

Donations Accepted Edition No. 243

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Moreo will begin working for Mendocino County at the end of February.

Read the rest of
Moreo |
Over on Page 13

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The parks and recreation department was created in 1973, but was later made part of the county General Services Agency. In October 2015, the General Services Agency became part of the

Read the rest of
Combine |
Over on Page 6

Forrest Glycer
Reporter
forrest@willitsweekly.com

Watts – who owned Sanhedrin Nursery with his wife, Jenny, for more than 30 years before recently retiring – has worked with the city for many years on tree issues. Most recently, Watts did a walkthrough with city staff and Caltrans to determine which Main Street trees needed to come down. Thirteen downtown trees were eventually

Read the rest of
Trees |
Over on Page 13



Above, from left: Haley Kvasnicka, Tanner Drew, and Dominick Kvasnicka are ready for the annual Willits Educational Foundation drive-thru dinner. The to-go dinners will be packaged and ready for pick-up, complete with a rose from Flowers by Annette. Taylor Drew and Kylie Yokum show off the tickets that are still available to purchase for the February 23 event. Below: Don't worry, there's no actual "Cooley" in the beans, but little Grady Cooley knows that Melissa Goss, who will take the reins of the bean efforts this year, will do her family recipe justice by making a mass quantity of beans in the same size pot that easily fits a 8-year-old boy. That's a lot of beans!



Willits Educational Foundation holds annual drive-thru tri-tip dinner next Friday at rodeo grounds

Maureen Moore
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

Meals for four will be packaged up in brown bags, ready to go from 4 to 6 pm. Diners just need to drive up, get their meal handed to them through the window, and head right back out. No need to even get out of the car!

While this has been a traditional grouping of the Gosses, Pinons, Cooleys and Lewises, among others, this year, a new generation of volunteers is helping guide the fundraising efforts into a new era.

Melissa Goss will be manning the family recipe for beans this year; Windi Kvasnicka, Nancy Coffman and

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



Above: Current new generation (and the next one, too!) Willits Educational Foundation volunteers pose together at Willits Frontier Days rodeo grounds, where the annual drive-thru dinner will take place February 23, including, from left: Windi Kvasnicka, Kylie Yokum (in front), Haley Kvasnicka, Maci Yokum, Dominick Kvasnicka, Tanner Drew, Grady Cooley, Lisa Yokum, Clayton Cooley and Jenn Drew. Holding the sign in front: Stan Cooley, at left, and Taylor Drew, at right. Below, left: The usual motto of a busy and community-focused person is (jokingly) embroidered across the front of the apron of Willits Educational Foundation President Jenn Drew. Below, right: Tickets are still available, but not for long!



Dan McKee
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Sheriff Tom Allman told Willits Weekly Wednesday morning that three Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies and two Willits Police Department officers were involved in the chase.

Read the rest of
Chase |
Over on Page 6

Joanne Moore
Reporter
joanne@willitsweekly.com

Willits Teachers Association members weighed in on Superintendent Mark Westerburg's elementary schools reconfiguration plans, drinking water woes at all the schools, and the high school parking lot blues at last week's meeting of the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees.

The November 7 meeting was held at Sanhedrin High School and began with school Director Jeff Ritchley “sharing the changes” at Sanhedrin, including the new adult ed program with 24 current students.

Students Olivia Tobar

Read the rest of **WUSD** |
Over on Page 6

Mendocino County sheriff's detectives are seeking a Round Valley man who may have abducted his girlfriend at gunpoint last week.

The woman in question, Khadijah Britton, 23, is considered an "at-risk" missing person, says sheriff's Lt. Shannon Barney.

The Sheriff's Office was contacted on Monday, February 12, about the possible kidnapping, which occurred on Friday, February 9, Barney said.

A witness told sheriff's deputies 27-year-old Negie Fallis of Covelo arrived at Britton's home in the 230000 block of Airport Road at around midnight, armed with what appeared to be a

Read the rest of
Missing |
Over on Page 13

Cancer Resource Center needs drivers

To the Editor:

The Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County is in need of a few more volunteer drivers in the Willits area. At CRC, we provide information and assistance to anyone faced with cancer in Mendocino County. In 2017, 24 percent of our clients came from the Willits area.

Some of our clients are not able to drive themselves to appointments, do not own a car, or cannot afford to have a family member take time off work to drive them to appointments.

Volunteer drivers have their own safe, reliable vehicle, current insurance, and a clean driving record. Volunteer drivers can choose how often and how far they are willing to drive. Most of all, volunteer drivers have a heart to help someone who is undergoing cancer treatment. If you can help, please call our Ukiah office at 467-3828 or e-mail our Ukiah volunteer coordinator, Jill Longcier, Jill@crmendocino.org.

A cancer diagnosis can feel overwhelming. Getting to a medical appointment is a problem we can solve when we work together.

Karen Oslund, executive director, Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County

Turning passion into profit

To the Editor:

A free Town Hall forum on Sunday, February 25 will bring together people who have ideas, resources and enterprises to help make Willits thrive. The event, sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization), takes place from 4 to 6 pm at the Willits Environmental Hub, 630 South Main Street, Willits.

Willits is at a crossroads, facing challenges post-bypass, renewing downtown, cannabis legalization, the need for good jobs and housing, and more. This community forum will explore ideas and practical tools for improving the greater Willits economy.

The first hour of the forum will feature representatives from agencies that can help grow businesses as well as entrepreneurs who are already doing so. The second hour will include Q&A, ideas from the audience, and networking.

Presenters from organizations include:

• Heather Gurewitz, executive director of EDFC (Economic Development & Financing Corporation). EDFC is a non-profit agency, founded in 1995, that engages in economic development throughout Mendocino and Lake counties. They offer alternative financing for small businesses and

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

social entrepreneurs.

• Mary Anne Petrillo, CEO of West Company, a non-profit that specializes in business development. They provide no-cost consulting services to aspiring and existing small business owners in Mendocino County.

• Saprina Rodriguez, Willits vice mayor, who recently formed the Willits Tourism Board to stimulate and publicize the attractions Willits offers tourists as well as residents.

• Allison Findley, director of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. She will outline how the chamber supports our local businesses.

• Bob Perrault, interim manager for the City of Willits, who will discuss ways the city can encourage and facilitate business development.

In addition, we will hear from several entrepreneurs – their experiences, challenges, and successes in establishing new or expanding businesses. These include:

• Danny Church, owner of Gateway Games

• Janae Stephens, owner of Organic Attire

• Laura Toomey Rowland, seeking to start a food vendor business

• Jim Smith, an internet marketing guru from Fort Bragg

• Jason Morash, local marketing/PR specialist

The forum and community discussion will be facilitated by Emily Rose Smith and Madge Strong, Willits mayor and president of WELL.

For info contact Madge at 459-1493 or mstrong@willitsonline.com

Madge Strong, Willits

Getting ready for the 4th

To the Editor:

Willits Frontier Days would like to say a special thank you to all the volunteers and to the wonderful community we live in for all your support through bleacher repairs that were done in 2017. A big thank you to Nor-Cal Concrete, Northern Aggregates, Mendocino Construction Services, Todd Hollifield of Hollifield Construction, Bud Garman and Sons, Smith Concrete Construction, Granite Paving, Sparetime Supply, the City of Willits, Cathy Moorhead, William England, Bruce Cartwright, Fred Barry, Jeff Duncan, Billy Rutler, John Thomen, Paul Riley, Alexis England, and Shelly Campbell for all of their hard work.

We have had a few inquiries regarding the 2018 schedule

and while the schedule for the rotating events is almost finalized, the standard line-up will remain as it traditionally has been for Tuesday, July 3 and Wednesday, July 4. July

3 will feature the night California Cowboys Professional Rodeo Association Rodeo and street dance, and July 4 will have the Fourth of July parade, barbecue and the CCPRA day rodeo. Make sure to check www.WillitsFrontierDays.com for the official 2018 schedule as soon as it becomes available.

We are looking forward to our 2018 season of events and hope to see you all there.

Marcy Barry, Willits Frontier Days vice president, Willits

WCS drive up to \$32,475

To the Editor:

As of February 14, the Willits Community Services Winter Fund Drive is up to a total of \$32,475 – close to its goal of \$34,000 – thanks to the latest donations from the community members listed below:

Walter & Mary Abramson, Betty Alexander, American Legion Post No. 174, Kimberly Bancroft, Beebe Family, Carrie & Thomas Brigham, Buckeye Construction, Erin Carney & Jane Fletcher, Bob & Jamie Chevalier, L Cid Construction, Catherine Edison, Amy Elliott, Michel Frey, Patricia Glinski, Cliff Gossett, Robert Houtz, Bruce Jackson & Maude Honemann, Geraldine Lassner, Elizabeth Janich & Earl Poytress, Robin Leler, Robert and Denise Mattos, LNS Welding and Fabrication, Cathy Monroe, P.L. Parker, Margaret Pirouette, Ponderosa and Sun Realty, Redwood Mortgage Client Nancy and Keith Rutledge, Dobbe Wattenberg & Don Willis, Willits Mini Storage LLC, Gwen and Roscoe Wood, and one anonymous donor.

Please help us continue to provide essential services to our community by helping us reach our Winter Fund Drive goal of \$34,000. Donations (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.

Donate online via the PayPal Giving Fund. Open this link: https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/hub, then search for “Willits Community Services.” Or donate through eBay Charities. Open this link: http://charity.ebay.com/charity/search/ and search for “Willits Community Services.”

All contributions are very much appreciated.

Jim Marill, director, Willits Community Services

Mendocino County Library offers new online eBooks in Spanish

More eBooks in Spanish are now available for Mendocino County communities. Using library account credentials to log in, patrons can quickly browse, click and enjoy over 1,000 new Spanish titles at https://mendo.odilo.us.

The eBook management platform, powered by Odilo, features quality Spanish titles from hundreds of publishers, to better serve the needs of the Hispanic community. Odilo is a privately held Spanish- and USA-based company dedicated to developing the most innovative and creative solutions for libraries.

“The Hispanic and Latino population makes up 25 percent of our community (according to www.census.gov), and now the library offers over 1,000 popular and bestselling eBooks in Spanish,” said Karen Homer, county librarian. “This provides much more quality Spanish-language content for our patrons than was previously available.”

Library patrons will also appreciate the ability to enjoy the new digital content on any device, whether a Chromebook; eBook reader (Sony Reader, Barnes & Noble NOOK, Kobo eReader, Amazon Kindle eReaders); iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch; PC or Mac computer; or anything Android. Readers will never incur any late fees – as titles automatically expire and return to the library collection.

– Submitted by the Mendocino County Library



At left: Runners take off at the start of the 5K and 10 mile races.

Below, from left: Michelle Kluskiewicz with one of her Kids on the Run participants, Sylvester Santamaria Jr. and his aunt, Brittany Perez, and mom, Sandra Santamaria.

Marian Lohne, vice principal and athletic director at WHS, is ready to run the 5K.

Jaden Johnson and her cheering section: brother, Bubby Johnson, and grandma, Mary Belden.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Willits Classic

All ages brave the cold to compete in annual 5K and 10 mile races

On a blistery cold morning at the Recreation Grove, people of all ages (2 to 86), sexes, species and abilities gathered to challenge themselves against the elements, other runners and themselves. Could they run the entire course? Could they beat their own personal bests? Could they be the best of all the other runners in the 5K (3.2 mile) or the 10 mile race?

“It-it-it’s the p-p-p-perfect ru-ru-running w-w-w-weather” was heard from some of the participants through chattering teeth and clouds of condensed breath. Some runners had the look of “what have I gotten myself into?” but all were up and ready for the task ahead.

The race is under the auspices of the North Coast Striders, who have produced the event since 1980 – 38 years of fun and challenge. One of the other entities benefitting from and participating in the Willits Classic race is Kids on the Run, an organization sponsored by the Sheriff’s Activity League. Their purpose is to “bring out kids in the community to run, get some exercise” and have something for the kids to do in the summers.

Starting again on April 11, Kids on the Run provides a place for kids, age 3 to 18, to run once a week and compete in a race once a month. “We teach kids how to run in the proper way. Kids without training tend to go out and try to sprint all the way,” said Coach Jeanna Henebury. “Then they burn out and if you do that all the time you end up getting injured. We try to teach them how to warm up and learn how to pace themselves. Running is the foundation of every sport. If you run, then you can try out all other sports. You already have

that layer of strength,” Henebury concluded.

Kids on the Run also is coached by Michelle Kluskiewicz, who is also cross country coach at Willits High School. Kluskiewicz was excited that two students on her WHS cross country team ran their first 10 mile races as part of the Willits Classic, and both got first in their age group. Call Kluskiewicz at 267-608-6262 for more about joining Kids on the Run.

There was a new event this year, a race for the kids, ages 4 to 10, although one brave 2-year-old made it through the .89 mile course with the help of his mom. One of these youngsters, Kids Race winner Jonas Swearengin (under 9 category), went on to participate in the 10 mile race and came in under two hours.

At 10 am, the remainder of the racers lined up for both the 10 mile and the 5K races. The course was to be similar although the 5K racers would double back at a point on Center Valley Road. Basically, the course began at the Rec Grove, went up Commercial Street, right on Bray Road for one mile, left for a bit, then right on Center Valley Road, left on East Hill Road, left on East Side Road, left on Canyon Road, left again on Hearst Road, back to Commercial Street, back on Bray Road, and then around to Rec Grove for the finish.

The race course was well-marked and staffed, even though at least one of the participants took a wrong turn at one point, when her attention lagged, and ended up running an extra mile. The North Coast Striders were once again doing the timing by hand this year, after a trial from Ready Set Go, a race-timing company out of Florida who donated their services last year.

Eighty-seven brave souls participated in the 5K race. The top three finishers were female, Kianna Ruffin (21:54), Anna Cobb (21:59), and

Noelle Cobb 22:50). “I feel great,” said Ruffin. “I turned the corner and thought, ‘It’s still a long ways to go’ and then I saw the clock, ‘There’s the finish!’ I do track at Pomolita School to stay in shape.”

The first three places in the 10 mile race were won by Alexander Kramer (59:23), Ryan Veness (1:02:15), and Randy Esson (1:15:23). Twenty-three intrepid and well-toned runners opted for this distance.

This year, the Striders opted to forgo the Winner’s Ceremony and instead gave out the ribbons and other prizes at the finish line so that the 5K winners would not have to wait in the cold for up to an hour as the 10 milers came to the finish line.

The North Coast Striders was founded in 1980 to promote people of all types and ages to keep in good health by walking and running. Most participants live in Mendocino and Lake counties, which allows them to run through “some of the most beautiful and undisturbed scenery in all of California,” states their website, www.striders.org. The club’s mailing address is: North Coast Striders, P.O. Box 1556, Ukiah, CA 95482. The current president is Rodger Schwartz, who also gives the often hilarious pre-race instructions to the runners.

The Striders hold five main races each year. In addition to the Willits Classic in February, there is the Boontling Classic 5K (May 6, 2018); Legends of the Redwoods 10K and 5K run/walk (July 8, 2018); the Turkey Trot Prediction Contest 5K run/walk (November 17, 2018); and the Annual Christmas 5K and Annual Meeting (date to be arranged).

The Striders would like to thank sponsor Adventist Health Howard Memorial for their generous support.



Above, from left: Alexander Kramer, winner of the 10 mile race, rests after his run. Past Olympian Bob Deines, 70, at Sunday’s race. Kristy Moss and Jack the dog keep pace together. Lois Cook, 86 years old, was the oldest runner in the race. Jed Swearengin, the youngest 5K racer, is happy to win.

Race Results

Willits Classic 5K 2018 selected results

Overall Female 5K

1st Kianna Ruffin F13 21:54
2nd Anna Cobb F10 21:59
3rd Noelle Cobb F17 22:50
Age Group Winners 5K 9 & under
1st Ella Cobb 31:35
2nd Andie Wattenburger 38:08
3rd Brilee Luhr 62:21

10 - 13

1st Kianna Ruffin 21:54
2nd Anna Cobb 21:59
3rd Emily Henebury 31:15
14 - 17
1st Noelle Cobb 22:50
2nd Emylia Ruffin 28:59
3rd Krystina Ruffin 28:59
18 - 29
1st Alex Nelson 27:42
2nd Emiliee Feenan 29:20
3rd Simba Souza 31:15

30 - 39

1st Ari Gray 23:33
2nd Lauren Green 25:56
3rd Sarah Dusky 25:58

40 - 49

1st Erin Fitzpatrick 30:47
2nd Sheri Cobb 31:28
3rd Carol Gibson 33:31
50 - 59
1st Nola Hontou-Marshall 25:39
2nd Jan Tiedeman 32:44
3rd Trish Steel 33:53

60 - 69

1st Elizabeth Lehmborg 30:00
2nd Carol Jadiker 32:48
3rd Susan Craig 38:04
70+
1st Pollydanna Johnston 46:31
2nd Helen Tepas 46:34
3rd Joann Scheiter 47:20

Overall Male 5K

1st Philip Henebury 22:51
2nd Erik Sorensen 22:51
3rd Victor Loi 23:00

Age Group Winners 5K 9 & Under

1st Devonte Guerara 25:56
2nd Carmine Guerara 26:06
3rd Jed Cobb 29:00

10 - 13

1st Spencer Wood 38:08
2nd Guy Glentzer 46:23
14 - 17

1st Philip Henebury 22:51
18 - 29
1st Victor Loi 23:00
2nd Alberto Gutierrez 27:51
3rd Jason Morash 35:02

Read the rest of Results Over on Page 15

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Crossword
Puzzle &
Sudoku

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		1				6			

Level: Advanced

MAKE A MEAL WORD SEARCH

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BOIL	DICE	GREASE	SALTY
BROIL	DINNER	GRILL	SAUTE
CHILL	DOT	INGREDIENT	SIFTED
CHOP	DRAIN	KNEAD	SIMMER
COMBINE	FLOUR	MEAL	STOVETOP
CREAM	FOLD	PAN FRY	SUGAR
CUBE	FRYING	PASTRY	SWEETENED
CUT	GARNISH	PEELING	TOSS
DESSERT	GRATE	ROLL	WHIP

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CLUES ACROSS

- Emperor of Russia
- Abounding in rocks
- Increase in speed
- Music app
- Not nice
- Tables (Span.)
- Decomposes
- ___ student: learns healing
- Nursemaid
- Joke-teller
- Male parent
- Group of countries (abbr.)
- 'Rambling Rose' actor Lukas
- Midway between south and southwest
- Cartoon Network (abbr.)
- Peacock network
- Principal ethnic group of China
- Made of fermented honey and water
- Exclamation of surprise
- Evaluates skill or knowledge
- Stage in ecological succession
- Ethnic group of SE Asia
- Not small
- A cat is one
- Broken piece
- French president
- Artist's workshop
- Ability to apply knowledge and skills
- Visually stunning
- Ancient region south of Dead Sea

CLUES DOWN

- Used to pour beer
- Con game
- Skin disorder
- Communists (slang)
- Subjects to hostility
- A major division of geological time
- Hitting statistic (abbr.)
- British thermal unit
- Influential envoy to Woodrow Wilson
- Fits on neck of animal
- Fertile soil
- Type of battery
- Khoikhoi peoples
- Consist of two parts

- Small group of trees
- Execute or perform
- Millihenry
- 007's creator
- Associated with esoteric doctrine
- Electronic countermeasures
- Schenectady County Airport
- No (Scottish)
- Position of leadership
- Statement
- Raccoons belong to this genus
- One who diagnoses
- True mosses
- Blood type
- Albanian
- Emergency response notification system
- College reservists
- Away from wind
- Tough outer layer
- Art ___, around 1920
- Born of
- The greatest of all time
- Georgia rockers
- Natural logarithm

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

February 5 to February 11

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **191** incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

February 5

11:17 am: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 1100 block of Locust Street.

1:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 200 block of South Main Street.

1:31 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.

4:10 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 21000 block of Poplar Avenue.

4:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Kawi Place.

5:34 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 4500 block of Ridgewood Road.

February 6

9:55 am: MAXFIELD, Justin Case (21) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11550 H&S (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance), 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation), and on misdemeanor charges of disobeying a court order.

10:09 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 300 block of Lenore Avenue.

10:27 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 800 block of Hearst Willits Road.

2:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

3:17 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

6:48 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street.

7:59 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 200 block of Holly Street.

9:50 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of South Main Street.

February 7

9:04 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

9:36 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

10:52 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East Valley Street.

12:15 pm: Officers responded to a report

of threats in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

1:09 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

5:15 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

6:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

February 8

7:03 am: SIMPSON, Gerald Crandall (48) of Willits was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole and on misdemeanor charges of arson.

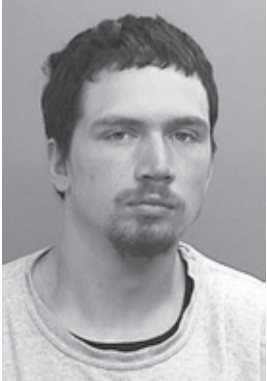
7:34 am: MARTIN, Barry Andrew (29) of Willits was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to felony 22210 PC (Possession of a Prohibited Weapon).

8:32 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1000 block of Magnolia Avenue.

10:27 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of North Main Street.

10:27 am: AMADOR, David Carlos (33) of Willits was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.

2:05 pm: BUZZARD, Lukus Bradley (19) of Willits was contacted in the 500 block of Railroad Avenue. He was arrested pursuant to 10851 (A) VC (Unlawful Taking or Driving of a Vehicle), 14601 VC (Driving on a Suspended or Revoked License), on felony charges of vandalism/destruction of property and failure to appear, and on misdemeanor charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and failure to appear.



Lukus Bradley Buzzard of Willits.

1:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

5:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

8:33 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

February 10

2:47 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Main Street.

4:24 am: RUIZ, Margarito Fuentes (56) of Ukiah was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested

Read the rest of WPD | Over on Page 11

LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CALLS

February 7 to February 11

by LLFD Training Chief Eric Alvarez

02-07-18 (East Mendocino Avenue)

Medical assist: Little Lake Fire responded to a medical assist: upon arrival the patient was standing in the hallway and needed assistance to another room of the house. After assisting the occupant, a routine check was conducted and found the patient to be within their normal limits. 13 firefighters responded for service.

02-07-18 (North Main Street)

Traffic accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported traffic accident; upon arrival both vehicles were off the roadway. The occupants of the vehicles were uninjured. Little Lake Fire checked for any fluid loss by the vehicles, after no leakage was observed fire was released. 13 firefighters responded for service.

02-10-18 (Highway 101, mile marker 41)

Vehicle fire: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported commercial vehicle fire at mile

marker 41. Both CalFire and Little Lake Fire searched the reported area given. An extended search north of Willits was conducted, and no incident was located. 9 firefighters responded for service.

02-11-18 (Sherwood Road)

Little Lake Fire responded to a reported traffic accident on Sherwood Road. Both Brooktrails Fire and Little Lake Fire assisted with patient care, roadway clean-up, and one-way traffic control. One patient was transported by the medic unit at scene to Howard Memorial Hospital. 11 firefighters responded for service.

02-11-18 (Shafer Ranch Road)

Medical assist: Little Lake Fire responded to a lift assist on Shafer Ranch Road. Fire assisted the medic unit at scene. 1 duty officer responded for service.



At left: Jossie and her dad, Gabe Svendsen, spend some time together. At left, below: Courtney Potter, Stormmie Fischbach and Isabella Knight enjoy having a place to go after school. Below: The front of Jossie's Games at 20 Wood Street.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Jossie's Games

New downtown arcade offers a fun and safe place for kids to play

What do you do when you have full custody of a 7-year-old first-grader and you need a place where she can be happy and occupied and with you while you work? Gabe Svendsen was faced with this puzzle. For the last year he thought about it and worked on a solution. The result was the newly opened Jossie's Games, named after his precious little girl, Jocelyn, who can be seen working and playing at the arcade after school. There was another reason for opening this whimsical throwback entertainment hall – to give the youth of Willits somewhere to go to have some good clean fun, to experience an array of arcade games or play some pool, free from an atmosphere of drinking and drugs.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

"I grew up around TNT [on Commercial Street], and that's the main place my friends and I went to. This is actually the pool table from there," explains Svendsen, "I also have the air hockey table from there. I'm doing a foundation in that room [indicating a closed door behind the arcade games] and when that's done, I'm going to put the air hockey table in there as well as the arcade games. I'm going to have a popcorn machine as well. I'll have more drinks. Right now I sell water and Star Wars drinks. I want to do more and more. People tell me what they would want, and I try and listen to the customer and slowly get things I need to get."

Svendsen has another professional life as well. Since graduating from Willits High School in 2005, he has been a "drywall foreman, specializing in Old World textures. I don't really like it. I'm just good at it. I take my kid to school at Brookside and do drywall until 2 pm, and then I pick Jossie up and come to work here. I bring her here and she sweeps

and I give her something for her chores. She likes being here. I wanted a place that she would like to be at while I work."

Shawna Reese was in the arcade with her daughter Rainya who was intently playing "Pac-Man." It was Rainya's second time at the place and Reese's first. "It's really nice to have someplace to have a game arcade in town for the kids to have something to do. We always have to drive to Ukiah to have a place to do something. If Rainya weren't here she would be at the house, and I would have to try and get her to do chores. She would be like, 'I'm bored. Let's go do something.' She wanted to come here and play."

Josh Potter was reliving some portions of his youth, playing "Super Mario Brothers" as his daughter Courtney and her friends were engaged in a game of pool. "This is a throwback to my youth. It's nice that kids have something to do. There are not a lot of places in town where kids can do something after school or on weekends. Back in my day, it was TNT. Now they again have something to do, and it's safe."

To give something back to the community, Svendsen opens up the arcade on Thursdays, after hours, for Elevate, a group for troubled youth. He puts everything on free play. They bring food and just enjoy the ability to have a place to chill.

Svendsen had been selling video games out of his car for several years and has brought that business under the arcade roof with a nice selection of

Read the rest of Jossie's | Over on Page 15



At left: Several throwback arcade games are packed into the space. Below, left: The old TNT pool table sits in the middle of a room covered with drawings by children and Svendsen. Below: Whimsical art by Svendsen adorns the walls. At right: Gabe Svendsen welcomes patrons at the door of 20 Wood Street.

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Fri/Sat:
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(3D) 3:30pm
Sun:
(2D) 6:30 & 9:30pm (3D) 3:30pm
Mon:
(2D) 1:30 & 7:30pm (3D) 4:30pm
Tues-Thurs:
(2D) 7:30 pm (3D) 4:30pm

Movie Times for 2/16 thru 2/22

PETER RABBIT

(PG) 1 hr 35 mins
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12:45, 3:00, 5:15 & 7:30pm
Sun:
3:00, 5:15 & 7:30pm
Mon:
2:00, 4:15 & 6:30pm
Tues-Thurs:
4:15 & 6:30pm

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According to an update from MCSO later on Wednesday: "The three deputy sheriffs involved in the shooting incident have been placed on paid administrative leave in accordance with Sheriff's Office standard procedure, pending the ongoing investigation by the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office. The three have been employed at the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for a total of 30 years, 11 years and four years respectively."

According to a Tuesday afternoon press release from the Sheriff's Office, 48-year-old Dawn Elika Center stole a Chevrolet Camaro at gunpoint from Thurston Auto Center in the 2800 block of North State Street at about 9:25 am on Tuesday morning.

A short time later, a Mendocino County sheriff's deputy "spotted the Camaro traveling at a high rate of speed northbound on Highway 101 near the CalFire Howard Forest station a few miles south of the city of Willits," the press release stated.

The deputy attempted to make a traffic stop on the Camaro, but Center refused to pull over, "and a pursuit ensued at speeds over 100 mph onto the Highway 101 bypass."

Additional sheriff's deputies joined the pursuit along with officers from the Willits Police Department.

"A short time later," the press release continued, "the Camaro crashed along the roadside of Highway 101 at mile marker 49.10 north of the bypass." Center "exited the Camaro while holding a handgun and subsequently confronted the pursuing deputy sheriffs and officers. A shooting resulted and [Center] died at the scene."

No deputies or officers were injured during the incident.

Highway 101 was closed to both directions of traffic while investigators from the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office processed the shooting scene. It reopened at 4:50 pm.

In a Tuesday night Facebook statement, Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman praised the bravery of the officers involved in the incident, saying they "were called to intercept a very dangerous situation and ended up having to defend themselves from deadly force."

"This is an option that law enforcement officers train for," he added, "yet pray they will never have to perform."

The officers, he said "protected innocent motorists, who were witnessing a very dangerous and, ultimately deadly, situation. As sheriff, I want to publicly tell these law enforcement officers and their families they are appreciated for helping keep our county safe."

"With the passage of Measure B [the Mental Health Treatment Act, which passed with 83.53 percent approval in November]," he added, "I hope and pray these situations decrease."

The DA's Office spokesman sent out a copy of the MCSO press release, adding: "The District Attorney's Office will oversee the investigation into the shooting. There will be no further comment by the DA's Office on any details until that investigation is complete."

The incident Tuesday morning marked the second reported high-speed chase in three days up Highway 101 from Ukiah to Willits.

Social media was abuzz Saturday morning with reports of a high-speed chase on northbound Highway 101 at speeds reaching between 120 and 150 mph.

The chase, recorded in "real time" through Facebook postings based on police scanner reports, allegedly involved three burglary suspects in a black BMW. It started in Ukiah around 6:25 am, according to the Facebook reports. The suspects reportedly turned around on the Willits bypass, exiting at the southern interchange, and abandoned the vehicle on South Main Street near Monica Lane. A search was subsequently conducted.

Adventist Health Howard Memorial was locked down for about an hour during the incident, according to a post on the hospital's Facebook page.

The Ukiah office of the California Highway Patrol said it had no information regarding the chase.

Calls to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for information on Saturday's incident were not returned.

county Executive Office. The seven parks owned by Mendocino County – none in the Willits area – are maintained by the Facilities and Fleets Division of the Executive Office.

The plans to combine the library, the museum, and parks into one agency were announced by First District Supervisor Carre Brown during a special meeting of the Museum Advisory Board held Monday morning at the museum.

Brown made her announcement after Acting Museum Director Karen Horner and Deputy Executive Officer Jenelle Rau introduced Curator Karen Mattson to the advisory board. Mattson talked about the relatively poor condition the museum was in when she began working there in November.

She noted the museum had been treated for mold infestation from June to October 2017, and there had been a serious moth infestation recently, in addition to other problems she had seen.

Rau also spoke about the administrative confusion she and Horner encountered when they took over management of the museum following the retirement of former director Alison Glassey in late August 2017. "I've worked for the county a long time, and I've never seen such a breach of government protocols," Rau said.

Brown said the board of supervisors were aware of the situation and aware the situation had existed for quite some time. Brown said one of the main causes of the lapse in supervisory oversight was that the museum is such a small department. She said the museum "fell off the board's radar."

"I don't want this to fall off the radar screen ever again."

When asked by Mendocino College Representative Rebecca Montes when this proposed change would be happening, Rau told the advisory board that the change was "in the works" and added it would likely happen within the next few months. Brown said that she believed that the board of supervisors were supportive of the change.

In addition to county administration telling the advisory board what direction museum management would likely take, the advisory board told the administration they were very unhappy about the lack of communication between themselves and county government.

City of Willits Representative Saprina Rodriguez was especially vocal.

Rodriguez noted that Deputy CEO Rau had told the advisory board in November that the advisory board would have to create the agenda for its meetings. When Rodriguez did that for the February meeting, Horner wrote her own agenda, superseding the one written by Rodriguez.

Horner's agenda was very similar to Rodriguez's agenda, but did not specifically mention there would be reports on the budget, on museum staffing, on museum operations, and on the state of the collection – all items the advisory board had requested be

discussed at the February meeting. Horner told Rodriguez she would report on those things in her museum director's report, which was part of the official agenda.

However, advisory board members spent so much time discussing the poor communication between the museum advisory board and the county, and so much time discussing Supervisor Brown's announcement, that Horner did not have time to give detailed reports about any of the items the advisory board wanted information on.

Horner did say the county executive office was considering the museum's budget and staffing needs, but neither Rau nor Horner asked the advisory board what it thought about those topics.

Rau explained to Rodriguez why Horner had superseded Rodriguez's agenda with her own. Since the November meeting, she said, Rau and Horner had discovered the advisory board's by-laws. The by-laws state the museum director will work with the board chair to make up the meeting agenda. She added the county counsel's office had told Horner it needed to be done that way, and that doing it any other way would circumvent advisory board by-laws.

Rodriguez replied she wasn't certain why the advisory board existed. "It now appears to me that we're not advising anybody," she said. "Then, I'd like to know, why are we meeting? Why do we exist?"

Roots of Motive Power Representative Troy James echoed Rodriguez when he said, "The general attitude of this board is, we have no idea what the hell is going on."

Horner said the executive office is considering adding staff to the museum, noting Mattson had requested the county hire an archivist to work in the museum.

Mattson confirmed she wanted an archivist to be hired, adding she thought the museum should also hire a program specialist or program manager.

Paloma Patterson, who had worked for the past four years at the museum as an administrative services supervisor, has resigned, and that position remains unfilled.

Currently the museum has approximately three and one-third staff positions filled. There are two part-time, extra-help office staff, a fulltime curator, a fulltime administrative assistant, and Horner, now acting-museum director in addition to her duties as county librarian.

As the meeting was ending, the five members present elected new officers. Montes was elected chairwoman and Rodriguez elected vice chairwoman, both unanimously.

By general acclamation, the advisory board decided to meet monthly rather than every other month.

Members noted that seats for the second, fourth and fifth supervisory districts on the advisory board are either vacant or will be vacant soon.

The next meeting of the advisory board will be held on March 12 at 10 am.

and Kaylee Novo read their poems for the board, and a diploma was proudly awarded to Alejandro Del Aguila. English/science/art teacher Yuliyia Ritchley spoke of the wide array of academic, career planning, and life skill classes offered at the school, as well as the connections being forged with other institutions for students' continued education after high school – the Culinary Institute of America in St. Helena being the latest.

"We help students figure out what they want to do once they graduate," she said.

The required presentation of an attendance report to the board by the superintendent provided Westerburg with the opportunity – because there "had been discussion on the issue" – to inform the board that 100 percent of the teaching staff met the criteria for their classroom. The "teachers are all fully certified," he said.

WTA President John Haschak personally thanked Westerburg for "making a pathway for my son to graduate, and then laid out teachers' "many concerns [with respect to] lead in the water at Brookside ... [and] ... deep concerns" [about how Westerburg's reconfiguration plan] ... would affect our students."

Concerning the water situation, Haschak said: "Some bring bottled water from home. Some teachers provide them." He cited state law requiring testing and said it "seems like it should be done as soon as possible."

Brookside is not the district's only building with water problems. "The same things exist in probably every building we have," said Westerburg. "The high school date is 1929. All you've got to do is go down in the basement and see the boiler, and you know where the Titanic's boiler went."

"We tested at every site," Westerburg continued. "The issue with lead at Brookside is very minimal.... You and I would say no level is acceptable ... [but] the city won't help. It's well within their range of acceptable."

He added the district was looking at different scenarios. First, clean the pipes. "We roto-rooted every pipe," he said. "Then, because the issue might be coming from the fixtures themselves, we looked at all the fixtures.... Every one has really old drinking water fixtures. We're testing that now in all of the classrooms."

A state-of-the-art replacement for the cafeteria fountain at Brookside that filters and cools water has been purchased, and a location for another one is under consideration.

"We're painfully aware of it," said Westerburg.

Measured by the number of people who addressed the board and superintendent with their concerns, Westerburg's reconfiguration plan for the district's elementary schools was the hot topic of the evening.

Five teachers, a Brookside employee, and a parent shared their concerns, repeatedly expressing the fear that major changes were in the process of being implemented and they were not being heard.

"There are a lot of questions about the reconfiguration plan," said Haschak. "WTA has conducted its own survey of how teachers, counselors and psychologists feel about the proposed ideas. We also had a meeting at each site and a meeting for all WTA members."

"What we heard from educators was a deep concern about how any plan would affect our students," he said. "Two areas of serious concern are grouping all English language-learning students at one site and the full inclusion of moderate-to-severe special ed students [with general education students]."

"The concern is that the reconfiguration plan is being implemented before consideration of staff, parent and community opinions are heard," Haschak said to a round of applause.

Westerburg responded at length, reassuring those in attendance that "there's no talk about English language splits" or full inclusion of special ed students in regular classrooms.

He added that "reconfiguring K-5 is not an option for a lot of reasons. One, it's too dramatic of a change right now.... There's no reconfiguration plan. Our data didn't support that."

He informed the board and the teachers about responses he had just

received to a survey sent to all parents. He also laid out the decision-making process and priorities when it came to any changes that will eventually be made. And he described the options the district may actually offer to parents of elementary school students in the near future, as well as those options that are no longer on the table.

"I'm really pleased because we got about 60 percent of our parents to respond, which is a great number," said Westerburg. "I feel great about the data. The data was really good."

As far as process, "the community's first. The board's second. I go to the teachers ... and see how we can make this happen," said Westerburg. "That's how it has to work because we have to reflect what the community wants."

Board President Alex Bowlds and Trustee Christopher Neary expressed support for Westerburg.

Neary, in response to teachers' complaints that they don't feel heard and want to be asked about possible changes, responded saying: "I'm a lawyer, so I want to quibble over words a little bit. I think what we do is consult with teachers.... We do have a centralized command structure. Decisions are made in the district office. I fully support consultations with the teachers."

Bowlds agreed: "We firmly believe the teachers have a great deal to offer. You do need to be heard.... When the rubber hits the road, someone does have to make a decision.... We have no interest in making decisions in a void. We value your input. Like the superintendent said, there is a process. We're committed to that process."

One thing the community clearly did want, Westerburg said, was "having a bussing split between middle school and high school and elementary. That was a no brainer." As far as other things, he said: "Lots of people liked transitional first [for students below average while in kindergarten], and there's a significant number of people who are interested in maybe a multi-age [lower-grade classroom] at Blosser, because there was a group of people who wanted to have their kids in the same building. We may offer that as an option." And, if a teacher is interested in looping, we'll have that conversation with the teacher. We'll put it as an option."

Looping involves having the same teacher in the same classroom and the same classmates for first and second grade and also for third and fourth grades.

"My goal is very simple. I want us to get better academically. I want to draw students. I want to make us the district of choice," Westerburg said. "We had a very significant plan when I came on to restructure middle and high school and alternative education – to get those turned around quickly. And it's worked very well. The plan was to have a curriculum in place for K-5. We have new benchmarks and everyday math."

"My role is to really engage the community in the school. That doesn't mean make everybody happy. I'm a school improvement person. That's what I'm here for. I'm not here to make sure everybody's happy."

"It would have been easy to come into Willits and just try and keep people happy because nobody was happy with anybody when I got here," Westerburg said. "That would have been easy to just sit and stay status quo and maintain it.... That's not who I am. I want to be the best school in the area.... That's my goal. It's never changed. It's never going to waiver. We have great potential. That's my job is to try and tap it."

On to the high school parking lot – where parking is no longer allowed in front of the building, on the west side of 101. Trustee Neary brought the issue up as an item that needed attention.

Westerburg explained the city's choice to make a bike path through town precluded parking there, but added he had created 15 new parking spots in the Veterans Memorial Building next door, after working with the American Legion.

Unfortunately, the district's insurance carrier has indicated the high school parking lot needs repairs. "We clearly are going to be in the 'fix mode' there," he said.

Finally, on a positive note, Westerburg gave Baecht Grove the "gold star for improvements this year."

"They've had a tremendous turnaround," he said. "It's super noticeable."

Fire Benefit

Art Center to host 'multifarious mélange of music' to raise money for fire relief

Five local bands will be gathering at the Willits Center for the Arts on February 24 for a benefit to help with long-term relief of victims who were affected by the Redwood Fire in October. The event will also include many local vendors selling arts, crafts and clothing, a raffle, and food and drinks for sale.

Amanda Sears thought up the event and led the organization efforts with her company Freqs Entertainment. She said she felt compelled to try to inspire the community to continue to support those in need.

"They need some long-term assistance," she said of the wildfire victims. "It's probably going to be a long process for them to put their lives back together. I just wanted to kind of boost awareness that they still need help. I thought that this would be a good idea to try to help families get back what they lost or at least try to."

The proceeds will go to North Coast Opportunities, which has been collecting donations to help those affected by the fires since they occurred. As of December 8, they had dispersed a total of \$652,238 in Mendocino County for that purpose, according to their website.

The "multifarious mélange of music" as described by the event's poster, includes the bands The Cult of Ours, Lightning Amen, Self Fulfilling Prophecies, Chaga and Clay

Hawkins XChange.

Sears said the musicians in the bands and many others were eager to contribute to the cause. "They're a tremendous help for this event, I couldn't do it without them."

The show will start at 4 pm with Clay Hawkins XChange kicking it off. Sears is excited about all the artists playing, saying, "They're all amazing."

She noted that some of the musicians have also helped with preparing for the event including Ryan Michael Hurley who designed the poster, Kyle Madrigal and Tom Girdauskas from The Cult of Ours, and Alisa Monique of Chaga.

The Cult of Ours will be headlining the event, and Madrigal said from the initial stages of hearing about the show, he and his bandmates were all behind the idea.



Organizers and musicians gather in front of the Willits Arts Center where they will be putting on the Long-Term Relief Benefit For Fire Victims event on February 24. In front, from left: Kyle Madrigal, Tume Stanton, Tanika Steed, Amanda Sears, and Ryan Michael Hurley. In back: Rustey Peters and Alisa Monique.

Photo by Forrest Glyer

"To be able to help the community is a priority for me," he said. "And with these fires we need to continue raising money for the next decade. It's not going to stop and I don't want people to forget.... Stay involved however you can."

Madrigal, Girdauskas and Jesse Bassoni form the core trio of The Cult of Ours, but Madrigal says the group always

Read the rest of
Benefit | Over on Page 11



Cornhole tournament at WHS gym

WHS' Morgan Riley organizes bean bag toss ag farm benefit for her senior project

Every year, Willits High School asks its senior students to take on a senior project which offers the student a chance to plan, execute and complete a project of their choosing and showcase their skills from start to completion.

WHS senior Morgan Riley chose to hold a cornhole tournament to help raise funds for fencing for the Willits FFA high school ag farm. She built the bean bag toss boards, gathered teams, and ended up raising \$1,507 from the tournament.

The tournament took place at Willits High School in the Steve Short Gymnasium on Sunday, February 11. Nineteen teams competed at the event, and each paid \$50 to enter. The entry fee also included lunch: a pulled pork sandwich, chips, cookie and a soda or water. Lunch fixings were donated by Fred and Marcy Barry and their Time Bandit truck, and Paul Riley Drywall donated the drinks, ice and donuts.

Paul Riley, Morgan's dad, was also her mentor for the project, and showed Morgan how to build the cornhole set. She also sold the cornhole set to Mike Colvig after the event, raising additional fencing funds.

"I want to thank *all* the people who donated to my project! I really appreciate it," Morgan said. "Thank

you, Marcy Barry for helping with all the food and getting it set up with me; thank you, Carrie Oliver for your help with the bracket; thank you to all who participated, and of course, thank you to everyone for coming and making it a success! I had a lot of fun!"

Winners of the contest included Stephen and Collin Spackman, who took first place; Jim Brackett and Paul Riley, who took second place; and Rick Hendrix and Todd Bashore, who took third place. Winnings for the teams included gift certificates for local businesses.

"I want to thank all who donated," Morgan said. "Moon Lady/Moon Man donated two \$75 gift certificates for prizes, sponsored two teams and donated \$100; Adam's Restaurant donated two \$100 gift certificates for prizes; Yokum's Body Shop donated two \$120 detailing gift certificates for prizes; and Marie Blancas donated \$100."

– Maureen Moore



At left: Second-place team winners, Paul Riley and Jim Brackett, left, stand with WHS senior and event planner, Morgan Riley, center, and first-place team winners, Collin Spackman and Stephen Spackman, at right.

Above: The boards Riley crafted, with help from her mentor and dad, Paul Riley, also have the school's initials painted on them, with school-color bean bags, to match.

Below: The Steve Short Gymnasium all set up and ready for the cornhole tournament.



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Thursday, February 15

Shanachie Pub: Native Harrow: "British folk rock meets Laurel Canyon songscapes, jazz and world music influences, and poetic secrets." Visit https://www.nativeharrow.com. Thursday, February 15 at 8 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, February 16

"Rapture Blister Burn": Opening night for this "modern romantic drama with comedic overtones" is Friday, February 16 at 7 pm Willits Community Theatre. Written by Gina Gionfriddo and directed by WCT veteran Mike A'Dair, the play provides an unflinching look at gender politics in the wake of 20th century feminist ideals. Runs through March 4; Thursdays at 7 pm, Fridays & Saturdays at 8 pm, with some 2 pm Sunday matinees. Advance tickets available at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets also available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

Shanachie Pub: Jon Gonzales Stringband: "ukulele hook-folk melodies for ALL humans to enjoy" out of Sonoma County. Visit www.jongonzales.com/index.html Friday, February 16 at 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, February 17

Fairy Festival at the Willits Library: Become a fairy at the Willits Library Fairy Festival on Saturday, February 17 from 1 to 2 pm. 390 East Commercial Street. Decorate a magic wand! Make a clothespin fairy! Get a glitter tattoo! Listen to fairy stories! All Ages. Please note this event is limited to 100 people. While supplies last.

Skunk Train Valentine's Train: The Skunk Train presents "Cupid's Canapes & Cocktails" on the Skunk Train, departing from Willits on Saturday, February 17, at 4:45 pm. "Climb aboard

with comedic overtones" at 8 pm, Saturday, February 17, at Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, February 16 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Rubber Tramp: "Bay Area upbeat, rock n roll garage band, with a bit of gospel/punk/country/folk mix." Visit www.facebook.com/RubberTrampBand. Saturday, February 17 at 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Tuesday, February 20

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: "Peter Rabbit" and "Fifty Shades Freed." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Thursday, February 22

"Love Your Heart": Adventist Health Howard Memorial presents a free heart health screening event, Thursday, February 22 from 8 am to noon, in the main lobby of the hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. Diabetes and blood pressure screening; In Body Screening (Body Composition: Fasting recommended for more accurate results); Health Eating and Prevention

Education. Free and open to the public. For more info: 456-3591.

Hospice Bereavement Support Group: Adventist Health Home Care Services presents a free Hospice Bereavement Support Group in Willits, starting Thursday, February 22, from 10 am to noon, at 100 Sanhedrin Circle. "This facilitated 8-week group provides an opportunity for the bereaved to explore the normal symptoms of grief, as well as recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective techniques to manage stress, we can move toward recovery and affirmation of a continuing life." For more information or to register, call Roland Hulstein at 456-3248.

"Rapture Blister Burn": Gina Gionfriddo's "modern romantic drama with comedic overtones" at 7 pm, Thursday, February 22, at Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, February 16 listing for details.

Friday, February 23

WEF Drive Thru Tri Tip Dinner: The Willits Educational Foundation's annual Drive-Thru Tri Tip Dinner fundraiser is set for Friday, February 23 from 4 to 6 pm at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds on East Commercial Street. Dinner for four includes 1 whole tri tip, beans, salad, Emandal bread, homemade cookies and a rose donated by Flowers by Annette. Get your ticket, \$60 for dinner for four, at Yokum's Body Shop, Mazahar, or Cat's Meow, or call Warren Lewis at 459-4429 or Jenn Drew at 354-1670.

"Behind the Mic": Youth Poetry Night returns to Brickhouse Coffee, 3 North Main Street. All are

welcome to "Speak Your Mind"; hosted by Tristen Cockrall. Friday, February 23 at 7 pm. Free. All ages.

"Rapture Blister Burn": Gina Gionfriddo's "modern romantic drama with comedic overtones" at 8 pm, Friday, February 23, at Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, February 16 listing for details.

Saturday, February 24

Fire Benefit Concert at WCA: Fire Department and NCO present: "A Long Term Relief Plan Fire Benefit Concert," featuring Cult of Ours, Lightning Amen, Self Fulfilling Prophecies, Chaga and Clay Hawkins XChange at the Willits Center for the Arts, Saturday, February 24 from 4 pm to 1 am. Plus vendors, food and drinks (must be 21 to drink). \$15 cover at the door.

"Rapture Blister Burn": Gina Gionfriddo's "modern romantic drama with comedic overtones" at 8 pm, Saturday, February 24, at Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, February 16 listing for details.

Sunday, February 25

"Rapture Blister Burn": Gina Gionfriddo's "modern romantic drama with comedic overtones" at 2 pm, Sunday, February 25, at Willits Community Theatre. See Friday, February 16 listing for details.

"Turn Your Passion into Profit": A Town Hall forum entitled, "Turn Your Passion into Profit, or How to Make Willits Thrive," will take place on Sunday, February 25, 4 pm, at the Willits Environmental Hub, 630 South Main Street in Willits. This event, sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization), will feature speakers from the Economic Development and

Financing Corporation, West Company, the Willits Tourism Board, City of Willits, the Willits Chamber of Commerce, and several local entrepreneurs. Community discussion will welcome ideas and practical steps for building the Willits economy. For more info, contact Madge at 459-1493 or mstrong@willitsonline.com.

COLUMN | At the Movies

Daniel Essman
Columnist

The story: 1892. The American West. A military captain (Christian Bale) with a history of Indian fighting is ordered, under some duress, to lead Cheyenne prisoner Chief Yellow Hawk (Wes Studi) and his family on a trek through hostile territory from New Mexico to Montana. There are enemies everywhere. There is violent death everywhere. Courage is required ... and an extraordinary willingness to endure.

My Thoughts: The history of our forebears, European immigrants and Native Americans, is a history of mutual cruelties and mutual atrocities. At the center of this flick is the guilt a soldier feels who is commissioned by duty to slaughter the enemies of his (morally dubious) Western expansion. While there are "good guys" and "bad guys" in this movie, our history as portrayed is filled with slaughter and retribution and survivors guilt ... and sad, sudden, untimely goodbyes. The characters carry on. I read about some historical inaccuracies in "Hostiles," but those inaccuracies did not intrude on my enjoyment.

Parents: Too violent. Not for children. Teenagers and up.

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

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 5 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.

Emandal Choral: The Choral is open to all who wish to sing a cappella songs of peace and justice. Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Info: 367-1573.

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 "Lego 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, & 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 Rite-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 help 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.

Sordolomists 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 Pizzeria, 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 Grove 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 Adventist Health Howard Memorial. Every Wednesday at AHMH's Roots Restaurant, 1 Marcela Drive, 6 to 7 pm. Register today: 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/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Little John's: Little John's Bar and Dance Club offers Karaoke every Thursday night, from 9:30 pm to 1:30 am. "Come join the fun and sing a song." Also, free pool every Sunday from 6 to 10 pm. 383 South Main Street. Info: check "Little Johns" on Facebook or 459-6636.

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 Willits Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.

ADVENTIST HEALTH HOWARD MEMORIAL

Love Your Heart

FREE HEART HEALTH SCREENING EVENT

Did you know that heart disease is the No. 1 killer of both men and women in the United States? In honor of Heart Health month and as part of our commitment to keep our community healthy, we are offering a free heart screening event. Diabetes, high blood pressure, smoking, and being 55 and older are just one of the many risk factors. Come to our free heart health screening event and take the first step towards prevention by understanding your risk and learning more about heart disease.

AT THIS FREE SCREENING YOU WILL GET:

- Diabetes & Blood Pressure Screening
- In Body Screening (Body Composition --- Fasting recommended for more accurate results)
- Healthy Eating & Prevention Education

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Thursday, February 22
8:00 a.m. - Noon
Main Lobby
1 Marcela Drive | Willits, CA 95490
Call 707.456.3591 for more information

Adventist Health
Howard Memorial

The More You Try...
The More Likely
You Will Succeed

Kick the Habit Once and For All

We Offer Free Smoking Cessation Classes To Help You

Quitting smoking is one of the best things you can do for your health. Our 4-week program is accredited by the American Lung Association and has helped many smokers successfully quit. Through our program, you will:

- Get the tools and support you need to quit
- Create a personalized quit plan tailored to your needs
- Learn coping strategies for managing stress
- Discover lifestyle changes that can help make quitting easier
- Learn proven techniques to stop smoking

KICK THE HABIT TODAY!

Every Wednesday
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Roots Restaurant
Adventist Health Memorial Hospital
1 Marcela Drive, Willits, CA

Register Today!
707.540.4208

Free & Open to the Public

BEHIND THE MIC

2018 CALENDAR

APRIL 5TH
JUNE 8TH
AUGUST 5TH
OCTOBER 5TH
DECEMBER 30TH

YOUTH POETRY NIGHT

FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 23

THE BRICKHOUSE

7PM - FREE - ALL AGES

SPEAK YOUR MIND

HOSTED BY TRISTEN COCKRALL

Little League Sign-Ups

Registration closes February 16

Sign-ups for the Willits Redwood Little League 2018 season is now open. Games and practice begin in March. Willits Redwood Little League serves youth in the communities of Willits and Laytonville. For more info check http://wrlf.siplay.com/site/ or visit "Willits Redwood Little League" page on Facebook, or contact Player Agent Kristina Wear at kristinawear@hotmail.com or 707-513-7563. Laytonville area residents may contact Terry Guerrero at Laytonvilleyoutharcheryclub@gmail.com or 707-489-3352.

19th annual
SIP SOME SOUP

March 10

Sip Some Soup, the annual benefit for Willits Daily Bread, is set for Saturday, March 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Willits Community Center.

Willits Daily Bread Director Cindy Savage says soup makers are needed to help raise funds to feed the hungry in the Willits community. Contact her at 707-367-5669, 707-459-2579 or cindysavage6@yahoo.com to sign up for the competition.

In addition to tastes of many delicious soups – and the opportunity to vote for your favorite – Sip Some Soup also offers bread and jam from Emandal – A Farm on a River, desserts from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and a silent auction. Tasting tickets are \$15 per person and \$25 per couple.

Cupcake Wars

March 24, 2018
2 PM – 4 PM

Willits Community Center
111 E. Commercial St.
Willits, CA 95490

Proceeds help Willits High School Boosters

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

Senior Center Lunch

Week of February 19 through February 23

Monday: Chicken Cordon Bleu Bake
Tuesday: French Dip
Wednesday: BBQ Chicken
Thursday: Pot Roast & Dumplings
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.

Bodacious Book Sale Bonanza

March 1

After a brief hiatus due to the October fires, the Willits Library big annual book sale event has returned. So save the first four days in March for Willits Library's most exciting event of the year. Our entire community has been contributing quality, gently used books all year for our massive Book Sale at Willits Community Center March 1 through March 4.

The first day of the sale, Thursday, March 1, is reserved for Friends of the Library members. It's a great time to renew your membership or join for the first time (\$10 regular, \$5 senior or \$100 membership for life). Get your choice of all the wonderful books of every genre.

There are beautiful, like-new special books suitable for gift giving, vintage books, science, gardening, travel, self-help, mystery, historical – a wealth of delicious reading to enjoy.

Friday and Saturday will be regular sale days for everyone who loves books and wants to support the library. Then, on Sunday, the most exciting day of all for many of us, all the books that are left (except for special or vintage) will be offered for only \$5 per grocery-sized shopping bag.

There is a sign-up sheet in the library for volunteers. We'll need a set-up crew on Sunday, February 25, and take-down crew on the afternoon of March 4.

This is community involvement at its most fun. We look forward to seeing you there!

– Submitted by Friends of the Willits Library

1st Annual Signing Day!

Come support our Student Athletes

Cheer on their accomplishments

Encourage their growth!

Ask questions, learn about their new homes!

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL
299 N. Main St
Willits, CA 95490

March 12, 2018
6:30 PM
WHS Auditorium

Come support our senior athletes as they choose their collegiate destination!

Having the opportunity to further one's education along with playing sports at the collegiate level is an enormous accomplishment. The Student-Athletes of Willits High School, through their continued hard work and dedication, now have the ability to commit to an institution of their choice. We invite and welcome all members of the community to join us and show support of the successes of our young adults.

NORTH COAST OPPORTUNITIES/FREQ ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

A MULTIFARIAN MELANGE OF MUSIC AND DELIGHT AS A

LONG TERM RELIEF BENEFIT FOR FIRE VICTIMS

MUSIC BY:

CULT OF OURS

LIGHTNING AMEN

SELF FULFILLING PROPHECIES

CHAGA

CLAY HAWKINS XCHANGE

ART • VENDORS • FOOD • DRINKS

FRESH BREWED KOMBUCHA BY DRAFT PUNK

SAT. FEBRUARY 24, 2018 • 4PM-1AM

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

71 EAST COMMERCIAL ST. WILLITS, CA • MUST BE 21 TO DRINK

Summer Arts & Music Festival Vendor Applications

The 42nd annual Summer Arts & Music Festival 2018 vendor application is now posted on the Mateel website at mateel.org/slash/vendors. The deadline to submit vendor applications for Summer Arts, set for June 2 and 3 at Benbow Lakes State Recreation area is March 20. This year the application can be completed and paid for entirely online. All vendor applicants will be juried at the discretion of the Mateel Community Center. For vendor questions, please call 707-923-3368 x 32 or email Mateel Vendor Coordinator Anne Sachs at vendorinfo@mateel.org.



Above, from left: Linda Kostenecki stands proudly next to her grandson Jackson Kostenecki's science project, "The Sugar Melting Experiment." Noel and Jacob were interested in the "Eruptions" volcano project. Fifth-grader Robin Kendrick thought it was cool the "Coca Cola vs. Mentos" project had a full pack of Mentos on display.

Scientific Method

Willits students enter more than 300 projects in this year's Science Fair

The 2018 Willits Science Fair packed the Willits Community Center with science projects last week. Science Fair coordinator Erin Vaccaro estimated there were more than 300 different projects entered by schoolkids from third to 12 grades. This year, there were three class projects by kindergarten students displayed, too.

Thursday afternoon several groups of students came with their teachers to check out the Science Fair displays. Kids were intrigued by different kinds of projects: the classic "volcano" construction project, a "Rethink Your Drink" project showing just how much sugar is in those soft drinks, and a project that tested how plants grew in burned soil vs. regular soil.

"There was a collection of fire-related projects this year," Vaccaro said. Also new this year was an "Engineering" project category, where students started with a problem they wanted to solve and tested various solutions to see which worked the best.

"I'm always amazed by the ideas the kids have," Vaccaro said. "This is a space where they put their ideas out, where everyone can come and see. They're all so creative."

But it's not just about creativity, it's about the scientific method, learning how to get reliable results through research,

and developing a love of science through experimentation. The projects are accompanied by notes written by the students as they proceed with their project, and are required to show the original question, the steps taken to answer the question, and to have a formal conclusion.

"Science education is so important," Vaccaro said. "That's one of the reasons our Willits community people show up to volunteer for our children."

It takes about 100 volunteers to put on the Science Fair, former coordinator Sharon Hanna – still volunteering with the fair – said, including set up and tear down, volunteers to tally scores, docents, and many others, including the judges. The volunteer judges – who work in pairs to fill out tally sheets – are Science Fair committee members, teachers, retired teachers, science professionals, and even "Science Fair alumni who come back from the city to help us," Hanna said.

Willits Charter School board president Eric Glassey was browsing the projects Thursday afternoon. "The quality of the projects is good," he said, "and the questions are interesting. One of the things that's great about doing a Science Fair project is that it's a great way to get the kids to see the bigger world, to see other kids outside our county. Getting the kids out of town to the state Science Fair is a huge exposure to the greater world."

2018 Willits Science Fair Results

Below is a list of all the Willits Science Fair projects that qualified to go on to the 32nd annual Mendocino County Science Fair, set for Saturday, March 10 from 1 to 3:30 pm at the Mendocino College Gym in Ukiah. Results provided by the Willits Science Fair.

Willits Unified - County Qualifiers

Class A: Scientific Inquiry (Experimental) Projects

3-4 Life Science

- Lisa Arkelian, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Nature's Fertilizer
- Cecily Potter, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Treats for Trots

- Brian Bowles, Grade 3, Sherwood, Pellets vs. Crumbles

3-4 Physical Science

- Brody Perez, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Flying by the Folds of our Wings

- Nadia Jacobs, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Pollution Solution

- Sofia Lopez, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Polished

- Kate Winter, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Batter up

3-4 Earth Science

- Allie Grace Southwick and Sofia Antonella Vaccaro, Grade 3, Sherwood, The Project That Glows

5th Earth Science

- Alex Miya, Grade 5, Sherwood, Floating Water

- Ely Bowles, Grade 5, Sherwood, Acid Rock

5th Physical Science

- Nora Martin, Grade 5, Sherwood, Burn Baby Burn
- Enzo Vaccaro, Grade 5, Sherwood, Bismuth

6-8 Life Science A (Biology, Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, Biochemistry)

- John Michael Kale, Grade 8, BGMS, Magnet Powers

- Elena Arkelian, Hazel Cooke, Catie Spackman, Grade 6, BGMS, Hayology

6-8 Life Science B (Medicine, Health, Behavior, and Social Science)

- Ariel Hertz-O'Brien, Grade 8, BGMS, Oops! Sorry!

- Maria Moratti, Grade 8, BGMS, Individual and Composite Faces

- Ingrid Mendoza and Vanessa Mercado, Grade 6, BGMS, Detecting Bacteria

- Kiley Rose and Nevaeh Loya, Grade 8, BGMS, Battle of the Sexes

6-8 Physical Science (Physics, Chemistry, Aero/Hydrodynamics, Electronics & Electromagnets, Math, Software & Computer)

- Frederick Eason, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Conservation of Mass and Energy
- Rex Davidson, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Can You Make a Lava Lamp?

- Jaron Schrage, Grade 7, BGMS, The Buoyancy Test
- Marquel Campbell, Grade 7, Sherwood, By Random Chance or By Design

- Gunner Globe, Grade 6, BGMS, Pigskin PSI

- Kate Austin, Grade 7, BGMS, Lather Up

- Nakolo Anderson Joens-Poulton, Grade 8, BGMS, Does a barrier between a nail and solenoid have an effect on the strength of an electromagnet?

- Giovan Banuelos, Hector Torres, Jose Sanchez, Grade 8, BGMS, Electrolyte Challenge

- Paris Hansberger, Grade 8, BGMS, Batteries and Wires

- Frederick Eason, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Conservation of Mass and Energy

- Rex Davidson, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Can You Make a Lava Lamp?

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- Frederick Eason, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Conservation of Mass and Energy

The rest of WPD From Page 4

pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol) and violation of probation.

9:19 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Harms Lane.

6:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

9:50 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of North Main Street.

10:22 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of Redwood Avenue.

February 11

12:20 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder Court.

9:44 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping near the intersection of Madden Lane and East Valley Street.

9:59 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Street and Central Street.

10:27 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of Muir Lane.

11:01 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Alder Court.

11:18 am: TUTTLE, Xelin Macias (35) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol.

12:07 pm: RAMIREZ, Manuel Rockey (30) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11550 H&S (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance), 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

1:02 pm: BASSET, Easton Andrew (32) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11550 H&S (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance), 148 PC (Resisting Arrest), and on misdemeanor charges of destruction of property.

1:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

3:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

4:58 pm: STILL, Aaron Michael (36) of Willits was contacted in the 700 block of Coast Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11550 H&S (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance), 1320 PC (Failure to Appear), and on misdemeanor charges of disobeying a court order.

11:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

The rest of Dinner From Page 1

Lisa Yokum will be working on salad production, with the guidance, however, of drive-thru veteran Kathy Shuster, who will be making her famous salad dressing.

Jack Drew, Taylor Drew, Tanner Drew, Stan Cooley, Kevin Kvasnicka, Danny Mihlec, Jeff Yokum, Bryan Tyler, Tim King, Andrew Hosford, and Matt Johnstone are all on the "meat crew" – with matching embroidered aprons, to boot!

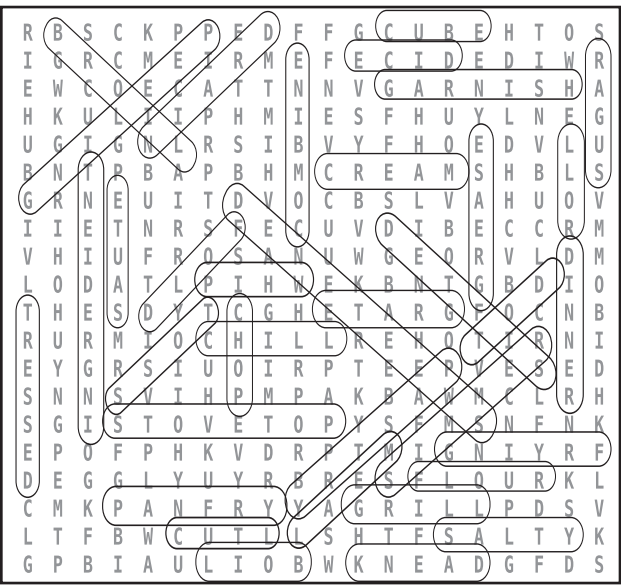
Emandal - A Farm on a River and their staff of bakers will again donate hundreds of rolls for the meal. Annette Pinon of Flowers by Annette also donates a rose to each dinner bag ... for the table, of course!

The Cooley family donates all of the wood which keeps the fires burning under the beans and tri tip – the latter will be cooked on the Granite Construction double-trailer barbecue which Matt Johnstone will be bringing up to use for the event.

The cookie team will still have some veteran members, and official oversight by the cookie mistress herself, Kathleen Lewis, and includes Windi Kvasnicka, Marine Kyne, Rebecca Smith and Margaret Judy.

In order to make sure the food is ready for the 200 tickets available this year, planning and prep will start on Thursday night next week. Though many of the tickets have already sold, there's still some to go – while they last! Preselling all the tickets allows the cooking crew to gauge just the right amount of food needed to ensure everyone has delicious portions of the dinner.

Tickets are \$60 for the meal for four and are available at Cat's Meow, Mazahar and Yokum's Body Shop. For more info: Warren Lewis at 459-4429 or Jennifer Drew at 354-1670.



The rest of Benefit From Page 7

has a rotating cast of guest musicians. Instruments can include horns, harmonica, violin, various singers, Native American flute and more, so no two shows or two songs are ever the same.

"The spirit of our band is always experimentation and an endless journey," he said. "We're constantly expanding our acoustic range and our sonic sensibilities, bringing on new sound-making devices, anything from little toys to serious instruments."

He calls their shows a "cooperative healing experience" where "the audience is very intrinsically part of the process of making music."

Hurley is playing in two of the bands – Chaga and Lightning Amen – and said he was happy to volunteer his time and energy for the cause.

"We need joy now – the resonant, reverberant kind," he said. "We need to know that though the fires devastated the area, art, music and community gathering can and ought to survive."

Like many in the area, Hurley was evacuated out of his home during the fire, and he said the property was burned to the point of being uninhabitable. He was fortunate enough to be able to retrieve most of his possessions "thanks to the incredible efforts of firefighters and neighbors who stayed behind after the evacuation order."

"Long-term fire relief" reminds us that for some, the struggle continues, and will continue, for some time to come," he said. "These fires, as part of a broader environmental crisis, affect us all and long-term relief is something that any person, regardless of wealth or status, might need to accept someday."

He describes Lightning Amen, who have been playing for about a year and a half, as having "elements of surf rock via indie vibes, gesturing at pop sensibilities."

Chaga is a newer group he's put together, playing their second show. For this show, the lineup will include some members of the band Weird Year. He said their sound "blends elements of grunge, garage and shoe-gazey pop but also employs synths and vocal harmonies," and is flexible in style from show to show.


In addition to the musicians, Sears said that others have put in a lot of effort for the benefit, including Tanika Steed who is helping in many ways, the Lions Club who will be providing drinks at the show with proceeds going to charity, and several vendors who are contributing money and raffle items.

Vendors at the benefit will include Willits Garden Supply, Draft Punk, George's Geodes, Mossy Falls Farms, and many others.

Sears said the Willits Center for the Arts has also been very gracious, and was her first pick for a venue because of the good sound quality she's heard at shows there in the past, as well as the people she's met and the great art she's seen there.

Mendocino College music professor Rodney Grisanti and students from the Recording Arts and Technology Club will be helping with sound at the event, and also using the occasion for students to learn about music mixing and set up.

Tickets are \$15 and will be sold at the door.



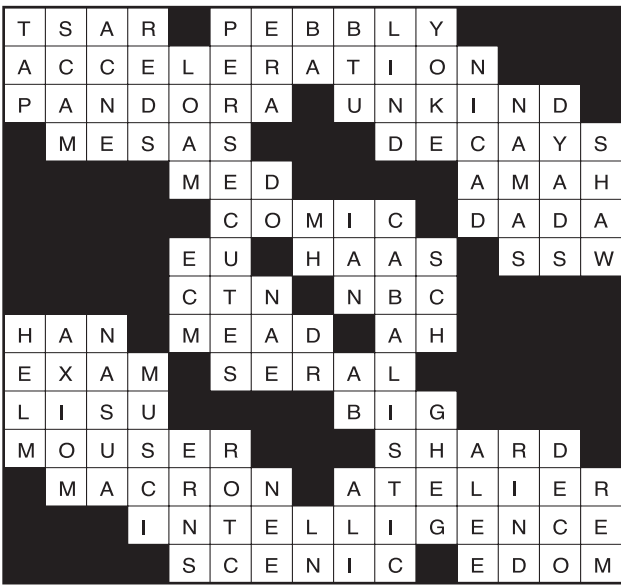
Current Job Openings:

- Equipment Operator
- Facility Project Specialist I/II
- Human Resources Analyst I/II
- Human Resources Technician
- Registered Nurse
- Senior Equipment Operator
- Senior Human Resources Analyst
- Senior Program Specialist
- Social Worker III/IV A-D (Includes Immediate Openings for Temporary Extra-Help Work)
- Social Worker Supervisor I
- Social Worker Supervisor II A-C
- Supervising Public Health Nurse

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:

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RV/Trailer Space for Rent
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Esoteric Science
Esoteric Science, Mystery School Teachings, study group to commence weekly in Willits. Looking for members. Purpose is to clarify & make more precise our understanding of occult Truths. Contact Nicholas 707-841-0149.

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EXPERIENCE The Sound of Soul
Tuesday, February 20, 6:00 - 7:00 pm, at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 E. Commercial Street. You're invited to experience chanting HU (pronounced hue), a sacred sound and ancient mantra. HU can uplift people of any religion, culture, or walk of life. Information? Call April, 972-2475 or visit www.TheSoundofSoul.org.

Spring Cleaning Sale!
All clothing 25% off! Save on jackets, tees, hats & more. Four days only, Thurs Feb 22 through Sun Feb 25, 9AM-3PM. Skunk Train Depot, 299 E Commercial Street, Willits.

Ukiah Toastmasters
Ukiah Toastmasters welcomes interested members of the public to its OPEN HOUSE, Friday, February 23, 2018, from 6:45 am to 7:45 am, 413 N. State Street, Ukiah. For more info: Please visit our website: www.ukiah.toastmastersclubs.org or our Facebook page (Events): www.facebook.com/UkiahToastmasters.

For Rent
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Volunteer Opportunities
The Willits Senior Center has many areas where your expertise and talents are needed. Front Desk, Thrift Store, Dining Room, Sunday Bingo, Sunday Breakfast, Special Dinners, Landscaping, Garden, Firewood. Come join our team, call Deb at 707-459-6826.

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Bernice McCormick

Bernice McCormick, age 101, peacefully went to be with our Father in Heaven on December 21, 2017, with her family at her side. Bernice was born June 2, 1916 to Oliva and Augustino Figone of Willits. The Figone family settled in Willits in the 1880s, operating the Figone Hotel, famous for their Italian dinners.

Bernice as a child loved to walk through the hills and valley of the Willits area, she said; everyone knew her and she knew everyone's name also. One of her early childhood thrills was when she met Little Miss Hollywood movie star Shirley Temple, when they stopped at the Van Hotel for lunch.

Bernice graduated from Willits High School, with childhood friends the Colli sisters, owners of the old Willits Creamery, and was good friends with Willits' oldest living person, Edie Ceccarelli, who turned 110 on February 2, 2018.

Bernice went to college in Oakland, where she majored in Business, and retired after working 40 years for the federal government. She has two sons, Paul Biocini and Michael Malin, both born in Willits, six grandchildren, and many great-grandkids.

Bernice loved her family, traveling and reading. Her wishes were to be cremated and to have a private family celebration. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Willits Senior Center.



Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Gorgeous Rainbow

This gorgeous girl is Rainbow. She is a very loving kitty who was raised as a bottle baby in 2014. She has since been returned to the shelter and now is ready for a new home. Rainbow does not do well with other cats. She does not deal with stress very well, so she should not go to a home with small children. Rainbow would love to meet you!

For more information on the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County's adoptable animals, call the HSMIC at 707-485-0123, check www.mendohumanesociety.com, or



Judy Anastasiou

Judy Anne Anastasiou, born January 22, 1946 in Ukiah, California to Alva and Verna (Salisbury) Haas, passed away January 12, 2018. Judy's family moved to Willits when she was 5 and eventually settled on "the ranch" on the Covelo Road. Judy attended school in Willits, graduating from Willits High in 1964. One of Judy's favorite activities while in high school was singing and participating in choir presentations. She knew all of the hit songs of the day and enjoyed singing them. Judy also attended Mendocino College.

Judy was devoted to her husband "Big Mike" (deceased) and would transport him to wherever he heard the fish were running. While he fished she enjoyed her other favorite pastime, crocheting. She would crochet while he fished. Many family members, friends and charitable organizations were gifted with her beautiful handwork. Every new baby in the family was blessed with an "Aunt Judy afghan."

Judy genuinely cared about others. Several friends have said Judy would give you the shirt off her back even if it was the only one she had. Then someone added "even in a snow storm," She may not have had monetary wealth, but she was rich in smiles and a kind word for every one she passed.

Several years ago Judy and Big Mike moved to Ukiah for the convenience of medical care. Judy battled cancer for many years with courage and dignity.

Judy is survived by her children Ricky of Redding, California, and Tommie of Ukiah; grandchildren Bradley of Washington state and Bobbie of Willits; her brother David Haas and his family of Ukiah; and her very special aunt, Leta Sprague of Redwood Valley. Services were held at the Russian River Cemetery where she was reunited with Mike in the Salisbury Family plot.



Go 'Red for Women' to celebrate American Heart Month

Carole Press
Columnist

Did you know that heart disease is the No. 1 cause of death among women in the United States? Most people don't.

Every February, employees at MCHC Health Centers and around the country participate in "Go Red for Women," dressing in red to increase awareness about heart disease and stroke. While the symptoms of heart attacks for men have been widely publicized, those for women can be different, and many women are unaware of them.

According to our chief medical officer, Dr. Jerry Douglas, many heart attacks start slowly as mild chest pain that can come and go – not the Hollywood version where a woman clutches her chest and dies moments later. Other symptoms that may accompany a heart attack include lightheadedness, trouble breathing, nausea, loss of appetite, and feeling extra tired in the days leading up to the attack.

Of course, everyone is different, and having some of these symptoms does not mean you are about to have a heart attack. It is important, however, to know if you have many of the risk factors for coronary artery disease because that can help you determine how concerned you should be.

While men and women share traditional risk factors such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure and obesity, other factors may play a bigger role in the development of heart disease in women.

The Mayo Clinic website lists the following risk factors as more significant for women than men:

- Diabetes
- Smoking
- Mental stress and depression

• Metabolic syndrome – a combination of fat around your abdomen, high blood pressure, high blood sugar and high triglycerides

• A lack of physical activity

- Low levels of estrogen after menopause, leading to cardiovascular disease in the smaller blood vessels (microvascular disease)

• Complications during pregnancy such as high blood pressure or diabetes, which can increase a woman's long-term risk of developing heart disease in the mother and in her children

So what can you do to prevent a heart attack? This probably will not surprise you: Maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly, don't smoke, limit alcohol use, find ways to manage stress, and be aware of your risk factors. Check your cholesterol and blood pressure regularly, and work with your medical provider to create a plan that feels achievable if you need to make changes.

While we have clear medical indicators to measure risk when it comes to cholesterol and blood pressure, it is harder to measure stress. However, once you start looking for the emotional causes of physical problems, they become more obvious. When you are stressed out, you get sick.

Read the rest of
Go Red
Over on Page 15

The rest of
Science
From Page 10

- Sariah Esquivel, Shy-Rah Wright, and Phoenix Hernandez, Grade 3, Sherwood, Rainbow Walking Water
- Soren Pinelli, Grade 5, Sherwood, It's in the Stars-The triple alpha process

- Carl Davis, Grade 4, Sherwood, How to Turn Milk into Plastic

Grades 6-12

- Josh Duran, Grade 6, Miles Carpenteri, Grade 4, and Anthony Duran, Grade 4, Sherwood, The Jitterbug Dance

Class C: Engineering Projects

Grades 6-8

- Jayden Arnold and Jack Buckingham, Grade 7, BGMS, The Amazing Adventures of the Hovercraft

Grades 9-12

- Hanna Bouthillier, WHS, Measuring Wind Speeds

Class D: Classroom & Large Group Projects

Grades 3-5

- Room 12, Grade 4, Mrs. Grooms, Blosser Lane, Rethink Your Drink
- Room 27, Grade 3, Mrs. Bauer, Blosser Lane, Which hand?
- Room 5, Grade 3, Mr. West, Blosser Lane, Clear Cutting-Is the Message Clear Enough?
- Room 13, Grade 4, Ms. Valenzuela-Watkins, Blosser Lane, Get a Grip
- Room 16, Grade 4, Miss Mey, Blosser Lane, How does a windmill work?
- Room 22, Grade 3, Ms. Bender, Blosser Lane, Can you taste that?

Charter Schools of Willits - County Qualifiers

Class A: Scientific Inquiry (Experimental) Projects

3-4 Life

- Amelia Franco, Grade 3, WECS, H2O Temperature and Growth
- Abigail Sherf, Grade 3, WECS, Light Lovin' Leaves
- Xander Couevas, Grade 4, WECS, Wild World of Mold

- Blaze Parmenter, Grade 4, WECS, That's Paw-Some

- Aedan Lockwood-Chenelle, Grade 3, WECS, What am I eating?

- Aedan Lockwood-Chenelle, Grade 3, WECS, What am I eating?

3-4 Physical Science

- Nova Knodle, Grade 4, WECS, Fire vs. Ice
- Matthew Posey, Grade 4, WECS, Got Milk?

- Evan Mae James, Grade 4, WECS, Save your food's life!

- Kadie Balthrop, Grade 4, WECS, Cool Candy
- Nick Cramer, Grade 3, WECS, The World Has Bullet Trains, Wouldn't you like a Bullet Car?

3-4 Earth

- Izabella Sims, Grade 3, WECS, Water Cycle
- Skylyn Glassey, Grade 3, WECS, The Dirty Conductor

5th Life

- Griffin O'Rear, Grade 5, WECS, Take My Advice Use a Mnemonic Device
- Kyler Hall Jimenez, Grade 5, WECS, How to make your Jack-o-Last
- Sophia Leinwetter, Grade 5, WECS, Sight from the Sidelines

- Kaleb Whitehurst, Grade 5, A Goat's Favorite Color

5th Physical

- Christian Moog, Grade 5, WECS, Primitive Techniques

- Makiah Carter, Grade 5, WECS, Easter Egg

5th Earth

- Prestin Corsetti, Grade 5, WECS, Robot Races, Grade 5, WECS, Robot Races

6-8 Life Science A (Biology, Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, Biochemistry)

- Farrow Lockwood, Grade 7, WCS, Grow Dam it!

- Zoe Alvarado, Grade 8, WCS, Exploring Recessive Genotypes in Quail

- Audrey Sherf, Grade 6, WCS, Save Our Soil

- Achsa Hill, Grade 6, WCS, A difference in light and dark

- Jordann Porter and Savannah Lewis, Grade 7, WCS, NPK

- Josh Pacheco, Grade 7, WCS, Native Plant Babies

6-8 Life B (Medicine, Health, Behavior, and Social Science)

- Willow Daun-Widner, Grade 8, WCS, Sugar on the Brain

- Maya Waters, Grade 6, WCS, The Beat of the Heart
- Emily Christman-Soria, Grade 6, WCS, Say Tea

6-8 Physical (Physics, Chemistry, Aero/Hydrodynamics, Electronics & Electromagnets, Math, Software & Computer)

- Alyssa Scarberry, Grade 7, WCS, Got Milk?
- Kamryn Wilkes, Grade 6, WCS, IFire! IFoamy! IBubbles!
- Deegan Espaniola-Norton, Grade 6, WCS, Egg Strength
- Lilah Crane, Grade 8, WCS, The Perfect Peeling Experience

6-8 Earth and Space Science (Geology, Astronomy, Ecology, Atmospheric Science, Environmental Science)

- Makonnen Blessed, Grade 8, WCS, The Effect of Macroinvertebrates After Fire

- Katherine Wood, Grade 7, WCS, Tidepool Timer
- Daniel LaCount, Grade 7, WCS, Scorched Earth

9-12 Life Science A (Biology, Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, Biochemistry)

- Stephany Brundage, Grade 12, WCS, Using the C Locus Color Alleles to Prove that "Oryctolagus coniculus" Ovulates Extra Eggs with a Subsequent Covering (The Rabbit Maury Show)
- Heaven Siderakis and Josh Redding, Grade 9, Myth-Busters: The 5 Second Rule

9-12 Life B (Medicine, Health, Behavior, and Social Science)

- Gabe Komes, Grade 9, WCS, Music and Typing

- Emily Barbitta, Grade 10, and Lauren Van Pelt, Grade 9, WCS, Stereotypes

9-12 Physical Science (Physics, Chemistry, Aero/ Hydrodynamics, Electronics & Electromagnets, Math, Software & Computer)

- Sammie St. Pierre, Grade 9, WCS, M&M Math

- Jessica Cronin, Grade 12, WCS, The Effectiveness of a Density Gradient Medium vs. a Viscosity Gradient Medium

- Caleb Christman, Grade 9, Rust-eze

Class B: Demonstrations and Displays

Grades 3-5

- Gavin McFadden, Grade 4, WECS, Capillary Action

Grades 6-12

- Devon DiFazio, Grade 9, WCS, Eterno

- Mimi Leon, Grade 6, WECS, Eye of the Wolves

- Jersey Greene, Grade 7, Pocket Herbal Essentials

Class C: Engineering Projects

Grades 6-8

- Tokyo Jordan, Grade 7, WCS, Hover Car
- Hunter Paris, Grade 7, WCS, Robotic Transport Car

Grades 9-12

- Sky Aragon, Grade 9, WCS, Eskate

Special Award Winners

Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic sponsored awards for outstanding work on a Science Fair project. Students were awarded a gift certificate to The Book Juggler. Winners of these awards were:

- John Michael Kale, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 8, Magnet Power
- Stephany Brundage, Willits Charter School Grade 12, Using the C Locus Alleles To Prove That "Oryctolagus coniculus" Ovulates Extra Eggs With A Subsequent Covering (The Rabbit Maury Show)
- Jessica Cronin, Willits Charter School, Grade 12, The Effectiveness of a Density Gradient Medium vs A Viscosity Gradient Medium

- Nakolo Anderson Joens-Poulton, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 8, Does a Barrier Between A Nail and Solenoid Have An Effect On The Strength Of An Electromagnet?
- Zoe Alvarado, Willits Charter School, Grade 8, Exploring Recessive Genotype In Quail
- Heaven Siderakis & Josh Redding, Willits Charter School, Grade 9, Myth-Busters: The Five Second Rule
- Griffin O'Rear, Willits Elementary Charter School, Grade 5, Take My Advice Use a Mnemonic Device
- Aedan Lockwood, Willits Elementary Charter School, Grade 3, What Am I Eating?
- Gracie Laurent, Willits Elementary Charter School, Grade 4, The Amazing Gummy Bear
- Lisa Arkelian, Blosser Lane Elementary, Grade 4, Nature's Fertilizer

- Ely Bowles, Sherwood School, Grade 5, Acid Rock
- Nora Martin, Sherwood School, Grade 5, Burn Baby Burn

Padula Ranches recognized outstanding science projects with themed-merchandise gifts. One project from each age group was selected (elementary school, middle school, and high school).

- The prize for the "Most Rigorous in Approach and Methodology" was awarded to: Jessica Cronin, Grade 12, WCS, The Effectiveness of a Density Gradient Medium vs. a Viscosity Gradient Medium

- The prize for the "Most Awesome and Disgustingly Gross Project" was awarded to: Kiera Dragness and Maddie Hoagland, Grade 7, BGMS, Do Dogs or Humans have Cleaner Mouths?

- The prize for the "Most Curious" was awarded to: Owen Nielsen, Grade 3, WECS, Strength of Bridges

- Deegan Espaniola-

Norton, Grade 6, Willits Charter School, Egg Strength

Sara Hanna Consulting presented a certificate and a cash award to outstanding projects in Environmental Science or Natural Resources. Winners of this award were:

- Audrey Sherf, Willits Charter School, Grade 6, Save Our Soils

- Makonnen Blessed, Willits Charter School, Grade 8, The Effects on Macroinvertebrates After A Fire

Georges Geodes and Gems recognized projects relating to crystals. Students were awarded a gift certificate. Winners of this award were:

- Micaella Williams, Grade 3, WECS, Crazy Crystallization
- Trinita Alvarez, Grade 5, WECS, When Crystals Form
- Enzo Vaccaro, Grade 5, Sherwood, Bismuth
- Ely Bowles, Grade 5, Sherwood, Acid Rock
- Jarred Thurman, Grade 8, BGMS, Crystals
- Mikey Prescott and Bodhi Waters, Grade 8, WCS, Crystal Clear
- Zeek Novo, Grade 8, Sherwood, Iron Mud
- Sylvia Wartell, Grade 7, BGMS, Dissolving the Smart(e) Way
- Christian Moog, Grade 5, WECS, Primitive Techniques
- Jack Fryman, Grade 4, Sherwood, Volcano

J.D. Redhouse recognized outstanding projects in Grades 3-4. Students were awarded an ice cream gift certificate. Winners of this award were:

- Ezra de la Fuente, Grade 4, WECS, Bacterial Bite
- Aiyana Wright, Grade 4, Sherwood, That Makes Sense
- Cole Lane, Grade 4, WECS, Exploding Potato
- Danielle Agenbroad and Kayla Nunez, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Magic Sand
- Ivan Carrillo, Grade 4, WECS, Beat of Music
- Donnie-Alan Shepard, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Volcanic Eruptions
- Alex Amberhawk, Grade 4, Sherwood School, How do you make glass?
- Knox Chaniot, Grade 4, Sherwood, Secrets of the Giant Otter
- Adam Hill, Grade 4, WECS, Density the Amazing
- Jade Luna, Grade 4, WECS, Natural Nails

California Forestry and Vegetation Management presented a certificate and a cash award to an outstanding project related to trees. The winner of this award was:

- Jaron Schrage, Grade 7, BGMS, The Buoyancy Test

The Book Juggler recognized outstanding science projects with themed-merchandise gifts. One project from each age group was selected (elementary school, middle school, and high school).

- The prize for the "Most Rigorous in Approach and Methodology" was awarded to: Jessica Cronin, Grade 12, WCS, The Effectiveness of a Density Gradient Medium vs. a Viscosity Gradient Medium

- The prize for the "Most Awesome and Disgustingly Gross Project" was awarded to: Kiera Dragness and Maddie Hoagland, Grade 7, BGMS, Do Dogs or Humans have Cleaner Mouths?

- The prize for the "Most Curious" was awarded to: Owen Nielsen, Grade 3, WECS, Strength of Bridges

Results provided by the Willits Science Fair.

Willits woman injured in Sherwood Road head-on

A Sunday afternoon head-on crash along Sherwood Road sent a Willits woman to Howard Memorial Hospital with serious injuries.

The woman, 61-year-old Cindy Lee Gunter, was driving south on Sherwood Road south of Birch Street at about 1:25 pm when her 2013 Mini Cooper was struck by a northbound 2016 Dodge Ram that reportedly had crossed a double-yellow centerline into her lane.

The Ram's driver, 36-year-old Gary Shea Wyatt, and his 12-year-old daughter, a passenger in the Ram, escaped injury, according to the Garberville office of the California Highway Patrol.

The collision remains under investigation, the CHP says.

Both the Brooktrails and Little Lake fire departments assisted with patient care, roadway cleanup and one-way traffic control.

This report was based on a collision report from the California Highway Patrol, Garberville.

The rest of
Moreo
From Page 1

agriculture. Moreo is an alumnus of Ohio State University and former president of the Regional Association of Northern California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers.

Moreo said he is excited to be joining the County of Mendocino: "I was drawn to work for Mendocino County as it begins the process of merging a traditional agricultural community with the emerging cannabis industry. I feel my years of experience will bring stability to an office facing huge changes in a rapidly shifting environment."

Both Second District Supervisor John McCowen and county CEO Carmel Angelo said they anticipate Curry will resume her former position of assistant commissioner of agriculture. Curry was not available for comment when Willits Weekly called on Wednesday.

Angelo said Wednesday that county staff conducted interviews of candidates for the new position of cannabis manager on Tuesday and is now in the process of setting up second interviews for candidates who passed the first interview.

She added that she expects the county may be in a position to make a job offer to the preferred candidate within the next two weeks.

The county is anticipating creating a cannabis unit, run by the cannabis manager, that will be charged with overseeing the performance of various county departments involved in regulating the cannabis industry here, Angelo said. The cannabis unit will be placed within the executive office.

By this move, Angelo told Willits Weekly, she understands the board of supervisors is making her the person of final responsibility to ensure the cannabis unit runs effectively and the county's cannabis program is successful.

The rest of
Trees
From Page 1

selected and removed in recent weeks.

At the January 25 Willits City Council meeting, Watts presented the city with a 12-page packet containing advice and information about the best trees to plant and the most sustainable ways to install them in a city environment.

He acknowledged he felt some of the blame for the recent removal of the 13 trees, since he had helped plan for and plant some of them many years ago.

He noted some of the trees – such as the Bradford pears – just didn't have sufficient soil area to live longer than the 30 or so years they lasted without becoming frail and at risk of dropping branches as some had done recently. He encouraged the council to look into hiring experts to manage the tree planting and landscaping in the future.

"This problem will reoccur over and over again unless the city becomes proactive and has more planning in place," he said.

Mayor Madge Strong and other council members thanked Watts for his volunteer service to the city over the years.

"You and Jenny have given us a tremendous amount of love and effort, and it is very much appreciated," Strong said.

The rest of
Missing
From Page 1

small derringer pistol, Barney said, and demanded Britton come out and speak with him.

Witnesses said after Britton left the residence, a physical altercation occurred before Britton and Fallis got into a black Mercedes sedan and drove off.

"Khadijah has not been in contact with her family since that time," he added. Fallis, who is wanted in connection with a previous domestic violence incident in January involving Britton, also has disappeared.

The case has been assigned to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office detective unit for continued investigation, Barney said.

Fallis is known to frequent the Willows area, the Grindstone Rancheria in Glenn County, Lake County, and Covelo.

Anyone with information related to the whereabouts of either Fallis or Britton is being urged to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Dispatch Center at 707-463-4086 or the Sheriff's Tip Line at 707-234-2100.

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



Missing Covelo woman Khadijah Britton.



Congrats | 60th Wedding Anniversary

Happy 60th Anniversary to Bill and Carlin Horger. The pair met in, and graduated from, Willits High School. Bill spent 20 years in the Navy with Carlin by his side. Congratulations to the Horgers, celebrating their big day on February 16, 2018.

– with love, from sons Mike and Chris Horger and the rest of the family

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Information: 456-9668
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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
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Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Brunau

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
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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.
22751 Bray Road, Willits

Willits United Methodist
A Christ centered, progressive church
ALL ARE WELCOME
286 School St. (at Pine)
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration Sundays - 11:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.
459-2855
Facebook: www.facebook.com
If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com



Above: Kindergarten student Sebastian Carrillo holds the \$50 Safeway gift card he and his family won, thanks to Sebastian's perfect attendance in January.

Brookside 'Perfect Attendance' winner for January

Congratulations to Sebastian Carrillo, at left, a student new to Brookside Elementary School, for winning the "Perfect Attendance" award for January. Every day during the month of January, Sebastian was on time and at school ready to learn with his kindergarten class and his teacher, Mrs. Gonzalez. His family will receive a \$50 gift card to Safeway from the Brookside PTO for empowering Sebastian to get to school every day and to be on time.

– Kathleen Crossman, principal Brookside Elementary School

Sanhedrin High School Students of the Month

The staff at Sanhedrin High School unanimously voted for three students to receive Student of the Month awards for January. Criteria included grades, attendance, behavior, citizenship, and overall attitude. The students were presented the awards on January 26 in an all-school assembly.

Academic student of the month awardees were Colter Slover and Shira Adams, and Briana Lopez was awarded Citizenship student of the month.

Congratulations also to Sanhedrin student Alexander Del Aguila, who finished up his high school diploma and graduated at last week's Willits school board meeting.

Sanhedrin High would also like the community to know that their "Willits Adult Education" program has begun. Adult Ed meets every Tuesday (from 4 to 7 pm) and Thursday (from 5 to 8 pm). If you – or someone you know – needs to finish a high school diploma, please stop in anytime at Sanhedrin High School, 120 North Main Street, 459-4801, for more information. There are currently 23 students enrolled in Adult Ed, and the first graduate is expected to receive a diploma in March.

– submitted by Sanhedrin High School



Above, from top: Shira Adams holds her Academic Student of the Month award.

Briana Lopez holds her Citizenship Student of the Month award.

Colter Slover holds his Academic Student of the Month award.

At left: New Sanhedrin High School graduate Alejandro Del Aguila holds his diploma, flanked by, from left, teacher Yuliya Ritchley, Teacher John Horton and director of Sanhedrin High, Jeff Ritchley.

Photo by Joanne Moore

The rest of Jossie's Results From Page 5

games to purchase. He has dreams of expanding his business after this initial effort. "At some point in the future, I'm going to get rid of this pool table, and it'll just be couches and TVs and the customer will just pay to play for a half hour or an hour. They choose the game, and then I put it up for them. It'll be something like a dollar to switch it out. Each Friday I'll have a different 'Halo' tournament, 'Super Smash Brothers' tournament. I'm slowly getting there."

The walls are done in chalkboard paint and the kids are encouraged to be creative and draw to their heart's desire. They can also draw on the sidewalk. The business is tucked away just past the Loose Caboose Café at 20 Wood Street, and can be reached at 707-513-7608. The hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 3 pm to 7 pm, Friday, 3 pm to midnight, Saturday, 12 pm to midnight, Sunday, 12 pm to 7 pm, and closed Monday.

If you enjoy the atmosphere of an old-time arcade where kids (and adults) can go, meet their friends, listen to the whirrs and music of the throwback machines or play a round or two of pool, you would do well to give Jossie's Games a try. And while you're there, be sure to say hello to Jossie.

The rest of Go Red From Page 12

When students are done with finals, their bodies let down and they get a cold or the flu. When people deal with chronic stress, it can lead to all sorts of problems.

Many women care for children and other family members, and being a caregiver can take its toll. Because others are depending on them, caregivers sometimes feel it's selfish to take a walk or spend time alone. However, it is really important to stay healthy – for the caregiver and the people she cares for.

Here are some tips to reduce stress:

- Meditate
- Breathe deeply
- Identify people who make you feel relaxed and spend more time with them so you can support each other

- Get enough sleep
- Reduce caffeine and sugar to manage spikes in your diet and the crashes that come later
- Keep a journal

Sometimes stress can lead to anxiety or depression, and seeing a therapist or psychiatrist can help. Don't let old-fashioned ideas about mental health get in the way of treatment. Illnesses like anxiety and depression are common and treatable. This February, take care of yourself and you'll be doing a good thing for yourself and all who love you.

Carole Press is the chief executive officer of MCHC Health Centers, a local, non-profit, federally qualified group of health centers offering medical, dental and behavioral health care to people in Lake and Mendocino Counties, including Little Lake Clinic in Willits.

The rest of Results From Page 3

30 - 39

1st Erik Sorensen 22:51
2nd Josh Swearingin 39:08

40 - 49

1st Galdine Guerara 38:58
2nd OJ Johnson 46:18

50 - 59

1st Kevin Britton 31:10
2nd Jim Feenan 52:00

60 - 69

1st Michael Kummer 29:48
2nd Fred Canillo 30:51
3rd Rod Lambert 46:31

70+

1st Anthony Fleming 25:20
2nd Bob Deines 26:34
3rd Mike Bielenberg 27:50

Willits Classic 10 Mile 2018 selected results

Overall Female 10 Mile Winners

1st Michelle Kluskiewicz F28 1:17:29

2nd Jill Porterfield F57 1:25:03
3rd Emily Nichol F36 1:28:38

Age Group Winners

14 - 17

1st Brieana Evans 1:31:08

18 - 29

1st Michelle Kluskiewicz 1:17:29

30 - 39

1st Emily Nichol 1:28:38
2nd Madeline Asellyne 1:51:17

40 - 49

1st Tina Tyler-O'Shea 2:05:23

50 - 59

1st Jill Porterfield 1:27:03
2nd Tanya Harris 1:31:00
3rd Jeanine Burnett 1:37:31

Overall Male 10 Mile Winners

1st Alexander Kramer M38 59:23:47

2nd Ryan Veness M31 1:02:15
3rd Randy Esson M61 1:15:23

Age Group Winners

9 & Under

1st Jonas Swearingin 1:57:05

14 - 17

1st Teophil Lubus 1:28:37

18 - 29

1st Jeffrey Clark 1:48:40

30 - 39

1st Alexander Kramer 59:23:47
2nd Ryan Veness 1:02:15

40 - 49

1st Ukiah Morrison 1:25:38
2nd Don Cobb 1:33:39
3rd Andrew Watson 1:35:33

4th Henry Moss 2:00:43

50 - 59

1st Daniel Rosenthal 1:44:37

60 - 69

1st Randy Esson 1:15:23
2nd Tim Pletcher 1:15:53

3rd Gordon Short 1:59:59

Willits Classic 2018 5K full results

1. Kianna Ruffin F13 21:54.97
2. Anna Cobb F10 21:59.76

3. Noelle Cobb F17 22:50.83
4. Phillip Henebury M15 22:51.10

5. Erik Sorensen M34 22:51.67
6. Victor Loi M24 23:00.33

7. Ari Gray F31 23:33.67
8. Anthony Fleming M70 25:20.03

9. Nola Hontou-Marshall F58 25:39.21
10. Devonte Guerara M8 25:56.14

11. Lauren Green F33 25:56.86
12. Sarah Dusky F34 25:58.71

13. Carmine Guerara M9 26:06.35
14. Bob Deines M70 26:34.50

15. Alex Nelson F27 27:42.10
16. Mike Bielenberg M71 27:50.98

17. Alberto Gutierrez M25 27:51.59
18. Catherine Gauthier F33 28:11.29

19. Emylia Ruffin F14 28:59.34
20. Krystina Ruffin F16 28:59.67

21. Jed Cobb M8 29:00.91
22. Emillie Feenan F26 29:20.11

23. Michael Kummer M60 29:48.40

24. Elisabeth Lehmborg F62 30:00.42

25. Erin Fitapatrik F42 30:47.53
26. Fred Canillo M62 30:51.34

27. Kevin Britton M58 31:10.92
28. Emily Henebury F10 31:15.25

29. Simba Souza F23 31:15.72

30. Laura Henebury F13 31:16.33

31. Irma Castaneda F 32 31:26.34

32. Sheri Cobb F45 31:28.94

33. Ella Cobb F6 31:35.48

34. Daisy Barrett F16 32:39.25

35. Jan Tiedeman F58 32:44.75

36. Carol Jadiker F62 32:48.17

37. Carol Gibson F41 33:31.87

38. Trish Steel F55 33:53.12

39. Jason Morash M27 35:02.02

40. Kathy Tilton F59 35:19.05

41. Selma Navarro F27 35:19.91

42. Adrian Gonzalez M28 35:44.48

43. Valerie Wyatt F51 35:45.94

44. Brittany Wagner F28 36:13.41

45. Susan Craig F62 38:04.87

46. Nicole Glentzer F44 38:06.35

47. Spencer Wood M10 38:08.37

48. Andie Wattenburger F8 38:08.87

49. Maureen Mulheren F38 38:19.98

50. Lynn Webb-Canillo F61 38:34.06

51. Galdine Guerara M40 38:58.75

52. Jedediah Swearingin M6 39:08.75

53. Rochelle Fink F37 39:51.50

54. Jerett Nelson M7 40:44.75

55. Alexandra Lopez F29 40:44.75

56. Ginny Cholez F69 41:34.74

57. Gretchen Webb-Kummer F59 42:19.76

58. Jim Schee M73 43:58.53

59. Kristy Moss F40 44:25.05

60. Josh Swearingin M35 44:27.76

61. Becky Ronco F56 45:24.39

62. Susan Way F40 45:33.06

63. Joann Holliday F53 45:41.25

64. Cassie Johnson F34 45:53.99

65. OJ Johnson M41 46:18.98

66. Dennis Cholez M72 46:22.79

67. Guy Glentzer M10 46:23.41

68. Pollyanna Johnston F76 46:31.71

69. Rod Lambert M63 46:31.71

70. Helen Tapas F77 46:34.83

71. Kyle Glentzer M43 46:39.56

72. Joann Scheiter F76 47:20.65

73. Mia Lopez F27 47:22.20

74. Judy Williams F77 47:22.20

75. Heather Criss F43 47:28.66

76. Lois Cook F86 50:38.80

77. Jim Feenan M58 52:00.67

78. Marisa Sizemore F38 52:47.23

79. Jennese Hartley F33 52:47.90

80. Marian Cohn F41 53:27.94

81. Lydia Leser F36 53:31.36

82. Senter Jennylyn F65 53:38.44

83. Mary Ratto F75 55:23.73

84. Nicola Selph F65 56:51.47

85. Grace Sakurada F29 1:02.15

86. Nicole Luhr F34 1:02.20

87. Brilee Luhr F9 1:02.21

Willits Classic 2018 10 Mile full results

1. Alexander Kramer M38 59:23.47

2. Ryan Veness M31 1:02:15.10

3. Randy Esson M61 1:15:23.30

4. Tim Pletcher M61 1:15:53.47

5. Michelle Kluskiewicz F28 1:17:29.10

6. Ukiah Morrison M45 1:25:38.97

7. Jill Porterfield F57 1:27:03.75

8. Teophil Lubus M14 1:28:37.72

9. Emily Nichol F36 1:28:38.40

10. Tanya Harris F52 1:31:00.81

11. Brieana Evans F15 1:31:08.47

12. Don Cobb M48 1:33:39.59

13. Andrew Watson M44 1:35:33.37

14. Jeanine Burnett F58 1:37:31.76

15. Leah Solon F54 1:40:45.09

16. Daniel Rosenthal M52 1:44:37.62

17. Jeffrey Clark M22 1:48:40.25

18. Lisa Fouzin F57 1:51:16.47

19. Madeline Asellyne F33 1:51:17.96

20. Jonas Swearingin M9 1:57:05.62

21. Gordon Short M61 1:59:58.84

22. Henry Moss M41 2:00:43.50

23. Tina Tyler-O'Shea F47 2:05:23.01

Results provided by the North Coast Striders.



At top, from left: Roland Hulstein, Adventist Health Home Health and Hospice, addresses the gathered crowd at the Prayer Breakfast event on February 1 at the Willits Community Center. Willits Chamber of Commerce's Allison Finley and the Community Foundation's Holly Madrigal attend the breakfast. The Basics, including, from left, Bear Kamoroff, George Husaruk, Paul Kemp and Machiko Shimada, played for the attendees. Below, left: Jaime Jorge plays the violin. Below, left: Adventist Health Howard Memorial staff and event planners pose with Jaime Jorge and his wife, Rachelle, including, from left: Judson Howe, Howard Memorial CFO; Dennis Long, Howard Memorial chaplain; Tammy Long, Adventist Health Home Health and Hospice; Rachelle Pecovsky and Jaime Jorge; Jason Wells, Howard Memorial president; Dustin Aho, Adventist Health VP for Mission Integration.



Prayer Breakfast

Annual gathering hosted by Howard Memorial unites community

By Cici Winiger, for Howard Memorial

Over 200 business owners, law enforcement officers, first responders, hospital leaders and local officials gathered early Thursday morning, February 1 for the annual prayer breakfast at the Willits Community Center. Coinciding with the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C., the gathering's main theme was uniting the community and asking for blessing and guidance in the face of many challenges, both at the local and national level.

Sponsored and organized by Adventist Health Howard Memorial, and now on its sixth year, the annual event started in 2012 as a gathering to draw upon the rich faith and diversity of the community as the source of its strength and hope for the future.

Jason Wells, Adventist Health Howard Memorial president, who welcomed attendees, emphasized the need to come together. "This prayer breakfast has become an annual gift from Howard to our community. As one of the largest employers and connectors in our region, I believe we are called to be a uniting force, inspiring us all to come together as one. We have far more in common and working together, we can overcome so many more challenges."

Local faith leaders offered prayers for unity, the city, state and the nation, as well as for home and family, and for our first responders. Ronald Lincoln, Sr. from the Wylackii Pomo tribe offered a prayer for unity, while Betsy Bruneau of St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church offered a prayer for city, state and the nation. Sam Senerchia, Soto Zen Buddhist, asked for blessings for home and family.

Especially meaningful this year was a prayer for first responders by Bishop Dale Abono from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in light of the devastation due to the October wildfires.

Special guest international violinist Jaime Jorge continued the theme of unity and faith as he shared his story and gift of healing music and underscored the importance of the event to unite the whole community regardless of faith or affiliation. "We must realize we're more alike than we're different. In my work, I've seen how music has a way of uniting people and healing people. It's truly the international language."

Later that evening, Jorge delighted almost 200 community members in a free concert at the Willits Community Center. Playing a mix of Christian and contemporary music, he enthralled the audience with his music in between sharing his struggles growing up in communist Cuba and overcoming many obstacles after moving to the United States. Jorge reiterated his message of using one's "God-given" talents to bring joy to others as he has done.

"Through music you can heal, you can unite. Parents, if you have children who have the talent, keep pushing them, don't let them give up. Someday they will realize how much joy they can bring to others and how fulfilling that can be."

Before the night ended, Jorge asked the audience to join him in one last song, to sing "Happy Birthday" to a special person in the crowd, Willits' beloved Edie Ceccarelli, in celebration of her 110th birthday.

At left, from top: Kristian Hart sang several pieces for the event attendees at the beginning and ending of the program. Adventist Health Howard Memorial's Chaplain Dennis Long speaks at the podium. Sam Senerchia offered a prayer for "home and family" through the Soto Zen Buddhist faith.

At right: Betsy Bruneau offers a prayer for "city, state and nation" through the Christian faith.

Below: The Willits Community Center was filled with community members during Adventist Health Howard Memorial's annual Prayer Breakfast event.



Photos by Maureen Moore

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