

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Willits Weekly wanted to showcase our community's spirit this Halloween, and what a response we received! Enjoy all the costume and carving fun inside on our Halloween pages. Several pets competing in the Willits Animal Hospital Costume contest are also featured. That winner will be announced on Halloween Day on Willits Animal Hospital's Facebook page.

**Willits Weekly is also holding our first annual Halloween Hunt! Check out the plan on page 3, and follow the clues to win one of three gift baskets.**

A \$50 gift certificate to Sparetime Supply, a free pound of fudge from J.D. Redhouse, a \$25 gift certificate to Mariposa Market, a Carhartt duffel bag, an emergency roadside kit and a 6-month subscription to Willits Weekly are all included in the first-place basket. Winners also get their photo in the paper, so get hunting!

## Council decides to change water connection policy

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
zack@willitsweekly.com

City Hall's practice of limiting new development to four or fewer water connections will end, the city council has decided on a 4-1 vote.

Plans for a new Holiday Inn Express, with a restaurant, and for development supporting the new East Hill Road hospital, may benefit from the decision.

Tom Herman, a member  
**Read the rest of Policy**  
Over on Page 9

## Willits water no threat to community, says state

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
zack@willitsweekly.com

There is no immediate health risk to Willits residents from a failed water standards test, state health officials have told the Willits City Council, and will not be for the next 50 years even if the levels of a disinfectant byproduct found in city tap water remain the same.

California Department of Public Health employees Amy Little and Jo Wildflower talked last week to council members concerning a violation issued to the city for levels of haloacetic acid

**Read the rest of Water**  
Over on Page 9



## It's three great pumpkins!



Illuminated giant pumpkins will be on display tonight for excited trick-or-treaters



A peacock, a witch and three giant pumpkins were all on display Monday morning at the home of Eric and Judy Johnson of Willits – helping get everyone in the Halloween mood.

Thursday night, the giant pumpkins will be lit up for their Halloween-night debut to the public at the Johnsons' Mill Creek subdivision home, where some 600 trick-or-treaters are expected to come and visit.

This is the first year Johnson grew the giant pumpkins himself. For the last 25 years he has just enjoyed carving them, but after saving some seeds from last year's pumpkin, he decided to try his hand at growing them, too.

His next-door neighbor, Lee Saijo, participated this year in helping to grow the three mammoth pumpkins, as her yard – not landscaped due

to the cost of watering – was sunnier than the Johnsons' yard.

The biggest pumpkin took fourth place at this year's Ukiah Pumpkin Fest event, weighing in at 452 pounds. Combining the total weights of all three pumpkins, Johnson was proud to announce that he grew about 1,200 pounds of pumpkin this year.

Conditioning the soil, adding compost and other nutrients is already on Johnson's mind for next year, as he plans to increase his yield even more.

The "veggies" of this year's labor, however, are proudly displayed on the front lawn and will be lit on Halloween and for a few nights following, if folks would like to come to Mill Creek to see the "Dinosaur," "Maniac" and "Freestyle" designs.

– Maureen Moore

*Above left, peacock Chloe, and above right, witch Madison, pose with Eric Johnson's giant pumpkins, which feature "Dinosaur," "Maniac" and "Freestyle" designs. See the pumpkins tonight in the Mill Creek subdivision.*

Photos by Maureen Moore



## Election Day

Election Day is next week, Tuesday, November 5. Polling stations at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, and the Brooktrails Community Center, 24850 Birch Street, will be open from 8 am to 8 pm. If you're a mail-in voter and haven't mailed your ballot yet, you can drop it off on Election Day at any polling station, or at the Ukiah elections office, 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020. Call the Ukiah office with elections questions: 463-4371.



## Bypass mitigation plan not in jeopardy says Caltrans

Despite three-times-higher-than-expected bids for the "mitigation planting, erosion" phase of its Willits bypass project plans, Caltrans doesn't consider the mitigation project to be in jeopardy.

Jennifer Poole  
Editor & Reporter  
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

"Right now, we don't think so," Caltrans spokesman Phil Frisbie said Wednesday morning. "These sorts of issues don't happen too often, but there are procedures that we follow.

"It's still very early, and we're still determining what needs to be changed so we can get plans and specs updated, and go from there."

Caltrans has been "analyzing the bids that were returned section by section," Frisbie said, "so we can try to determine why the bids are so high." Frisbie said maybe there were some areas where Caltrans' specs were not clear, or maybe were misinterpreted: "We're looking at that very thoroughly."

Caltrans' estimate for the cost of this project, which could be described as the "construction" phase of bypass mitigation, was approximately \$13.1 million. The lowest of three bids on the project, from DeSilva Gates, already a contractor on the bypass construction project, was \$39.33 million. The other two bids were significantly higher: \$47.4 million from Diablo Contractors of San Ramon, and \$48 million from Nordic Industries of Olivehurst.

There is no timeline, at this point, for when the mitigation project might go back out to bid, Frisbie said, and the decision to do so hasn't been officially made yet. But "that's likely what we'll have to do," Frisbie said. "It's very likely that very soon here we'll have to reject the bids."

There was no firm start date scheduled for the multi-year mitigation project, Frisbie said, but "any sort of major work

**Read the rest of Bypass** Over on Page 9

## Coffee with the Principal

Willits High School Principal Jeff Ritchley is considering keeping freshmen and sophomores on campus for lunch.

WHS has an open campus policy at lunchtime, with some students getting lunch downtown, some eating at the school cafeteria, some bringing their own, and other, older, students driving to the south end of town for fast food.

There are safety concerns with students walking off campus down Highway 101, but Ritchley says his main goal is to increase school spirit and pride, so that "kids want to stay here at lunch."

"This won't happen tomorrow," he said, "maybe in a few months, but we're in the groundbreaking stages of making a better organization."

Ritchley said he's already talked to "kids, parents, the school site council, and businesses" about his idea. Obviously, the kids don't want it, he said, "but every parent I talked to said they supported it, or could make it work for them."

The cafeteria service would need to "offer foods that kids will eat and enjoy eating," Ritchley said, "like hamburgers, salads and pizza," while continuing to meet and improve on healthy lunch standards.

Ritchley envisions a two-seating lunch hour to handle increased lunch traffic: the district office, he says, has already added one position to the cafeteria team.

Local businesses near the high school that cater to the younger high school kids would lose a dependable revenue stream. Ritchley says the businesses he's talked to say they make about \$100 day, or \$500 week, from high school business.

Ritchley says everyone is "more than welcome" to come talk to him about the closed campus idea at the next "Coffee with the Principal," set for Wednesday, November 6, from 8:30 to 10 am at WHS. Call the high school at 459-7700 for more info.

– Jennifer Poole



What do YOU think?

Yes on Measure I

To the Editor:

We are firefighters. We are volunteers. Our wives and husbands, children, and families sacrifice time not spent with us because someone somewhere has an emergency and we voluntarily leave whatever we are doing at the time to respond to that emergency. We get to work with some of the best people, to save lives and protect people's property. We pray that we don't ever have to meet you as firefighters doing our volunteer job, but if you have an emergency, we will come.

We are firefighters because we can make a difference. We give of ourselves freely and willingly. We are volunteer firefighters who go into a burning building when everyone else is running out!

Is it easy to get up at 3 am to go to a traffic collision with multiple casualties and injuries, to perform CPR on an infant or child only to realize there is nothing you can do? Do we enjoy responding to someone's house because their loved one isn't breathing and is otherwise unresponsive, upon arrival and after assessment telling them their loved one is dead? We think the answer to these questions is an obvious one.

We are firefighters because we believe in what the Fire Department stands for, to help our and your community be a safer place! We believe in educating children in what to do if their smoke detector goes off and how to be safe in evacuating their house, or teaching them what we look like in full bunker gear and an SCBA so if they happen to be trapped in a burning building, they won't be scared when we are crawling through flames searching for them!

We are firefighters because we care! We don't wait until after our pager has finished beeping, hear the verbal dispatch, and then decide if we want to respond to the call, we respond if we are available without fail, regardless of what type of call it is. We want to be the people who are coming after somebody's loved one when they are in a time of need, a life or death situation, because we make a difference with our Fire Department family.

We have taken it upon ourselves as your volunteer members to diversify our training background. We train every first and fourth Tuesday of every month. Many of us take time on our own to take classes outside our normal scheduled training. There are steps and progressions that we all must and have gone through to be "promoted" within the fire department. There are criteria in place that we as firefighters have put in to make sure before you can advance you must meet the criteria, that if you are in charge you have the training to make a proper decision.

We spend hours and hours away from our family members and friends to become better trained to assist the public in an emergency. Our community is a better place with the firefighters we have!

As a firefighter, 9/11 is a very proud and painful day. It is a reminder that at any time when our pagers go off, we may not get the opportunity to see our friends and loved ones again. We volunteer to be on call 24/7/365. All day and night, every day and night, we don't take holidays off, we

respond when called. We as volunteer firefighters may not be in the military and protect our freedoms and sacrifice that way, but I ask you: are you willing to make the ultimate sacrifice that 343 firefighters did on 9/11?

We never know what we are actually going to find at a scene. Our goal is to always go home to our families, and we usually do without incident, but we are willing, if it comes to it, to do what has to be done to save another, to risk our life for another: Would you?

Willits Volunteer Fire Department is one of the top in the state. We do more training, have more equipment, and know how to use it. We have a rescue boom, and a pre-plumbed simultaneous use hydraulic unit for running tools for auto extraction. We have three structural firefighting engines, a ladder truck, a water tender, two wildland firefighting engines, a hazardous materials response trailer, a swiftwater rescue trailer, and a USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) trailer at our disposal to respond in any type of emergency. What we don't have is a firehouse to keep all the equipment in.

As a Fire Department, we cover approximately 360 square miles of land, including 22 miles of Highway 101 north and south of Willits, Highway 162 to approximately mile post 10, Highway 20 to mile post 17, and east to where we bump into the Potter Valley and Redwood Valley response area.

We respond to traffic collisions, vehicle fires, vegetation fires, structural fires, hazardous conditions and materials, over-the-bank rescue, swift water rescue, entrapment, medical aids, smoke checks, search and rescue, along with any other emergency that doesn't fall directly to law enforcement or another agency.

In 2012 we responded to approximately 475 calls for service, not including the calls the ambulance service handled alone. Our call volume continues to climb each year. We also volunteer to do medical standby at youth sporting events, high school sporting events, rodeos, and other events, when we are requested. We help educate youth about the consequences of driving under the influence and with the "Scrubs" class at Willits High School.

We need a new firehouse in Willits so that the we as firefighters can offer better services to those in need in an emergency. We need a firehouse that will not fall down in an earthquake, that doesn't leak all winter long, and that can hold in some heat and keep the cold out. We need a firehouse that can house updated equipment in the future.

We need help from our community on November 5, to pass Measure I, so we can have the opportunity to serve you better in the future. Please vote yes on Measure I.

**Your Volunteer Firefighters Association:** President, Engineer William England; Vice President, Assistant Chief Michael Griggs; Chief Carl Magann; Deputy Chief John Thomen; Training Chief Chris Wilkes; F.C. Ned Mckinnon; F.A.E. Kevin Reedy; F.F. Eric Alvarez; F.C. William Carter; F.A.E. Danny Williams; F.F. Holly O'Neill; F.C. Ben O'Neill; F.A.E. Dion Beckmann; F.F. Tim Caldwell; F.C. Daniel Mendoza; F.A.E. Zack Grieve; F.F. Kirk DeFranco;

F.F. Eldon Miler; F.A.E. Mike Jones; F.F. Matt Anderson; F.F. Levi Linderman; F.F. Adam Seminoff; F.F. Cecil Caldwell; F.F. Mike Neely; F.F. Louis Lucier; F.F. Will Hinton; F.F. Steven Baumeister; F.F. Kevin Hefte; F.F. Chris Hefte; F.A.E. Manuel Orozco; F.F. Donovan Shively; P.F. Francisco Villegas; P.F. Tyler Yadon; and P.F. Mike Wilder

No on Measure I

To the Editor:

Dear Voters: A very important ballot measure is in front of all of the voters within the boundaries of the Little Lake Volunteer Fire Department/Willits Fire District. Measure I is a critical ballot measure; please vote No on November 5, 2013.

The Willits Volunteer Fire Department/Willits Fire District already has on the tax roll a Little Lake Fire direct charge to the taxpayer for 20 years; starting when Chief Jeff Smith was in office. Now Little Lake Volunteer Fire Department/Willits Fire District wants to impose another special fire district tax (double dipping the taxpayer) on November 5, 2013.

Which the second tax to be used to upgrade with a ballot measure directly to the taxpayers. The renters and others (non-property owners) who vote do not pay for these up-grades and this ballot measure, for construction of a new Little Lake Fire Station that will cost the taxpayers \$3,400,000 for 40 years. This is not a temporary tax.

This new extra special fire tax will affect the seniors on a fixed income plus other homeowners trying to stay in their homes and not become homeless. The taxpayer is also paying out on their own homeowners fire insurance (for fire protection) along with these proposed extra direct charges. We are overtaxed and over-burdened. The voters who rent do not pay these taxes.

Please don't put off voting No on Measure I on Election Day (November 5, 2013).

Christine Brown, Willits

Yes on Measure I

To the Editor:

To the Willits community: We encourage you to vote Yes on Measure I on the November 5 ballot. As business owners, property owners, and taxpayers, we don't want to pay more in taxes. But sometimes we have to "do the right thing."

This is time for us to support another worthy project. It will make the future safer. We need a new firehouse for our community. Sparetime Supply has supported the Fire Department and will continue by supporting a new firehouse, and employing volunteer firefighters.

Michael Griggs, Jr. and Mike Griggs, Sr. and families, and Sparetime Supply, Willits

Laurie Harris for school board

To the Editor:

As a teacher and a taxpayer, I welcome a fresh outlook to the Willits Unified School Board election. Laurie Harris has

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

been a committed parent volunteer in the classroom and community member. She has a new viewpoint which our board seriously needs.

As the saying goes, "insanity is repeating the same old thing and expecting different results." Our district needs a new way of doing business, communicating with the public, and ensuring that our students get the best education possible. Please vote with me, other teachers and support staff in supporting Laurie Harris for school board.

John Haschak, Willits

Another view of healing ceremony

To the Editor:

As someone who actually went to the wetlands healing ceremony last October 12, I am forced to take issue with Cat Lee's characterization of the event. Admittedly it's difficult to assess a situation by merely driving past, but what she describes as "chaotic and disturbing energy" seemed to me more of a feeling of rededication to the land where we live, along with an underlying feeling of sadness over the damage which Caltrans has done to our beautiful valley.

It was good. There was music and speeches and food. There was seriousness, and there was fun. And then, late in the afternoon, about 150 people crossed 101 into the area where Caltrans is using thousands of wick drains to suck the valley dry. There we stood in a huge circle and gave homage to the land. We said silent prayers and each person symbolically poured an offering of water back into the barren ground.

On the way back across the highway, some people were singing and some people were crying, and many were doing both at once.

Most people I talked to afterwards felt as I did -- as I still do -- that now we will be able to reach deep inside ourselves and somehow find the strength to struggle on.

Tom Fristoe, Willits

Walk was wonderful

To the Editor:

The 15th Willits Walk for Wellness and Health was a great success, and we want to thank the community for joining together in support of our small-town vision of health and well-being.

When people arrived at J.D. Redhouse at 9:30 am on Sunday, October 20, they were greeted by Carlin Diamond and Barbara Willens, who got people registered.

Everyone was given a beautifully created handout of 20 historical buildings along the 10,000 step (five mile) route that goes through the downtown section and out into the neighborhoods. If you missed the walk you can pick up your own map and brochure at the Willits Chamber of Commerce at the Skunk Train Depot.

The Historic Building and Tour Guide was created by Lynn Kennelly, director of the Chamber of Commerce, with pictures taken of historic buildings by Eldon Miler, founder of Willits Fan Page. Hopefully by the time of the next walk in May 2014, we'll have a website online with pictures of the buildings and other sites to see along the way.

Mike Aplet and Alan Falleri put up balloons

Read the rest of Letters | Over on Page 11

WIN THIS TODAY!

# Ghoulish Gab

Halloween fun and fright for this spooky night

The overflowing gift baskets

## Halloween Hunt

Big prizes waiting for winners of Willits Weekly's first annual Halloween contest

by Willits Weekly advertisers for three winners. Goodies in the three baskets include: a \$50 gift certificate, \$25 gift certificates, safety gear, cozies, a duffel bag, food items, and more, including a six-month mail subscription to Willits Weekly.

The first Halloween Hunter to come find Willits Weekly at the final location with their assembled clues in hand will win a large first-place basket; the second hunter will win the second-place basket, and the third hunter, the third-place basket. All three winners will get their photos in the following edition of Willits Weekly.

There is no cost to enter, and in the event of a tie, a round of rock, paper, scissors will determine the winner.

All ages welcome; one winner per family. Costumes encouraged, but not required!

**First clue:**  
To feed your horse, bird, cat, dog or mouse, get some great food downtown at \_\_\_\_\_.

## Costumed & Carved

Kids, parents, pets and more are getting in the Halloween spirit with costumes, pumpkin carving and more! Be safe and have fun this holiday!

Left: Bella the Leprechaun

Right: Alicia Logan's pumpkins and kitties: Latch & Olive

Tinley Logan

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

Julie Mondo and Matthew Jennison

April Lynn

The Rules: **LETTERS**

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters from area residents, focusing on Willits issues, activities, events and people, have priority. Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred.

Letters & Commentaries must have a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No anonymous letters will be published.

## Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

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# Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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### HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

#### WORDS

Autumn  
Candy  
Cemetery  
Costume  
Doorbell  
Dracula  
Dress  
Flashlight  
Friends  
Fright  
Ghost  
Ghoul  
Gore  
Halloween  
Houses  
Makeup  
Money  
Monster

Mummy  
Neighborhood  
October  
Parties  
Pirates  
Police  
Pranks  
Princess  
Ranger  
Safety  
Scare  
Scary  
Shaving  
Treat  
Trick  
Undead  
Vampire  
Zombie

#### Connect the dots!

#### PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 9

## Halloween's world celebrations

Halloween dates back thousands of years to ancient Celts and Europeans. Although Halloween is now largely associated with the celebrations that take place across much of North America, where 65 percent of Americans decorate their homes and places of business in the Halloween spirit, Halloween is celebrated in various ways around the globe.

**England:** In the past, Brits tossed objects such as stones, vegetables and nuts into a bonfire to frighten away the spirits. These symbolic sacrifices also were used as a form of fortune-telling. If a pebble thrown into the flames at night was no longer visible in the morning, then it was believed that the person who tossed the pebble would not survive another year. Halloween fell out of favor after the Protestant Reformation spread through the country. However, in recent years some have begun to adopt the American tradition of trick-or-treating.

**Hong Kong:** A Halloween-type festival in Hong Kong is known as "Yue Lan," which is the festival of the hungry ghosts. It is believed that, during this time, spirits roam the world for 24 hours.

**France:** Halloween is

considered an American holiday by most French and was relatively unknown before 1996.

**Ireland:** Ireland is thought to be the birthplace of Halloween, and many of the same traditions of old are still practiced today. In addition to costumes and treats, individuals may play an apple-bobbing game called "snap-apple," where participants have to try to take a bite of an apple suspended on a string. Children also play tricks on neighbors, including "knock-a-dolly," which is essentially a variation on "ring-and-run."

**Spanish-speaking nations:** Many Spanish-speaking nations celebrate "El Dia de los Muertos." It is supposed to be a joyous event where people remember friends and family members who have died. Candles and incense are burned to help the departed find his or her way home.


**Austria:** Some people will leave bread, water and a lighted lamp on the table on Halloween night before going to bed. It was once believed that such items would welcome the dead souls back to Earth on the night Austrians considered to be full of strong cosmic energies.

**Czechoslovakia:** Czechs place chairs by a fireside on Halloween night. There are enough chairs for each living and dead family member.

**Italy:** Halloween traditions have just recently begun to blossom in Italy, where decorations and pumpkins are popular. While many of the traditions borrow from the Americans, there is at least one uniquely Italian tradition taking place in the hill town of Cornalado. La Notte delle Streghe, "The Night of the Witches," occurs in this town with music, dancing and a witch-themed fashion show that names Miss Strega (Miss Witch).

**Australia:** Halloween isn't as popular in Australia as it is in the United States and Canada. Australians may celebrate Halloween as Guy Fawkes Eve or Mischief Night. Children create mischief or get treats. Many Australians simply celebrate the holiday with a dance at their schools.





*"Not all students are interested in college. We need strong academic agricultural and vocational programs so our students have a choice."*

## Re-elect Bob Harper

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## Police stops: What to do if you are pulled over

If you are pulled over by the police while driving, here's some suggestions on what to do and some brief information on when a police officer can search your vehicle or frisk you. If you end up deciding to challenge your ticket in court, you will be in a much better position to do so if you take a few simple steps.

If a police car is following you with its siren blaring or emergency lights flashing, pull over to the right safely and quickly. Pull over in a way that will be most likely to calm down an angry or annoyed traffic officer. Use your turn signal to indicate any lane changes from left to right, and slow down fairly quickly, but not so quickly that the officer will have to brake to avoid hitting you. Pull over as far to the right as possible so that, when the officer comes up to your widow, he or she won't have to worry about being clipped by vehicles driving past.

By stopping as soon as you can, you'll have a better chance of figuring out exactly where the officer says you committed a violation. You may want to return to that area later to make sure the officer was reporting accurately about how he or she judged your speed, saw your turn, or witnessed any other violation.

After you've pulled over to a safe spot, you might want to show the officer a few other token courtesies. At this point, you have little to lose and perhaps something to gain.

First off, roll down your window all the way. You may also want to turn off the engine, place your hands on the steering wheel, and, if it's dark, turn on your interior light. This will tend to allay any fears the officer may have. (After all, police officers are killed every day in such "ordinary" traffic-stop situations, and the officer's approach to the vehicle is the potentially most dangerous.)

Don't start rummaging through your back pocket for your wallet and license, or in your glove compartment for your registration, until the officer asks you for them. For all the officer knows, you could be reaching for a gun.

If you are at all concerned that the person who stopped you is not actually a police officer (for example, if the car that pulled you over is unmarked), you should ask to see the officer's photo identification along with his badge. If you still have doubts, you can ask that the officer call a supervisor to the scene or you can request that you be allowed to follow the officer to a police station.

A police officer is normally not allowed to search your vehicle. However, there are several exceptions to this. An officer who observes you trying to either hide something under the seat or throw something out the window may legally search your car. Once a police car is on your rear bumper with a spotlight silhouetting your every move, they're watching for any sort of furtive movement. A sudden lowering of one or both shoulders will tip them off that you're attempting to hide something under the seat.

If the officer has a reasonable suspicion you are armed and dangerous, he or she can frisk you (pat you down). Similarly, if the officer reasonably suspects that you are involved in criminal activity he or she can also perform a pat down. If police officers have probable cause -- a reasonable basis or justification to believe that you or your passengers are involved in criminal activity -- they can search your car and objects belonging to passengers.

Marc Komer is a legal document assistant and notary public in Willits. He can be reached at 459-2775 or [www.mendolegaldocs.com](http://www.mendolegaldocs.com).

### RECIPES | Delicious desserts

## Maureen's Fruit Crumble

If you know people with fruit, or know of a grocery store, or a farmers market, you're in luck. You, too, can be enjoying this simple, almost-no-rules fruit crumble.

Peel yellow pears (4?). Cut in chunks, and toss out cores. Don't have pears? use apples, etc. Don't peel peaches (4?). Cut in chunks, and toss out pits. Don't have peaches? use plums, etc. Mix in bowl.

Add a handful of flour.  
Add a handful of brown sugar.  
Add two shakes of nutmeg ... or cinnamon ... or both.  
Add two shakes of salt.  
Mix fruit in to the flour mixture. (Set aside the bowl that had the fruit, unwashed.)  
Dump fruit in baking dish/bread pan/lasagna pan/cake pan/pie dish.

Take bowl that had the fruit, and:  
Add a handful of flour.  
Add a handful of brown sugar.  
Add two handfuls of crunched up granola/cereal/oatmeal/ Nutri-grain bars/or?  
Mix.

Cut up one stick of cold butter into maybe 20 smallish pieces.  
Add cold butter chunks to granola/flour/sugar mixture.  
Smash it around with your hands, trying to crush butter pieces with fingers. After a few attempts, give up, because, well, it'll be fine, as long as it's smooshed together a little.  
Dump crumbs over fruit in pan.

Turn oven to something around 350. Want it faster? Try 400. Have to do something else, and want the house to smell good? 325. Doesn't seem to matter too much.

Bake it uncovered until you smell it in the other room, and your attention snaps to the exciting possibility of soon-to-be consumed fruit crumble.

It'll be bubbly, a little bit brown, but not burnt. Maybe a half hour if the dish is shallow; maybe an hour if the dish is deep. Go by smell to decide if it's done: Not a burning smell, a goodness smell.

Wait for it to cool down, so the juice gets jelly-like and scoop-able, and you won't burn your tongue. Wait 15 to 20 minutes if you can stand it.

EAT it. With a spoon ... from the pan. It's OK: no one to judge. It's even better in the morning, cold, or at room temperature, or heated back up again.

Top it with whipped cream, or cream from the jug, or ice cream.

Do it. It's SOOOO good. You're welcome.

— Maureen Moore

### October is Non-GMO Month

Support your right to know what's in your food!


## Mariposa Market

Natural and Organic Foods

Organic Produce • Bulk Foods • Grass-Fed Beef  
Wild-Caught Fish • Local Products • Cafe

### 459-9630

500 S. Main Street  
Willits, CA 95490



### PURPLE MOOSE THRIFT

GENTLY USED THINGS

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Willits, CA 954902  
707-459-1874

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

RON AND JUDY LOVELL



Austin Vigil and her doll



Connor Basler

## SPARETIME SUPPLY

Plants • Trees • Flowers • Veggies • Fertilizers  
Soils • Amendments • Irrigation Supplies  
Hydro Supplies • Plastic Pots • Smart Pots • Pottery

### 459-6791

208 E. San Francisco Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490

**Store Hours:**  
August - February  
Mon - Sat: 9 am - 6 pm  
CLOSED Sunday

## More Costumed & Carved



Danielle Barry



Monica Dorro



BeeGee the little devil



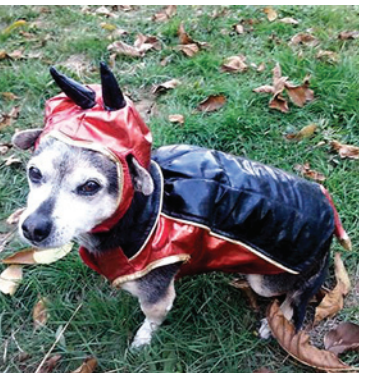
Stella and Ava Arkelian



Leah Carter and Emilie Cavallari



Lily Caine



Peetie the devil



Trinity and Sean Ward



Greg Schindel



Princess Lady Ashlee



Ella Garman and Katelyn Germann



Nemo the monster



Mariah Lavine



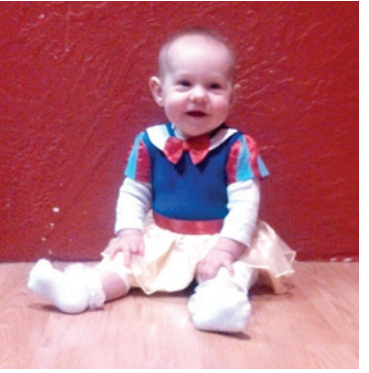
Kai as favorite pitcher, Matt Cain



Jakoby Kirby and Liam Hinchliffe



Otto Hinchliffe and Tim King



Charlotte Arkelian



Stewie the pumpkin



Cooper Norris



Leslie Cogburn-Scaglione's pumpkins

## COSTUME CONTEST

OCTOBER 31ST • 6:00PM - 9:00PM  
**\$1350 IN TOTAL PRIZES**

EARN 30 POINTS ON YOUR PLAYERS CLUB CARD TO QUALIFY

### TOP PRIZE \$500 CASH



NO MASKS MUST BE 18.

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO  
100 KAWI PLACE.  
WILLITS CA  
707-459-7978

### NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

Times for 11/1 - 11/7

**FREE BIRDS in 3D & 2D**  
(PG) 1hr 31mins

Daily: (2D) 5:15 & 7:30pm  
Sat/Sun Matinee: (2D) 12:30 (3D) 1:15 & 3:30pm


**ENDERS GAME**  
(PG13) 1hr 54mins

Daily: 5:45 & 8:20pm  
Sat/Sun Matinees: 12:15 & 2:45pm

**THE COUNSELOR**  
(R) 1hr 57mins

Daily: 5:30 & 8:00pm  
Sat/Sun Matinee: 3:00pm

Tight Wed Tuesday Films:  
**The Counselor**  
All tickets \$5.00  
Coming Friday Nov 8th:  
THOR: The Dark World



## m•pho•tog•ra•phress

wishes all the gorgeous  
ghouls & gals a wonderful Halloween!

### 707.972.7047



Thursday, October 31

**WECS Halloween Carnival:** the Willits Elementary Charter School parents present their second annual fundraising carnival: every family is welcome to join in the celebration, with games, prizes, and a healthy dinner. 4:30 to 6:30 pm at 405 East Commercial Street. Tickets, \$5, at the door.

**Harvest Party:** hosted by Agape Bible Church, 290 South Lenore Avenue, 5 pm to 8 pm. A fun, safe, Halloween alternative for kids of all ages. Costumes encouraged, candy, food, games, skit, music and giant jump house, all indoors. Questions: 459-1905.

**Fall Festival Party:** hosted by the Latter Day Saints Church, 265 Margie Drive. Community is invited, with activities for kids 12 and under. 5:30 pm to 7 pm. Fun, food, games, prizes, and trick or treating for the younger kids, in a safe environment. Please no masks, no cross-dressing, or gory costumes.

**Ghoulish Drinks at the Methodist Church:** for the fourth year, the Methodist Church will be offering coffee, tea, cocoa and apple juice, outside near the corner of School and Pine, to all out Halloweening. 6:30 to 8 pm. Really hard rain will cancel.

**Halloween Party at Shanachie Pub:** Live dance music by Funkacillin - a mix of originals and "old school" funk touched with rock and soul - with Lex Krauss (guitar), Cherie Sheraque (vocals), Jim Dooley (trumpet and keyboard), Blair Rowland (drums), and Nick Ford (bass) of GDX. Plus DJs Podge and Turtlebear. 7 pm. \$10. Sponsored by Adam's Restaurant, offering Creole food, ribs, and garlic fries on the patio. Costume contest with prizes from Adam's Restaurant, Simaine Winery, Headroom, Mazahar, J.D. Redhouse, Cat's Meow, Hellagood Desserts and Shanachie Pub. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, November 1

**Baked Potato Bar at Harrah Senior Center:** A benefit for Willits Senior Center Outreach. 5:30 to 7 pm, 1501 Baechtel Road. Choose your favorite toppings. Also, Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head Contest: create your own entry from home, with a prize for best dressed/decorated potato. \$9 general public; \$8 members (must show ID); \$5 10 and under. Memberships only \$20 year. For tickets and info: 459-6826.

**Graveyard Gala:** A dance for youth 18 and under at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. DJs will play a variety of music. \$5 at the door. 7 pm to 10 pm. Youth will be

Brewing Beer  
Learn to Homebrew Day Event

Home BREW (Brewing Research Engineers of Willits) hosts an American Homebrewers Association (AHA) "Learn to Homebrew Day" event on Saturday, November 2, at Coast Hardware, 101 Barbara Lane, 10:30 am to 3 pm.

Free and open to the public. "We will be brewing an Oaked Imperial Stout you can make at home."

"Learn to Homebrew Day" is an international event held on the first Saturday of November since 1999 where thousands of home brewers have taught friends and family the basics of the homebrewing hobby, "a lifelong hobby that inspires creativity and is driven by a spirit of 'do-it-yourself' ingenuity."

HOME BREW, Brewing Engineers of Willits, is a user group/club dedicated to all forms of fermentation and slow food, including beers, ales, ciders, preserves, pickles, cheese, yogurt, bread and more.

The club meets the first Friday of every month at 7 pm. Location varies, but come see us Friday, November 1 at Asian House Restaurant, 47 East Mendocino. Guests and visitors (over 21 years of age) are always welcome. More info: Willitshomebrew@yahoo.com or www.willitshomebrew.weebly.com.

What Makes  
Our City Tick?

Have you ever wanted to take a peek inside City Hall and see what's going on? Have you ever pondered the possibility of running for City Council?

"What Makes Our City Tick?" is the name of an introductory meeting on Friday, November 8, as well as an ongoing program designed to address those very questions. The ongoing program has a double purpose: First, it will provide opportunities for interested people in the 95490 community to become more familiar with how our city actually works. Second, it will inform anyone within the city limits who has thought about running for City Council about the process and what is involved.

"What Makes Our City Tick?" is a mentoring program sponsored by the Willits Community Alliance. Those interested in being part of this program will have opportunities for onsite visits to various parts of the city structure, as well as attending city meetings, such as ReviIED, City Council meetings, etc.

To start the November 8 meeting off, Mayor Holly Madrigal will make a short presentation about what kind of responsibilities go along with being mayor. Then Madge Strong, newest member of the City Council, will share her story from "thinking about it," to "getting elected" to "serving on the council."

The introductory meeting will take place Friday, November 8, from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Library Meeting Room. For more information contact Mary Zellachild at 459-3963 or maryzel@willitsonline.com.

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits

breathalyzed upon exiting. Sponsored by the Willits Charter School Student Government.

**Home BREW Meeting:** HOME Brewing Research Engineers of Willits hosts the monthly first Friday meeting at 7 pm at the Asian House Restaurant, 47 East Mendocino. Guests and visitors (over 21 years of age) welcome. More info: Willitshomebrew@yahoo.com or www.willitshomebrew.weebly.com.

Saturday, November 2

**Put your Clocks Back Tonight: Daylight savings time begins on Sunday; don't forget to turn your clocks back and hour tonight!**

**2013 Mushroom, Wine and Beer Train:** to benefit the Mendocino County Museum; the signature event of Visit Mendocino County's 14th Annual Mushroom, and Beer Festival. After breakfast catered by of Willits, guests at both the Willits and Fort Bragg Skunk Train depots will board the Skunk Train to Camp Mendocino at 10 am, enjoying roving musicians, historians and sparkling beverages on the trip out.

At Camp Mendocino, nestled among the trees above the Noyo River, county winemakers and brewers will show off fine spirits, wines, beers and coffees. Guests will also enjoy a Mushroom Cook-Off Contest, with chefs (including Adam from Adam's Restaurant), preparing a selection of savory and sweet bites. Dishes will be accompanied by freshly baked bread from Emandal. Media celebrity judges will select the winning dishes.

Also on the schedule: mushroom walks with local mushroom expert Eric Schramm, cooking demonstrations by Nicholas Petti of Mendo Bistro, a discussion of "Mendocino Roots & Ridges: Wine Notes from America's Greenest Wine Region" by author Heidi Cusick Dickerson and photographer Tom Liden, music by Marcus McCallen, and more.

The return trip on the Skunk Train features more entertainment, delicious chocolates, port and Mendocino County brandy. Tickets are \$95. Info: www.MendocinoMuseum.org or 459-2736.

**The Grange Exchange:** "A community place for a yard sale." First Saturday of every month at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, from 9 am to 1 pm. Table for sellers, \$5 (can sell homemade items, new, used, collectibles, excess from your garden, etc.: "anything at all"). Free item table. Often homemade breakfast for sale. Reservations, info: Anna: 671-6995.

‘Love and Loss  
During the  
Holidays’

Phoenix Hospice presents a free workshop in Willits to help people during this holiday season who are coping with a loss in their lives, at 100 Sanhedrin Circle, from 2 to 5 pm.

"The end of year holidays often present special challenges for those who have experienced major losses due to death, divorce, moving, or job changes. At this time of the year scheduled for celebrating, many individuals may feel out of step, with a certain hollowness to the gaiety. The bereaved feel a heightened sense of loss and sadness. An empty seat at the table, a solitary presence in a home shared for many years, social activities now abandoned or changed - all may contribute to a desperate wish to somehow avoid the holidays altogether.

"Hospice offers community members the opportunity to explore feelings of personal loss in the context of the holiday season. Realistic goals and coping strategies will be presented. Finding new ways to move through this time of the year can honor both lost loved ones and survivors on the journey of healing."

"Love and Loss During the Holidays" will be facilitated by Roland Hulstein. This presentation is offered free of charge to all community members. For more information or pre-registration, call Linda at 456-3244.

Willits  
Community Brainstorm

WELL (Willits Economic Localization) is hosting a Community Potluck and Brainstorm on Sunday, November 10, beginning at 4 pm, at Little Lake Grange, School & Pine streets in Willits.

At 4 pm, we will enjoy a potluck with friends & neighbors. Please bring your own table-ware. We'll have a short time for announcements and election of WELL Coordinating Committee members.

From 4:45 to 6:15, we will share ideas in a "Talking Stick" Brainstorm:

What is your vision for Willits' future?  
What are your ideas for programs and priorities for WELL?

For the past nine years, WELL has worked to build a more locally sustainable Willits - to improve local food,

**Homebrew Day:** Home BREW (Brewing Research Engineers of Willits) hosts a free American Homebrewers Association "Learn to Homebrew Day" event. 10:30 am to 3 pm at Coast Hardware, 101 Barbara Lane. "We will be brewing an Oaked Imperial Stout you can make at home." Info: 456-7091 or willitshomebrew@yahoo.com. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

**Willits Photography Club Annual Show Artists Reception:** 12th annual show by members of the Willits Photography Club at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial. Dedicated to Ray Hansen, and including several images of Hansen's from Monument Valley. Show opens tonight with artists' reception from 7 to 9 pm and runs through November 30. Gallery is open Thursday and Friday from 4 to 7 pm and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3 pm.

**The Dumb Supper 2013:** an "All Souls Day" ritual to benefit for Phoenix Hospice, 7 pm at The Muse, 30 San Francisco Street. \$5 to \$20 donation for Hospice. Please arrive by 6:45; bring your own favorite plate, chalice or cup and spoon; wear deep rich colors. "The Dumb Supper" is a silent sharing of food, especially favorite foods - with the dearly departed dead. "You are invited to bring small remembrances and things to honor your dear ones - photos, heirlooms, or even a family tree. We will build family altars using these objects that you bring. They will be returned to you after the ceremony. You will be able to speak about your dear ones - about their photos and favorite foods - after the "bell" has rung, bringing the silent portion of the event to a close. We will have time together telling stories of our beloved dead." Participants are invited to bring any favorite foods - simple finger foods - of their departed beloveds: "as simple as a bar of chocolate, cookies, a bottle of beer, or as delicious as homemade cornbread." RSVP to Mana at 707 354-2475

Tuesday, November 5

**Election Day:** Polls at Willits City Hall and the Brooktrails Community Center are open from 8 am to 8 pm. Don't forget to vote. Drop off your mail-in ballots at the polling stations if not already mailed.

**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. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

Community  
spirit

At left, Allyn Noneman, director of the Willits Harrah Senior Center, accepts a check for \$1,500 from the Willits Lions Club, presented by member Bill Barker. "This is an awesome gift," Noneman said. "The Lions Club is just so faithful in supporting the center and our seniors. They have a love of our community, as the other service clubs do, too."

The \$1,500 was accumulated from various fundraisers Lions Club volunteers put on, Barker said. "We do put the money back into the community," he said. The gift will be put towards outreach for the center or transportation for seniors, Noneman said.

Left: Allyn Nonneman and Bill Barker  
Photo by Linda Posner

Wine, Kibble & Bids

3rd Annual Wine, Kibble & Bids Harvest Party: Saturday, November 2 in Carl Purdy Hall at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds to benefit the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County. Music by Majide. Full dinner with tri-tip or vegetarian option, with dessert bar and complimentary beverage. Early bird dinner seating begins at 4:30; serving continues until 6:30 p.m. With silent auction and quarter auction. \$22 adults; \$18 seniors; \$15; students; 6 and under are free. Info: 485-0123; hsmc@pacific.net or mendohumanesociety.com.

Saturday,  
November 2

energy, transportation, jobs, health, and emergency preparedness. We've held scores of forums and hands-on workshops, brought in guest speakers and films, organized farm tours, and given out seed grants. We established a Pay It Forward revolving loan fund to assist start-up or expanding "green" businesses. We promote and serve as a clearinghouse for localization activities in Willits and beyond.

Where are we headed? What is WELL's role and what are our next steps? What can you do to help? Please come on November 10 to contribute your ideas and energy to shape WELL's program for 2014.

For more information, contact Madge at 459-1493 or Holly at 459-0447.

- Madge Strong

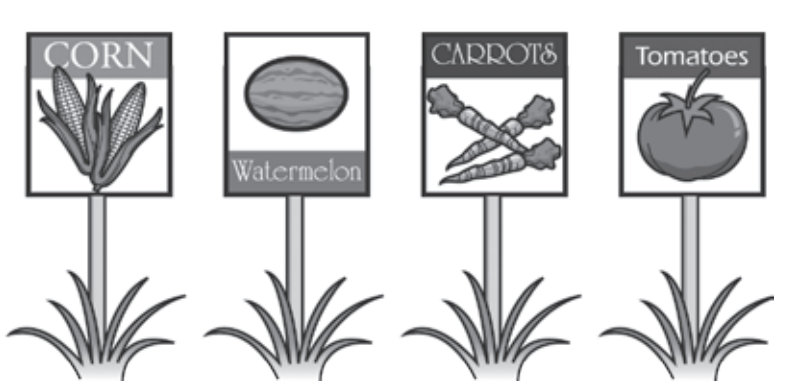
**Confronting the Controversies:** Biblical perspectives on tough issues. The community is invited to Tuesday night talks at the Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. Soup dinner at 5:30 pm; talks from 6 to 7:30 pm. Please RSVP: 459-2855.

Wednesday, November 6

**North County Women In Business Network meeting:** monthly first Wednesday meeting, featuring speaker Barbaralee Likier, independent insurance agent with Aflac, who will be speaking on the Affordable Care Act and how Aflac supplemental insurance can help with out-of-pocket expenses. 8:15 to 9:30 am (stay as long as you can) at Willits City Council Chambers, 111 East Commercial Street. Free to Willits Chamber of Commerce members; \$5 to general public (first meeting is free). Bring a friend and your business cards. RSVPs requested: ncwib2012@gmail.com or 459.7910

**Mendocino County Museum:** Free admission on the first Wednesday of every month. 10 am to 4:30 pm. 400 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-2736 and www.mendocinomuseum.org.

**Seed Cleaning Workshop:** A free hands-on seed cleaning workshop hosted by the Long Valley Garden Club in Laytonville at 375 Harwood Road. With Gina Covina. From noon to 2 pm, starting with a potluck. Different kinds of seeds will be provided, but you can bring your own. Info: 984-6587.



Thursday, November 7

**Phoenix Hospice Holiday Bereavement Support Group:** "Love and



Veterans Day  
Breakfast

Willits American Legion Post 174 hosts a "Veterans' Breakfast" on Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, from 8 to 11 am, at the Legion Hall, North Main Street. Breakfast is free to all veterans, military and emergency response personnel, firefighters, law enforcement officers, and Boy & Girl Scouts.

Loss During the Holidays." is offered free of charge to help people during this holiday season who are coping with a loss in their lives. Facilitated by Roland Hulstein. 100 Sanhedrin Circle, from 2 to 5 pm. Info or to pre-register, call Linda at 456-3244. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Friday, November 8

**Soup & Dessert Luncheon:** at St. John's Lutheran Church, 24 Mill Creek Drive, from 11 am to 2 pm. Soups include: Split Pea, Chicken Dumpling, Clam Chowder, Gluten-Free Vegetable, Chili, and Tomato. \$7 for soup, bread and dessert. To go lunches available. Handcrafted gift items for sale. Drawing prizes include: \$200 gift card to Little River Inn; Thanksgiving basket, tea basket and necklace set by "Designs by Dorrie." Info: 459-2988.

**"Eleemosynary":** Opening night for the final play by award-winning playwright Lee Blessing premiered in 1985, and focuses on the family dynamics in the lives of three generations of women: a study of family relationships and the need we all have for connection and forgiveness. The grandmother, Dorothea, played by Anna Wilson, is a new age eccentric. Her brilliant daughter Artie, played by Mary Burns, is constantly on the run trying to escape this domineering mother and her responsibilities to her own daughter, Echo. Echo, played by Tara Logan, is trying to understand both of them and a whole lot of other things at the age of 16. ("Eleemosynary" is Echo's favorite word). "Eleemosynary" will be playing Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9, and then Thursday through Sunday the two following weekends. 7 pm on Thursdays; 8 pm on Fridays and Saturdays; 2 pm on Sundays. Tickets can be purchased in person at Goods' Shoppe, 56 South Main Street, or by calling WCT at 459-0895 to reserve by credit card.

**Latyrx:** the Bay Area's Lyrics Born and Lateef the Truthspeaker, performing as Latyrx, do a show tonight at Boomers in downtown Laytonville to support their first album together in 16 years, coming out November 5, called "The Second Album." "Lyrics Born and Lateef are co-founders of the Sole sides / Quantum crew that includes DJ Shadow and Blackalicious. Visit: www.audibletreats.com/latyrx. Info: 984-6534.

Saturday, November 9

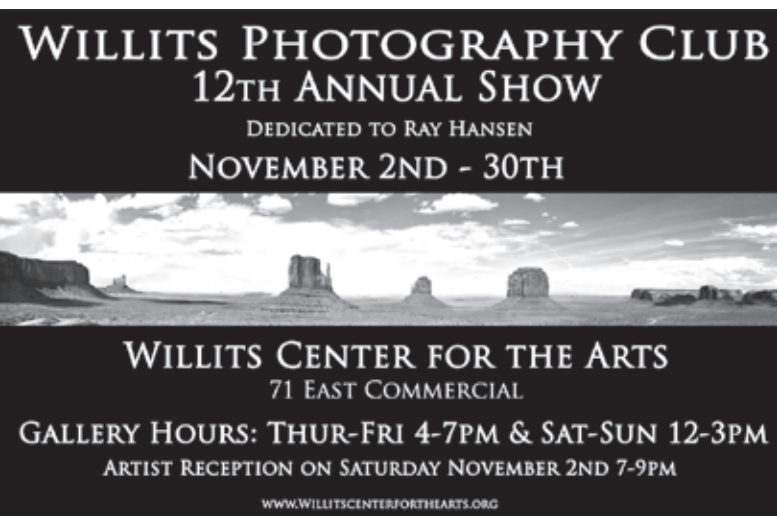
**"Eleemosynary":** second night at Willits Community Theatre's 2013 season. See Friday, November 8 listing for details.

Sunday, November 10

**WELL Community Potluck and Brainstorm:** Hosted by Willits Economic Localization at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, beginning at 4 pm with the potluck. Please bring your own tableware. Followed by a short time for announcements and election of WELL Coordinating Committee members. From 4:45 to 6:15, we will share ideas in a "Talking Stick" Brainstorm. Info: Madge at 459-1493 or Holly at 459-0447. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Ongoing  
Events

**Willits Photography Club Annual Show:** 12th annual show by members of the Willits Photography Club at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Dedicated to Ray Hansen, and including several images of Hansen's from Monument Valley. Artists' reception on Saturday, November 2, from 7 to 9 pm. Show runs through November 30. Gallery is open Thursday and Friday from 4 to 7 pm and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3 pm.



**Day of the Dead Exhibit:** at the Willits Library, 390 E. Commercial Street. In honor of the Day of the Dead Mexican celebration on November 1 and 2, two Day of the Dead altars are on display through November 3. Library hours: Mondays (10 am to 6 pm), Tuesdays and Wednesdays (10 am to 8 pm), Thursdays (10 am to 5 pm), and Saturdays (10 am to 5 pm). Closed Sundays and Fridays. Info: 459-5908.

**Farmers Market at City Park:** Fall produce and more from area farmers, plus live music, flowers, crafts, baked goods, dinner and more. Last Thursdays at City Park: October 31, across from City Hall, from 3 to 6 pm. Farmers Market moves to Little Lake Grange starting in November.

**Willits Community Drum Circle:** 7 to 10 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Fridays. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932

**Open Mic at Shanachie Pub:** Every Wednesday at 8:40 pm. Sign-ups start at 3 pm.

Save the Date:

**Veterans Day Breakfast,** American Legion Hall, November 11  
**Trio of Trios Concert,** St. Francis Church, November 16  
**Town Hall Meeting,** City Hall, November 17  
**Blood Drive,** Little Lake Fire Station, November 22



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willitspower@willitsonline.com Fax: 707 459-6369



## Sober Grad Fall Raffle Basket

The crew is already hard at work, fundraising for the annual graduation-night party scheduled for June 2014. The basket, valued at \$500, is filled to the brim with all kinds of goodies and is being displayed all around town to encourage ticket purchase.

Tickets are available for \$1 each or six for \$5. Rachel Cash is in charge of moving the basket from business to business and can be contacted directly for ticket purchases at 354-0605.

Items in the basket include:

- Two Disneyland Hopper Tickets
- A Wolverine blanket
- Two Wolverine hats
- Two 'Super-Duper' stadium seats
- A water bottle
- Two thermal mugs
- Two candles
- Two animal toys
- A thermometer
- A photo and note cards by Dorothy Asbury
- One-month membership to It Takes Two to Tangle Gym
- Gift certificate to Main Street Music
- A pair of homemade ear warmers
- A football

**El Mexicano**

166

**Dinner For 2**

**\$19.95**

Each plate includes: 1 Burrito, 1 Enchilada and 1 Corn Taco with Rice and Beans and a small bean dip.

MUST PRESENT COUPON. EXCLUDES FRIDAYS. COUPON GOOD THROUGH 12/31/13

**(707) 459-5702**

Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

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Fashion Accessories

Located inside The Body Shoppe

**The Unique Boutique**

**621-3900**

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Where the love of learning grows

239 South Main Street • Willits

Morning & School Day Programs  
8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Spanish • Art • Journals • Circle Time  
Outside Play • Snacks • Group Activities  
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RoomToBloomPreschool.com 707-456-9743

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Changing the world one sandwich at a time.

**Ten Wood Street • Willits**  
**459-1434**

Open Mon. - Sat. 10am - 4pm

## Furry Friends Joyful Fluffy

Meet Fluffy, an available spayed female. She is a very active, super sweet and very beautiful Golden Retriever/Shepherd mix. We estimate her age to be 8 years old, but she does not act her age! Fluffy came to us as a wandering stray dog and, sadly, nobody claimed her. She loves to play ball, splash in the kiddy pool, and she is just an absolute joy to be with. Since she has already been spayed, she is ready to go to her new home today.

If interested in meeting Fluffy, or any of our other amazing adoptable dogs and cats, please come to the Ukiah Animal Shelter at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah during shelter hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 7 pm. To view photos and read bios of our adoptable dogs, please go to our adoption website: [www.pawstoadopt.com](http://www.pawstoadopt.com) or call Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 for more information.

Today, October 31, is the last day for our Kitten Extravaganza!, with a reduced adoption fee of \$30 per kitten or \$50 for two kittens, and half off the adoption fees for adult cats. Phone at the shelter: 463-4427.



Photo by Rod Coots



Photo by Jennifer Poole

The Glad Hatters of Willits – otherwise known as the “Red Hat Ladies” – enjoyed lunch at Adam’s Restaurant last Monday, filling the restaurant’s tables in their bright purple attire and lovely red hats. This ‘Red Hat Regalia’ is part of the Glad Hatters’ commitment to: red and purple for ladies over 50. The colors are inspired by a 1961 poem by poet Jenny Joseph entitled “Warning,” which starts: “When I am an old woman I shall wear purple; With a red hat which doesn’t go, and doesn’t suit me.”

The Willits group – actually there’s rumored to be three or four different “Red Hat Ladies” groups in the area – meets the third Monday of every month for lunch at restaurants chosen by the hostesses.

October’s hostesses were Patty Richardson and Darla Ivy, and “they did great,” said Glad Hatter Pam Shilling. “We had an unusually large turnout this month.”

Chef Adam Celaya opened his restaurant on Monday especially for the group of about 21 ladies, led by “Queen Mum” Pat Collins, who’s been queen for seven or eight years now. Shilling said.

Shilling, who dines at Adam’s Restaurant with her husband, said last week’s lunch was “just great.” “It was just a delight to have Adam open especially for us,” she said, “to have the opportunity for the gals to have lunch there.” Adam’s Restaurant is usually open for lunch Tuesdays through Sundays, from 11 am to 2 pm. Info: 456-9226.

A Benefit For

Willits Senior Center Outreach

**BAKED POTATO BAR**

Choose Your Favorite Toppings

**NOV. 1<sup>ST</sup> • 5:30-7 PM**

Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head Contest  
Create Your Own Entry From Home  
Prize for Best Dressed/Decorated Potato

**HARRAH SENIOR CENTER**  
1501 Baechtel Road • Willits

For tickets & information: 707-459-6826  
MEMBERS \$8 • NON-MEMBERS \$9 • 10 & Under \$5  
MEMBERSHIPS ONLY \$20 PER YEAR  
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The rest of  
**Bypass** | From Page 1

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

**Puzzle Answers**  
From Page 4

Answers: A spooky B costume C night D children  
Toonie Robs

The committee did recommend the council usher in a moratorium on new water connections and continue with studies to drill wells in the valley, according to a City Hall report.

Nobody knows for sure, but the city

has about 200 water hookups that are not being used. Madrigal expressed the city's need to “find a balance.”

“If everybody hooked up today, we would be in a real hurt,” Councilman Larry Stranske said.

Stranske called for the council to find a direction for solving Willits' water needs and stick to it.

City Building Inspector John Sherman said a study has been started to address the town's unused water hookups.

Interim City Planner Alan Falleri said developers are hesitant to pay a city application fee if they are not going to get water hookups.

Councilwoman Madge Strong cast the dissenting vote in the council's 4-1 vote to free up the process for developers.

The council also discussed and took several votes on initiatives city staff should pursue with the help of a hired water consultant.

“I think water conservation is the most cost-effective way to ‘quote unquote’ increase your water supply,” said Strong.

This summer, the city's water resources committee took a look at the city's water problems, but did not generate new solutions for the council to consider.

The committee did recommend the council usher in a moratorium on new water connections and continue with studies to drill wells in the valley, according to a City Hall report.

Nobody knows for sure, but the city

of the Howard Foundation, said the hospital is in discussions with leases for remaining uses of parcels he described as “interdependent” of the hospital. “We have been working on this for 15 years,” Herman said. “It is not something new.”

The city's practice has been to reject permits for new development that would use more water than four single-family dwellings, the number of dwelling units the California Environmental Quality Act allows without an environmental review process, a City Hall report stated.

“If this motion was to pass, you would be green lighting [new development] at staff level, but it would still come up here,” Mayor Holly Madrigal said.

Condolences

**Column**

OBITUARY

**Susan Shields**

Susan Shields of Laytonville, and of Laytonville's Mendocino County Observer newspaper, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, October 14, 2013. Susan's husband, Jim Shields, editor and publisher of the Observer, and her daughter, Jayma Shields, the Laytonville Health Staff Family Resource Center coordinator, are working to ensure the continuing publication of the Observer every Thursday. Susan's loss is also felt by son Jimmy and mother-in-law Lois Shields, as well as the community of Laytonville.

A memorial for Susan Shields is set for Saturday, November 2 from 1 to 4 pm at Harwood Hall in Laytonville. Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share. In lieu of flowers, the Shields request that donations be made in Susan's name to one of her favorite Mendocino County charities: SNAP (Spay and Neuter Assistance Program), P.O. Box 4, Talmage, CA 95481.

A tribute to Susan's life will be published in the October 31 issue of the Observer.

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

would not have started until the spring.” However, the winning bidder “may have wanted to do some sort of tree and brush removal before February,” he said.

At this point, it “could possibly take months” to get the mitigation project back out to bid.

Asked how long the mitigation work was expected to take, Frisbie said he wasn’t sure. The bid summary document describes the “total number of working days” as “2000.” Frisbie said an average number of work days for a whole year, not just a season, was normally around 250 to 260 work days.

Frisbie said Caltrans would also be talking to 23 companies that took out bid packages but did not return a bid, to find out why those companies did not bid on the project.

One reason might be addendums to the original bid package, the latest added in early October, due to “late comments” made by the Army Corps of Engineers and the North Coast Water Quality Control Board. “It’s possible that the late addendums could have caused some of the bidders to say, no I don’t have enough time,” Frisbie said.

The agencies will get another chance at making comments on any new bid proposal. Frisbie said Caltrans notified “all our permitting agencies” the bids were high on October 22, the day the agency opened the bids.

One of the tasks called for in the “mitigation planting, erosion” project is planting 800,000 native shrubs and trees. Other mitigations include planting native grasses, installing fencing along riparian areas along creeks, “especially in the areas where grazing is anticipated,” Frisbie said, and removing non-native invasive vegetation along streams.

Frisbie described one field next to a creek that will be slightly lowered, and the soil removed, so that during high water, the creek will overflow its banks and create seasonal wetlands. “Other areas will be graded so they form little natural temporary ponds, shallow wet areas in the winter seasons,” he said.

A separate phase of the mitigation plans is “longterm” management of the mitigation acreage, including management of cattle-grazing leases for those lands. Frisbie said Caltrans was still working on an agreement with the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District for that agency to take on this longterm management. “We anticipate this is all going to be worked out by next spring or summer,” he said.

Frisbie noted a little more than \$10 million was allocated at the March California Transportation Commission meeting this year to fund that longterm management work.

in city tap water.

“If it is at this level and below, it should not be a problem,” Wildflower said. Wildflower said even at several times the levels found, there is no threat to the community, unless high levels of haloacetic acid continued over time.

Water people call haloacetic acid “a disinfectant byproduct.” Printed information distributed by Little and Wildflower stated chlorine is the most common disinfectant used by water treatment plants.

Little and Wildflower’s handout explained that in water pipes or storage tanks, disinfectants such as chlorine react with organic matter.

The city will be billed \$126 per hour for time spent issuing the citation, and follow-up time, CDPH District Engineer Michelle Frederick told the city in a letter sent with the citation earlier this month.

Under CDPH regulations, a tank at Walker Road is sampled and tested quarterly. Recent test results were under the limit, but the citation was issued after those results were averaged with the results of a July test.

A makeover of the city’s water treatment plant is underway. The project began before the citation, and when completed, city water drinkers look to benefit.

“These will be very big advantages coming down the line,” Councilman Larry Stranske said.

Councilman Bruce Burton noted the city and council members have not been ignoring the problem. “We spent quite a bit of money on these [improvements],” Burton said.

Willits water treatment plant is operated by permit, plant manager J.C. England explained: “We have a permit that tells us how to operate the plant, and what is says – we do.”

Some community members spoke to the council about their concerns. Bernard Kamoroff asked council members if it could have been prevented. “Is this something that we could have prevented without building a new water plant?” he asked.

Little said the CDPH does not make recommendations about solving issues, but would support cost-effective solutions if it is helping fund a project.

Little and Wildflower said they can answer further questions from their office at 576-2415.

Council members voted on pursuing groundwater, conservation ordinances, creating a conservation program, dam raising studies and revising the city’s water rights.

Councilman Bruce Burton said he believes the Willits watershed, about 4,000 acres, needs to be developed to its full potential – then the town can have water forever.

“This watershed is a very unique asset for a city of this size to have,” Burton said, “I think we are looking way too narrow to say ‘we want to pop some holes in the valley.’”

A vote for all of the items written by city staff fell short 2-3, with Madrigal and Councilman Ron Orenstein supporting all five.

“We need to find another source of water for backup,” Orenstein said.

Councilmembers then tried to pass four of the items, less groundwater studies, but that motion garnered support from only Strong and Madrigal.

At the end, the council agreed to secure Willits water rights in the watershed.

Pg.8

Happy Halloween

Willits Weekly | October 31, 2013

Willits Weekly | October 31, 2013

Happy Halloween

Pg. 9



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# Congratulations Column



Today Sage and I celebrate nine beautiful years together. I am so grateful for our love! I love you; you are every reason, every hope and every dream I've ever had, and no matter what happens to us in the future, every day that we are together is the greatest day of my life! I will always be yours, and you will always be mine. Thank you for our beautiful family and giving me the most amazing son; I could not ask for anything more precious and special in this life! Today and every day I am GRATEFUL.



Paul and Diana Hosford happily celebrated their 36th year of marriage on Tuesday, October 29. They met in Northspur (halfway between Willits and Fort Bragg) when they were kids, and Paul instantly fell in love with Diana. They have grown into a very cute and loving couple who, somehow, have managed to work together at Sparetime Supply for more than 22 years. Congratulations, Paul and Diana, you are a great example of what a happily married couple looks like and a great example for all. We are proud to call you our parents!

— Andrew and Laurin Hosford



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# Community News

Heartwarming stories & local tidbits



Above: Steve Kesling, Nick Harrington, Billy Mayfield, Johnathan Lech, Jon Montez, Rocky Boat, Annelisa Beck, Jesus Alvarez, Lorenzo Ramirez and Lucas Glass.

A New WHS | A Willits Weekly four-part series

## Woodworking

'Learning to think and process!'

I bet “woodshop” wasn’t the first class that came to mind when you read that phrase, but Steve Kesling, current woodshop teacher at Willits High School, is proud to have that as his goal – and he is succeeding, especially with the new redo of the school’s shop.

Located at the southeast corner of the school in the building that used to house the auto shop classes, the wood shop’s new floor layout, spacious work stations and design allows for much more efficiency and convenience in the work room.

The new exhaust system is keeping the dust down, out of students’ eyes and off the floor. Kesling was happy to boast about it: “It’s so powerful, it could suck the paint off

the floor!” he laughed.

Kesling noted his appreciation to past Willits Unified School District Superintendent Debra Kubin and past WHS Principal Gordon Oslund who he credits with the program’s continuation and who helped to make this new workspace a reality though support of the school bond that helped fund the rebuild.

Helping to break in the classroom for its first full year of use, Kesling has four woodshop classes per day. Each class combines freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors all together, offering confidence-building to the older students and inspiration to the younger ones at the same time.

Expectations are high for all students, and projects and procedures are designed with safety, critical thinking and creativity in mind.

All students must complete three projects their first semester, each one building on the experience gained from using tools of the mind and tools in the workshop for the prior project.

Read the rest of **Woodshop** | Over on Page 11

Far left: The spacious interior of the new woodshop.  
Left: students work on their projects during class.

**BUD GARMAN**

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The rest of **Woodshop** | From Page 10

First, each student makes a sliding CD or book rack, comprised of dowels and bases. Students learn to use many of the hand and power machines to accomplish the task. Once that’s completed, students move on to the second project: a jewelry box.

This project teaches students how to make more difficult cuts, add hinges, create different types of joints, and more. Once the jewelry box is finished, students are ready for their third project: a table.

This is where things start to get trickier.

With the above goal – “Learning to think and process!” – in mind, for this project, Kesling offers students only some of the information needed to complete the project. He doesn’t tell them any actual dimensions, just that, of course, a table needs two legs, two shelves, and a minimum of at least three types of wood laminated together to make the board wider.

This really allows the student to start to have to think, plan, design, problem-solve and focus on finding their own answers, which will then allow them to complete their projects.

Once they have demonstrated success with the first three projects, students are able to move forward with designing and building a project of their own.

As with the progressively challenging projects before, more and more of the planning and forethought for the individual projects lies in the hands of the students, allowing them to use the knowledge and skills gained earlier.

Kesling noted his gratification in seeing the look of accomplishment on students’ faces when they complete a project, and how many past students, years and years later, can attest to still having projects they completed, displayed in their homes or with friends or family members.

(A personal note: At the time of the interview, I personally can account for three items made by past students of Kesling’s class which I still enjoy and use today!)

Kesling helps students understand the concept and consequences of the cost of materials and accuracy – helping them to see the truth in the old adage: “measure twice, cut once.” Students also learn appropriate conduct and necessary safety practices in the work room.

If you have a student who is interested in signing up for woodshop next year, call Willits High School at 459-7700 for more information.

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

to mark each of the historic buildings, and Chef Adam Celaya was on hand at Adam’s Restaurant (once the Willits Creamery) to serve some of his excellent clam chowder soup.

At each of the 10 stops along the way, students from Willits High School and Willits Charter School were there to cheer everyone on. Thanks to David Hulse-Stephens, counselor at Willits High and John Kirchiro, director of the Willits Charter School, who were also on hand for support.

Driving the route and bringing back walkers was Stacy Sharl, who once again drove the William Harrah Senior Center van to be sure everyone was safe and got a ride if they got tired. Thanks to all the other volunteers who helped along the way.

Maureen Moore and the staff of Willits Weekly, under the direction of Jennifer Poole, were great supports. They ran two wonderful articles about the walk.

Thanks for being such an important part of making Willits a healthy community for everyone who lives in the 95490 area.

This walk helped commemorate Willits’ 125th anniversary. The 16th walk will be held in May 2014 and will help kick off our next 125 years.

Our goal is to make Willits the healthiest small town in America.

If you’d like to help with future walks, contact Jed Diamond, co-founder of Willits Healthy Action Team (W.H.A.T.), at 459-5505 or email Jed@MenAlive.com. Hopefully by next year we’ll have more volunteers, and we can repaint the footprints along the way.

Walking with family and friends is wonderful. “Walking is a great adventure,” says poet Gary Snyder, “the first meditation, a practice of heartiness and soul primary to humankind.” Walking is the exact balance between spirit and humility.”

Thomas Jefferson summed it up this way: “Of all exercises walking is best.”

Jed Diamond, Willits

### Thank You

To the Editor:

On behalf of Willits Frontier Days, we would like to thank our community for supporting our 2nd annual Ranch Rodeo. Without your support we wouldn’t be able to continue this new and exciting event!

Thank you to John Ford Ranches, Emtech, Mariposa Market, Cooley Logging, Willits Redwood Company, Key Livestock, The Fonsen Family, The Mihelcics, Miner Trucking, J.D. Redhouse, Budweiser, and Flying S Hay Sales for sponsoring our events and providing cattle.

Thank you to McFarland Trucking and G&C Auto Body for sponsoring two of our teams, and to Rainbow Ag, Bobbie Yokum of Yokum’s Body Shop, Farm Supply, Buttercups Children’s Boutique, Tiger Lily’s Boutique, and Monkey Wrench for their donations.

Thank you to all of the people who helped make this event happen: Kathleen & Doug Goss, Mary Burgess, Diane Ford, Lee Persico, Bobbi Tilley, Art Cooley, Stelson Burgess, Robbie Burgess, Fred & Marcy Barry, Dan Arkelian, Mary Fonsen, Kiri Silva, Tracy LeGris, Tracy and Jeff Duncan, Matt Anderson, Ginger Fonsen, Marta & Chris Bartow, Mattie Pinon, Bill Rutler, Harold Potter, Lisa Wright, Dan Pinon and Cindy Mihelcic.

Thanks to Lilja Lamkin and Nakai Chilson for selling raffle tickets and to Willits Power Equipment for donating the wood for our raffle. Raffle tickets are still available at Willits Power Equipment and ER Energy, or contact Marcy Barry at 707-272-5395. We hope to see you again next year!

Thank you again for all your support,

Kiri Silva, for Willits Frontier Days

### Bypass: Not too late

To the Editor,

Twenty years ago I was privileged to be part of the gathering to save Headwaters Forest. At that time, we had cut 97 percent of our redwoods and were fighting to save some of the remaining 3 percent of old growth from liquidation to pay off junk bonds. On that day 6,000 people gathered and 1,000 crossed the line to be arrested. I am not one of those who wants to be arrested. It was enough to be there in solidarity and witness to those willing to put their bodies on the line for their convictions that redwoods

belong to all of us, not just the profiteers.

We face the same situation today. California has already lost 90 percent of our wetlands: it’s akin to losing 90 percent of our kidneys. And for what? Caltrans commissioned a study of a ground-level highway (with a Hwy 20 exit) in 2007. It would have needed 10 acres of wetlands instead of 50 and would have cost one-fourth as much. But something happened around 2008.

Inexplicably, after 20 to 50 years of careful planning, the project was redesigned with a super-size budget, 55,000 wick drains and no Environmental Impact Report (as is required by law). Suddenly there was a total disregard for existing laws covering wetlands and all the health and wealth involved in those ecosystems, a disregard for endangered Coho salmon runs, ancient Pomo village sites, over 2,000 ancient oaks, groves of native ash trees, and anything else of beauty. Caltrans tells us they’ll rebuild the wetlands when they are done. Everyone knows you cannot rebuild wetlands, any more than you can replace a redwood tree thousands of years old.

Those who saw this coming tried every legal means possible – court suits, education, and political meetings with congressmen, governors, supervisors and city councilmen. At every turn the regulatory agencies involved (the Army Corps of Engineers, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Department of Fish and Game) rolled over and granted Caltrans illegal exemptions for what amounts to taking a beautiful 50-acre ancient lake, pounding it with 55,000 wick drains, and turning it into a desert. As my friend Ellen Faulkner said so eloquently in court: “All we had left was our bodies to try to stop this terrible and irreversible waste.”

The Headwaters Forest action took years to organize. Here we have only had seven months to get the word out before our beautiful heritage is gone. I’m proud of the work hundreds of people in my community have accomplished so far, and want to reassure every one that no matter how grim the “northern interchange” site looks, it is not too late to go back to the pre-2008 plan. Remove the wick drains, rebuild and protect our wetlands, honor the village sites of the first inhabitants (this “lake” supported over 5,000 people in the not-too-distant past), and cherish the water, air, trees, salmon and birds that sustain us.

I was deeply moved by the significance of the gathering October 12. Between 100 and 200 people came – many prepared to be arrested, and many from far away. The realization took hold that this is not just about Willits and our valley. Caltrans faces pressure to mend their wasteful ways in every coastal California county.

There is the Smith River Valley project in Del Norte County and the fight to save Richardson Grove in Humboldt County to the north of us. To the south there is the negligence of thousands of faulty bolts used in defiance of all safety concerns on the Bay Bridge. This fight is huge and incredibly important.

It is not too late to remove the wick drains and build a safe and beautiful bypass that will meet traffic needs for the next 50 years. I hope you will join me in putting an end to the desertification of our precious valley.

Robin Leler, Willits

**Laurie Harris for School Board**

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## MCRCD looking for restoration projects

Landowners concerned about conservation may qualify for funding to improve their lands, while helping to restore fish habitat and water quality. In late September, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) co-hosted community meetings in Laytonville and Willits to present opportunities for properties to control sediment and improve fish habitat through watershed restoration projects.

Some follow-up site visits have already occurred to determine the next steps for projects to move forward. The projects are developed to fit the goals of your land management and also benefit water and salmon resources. MCRCD staff is available to meet with landowners to discuss potential projects.

If you are interested in discussing a project or have questions regarding what might be involved, please respond before December 1 for the next round of funding. For further information, contact Joe Scriven, fisheries biologist with MCRCD, at 462-3664.

In addition, the NRCS deadline for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is November 15. Timber and agricultural landowners interested in EQIP should call 468-9223 as soon as possible.

— Joe Scriven, MCRCD

**Willits Weekly**

707-972-7047



# A field trip to college

North County Center hosts tour for second-graders

"I want to go to this college," said one of the second-graders from Mrs. Myers' class at Brookside School who took a field trip to Mendocino College's new North County Center last week. "I want to take an art class," said another. "I want to go to the Army," said a third.

This class is – hopefully – the first of many groups of school children from the Willits area who will get the opportunity to tour their own hometown college center. The point, said Debra Polak, interim faculty coordinator for the North County Center, was not so much to get kids interested in Mendocino College specifically: "We want kids to see college in their future, whether they come to Mendocino College or go straight to UC Berkeley, or whatever they do."

Polak is also hopeful the young visitors will talk to their parents and their older brothers and sisters about their field trip, so that their whole family will feel like the new Mendocino College center is part of their community.

The kids walked down to the college, had a Q&A session with Polak and Mendocino College students of varying ages, had snacks on the patio, toured the computer lab, got their own Mendocino College bag, and had a visit to the "secret science lab" classroom behind the Mendocino County Museum.

Teacher Marette Myers approached Polak, who was a volunteer in Myers' class last year, with the request to do a tour. "I wanted my students to know that the college exists in our community and for them to find out what opportunities are available to them," Myers said. "When they see the building now, they'll say, 'Oh that's right, that's the college.'"

To start the Q&A, students were given college course catalogues to look at in pairs to see all the courses on offer. Myers said finding out about what types of classes they could take at college was a highlight of the trip. "They had amazing questions," she said. "I was surprised by how many questions they had about what they could study and what classes they could take."

"What is college about," one kid asked. He got multiple answers on the theme of it's

about your job, it's about what you want to do, and what classes you need to take to become "a teacher or a fireman or a doctor." "Is firemen and police the same class?" another kid asked. Robert, a returning college student pursuing a Fire Science degree, answered: "No, but they're both going to take some of the same classes: English, math and science."

"What do scientists do?" was another question. Cassie, a 2011 Willits High School graduate taking pediatrics classes to become a nurse or a doctor ("for kids like you," she said), said scientists did research, maybe on "a cure for cancer, or about rocks and trees."

"Do they have cooking classes?" "I'm glad you asked that question," Polak said, referring to Mendocino College's culinary arts program.

"What would I need to take to make video games," one student asked. "Computer classes," Polak said, "and you'd need to take science and arts classes, too."

Other questions were about classes to become a botanist, a gymnast or a dancer, and what classes someone interested in going into the Army might take.

Another highlight of the trip was the visit to Skip Beale's science and geology classroom in the museum complex. Because Thursday, October 17 was Earthquake Awareness Day, Beale did a mini-lecture on earthquakes and earthquake preparedness.

One student, Myers said, wanted to know "why we didn't put springs on the underground of buildings" to help them withstand earthquakes, and Beale told him: "There's some scientists working on that right now."

It was a big hit with the kids, Mrs. Myers said, to be in class with a real geologist.

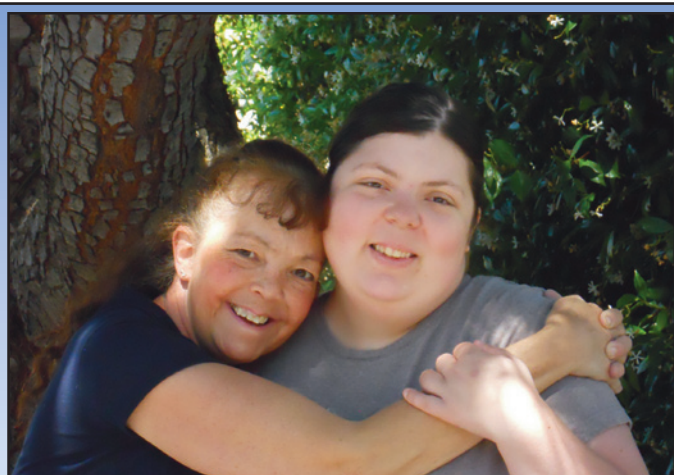
After the students walked back to their Brookside classroom, Myers said, they declared the trip to Mendocino College "the best field trip ever." "Of course, they say that after every field trip," Myers laughed. "But it was really nice for the children to go see something in their own community that maybe they didn't even know about yet."

– Jennifer Poole



Left: Second-grader Camden Henry contemplates his future college career. Right: Brookside teacher Marette Myers ushers her students into a North County Center classroom.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



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Kyra Cook, left, and Vanessa Mercado pause in front of the Mendocino College marker on the east side of the North County Center.

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