

CTE, budget,
lack of union
input

The Willits Unified School Board's January 10 meeting began with presentations from Willits High School's wood shop and agricultural mechanics teachers Brian Bowles and Becky Bowlds. They shared pictures of an impressive collection of students' practical and artistic projects – picnic tables, sawhorses, ATV trailers, birdhouses (used on bypass mitigation land), watering systems, gate

Read the rest of
Schools |
Over on Page 11

Supes appoint
citizens
oversight
committee
members

Seven community members were appointed to the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee on January 10 by the board of supervisors. Appointed were Ace Barash, MD (First District); Shannon Riley (Second District); Jed Diamond (Third District); Mark Mertle (Fourth District) and Ross Liberty (Fifth District).

In addition, supervisors appointed Behavioral Health Recovery Services Advisory Board Chairman Jan McGourty to represent the county's mental health advisory board on the oversight committee, and Donna Michel to represent the Mendocino County chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Read the rest of
Oversight |
Over on Page 13

AshBritt lifts
bid protest,
debris work
to continue

AshBritt Environmental, a Florida-based company specializing in disaster relief operations, has withdrawn a bid protest filed with the U.S. Governmental Accountability Office on January 9. With the withdrawal of the bid protest Monday night, January 15, two companies, ECC and Ceres, were given notices to proceed on fire debris removal work in Northern California.

“Expect to see crews

Read the rest of
AshBritt |
Over on Page 11



The list is plentiful for items to be auctioned off during the 2018 Willits Rotary Club crab feed, including, from left: a set of cobalt blue kitchen jars, held by Rotarian Jolene Carrillo; a garden basket with bulbs and more; and a canvas Mariposa Market tote filled with natural goodies, held by Rotarian Jenny Senter. Below: Rotarians aren't crabby – they're excited for the upcoming feed! – including, from left: Jennv Senter, Jolene Carrillo and Ann Alumbaugh, posing with the Senior Center's Dorothy Roediger.



Photos by
Maureen
Moore

Willits Rotary Club holds annual crab and pasta feed this
Saturday at Willits Community Center

secure 500 pounds of fresh crab from Fort Bragg's Cahto Fisheries, despite the overall scarcity of the delicacy, for their annual Crab Feed.

The feed will be held this Saturday, January 20, at 6 p.m. at the Willits Community Center. Tickets cost \$50 per person and will reserve the ticket holder a plate filled with all-you-can-eat crab, salad, bread, and this year, two kinds of pasta: macaroni and baked ziti.

Dinner will be accompanied by a no-host bar and entertainment in the form of three kinds of auctions and the Bassics, who will be providing the live music. Bidders

can participate in a quarter auction, a live auction, and a silent auction for a host of goodies donated by community members and local business owners, too.

Some of the quarter auction items will include themed baskets like one for Valentine's Day, one for the garden, and a game night assortment. Live auction items will include a seven-night stay, from April 27 to May 4, at "The Ridge Tahoe," a two-bedroom suite in Lake Tahoe. Northern Aggregates donated a 23-ton transfer load of base rock; Parlin Forks donated a redwood picnic table; and Jim Pinches of Laytonville Disposal Septic Service donated a septic pump service, too. Silent auction

Read the rest of **Crabby** | *Over on Page 10*



Tons of choices will be available for bid during the quarter, live and silent auctions at the Willits Rotary Club Crab Feed this Saturday. Above, left: Dorothy Roediger holds one of her hand-crafted corrugated sunflowers. Above, right: A gift certificate for a seven-night stay at Lake Tahoe. Far left: Valentine's Day and game night-themed baskets. Ann Alumbaugh holds a "It's Time for Wine" sign donated by Willits Furniture Center.

North Main parking to shrink near WHS

The Willits City Council voted last week to prohibit parking along North Main Street adjacent to Willits High School in an effort to ensure safe use of the new bike lanes installed there.

The move will restrict parking on both the west and east side of the street, and came at the urging of the California Department of Transportation, which said allowing parking there could be a safety hazard, according to interim City

Read the rest of
Parking |
Over on Page 11

Removal of 13 trees on Main Street starts Sunday

**Submitted by Cori Reed,
for Caltrans**

The first phase of the Willits Relinquishment project will launch on Sunday, January 21. Thirteen trees will be removed on Main Street in advance of the sidewalk replacement project to begin late spring 2018.

The tree work is being scheduled in advance of the bird nesting season as to not disrupt wildlife. The trees will be removed over two days with work taking place on two consecutive Sundays, January 21 and 28 to minimize disruption to businesses and motorists.

Residents will notice tree stumps remaining for a period of time until the actual work on the sidewalk begins.

Caltrans worked collaboratively with the City of Willits in identifying

Read the rest of
Trees |
Over on Page 11

Gauging the rain year

By Jackie Cobbs

Even with the rain received on Monday, the total precipitation for this year for the Willits area is depressingly low. The rain year is typically measured from October 1 to September 20, and this rain year has brought only 10 to 15 inches of rain, depending on where it's being measured in Willits.

The snow pack in the Sierras isn't looking very promising either, with only 16 percent of the normal amount as of January 16, according to the California Department of Water Resources. Frank Gehrke, chief of the California Cooperative Snow Surveys

Read the rest of **Rain** |
Over on Page 10

City news and ideas for 2018

By Mayor Madge Strong

At the Willits City Council's December meeting, I was selected to become mayor and Saprina Rodriguez to be vice mayor for the next year. (This is an annual process of the five council members choosing a mayor and vice mayor.)

The mayor chairs the meetings, makes committee assignments, signs documents, and works with staff on finance review and planning agendas. Though the mayor has no extra authority on setting policies, I do hope to help direct us in prioritizing and involving the public in key issues. A few of my initial thoughts:

- Staffing: City Council is in the process of selecting a new city manager to replace Adrienne Moore. The city manager directs and hires all other staff (currently with several key vacancies, including finance director).

- Emergency Planning: The October fires pointed out the need to review the city's emergency preparedness, working with other relevant agencies. Concerns include food supply, power and communications, evacuation alerts and routes, etc.

- Land Use Planning: In 2018 we'll be assessing how the city's new medical cannabis ordinance is working. Staff is currently working on an ordinance regarding long-standing vacant commercial buildings. Soon we need to adopt our state-required housing element and, as time permits, an updated city-wide general plan. In December the council also directed staff to look at options for addressing concerns raised by mobile home park residents.

- Economic Development: A newly formed Willits Tourism Board (initiated by Saprina Rodriguez), the

Willits Chamber of Commerce, WELL and others are seeking ways to attract tourists into town. I want us to also "go local," doing what we can to support local food (e.g. farmers market), business enterprises, and our cultural and artisan communities.

- "Greening" the city: One goal is to solarize power at the sewage treatment plant; another, to improve water and energy conservation in city operations. Other ideas might include a heritage tree ordinance; revisiting the plastic bag ordinance; banning Styrofoam containers; or banning herbicide use. Make our streams salmon- and people-friendly.

- Transportation: Caltrans will be doing some tree removal and trimming on Main Street in January – unfortunately required for the relinquishment project. (Trees were assessed jointly with Caltrans, city staff and nurseryman Dave Watts for the least damage.) Infrastructure and sidewalk upgrades will be phased in during spring and summer, with attention to minimizing impacts on residents and merchants. Final repaving is expected in 2019. Meanwhile, we should continue seeking funds for better pedestrian and bike ways and, long-range, better north-south connections such as the Baechtlet-Railroad Avenue corridor and Locust to Highway 20.

After five years on City Council, I know that the wheels often turn slowly, but let's see what we can accomplish in the next year.

I welcome ideas from the community. Contact me at 459-1493 or email (mstrong@willitsonline.com or mstrong@cityofwillits.org) any time. And people are always welcome to speak during public comment at council meetings, the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, 6:30 pm at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. Next meeting: Wednesday, January 24.

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Thanks to litter clean-up crew

To the Editor:

Just want to give a big, public Thank You to the group of volunteers who cleaned up the trash on Sherwood Road Saturday morning. I am so very appreciative.

Also just want to explore my fellow Brooktrails residents to please keep the road free of litter, and encourage your guests to do the same. We live in such a beautiful place – please do not trash your own neighborhood. Please let's try to keep it clean.

Thank you again – it looks 100 percent better!

Caroline Muller, Brooktrails

Forever grateful

To the Editor:

Regrettably, I have no idea who the specific individuals are who should be thanked. It surely wasn't gremlins who stripped Sherwood Road of all ugly trash and litter last weekend. No, it was some pretty amazing hardworking souls who answered the clarion call from Book Juggler Greta Kanne to meet Saturday.

I understand Sheriff Tom Allman had a hand in this endeavor by providing not only the necessary supplies, but also a deputy to warn motorists volunteers were working roadside. As I drove to town Sunday, the only calling cards remaining were bright orange plastic bags filled with litter and ready for pick-up.

So there you have it – Greta Kanne and Tom Allman – but if you know of anyone else who gave up their leisure time that beautiful January 13 Saturday, please buy them a cup of chai tea, a beer, or an ice cream cone and say thank you. Sherwood Road is absolutely gorgeous now.

Gail Richards, Willits

WTA input to school plan

To the Editor:

In Superintendent Mark Westerburg's article in the December 21, 2017 Willits Weekly, the impression was given that the teachers were instrumental in coming up with the plan to reconfigure the schools. While we agree that certainly there are areas where improvement is needed, we have not been a part of the process of developing this plan, and we have not taken a position on the plan.

A group of teachers were invited to a meeting where the superintendent presented his ideas, his plan, and the teachers were asked to go forth and share the ideas with colleagues. It has come to the attention of Willits Teachers Association members that community members feel that teachers were part of the development and endorsement of reconfiguring the schools. This is not correct.

We have been reviewing the plan as presented. We had a meeting on a recent Friday after school at each elementary school where we explored the pros and cons, listed questions, and looked at ways to improve our schools. We will also be surveying our membership and will have another meeting open to all WTA members to discuss the proposed plan. In this way, we hope to have a great amount of input into how best to serve the needs of our students.

We certainly feel that this important decision to reconfigure our elementary schools should involve extensive outreach, close consideration, and listening to the thoughts of all stakeholders of the Willits community. Until that time, WTA would like the board and superintendent to avoid decisions which could have significant consequences pertaining to the education of our students and community.

John Haschak, president,
Willits Teachers Association

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

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Above, from left: Jordan Ugula introduces the Cultural Dance Club. Devon Difazio as the Mad Hatter shares a secret with Hope Curtis as Alice in a scene from "Alice in Wonderland." Billy Hetherington, the WCS drama teacher, emcees the "Spice of Life" Variety Show at the Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences. Ellymae Skinner plays flute in the Ensemble. At right: Erin Mendoza conducts her beginning choir group with Lacey Maxwell, Audrey Sherf, Kara Wilkes, Cloey Sierra and Lilly Michels.

Artistic Variety

WCS students show that they can sing, dance, play, act – and cook

Variety is the spice of life, and the "Spice of Life" Variety Show at the Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences last weekend was no exception. From hard rock to English country dance to choral ensemble to musical theater to a glimpse at the upcoming production of "Alice in Wonderland" and finally a presentation of finger foods from the school's culinary classes, the show soldiered on despite the decimation of the participants due to the onslaught of the flu virus.

The show was produced in the newly named Imaginarium Theatre at the charter school, which is going through a Renaissance in the creative arts. The recent acquisition of talented dynamic chef, Charlie Widner, has allowed the school to add culinary arts classes to the regular and Friday Academy curriculum. Friday Academy allows people with knowledge of various disciplines and arts to teach elective classes one day a week as a supplement to regular and required weekly courses.

As Jennifer Lockwood, director of the school, explained the event, "This is the culmination of all of our arts and music and theater classes coming together for a showcase. But it is also a culinary event. At intermission we're going to have hors d'oeuvres from the culinary classes. This is Charlie Widner's second year here. After we have served both breakfast and lunch to both schools, she starts culinary classes with the students and at Friday Academy. We are meeting with Mendocino County to possibly start a CTE (Career Technical Education) program for our high school students next year so they will actually be able to walk away with a culinary certificate that they can use to procure work. So this is a combination music, theater and culinary presentation tonight. It's been kind of rough due to so many of our students with the flu, but our students are troopers and they pulled it together."

Billy Hetherington, theater arts instructor, added, "We have two scenes tonight from our upcoming "Alice in Wonderland": the Mad Hatter Tea Party, and the Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum scene. The play is opening Friday, January 26 and runs through Sunday, January 28. Shows are at 7 pm on Friday and Saturday and at 2 pm on Sunday. Pre-sale tickets are on sale now at the Charter School. It's our own little take on how the world of Alice parallels the lives of

Read the rest of
Variety | Over on Page 10



Above, left: Audrey Sherf carefully follows the steps to an English country dance. Above, right: Instructor Erin Mendoza stands in with the Choral Ensemble with Cloey Sierra, Liam Crane and Chloe Breen.

At left: Chef and culinary instructor Charlie Widner serves the appetizers.

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BOARDWALK	ISLAND	SEAGULL	SWIMSUIT
CONCH	JELLYFISH	SHELLS	TAFFY
COVER UP	KITES	SHORE	TAN
CRAB	LIFEGUARD	SNORKLE	TIDAL
CURRENT	OCEAN	STARFISH	TOWELS
DOCK	PIER	SUNGLASSES	VOLLEYBALL
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CLUES ACROSS

- Methaqualone pill (slang)
- Religious service
- Woodland gods (Greek myth.)
- 'Where Is My Mind?' rockers
- Deliberately contrary states of affairs
- Infection of the voice
- 'Great Expectations' character
- Becomes a butterfly
- Spoke
- Tennis player Sharapova
- Midway between northeast and east
- Afrikaans
- No instruction set computing
- Pacific Standard Time
- Relaxing places
- Confiscates
- Gladys Knight's fellow performers
- Witnesses
- Taking place in a series
- Satisfy

- Freshwater fish of N. America
- Laments
- 'Girls' creator Dunham
- Indian title of respect
- Cocoa plum
- Network of nerve cells
- Link together in a chain
- Cool 70s crew 'The ___ Squad'
- Persons engaging in energetic pursuits
- Accumulation of glacial debris
- Fastened
- A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- Whiskey and bread are two
- Scottish tax

CLUES DOWN

- Rope used to lasso
- Idyllic places
- Field force unit
- Guitar great Clapton
- Slang for type of skirt
- Figure skating jump
- Innocent
- Mathematical ratio

- Slowly drinks
- Line where edges meet
- Offices of the pope
- Dry or withered
- '___ the Man' Musical
- Difficult situations
- Greek goddess of discord
- Marked by smartness in dress and manners
- Habitat
- Annoy constantly
- Full of life
- Great energy
- BBQ and soy are two
- Virtuous
- Not fatty
- Foes
- Merchandiser
- Dishonest scheme
- Repents
- Protective crust
- Native American people
- Any place of bliss or delight
- Bring up
- Birds
- Geological times
- Consumed

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

January 8 to January 14

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 181 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

January 8

8:46 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1300 block of South Main Street.

9:05 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

11:53 am: ELLER, Kenneth Wayne (51) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street and was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole.

4:42 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of Wood Street.

5:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious item in the 200 block of South Main Street.

January 9

12:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 500 block of Coast Street.

1:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 19000 block of North Highway 101.

1:54 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

3:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Spruce Street and Redwood Avenue.

6:35 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of Coast Street.

7:27 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

January 10

7:30 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 200 block of North Main Street.

8:11 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 3000 block of Primrose Drive.

12:25 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

1:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

2:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of South Main Street.

2:52 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 1500 block of Baechtel Road.

8:48 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

January 11

5:48 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal dumping near the intersection of East San Francisco Avenue and Railroad Avenue.

5:50 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Franklin Avenue.

6 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

1:04 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

2:45 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 300 block of Sequoia Boulevard.

2:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 200 block of North Main Street.

4:28 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

5:57 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8 pm: SCHWINDT, Kim Leon (43) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of South Main Street following a domestic disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 273.6 PC (Violation of Protective Order). According to the Mendocino County Jail booking log, Schwindt was also arrested by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office on January 11 at 3:20 am on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery.

8:48 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.

January 12

6:08 am: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of Alder Court.

11:08 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

January 13

4:05 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Holly Street.

8:05 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 21000 block of Meadowbrook Drive.

5:00 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of Bonnie Lane.

11:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

January 14

3:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:14 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of Creekside Court.

5:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

8:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of Robert Drive.

9:25 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of North Main Street.

10:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of West Oak Avenue and South Main Street.

10:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE CALLS

January 10 to January 16

by LLFD Training Chief Eric Alvarez

01-10-2018 (Highway 101, mile marker 56)

Hazardous Condition: reports of power lines down across all four lanes of the highway. Upon arrival it was confirmed power lines were down. Little Lake Fire contacted PG&E. PG&E arrived and secured the power and cut the wires. The wires were then cleared from the roadway. Engine 5485 provided traffic control for the incident. 12 firefighters responded for service.

01-12-18 (North Highway 101)

Ambulance Assist: Little Lake Fire arrived on scene and assisted medic unit currently at scene. Fire assisted the ambulance with bringing the patient down the stairs as well as patient loading into the ambulance. 6 firefighters responded for service.

01-14-18 (Center Valley Road)

Vehicle Accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported traffic accident on Center Valley Road.

Upon arrival a vehicle was observed on its side in a ditch. Both occupants had self-extricated from the vehicle with the assistance of a passerby. The medic unit on scene checked and cleared both occupants of injuries at scene. Little Lake

Read the rest of **LLFD** | Over on Page 10



Above, from left: Bearded dragons, as seen here, are easy to care for and are very social. The new owners of Fish Out of Water pose with their families: Jim Colyar (Melissa's partner), Melissa Marsh, Devon Colyar (age 7), Shayla Torres (Gino's wife), Landon Torres (age 2), and Gino Torres. A curious puffer fish swims over to say "hello." Below: Melissa Marsh and Uno the macaw show each other some love.



Unique Pets

New pet shop,
Fish Out of Water,
offers unusual
variety of animals

If you want take home a cat or a dog for a pet, Melissa Marsh, owner of the new Fish Out of Water pet shop in Willits, suggests you visit one of our local animal shelters. "I think it's irresponsible to sell dogs and cats due to the numbers that are in shelters," she said. If you want information on the care and feeding of one of these animals, Marsh is available to consult without charge. She loves to pass on her knowledge – especially when it results in a better life for the pet and the pet owner – knowledge she obtained through her 10 years as a veterinary assistant in Laytonville.

Marsh and her colleague, reptile / spider expert Gino Torres, love their animals and want to pass on their enthusiasm to others, which is one of the reasons she opened the store when she heard that the previous owner was selling the business. Marsh named the business after a book by Helen Palmer (aka "Mrs. Dr. Seuss") with pictures by the famous illustrator, P. D. Eastman, which has been an integral part of children's personal lore for decades. Many of us have read the tale of a young boy who was told not to overfeed his goldfish, advice which he immediately ignored, resulting in the necessity for larger and larger fish tanks.

Fish Out of Water offers many varieties of animal companions, from little, furry rats and hamsters, to colorful fish and other aquatic beings, and several kinds of reptiles to large (and growing) tarantulas. And then there are the birds, including a huge macaw, Uno, who is Marsh's best friend in the shop. Uno, when he is not in his sleeping box, greets the customers with loud "auks," spreading his 3-foot wingspan in a display of brilliant color. "We've fallen in love with each other. I've only had him for three months, and we have bonded. I couldn't sell him," explained Marsh.

Marsh's interspecies bond with Uno says much about the reason that people have pets. "It seems everyone has a pet story from when they were young. They can talk to pets, even when no one else has time to talk to

them. It's about companionship and learning responsibility. Pet stores are something you don't find often anymore," Marsh. "I think it's important that kids have pets and keep that tradition alive."

Entering the shop, you will first see most of the birds, including cockatiels and lovebirds. "Sometimes people like to have them [lovebirds] singly because when you pair them, they are very hard to train because they will relate to each other and not the trainer, but I think it's better to have them in pairs so they don't get lonely," explained Marsh.

There is also a wide variety of supplies and pet toys available for purchase at Fish Out of Water. In the next room, to the right, are the aquatic animals, turtles and fish of many varieties. Also, hamsters and rats can be found, as well as crickets and other feeders for the snakes and spiders, which are in the large glass enclosures which emulate their native environments. Reptile and spider expert Torres takes care of those departments, with his extensive knowledge of the habits and needs of these types of animals.

"Bearded dragons [lizards] are our best-selling pet," Marsh said, "because they are easy to care for and they're very social. They just like to hang out on your shoulder. We call them the 'dogs of lizards,' because they want your attention."

Torres deftly handles his reptiles and tarantulas as he talks lovingly about his animals. "This is a blue beauty rat snake. They can reach about 12 to 14 feet. They eat large rats and chickens in the wild. They really like birds because they are arboreal."

He then proceeds to talk about "the mother of dragons," a large bearded dragon named Peaches, who is in the process of mating with James, a smaller dragon. "She is the mother to all of the dragons in the shop. She is a

Read the rest of **Unique** | Over on Page 10



Above, from left: The new pet shop offers a full array of pet supplies. These colorful snakes are easy to care for. At right: Tropical plants for sale can be seen through the window of the new pet shop, Fish Out of Water. Below, from left: Friendly rats await a new home. A hamster nibbles on an orange slice.



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WCA Willits Center for the Arts

Grand Opening March 3
**THE ANNUAL
ART AUCTION
IS BACK!**
Final Bid Party March 24

This important fund raiser keeps the arts alive in our community and brings vibrant and relevant shows to your art center. Your participation and generous donations continue to bring performance, dance, poetry and visual arts to our community.

DONATE TO THE AUCTION!
If you want to donate goods, services or art for this gala event, call Lindsey at 459-1726 or email: manager@willitscenterforthearts.org

**WILLITS
CENTER FOR THE ARTS**
71 E. Commercial St
PO BOX 503, Willits, CA 95490

HARRAH SENIOR CENTER THRIFT STORE

SEVING THE COMMUNITY
— SINCE 1974 —

Furniture, collector dolls, paintings, prints and books. The Thrift Store has anything from china to silverware and formal dresses.

Best of all reasonable prices.

Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

We do pick up donations if you are unable to bring them in.
Please call 707-459-2176 to make arrangements.

Call for more information
459-6826 • 1501 Baechtel Road

Thursday, January 18

Hot Topics in Diabetes: Howard Hospital's Clinical Nutrition Manager Annie Frassinello speaks on "New Year New Me. How to make New Year's resolutions stick." Thursday, January 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Seabiscuit Conference Room, Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. RSVP: Dietitian's Office: 456-3132.

"Dr. Strangelove": the Now and Then Film Series at the Grange presents "Dr. Strangelove," or "How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb," the 1964 political black comedy film by Stanley Kubrick that satirizes the Cold War fears of a nuclear conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States. Thursday, January 18 at 7 pm. 291 School Street. "Come at 6:30 pm to see our trailers and short films; serving heirloom organic popcorn with real organic butter; \$5 or more donation will be used to support our film series."

Shanachie Pub: Movie Night with Rygg. Bartender and movie buff Rygg plays movies of all genres "that may surprise, delight or frighten – an old favorite or possibly a new as yet undiscovered favorite with friends." Thursday, January 18 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, January 19

Shanachie Pub: IllumiGnosis, a genre-bending psychedelic power trio from Sanatville, CA, plays Heavy Metal, Funk, Reggae, World Music and Psychedelic Improv: a mix of originals and covers. Friday, January 19 at 9 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, January 20

Glitter Video Casting Call: CPG Studios is filming a fun and silly video on Saturday, January 20, and is looking for actors and off-camera help. "If you want to have a fun time for a few hours, contact us ASAP at 888-833-7501 or cp@cpacific.net. We are turning the old Starchild Chocolate building into a video set for one day. We are filling it up with fake glittered cakes, donuts, cookies, and candies! Lunch provided afterward." See article elsewhere on the Calendar page for more details about available roles.

Willits Rotary Club Annual Crab Fest: All you can eat crab, pasta, salad and French bread, hosted by the Willits Rotary Club. Plus no host bar, Quarter Action, and music by The Basics. All proceeds support the Willits Senior Center and the Willits High School Scholarship Fund. Saturday, January 20 at 6 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. \$50 per person. Tickets available at Willits Furniture, Willits Senior Center, and TriCounties Bank. Info: Ann Alumbaugh: 459-1440.

Shanachie Pub: Marty's Garden, psychedelic boogaloo and backwoods world beat banjo jazz, featuring banjo wizard Tracy Hui aka Pants Da Buzzard of Them Travelin' Birds, bassist Jonas Blume of Los Trabadox, and Patrick Monin of the Northgate Jazz Club Thailand. Saturday, January 20 at 9 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, January 21

"Cannatourism in Mendocino": speakers, round table discussion and networking to boost the economy of Willits and the area, to encourage and promote local businesses

through channels of tourism. Sunday, January 21 from 11 am to 4 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Keynote speaker is Brian Applegarth of the California Cannabis Tourism Association; other speakers include: Nikki Lastreto & Swami of Swami Select; Richard Jergensen - Cannabis Culture Collection; Matt of Humboldt



Above: Jenny Senter, Jolene Carrillo, Ann Alumbaugh and Dorothy Roediger want to see you at the Willits Rotary Crab Feed!

Cannabis Tours; and Cally Dym of the Mendocino County Promotional Alliance. Tickets: \$20. All are welcome. Snacks, lunch, tea and coffee for sale, or bring your own brown bag lunch. "Cannabis Tourism can be a saving grace for our ailing local (countywide) economy. We will meet to see who the players are, what legislation can help or hinder this fledgling industry, what agencies are available to help and then - actions forward." To register or sign up for a table display: 459-6362.

Monday, January 22

Clothes Closet Give Away: presented by Mendocino County Youth Project for families affected by the Redwood fire and families with teens. Monday, January 22 from 3 to 7 pm at the MCYP office in the Muse Studio, 30 East San Francisco Avenue (purple fence behind Peter's Chinese parking lot complex). Also, sleeping gear, suitcases, school supplies and hygiene products. Accepting donations for this event at Sanhedrin High School, 120 North Main Street, 8:30 to 11:30 am, Mondays through Friday through January 19. Info: Aurelie Clivaz at 707-489-1258 or aclivaz@mcyp.org.

Tuesday, January 23

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:

"The Post," "The Shape of Water," and "Paddington 2." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Retired Teachers Lunch: Mendocino Division 55 of the California Retired

Teachers Association meets Tuesday, January 23 in Willits for an "all you can eat" buffet at Szechuan Asian Restaurant at 47 East Mendocino Avenue. Program: Mark Westerburg, superintendent, Willits Unified School District. 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. \$16 (includes tip). Reservations required by January 20. Contact: edtepas47@gmail.com or 456-0908. Non-member retirees get a free lunch!

Thursday, January 25

CERT Basic Training: Are you prepared? Get free CERT – Community Emergency Response Team – training at CalFire Howard Forest Station, 17501 Highway 101, Willits. Saturdays, January 25, February 3 and February 10 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. CERT Training is "a fun and empowering way to learn disaster preparedness, survival skills, rescuer safety, teamwork, fire safety and suppression, basic disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue" Get knowledge, skills and tools to help support yourself, friends, neighbors and family in times of disaster. Sponsored by Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services, Redwood Ford and NCO Volunteer Network. Contact NCO to register: 707-462-1959 or kharrison@ncoinc.org.

Willits Bridge: All levels welcome to come play bridge. Willits Library Conference Room. Minilesson by teacher Donna Vaiano from 4:30 to 5 pm; game begins at 5 pm. Information: Donna, 459-9035.

Diabetes Management Classes: Howard Hospital's Clinical Nutrition Manager Annie Frassinello leads another series of Thursday evening classes related to diabetes topics. Thursday, January 25, the class topic is "Nutritional Class #2," and the classes continue on Thursday, February 1 with "Meds, Monitoring and Activities" and on Thursday, February 8 with "Coping and Reducing Risks." From 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Seabiscuit Conference Room, Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. RSVP: Dietitian's Office: 456-3132.

Friday, January 26

"Alice in Wonderland": Willits Charter School's dramatic production of Lewis Carroll's fantasy directed by Billy Hetherington. Friday, January 26 at 7 pm, Saturday, January 27 at 7 pm, and Sunday, January 28 at 2 pm. \$10 adults, \$5 students. Advance tickets available at the WCS office, 1431 South Main Street.

Shanachie Pub: Cosmic Family Band – "an original psychedelic family band that's happy to play music and extend Peace, Love and Positivity." Friday, January 26 at 9 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194. Visit www.facebook.com/Cosmic-Family-Music-128751681189230/

Saturday, January 27

Cotton Dandee & Marjo in Covelo: "A Tea & Time Hoedown" on Saturday, January 27 from 2 to 4 pm at the Village Hearth, Covelo (back porch-style, weather permitting). Free show. All Ages Sing-Along, strum along, bring your uke. Kids Open Mic, tea & cookies (potluck style). Also at Brickhouse Coffee on Saturday, February 10, 2 to 4 pm. More info: www.cottondandee.com.

"Alice in Wonderland": Willits Charter School's dramatic production of Lewis Carroll's fantasy directed by Billy Hetherington. Saturday, January 27 at 7 pm. See Friday, January 26 listing for more details.

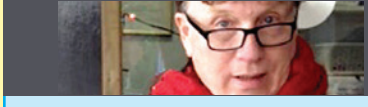
Shanachie Pub: Pick & Pull – "Old Time High Octane Acoustic Hillbilly Dance Music" featuring Fred - upright bass fiddle; Keith - guitar, mandolin, banjo, vocals; and other locals. Visit www.facebook.com/pickpullmusic. Saturday, January 27 at 9 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, January 28

"Alice in Wonderland": Willits Charter School's dramatic production of Lewis Carroll's fantasy

directed by Billy Hetherington. Final performance, Sunday, January 28 at 2 pm. See Friday, January 26 listing for more details.

COLUMN | At the Movies



'The Post'

The Story: When Daniel Ellsberg came back from Vietnam, he told Robert McNamara the war was not going well, and was in fact a stalemate. But the powers-that-were decided to ignore reality. Ellsberg, a security analyst for the Rand Corporation, stole the top secret report (the Pentagon Papers) he, and others, put together which outlined the history of our involvement in Indochina starting with Harry Truman. It was (and is) an unperturbed outline of lies told to the American people, and the pointless deaths of American servicemen- and Vietnamese civilians. The Pentagon Papers are at the center of this movie directed by Steven Spielberg, starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks, especially the impact of their publication on the history of the Washington Post and the First Amendment.

My Thoughts: I lived through the time, I hated the war, I'm still bitter. Still, this is a heartwarming history of moral and civic triumph in a very dark time. This almost too-perfectly made and fast-paced suspense flick felt to me like a Frank Capra effort like "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington." It's heartwarming. It is a Hollywood movie that celebrates the basic moral character of Americans in a time of national emergency, and the outstanding courage of citizens like Ellsberg, the newspaper's owner Kay Graham, and the editor at the Washington Post, Ben Bradlee.

Parents: The movie is for grownups and intelligent teens, not for children.

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



Willits Rotary Club Annual



CRABFEST

ALL YOU CAN EAT
CRAB, PASTA & SALAD, FRENCH BREAD

**Sat. January 20
2018 • 6pm**

\$50 per person
No Host Bar • Quarter Auction

MUSIC BY THE BASICS
ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT
WILLITS SENIOR CENTER &
THE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
WILLITS COMMUNITY CENTER,
111 E. COMMERCIAL ST. • WILLITS, CALIF.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
ANN ALUMBAUGH (707) 459-1440

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WILLITS FURNITURE, WILLITS SENIOR CENTER, & TRI COUNTIES BANK

MTA Extends Customer Service Hours

Mendocino Transit Authority has extended the weekday hours that its dispatch center is open for calls about schedules and routes. The dispatch center is now open Monday through Friday from 6 am until 11 pm, the same hours that bus service is available in Mendocino County. On Saturday, dispatch hours are 10 am to 5 pm, and on Sunday the office is closed.

Customers can call dispatch at 707-462-1422 or 1-800-696-468, extension 2. Mendocino Transit Authority provides public bus service throughout Mendocino County. Check routes, schedules and service updates online at mendocinotransit.org.



Happy 110th Birthday, Edie!

February 5, 2018

The beautiful Edie Recagno Kennan Ceccarelli of Willits will celebrate her 110th birthday on Monday, February 5 at the Harrah Senior Center! When Edie turned 100 years old, she planned a birthday celebration at the Senior Center and invited the whole community, and everyone is invited to celebrate this year, too.


Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, serves lunch from 11:45 am to 1 pm; 459-6826. Tickets are \$6.50 for those 55 and older; and \$8 for those under 55.

Those who'd like to send Edie a birthday card for the occasion – we are told she loves to receive mail and her favorite color card is pink – are encouraged to send cards to Edie Ceccarelli, care of Holy Spirit Residential Care Home, 414 Grove Street, Willits CA 95490.

CANNATOURISM in MENDOCINO
JANUARY 21ST ~ 11am to 4pm
SPEAKERS, WORLD CAFE AND NETWORKING

Why meet? To boost the economy of Willits and our area, encourage and promote local canna-businesses through tourism

LITTLE LAKE GRANGE - 291 SCHOOL ST - WILLITS



KEYNOTE BY BRIAN APPELGARTH
~ CALIFORNIA CANNABIS TOURISM ASS'N ~

OTHER SPEAKERS INCLUDE:
Meet with Humboldt Cannabis Tours, Nikki Lastreto & Swami Richard Jergensen - Cannabis Culture Collection, and more

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
SNACKS AVAILABLE, BYO BROWN BAG LUNCH
~ ALL ARE WELCOME \$20 ~

REGISTER, SIGN UP FOR A TABLE DISPLAY 459-6362

ARE YOU PREPARED?



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services,
Redwood Ford & NCO Volunteer Network Present:

FREE Training for Willits & Ukiah!

CERT Basic Training is a fun and empowering way to learn disaster preparedness, survival skills, rescuer safety, team work, fire safety and suppression, basic disaster medical operations and light search and rescue. It will provide you with knowledge, skills and tools to help support yourself, friends, neighbors and family in times of disaster.

Learn how to...



- use a fire extinguisher safely and effectively
- conduct light search and rescue operations
- provide emergency first aid with limited supplies

...and more!

SATURDAYS IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2018
Jan. 27th, Feb. 3rd & 10th 8:30am - 5:30pm
Cal Fire Howard Forest Station - 17501 US-101, Willits CA 95490
*Must attend all three days to be certified. Please bring lunch and beverage!

Contact the NCO Volunteer Network to register: (707) 462-1959 | kharrison@ncoinc.org

WCA
WILLITS CENTER
FOR THE ARTS

It's Back!

The WCA is reviving the much loved Annual Art Auction!!

This important fund raiser keeps the arts alive in our community and brings vibrant and relevant shows to your art center. Don't miss the Grand Opening, March 3rd or the Final Bid Party, March 24th.

Your participation and generous donations continue to bring performance, dance, poetry and visual arts to our community. If you would like to donate goods, services or art for this gala event, please call Lindsey at 459-1726 or email her at manager@willitscenterforthearts.org.

71 E. Commercial St., PO Box 503, Willits, CA 95490

Cotton Dandee
by Marjo Wilson

HOEDOWN HOTLINE
Calendar

A Happen' good time!

A Saturday Afternoon Community Event
Free Show 2-4pm

Saturday JAN. 27 = TEA & TIME HOEDOWN!
@ The Village Hearth - COVELO

Saturday FEB. 10 = TEA & TIME HOEDOWN!
@ Brickhouse Coffee - WILLITS

Check schedule for updates | www.cottondandee.com

WCA's annual Art Auction is back

Willits Center for the Arts is bringing back the annual Art Auction – of donated goods and services, as well as donated art – in March. The grand opening of the event is March 3, and the final Bid Party is set for March 24. You too can donate to the auction! If you want to donate goods, services or art for this gala event, call Lindsey at 459-1726 or email: manager@willitscenterforthearts.org. The WCA mailing address is PO Box 503, Willits CA 95490. This important fundraiser keeps the arts alive in our community and brings vibrant and relevant shows to your art center, 71 East Commercial Street. Your participation and generous donations continue to bring performance, dance, poetry and visual arts to our community.

– Willits Center for the Arts

Ukiah Women's March

January 20, 2018

Women will march in Ukiah on Saturday, January 20 as part of the nationwide women's marches. Meet at the Alex Thomas Plaza, 210 South State Street, Ukiah, at 11 am. Speakers start at 11:30; march at noon to the courthouse and back to the plaza, for closing speaker and jam. Visit www.facebook.com/events/126979741329188.

"In 2017 we marched and made our voices heard," said the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition. "This year we expand our work to engage youth, uplift women leaders, advocate for gender equity and stand together against voter suppression and for fair protection of all human rights. Let us know what you can lend to the day!! Think parade, only on the sidewalk!!"

Willits Rotary Club Annual Crab Fest

Saturday, January 20

All you can eat crab, pasta, salad and French bread, hosted by the Willits Rotary Club. Plus no host bar, Quarter Action, and music by The Basics. All proceeds support the Willits Senior Center and the Willits High School Scholarship Fund. Saturday, January 20 at 6 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. \$50 per person. Tickets available at Willits Furniture, Willits Senior Center, and TriCounties Bank. Info: Ann Alumbaugh: 459-1440.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of January 22 through January 26

Monday: Lemon Chicken
Tuesday: Shepherd's Pie
Wednesday: Beef Tips & Noodles
Thursday: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce
Friday: Birthday Turkey Dinner
Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. \$6.50 for those 55 and older; \$8 for those under 55. Includes soup, salad, entree, vegetable, dessert, and drink. Salad Bar available all year. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

WILLITS CHARTER SCHOOL
~PRESENTS~

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"

FRI., JAN. 26TH 7PM
SAT., JAN. 27TH 7PM
SUN., JAN. 28TH 2PM

\$10 ADULTS / \$5 STUDENTS
TICKETS AVAILABLE IN OFFICE
1431 S. MAIN ST.

Casting Call

Looking for actors and off-camera help for 'fun and silly' glitter video

Saturday, January 20

CPG Studios is filming a fun and silly video on January 20 in Willits. We are looking for people to help out in various roles. If you want to have a fun time for a few hours, contact us ASAP at 888-833-7501 or cp@cpacific.net

Details: We are turning the old Starchild Chocolate building into a video set for one day. We are filling it up with fake glittered cakes, donuts, cookies, and candies! We still need the following "cast":

- A customer to play a shop owner picking up a fake glitter cake for their store window (10-10:30 am).
 - Four ladies who don't mind doing a little simple dancing. Costumes provided are '50s style poodle skirts – super cute (10:30-11am).
 - Extras who are willing to dance (freestyle) to "Nobody But Me" (Isley Brothers). We need many people for this part of the shoot (11am-).
 - Any sex to pretend to play a glittered pink cupcake electric guitar. No need to know how to play – just look like it. (11am-)
- Prefer to be off camera? We could use someone to hold a boom mic and move lights. No experience necessary – we will teach you. (9 am-noon)
- This should be a ton of fun. Lunch provided afterward. We hope you will join us!

– CPG Studios, Willits

Ongoing Events

Willits Farmers Market: Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Veggies, local meats and local grains, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, balsamic vinegars, local honey, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, knitted goods and jewelry, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

January show at WCA: WCA show this month features the work of Doug Browe ("Continues") and Darrell Carpenter ("Looking in Two Directions"). Runs through January 24. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-1726.

Tools for Fire Victims at the Farmers Market: Every Thursday, the Farmers Market and the School of Adaptive Agriculture are collecting tools for those who lost their homes in the Redwood Complex Fire. Please bring donated tools to the Farmers Market on Thursday afternoons from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. If tools are dull, Keith Rosen will sharpen them during the market. If unable to transport tools, contact Market Manager Michael Foley 216-5549 to arrange pick up.

"Boots and Tattoos Ladies Night Edition": Friday nights at Al's Redwood Room, 207 South Main Street. Drink specials. No cover charge. Info: 571-9288.

Willits International Folk Dancing: Every Thursday from 7 to 9 pm. Learn recreational cultural dances from around the world. Beginners welcome. No dance experience necessary. No partner needed. \$5 per class. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Info: Megan Wolf, 530-647-6512 or megster1989@yahoo.com

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Square-dancing workshops held every Monday from 6:30 to 7:45 pm, at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. "Dancers are encouraged to come regularly as new moves are taught every session. Bring your partner or come as a single dancer and join our fun-loving club!" \$5 per person, per night.

Friday Potluck Bingo: Harrah Senior Center presents Potluck Bingo on Friday nights. Doors open at 5 pm; games begin at 5:30 pm. Minimum bingo buy-in \$5. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Twice-Monthly Parkinson's Discussion and Support Group: Meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:45 am. In the Conference Room at Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941.

German Conversation Class: Ongoing non-denominational German conversation/book reading class is open to new members (middle to advanced German speakers). No charge, but donations gladly accepted. St. John Lutheran Church, 24 Mill Creek Drive. Mondays from 7 to 8:30 pm. Info: Doris Wier, 456-9246.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at the Muse, 31 East San Francisco Avenue. Info: 456-9425 or honemann@yahoo.com.

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.

Willits Library Activities: Wednesdays: 11 to 11:30 am "Play Group," and 3:30 to 5:30 pm "Legy Day" (bring your imagination and start building); Thursdays: 11 to 11:30 am "Story Time"; Fridays: 5 to 6 pm "Youth Game Night" (ages 10 to 14). Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

Willits Seed Lending Library: Offering information on seed saving and gardening. Seeds of flowers, herbs, and vegetables are free to seed library members, and seed donations are gladly accepted.

Al-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. "Al-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: Every Saturday of the month, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles; we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn to knit or crochet. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in." Info: Lotus Baker at 456-9037, or lotusb3@earthlink.net.

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: Baechtel Groves Gym, 1150 Magnolia Street. Sundays 7 to 9 pm, and Tuesdays at 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Some experience desired, but not required. \$5 per night; first night free. Info: Jeff at 354-1850.

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

Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3 to 5 pm. Karate: Thursday, Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6, 5:15 to 6 pm. Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 to 7 pm; Teens to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySherriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Singer-songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday at 7 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday. 8 pm. "Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable." Open Mic Night every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20 minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises." Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.


LAST CHANGE!

WHS & SHS Senior formal photos
January 18-19, 2018



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Sherwood Road Litter Cleanup Party

The call went out Friday morning: "Anybody want to help clean up the litter corridor that is Sherwood Road?" posted Greta Kanne on the Willits Fan Page Community Facebook page. "C'mon Willits, let's pick up that stuff before it ends up in the creek!"

And pick up they did.

Around 15 members of the community answered Kanne's call and worked along Sherwood Road on Saturday morning for about two hours. They met at the Brooktrails Fire Department that morning for a safety talk and a game plan and to pick up clean-up supplies Kanne was able to gather from the Mendocino County Department of Transportation.

"I spoke with James Linderman, county environmental compliance specialist, filled out the encroachment permit, and picked up the bags, pickers, and safety vests," said Kanne.

Because Kanne was also able to wrangle

more than 10 volunteers to come help, Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman was able to get a parked deputy on the route to help alert motorists of the clean-up effort.

"The trash has been bugging me for some time, but I was uneasy about working along Sherwood because people often drive so fast," said Kanne. "I ran into Tom Allman Friday morning who said he could help."

The team was able to collect 45 bags of garbage – and some tires and wreck debris, too.

Grateful comments on the team's efforts started posting to the Facebook page – and to Willits Weekly's inbox – right away.

"Thank you to whoever picked up the litter on Sherwood. Looks beautiful. <3" posted Erin Hayes. See page 2 of this week's paper for letters to the editor Willits Weekly received regarding the clean-up party.

– Maureen Moore



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Charley & Levi

Charley and Levi have the sweetest little faces ever! Charley is a 2-year-old wirehaired terrier that came in with his brother Levi. Charley is tan, and Levi is white; they both have long hair going in all directions, but so very cute. Both brothers are shy and timid at first, but with a few treats and some patience they warm up, and it is obvious just how much they want to be loved. Do you have the time to invest a little bit of time for a whole lot of love in return? Come meet Charley and Levi soon!

For more information on the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County's adoptable animals, call the HSIMC at 707-485-0123, check www.mendocinohumanesociety.com, or visit the shelter at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday. To volunteer or help take the dogs for a walk, please join us on Sundays at 11 am for an orientation.

DOG WALKING &
VOLUNTEER
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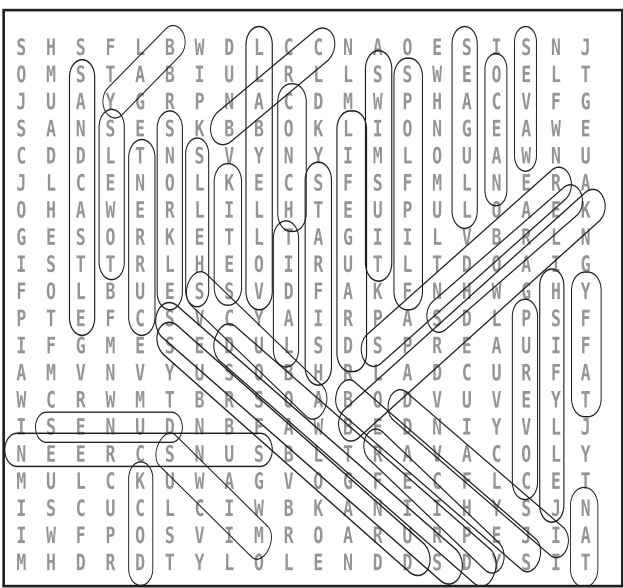
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LEGAL NOTICES

WW137

Fictitious Business Name
Statement

2017-F0729

The following persons are doing business as:
Brewed Awakening, 1437 South Main Street, Willits CA 95490. This business is conducted by a general partnership: Stefani Dorothea Kroesen, 1475 Baechtel Road, #N-1, Willits CA 95490 and Erica Wenda Bruce, 92 Franklin Avenue, Willits CA 95490.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 1, 2007.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on October 5, 2017.

s/Erica W. Bruce

Pub dates 01/11, 01/18, 01/25, 02/01/2018

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For Rent

Clean & Quiet 2 Bedroom, 1-1/2 Bath. Townhouse, small backyard, N/S, N/P, W/D facility on hand. Close to shopping. Garbage paid. \$865.00 per month. Amco: 459-9601.

For Rent

Quiet Studio Apartment, walk to downtown, N/S, N/P, Water & Garbage paid. \$575.00 per month. Amco: 459-9601.

For Rent

Large & clean 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, close to downtown, water & garbage paid. W/D facility on hand. No pets, no smoking. \$825 per month. Amco: 459-9601.

For Rent

Executive office - 2 large offices, 1 small; kitchen, bath and reception. 1,240 square feet. An additional 370 square feet could be added if needed. Call Margie, 459-6874 or Megan, 972-8776.

For Sale

Firewood for sale. Seasoned, dry, tan oak in 15' logs. \$10 per bundle of 6. 707-684-6237

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Help Wanted

Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic is looking for a full-time receptionist. Spanish speaking preferred. Please send resume to 1245 S. Main St. or fax to 459-3057. No phone calls please.

Help Wanted

NCO Head Start

Recruiting for Upper Lake: Cook I-II - Current D.L. & Ins req. Sal. \$11.25- \$20.10/hr DOQ. For full job description details & app go to www.ncoinc.org/about-us/jobs or 707-467-3200x 302. Closes: 1/30 @ 5pm (Postmarks not accepted). EOE

Help Wanted

Head Start - Ukiah & Willits

Associate Teacher I-II HS/PS for Ukiah based pos. Bilingual pref. Sal. \$12.73- \$16.03 DOQ. Aide for Willits-based position. Bilingual pref. Sal. \$11.00 - \$12.68/hr DOQ. For full job description details & app go to www.ncoinc.org/about-us/jobs or 707-467-3200x 302. Closes: 1/22 @ 5pm (Postmarks not accepted). EOE

Help Wanted

Harrah Senior Center

Needs bookkeeper for Non Profit, 32 hours per week (flexible), with extensive knowledge of Quick Books, experience with Excel, Word and budgets. Exceptional organization skills and attention to detail. Strong communication skills, both written and verbal. Must be flexible and have ability to manage shifting priorities and deadlines. Hourly wage depends on experience. Resume with references and job experience can be faxed to 707-459-1772, emailed to wsdirector@willitsseiorcenter.com or mailed to Willits Seniors Inc., 1501 Baechtel Rd, Willits CA 95490

Help Wanted

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Willits Weekly



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8	3	7	5	4	6	2	9	1
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Pg.8 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | January 18, 2018 Willits Weekly | January 18, 2018 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 9

these teenagers, trying to figure out who they are in this world.

The show opened with the WCS Ensemble, directed by Darian Yanez and consisted of three flutes, a clarinet, a trumpet, a bass and an alto sax. "For some of the kids, this was their first exposure to playing music." They were able to choose the instruments they wanted to play and the arrangements were tailored to their choices. The instruments were provided by the school. Sage Aragon, Ivy Chaniot, Aidan Holder, Alyssa Scarberry, Ellymae Skinner, Lauren Van Pelt and Sheridan Wood played "When the Saints Go Marching In," "Hard Rock Blues," and Beethoven's "Ode to Joy."

Next up was Erin Mendoza's musical theater class with Liam Crane, Penelope Mairand, Lacey Maxwell, Lilly Michels and Myranda Seddon singing "Edelweiss" and "Shy."

Mendoza also had her beginning choir, consisting of Lacey Maxwell, Audrey Sherf, Kara Wilkes, Cloey Sierra and Lilly Michels sing "Rose, Rose, Rose, Red" and "Candle on the Water."

The first half was capped off with The Tardy Slips, a hard rock band under the direction of new teacher, Tyler Balthrop (Mr. B). The band, fronted by Lauren Van Pelt and Farrow Lockwood on vocals, and consisting of Xavier De La Fuente, Darius Moog, Lily O'Malley and Faith Van Pelt blasted out "Ain't It Fun" and "Seven Nation Army."

At the intermission, Chef Widner gave an explanation of the menu: roasted tomato and French basil bruschetta, cheese in a filo cup blended with herbs from the garden, cheese tortellini with basil pesto and a beautiful grape tomato, Swedish turkey meatballs, and a mini cheesecake.

When the show resumed, the audience was treated to a demonstration of an English country dance from 1670, a product of the Cultural Dance Club, led by Jordan Ugglä and Megan Wolf who performed with the students as one of the dancers could not attend due to the flu. Kyler Hall-Jimenez, Jayden Jordan, Galilea Lopez, Penelope Mairand and Audrey Sherf danced in traditional costumes.

Next, the Songbirds, a Friday Academy auditioned group, made up of Chloe Breen, Liam Crane, Christopher Lockhart, Lacey Maxwell, Amya Michels and Cloey Sierra, sang "Kuimba" and "Kalinka," African and Russian traditional songs. Mendoza also joined in with the Choral Ensemble, consisting of Chloe Breen, Liam Crane and Chloe Sierra, to sing in the four-part harmony on "Freedom Train" and "Shenandoah."

The evening ended with two zany excerpts from the upcoming "Alice in Wonderland" with Hope Curtis as Alice, Devon Difazio as the Mad Hatter, Farrow Lockwood as March Hare, Audrey Sherf as Dormouse, Bradley Bowman as Tweedle Dum and Darius Moog as Tweedle Dee.

The night's performances showed that the Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences can be a force for instilling the love of performance and art in the youth of Willits, providing a place for them to experiment outside of their comfort zones.



**"Hey, Doc!
Is there
really a frog
in my throat?"**

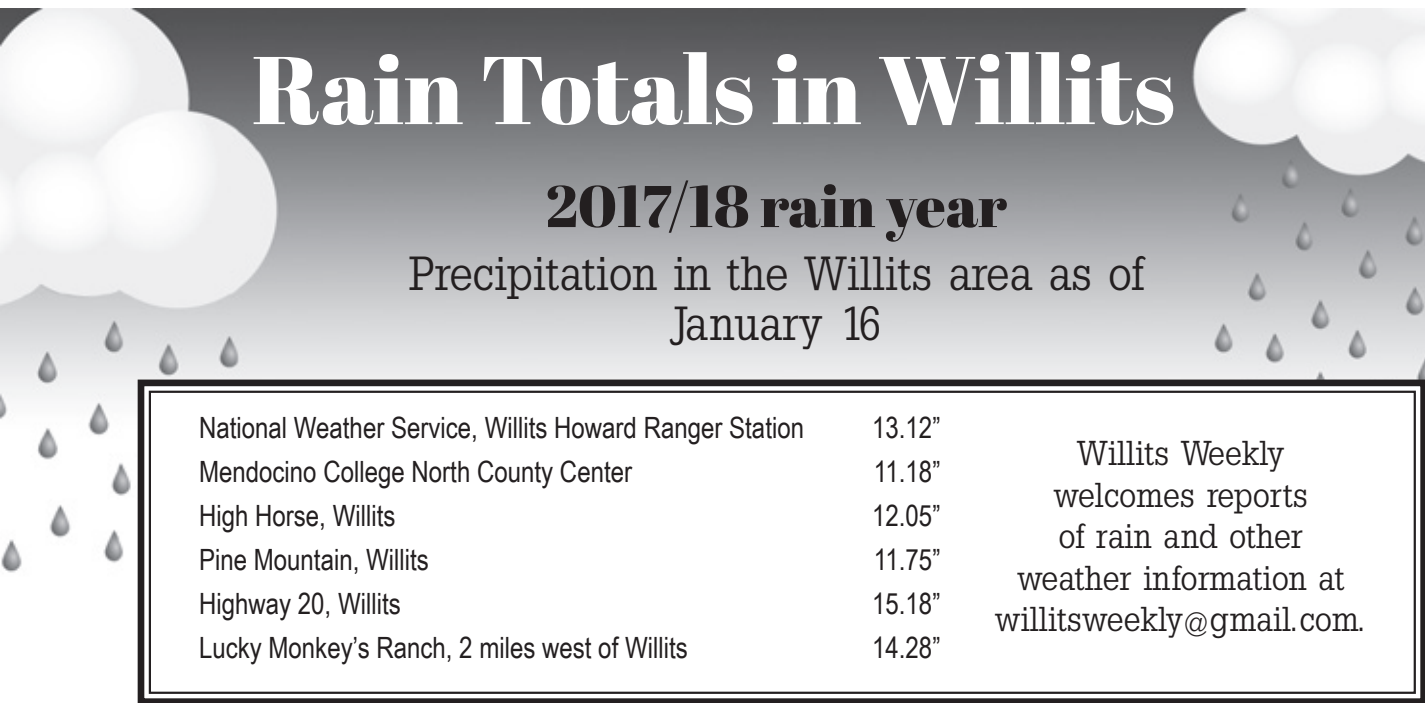


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If you or a loved one are bitten or scratched by an unfamiliar animal or an animal suspected of having rabies, immediately wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water and then seek medical attention.

If you see a domestic animal that is sick, injured, dead, orphaned or behaving oddly, leave it alone and contact Mendocino County Animal Control at 707-463-4086. If you see a wild animal that is sick, injured, dead, orphaned or behaving oddly, leave it alone and contact Fish and Wildlife CalTIP at 888-334-2258. Do not handle the animal yourself.

For additional information on rabies, please visit: www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Rabies.aspx.

leatherback with no scales or spikes."

Torres went on to display the markings and traits of the two tarantulas in the store. Mating them is problematic as the female will kill the male following the mating ritual, which consists of the male tapping the glass with hooks on his front feelers to get the female to rear up and be inseminated.

"We got these chameleons on a rescue," said Torres, pointing them out. "They were pretty ill.

They have come a long way from where they first started. Some of them made it. Some have been re-homed. We get a lot of rescues and nurse them back to health and hopefully find them homes."

"Lizzie [a bearded dragon] and the other dragon were rescues. They haven't sold, and now they're our personal dragons. Lizzie has produced 53 babies already this year."

The knowledge and care that Marsh and Torres have for their animals is impressive and inspiring. Both are easily available for any follow-up questions. They love what they sell.

Fish Out of Water is located at 1661 South Main Street, across from the Evergreen Shopping Center. They are open Monday through Friday, from 10 am to 5:30 pm, Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm, and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Info: 707-841-3066.

items include a corrugated metal sunflower handmade by Dorothy Roediger who makes them with her very own plasma cutter, a rose and shrub drip water kit from DripWorks, and one of the natural totes from Mariposa Market filled with items from the natural foods store.

With the event approaching this weekend, planners are working hard to make sure they sell the remaining tickets still available: around half of the 200 printed. Monies earned from the ticket sales and the auctions will go to support the Willits Senior Center and the Rotary Club's Willits High School scholarship fund.

Tickets are available presale from the Willits Senior Center, Willits Furniture, Tri Counties Bank or directly from Willits Rotarian Ann Alumbaugh.

For more information: 459-1440.

Fire provided single-lane traffic control for the incident. 6 firefighters responded for service.

01-14-18 (Highway 162, mile marker 10)

Traffic Accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported traffic accident. Upon arrival the patient had been loaded into a Laytonville ambulance. With the assistance of CalFire, Highway 162 had been momentarily shut down for the landing of R.E.A.C.H. The driver was then loaded into the air ambulance and transported. Little Lake Fire then provided single-lane traffic control and general cleanup of the scene. 10 firefighters responded for service.

01-16-18 (Pomo Court)

Medical Assist: Little Lake Fire responded to a medical assist. Upon arrival firefighters begin assisting the medic unit at scene with patient care. Firefighters also assisted in loading the patient into the ambulance as well as providing two firefighters to assist the medic unit during transport to Howard Memorial Hospital. 8 firefighters responded for service.

Program, still has hope though: "The survey is a disappointing start of the year, but it's far too early to draw conclusions about what kind of a wet season we'll have this year. There's plenty of time left in the traditional wet season to reverse the dry trend we've been experiencing."

A press release from the California Department of Water Resources stated: "So far this winter, an atmospheric high-pressure zone spanning the western United States has persistently blocked [atmospheric rivers] from reaching the state. If that zone were to move or break up, storms could deliver considerable rainfall and snow this winter."

The CDWR press release was also hopeful that the above-average storage (24.1 million acre feet, or 110 percent) in reservoirs due to California's exceptionally high precipitation last winter and spring would help get the state through a drought year if the rain doesn't come after all.

North Bay legislators introduce emergency alert legislation

North Bay legislators officially introduced a bill on January 5 that will set statewide emergency alert protocols following the devastating firestorm that ravaged Sonoma, Napa, Lake and Mendocino counties, destroying over 6,000 homes, scorching more than 170,000 acres, causing billions in damage and resulting in the death of more than 40 residents.

"The size and scope of wildland fire events in California are only getting worse. It's clear there are shortcomings in our emergency alert system and residents deserve timely notifications and up-to-date information," Senator Mike McGuire (D-North Bay) said. "Lives depend on the Legislature and governor taking swift action to ensure statewide emergency alert standards are adopted, training is implemented and funding is secured to ensure communities big and small have reliable alert systems deployed."

SB 833, introduced by Senator McGuire, along with joint authors Senators Bill Dodd and Jerry Hill, and principal co-authors Assemblymembers Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Marc Levine and Jim Wood, creates statewide emergency alert protocols.

There are several different emergency warning systems available to counties that alert residents through cell phone calls, text messages, and landline recordings. Some systems require residents to "opt-in" to the alert notifications, and others have limitations on how they can be targeted in specific areas.

SB 833 will require every county in California to adopt the up-to-date Wireless Emergency Alert system with trained operators who can implement an evacuation order using the alert system. The legislation will also set out standards for when counties should use the system, the legislation will mandate that alerts have to be sent out via landline telephones and mobile phones along with other communication mediums, it will advance communication between counties and the state at the start of a disaster and it will create guidelines and protocols for when and how the alerts should be sent.

"When wildfires and other disasters strike, it's critical that impacted residents get emergency alerts as quickly as possible," said Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa). "Regardless of where you live in California, everyone should be able to rely on a comprehensive, modern warning systems that gets information to the people who need it, when they need it. Emergency alerts can save lives, which is why Senator McGuire and I are partnering with our colleagues in the state Assembly to advance a system that meets our twenty-first century needs."

"The recent devastating fires in Northern California have put laser focus on our need to fix our emergency notification system," said Assemblymember Jim Wood (D-Healdsburg). "As we now see with the fires in Southern California, the time is now to protect our residents with a system that works for everyone, both urban and rural."

"Last year's fires exposed deadly problems in our emergency alert patchwork," said Senator Jerry Hill (D-San Mateo and Santa Clara counties). "I applaud Senator McGuire for leading this effort to make sure that the state and local governments properly notify and evacuate residents to save lives during emergencies."

— submitted by the office of state Senator Mike McGuire, Sacramento

installation, bridge maintenance, worm bins, pond drain, goat pen reconstruction, cutting boards, picture frames, whimsical toys, and wall hangings – to name a few.

These are CTE classes (career technical education), preparing students for real-life, hands-on jobs with instruction in a wide range of skills – basic woodworking, electrical, plumbing, cold metal, concrete and masonry, welding, metallurgy, and small engines. Students have gone on to become welders and auto mechanics – even one helicopter mechanic. And there's been an electrical apprentice in the pipefitters union, a PG&E lineman, and a winery cylinder tank fabricator.

Superintendent Mark Westerburg told the board about other CTE offerings at the high school, including medical records training, business, arts, music and computers. "The plan is to have a vocational skill; it's not just about school work," he said.

The board also approved the district's first interim budget, which Westerburg called "a snapshot at the end of October." Although the "snapshot" indicated the district is deficit spending, Westerburg said this was "not unintentional. We knew it was going to happen. We're funded exactly how we need to be under state guidelines."

Noting the district would also be deficit spending into next year, he said the plan was for a balanced budget after that.

Other budget news included the receipt of one-time funding from the state that can't always be counted on, and so had not been allocated. It was used to purchase two badly needed student vans that were immediately put into service.

Willits Teachers Association member Laura Rowland addressed the board on behalf of WTA President John Haschak, who could attend the meeting because he was at a California Teachers Association conference.

She read a letter written by Haschak on behalf of the WTA executive committee. It described WTA's reaction to a column written by Westerburg and published in Willits Weekly on December 21.

In the column, Westerburg laid out a vision for restructuring K-5 education in the district. He wrote he had "brought together representatives from each grade level, as well as administrators, special education teachers and electives teachers, and asked them how we might improve K-5 education.

"Currently," he wrote, "elementary education in Willits ... is structured substantially the same as it has been since the 1980s, and the time for change is long overdue. Happily, a lot of research has been done during the last three decades, so we can make data-driven choices about how to improve."

He described some of the options being considered,

the trees to be removed in advance of the sidewalk and utility phase of the project.

Additionally a local nursery owner served on the tree identification team. The trees that were identified were those with structure or health problems sufficient to warrant removal with or without the relinquishment project.

Dusty Duley, community development director for the city, said: "The removal of the trees is the initiation of the relinquishment project. We are working with Caltrans to ensure construction will assist in the implementation of the Willits Downtown Main Street program that the local residents and businesses worked so hard on to adopt."

The Willits Rehabilitation and Relinquishment of Old Highway 101 project will bring the road into good repair and then turn it over the City of Willits and the County of Mendocino.

Phase one work includes upgrading sidewalks and curbs to current accessibility standards, upgrades to existing drainage facilities, slurry seal, and restriping.

Phase two includes grinding, paving and restriping the roadway.

Construction for Phase 1 is expected to begin in May of 2018 and will be completed by December of 2019. The schedule for Phase 2 is expected to begin in May of 2020 and end in July of 2020.

Manager Robert Perrault.

Caltrans originally put in a two-way bike lane located entirely on the east side of North Main Street next to the high school. After further review, the agency and city staff decided that relocating the southbound lane to the west side of Main Street made more sense given the parameters and traffic flow in the area.

Perrault said Caltrans planned to implement the change soon, and so requested that parking be restricted on both sides of the street. The restrictions are expected to stay in place so long as the bike lanes remain.

The vote was 3-2 with Mayor Madge Strong and Councilman Ron Orenstein voting against. Strong was hoping to delay the vote until another meeting so the council could get a more detailed look at the possible layouts, but didn't receive a second to her motion.

Orenstein was concerned that eliminating the parking spots could cause more of a parking overflow in other areas near the school, particularly for special events, which could also be a safety concern.

He also pointed out that bike lanes in the downtown area didn't generally have the same kind of parking restrictions.

Councilman Gerry Gonzalez and City Attorney Jim Lance both expressed concern that if the council did not approve Caltrans' recommendation, it could potentially put the city at more of a risk for legal action in the future should accidents occur.

Vice Mayor Saprina Rodrigues said she shared Orenstein's concerns about reducing the parking options, but noted the national organization Safe Routes to School had also advised that parking not be allowed along that section of the road.

"We'll just have to get creative in this community in coming up with some additional parking," she added.

The "no parking" area will extend from near the Willits Creek Bridge just south of the school to beyond the tennis courts on the north end of the grounds.

The change comes at no cost to the city, since Caltrans will be responsible for the additional striping and signage needed to complete the process.

Main Street relinquishment

Perrault told the council the Willits Relinquishment project will officially begin on Sunday, January 21, as a total of 13 trees are

including "looping" and "multi-age classrooms." Looping calls for structuring early grades so children "have the same teacher in the same classroom and the same classmates for first and second grade" and then also for third and fourth grades. Multi-age classrooms, where students from multiple grades are in the same classroom, is already in place at Sherwood School and is "working well.... [It's] good for both high and low achievers," Westerburg wrote.

A transitional first grade for kids below average in kindergarten and two K-5 sites with various options were other ideas Westerburg mentioned.

Haschak noted in his letter that the WTA executive committee felt "strongly about the reconfiguration and how it was portrayed in [Westerburg's column], and felt it "gave the impression that teachers were instrumental in coming up with the plan – and that was not accurate.... We have not been a part of the process of developing this plan, and we have not taken a position on the plan."

The letter went on to inform the board that the WTA was reviewing the plan and would be meeting with teachers hoping for "a great amount of input."

The letter ended on a cautionary note: "This important decision to reconfigure our elementary schools should involve extensive outreach, close consideration and listening to the thoughts of all stakeholders of the Willits community. Until that time, WTA would like the board and superintendent to avoid decisions which could have significant consequences pertaining to the education of our students and community."

At the meeting, Westerburg said he had been meeting with parent teacher organizations and site councils, and his goal was "to get input from everybody. Nothing is locked in stone."

Questioned about the letter after the meeting, Westerburg elaborated, saying WTA "wanted to be part of the conversation ... [and] WTA represents the union, which is different from all the teachers, the bulk [of whom] don't attend executive committee meetings. This isn't a contractual issue, and I will be meeting with teachers."

He went on to emphasize the importance of knowing what parents want with respect to any proposed changes.

"Parents have choice now in education. We want to make sure we're providing what parents want. Parents have to come first," he said.

"We're looking at how we offer K-5 education. K-2 and 3-5 have been the same for almost ever. Do we need a K-2 option at Blosser? Are enough parents interested in a 3-5 option at Blosseride?"

Westerburg stressed "student achievement ... enhancing kids' academic abilities" was intrinsic in any change, as well as getting art and music back in K-5. He added he was going to send a survey to parents "to every address to

removed that day and on Sunday, January 28, by Caltrans to prepare for sidewalk repair and improvements.

The trees were selected by a team that included city staff and nursery owner Dave Watts, according to Perrault and a press release from Caltrans.

"The trees that were identified were those with structure or health problems sufficient to warrant removal with or without the relinquishment project," the press release stated.

The entirety of the relinquishment project will involve a myriad of construction activities Caltrans will undertake over the next few years to upgrade sidewalks and roads along Main Street before handing over full control to the City of Willits and County of Mendocino. Prior to the bypass being put in place, Main Street was considered part of Highway 101 and largely under Caltrans' control.

Phase 1 of the relinquishment construction is expected to begin in May, and conclude in December 2019. Phase 2 is planned from May to July 2020.

Cannabis fees

City Planner Dusty Duley reported the city had, as of last week, received 10 official cannabis activity applications, which had brought in \$145,740 in fees.

He said staff had started recruitment for an assistant planner/code compliance officer to help with cannabis applications and facility inspections, since the city had now realized enough funds through the fee money to pay for the position – a stipulation that had been laid out by the council.

He said in addition to that position, staff was also able to look into hiring outside contractors to help with some inspections and facilitate the process.

"This is really great for me and the department and the city," said Duley. "Because with these staffing levels coming up, we can anticipate being able to process applications in a very timely fashion and hopefully promote some good development for the city."

He added inspections regarding the first application were expected to begin this week.

Sales tax revenue better than expected

Perrault also told the council that sales tax money received by the city last year was above initial budget projections, which should give the city more revenue than originally anticipated.

He said for the last two quarters measured

get as many parents as possible to give input," as well as go to site council and PTO meetings.

"In my world, parent choice and board philosophy dictate what we do," he said. The district "did a complete restructuring at the high school, Sanhedrin, Baechtel Grove Middle School, and Sherwood School. Now it's K-5's turn."

The business of filling the empty seat on the board due to Trustee Laurie Harris' resignation also came up at the meeting, and the executive administrative assistant to the superintendent, Trina Cardillo, filled the board in on progress being made in that regard.

According to Cardillo: "Harris must officially resign in writing to our county superintendent. I have called Laurie and left her a message as well as sent her a letter advising her of the same. Per our county office of education, the seat would be deemed abandoned after three consecutive absences for regularly scheduled board meetings; in this case that would be our January, February and March meetings. At that time, we could move forward with an appointment by the board."

"Realistically, then, in April, the board could interview, select and appoint a candidate. The appointed member would then sit on the board until the election in November 2018."

Trustee Chris Neary raised the possibility the board could operate with four-members until the election. There was no discussion of this option.

The meeting ended on the happy news that the state will not require the district to make up the five days lost due to the fires last fall. Also, talks with FEMA were ongoing to get reimbursement for funds expended during the disaster when the high school became an evacuation center and also paid to keep busses ready at the hospital 24/7 in case patients had to be evacuated– about \$30,000 in total.

getting back to work over the next couple of days," U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokeswoman Nancy Allen said on Tuesday.

According to Allen, ECC has a contract with the state of California's Office of Emergency Services and Ceres has a contract with the Army Corps of Engineers. Both companies are working in Mendocino County. Allen said that, as of Tuesday, AshBritt has four crews working in the county, but that work will be winding down, while work by Ceres and ECC will be ramping up over the next few days.

When asked how many crews will be working in Mendocino County, Allen said she did not know. "Talk to me next week. I should be able to give you a clearer picture then," she said.

(from April through September 2017), sales tax had decreased by only around 4 percent compared to the same quarters in 2016, rather than the 16 percent initially projected by city staff. The 16 percent decline was largely expected due to the estimated effects the bypass would have on businesses in the city.

Perrault said the city was currently seeing around \$305,000 more in revenue than had been anticipated. However, he did note there were some additional expenditures that would cut into this.

He added there should be more clarity in the overall budget picture when he presents the mid-year report for this fiscal year, likely in February.

"The bottom line is we're projecting a better year-end position than the budget did when [initially] approved," he said.

Finance director

The council also approved amending a contract with Regional Government Services, which has been supplying the city with an interim finance director, Celia Peterson, since October. The new contract extends the services of Peterson, as well as adding a temporary public accountant from RGS to help the city close out an audit of the fiscal year 2016/17.

Perrault said Peterson was able to work some on the audit, but since she was only working part-time (33 hours a week), she spent much of her time working on day-to-day activities, and he felt they needed additional help.

Perrault pointed out they were already past the six-month mark after the close of the fiscal year, and audits are generally completed and submitted to a city council in that time frame. He felt with the help of the accountant they could have the audit to the council by April, which would still allow enough time for reporting requirements and proper budget analysis.

He noted city staff had gone through a couple rounds of recruiting for a new finance director, and had a promising candidate he felt "positive" about, but the contract extension with RGS would still be necessary given the transition time a new hire would potentially need.

The unanimous vote extended the contract to March 15, at a cost to the city not to exceed \$38,000. This would increase the total paid to RGS to \$82,400.

Rodriguez, a member of the city's Finance Committee, said she agreed with Perrault, and that not hiring the public accountant could end up costing the city much more money if they weren't able to complete the audit on time.



Congratulations to new WHS graduates

Superintendent Mark Westerburg, School Board President Alex Bowlds and School Board Clerk Bob Colvig were proud to deliver diplomas to six former Willits High School students thanks to the reversal of the California High School Exit Exam requirement by Gov. Jerry Brown. The diplomas were awarded at a special ceremony at the WHS Media Center. The graduates span from 2008 to 2014.

"It was nice to be able to right a wrong," said Superintendent Westerburg. Willits Unified is working to deliver the additional four diplomas to the former students who

were not in attendance at the January 3 ceremony.

Gov. Brown signed Senate Bill 172 in 2015, which suspended the administration of the California High School Exit Examination through the 2017/18 school year, and the requirement that students completing grade 12 successfully pass the exit exam to receive a high school diploma, as long as all other applicable graduation requirements were met. SB 172 was authored by state Sen. Carol Liu, after a test cancellation in summer 2015 "stranded about 5,000 graduation-eligible high school seniors without a final opportunity to pass the exam," Liu said, and Brown requested that the requirement be suspended retroactively as well.



Mary Wanhala

707.459.5193

JOHN FORD RANCH

RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, finished in Willits, California

You may have seen the two walking the sidewalks of Lenore Street, to the Rec Grove Park and past the Sheriff's Department. Mary still loves to walk and to play her beloved piano.

Karin (daughter) and Erin (a caregiver) are both looking forward to her 100th birthday, although Mary insists (understandably so) she does not wish to reach 100. However, the various doctors she has seen are all amazed at her remarkable health. Her

"The high school exit exam is outdated and does not reflect California's new, more rigorous academic standards that emphasize skills needed to succeed in college and careers in the 21st century," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson in a prepared statement at the time. "I look forward to convening a task force of teachers, parents, students, and education leaders to find a more thoughtful approach to high school graduation requirements that better suits California's modern education system and higher academic standards, and that supports our ongoing statewide efforts to achieve college and career readiness for all students."

— Jennifer Poole

Happy Birthday to Mary Wanhala, age 99

Congratulations to Mary Wanhala of Willits, who turned 99 on January 10, 2018. The then-Mary Beutling was born in Latvia, Russia in 1919, but was of German descent. Mary came to America in 1956, after much suffering and loss of her home, due to World War II.

She became an American wife to her late husband, Arnie Wanhala, a Finn. She could say she was "a mail-order bride," rescued from war-torn Germany, along with her then-9-year-old daughter, who has been lovingly caring for her mother now for some eight years.

only complaint is arthritis and some memory loss. The doctors told Mary, she has no reason to die.

Mary attributes her health to a clean lifestyle. She disdains and avoids all alcohol and drugs, but accepts healthy foods and vitamins.

p.s.: Mary loves to watch the children play at the Rec Grove Park, and for years has wished for a bench for herself and others to sit on. (The picnic tables just don't work for her.) Plus most parks have at least one bench if not two. Anyone wish to donate a bench to the Rec Grove? Like the lovely benches dedicated to the lovely new hospital? See Dusty Duley at City Hall, the city planner, please!!!

— Submitted by the family of Mary Wanhala, Willits

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Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service & Children's Church - 11 a.m.
Mid-week Bible Studies
Potluck every 2nd Sunday
Alan Klier, Lead Pastor
459-3106

St. Francis Episcopal Church
1 North Main Street, Willits
707-459-3066
Church Services / Communion 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
399 W. Mendocino Avenue
459-6390
Stan Caylor, Pastor
Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
1st Sabbath of every month
family potluck at the school.
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Facebook: www.facebook.com
If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com



Nora Duarte holds the \$50 gift card to Buster's Burgers she won as winner of Brookside School's Perfect Attendance Award for December. Brookside PTO Vice President Alicia England-Harbour, right, presented Nora with the award.

Nora Duarte wins December attendance prize at Brookside

Brookside Elementary School kindergarten student Nora Duarte was excited to win a \$50 gift card for she and her family to Buster's Burgers for perfect attendance during December. Nora is a student in Ms. Donna Allen's class, and she arrived on time and came to school every day.

The attendance award is part of Brookside PTO's attempt to raise awareness about the importance of good attendance and arriving to school on time. Brookside's PTO Vice President Alicia England-Harbour proudly presented the award. The PTO will award a gift certificate from a local business each month.

— Kathleen Crossman, principal, Brookside Elementary School

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Next Week: **Maze Runner: The Death Cure**

THE POST

(PG13) 1 hr 55 mins
Fri: 5:15 & 8:00pm
Sat: 2:30, 5:15 & 8:00pm
Sun: 1:30, 4:15 & 7:00pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:15 & 7:00pm

Movie Times for 1/19 thru 1/25

THE SHAPE OF WATER

(R) 2 hrs 3 mins
Fri: 5:30 & 8:15pm
Sat: 2:45, 5:30 & 8:15pm
Sun: 1:45, 4:30 & 7:15pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:30 & 7:15pm

This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

PADDINGTON 2

(PG) 1 hr 43 mins
Fri: 4:20 & 6:45pm
Sat/Sun: 2:00, 4:20 & 6:45pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:20 & 6:45pm

Visitor restrictions at Howard Memorial due to flu

By Cici Winiger, for AHHM

Due to widespread influenza-related illness statewide Adventist Health Howard Memorial in Willits is asking the public to voluntarily limit hospital visits. "This is a precautionary measure to protect patients, visitors and staff from spreading the flu and other upper respiratory illnesses," explains Daria Fletcher, infection prevention specialist at AHHM.

Fletcher says imposing flu restrictions are just one of the many steps the hospital is taking to protect the hospital's patients and the public.

For those who are visiting the hospital while the flu visitation restrictions are in effect, AHHM is requesting that:

- Visitors must check in at the main lobby front desk or nurse's station and will be asked about flu-like symptoms before they are allowed to visit.

- Visitors should be at least 13 years and

older to minimize patient exposure to children who are at higher risk for transmission of viral infections and to protect children from getting sick. Exceptions may be made for dire situations.

- Pregnant women are encouraged not to visit patients with the flu since pregnancy is a risk factor for flu complications. Exceptions may be made in dire situations.

- Individuals who aren't feeling well with symptoms such as fever and cough are advised not visit hospitalized patients. If they have these symptoms but need to use the hospital's services, they will be asked to wear a mask.



- All hospital visitors should wash their hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer gel when entering and leaving a patient room.

- Everyone should cough or sneeze into their arm, shoulder or tissue to reduce the spread of germs.

Flu cases usually

School of Adaptive Agriculture: Holistic Management Workshop

The School of Adaptive Agriculture and Holistic Management International is hosting a Beginning Farmer Program (the only session in California in 2018). This workshop, occurring over 10 dates in early 2018, is open to new and seasoned farmers, ranchers and land managers who want to learn how to holistically manage their business.

Program graduates will walk away with the networking, skills and confidence needed to build successful, sustainable agricultural enterprises, as well as a certificate of successful completion. Holistic Management's curriculum focuses on business planning skills, time management, soil fertility management, and profitable sustainable livestock and crop farming practices.

Program

Classroom learning complements on-the-land exercises in this training program. There will be time in class to network with others and get feedback on class assignments. Participants will develop a whole farm goal, a draft business plan, as well as a financial and marketing plan, while learning how to improve time management, leadership and communication skills. Participants will receive a certificate for successful completion of this course. HMI's course includes 60 hours of training across 10 sessions, and due to its popularity, the selection process is competitive. HMI encourages those interested in the course to register early. HMI is pleased to announce that this program qualifies for FSA Borrower Training Credit in California.

Agenda

HMI's 10-day course is taught over two months (February and March 2018). The group meets on Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am to 4 pm at the School of Adaptive Agriculture, located at 16200 North Highway 101 in Willits, and includes classroom and interactive on-the-land learning.

Feb 2: Intro to Holistic Management: Creating Your Holistic Goal

Create a whole farm inventory to better understand the "Whole Under Management" and draft a holistic goal for the farm which will guide future decisions.

Feb 3: Time Management – Testing Decisions

Create a time management plan to be sure all the tasks for every enterprise can happen without crowding and overlap. Learn to test decisions toward the holistic goal to minimize unintended consequences.

Feb 9: Financial Planning 1

Create a holistic financial plan for the farm, learn to analyze each enterprise and the month-to-month cash flow, and how to plan for profit.

Feb 10: Financial Planning 2

Create a holistic financial plan for the farm, learn to analyze each enterprise and the month-to-month cash flow, and how to plan for profit.

Feb 23: Business Planning

Create a business plan that helps focus the operation and can be used for borrowing and seeking investment.

Feb 24: Marketing

Learn different marketing strategies and create a marketing plan that supports the holistic goal.

March 9: Leadership and Communication

Learn to communicate better with others, build an effective management team, and become a better leader.

March 10: Land Planning

Learn how to create landscapes and infrastructure for maximum ease and productivity; create a holistic land plan and learn how to implement it in conjunction with the financial plan.

March 23: Grazing or Cropping Planning

Discover how to plan for improved ecological, economic and social outcomes with planned grazing or cropping. Learn soil building techniques, how animals impact the land, and how to maximize positive effects by creating a holistic plan.

March 24: Soil Health

Learn about ecosystem processes and the effect different tools have depending on the climate. Learn to read the land and create a biological monitoring plan that provides information for better decision making.

Registration and scholarships

Cost for the entire 10-session certificate program is \$700. Cost for a second registrant from the same farm is discounted to \$300.

Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need through HMI. Please email HMI directly (scholarships@holisticmanagement.org) and be as specific on your scholarship application as possible.

Space in this program is limited, so register early!

Scholarship Deadline: January 24, 2018

Registration Deadline: January 25, 2018

Registration website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beginning-farmerrancher-training-california-2018-tickets-40201047415>

We ask that you bring your lunch to each day of training as meals will not be provided.

— submitted by the School of Adaptive Agriculture

HMI

Healthy Land, Sustainable Future

Beginning Farmers & Ranchers:

Harness the Power of Holistic Management

WCS Winter Fund Drive update

As of January 10, Willits Community Services and Food Bank has raised nearly \$24,375 towards its 2017 Winter Fund Drive goal of \$34,000.

WCS has been providing essential human services to the greater Willits and north Mendocino County communities since 1981, providing a safety net of human services that help cushion the effects of short- and long-term unemployment, poverty and crisis.

To help WCS reach its fundraising goal, checks made out to "Willits Community Services" can be mailed to WCS, 229 East San Francisco Avenue, Willits, CA 95490, or dropped off during office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon to 5 pm.

Or donate online through the PayPal Giving Fund. Open this link: <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/hub>, then search for "Willits Community Services." Or through Ebay Charities. Open this link: <http://charity.ebay.com/charity/search/> and search for "Willits Community Services."

Donations of canned goods and non-perishable foods are always welcome, Marill said, as are blankets and sleeping bags.

WCS has received contributions for the Winter Fund Drive from the following donors since the last update:

Cathy Glycer; Patricia & Bruce Yoxall; Harvey & Jackie Pelner-Frankie; Monte & Kathleen Lieberfarb; Peter & Deborah Greig; David & Geri Hulse-Stephens; Charlie Palmer; Morgaine Colston; Pat & Elizabeth Hart; Frank R. Howard Foundation; Richard Padula; Nancy Boone; Dave & Jenny Watts; Donna Vaiano; Helen Falandes & Clancy Rash; Wilma Justus & Judy Goggins; Stephen & Sharon Short; Phillip & Kathy Shuster; Melinda Clarke; Robin & Leland Kane; Gerardo & Barbarie Gonzalez; Restaurant El Mexicano; Linda Sobolewski; Agnes Marie Karlin; Robert & Jeri Harman; Kyn White; and 1 anonymous donor.

Willits Weekly

Caroline Bliss

“Tani” Caroline Markwell Bliss of Willits passed away on December 26, 2017 in Willits at the age of 81. She was born August 21, 1937 to John Clarey and Doris Drake. She was married to Lawrence Bliss who preceded her in death. She enjoyed sewing, going to church, visiting with friends, ranching, showing livestock, canning, baking, and gardening.

She is survived by her children Paul Sasso, Debbie Sasso, Joe Sasso, Tony Sasso, Lorena Thomson Madrone, and Sioux Wilms; 13 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, January 20, 2018 at Grace Community Church, 25 Hazel Street.

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

Please join us to celebrate the life of

Matthew Stiles

November 19, 1985 - December 10, 2017



Saturday, February 3, 2018 • 11 a.m.
Willits High School
299 North Main Street, Willits CA

A potluck reception will take place following the memorial in the Willits High School Food Center. Please bring a dish to share.

Memorial contributions to the following would be appreciated by the family:
Boy Scouts of America, Willits Troop 88, 1740 Alcott Terrace, Willits, CA 95490
Willits High School ASB Athletes 299, North Main Street, Willits, CA 95490

James Furtado, Jr.

James Joseph Furtado Jr., 74, left this life peacefully while at home in Willits on January 3, 2018.

Born in Oahu, Hawaii on February 27, 1943, Jim moved to California as a child along with his parents, James, Sr. and Leona, and younger sister Linda.

After completing his education Jim made a career of working with, selling, and training others to use precision instruments worldwide for various companies. He was well-respected for his honesty, integrity and ability to impart his knowledge to a following generation of sales and tradesmen.



He will be most remembered and revered as a family man: A father to six children with whom he spent many happy summers camping and sharing his passion for fishing many of the lakes and streams of California.

Any place Jim called home was perennially graced with a prodigious vegetable garden. He took great pleasure in growing fresh produce for his family, and anyone lucky enough to drop by during a harvest was sure to carry home a basket of fresh food.

Jim was a volunteer to many community organizations, but most proud of his 30 years of service to the Masonic Order. He was a tireless worker for both boys and girls in DeMolay and Job's Daughters respectively.

After retiring in 2008 he and his wife, Charlotte, moved to Florida to spend time with his sons and their families. While there he was bestowed the honor of Grand Master of his Masonic lodge and became a leader in raising funds for the Shriners Hospital in Tampa.

Jim and Charlotte had returned to California just a year ago to be close to their families here for what would be Jim's final stop in his life's journey.

Rest in Peace.

Jim is survived by many loved ones; most notably his wife, Charlotte Furtado, sister Linda Martinez, sons James, Michael, William and John; stepdaughters Shelley Gillette and Noelle Preston, and 12 grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church at 1 No. Main Street in Willits on Sunday, January 21 at 2 pm, with a reception following.

Larry Palmer

Larry: a seeker, a thinker, a joker, a dreamer. His journey began in North Hollywood, followed by graduation from San Diego State, life in Malibu, travel in Afghanistan, and the cultivation of family and friends in Willits and Punta Mita, Mexico.

He surrounded himself with forests, the night sky, oceans, and loved ones around the campfire.

Larry worked as a math teacher, a plumber, and a business manager in Mexico. More importantly to him, he was a brother, an uncle, a father, a grandfather, and a husband. He was proud of his kids; his eyes always lit up when his children were around. One of his grandchildren once said, "When he laughed, it made me laugh." Larry successfully constructed happiness.



It is hard to imagine Larry without a camper van. Always practical, Larry could turn a small space into a dreamer's getaway. He and his wife, Marcia, spent countless hours, days, weeks in the van, on the road.

In the latter years, Mexico developed a place of permanence in Larry's heart with its relaxed culture, open souls, and white sand beneath his bare feet. He is loved by a large community in Punta Mita, Mexico. It turns out, Larry's boisterous belly laugh, warm smile, big hugs, and tender soul was bilingual.

In the end, Larry's heart was just too big for this world. After 70 good years, Larry left this planet. Ram Dass said, "We are all just walking each other home," and Larry will be welcomed in spirit by his parents Harlan and Rosemary Palmer.

On Earth, he will continue to be celebrated by his devoted wife, Marcia, his six children, five grandchildren, and three siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

Larry often said he was more interested in becoming a human "being" than a human "doing." Come "be" with Larry and his family as we gather to memorialize Larry's life on Saturday, January 20 at the Willits Center for the Arts from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.


We hope you will join us to share your loving memories of our dear father, beloved husband, and great friend ... Larry.

ADVENTIST HEALTH HOWARD MEMORIAL INVITES YOU TO

In Concert

Jaime Jorge

Violin Virtuoso




Jaime Jorge is a talented violinist who also has an inspiring story to share.

Jaime began playing the violin at the age of five. Born and raised in communist Cuba, he was given many opportunities--including an offer to study in Moscow with some of the greatest musicians of our time--if only he and his family would renounce their belief in God. They refused. When Jaime was ten, miraculously, his family was given the opportunity to leave the country.

They came to the United States, where Jaime received a Christian education and violin lessons with eminent violinist and teacher Cyrus Forough. But Jaime dreamed of being a missionary doctor, and in 1994 he entered the University of Illinois School of Medicine. In 1996, he left medical school and a promising medical career to devote his life to full-time music ministry.

Since 1988 he has traveled over 6 million air miles and has played in North, Central and South America, Europe, Australia, Asia and Africa (6 Continents in all and over 70 countries). He has recorded and released 17 albums.



Thursday, February 1

7:00 p.m.

Willits Community Center

111 E. Commercial St.

Willits CA 95490

Free and Open to the Community!

Sponsored by Adventist Health Howard Memorial

Pg. 14 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | January 18, 2018