Online & Print Online & Print

New garbage deal

in the works

Zack Cinek
Reporter
zack@willitsweekly.com

The city and Solid Wastes of Willits are in talks for a new garbage service deal that will likely change the way residents throw away their kitchen scraps.

Council members Madge
Strong and Ron Orenstein
and Finance Director Susie
Holmes have represented
the city in ad hoc committee
meetings, along with
SWOW and Mike Sweeney
from the Mendocino Solid
Waste Management
Authority.

"When you negotiate, you negotiate, and it is a back-and-forth sort of thing. And that is the way we did this," Orenstein said. The

Read the rest of Garbage

Over on Page 11

Supes leave animal care services as is

Mike A'Dair

Reporter

mike@willitsweekly.com

In a unanimous vote, supervisors on Tuesday decided to leave management of the county's animal care services with the Division of Environmental Health, a division of the county's Health & Human Services agency.

The question was presented to the board as an opportunity to place animal care under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Office. Currently, the Sheriff's Office is responsible for animal control.

Animal care and animal control are two different divisions offering different services. Formerly unified

Read more of Animals

Over on Page 9

Ad hoc committee

struggling with pot questions

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

In a recent interview, Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse said his most high-profile board appointment, the marijuana ad hoc committee, was having a hard time getting a reliable handle on the most basic question: how big is Mendocino County's pot industry?

"The most difficult part is estimating the size of the crop," Woodhouse said.

Read the rest of Pot

Over on Page 11









Birdies & Blooms

Spring is in full, well, literal bloom right now in the Willits valley, and other signs of spring are also making their appearance, including one local favorite: baby chickens.

Available at Willits' J.D. Redhouse and Coast Hardware, many varieties of chicks can be bought, brought home and raised, and will grow up to produce another springtime favorite: fresh eggs.

Once you have selected chicks and purchased the recommended supplies and feed, bring them home and set them up in a brooder with a heat lamp on one side, and an area where the chicks can cool off, too, if they get too hot.

Keep fresh, shallow water available, and away from the heat lamp. A feeder complete with chick crumbles will provide nourishment, but treats can also be given once the chicks are

a few weeks old. Treats can include options from chopped-up strawberries to mealworms and crickets.

Make sure the chicks and their bedding are clean, and always contact your feed store or veterinarian if a chick is acting sickly.

You can expect the young hens or "pullets" to start laying their first eggs anywhere between their 16th and 24th week of age.









School budget remains tight

Mike A'Dair

Reporter

mike@willitsweekly.com

The brief honeymoon period between the Willits Unified School District and California Gov. Jerry Brown's new funding formula appears to be over. The promise that a lot of money would flow from the state to the district, washing away obstacles and constraints, has turned out to be an illusion. In its place is a new landscape of caution and uncertainty.

Recent discussions with WUSD Financial Officer Tanya Michel indicated that while the state is ramping up its contributions to the district, the district's end-of-year fund balance is continuing to take a hit.

For example, in the

Read the rest of Budget

Over on Page 11

Cal/OSHA

back in Willits next week

Jennifer Poole

Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Two Cal/OSHA inspectors working on investigating the Willits bypass falsework collapse will be coming back up to Willits next week, Cal/OHSA spokesman Peter Melton said Wednesday.

Inspectors have been and will be talking to workers, injured workers, eyewitnesses and management, Melton said.

Cal/OSHA cleared bypass contractors to clean up debris the weekend after the January 22 collapse, after an initial inspection. Melton said Caltrans, as the project overseer, and Flatiron, as the contractor,

Read the rest of Cal/OSHA

Over on Page 11

County backs away

from mental health center at old hospital

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

County CEO Carmel Angelo told supervisors Tuesday that the county is no longer leading the way in an attempt to turn Willits' old Frank R. Memorial Howard Hospital into a mental health center.

"As you may know, for the past several years we have been making an effort to downsize our physical plant, to reduce the number of our leases and to consolidate our

Read the rest of Hospital

Over on Page 10

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Choices in education

To the Editor:

they have in their back pocket, just in case. It gives them a reason to learn some math, English, and even some history, as they would find it was useful in whatever class they were taking.

A home economics class was also mentioned. This is also a useful class, as it would teach basic cooking, how to sew on a button, repair a tear. Even teach how to balance a checkbook, how to live within a budget. These are subjects that help prepare a young person for facing new challenges.

With the present six periods offered at Willits High School, there is not really enough time for electives, as they need two periods in order to have enough time to accomplish anything in wood shop, automotive repair/welding, and some other electives. One of my sons is using the education he learned in welding class in his business today. In earlier times there were either seven or eight classes per day, which enabled the electives.

time in their present schedules?

quite worried about the present status of what is being are our students. offered In the high school and asked that his name be added to this letter.

Carlin M. Horger and Chuck Davison, Willits

Teaching money management

To the Editor:

I so appreciated Ron Stamps' well-written letter in the February 12 paper. Along with his recommendation for a vocational high school program stimulating future Gratefully, craftsmen and women, I'd like to encourage our school to have an elective program teaching money management.

One of the most effective aspects of money management and growth is starting young. It's astonishing how much can be saved if one simply starts in one's 20s or teens. Following the format for investment outlined in David Bach's "Smart Women Finish Rich" or his "The Finish Rich Workbook" can catapult our youth into financial solvency and wealth, often without the need for a college education.

April Tweddell, Willits

A bad allev

To the Editor:

On February 14, I volunteered at the play at Willits Community Theatre at 37 West Van Lane in Willits. At 10:15 pm I was walking to my car, and I tripped over the speed bump and fell down. I managed to get up and get to my car. My head was bleeding, and my right hand.

My granddaughter took me to the emergency room at Howard Hospital here in Willits. I have a black eye on my right eye and my right hand has two cuts on it. Both knees were bruised, and it hurt to walk on them. I was checked out by the staff and released after 1 am.

I am writing to help others that walk from there to look and watch for potholes and uneven walk areas. The theater could put more lighting up for the safety of the people attending the plays there. The speed bump needs to be painted so we can see it in the dark.

Linda Wiley, Willits

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspape founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 2, Number 93 Willits, CA 95490 willitsweekly@gmail.com 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047

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Thank You

To the Editor:

I read Mr. Stamps letter, and I only wish that I had written it. As organizer of Willits Elementary Charter School's 3rd It stated everything that I have been thinking for some time annual Winter Gala, I would like to express some wellnow. It isn't fair to our children not to give them choices deserved thanks. First and foremost to our Director Kara in their education. When these young people learn a McClellan, who continues to bring her vision and dedication trade, even if they plan on going to college, it is something to the WECS students, staff, and school and allows me a

> I would like to thank all the teachers who go above and beyond to bring quality, innovative education to their classrooms. To Tyler Balthrop, our music teacher and MC for the event, a particular thank you for teaching the kids "This Little Light of Mine," which always makes me tear up! I'm also grateful to Tyler, Jenness Hartley, and Joe Madden for the musical entertainment.

> I owe special thanks to Keith and Kim Shuster for their fantastic help with donations and the wonderful pulled pork they raised for us. It was delicious! Kara Garman was a huge help with soliciting donations for our amazing silent auction. I am also so thankful for the many generous local businesses that gave items that really represent who they are in our community. We couldn't do it without you all!

The Little Lake Grange, a historic treasure in Willits, is a great venue to utilize for events. Mama J of Zocalo Catering I understand that the superintendent is trying to work donated her services and did a wonderful job with the food; something out with the college to use the facilities. How is we are already looking forward to next year's Winter Gala that going to help our students when they don't have the with her in the kitchen. (February 13, 2016, "Celebrating the ones we love Mardi Gras style." Save the date!)

I had a conversation with Chuck Davison, and he is also Most importantly, and the reason that we were all there,

They worked so hard and put on such great performances, you should all be very proud of yourselves! Performing is a great way to build self-esteem and confidence, and I would like to acknowledge the parents that made the effort to make sure their kids were able to perform.

I feel very fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community, and offer a heartfelt thank you for all of the support we continue to receive.

I look forward to seeing you at next year's Winter Gala!

Aura de la Fuente, Willits

Thank you

Willits Daily Bread would like to thank all the participants in this year's Sip Some Soup benefit - the 16th annual!

As usual, we had a full house of happy soup tasters, enjoying some truly delicious soups - made with lots of love - as well as bread and jam from Emandal and desserts from the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Thanks to everybody who came.

We'd also like to thank all our soupmakers, including two groups who got left off our original list of participants: the Mendocino County Museum in Willits (offering Lentil Rice Soup) and the second soup made by members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church: "Sweet & Garlicky Italian

And thanks, too, to all the donors to our silent auction, and everybody who bid on the fun selection of items. Donors included: MonkeyWrench, Misty Made & Sew Much More, Geraldine & Kent Pember, Les Schwab, Yokum's Body Shop, Barbara Carlon, Robin Goldner, Shanachie Pub, Main Street Music, Emandal, Mark & Corazon Elliott of Hidden Agenda, Earlene Gleisner, Sparetime Supply, the Yoxalls, Mariposa Market, Mazahar, the Goods Shoppe, Spartan Body Works, Mike & Ruth Dell'Arra, Ace Copy, Bill & Linda Meyerhoff, John Ford Ranch, Healing Central Chiropractic, Willits Furniture, Marcia Tichenor, Rosalina Books & Antiques, Headroom, Cat's Meow, Adam's Restaurant, Kimberly's Jewelry, Tropic Tails, Northwest Sporting Goods, Brickhouse Coffee, Buttercups, Fetzer, Linda McDonald, Sharon Baumann, and Betty Bird.

Sip Some Soup is the major annual fundraiser for Daily Bread, which provides a hot meal Monday through Thursday evenings at St. Anthony's Parish Hall. 58 Bush Street. The nearly \$5,000 raised at Sip Some Soup this year will help pay the bills and demonstrates local support for our program, which is important when it comes to winning grants and other funding. It costs about \$60,000 a year to keep the doors open at Willits Daily Bread, and donations are always welcome: please send to Willits Daily Bread, 58 Bush Street, Willits CA 95490, drop by Monday through Thursdays, 3 to 6:30 pm, or call me, Cindy Savage, at 459-3947 or 367-5669. Thanks again to the Willits community for all your support.

Cindy Savage, director, Willits Daily Bread

Invitation from the principal

On Thursday, February 26, Coffee and Tea with the Principal returns. Coffee with the Principal is at 8:30 am, and Tea with the Principal is at 3:30 pm. This time is an informal visit to chat about the current events at Willits High School, and other topics one-on-one with myself, Jeff Ritchley. Last month, a former WHS alumnus returned to find that their school record was still posted on the high school gym wall.

In addition, the same evening, February 26, at 7 pm, there will be a Willits High School community meeting in the Steve Short Gymnasium. This meeting will be concerning the gym floor. We will be discussing the gym floor policy, gym tarps, gym usage, and any other concern you may have. Please join me in this informal time to bring your concerns about the WHS gym floor. We look forward to

Jeffrey Ritchley, principal, Willits High School

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Old Mission Pizza, Brewed Awakening, Ace Copy & Shipping, Willits Post Office, Village Market, Ardella's Downtown Diner, Willits Library, J.D. Redhouse, Mariposa Market and The Country Skillet



'Top Ten' Firefighter and Sweetheart Dinner

... interrupted by fire call

the Little Lake Fire Protection District's "Top Ten" and Sweetheart and conversations with Chief Smith. Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday night. Within minutes of the fire alarm, the Willits Senior Center saw

Fire Chief Carl Magann and some of **Tenny Senter** Contributing Writer

points), and Greg Elliott (376 points).

the very men that were to be honored that night rushing out the door to the emergency call. That left their family members, dates, fellow firefighters, and the attending fire district's board of directors to eat the dinner catered by the Willits Lions

LLFPD board President Gerry Gonzalez and Nancy Stipe, LLFPD administrative assistant, took Chief Magann's place to present the "Top Ten" firefighter awards. The Top Ten Firefighters for 2014: Mike Wilder (top responder with 610 points); Eric Alvarez (586 points); Mike Cornwall (559 points); Tylor Yadon (551 points);

Tim Caldwell (525 points); Bill Carter (522 points); Mike Griggs,

Jr. (449 points); Kevin Reedy (442 points); Levi Linderman (418

Mike Cornwall's daughter, Karissa, and Kevin Reedy's wife, Janet, stepped in to accept their firefighter's awards.

The "Top Ten" and Sweetheart Dinner is a night every year -Valentine's Night, February 14 this year - that the department honors all of the volunteer firefighters, the previous year's Top Ten firefighters, and the families that support their participation as volunteer firefighters. Firefighters earn points throughout the year by attending fire department trainings and responding to emergency fire and rescue calls. In addition, five of these Top Ten firefighters have also attended the Mendocino Volunteer Fire Chiefs Association Fire Academy.

Fire Captain Kevin Reedy, president of the Little Lake Firefighters Association and a nine-year veteran of the fire department, said he knew since he was 8 years old that he wanted to be a firefighter. As a youth in Willits, he remembers how the late Jeff Smith, former

Volunteer firefighters and their families have long ago learned fire chief of LLFPD, always supported his dream of becoming a they need to be flexible when it comes to planning events and firefighter. Reedy attributes his dedication to the fire department gatherings. That flexibility came in handy when a fire call interrupted and the Willits community to his "ride-alongs" on emergency calls

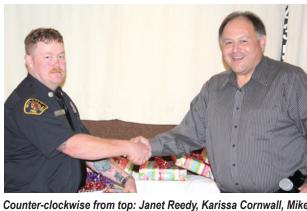
> Read the rest of Dinner

Over on Page 9









Wilder, Eric Alvarez, Tim Caldwell, Bill Carter, Levi Linderman, and Greg Elliott with the firefighter awards; Bill and Crystal Carter; Mike Cornwall returns from the call, ready to eat in a tie and turnouts; Chief Carl Magann and his wife, Claudia, know to take advantage of a chance to dance with each other; Claudia Magann and Nancy Stipe share a laugh; Mike Wilder, top responder, and Little Lake fire district board president Gerry Gonzalez; Eric Alvarez and Jodi relax after dinner, and Kassy Aldaco and fireman Greg Elliott.



(PG) 1 hr 32 mins Fri: 6:00 & 8:30pm Sat: 11:40am, 1:45, Sun: 12:45, 2:50, 5:00 & 7:30pm Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:30pm

SELMA

(PG13) 2 hrs 8 mins Fri: 5:15pm Sat: 12noon & 5:15pm Sun-Thurs: 4:15pm

SELMA



WHIPLASH

Movie Times for 2/20 thru 2/26

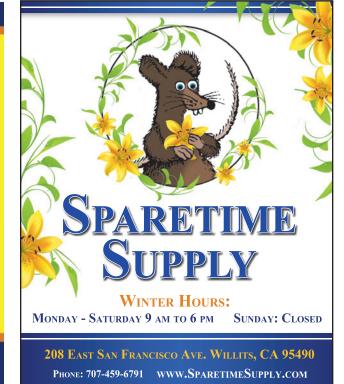
& 7:15pm

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



Coming Soon:

Kingsmen: Secret Service





Puzzle Page & More

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

Sudoku



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

CUP OF TEA WORD SEARCH

AROMA **CAFFEINE ASSAM CEYLON ASTRINGENT** CHAI **BAGGY** CREAM **BANCHA** BITE DULL **BLACK DUST BREAKFAST EARTHY**

BRISK

FANNINGS FULL GREEN HONEY DARJEELING **IMPERIAL** INSTANT KEEMUN LIGHT

OOLONG

PEKOE PLANTATION **POUCHONG** QUALITY STEEP **TANNIN** WEAK

WHITE

CLUES ACROSS 5. Dangerous tidal bore

10. Prevents harm to creatures 14. Upper class 15. Caused an open infection 16. Styptic

17. Am. Nat'l. Standards Inst. 18. Muse of lyric poetry 19. He fiddled

20. Afrikaans 22. Don't know when yet 23. Mottled cat 24. 1803 USA purchase 27. Engine additive

30. Reciprocal of a sine

31. __ King Cole, musician 32. Time in the central U.S. 35. Insect pupa sheaths 37. Prefix denoting "in a" 38. Okinawa port city

39. Capital of Pais-de-Calais 40. Small amount 41. Fictional elephant 42. Grave 43. 12th month (abbr.)

44. Knights' garment 45. One point S of due E 46. Lender Sallie

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47. Express pleasure

Crossword Puzzle

48. Grassland, meadow 49. Vikings state 52. Deck for divination 56. Cavalry sword

60. Largest known toad species 61. Once more 63. Cavity 64. Paper this tin plate

65. Slang for backward

66. James ___, American

steam engineer 67. Sea eagles 68. Wooded

69. Expression of annoyance

CLUES DOWN 1. Spawn of an oyster 2. Town near Venice 3. Bone (pl.) 4. Pair of harness shafts 5. Midway between E and SE 6. Of a main artery

8. Maintained possession 9. Old Tokyo 10. Yemen capital 11. Commoner

12. Street border

7. Catches

13. Old Xiamen

21. Soul and calypso songs 23. Explosive 25. Put into service 26. Swiss river

27. Territorial division 28. Pulse 29. Hair curling treatments 32. Small group of intriguers

33. Portion 34. Slightly late 36. Taxi 37. Political action committee

38. Grab 40. Between 13 & 19

41. Tai currency 43. Newsman Rather 44. Great school in Mass

46. Technology school 47. Have a great ambition 49. Groans

50. Fill with high spirits 51. Expressed pleasure 52. Modern London gallery

53. A gelling agent in foods 54. Dilapidation 57. Swine

58. Footwear museum city 59. Respite

61. Creative activity 62. Slight head motion

> this phenomenon and discussing it together

will help you to be better

You can start preparing

◆ Are you both able

by answering the following questions together:

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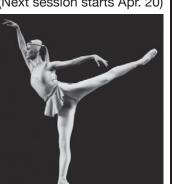
We are offering a wide variety of classes to help you get in the best shape of your life! R.I.P.P.E.D.™ and Insanity™ with Judy Coughlin! PiYo™ with Kacie starts on Saturday! Plus Zumba® and Zumba Gold®. We've got you covered!

We have 1400 square feet of dance floor, lots of headroom and a party-like atmosphere. Check out our full schedule and teacher bios on our webpage www.studiojoywillits.com

COMING IN MARCH!

Beginning March 2! Ballet Barre Class with Suzanne Wagner, former ballerina with Berlin Ballet. Mon. and Wed. at 10:30 a.m. No special shoes or clothes necessary. See webpage for more details. This is a session running from Mar. 2-30.

Come one time, come to them all. (Next session starts Apr. 20)



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Dealing with ex-partners

Doris Wier

Dear Doris: What are your thoughts about being in touch to recognize and understand how seeing an with "exes" while in a committed relationship?

Thank you very much for reaching out to me with a question that may involve feelings of vulnerability and insecurity. I think it is wonderful that you are in a committed relationship again. Being committed is a good foundation for any relationship. As usual, there is no one answer to your question. However, there is much to explore with your new partner and within yourselves around vulnerable feelings that may suddenly show up when an "ex" does. Whether noticed by you or not, these feelings can

impact your new partnership. We all bring our own relationship and life experiences into a new partnership. Like ghosts, our ex-partners can influence our interactions with our new partners and can impact our new partnerships whether they are physically there or not. For instance, they might "visit" us when we get intimate with our new partners, or

[fill in the blank]. Acknowledging

♦ In which situations may your ex-partners show up like ghosts and influence you? How quickly do you pick up on the emotional signals?

openly with each other?

partners, positively or negatively?

Independently of your answers to the questions above, the two of you will have to decide how you want your "exes" (and the feelings they stir up in you) to impact your new partnership. Many of us are not aware that we have a choice here, but we do. You can choose to let past experiences and

feelings about your previous partner bring conflict

and insecurity to your new partnership, or you can

大学的大学的诗歌

THURSDAY EVENINGS At Willits Kids Club; 5:00-6:30;

Willits Weekly | February 19, 2015

ex-partner affects each of you and your new

♦ How do each of you feel about your ex-

♦ What feelings or reactions do each of you

notice the most? Are you able to share them

plan our first vacation together, or when Read the rest of Relationships

Over on Page 9

PARENT WORKSHOPS

SYSTEMATIC TRAINING FOR EFFECTIVE PARENTING / STEP

Attend a STEP parent workshop and learn: How to understand your child's behavior • How to listen and talk to your child Discipline that makes sense...And More!

Workshops will be held once a week for 7 weeks WEDNESDAY MORNINGS At Brookside Elementary School 9-10:30; Light Breakfast included

Dinner included February 25-April 16, 2015 No class week of WUSD Spring Break 4/8 & 4/9

Free Childcare provided** (Must sign up in advance for childcare) For more information & to sign up, please contact: Jackie Herz at 459-3232 ext: 1309 jackieherz@willitsunified.com Katie Cochran at 459-5385 ext: 1440 katiecochran@willitsunified.com



HOWL YEAH!





Above, left: The Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital's 3rd annual Prayer Breakfast.

Above, right, top: Flowers and fruit graced the tables at the prayer breakfast.

Above, right, below: Pianist Sam Ocampo performing at Howard Hospital's Prayer Breakfast.

Below, left: Sam Ocampo performing at a free public concert the next evening.

Below, right: Ethan Castro, Wailacki tribe of Round Valley, opened with a prayer for unity. Below, left: Linda Posner, Kol HaEmek synagogue, with her prayer shawl crafted by Anne

Bottom, right: Pianist Sam

Photos by Erin Creekmur

Prayer breakfast in Willits brings together diverse faiths

together on Thursday. February 5 to celebrate at the 3rd Annual Prayer Breakfast hosted by Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital (HMH) at the Willits Community Center. "The purpose

of the HMH prayer Erin Creekmur breakfast was to bring Features Writer together community

leadership in a spirit of caring to support and pray for local, national and world leaders who carry the heavy burden of responsibility," said HMH Spiritual Care Director Dennis Long.

hospital

The National Prayer Breakfast was established in 1953 and has become an annual event, held on the first Thursday of February. This year at the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C. President Barack Obama said, "Slowing down and pausing for fellowship and prayer - that's what this breakfast is about." Howard Hospital's mission is to share God's

Giveaway

A hoy, matey-your treasure awaits!

\$20,000 in cash and \$30,000 in Free Play

Every Thursday, Now–February 26, 2–9pm

Every hour we will draw one Free Play winner and one Cash winner

Then at 9pm three winners will be drawn for a chance to choose their

Treasure Chest and take home up to \$1,500.

Play every day in February to claim your share of the bounty!

Saturdays in February 5-10pm

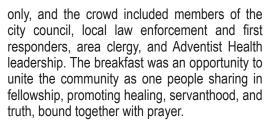
Play to win \$100 in

burning hot Free Play!

Members of the Willits community came healing. "It is my prayer that our community would be a community of love, compassion and forgiveness." HMH CEO Rick Bockmann said at the prayer breakfast.

> The program for this year's prayer breakfast included prayers and inspirational thoughts from different faiths including a prayer in the Wailacki tribe's native tongue, a Jewish blessing for breaking the bread, a Buddhist sutra, and Christian prayer for the city, state and nation.

The keynote speaker this year was pianist Sam Ocampo. Ocampo roused the audience with his beautiful renditions of "You'll Never Walk Alone" from the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Carousel," and international pieces such as Brazilian bossa nova and tango. Ocampo played a lovely memorial piece to recently deceased gospel singer songwriter Andraé Crouch, and finished off with a triumphant version of "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "America the Beautiful."



On Friday, February 6, the general community enjoyed a free concert at the Willits Community Center, performed by Sam Ocampo, that was sponsored by the Willits Christian Churches





Weekly

Promotions for February



MONDAYS - Rooster & Owls Earn 3X Points all day. Morning Session: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 9 am, 10 am, 11 am and 12 pm Evening Session: 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

May win once per promotion day! For both Morning and Evening sessions: Play 50 coin-in. receive \$5 Freeplay and a \$2.00 Food Coupon

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

TUESDAYS - Guy's Night Earn 2X points all day. 6:00 pm-10:00 pm

Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay. Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6:00 pm-9:30 pm for \$25 cash, last drawing at 10 pm for \$100 Cash. WEDNESDAYS - Jadies Night

6:00 pm-10:00 pm Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay. Hot Seat Drawings every half

hour from 6:00 pm-9:30 pm for \$25 cash, last drawing at 10 pm for \$100 Cash. **THURSDAYS** - Super Senior Day

The Senior Freeplay will be preloaded to the Players Club Card from 8:00 am-4:00 pm Half off lunch coupon for those partcipating.
Specials posted at Creekside Café. 8:00 am-4:00 pm

FRIDAYS - Friday Fun 9:00 am-9:00 pm: Earn 100 points, receive \$10 freeplay 2:00 pm-8:00 pm: Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$75 Cash 9:00 pm: Hot Seat Drawing for \$100 Cash

SATURDAYS - Winter Wonderland Cash

4:00 pm-10:00 pm

Hourly Hot Seat Drawings. Have a change to win up to \$150 Cash. SUNDAYS - Snowflake Surprise

12:00 Noon-9:00 pm

Random Hourly Hot Seat Drawings. The Winner will choose a Snowflake of their choice and have a chance win up to \$150 Cash. 707-459-7330

100 Kawi Place in Willits

Management reserves

COYOTE VALLEY

CASINO

Thursday, February 19

Free Chi Gong Class: Ross Lake offers a free chi gong class to honor Chinese New Year (it's the Year of the Goat) from 12:05 to 12:55 pm today at The Muse, 30 A East San Francisco Avenue. "Bring a friend or loved one!"

Free Healthy Lifestyle Classes: the first in a series of free "Healthy Lifestyle" classes presented by Adventist Health on health topics of interest to the general public. Tonight's class, "Healthy Hearts," is presented by David Ploss, MD. Classes will continue on the third Thursday evening of every

month, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the 11 Oaks Conference Room, with various presenters. Next month's class (March 19) is "Moving Safely," Presented by Heather Anderson, PT. To register, call 456-3132.

Four Shillings Short: Celtic duo plays a free concert at the Round Valley Library in Covelo, from 7 to 8 pm. See Friday, February 20 listing for details about this "delightful husbandand-wife duo."

"Bee People": Now & Then Films presents "Bee People," a documentary about bees and the challenges these glorious pollinators - responsible for one-third of the items on your dinner plate - are facing. 7 pm at the Little

Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "This ground-breaking film provides an educational and entertaining in-depth look at the "bee people" who caretake bees and who are working on finding both the cause of the Colony Collapse Disorder which is killing off beehives (nicotine-based pesticides? Mites? An as yet undiscovered virus?) and a solution: More bee people! Bee people every two miles!" Suggested donation \$5. Visit http://bee-people.com/ for more info.

GET STUNG

collective

Raymond at 841-0473.

in the Willits Library's Community Room. Tuesday

bridge sessions from 1:30 to 3:30 pm; Thursday

bridge sessions from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. NEW

Saturday free bridge classes, 10:15 am to 12:15

pm, start February 21, for new and review students.

Info: Donna at 459-9035. Tuesday evenings:

"Dungeons and Dragons, the Adventurers' League,"

from 6 to 10 pm. Both newbies and experienced

players, ages 13+, are welcome to join. Info: Dan

at 972-3154. Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4:30

pm: Chess: bring your chess set and have some

fun with friends. All ability levels welcome. Info:

Life Changes: Discussion and support group with

Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the

Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church,

66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th

Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free "Freedom

from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R.

Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at

the HMH Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6

to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208.

Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen

gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm;

Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 pm;

Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to 7 pm, Tweens,

Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs

free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/

MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic every Wednesday and

World Music Open Mic every Monday. 8 pm. Sign-

ups start at 7 pm. Movie Night every Tuesday. 50

South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info:

Karaoke Night at Al's Redwood Room: every

Wednesday night, karaoke in the bar. 207 South

Open Mic Jam at Al's Redwood Room:

every Friday night, hosted by Dream Capsule

Entertainment, featuring talented, established local

musicians from all over Northern California. Jazz,

Blues, Rock. New talent welcome. Al's Redwood

Room, 207 South Main Street, starting at 9 pm. Mr.

Larry's New Orleans Outside BBQ Café Catering

serving at Al's on Fridays from 9 pm to 1:30 am.

Laytonville Winter Farmers Market: Mondays

from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Laytonville Grange. Buy

local: vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb,

Questions? Call Mr. Larry: (707) 354-3197

Walk-ins are always welcome.

Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Main Street. 459-2444.

pork, crafts, and more.

Willits Photography Club: meets at the Willits Art Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at

Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Shanachie Pub: Dennis Chrisp, Sarah Rose McMahon and Saturday, February 21 Kyle of Schindig play "good ol' Americana folk music." 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, February 20

Stations of the Cross: "During the season of Lent, a time of prayer and preparation for Easter, prayers for the Stations of the Cross will be offered every Friday evening at 6 pm, from now through the end of March" at St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church at the corner of Main Street and Commercial streets. "All are welcome for these simple prayers; come as you

North Street Cinema: North Street Collective presents classic movies in a spirit of community, tonight featuring "Our Daily Bread." Doors open at 6:30; film at 7 pm; discussion at 8:30

Ongoing Events

Willits Winter Farmers Market: from 3 to 5:30 pm

every Thursday at Little Lake Grange, 291 School

Street, with produce, local meats and fish, local

grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates,

crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly,

The Emandal Chorale: this community chorus

based in Willits is in its 20th season, and you are

welcome to join! Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30

pm. No auditions necessary. The Chorale meets

upstairs at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East

Free English class/Clase de ingles gratis: Every

Thursday at 7 pm / Cada jueves a las 7 pm. At the

LDS church, 265 Margie Drive. Info: 707-758-8709.

WCA Members Art Show: ongoing through

March 1 at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East

Commercial Street. Works by 45 WCA members

in various media. Gallery hours are Thursdays

and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays and

Center, 71 East Commercial Street, on the second

Saturday of each month from 10 to 12 noon. All

levels of experience welcome. Come to the back

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Monday night session

at the Willits Center for the Arts. New beginner

class runs from 7 to 8 pm, with dancing to follow

from 8 to 9 pm. Singles and couples and all ages

are welcome. Caller/teacher Lawrence Johnson.

Singles and couples and all ages are welcome.

\$20/month (to help pay the caller), with young

dancer scholarships available. Questions? Contact

Emmy Good at Emmy@pacific.net or Jenny Watts

Alateen Support Group: for teens ages 12-17 that

are friends and family members of problem drinkers

and/or addicts. For teens only. Every Thursday, 6

to 7 pm, Room 44 at Willits High School, north of

gym near pool. Contact: Aurelie at 707-489-1258 or

Cindy at 707-972-4748 or cynlamon@gmail.com.

Junior Grange After-School Program: an after-

school program for kids ages 5 to 14, Mondays

from 3 to 6 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School

Street, Room 10. Membership fee: \$1, plus \$1

annual dues. Info? Contact Zeynep at 707-972-

Mondays at Wowser: Free events at the Wowser

maker space, 330 East Commercial Street. 6:30

pm. Lectures, slide shows, flash videos, guest

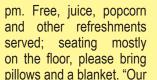
speakers, demonstrations. Info: 459-9697 or www.

Sundays from noon to 3 pm.

door of the Art Center

at Wattsup@gmail.com.

8558 or zeyny34@yahoo.com.



Daily Bread" (1934) synopsis: "A couple during the Great Depression moves to a farm to make a go of living off the land. After first stumbling, they soon find others who wish to help. They form a collective, and despite droughts and other obstacles, soon learn they can do anything together. The film was produced in the '30s, a dark time for many, and shows a true triumph of the human spirit." Visit www.

northstreetcollective.org.

Four Shillings Short: Celtic husband-and-wife duo, Aodh Og O'Tuama and Christy Martin, play the Willits Community Theater, 37 West Van Lane, at 8 pm. Songs and stories from Celtic, folk and world origins and a collection of more than 30 musical instruments, including the hammered and mountain dulcimers, mandolin, mandola, bouzouki, tinwhistles, recorders, medieval and Renaissance woodwinds, North Indian sitar, charango, bowed psaltery, banjo, bodhran, guitar, percussion instruments and curved horn. Advance tickets

are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at www. brownpapertickets.com; or by

phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.

Shanachie Pub: Jason Wright, Gypsy Flamenco Guitarist, plays solo. Visit www. facebook.com/jasonwrightguitaristo. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194

Free Saturday bridge classes: New session starts today;

taught by Donna Vaiano. Also sponsored by Friends of the Willits Library and the American Contract Bridge League. 10:15 am to 12:15 pm, Saturdays, at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, for new and review students. Info: Donna at 459-9035.

North Street Collective Design Charrette: starts at 10 am at 350 North Street. "Come tour our new green remodel with builder Estok Menton. Join us in brainstorming and designing the next phases of construction. Volunteer work day at the Willits Kids Club Discovery Park to follow." Info and to RSVP call Noel Woodhouse at 707-367-6335 or visit www.northstreetcollective.org.

Sunday, February 22 "95490" Town Hall Meeting: the first

"95490" Town Hall Meeting of 2015 features

Cards and Games at Willits Library: free games

three presenters: Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse, Brooktrails Township Manager Denise Rose and Willits Mayor Bruce Burton. The theme of the meeting is "How can we improve?": with presenters "starting the conversation by sharing their own vision of how to improve our community to benefit all of its residents," the meeting is intended to give all residents of the 95490 zip code "a chance to share our thoughts, ideas and plans on what more we would like to see happen here – and the ways in which we can work together to make these things happen." Willits City Council Chambers, 111 East Commercial Street, from 4 to 6 pm. Info: Jane McCabe at janemccabe44@yahoo.com or 4056-9067.

"Singspiration": St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church hosts "Singspiration" this month: "an opportunity to join together to sing favorite hymns and learn some new ones; groups or individuals who wish to perform are asked to come a bit early to sign up. Greg Schindel, who leads the music on Sundays at St. Francis, will emcee the evening. All are welcome." 6 pm at the church on the corner of Commercial and Main streets. "Singspiration" is sponsored even a krumhorn, or Renaissance German by the Willits Community Christian Fellowship and is held

at a different church every other month.

Monday, February 23

Boosters Club: The Willits High School Boosters Club is looking for

interested in becoming board members - the new

board president is David Barrett - or in volunteering their assistance with Booster Club fundraisers are invited to the Monday, February 23 meeting, at 6 pm, in the Food Center at Willits High School. The Boosters Club raises

funds to help buy sports uniforms, pay for school trips, art supplies and more. Boosters Club bylaws state 80 percent of all funds raised go to the Athletic Department, with 20 percent going to other school-approved functions. A high school group or class that wants to use funds raised by the Boosters for supplies or equipment or to help pay for a special trip to a competition writes up a proposal to be considered for funding. The Boosters also raise money at the Snack Shack concession stand at football games. Info: 972-2164 or whsboosters123@yahoo.com.

Mondays at Wowser: Chris Hardaker, MA, anthropologist, gives a free presentation on "The Secrets of Sacred Design: Mother Nature's Geometry Un-Plugged!" 6 pm at Wowser, 330 East Commercial Street. "a family friendly and

a curiosity friendly approach to Nature's built-in geometric system. Forget the math. This is a connect-the-dot system that will improve your art and your building ideas. Experience what perfection is all about when you dive into the world of the circle. Discussions and videos will range from everyday things to archaeology's rich legacy of sacred geometric art and architecture." Info: call 459-9697 or visit Wowser.org

Tuesday, February 24

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Novo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movies: "Fifty Shades of Grey," "Sponge Bob: Sponge Out of Water," "Selma," and "Whiplash." For showtimes: www. novotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Shanachie Pub: Professor Gall. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Thursday, February 26

Coffee or Tea with the Principal: an opportunity for parents and community members to talk with Willits High School principal Jeffrey Ritchley informally about current events at the high school while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea. "Coffee" at 8:30 am or "Tea" at 3:30 pm. Questions? Contact Principal Ritchley at 459-7700 or email jeffritchley@willitsunified.com. Willits High School Community Meeting: 7 pm at the Steve

Short Gymnasium at Willits High School. "This meeting will be concerning the gym floor. We will be discussing the gym floor policy, gym tarps, gym usage, and any other concern you may have. Please join me in this informal time to bring your concerns about the WHS gym floor – Principal Jeffrey

Shanachie Pub: twice-monthly Jazz Night with local musicians. Jazz standards infused with funk, hip hop, world and free-form jamming. "Fellow jazz musicians are encouraged to bring their and partake during the second set,

so long as it fits within the moment of sounds!" 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant, Info: 459-9194.

Friday, February 27

Stations of the Cross: St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church; see Friday, February 20 listing for details.

Hot Buttered Rum: San "West bluegrass and indie folk" favorite plays a Grange Farm School Benefit at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Opening act

What's Happening Around Town
Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits Rum does their "happy, sing-along mix of

hoedown, high art and roadhouse rock" next, and the show is closed by San Francisco's Dusty Green Bones, "Psychedelic/Jam-Grass/ Rock" and "Native Americana Slamgrass." "All the bands are excited to be a part of this benefit for the crucial work of the Grange Farm School," concert promoter Da Grand Pooba of Cosmic Pickle Productions says. Food by Zocalo Catering and beer and wine will be available for

purchase, as well as a silent auction. Doors open 6 pm; music starts 6:30 pm. Advance tickets: \$15 (at J.D. Redhouse); at the door: \$20, under 12 (kids are welcome) \$5. Sound by Ancestor Radio Productions. Sponsored by Grocery Outlet, Zocalo Catering, Lagunitas Brewing, J.D. Redhouse, Frey Vineyards and KZYX radio.

vocal/songwriting duo of Dave Adkins and Edgar Loudermilk, two of the most admired players in bluegrass, is coming to Willits for the first stop of their West Coast tour accompanied by a six-piece band. The first single, "Backside of Losing," from their highly anticipated, self-titled new album from Mountain Fever Records has just been released. Last year's release, "Nothing to Lose," included numerous singles that dominated the bluegrass radio charts. The Willits show, at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, is a benefit for the Willits Rotary Club's High School Scholarship Program. Doors open at 6:45 pm. Concert promoter Bruce Burton says he'll be playing a set of songs rom his own 2014 bluegrass CD, "Let's Take the Long Way Home," accompanied by Bear Kamoroff and Jon Mather, to open the show. "Edgar said he'll sit in for our set, and maybe some other band

noping I can talk my son, Ernie, to sit in, too," Burton said. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in advance by calling Burton or Linda Buletti at 459-0436, as can tables for six people (with wine) tickets may be sold at the door the night

Shanachie Pub: Charlie Crockett with special guest from New Orleans. 10 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info:

The Real Sarahs, Mendocino County folk/acoustic/blues/ country/rockish vocal duo Sarah "Songbird" Larkin and No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant Sara Ryan, playing with a full

Saturday, February 28



Hanz Araki, Colleen Raney and Stuart Mason

Celtic Trio: Concert of authentic Irish and Scottish tunes by award-winning Irish flute player and singer Hanz Araki, singer and bodhrán player Colleen Raney, and guitarist Stuart Mason at the Willits Community Theatre. 8 pm. Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar 38 South Main Street; online at www.brownpapertickets. Adkins & Loudermilk Bluegrass Concert: the powerhouse com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out

Shanachie Pub: House of Love Night with DJ Podge. 9 pm.

Save the Date

Senior Center Chili Cookoff. March 6

WEF Drive-Through Tri-Tip Dinner, March 6 Mendocino County Museum Road Show, March 7

Do you have an upcoming event? Let us know! We love to feature events from all over the community including Willits, Laytonville and Covelo! Email us details and a photo or poster: willitsweekly@gmail.com



Monday Nights @ WOWSER Presents

The SECRETS OF SACRED DESIGN

FREE PRESENTATION

Feb. 23, 6:00 -8:00 PM

Adkins & Loudermilk

333 E. Commercial

'Fifty Shades of Grey'

COLUMN | At the Movies

The Story: Anastasia, a lovely girl though a bit simple, finds herself attracted to Christian, a billionaire who looks like a male clothes horse and flies a helicopter. They fall in love. They have sex...of a sort. The movie asks the all important questions: will they stay together, and are the handcuffs necessary?

My Thoughts: Dakota Johnson (Anastasia) is awfully pretty and Jamie Dornan (Christian) is just as pretty. They are nice to watch. I wanted them to make it. Love is hard. Marriage is harder. She is a "ninety-nine percenter," he, a "point zero-one percenter." Statistics show that money is a bigger obstacle than religious differences, or race, to a successful relationship. In their favor: the two lovers have long and honest and detailed discussions of their sexual preferences. More power to them.

Also...in the clever name department...how interesting that Anastasia (Romanov) is the name of a lost princess; and Christian is this country's dominant religion...

The movie, like so many Hollywood movies, exploits the pornography of expensive things. The fancy cars, the fancy penthouses, the fancy secretaries in their little black dresses. Okay, I

Parents: And really, do you have to ask..

Thursday: Chicken Alfredo Pasta

Friday: Birthday Dinner: Turkey with all the trimmings Harrah Senior Center serves



AARP Smart Driver class

lunch five days per week from

11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older:

\$5.50 per meal; under 55 \$7

per meal. Includes soup, entrée,

vegetable, bread, dessert, and

drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info:

Harrah Senior

Center Lunch

Menu

Week of February 23 through 27

Monday: Beef Tips and Noodles

Tuesday: BBQ Beef Sandwich

Wednesday: Baked Cod

There will be an AARP

"Smart Driver" class held on Wednesday, March 18 and Thursday, March 19 from 8 am to 12 pm at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. "You need to attend both days to receive your certificate. This is a new program produced after three years of research. Due to space limits you need to pre-register." Call Carol at 459-4928 for a registration form or for

Mondays at Wowser

Monday, March 2: Michael Hackleman gives a free presentation on "Electric Vehicles, History and Future" at 6 pm on Monday, March 2.

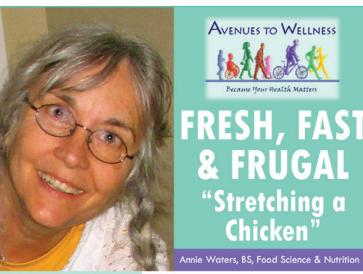
Monday, March 7: Join the NorCal Inventors Club on Saturday, March 7 at 1 pm. This free event is intended for anyone who's an inventor (or wants to become one). This is an opportunity to share ideas and resources, and to build a network of people to tap into for support.

Wowser is located at 330 East Commercial Street. For more info, call 459-9697 or visit www.



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COOCERY Zalala To Account on the Service Street Service Servic



5:30 - 6:30 p.m. **Willits Senior Center** 1501 Baechtel Road, Willits In the Lakeside Room

FREE to public; ions appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

HAM AN

www.avenuestowellness.ora atwforhealth@gmail.com

· Baking, roasting chicken in convential,

crock pot or solar oven

• How to use a chicken for many meals from roast to soup

We will enjoy some chicken salad, begin simmering a stock, and learn more about crock pot cooking and

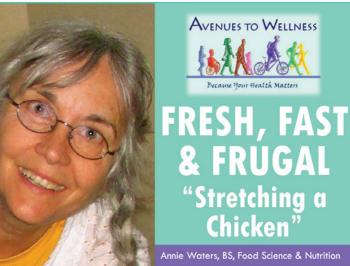
Annie has a B.S. in Food Science and Human Nutrition from Michigan State University. Studying about nutrition deepened her food-love affair and she wants to share her experience with you!

See www.avenuestowellness.org for Speaker Series Topics

Drop-in Knitting Circle at the Willits Library

Willits Library will be hosting a drop-in knitting circle on the first Saturday of every month, starting March 7, from 3 to 4:30 pm. "Bring your projects to share and show off! We will have expert knitters on board who can solve any problems and teach everyone to knit! Bring your own projects – we'll supply the coffee!" Sign up at the Willits Library if you would like a reminder before each knitting circle, but signing up is not necessary: Everyone is welcome to drop in.





Tuesday, March 3 Fresh, Fast & Frugal

Call 459-2777 for information.

· Shopping for meat & chicken

· Recipes for multiple meals The nutrient value of chicken broth

why it is a miracle in the kitchen.

The Willits Educational Foundation's annual March 6, 4 to 6 pm at the Rodeo Grounds. Dinner for four people – \$60 – includes: whole tri tip, Goss Family Beans (cooked all day in a "wonderful old pot borrowed from Eddie Schmidbauer and filled to the brim with 80 pounds of dried beans," a loaf of Emandal bread (a local favorite), Caesar salad with homemade dressing, homemade cookies, and a longstemmed rose. "All proceeds go to benefit teachers, programs and students in the Willits Unified School District. These funds are used for grants made for individual special requests. They are not part of the music, library and art monies that are given with proceeds from the Garden Party." In 2014, the Willits Educational Foundation gave the following grants: Baechtel Grove Middle School: \$1,200 for Science School and digital timers; Blosser Lane Elementary School: \$1,000 for after-school art program; Brookside Elementary School: \$905 for art and book making projects and Young Author Fair books; Sanhedrin School: \$240 for Poetry Workshop; and Willits High School: \$2,060 for document camera, video camera, PE equipment, and CBR motion detectors. WEF tries to fulfill requests from teachers throughout the year: In the previous four years, WEF has raised a total of \$23,263.18 to help district

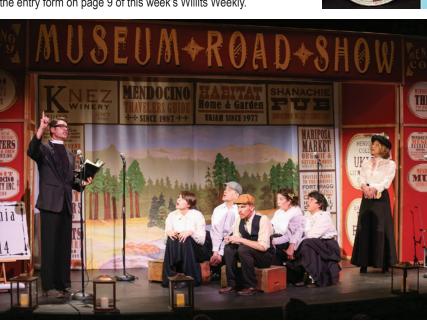
Drive Through

Tri Tip Dinner



Senior Center Chili Cookoff

The heat will turned on "high" for the Harrah Senior Center's 8th annual Chili Cookoff contest, set for Friday, March 6 from 5:30 to 7 pm at the center, 1501 Baechtel Road. With one of the prizes being "The Most Crooked Team" (bribes accepted, to benefit the Senior Center's Outreach Program) and a team of judges like Willits Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez, Little Lake Fire Chief Carl Magann, and Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse in charge of awarding that prize, MC Sheriff Tom Allman will likely be overseeing some hot and heavy action. Tasting tickets are \$8, \$5 for children, and \$7 for Senior Center members. The first place prize for "Most Popular Chili" will awarded by a vote of the people, with other prizes like Best Chili, Hottest Chili and Best Booth/Best Dressed Team awarded by the judges. Chili will be accompanied by fresh-baked corn bread; ice cream floats for \$2 will also be available. Last year's winners for "Best Chili" (Jack Isborn), "Most Popular Chili (Yokum's Body Shop). "Hottest Chili" (The Hillbillies), and "Best Booth/Best Dressed Team" (the Bean-Gos) will all be participating this year to defend their titles. Among the contestants: Silas Keyes & Lucy Pennock, aiming to compete in the "Hottest Chili" category; the Black Bart Gunfighters are planning a hot beef and maybe a vegetarian chili; Debi Menesini is making a 7-Meat Hunters Chili, and Adam & Lou Celaya of Adam's Restaurant will be offering Adam's Family Chili. Team entries are Drive Through Tri Tip Dinner is set for Friday, still being accepted (\$25 entry fee); call 459-6826 for info, or fill out the entry form on page 9 of this week's Willits Weekly.



'Museum Road Show' covers county's history Opens in Willits, Saturday, March 7

The Mendocino County Museum presents the 2015 Mendocino County Museum Road Show, opening in Willits on Saturday, March 7, for one night only, before traveling to shows in Point Arena, Ukiah, Philo and Fort Bragg. Now in its second year, the show features enactments of oral history stories by noted local actors and is accompanied by music both original and traditional by Americana

Tickets (advance purchase is recommended) are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors 65+, and \$10 for youth 20 and under. Order tickets online at www. MendocinoMuseum.org, by calling 459-2736, or by visiting the museum, 400 East

Commercial Street, during open hours, 10 am to 4:30 pm

trio, All About Sallv.

schools and teachers. For info or to purchase

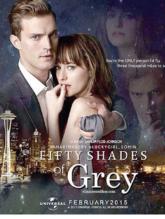
tickets, call Annette Pinon at 459-6588 or

Warren Lewis at 459-4429.

Daniel Essman

would not be averse to the latter ..

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



Willits Weekly | February 19, 2015 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 7

76 projects

to county level fair

Science Fair coordinator Sharon Hanna reports that 238 projects were judged at the Willits Science Fair last week, and 76 projects by students in grades 3-12 have qualified to compete at the Mendocino County Science Fair on March 14 at Mendocino College in Ukiah. Of those 76 qualifying projects, 19 were from Willits Elementary Charter School; 18 were from Willits Charter School; and 39 were from Willits Unified School District schools. "Thirty-four special awards sponsored by local businesses were also given out," Hanna said, "and PG&E is giving every elementary school student who brought a project to the science fair a seed pot starter kit." Willits Weekly will list the special award winners next week.

2015 Mendocino County Science Fair Qualifiers

Willits Unified School District

Grades 3-4 Life Science

Grace Croskey & Madilyn Donahue, Grade 4,

• Sydney Kubin, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Control

Blosser Lane, If You Give a Goat Some Hay.

• Jacob Kubin, Grade 3, Blosser Lane, Suck It Up • MaryAnn Bertolino, Madeline Hoagland & Kaira Mora, Grade 4, Blosser Lane, Which Diaper Is

Most Absorbent? Grades 3-4 Physical Science

MONDAY

torta Mexicar

sandwich with

French fries

- Alexandra Titus, Blosser Lane, Grade Flashlight Test
- Ethan Winter, Blosser Lane, Grade 3, Lemon
- Ellemae Skinner, Sherwood School, Grade 4, Cool Ice
- Savanna Lewis & Sheridan Wood, Blosser Lane, Grade 4, Investigating Dish Soap Products Grade 5 Life Science
- Kaylee Anderson, Sherwood School, Grade 5, Scent vs. Touch

All specials for only \$7.95 until 5 PM

El Mexicano

icken, with side beef or chicken or fish with side

rice and beans with side of rice of rice and bean

(707) 459-5702

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

166 South Main Street Willits, CA 95490

Dental Month!

FEBRUARY SPECIAL

15% Discount on dental cleanings

and extractions only. Call to schedule your appointment today!

WILLITS

February is

DR. FRED S. JACOBS D.V.M.

DR. VALERIE M. CANTRELL D.V.M.

VETERINARIANS SMALL ANIMAL PRACTICE 459-6723 or 459-4634 **TUESDAY**

with choice of

beef or chicken

FRIDAY:

two corn tacos



 Savanna Hincker Tye, Blosser Lane, Grade 5, Are Childproof Caps Really Childproof? Grade 5 Physical Science

Katrina Bergmann, Blosser Lane, Grade 5, Heat

Ashlynn Dudley, Blosser Lane, Grade 5, Floating

· Rosita Carillo, Blosser Lane, Grade 5, What Does It Take for an Apple from Turning Brown? • Miranda Swearengin, Blosser Lane, Grade 5,

Grade 5 Earth Science

 Michael Kale & Jensen Matheson, Blosser Lane, Grade 5, Which Seismograph Is More Sensitive - Horizontal or Vertical?

Nakolo Anderson, Blosser Lane, Grade 5.

• Paris Hansberger, Blosser Lane, Grade 5, What's Up Down There?

Class B (Display) Projects Grades 3-5

 Jersey Greene, Sherwood School, Grade 4, Rock Candy Kaylee Campbell, Kahlia Lane & Cassidy Long, Blosser

Lava Lamp Work? Devin Johnson, Sherwood School, Grade 4, Tornadoes

Lane, Grade 3, How Does a

• Derek Nelson, Gianni Nelson & Enzo Vaccaro, Sherwood School, Grades 2, 3 & 2, Bristle

Life Science B Grades 6-8 Alyssa Fraser, Baechtel

Grove Middle School, Grade 6, Soaking Shells Cecilia Cramer, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 6,

Magic Eye Physical Science Grades 6-8 • Jada Smith, Baechtel Grove

Middle School, Grade 6, Biodiesel: Heat of Combustion Jacob Apodaca, D.J. Buzzard

& Davne Yee. Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 8, Flames Karen Hernandez Baechte Grove Middle School, Grade 8,

Savanna Hofmaister, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 8, Power Up: An Electrolyte

Physical Science Grades 9-12

 Zach Dellett, Nick Hebel & Oren Silverstein Willits High School, Grade 9, Water Equalizing

• Camryn Christensen & Haley Lucero, Willits High School, Grade 10 & 11, Beeswax vs. Paraffin • Maria Sanchez & Nancy Villegas, Willits High School, Grade 10, Speed of Light In Jello

Class B (Display) Projects Grades 6-12

• Eddie Leon, Tyler Vesey & Austin Willcutt, Willits High School, Grade 10, Is Red Always Red?

Class C (Classroom) Grades 3-5

• Fifth Grade ELD, Blosser Lane, Circulation • Ms.Mey's Class - Blosser Lane, May the Magnetic Force Be with You.

Class C (Classroom) Grades 6-12

• 1st Period- Ms. Haggett -Earth Science, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 6, Operation: Stop the Oil

• 3rd Period - Ms. Haggett - Earth Science, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 6, Oil Spill

• 4th Period - Ms. Abajian - Earth Science, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 6, Oil! • 6th Period - Ms. Abajian - Earth Science,

Baechtel Grove Middle School, Grade 6, An Oily

Willits Elementary Charter School

Grades 3-4 Life Science Bryanna Gijon, Grade 4, Flexibility Challenge

 Audrey Sherf, Grade 3, Sensitive Seedlings Katherine Wood, Grade 4, Bird Time

• Ananda Souza Da Cruz, Grade 3, What Happens When Flowers Drink Sugar?

 Aidyn JaShe McFadden, Grade 3, Plant Needs Grades 3-4 Physical Science

 Aaron Griggs, Grade 3, Soda Ruption • Lukas Aaron Jordan, Grade 3, Paper Airplane

• Daniel LaCount, Grade 4, Pop the Balloon

• Tyler Wilson, Grade 3, TP Toughness Test Grades 3-4 Earth Science

• Farrow Lockwood, Grade 4, Future Fuel

Grade 5 Life Science

 Lilah Crane, Grade 5, Whistle or Recorder • Kassidy Galloway, Grade 5, Bacteria

Grade 5 Physical Science

459-6826.

• Bodhi Waters, Grade 5, Going the Distance Coyote Mayer, Grade 5, Static Electricity

Grade 5 Earth Science • Tristan Hofmaister, Grade 5, Sun to Fog

Tuesday at the science fair during judging

Class B (Display) Projects Grades 3-5 • Carly Barbitta, Grade 4, Where has All the

Hunter Paris, Grade 4, Pulley Systems

• Joshua Pacheco, Grade 4, Native American Art

• Bryce Sjolund, Grade 4, Rising Water

Willits Charter School Life Science A Grades 6-8

• Taylor Pardue, Grade 7, School Germs • Phoenix Owen-Kennedy, Grade 6, The Purr

Life Science B Grades 6-8

• Emily Barbitta and Jasmine Wear, Grade 7, Calming the Wild Beast

Physical Science Grades 6-8

Josh Redding, Grade 6, Bottled Cancer

 Bridgette Bjorklund, Grade 8, Your Pain is Dissolving ... Part 2!! Essen Youngstrom, Grade 8, The Microbial Fuel

Spencer Copperfield, Grade 7, Magnet Eraser

Kyren Anderson, Grade 6, The Magnetic

 Ahanu Casey, Grade 6, Weighty Water • Isabelle Burton, Grade 8, How to Keep Warm

Life Science A Grades 9-12

• Jessica Cronin, Grade 9, Variation in Heart Rate Pre and Post Exercise: Human vs. Equine Life Science B Grades 9-12

• Lacey Maxwell, Grade 9, Crayon Lipstick

• Stephany Brundage, Grade 9, Logging

Recovery Near Mendocino County • Lillian Mitchell, Grade 11, Caffeine and Athletics

Physical Science Grades 9-12

• Chloe Breen and Jade Doyle, Grade 9,

• Caelan Creekmur and Tara Logan, Grade 11, Growing Gas As Nano

• Hoayang Li, Grade 12, Find the Seebeck Coefficient of the Object

Class B (Display) Projects Grades 6-12 • Sage Miller Martin, Grade 8, CO₂

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under one department, they were separated in 2009.

Animal control is responsible for capturing or rescuing loose animals and investigates reports of animal abuse. Animal care is responsible for caring for animals that have been collected by animal control, and also for housing animals brought in by the public. Animal care is charged with placing as many animals as possible into new homes and for providing spay-and-neutering services and

From Page 1

The recommendation that animal care be placed under the administration of the Sheriff's Office was made by the Mendocino County grand jury in its 2013-14 report.

In that report, the grand jury characterized animal care as a troubled agency, functioning in a poorly maintained and disintegrating facility, the county's animal shelter on Plant Road at the south end of Ukiah

The report found the shelter is operating beyond capacity, in an overcrowded and rat-infested facility. The grand jury also found that "separation of animal care and animal control has led to discord between the two factions, resulting in service delivery problems."

A second report by the grand jury notes the two agencies have computer software systems that are incompatible, so data from one system has to be copied and manually typed for dissemination over the second system.

The grand jury report recommended animal care be moved so both divisions would be administered by the Sheriff's Office.

The idea did not gain much traction at Tuesday's board meeting. In fact, no one from the public rose to speak in defense of the proposal. Supervisor Dan Hamburg (5th District) noted he had received nearly 100 letters over the past six months on the issue, all of them opposed to moving animal care to the Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Tom Allman was not present at Tuesday's meeting. According to HHSA Director Stacey Cryer, Allman

Cryer did note Allman had said he would write a proposal detailing how his department would manage animal care, should supervisors decide to place it under Sheriff's Office control. However, Allman did not provide a report

Hamburg did say supervisors had received a letter of interest from a nonprofit organization, the Petaluma Animal Services Foundation, or PASF. The letter indicated an interest in discussing how it might run the county's animal care division.

Jeff Charter, executive director of PASF, attended the meeting, informing the board his organization was available to take on the job. "What I represent is an option," Charter said, "an option to get better."

However, when asked what he thought was going on at the county's animal shelter, Charter was complimentary

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Read the rest of Over on Page 11 Animals

В

Relationships

let those old feelings serve as a source of information to deepen your understanding and connection with your new partner.

partnership. The more open to your own feelings the two of you are, and the more each of you can avoid judging those feelings, the better your chances are that seeing an ex-partner will be a good experience: One that can actually deepen the connection in your new partnership and the understanding with each other as new Allow yourselves to be vulnerable with each other. Come up with

strategies that will support both of you if either experiences feelings of insecurity, jealousy, abandonment, anger, sadness, hurt, etc. It can truly help to know what kinds of feelings you both carry toward old relationships and partners. Although we are always responsible for our own feelings, we can support each other in processing them Sometimes, setting clear boundaries toward "exes" can be helpful

doriswier@embraceconflicts.com or to the WW directly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490. I am happy to answer them anonymously on the third Thursday of the month.

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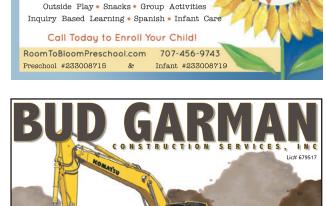
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From Page 3 Dinner

Mike Wilder, the top "Top Ten" firefighter, and Eric Alvarez, second on the "Top Ten" list, both shared that they joined the department in order to give back to the community they call nome. The sense of belonging and helping the community far outweighs the challenges of going to work after being up all night on a call. Many of the other firefighters shared similar sentiments and added that they also like the sense of comradery they have with their fellow firefighters.

Claudia Magann shared that her husband, Chief Magann has been a fireman for 30 years of the 35 years they have been married. She said that she has learned to be flexible and to expect interrupted plans, because a volunteer fire department is never "off-duty." Knowing the importance of his work, taking two cars whenever they leave the house together, and having good friends like Little Lake's Nancy Stipe, helps her keep a positive perspective.

According to a report by CalFire, fires in wildlands, structures, vehicles, dumpsters, and similar situations account for only 10 to 20 percent of the calls to which local Mendocino County agencies respond. Medical aid calls are by far more common, with an average of 80 percent for most departments - with traffic accidents and other rescue situations following. Volunteer firefighters undergo training in medical response, extricating patients from vehicles, responding to hazardous materials ("haz mat") incidents, and for a variety of other emergency situations. A high percentage of volunteers are first responders or emergency medical technicians (EMTs), both of which require significant training.

Chief Magann said, reflecting on the role of a volunteer firefighter: "The position of volunteer firefighter in the eyes of some appears to be a lowly one, but we who know the work which the volunteer firefighter has to do believe that this is a noble calling. To respond to someone's aid with no expectation of reward or compensation is a volunteer's

"As volunteers we strive to preserve from destruction property of our fellow citizens," Magann said, "but our greatest endeavor is to save the lives of members of our community, which we have done, and will continue to do, time and again, probably interrupting future dinners, dates, events and quiet evenings at home. We will always be available to our community, and hopefully our community will be there for us."

Harrah Center Annual Chili Cook Off Friday, March 6th 2015 5:30 - 7pm

Name of Business/Organization or Individual: Contact Person & Phone Number: Address E-mail: All Proceeds Benefit

Outreach Program

Entry Fee: \$25 From Page 4

Whatever happened to us in the past, we can create new actions and reactions. Old feelings and experiences need not cloud our new

If you have any relationship questions, please send them to

Doris Wier is a certified relationship and life coach who works and lives in Willits. She coaches individuals, couples, families, and professionals. In addition she offers Explore-Shops on conflict resolution and deepening your intimacy and connection in your partnership

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Lee Howard, a veteran player in

"What you have before you is

probably what we have on the books

todav." Howard said. "This would

make it clear, would codify it, and

put it out in the clear. This is not new.

We're goin' with what we have.

hope you make it very clear as far as

what you're gonna do on CEQA [the

California Environmental Quality Act]."

In addition to moving Appendix 70

to Title 18, there are some proposed

changes to Title 18, which are not

what environmentalist David Brower

might have called earth-shaking.

Under the revisions, fences 7 feet high

or lower don't need a building permit

to be constructed. Smoke detectors

would have to be changed 10 years

after purchase. Rooftop solar panels

must have two 3-foot-wide access

pathways and must be located 3 feet

from the roof ridge. When permitted

alterations, additions or improvements

are being done on existing buildings,

non-compliant plumbing fixtures must

be replaced with water-conserving

Accessibility standards in the

building code would be harmonized

with those in the Americans With

Despite the innocuous nature of

the proposed changes, Third District

Supervisor Tom Woodhouse cast the

lone dissenting vote on the measure.

Questioned later as to why he would

not support it. Woodhouse said: "It

becomes a game. All that was doing

was tightening up the language,

making it simpler to understand, but

there is an inch worth of paperwork

"The grading ordinance is slowly

taking away our rights," he argued.

"I live on a dirt road. I have ponds.

and no one is ever going to tell me I

can't grade my own road to get to my

house. I am not going to get a permit

to do it. So I am very concerned that

we are losing our personal property

rights - all for good reasons - all for

fire safety and energy conservation

and all that keeps us safe. But I just

don't like the pattern. So I know it's not

an effective vote, but I am not going to

restate and re-affirm things I just don't

McCowen, Gjerde working hard

Second District Supervisor John

McCowen told the board he and progress."

believe in.'

at BID imbroglio

plumbing fixtures.

Disabilities Act.

county politics, currently affiliated with

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Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gierde

are making slow but steady progress

in an attempt to recast the governing

structure of the county's illogical

and ineffective tourism and lodging

Currently, the vital industry is

governed by a poorly functioning

mish-mash of five boards, which total

56 members. There is the Mendocino

County Lodging Association, the

Mendocino County Promotional

Alliance, and Visit Mendocino County

which acts as staff for the two aforesaid

organizations. In addition, there is the

county board of supervisors, which

offers financial support to MCLA and

to MCPA, and which administers the

countywide Business Improvement

District (BID). There also is a BID

McCowen characterized the system

He said he and Gjerde have helped

arrange meetings between and among

the groups, through which all of the

major players have agreed to work

together under a single, 11-member

board. The MCLA and the MCPA

would continue as organizations, but

would have no direct line of authority

into the governing board of the BID.

To date, McCowen said.

representatives from the promotional

alliance and the lodging association

have agreed in principle to term limits

for board members, to the principle of

financial transparency, and to holding

their meetings under the guidelines of

However, McCowen said so far

agreement has not yet been reached

on which organization would be hired

McCowen added representatives

who have met with him have agreed

to increase the annual "bed tax."

collected from county hotels, motels,

bed-and-breakfasts and other lodging

providers, from 1 percent of revenues

He noted any provisional

Imagination

Station

to 2 percent of revenues.

association.

or retained to act as staff to the BID

the Brown Act.

as "extremely cumbersome, unwieldy

advisory committee.

promotional bodies.

Fax: 707 459-6369

The rest of From Page 1 Hospital

both the Russian River Flood Control services into fewer buildings," Angelo District and the North Coast Builders said. "After looking at it for some time, Exchange, addressed supervisors on we have determined that turning that Tuesday, affirming the shift would not building into a mental health center hurt the interests of the North Coast may take more work than we can Builders Exchange.

Angelo then said she thinks the idea is not dead: further discussions are now occurring between the county's mental health providers and the Howard Hospital Foundation. "We are now liasioning with our providers and the foundation. It is our understanding that these discussions are happening."

Woodhouse won't support routine vote

Supervisors endorsed a fiat from the State of California, requiring it to update certain sections of the Mendocino County Code, and set a date for a public hearing to consider the changes. March 17 was selected as the date for the public hearing.

In response to the dictate coming down from the state Legislature, a team of planners from the county's Department of Planning and Building Services has proposed accepting the required changes, and moving regulations affecting county grading and excavating from the Uniform Building Code, where they currently reside as Appendix Chapter 70, to Chapter 18.70 of Title 18 of the county code.

The shift apparently will do nothing to the actual provisions of Chapter 70, except make it easier to find.

Mendocino County has a reputation for being one of the few rural counties in California that does not have a grading ordinance. From 2004 to 2006, the county attempted to craft a grading ordinance that would address environmental concerns. while garnering support of wine growers, farmers and developers. The long and agonizing effort failed shortly before former Third District Supervisor John Pinches was elected to his second

At a meeting of the board of supervisors, during which the fate of the grading committee was discussed, Pinches called the proposed grading ordinance "a three-legged horse" that needed to be "put out of its misery."

Just minutes after Pinches made his remarks, it was: supervisors voted to disband the grading committee.

With the adoption of the proposed ordinance on March 17, or shortly thereafter, the ordinance now in the appendix will take its place in the Mendocino County code.



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American Contract Bridge League

Willits Community Services raises more than

\$33,000 in fund drive

Willits Community Services and Food Bank has met and surpassed its Winter Fund Drive goal of \$32,000, with donations as of February 18 totaling \$33,019.54.

lennifer Poole Editor & Reporter

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"All of us at Willits Community Services and Food Bank are so excited and grateful to our community for helping us reach and exceed our fundraising goal this year!" said WCS

"These community dollars will go a long way to help WCS continue to provide essential human services to our community. Our programs include Food Bank, emergency food and shelter utility assistance, transportation, blankets, winter jackets, personal items, infant items, referrals and other programs for people in need in our community. Thank You!'

Marill said the "thermometer" signboard reporting donations will remain up at the corner of Commercial and Main streets through the end of February. Donations are always welcome: please send to or drop off at WCS 229 East San Francisco Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Info

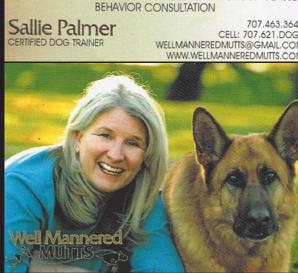
The final list of donors for the 2014/15 Winter Fund Drive: Betty Alexander; C.E. Borycki & Earl Poytress; Bruce Burton; Melinda Clarke; Roger Dillan; James & Nancy Eaglin; Joanne Franklin; Elizabeth Janich & Earl Poytress; Paul & Jan Lambert; Hollis Rose; Soroptimist International of Willits: Emandal-A Farm On A River Betty & John Lemmer: Debbie McCubbin: Louis & Janice Meier; Patricia Moeller; Judith Tauber; Willits Mini-Storage and 19 anonymous donors.



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From Page 1 Budget current year, the district will spend \$247,000 more than it will take in. In the next fiscal year, 2015-16. that amount is predicted to increase to \$738.749, meaning the district's financial reserves are being depleted. This has warning buzzers sounding throughout district offices. "The district cannot maintain the current level of spending," according to a report prepared by Michel and given to the district's board of trustees at a meeting held in December "The ending fund balance is being depleted contributions to programs are increasing, with carryovers being expended and increased

in both out years [i.e., in 2015-16 and in 2016-17] and with increased salary costs in 16/17. "The district needs a formula to address these issues."

PERS (Public Employees Retirement System)

and STRS (State Teachers Retirement system)

The new financial landscape is due to changes implemented at the state level. In 2012-13. the Brown administration introduced sweeping reforms affecting the funding of education in California.

The new program is called the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). In brief, the state agreed to drastically reduce programmatic constraints and allow increased autonomy in spending to individual districts. However implementation of the new program meant there would be less money, at least initially.

In response to this, Brown created a new funding category called "Gap Funding," designed to restore money to districts that would be negatively affected by the new funding formula to previous funding levels. In addition, the LCFF program would step up Gap Funding, so hard-hit districts would be fully funded over an eight-year period.

The most recent policy pronouncement from Sacramento indicate "the Gap" is being closed faster than initially promised, with almost 58 percent of the gap being closed in just the first three years. The state is increasing what it pays for Average Daily Attendance (ADA), with the total going up to \$8,673 per student, per year.

At the same time, the state is requiring districts increase contributions to the two retirement systems for district employees. Those increases are sizable, with contribution levels expected to increase from 8.88 percent in 2014-14 to 19.1 percent in 2020-21 for teachers, and from 11.77 percent in 2014-15 to 20.4 percent in 2020-21 for certificated employees

To top it off, in a recent talk Michel emphasized it was difficult to predict anything with certainty because the state is changing its projections on a regular basis.

"These numbers will change," she said. "The state changes them monthly, almost weekly."

When asked for a thumbnail sketch on the district's financial status, Michel said: "It all depends on the state economy and on what the state does. All we can do is go through our budget with a fine-tooth comb and make sure that everything that can be tightened up is tightened up."

District Superintendent Patricia Johnson noted that the district is facing several new challenges that will affect the budget. She said that the state has mandated that local schools provide 220 minutes of physical education for children between first and sixth grades every 10 days. In addition, the state has mandated that the district improve its provision of health care services. Johnson also noted that the district now employs between 15 and 20 teachers who are near retirement, who therefore have venerable skill levels but who also come with a formidable price tag. These costs, plus the increased contributions to PERS and STRS. plus a predicted raise for Willits Teachers Association employees in 2016-17, have combined to put quite a strain on the district's budget. Nevertheless, Johnson said she is "carefully optimistic."

"We have to watch where every penny goes," she said. "And we have to know that it is going to benefit the district, if not today, then in the long run, that it will save costs later, and we just have to be very careful where we spend it all.

"We are doing all the right things in all the right directions, to keep costs down and to build up our student enrollment. We just have to do the right things," she said.

The tightness of the district budget was demonstrated at the February 4 meeting of the district's board of trustees, when the trustees received a report on how much it would cost for the district to cover transportation costs for team sports events. According to a report prepared by Johnson, it would cost \$13,560 for the district to cover all transportation costs for sports. The district's budget for 2014-15 is \$16.9 million. Johnson told the board that the district could not afford to cover sports transportation costs. The board members nodded and said they understood.

"I hope we will continue to keep this item in mind if things change," said board member Saprina Rodriguez.

"I had conservatively said it was 40 percent in the Third District. I mean, 40 percent of the people in my district are connected to the business in some way. But when I spoke with people who were already in the business, they laughed, and told me they thought it was more like 60 or 70 percent.

"At a certain point, you know, it doesn't matter," Woodhouse said, Willits Weekly was interviewing the supervisor in a local restaurant, and Woodhouse used the eatery as an example. "Let's say it's 25 percent. If this business depends on marijuana dollars for 25 percent of its revenues, and if those revenues go away,

Woodhouse has been on the committee for almost a month. It is charged with determining the economic impacts of statewide legalization of marijuana in Mendocino County, and is limited to functioning over a brief, 90-day period.

When asked how many times the committee has met. Woodhouse said it has met more than one time, and he has engaged in numerous accidental hallway meetings and telephone calls with fellow committee member. Second District Supervisor John McCowen.

When asked what he now thinks the economic impacts of marijuana legalization will be, Woodhouse's reply was enigmatic. "It's hard to say what it really means. It's how they tax it and how they enforce it, too

"Right now we're in a bubble, like the housing bubble," he said. "When it popped, people were really impacted. Home values declined by 50 percent. People had to leave town, people divorced, banks took over a lot of properties. Now, if something that is propping up 40 or 60 or 70 percent of the local economy suddenly goes away...

"But some people actually think it will improve the economy, that what we lose in quantity we will gain back in quality, or in branding, or in the clarity that being legal will bring. I think that's true, but I think it will take some time for that to wash out. I think it's the transitional period that's going to be ... interesting.

"The other scenario is, if [the price for marijuana] goes below \$300 a pound, it's going to be tough. Right now it takes about \$600 a pound to produce," he noted. "If it goes below that, I think we're not going to be producing that much

"But either way, it's going to happen, and we have to have a plan about what we want and about what we want to visualize and then make it happen."

When asked if these meetings were being publically noticed, if they were public meetings, Woodhouse said they were not. He noted representatives from six North Coast counties, including Mendocino County, have been invited to attend a "Marijuana Summit" to be held March 5 in a back room somewhere in Santa Rosa. According to a memorandum sent by County CEO Carmel Angelo, the meeting is closed to the public.

"This is invitation-only and is not a public meeting," the memo said. "The intent is to hear what is happening in states with recreational legalization and develop a unified statement that protects and supports local control with the ability to tax and regulate recreational marijuana."

Animals | From Page 9

and compared it with his own organization. "What you have at the animal shelter is a lot of volunteers who are working very hard because they love animals," he said. "That's a lot like us, because we do the same thing. We work very hard because we love animals."

Chartrer did have one small criticism. "It could be cleaner. But, most places

Hamburg told his colleagues there were really no other options but to continue to have HHSA run the animal care division.

He then proposed that animal care remain with HHSA; that HHSA have discussions with PASF, or with other organizations, regarding alternative management scenarios; and that any such potential arrangement be brought to supervisors for discussion and a vote. His motion was approved unanimously.

From Page 1 Cal/OSHA

were directed to preserve and secure evidence as they removed the rubble.

"We were photographing the debris from the falsework collapse," Caltrans spokesman Phil Frisbie said. "There were numerous photos taken before things moved and as debris was being moved, and we were taking samples of materials." Including, as an example, Frisbie said, pieces of shattered wood that may have had a flaw that couldn't be seen by inspectors: "All the wood is graded and inspected to make sure it has no flaws," Frisbie said, "but hopefully, if it is something like that, someone will spot it."

The two giant concrete columns on the north side of Haehl Creek that were leaning in toward the creek after the accident were demolished with a giant hydraulic jackhammer starting Saturday, January 31.

Frisbie said the falsework in the span over Haehl Creek that collapsed was inspected "immediately before the concrete pour began," and was checked regularly as the heavy wet concrete was poured into place.

Caltrans and Flatiron inspections so far have found no safety problems with the rest of the falsework along the viaduct section, Frisbie said. "At this point there's no indication that there's any issue with the falsework," he said.

"Unfortunately, it is a possibility we may never find out what happened,"

Melton had no further information about the status of the Cal/OSHA investigation except to comment: "Something definitely went wrong, and our goal is to find out what it was."

Melton reiterated that Cal/OSHA's focus is worker safety: "We're not going to let anybody get put into harm's way," he said. "We've already seen what happened once when something goes wrong, and at this point, we're working carefully to make sure this doesn't happen again."

The Cal/OSHA Sacramento office has been getting some calls from Willits, Melton said. "They're taking the calls and talking to people," he said. "Any safety complaints sent to Cal/OSHA are treated confidentially." The Sacramento office can be reached at 916-263-2800.

Other than the clean-up work, no further work is being done by Caltrans at the site of the construction accident, but Caltrans did announce a concrete pour on another section of the viaduct last Wednesday afternoon.

"This was a section - Frame 5, approximately halfway along the viaduct out toward the water treatment plant – that had been previously scheduled to pour before the falsework collapsed," Frisbie said. "There was a brief delay while things were looked at again and due to the storm. There were no modifications to the falsework that needed to be done, and so now, things are moving back along as far as the viaduct goes.

Two-thirds of the concrete for Frame 5 had already been poured, before the collapse, and last week's pour was the second "deck pour," Frisbie said.

committee started work on the new deal in

The city asked for SWOW to lower its rates and proposed that SWOW buy the city's street

sweeper for \$500 and handle street sweeping SWOW countered the city's proposal with an offer to freeze rates and to sweep the streets

with its own street sweeper – allowing the city to keep its machine, a report produced by the

Part of the deal may decide how food waste is collected, which could mean putting food scraps in separate bags and placing it with yard waste.

The city proposed that SWOW collect yard waste and food waste together and deliver it to a permitted facility for processing into compost

The city wants to avoid a requirement in the contract that food waste/green waste be sent to any particular business.

But compost pioneer Martin Mileck wants to receive waste at his business. Cold Creek Compost – a permitted facility

On top of a mountain off the Potter Valley Road, Mileck operates Cold Creek Compost as a zero water-runoff facility positioned on an impervious pad with a pond to collect runoff that is then used in the composting process.

In the report, SWOW proposed another method that did not include Cold Creeks Provide each household with a small kitchen container and a supply of biodegradable bags.

The waste collected in the bags would then be placed into yard waste bins, which are collected on a bi-weekly schedule, dumped on the SWOW transfer station floor, and then transported to a compost machine operated by C&S Waste Solutions in Lakeport.

During the meeting, Ward said he also would add Cold Creek Compost to the arrangement

MSWMA's Sweeney told the council he

favored a mixed organics approach to garbage service, similar to a program he said has been successful in Portland, Oregon. "They have been so successful they have

so little waste they have cut back collections, Sweeney said.

SWOW owner Jerry Ward said he is happy to go back to the ad hoc committee to talk

Contract negotiations mark 15 years of service during the city's first SWOW deal. Councilwoman Strong praised SWOW over that decade and a half. "I do think SWOW has given Willits good service, and I appreciate that," she said.

Strong added she favored getting the best deal for the ratepayers and diverting green

She noted it was not inconceivable to take the deal to competitive bidding - but she and other council members preferred to continue negotiating.

Mayor Bruce Burton said, under terms in the past contract, unpaid bills could cause a household's water to be shut off, adding with mandated service there was a charge in residents did not have service.

Burton also wanted the street sweeping arrangement to be dropped. "I really do not understand where street sweeping came into the picture.... It is kind of a shell game of a use of public money.'

Councilman Larry Stranske said he would like to see SWOW work with Cold Creek. "I would personally like to have them work with the compost people and come up with a solution for both entities."

Councilwoman Holly Madrigal asked how dog poop would be handled if a new system was put into place.

"What is a little dog doo when you bring in 300 to 400 tons of chicken [poop]?" Mileck

Public comments

Every Willits City Council meeting begins with a call to order, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a time slot where citizens have three minutes each to speak about business not featured on the meeting's agenda.

During public comment time on February 12, Willits resident Jed Diamond gave signed copies of his book, "Composting Abbie," to members of the city council. Diamond's book, illustrated by Willits' Ann Maglinte, tells the story of composting a dead whale washed up on the Mendocino coast.

"The blue whale is the largest animal that has ever lived on the face of the earth,"

Cold Creek Compost and its owner, Martin Mileck, provided the composting muscle to compost the whale. Mileck was at the city council meeting for negotiations on the city's new Solid Wastes of Willits contract.

Retired City Planner Alan Falleri introduced Boy Scout Troop 212: members were attending the city council meeting as they learned about government as part of their "Citizenship in Community" merit badge project.

Willits Weekly | February 19, 2015





If you've been suffering with pain or been diagnosed with chronic pain, you won't want to miss this **FREE** seminar.

Don't let pain take over your life. Proper management of chronic pain from conditions like migraine, back pain, joint pain or following an injury can help you get back to an active life. Learn about new advances in treatment of chronic pain, from mental, physical and dietary options to new minimally invasive surgical options.

Living Without Pain

Wednesday, March 4

5:00 p.m. registration 5:30-6:30 p.m. seminar

Willits Community Center 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA

RSVP to 877.596.0644

Space is limited. Light refreshments will be served. www.uvmc.org/painfree

Ukiah Valley Medical Center **A**dventist Health



Rascal's Rescue:

needs help and a home for Devo

Devo is a sweet 2 1/2-year-old neutered male Siamese cross. He arrived at East Hill Veterinary Clinic with a urinary tract obstruction that resulted in kidney failure. He was also so severely infested with fleas that he was anemic. After his urinary obstruction was relieved, his kidney failure was resolved, and his parasites were treated, he is on the

Devo's owner is unable to care for him and is hoping he can be adopted by someone who can provide him with the love, care and special diet he needs. Thanks to Rascal's Rescue, an organization started by Misty Gonzalez at Willits Power, a fund has been created to help offset the cost of Devo's care. Donations are being accepted by Rascal's Rescue for this project and others. Rascal's Rescue can be reached at 459-6420, or donations can be brought to the Rascal's Rescue donation jar at Willits Power, 1600 South Main Street.

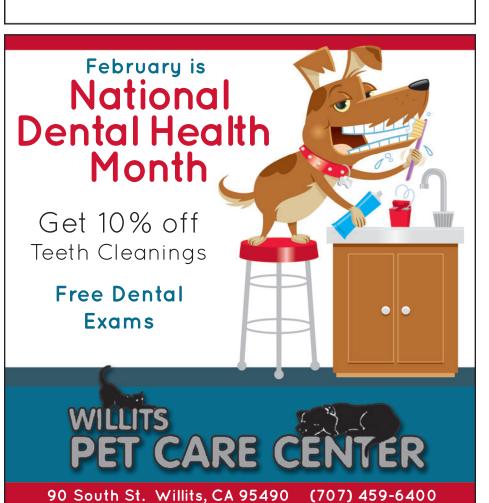
Delightful Khloe

Photo by Sage Mountainfire

Khloe is a 2-month-old female German Shepherd mix puppy. She currently weighs about 18 pounds, but is sure to grow up to be a medium to large dog. We also have three of Khloe's sisters here as well. Like all pups they are absolutely adorable and delightful and sure to bring endless joy to their new homes. And, like all puppies, they will need a lot of patience and guidance to grow into their best big dog selves. It takes a lot of work to raise a baby, so please be sure you've got the time and energy! The reward for your efforts is a lifetime of love and loyalty!

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





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