial Street. "AI-Anon Family groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience strength and hope to solve their common problems. We believe that alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery."

**Drop-in Knitting Circle:** Due to popular demand, the Willits Library is holding the drop-in knitting circle every Saturday of the month, from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your projects to share and show off! We will have expert knitters on board who can solve any problems and teach everyone to knit! Bring your own projects - we'll supply the coffee! Sign-ups are not necessary - everyone is welcome to drop in."

**Willits Library Public Events:** "Pajama Story Time" for

families, Tuesdays at 7 pm. "Stories for Crawlers and Walkers," Thursdays at 11 am. Technology group for help with hand-held devices, Fridays at 1 pm. Youth Game Night, ages 10-14, Fridays from 5 to 7:30 pm. Drop-in Knitting Circle, Saturdays from 3 to 4:30 pm. 390 East Commercial Street. More info: 459-5908.

**Soroptimists International of Willits:** Women's service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets second and third Tuesdays of every month, noon to 1 pm, at Old Mission Pizza, 1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

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

**Volleyball Open Gym:** at Baechtel Grove gym; Sundays and Tuesdays at 7 pm. Some experience desired not required. \$5 per night; first night free. Info: Jeff at 354-1850.

**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.

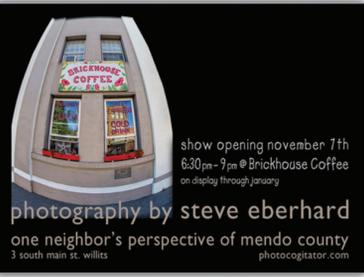
**Smoking Cessation Program:** Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the MHM Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

**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 6:30 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 10 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: [www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague](http://www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague) or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

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

**Karaoke Night at Al's Redwood Room:** Every Wednesday night, starting at 9 pm. 207 South Main Street. Info: 459-2444.

**Laytonville Summer Farmers Market:** Mondays from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, crafts, hot soup, baked goods, and more.



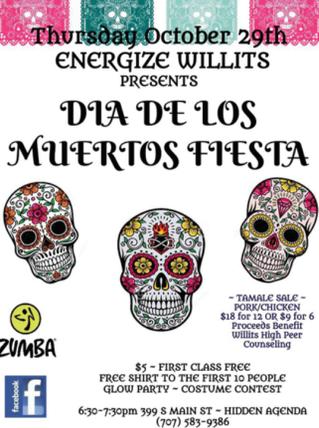
**Willits Garden Club Meeting**  
Monday, November 9  
The free monthly Willits Garden Club meeting features guest speaker Beth Brennerman taking about "Fall Gardening." Monday, November 9 at the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse, 16100 North Highway 101, 6 miles south of Willits, west of 101, south of Ridgewood (Sea Biscuit) Ranch. Social time starts at 12:30 pm, with coffee and refreshment. Presentation starts at 1 pm. Guests are welcome. Info: Lucille Garcia 459-9995 or Gary Bodensteiner 459-2708.

**Gun Raffle & Spaghetti Dinner**

This fundraiser for the purchase of Willits High School football safety equipment is scheduled for Sunday, November 8, from 5 to 8 pm, but raffle tickets are on sale now. Guns for raffle - a Remington 870 mag 12 gauge, Ruger American 243 cal., Ruger 10-22, and a 50 caliber Hawkins black powder - are sponsored by Pacific Outfitters. Raffle tickets are \$20 each, three for \$50, or seven for \$100. Winners will be drawn at the Spaghetti Dinner; need not be present to win. Dinner tickets are \$10, and dinners can be picked up to go. For tickets or more info, call Matt Rountree at 707-841-7052 or Dean Verdot at 707-367-2603. \

**Veterans Day Breakfast**

**Wednesday, November 11**  
Willits American Legion Post 174 Veteran's Breakfast is set for Wednesday, November 11 from 8 to 11 am at the Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street. This annual breakfast is FREE to all veterans, military and emergency response personnel, firefighters, law enforcement officers, and Boy and Girl Scouts.



**Thursday October 29th**  
ENERGIZE WILLITS PRESENTS  
**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS FIESTA**  
\$5 - FIRST CLASS FREE FREE SHIRT TO THE FIRST 10 PEOPLE GLOW PARTY - COSTUME CONTEST  
6:30-7:30pm 399 S MAIN ST - HIDDEN AGENDA (707) 583-9386

**6th Annual Heritage Lunch**

An afternoon of food drink, and mushroom, wine and beer inspired talks with local connoisseurs; "Celebrate Mendocino County's Annual Mushroom, Wine & Beer Festival with the Mendocino County Museum. 1 to 3:30 pm. \$35, proceeds benefit museum exhibits, events and education programs. Sulin Bell of Kitchen Capers will be providing a sumptuous lunch of mushroom-themed dishes, including freshly baked rolls from Emandal Farm and a variety of Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese, served alongside complimentary wine and beer.

Merry Winslow and Alison Gardner of "The Wild Mushroom Cookbook" will present on foraging for, and cooking with, local wild fungi. Mark Beaman, associate winemaker at Mendocino Wine Company will talk about the history of Parducci wine, as well as discuss its current ownership and focus on quality and stewardship. Jonathan Passow, president of the Willits Homebrew Club, and barrel aging operations manager for Anderson Valley Brewing Company, will present a brief journey into the history of beer, touching on subjects ranging from beer ingredients to what beer used to be like 9,000 years ago, all the way up to recent events such as Prohibition and the Craft Beer Movement in America. Acoustic musical accompaniment will be provided by Anita Blu and John Wagenet of Twining Time.



From left to right: Peter Smith, Becky Button, Anne Samson, Bruce Andich, and Linda Posner in "Speakeasy" at WCT.

## 'Speakeasy: An Evening of Original Monologues'

**Saturday, November 7**  
"Speakeasy: An Evening of Original Monologues" will perform at Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, November 7 at 7 pm. The Mendocino County talents participating in the event include Bruce Andich, Becky Button, Lara Eventide, Jane Futcher, Emmy Good, Weslie Clay, Kevin Clay, Tara Logan, Nancy Nelson, Linda Posner, Peter Smith, and Ursula Schlichting. The "Speakeasy" is a repeat of the successful, sold-out monologue event held last year at WCT. Tickets for this year's event are \$5 and will be available only at the door until sold out.

Facilitator Annie Samson explains that the most wonderful part of the event is the great openness and candid quality of the monologues. The actors take on a character that will represent a part of a true story or of a made-up story. "Risks will be taken when a stream of local folks, one by one, step out on stage alone, without a script, to deliver their original monologues," Samson says. "They're so brave, sharing in a trusting way, stories of events that happened to them or didn't happen."

"The monologues may be about a person someone once was, or a person they'd like to be," she says. For example, one monologue is about a doctor helping people infected from contaminated camel's milk in Saudi Arabia. Another is about a woman addicted to having flocks and flocks of chickens. And yet another is about someone losing a beloved spouse. Samson says: "The material is much about what you might expect to see here in our local county. Interesting homespun material voiced by ordinary people, or by someone just like you."

The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

- Steve Hellman for WCT

## La Siciliana celebrates one-year anniversary

Since La Siciliana's grand opening on Halloween night in 2014, owner Kapila Phoenix and his staff have been working hard to offer the Willits community authentic Sicilian cuisine with a selection of pizza, pasta and salad dishes.

This weekend will mark the restaurant's one-year anniversary. Looking back, customer feedback and requests have helped reshape the menu and encouraged lower prices.

There are now five types of pasta and six types of sauces that are available to mix and match to create custom dishes, and three meat selections, including meatballs, sausage and diced chicken can be added to pasta as well.

Appetizers including antipasto kebabs and dipping bread also now grace the menu, as well as cannoli for dessert. There are even some new drinks, including Italian sodas and Italian coffee to enjoy alongside your meal.

The pizzas are made to order and come with a variety of toppings, but the Redwood Logger, featuring freshly sliced pepperoni with organic green onions pizza is still the most popular pie. Spaghetti and meatballs is the most popular pasta dish.

Phoenix continues to listen to customer feedback and suggestions, and tries to adjust accordingly when possible.

La Siciliana is open for lunch and dinner six days a week, from 11 am to 9 pm Tuesday through Sunday; call them at 459-5626. The restaurant is located at 1611 South Main Street, just across Main Street from Willits Power and Hardware. La Siciliana offers to-go and dine-in options and can accommodate large and small groups.

Check them out on Facebook or see their full menu online at <http://www.lasicilianawillits.com>.

— Maureen Moore



Above: Some of the La Siciliana staff, including, from left: Carlos, Emily, Kylie, Maria and Kapila.

Below: Kapila fills a cannoli, one of the new additions to the menu since La Siciliana first opened.



Photo by Tiffany Weeks

## Pink Friday at Blosser Lane

Probably the biggest group in Willits wearing pink last Friday for Breast Cancer Awareness Month were the students, teachers and staff at Blosser Lane Elementary School. Pink ranged from dyed pink hair, to pink wigs, to pink tutus, T-shirts, stockings and shoes. The boys participated enthusiastically, too: "See my sneakers are pink," said one boy, as another showed off his "Tough Guys Wear Pink" T-shirt. Students were taught cancer awareness in the classroom this week, school staffers said.

— Jennifer Poole

# HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

OCTOBER 31ST  
6:00PM TO 9:00PM  
PLAY \$30 TO EARN AN ENTRY

1ST PLACE - \$500 CASH  
2ND PLACE - \$350 CASH  
3RD PLACE - \$250 CASH  
4TH PLACE - \$150 CASH  
5TH PLACE - \$100 CASH

NO MASKS OR WEAPONS ALLOWED  
NO ENTRIES AFTER 9:00PM  
JUDGING STARTS AFTER 9:00PM

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

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

the officer was in radio contact with WPD dispatch in regards to the subject, the subject suddenly accelerated the vehicle backwards, nearly striking the officer, who had to move out of the vehicle's path.

At that point, after a second WPD officer had arrived to assist, the driver accelerated forward, ramming the incoming WPD patrol vehicle, and quickly fled the area. The officers pursued the vehicle for a short distance, but ultimately decided continuing the pursuit would pose too great of a public safety risk as it was approaching a heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic area, and they opted to terminate the pursuit.

The investigation is currently ongoing. If you see Adams, immediately contact your local law enforcement agency. Do not attempt contact yourself. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Willits Police Department at 459-6122.

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

expect that to happen, and are advised to act soon.

That was one of several important pieces of information presented at a special October 26 meeting of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors by Paul Smith, senior legislative advocate with the Rural County Representatives of California.

Smith's presentation highlighted four core policy principles contained within the dense, three-bill package (Assembly Bill 266, Assembly Bill 243, and Senate Bill 643, authored by Rob Bonta, Wood and Norm McGuire, respectively): Preserving local control; establishing a county taxing authority; addressing environmental impacts; and ending the collective model.

Referring to provisions in AB 266, Smith said: "We wanted to make it infinitely clear that local control – meaning [cities and counties] have the ability to regulate time, place, and manner of medical marijuana licensing facilities – that you have the ultimate say at the board of supervisors level or the city council level, just as you would with any other land use function."

Noting that creating new taxes was a highly litigious area of the legislation, the provisions limit the legal time frame for possible lawsuits against municipalities from seven to two years.

"If it dragged out for seven years, the proceeds collected would all be spent on legal fees," Smith said, "leaving no tax revenues to actually do what the tax is intended to do for the board of supervisors."

The danger in allowing prolonged legal cases, according to Smith, was that counties would be hesitant to implement such taxes, "knowing [the county] would have an obligation to defend it, and that it would be too costly."

Addressing the kinds of taxes that could be implemented, Smith explained: "You can tax medical marijuana, particularly cultivation, in a variety of ways: If it's indoor or outdoor, per plant, per parcel, per square footage, electricity use, water use."

However, he stressed caution in the decision-making process, noting that "folks who don't like taxes, whether

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

Deputy Public Defender Anthony Adams was also in the courtroom October 21, listening to what Moorman had to say.

According to an October 22 article by Bruce McEwen in the Anderson Valley Advertiser, Moorman accused Mendocino County of a "failure of due diligence." An October 27 article by Adam Randall in the Ukiah Daily Journal stated Moorman threatened the county with "heavy sanctions" and even threatened county department heads with jail time if the situation was not quickly improved.

Willits Weekly attempted to talk with Moorman, but she declined to speak with us, saying she cannot speak to the press about a case still under adjudication. Willits Weekly has ordered a transcript of the court's proceedings on the issue and should have extensive excerpts in next week's issue.

Competency restoration services are required by law for all jail inmates who have been determined to be mentally incompetent to stand trial.

There are two areas of responsibility for competency restoration. Pinizzotto, now assistant director of the county's Health and Human Services Agency, told Willits Weekly the provision of competency restoration services for felons is the responsibility of the state of California. For misdemeanor offenders, the responsibility for providing those services falls to the counties.

A course of restoration usually involves either helping the inmate to understand a curriculum of instruction, plus treatment with medication, or a process through which the patient becomes conserved by the state. In Mendocino County, competency restoration services for inmates in the jail who have committed misdemeanors are provided by Lake County clinical psychologist J. Holden.

A report prepared by Holden, "Year One Pilot Project Report – Mendocino County Mental Health Trial Competency Training Program," begins by reviewing the prognosis for those inmates who were judged to be incompetent to stand trial prior to the establishment of his program in this county.

"Taxpayer costs for jailing and then training the average IST (Incompetent to Stand Trial) defendant under this system was researched and found to be in excess of \$100,000, with overall rates of competency restoration estimated at less than half," wrote Holden.

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

environmental review – a mitigated negative declaration – had been adequate and met the requirements of the law.

Then on June 16, supervisors passed a resolution rescinding that March 17 resolution, while specifically leaving the land use entitlements allowed by that resolution intact.

Friends of Outlet Creek sued in April, and filed an amended complaint in July, claiming the county had broken the law.

According to the Friends of Outlet Creek lawsuit: "The project is not exempt from CEQA because it does not fall within the plain language of any categorical exemption, and the respondents (i.e., the County of Mendocino) abused their discretion in approving the project by failing to undertake any CEQA review."

The county filed a demurrer on August 17 urging the court to dismiss the Friends' lawsuit. In the demurrer, then-Interim County Counsel Doug Losak argued the June 16 resolution rendered the issue "moot."

"The first cause of action alleging the respondents abused their discretion in approving the 'project' by failing to undertake

they come from the industry or not, will examine all their legal options."

According to the language in section 19348 of AB 266, the process for enacting taxes remains the same. "You still have to get voter approval, and the [approval] threshold will be determined by how you would use those proceeds," Smith said.

Although there are two licensing exemptions at the state level – one for cultivators who undertake personal grows, and another for patient caregivers – the current bills allow cities and counties to enforce their own licensing policies. "The California Health and Safety Code gives local governments the ability to apply restrictions to those that are exempt," Smith said.

And that is one highly controversial aspect of the bills, he noted. Cultivators who meet the state exemption standards will likely be hostile to any local restrictions.

Due to the likelihood of conflict, Smith said, "I can tell you that this is probably going to be reexamined by the Legislature. There will be a lot of effort to remove this section from the package."

Another problem with exemption status relates to the definition of a personal grow, according to Smith, who acknowledged "personal grow exemption is not defined in this package." The patient caregiver exemption is defined, however, and according to Smith, "the caregiver can provide a grow for no more than five patients."

Again, as with the personal grow exemption, there is no clear-cut description in terms of how many plants would be allowable for a cultivator to qualify.

District Attorney David Eyster praised the caregiver exemption as ending the unwieldy collective model. "It's critical, having only five patients, so we don't have a collective where there's something like 20,000 members," Eyster said.

As part of creating licensing requirements, the Legislature consulted with the state Alcoholic Beverage Commission for ways to avoid vertical integration, where, as Smith explained, "someone is a retailer, manufacturer, a

"It was also noted that under the stress in indeterminate incarceration, not uncommonly in isolation cells, persons with mental illness detained in jail under this circumstance often decompensated into deep psychosis, catatonia, head-banging, suicidally, screaming and sometimes resisting correctional officers, resulting in further criminal charges.

"Pathetically, these cases not infrequently involve minor crimes by homeless mentally ill, such as not paying for an ice cream cone or foraging aluminum cans out of a recycling receptacle in the street.

"Thus, the existing system appeared to be generally inefficient and inhumane," Holden wrote.

According to Mendocino County Deputy Public Defender Anthony Adams, who spoke to Willits Weekly on Wednesday morning, the competency restoration process for misdemeanor offenders has three phases. First, there is the evaluation phase. It begins with an opinion by the court or defense attorney that a particular citizen may not be competent to stand trial. The citizen is sent back to jail, where a more formal evaluation is conducted.

This phase ordinarily happens quickly, within two to five days after the inmate first appears in court or is interviewed by a defense attorney or public defender.

If the interviewing doctor concludes the patient is incompetent to stand trial, then the stabilization phase begins. Treatment often involves giving the inmate anti-psychotic drugs, which can be voluntary or, in some cases, involuntary. According to Adams, this phase often takes between a few days to two or three weeks, although Adams conceded "it is difficult to establish a time frame for this phase."

The third phase is the actual application of restoration services. This usually involves having Holden or one of his two assistants walk the inmate through a 13-chapter curriculum. Simple tests are administered to make sure the inmate actually understands what he is being taught. This phase also can involve administering anti-psychotic drugs.

According to Holden's report, it takes a little over a month for this phase to be completely administered. The average time needed for the full training to be administered to the nine inmates who were the subjects of Holden's pilot project was 41 days.

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any CEQA review is moot because respondents rescinded their March 17, 2015 action, and there is no other action that can be considered a 'project,'" wrote Losak.

In a very brief ruling, Henderson agreed with the county. "County demurrers to the first amended petition on the grounds that the county's adoption of the rescinding resolution renders the writ petition moot. County is correct. The court grants the requests for judicial notice," Henderson wrote.

The plant began production of rubberized asphalt in September.

Friends of Outlet Creek member Doug Kerseg, who lives near the plant, said he was disappointed by Henderson's ruling. "It's not surprising, based on what his preliminary ruling was," Kerseg said. "Of course, I'm disappointed."

"We've been having a lot of complaints from neighbors, and a lot of those complaints have gone in a lot of different directions," he added. "We've complained to the air board, to the sheriff. And we've heard from some quarters statements like, 'I really wish we could do something about this.' But it's like, their hands are tied."

grower, and they own all aspects of the distribution chain."

Therefore, a mandatory distribution tier will be set in place to ensure proper product testing and ease tax collection. "It's easier to collect taxes from 10 or 20 distributors than from hundreds, if not thousands of cultivators," Smith said.

Among the most controversial areas of the bill package, according to Smith, comes from the section of AB 243 that requires cities and counties to have cultivation ordinances in place by March 1, 2016. "If a jurisdiction does not have a cultivation ordinance, or does not plan on administering – through a conditional permit program – sections of AB 243, then the state becomes the sole licensing authority for cultivation," Smith explained.

He stressed it is not only the Legislature that is adopting regulation standards, but also the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. "To obtain a regional water quality control permit to cultivate, there must be a deference to county ordinances," Smith said. For example, "If you have a ban, then the board is not going to issue any waivers to those cultivators in that jurisdiction."

Two new bills, both authored by Assemblyman Wood, will be sent to the RCRC board of directors for review soon. The first, AB 1548, proposes a tax related to the environmental impacts of cultivation. The second, AB 1549, proposes a state banking scheme for cultivation, which would effectively eliminate cash from the system in order to create a viable financial institution.

In closing, Smith addressed the likely legalization of recreational marijuana in the near future, explaining the regulations, fees and licensing processes being put in place for medical marijuana will be very similar.

"The effort is to try to duplicate and create as much parallel between the regulatory and taxing structures that exist for medical as for recreational," Smith said. "We're probably a good three or four weeks from starting to run into some serious guidelines for proponents to submit and commence the process."

To find the full texts of the three medical marijuana regulatory bills, visit <https://leginfo.ca.gov>.

Of those nine inmates, five were restored to competency, one took medical transfer, two consulted their attorneys, and one was declared unrestorable due to dementia.

Public Defender Adams explained why Moorman is so upset. "The problem is, after stabilization has occurred, too often, nothing happens. This wait period can last up to three months. It has to do with the breakdown on the part of mental health services, after stabilization has occurred, and prior to the beginning of restoration training," Adams said.

When asked who is responsible for the breakdown, Adams said it was the Yuba City-based private company, Ortnier Management Group, hired by the county to provide mental health services to adults in May 2013, when Mendocino County privatized the delivery of mental health services.

During the October 21 court session, according to Pinizzotto, Judge Moorman told him and Acting County Counsel Elliott that she is requiring the county to ensure the process to restore mental competency begins within seven days from the time the inmate is determined to need the process, and that, in cases in which conservatorship is necessary, the county prepare a report to the courts on the status of the conservatorship within 90 days of the beginning of the process.

Elliott, who was only confirmed in her new position last week, said that she was unclear about the cause of the delay in providing competency restoration services to jail inmates who need them.

"I don't know where we are falling down," Elliott told Willits Weekly. "Normally I would base my opinion on the facts, and I don't have the facts in this instance," she said.

Elliott did say that it was clear that the county had erred in failing to provide translation services to those "IST" (incapable of standing trial) inmates who did not speak English.

"One place where we did make mistakes is in providing translation services in the jail. The issue arose with Mr. M---. We didn't have anyone. We have a language line in the courts, but not in the jail. Looking at it now, I think it's clear we should have seen that there would come a time when that need would arise. We have acted now to remedy that. But in the case of Mr. M---, those services were not available in time. So that was a mistake," Elliott said.

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## Amazing Athletes of Willits High School



**Volleyball** | Annalise Mendoza  
age 16, Senior

**Position:** Right mid-field  
**Breakfast of Champions:** Oatmeal

**Love for the Sport:** "I love everything about it, and working with all my friends."

Annalise Mendoza is this week's "Amazing Athlete." Annalise is a senior captain. She has the most positive energy, consistently. I call her "my brain"; she is in charge of remembering and knowing everything I need to. She's amazing! Against Cloverdale, this smart beauty scored our only goal. She's a great outside mid with a super long shot. Practice or game, this kid is working hard and having fun, ev'rytime!

— Coach Melissa Johnson



**Football** | Kyle Martinez  
age 17, Senior

**Position:** Running back  
**Breakfast of Champions:** Egg sandwich.

**Love for the Sport:** "I love playing with friends and the adrenaline rush."

Kyle Martinez, running back at Willits High School, is my "Amazing Athlete" for this week. Against a really good team, Kyle ran the ball hard. Also, on defense Kyle is a linebacker and did a great job. Like I just mentioned... Fort Bragg was good. Good job, Kyle Martinez!

— Coach Sean Leslie



**Football** | Juan Medina  
age 17, Senior

**Position:** Stopper  
**Breakfast of Champions:** Drink of water

**Love for the Sport:** "I love soccer because at a young age it helped me through problems. When I play soccer, nothing else is important to me in that moment."

Senior Juan Medina is my nomination for "Amazing Athlete" this week. He plays stopper in our defense, which is a very demanding, physically exhausting, and thankless position. Juan plays just about every minute of every game there. He is an anchor in our very solid defense.

— Coach Noel Woodhouse

## m•pho•tog•ra•phress

[fuh-tog-ruh-friss]

**noun:** Maureen Moore: a person who creates fabulous photo moments

Facebook 707-972-7047 maureengetsmail@gmail.com

PAID POLITICAL AD

**Vote for Paul Ubelhart**  
Trustee  
Mendocino College

When re-elected, I will eagerly devote time and research to the issues facing the students, staff and community. Being a knowledgeable participant in discussions and decisions is an important role of a trustee; protecting the dignity and diversity of all individuals is my goal. I am embracing technology — assisted education, student success and collaborative decision-making. To increase my effectiveness as trustee, I have completed 10 units of the Excellence in Trusteeship Program toward a certificate.

Paid for by Paul Ubelhart

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Seamstress and Sewing Teacher  
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**Wanted: Brown Paper Bags with Handles**  
For the Willits Senior Center's Meals On Wheels and Meal Carry-Out Program. Call Mariya at 459-6826 or bring to 1501 Baechtel Road.

**For Sale**  
Show off your Arts/ Crafts with this easy-to-assemble Chrome Tubing & Connectors shelving units. Includes 114" Plexiglass shelves. For Jury Arts & Crafts Booth Shows. \$250 takes all. 456-1170.

**For Sale**  
2006 Harley Davidson Buell Blast motorcycle. Very clean. Stored 4 years. Runs very well. Yellow & black. 75 miles/gallon. Good commuter bike. \$2,800. 459-6085.

**Help Wanted**  
Mortuary Transport Driver. On call, nights and weekends. Must have valid CDL and pass a drug test. Pick up an application at Anker-Lucier Mortuary, 95 W Commercial St, Willits.

**Help Wanted**  
J.D. Redhouse & Company is hiring for a warehouse position immediately. We are looking for a reliable person who is ready to work and is self-motivated. Must be able to lift 100+ lbs. Must be available weekends. Pay is based on experience. Please drop off your resume at 212 South Main Street as soon as possible.

**Help Wanted**  
Adventist Health-Homocare & Hospice Services Mendocino County. FT - P/T - Per Diem positions: RN, Home Health Aide, Physical & Occupational Therapist. Great Team & Great Benefits. Call Trudy-HR #456-3230.

**Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency**  
Currently recruiting for:  
• **Deputy Director of AODP**  
Develops & implements policies & procedures for the Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) Programs. For full job description details and to apply, go to: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm>  
Final Filing date 11/4/15  
EOE

**Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency**  
Currently recruiting for:  
• **Staff Assistant III/Office Assistant III**  
Performs highly responsible & specialized technical office support duties. For full job description details & to apply, go to: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm>  
Final Filing date 11/9/15  
EOE

**Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency**  
Currently recruiting for:  
• **Licensed Vocational Nurse**  
Provide care & treatment of patients in a variety of settings. Bilingual English/Spanish encouraged to apply. For full job description details & to apply, go to: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm>  
Final Filing date 11/5/15  
EOE

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The rest of Redhouse | From Page 3

a few of her own."  
"What started as a place to grab a cup of coffee or a scoop of ice cream has evolved into a place where you can also have lunch," Bloomquist said, featuring made-to-order sandwiches. And the Sweet Shoppe is a community meeting place, too: "We've been told by customers that our Sweet Shoppe is where good people meet and great ideas are discussed," she said. "We have families, a book club, community leaders, organizations and tourists in our sweet shop, as well as regulars that fill the tables daily."

One of the staff's favorite things about J.D. Redhouse is the community and family connections. "Over the last eight years, we have watched so many kiddos grow up in J.D. Redhouse, including our own," Bloomquist said, "from newborns to when they were tall enough to reach the suckers on the shelf, then old enough to shop in the

Above, left to right: Happy new cat owners Abi Cummings and Tyler Engman decided to name their just-adopted calico kitty "Karma." Eli works on his vanilla cone. Humane Society volunteer Alec Brown with puppy, Marsha, on his lap.

Below, left to right: A young man and an orange kitty named "Cromwell" seem like a perfect match! Tasting one of Jelly Belly's adventurous jelly bean flavors: Will it be caramel corn or moldy cheese? J.D. Redhouse's entry in the Willits Chamber of Commerce's Business Pumpkin Decorating Contest.



Photos by Jennifer Poole

The rest of Oktoberfest | From Page 7

Pick & Pull took the stage after Willits Brass, to dish out some tasty bluegrass jams. "It's \$3,000 to \$8,000 for a proper sign," said Champion. "So, we'll probably have a few more events like this."

One such event could be right around the corner, according to Dan Church. "We're actually thinking of a Halloween party here, too. Not quite as big as Oktoberfest, with the band and stuff, but definitely get some people around, bobbing for apples and probably a costume contest." Included in the festivities will be a theater/roleplaying game anyone can participate in called "Werewolf."

A Christmas party is also on the agenda.

"We raised about \$1,000, and the landlord agreed to match our total, so that's enough to get us started at least," Church said. "Pretty good for just selling beer and hotdogs."

Below, right: Kids at face painting booth run by Sheryl McFadden of Room to Bloom.

The rest of Downtown | From Page 5

its first coordinated Small Business Saturday event in 2014.

However, several downtown businesses wanted to hold the Harvest Moon celebration regardless, so an abbreviated version of the Harvest Moon was planned, instead.

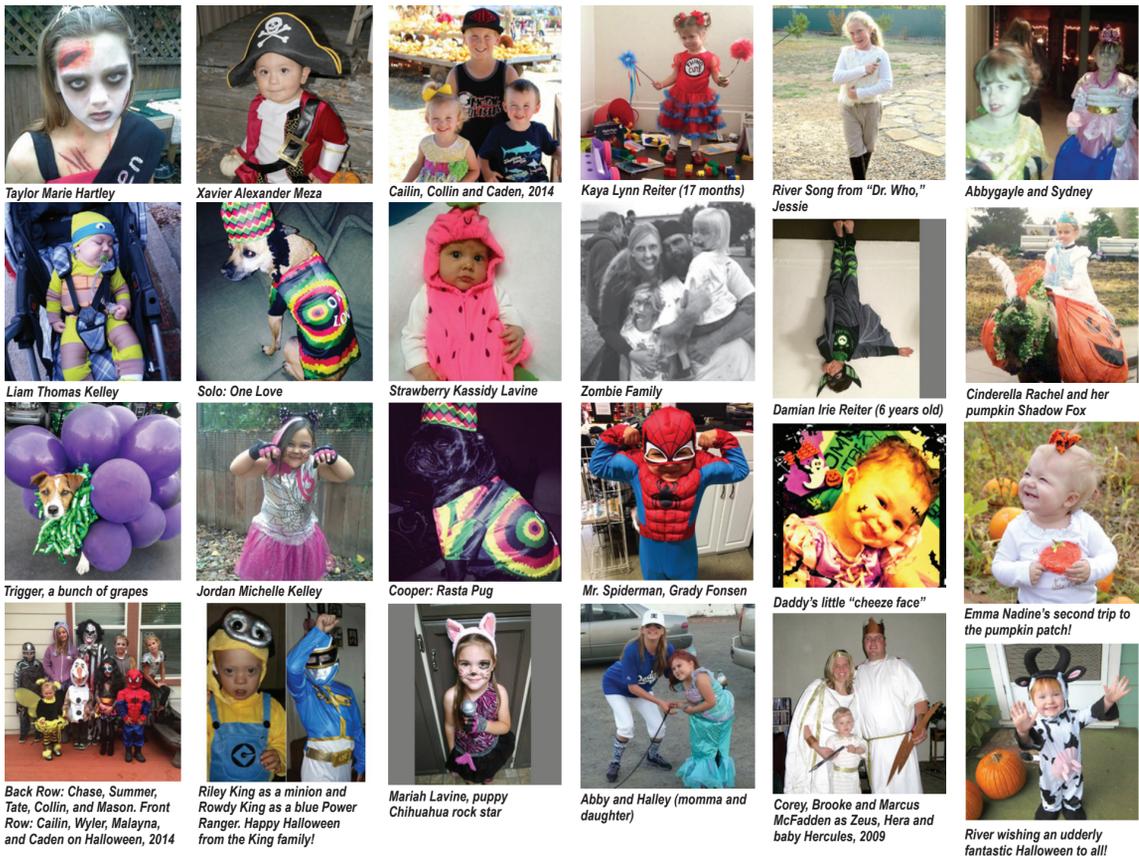
If anyone would like to join the Willits Chamber of Commerce and help plan future events, they are always looking for help. Contact the chamber at 459-7910.



Above: Oktoberfest-themed artwork by Jody Wells of Hidden Pearl Tattoo was available for tattooing during the first annual Oktoberfest celebration.

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





Taylor Marie Hartley, Xavier Alexander Meza, Cailin, Collin and Caden, 2014, Kaya Lynn Reiter (17 months), River Song from "Dr. Who," Jessie, Abbygayle and Sydney, Liam Thomas Kelley, Solo: One Love, Strawberry Cassidy Lavine, Zombie Family, Damian Irie Reiter (6 years old), Cinderella Rachel and her pumpkin Shadow Fox, Trigger, a bunch of grapes, Jordan Michelle Kelley, Cooper: Rasta Pug, Mr. Spiderman, Grady Fossen, Back Row: Chase, Summer, Tate, Collin, and Mason. Front Row: Cailin, Wyler, Malayna, and Caden on Halloween, 2014, Riley King as a minion and Rowdy King as a blue Power Ranger. Happy Halloween from the King family!, Mariah Lavine, puppy Chihuahua rock star, Abby and Halley (momma and daughter), Corey, Brooke and Marcus McFadden as Zeus, Hera and baby Hercules, 2009, River wishing an udderly fantastic Halloween to all!

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

HMH president and CEO.

"The next step is to officially open our doors and move our patients from the current hospital at One Madrone to the new facility on One Marcela Drive."

The old hospital is just over a mile away from the new facility on One Marcela Drive, but the two buildings are worlds apart. "Aside from being earthquake-proof, the new HMH is designed for the patient experience. It's built to foster a healing environment for our patients," said Amy Ford, project manager for the construction.

Community members who went on guided tours during the grand open house last month agree. "It's a hospital, but it doesn't feel like it. It is so high-tech, and yet it feels comfortable and inviting. The artwork is beautiful; every little detail is perfect," said Kathleen Goss of Willits after a tour of the new hospital.

In addition to state-of-art operating rooms and a spacious Emergency Department, the new hospital has many pieces of beautiful artwork displayed. "All the artwork was created by local artists in Mendocino County. We are the only art gallery open 24/7," Bockmann said, "and it adds to that healing atmosphere that we wanted our patients to feel."

Before HMH opens its doors, those patients currently receiving care at the old facility at One Madrone will have to be moved into the new facility. The move is set to happen, starting at 6 am, on October 29.

"We expect that the move will go seamlessly. During that time, [Willits residents] will see ambulances going back and forth, and I'd like to assure our community, this is just part of the move and not an actual emergency. We've taken every effort to plan this thoughtfully while keeping patient safety in mind and reducing the disruption to traffic on Main Street," Bockmann explained.

Staff at the two facilities will spend half the day operating two fully staffed emergency departments until the last patient at One Madrone is able to be treated and transported to the new hospital on One Marcela Drive.

Each hospital will have its own command center, where administrators and others will track the move's progress and handle any potential issues that may arise. "We've rehearsed the entire maneuver of moving the patients from the old hospital to the new hospital for months. Keeping our patients safe and comfortable is our first priority. Because we are so well-rehearsed, we feel very prepared," Bockmann said.

Depending on the number of patients in the hospital on Thursday, the entire process could take approximately four hours. As all patients are transported, they will be asked numerous times throughout the process to confirm their names and dates of birth so that everyone is accounted for at each stage of the transition. Karen Scott, VP for patient care staff, has been preparing patients and patient families about what to expect on move day. "They're all excited to be part of this historical moment," Scott said.

Once the last patient to move has left the old hospital, the plan is to officially close it Thursday. Bockmann says the logistics of moving into the new facility are enormous. Because of the distance between the old and the new hospital, everything has to be meticulously choreographed.

The new hospital is more than double the size of the old one. It offers 25 private rooms with bathrooms, state-of-the-art operating rooms, a spacious emergency department with trauma bays, and a helipad, which was not available at the old hospital.

The move into the new hospital is expected to be complete by noon on Thursday, October 29.

HMH's new farm-to-fork restaurant, "Roots," is also set to open Thursday morning. Roots, which features organic produce from the Frank R. Howard Foundation's Commonwealth Garden - just across the street - is open to the public as well as hospital staff, and can accommodate 80 diners.



Inside the new Howard Memorial Hospital. Top: Local art hangs in the halls. Above: One of the new operating rooms. Below: The reception desk welcomes patrons, starting Thursday, October 29.



Former Covelo man sentenced to 56 months in felony child endangerment case

A former Covelo resident was sentenced to 56 months in state prison October 23 by Judge John Behnke after being found guilty of felony child endangerment, willfully failing to appear in court (a felony), and driving under the influence of alcohol with two prior convictions within 10 years (a misdemeanor).

David Charles Peters, 35, was wanted for outstanding felony warrants in a domestic violence case when a state traffic officer observed him driving 93 mph in a 55 mph zone in Covelo on July 21.

As the CHP officer gave chase, Peters' 3 1/2-year-old daughter was seen standing in the backseat of the car watching the pursuing cruiser, according to the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office.

After being pulled over, the officer discovered Peters' license had been suspended for prior drunk driving convictions, and a breath test determined Peters was driving drunk.

Peters had been ordered to abstain from alcohol by a Sonoma County judge after being pulled over for drunk driving on Highway 101 in 2013. His daughter was discovered asleep in the back seat of the car on that occasion, according to District Attorney David Eyster.

In that case, the Sonoma County DA exercised her discretion to only pursue a misdemeanor child endangerment charge, Eyster noted.

Agreeing with the old saw that "enough is enough," the DA added, Peters was charged and convicted of felony child endangerment.

During his sentencing hearing, Deputy District Attorney Beth Norman argued Peters' record of 19 misdemeanor convictions, as well as a prior prison commitment, and the fact he continued to place his daughter at risk, mandated a prison sentence be imposed to protect the daughter and the community.

Peters' attorney requested probation for his client and re-admittance to an alcohol treatment program. But Behnke, noting the "extreme danger in which the defendant has repeatedly placed his daughter, as well as the continued danger posed to the community," denied the application and imposed the state prison commitment," Eyster said.

Under California's realignment laws, Peters must serve 28 months of his 56-month sentence.

This report was based on a press release posted on the Mendocino County District Attorney's Facebook page.

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

they still had some \$250,000 in unallocated funds. The board decided to offer up to \$60,000 to fund a winter homeless shelter in Ukiah, and to give \$4,000 to Leadership Mendocino.

After some discussion, the board opted to put the remaining funds up for grabs, with a cap of \$45,000 on any individual grant.

According to Assistant CEO Alan Flora, the board will consider the funding requests at its November 17 meeting. Flora said he and his staff have collected the applications, tried to rectify any errors in individual applications, and will submit the entire pile to the board, without any editing or winnowing down of the applications on the part of county staff.

Flora said a summary of the grants will be available online soon.

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

The unidentified driver was arrested on suspicion of stealing the Laytonville Unified School District van and of vehicular manslaughter and taken to juvenile hall, according to state traffic officer Patrick Bourassa.

Oldenes and the other boys, all believed to be Laytonville High School students, were riding in the Ford van on Branscomb Road east of the Cahto trout farm when the driver lost control of the vehicle on a turn, and it left the roadway and struck a tree, the CHP said.

Oldenes was thrown from the vehicle and onto the shoulder of the road, then struck by the still-moving vehicle, according to a CHP press release.

None of the van's occupants

were wearing seat belts, according to the CHP.

All four survivors were taken to Howard Memorial Hospital "for evaluation," Laytonville Volunteer Fire Department Chief Jim Little said.

In addition to the fire department's rescue vehicle and ambulance, a CalFire engine and a Verihealth ambulance out of Willits responded to the accident.

Bourassa said the CHP will recommend that all the survivors face vehicle theft charges.

It does not appear drugs or alcohol played a part in the accident, the CHP added.

Investigation continues into how the boys gained access to the van, which was kept behind a locked gate.

Funding approved for Covelo trail projects

The California Transportation Commission approved funding for two multi-purpose trail projects in Covelo at its October 21 meeting in Oakland.

Both projects were prepared and submitted in June by the Mendocino Council of Governments under the state's Active Transportation Program.

The CTC awarded \$1.89 million for design, right-of-way and construction of MCOG's SR 162 Corridor Multi-Purpose Trail Phase 1 project.

Phase 1 will construct a bicycle and pedestrian trail parallel to Highway 162 from Howard Street to Biggar Lane in Covelo. The CTC previously awarded \$847,000 for environmental and non-infrastructure community and schools safety and education work for the project in the 2014 Active Transportation Program funding cycle.

The second project awarded was MCOG's SR 162 Corridor Multi-Purpose Trail Phase 2. More than \$1.25 million was awarded by the CTC for all project components through construction to extend the Phase 1 bicycle and pedestrian facility from Biggar Lane northward to Hurt Road.

"We thank the hard-working staff and commissioners for helping to protect the safety of our Third District citizens and encouraging a healthy lifestyle in Round Valley," said north county Supervisor Tom Woodhouse, whose district includes Covelo.

Construction of a bicycle and pedestrian trail physically separated from Highway 162 was the top priority identified in MCOG's 2014 Covelo/Round Valley Non-Motorized Needs Assessment & Engineered Feasibility Study.

"Priorities established in the study were developed with extensive public input within the Covelo/Round Valley community and the Round Valley Indian Tribes," said MCOG Executive Director Phil Dow. "There is a history of pedestrian and bicycle collisions that have resulted in fatalities within the project area." Much of the new facility will be constructed on tribal lands through an easement dedicated through an agreement with MCOG.

"Round Valley Indian Tribes also have agreed to permanently maintain all trail segments that lie on tribal lands," Dow added.

Remaining segments of the new facility will be constructed within state right-of-way along Highway 162, but separated from vehicle travel lanes. An east-west trail within tribal lands connecting Henderson Lane with the primary trail along Highway 162 also will be constructed with Phase I funding.

The CTC received 617 applications in 2015, requesting a total of more than \$1 billion.

This report was based on a press release from MCOG.

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Above: Gender Bender Day dress-up participants, from left: Ag teacher Kelley Case Brackett and students Emily Leishman, Sierra Skinner, Garret Vincent, Ian Seymour, Bailey Ferguson, Samantha Norton and Max Mineli.



Right: More Tacky Tourists, including, from left: Julia Johnstone, Isabel Gutierrez, Camryn Christensen, Nayema Sisemore and Jamie Johnstone.

Photos courtesy Kylie Reed

## We have spirit, yes we do!

### Willits High School holds fun and silly Halloween spirit week

Willits High School staff and students enjoyed dressing up for a week of festivities including Tacky Tourist Tuesday, Gender Bender Wednesday, Too Thug Thursday and Black and White or Halloween Costume Friday.

There will also be a Wild and Out-Themed rally on Friday with a lip sync

contest, a comedy roast, a dance off, and an introduction of the sports teams.

The leadership class was excited to offer the dress-up week and Friday rally as a fun way to celebrate the coming holiday and continue to rebuild school spirit.

- Maureen Moore



Tacky Tourists: from left: Shivam Patel, Justin Thom, Julia Johnstone, Destiney Gamez, Courtney Humphries, Jamie Johnstone, Chanel Alexander, Austin Willcut and Kyle Martinez.



Above, from left: Tacky Tourists juniors Camryn Christiansen and Caitlyn Forrester. Principal Robert Chavez dresses up as a grandma on Gender Bender Day. Tacky Tourists and WHS seniors Konner Reed and Emily Leishman. Senior Konner Reed and mom, Lisa Reed, who works at Willits High School as a cafeteria clerk, dress up for Gender Bender Day. Senior Kyle Martinez as a Tacky Tourist.

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