

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Hack and squirt

To the Editor:

Forest fire is a strong concern of everyone in Mendocino County, and herbicide use is a concern of a significant number of people in the county, including myself. For that reason, I attended the Tuesday, April 21 meeting of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, both as a concerned citizen and as a volunteer firefighter.

The supervisors were voting on a resolution to ask Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC), the largest timberland owner in the county, to temporarily stop a procedure called "hack and squirt," where herbicides are applied to large stands of tan oak trees to kill them, and then the dead, poisoned trees are left standing until they rot and fall or, as many residents and firefighters were concerned, succumb to forest fire. The proposed resolution was a request to MRC. It was not a demand nor an ordinance.

Two hundred people attended this hearing. Over 50 people spoke to the issue, including a dozen county firefighters. Two people spoke in favor of the hack-and-squirt process: the company spokesman for Mendocino Redwood Company and someone who identified himself as a professional forester (but did not state if he was speaking for himself or on behalf of an employer).

Almost all of the speakers spoke against the hack-and-squirt process – all concerned about fire danger and many also concerned about the herbicide, whether it will poison the ground and water supply and whether, in a fire, it will poison the firefighters fighting the fire.

A CalFire chief, the first to speak, explained that fire depends on more factors than the dryness of the fuel. The CalFire chief then stated that dry dead trees do not burn any more readily or dangerously than green living trees. That statement was subsequently contradicted by a dozen firefighters who spoke, including three CalFire chiefs and one recently retired CalFire pilot, who flew local forest fires for 10 years. They all stated that dead forests are a bigger fire hazard than living forests: They catch more readily and they burn much hotter. A few firefighters also expressed their concern about the risks of exposure to herbicides. One fire chief stated that the use of herbicides in the forest could make recruitment of new volunteer firefighters, concerned for their health, more difficult.

In the end, the supervisors voted 3 to 2 against the resolution. Our own supervisor Tom Woodhouse, who in his remarks to the audience stated that he was opposed to the use of herbicides, was one of the three supervisors who voted down the resolution.

I am writing because I am puzzled by how our supervisors decide what they decide. At this public hearing, 200 came. Fifty people spoke against hack-and-squirt, two people spoke for hack-and-squirt, and one person (the CalFire chief) spoke neither for or against. But there are thousands of people in our county who did not attend the meeting. Were the supervisors considering the rest of the county? Did the supervisors already have their minds made up before the hearing? Was the hearing held solely because it was required by law? Were any of the supervisors so offended by the rude behavior and unkempt appearance of some of the attendees that the supervisors voted their emotions instead of the issues?

Bernard Kamoroff, Willits

Van Hotel and the birds

To the Editor:

Approximately two months ago, my neighbor and I witnessed some boys climbing the side of the Van Hotel breaking windows. My neighbor advised me two days after the incident that she saw a bird of prey, a red tail hawk, slamming itself against a window trying to free itself. Since

then several other birds have flown in through the two broken windows. I witnessed this sad recurrence to free themselves as they are trying to get out from a different room with no broken windows.

Four years ago the broken windows were boarded up, as I was told, when I first became a resident back in 2009. This had been an ongoing issue for years with these birds suffering the consequences of death due to dehydration, lack of food, and injury due to trying to escape. It has also become a health issue with the infestation of dead birds and viruses inside the Van Hotel. We need a healthy solution toward this problem for our health reasons and safety and health concerns for these birds.

I have witnessed several birds flying through the broken windows with nesting material. It is springtime, and nests are being built inside this health hazard building. So you can already imagine the plight of these new hatchlings. They won't make it out.

There are six species of birds going in there. One hawk, that did not make it out, pigeons, blackbirds, crows, and sparrows. I know because I watch them from my second-story apartment bedroom window. The two broken windows are right across from my apartment. This saddens my heart.

I have contacted the owner with no compassion or interest at heart in boarding up all of his windows.

Cecilia Young, Willits

A letter to my grandchildren

To the Editor:

Dear Shelby, Jacob, Cody, Teanna, Sierra, Deon, Derrick, Hailey, Gunnar, Christian, Matej, Jonovan, Flora, Natael, and Trey/Shawn: It's both wonderful and rare that we're all together, so I'm sending you this letter to let you know I love you. Like all parents and grandparents, I want you to live long and healthy lives. Like all people everywhere you have to deal with many challenges in life, including dealing with drugs.

I can't tell you my perspective about drugs without being honest about my own drug use over the years. The first drug I tried was at age 7, when my parents served me wine on a Friday night as part of a Jewish Seder. Drinking a little wine as part of a meal was standard practice in our home. In college I tried marijuana. I didn't like to smoke, since my parents both smoked cigarettes, so someone made me a marijuana brownie. I got a bit "stoned" and giggled and laughed a lot. I tried LSD a few times after college, which was fun and gave me a mystical experience, but a few times was enough for me.

Some people assume that since we live in the hills of Mendocino County I grow and sell marijuana. I don't. I still drink wine on occasion with a meal, but that's the only drug I use these days. As you know I've been a counselor for more than 40 years and have treated both kids and adults who have problems with drugs. Drug abuse can be very harmful for some people, even though most people who use drugs, including marijuana, don't have a problem with it.

Most everything people hear about drugs is about the problems. We rarely hear about the majority of people who don't have problems. We know that most people drink responsibly, but what we hear most about in the news are problem drinkers and drug abusers. It might surprise you to know that the United Nations Office on Drug Control, the global coordinator of the war on drugs, says that only 10 percent of drug users ever have a problem with their substance. Ninety percent of people don't have a problem.

I'd prefer that all of you wait until you are an adult and your brain is fully formed before trying any drugs, whether we're talking about alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, marijuana, LSD, or any other drug. However, I know that some of you have already tried one or more drugs, and some of you will experiment before you are 21.

I'll tell you a quick story about your uncle J (one of our five children). When he was a teenager we had a talk about drugs. I bought him a book, which I felt was the best at the time, by a respected physician Andrew Weil, M.D. It's called "From Chocolate to Morphine: Everything You Need to Know About Mind-Altering Drugs." Unlike most books, Dr. Weil tells the truth about the negative and the positive

Jed Diamond, Willits

sides of drug use and, more importantly, tells people how to be safe with whatever drugs they use in their lives, whether it's a drug like alcohol or a drug like marijuana. Uncle J shared the book with all his friends, and they all learned the truth about drugs and how to stay in right-relationship with any drugs they might choose to use.

Obviously, alcohol is a legal drug and marijuana is an illegal drug. I'll tell you honestly, I think our current drug laws and our current "wars on drugs" do more harm than good. I'm a lot more worried about how the drug laws will harm you than about how drugs will harm you (though even if only 10 percent of you have a problem with drugs, it means, on average, one or two of you could develop a drug problem some time in your lives). I'd rather have you get treatment if you develop a problem, than have you end up in jail.

Drug wars have been going on for a long time. It's really misleading to call them "drug wars." It would be more accurate to call them "wars on certain people who scare the people in power." If you study history like I have, you'll learn that the first anti-opium laws in the 1870s were directed at Chinese immigrants. The first anti-cocaine laws, in the South in the early 1900s, were directed at African-American men. The first anti-marijuana laws, in the Midwest and the Southwest in the 1910s and 1920s, were directed at Mexican migrants and Mexican Americans. Today, Latino and especially Black communities are still arrested more often and sentenced more harshly than Caucasian communities.

When we talk about drugs, it's hard to know who is telling the truth and who you can trust. Matthew Fogg is a former U.S. Marshal and drug enforcement agent. When he asked why so many poorer, African-American communities were being targeted rather than more affluent Caucasian communities, this is what his superior told him. It was a rare admission of truth:

"You know, if we go out there and start messing with those folks, they know judges, they know lawyers, they know politicians. You start locking their kids up; somebody's going to jerk our chain. They're going to call us on it, and before you know it, they're going to shut us down, and there goes your overtime."

After he retired, Fogg joined the organization Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP). Founded on March 16, 2002, LEAP is a nonprofit organization made up of current and former members of the law enforcement and criminal justice communities who are speaking out about the failures of our existing drug policies. You won't believe their web-address: www.CopsSayLegalizeDrugs.com. Here's what they have to say:

"We believe that drug prohibition is the true cause of much of the social and personal damage that has historically been attributed to drug use. It is prohibition that makes these drugs so valuable-while giving criminals a monopoly over their supply. Driven by the huge profits from this monopoly, criminal gangs bribe and kill each other, law enforcers, and children."

More from the LEAP website:

"Prohibition costs taxpayers tens of billions of dollars every year, yet 40 years and some 40 million arrests later, drugs are cheaper, more potent and far more widely used than at the beginning of this futile crusade." And more: "We believe that sending parents to prison for non-violent personal drug use destroys families. We believe that in a regulated and controlled environment, drugs will be safer for adult use and less accessible to our children. And we believe that by placing drug abuse in the hands of medical professionals instead of the criminal justice system, we will reduce rates of addiction and overdose deaths."

When drugs are legalized, we'll all be better off. It will make it easier to do research and find ways that drugs can improve our health. Even a drug like marijuana has been shown to have important ingredients that can help people with certain health problems. Another great book that you will find super interesting is by a journalist named Johann Hari. It's called "Chasing the Scream: The First and Last Days of the War on Drugs."

So, thanks for listening to me. I'm sure there is much more to say and you may have questions to ask me. Know that I'll answer as best I can and will tell you the truth. I love you. – Grandpa Jed.



In the Band

Willits High School Band performs at concerts and school events

Brass, percussion, wind: Many graduates of the Willits Unified School District remember their days in the band – whether it was at Willits High School or Baechtel Grove Middle School – and performing at graduations, ceremonies, rallies and more.

The tradition is still going strong, with the members of the Willits High School band performing, under the direction of band teacher Jared Sherrill, at the high school's open house on Tuesday, April 14 to gathered family and friends. To welcome the crowd to the open house, the concert band performed "Hadrian's Wall" by Robert W. Smith.

"The open house performance went really well," said Sherrill. "They turned it on like normal, and the song was well-received by the crowd."

The band also performed "The Star Spangled Banner"

– Maureen Moore

at the only Willits High School track team home meet on Wednesday, April 15. Winter and spring concerts are held during the year, and the band played at many of the home football games this last fall, said WHS junior Loren Herz-O'Brien, who has been in the band all through his time at WHS.

The band is subdivided into two groups: the jazz band, and the concert band, with players running the gamut from freshmen to seniors. Some students play in both groups: Herz-O'Brien plays the flute in the concert band, and the bass in the jazz band.

Come see the band perform at their next event: playing for the opening of this year's "Art Under 20" at the Willits Center for the Arts.



Larry Roby at the Saturday pickup door at the Willits Post Office. Photo by Jennifer Poole

'Larry at the Post Office' to transfer to Texas

Longtime Willits Post Office counter worker Larry Roby is transferring to a Texas post office at the end of this week.

"We appreciate all his help and support, and we wish him well," said Willits Postmaster Dale Briggs. "He's been the face of the Willits Post Office for many years."

Roby said he worked first for the Willits Post Office as a mail carrier for two years, and then spent 17 years on the counter.

"It's been a joy working in Willits," Roby said. "I've been here in Willits 23 years, and I know a lot of people. I love 'em, and I'm going to miss them all, but we feel like this is something we've got to do."

In addition to his duties for the Texas post office – he'll be working the counter there, too – Roby and his wife, Vonda, will be opening a home for young women and children. Their son, Justin Robey, a member of the U.S. Army, is stationed at an Army base near their new Texas home.

– Jennifer Poole



At very top: Members of the concert band and teacher Jared Sherrill, far right.

Above, top: The concert band practices before the Tuesday performance.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Above, left: Band members take a bow after their Tuesday performance.

Above, right: Loren Herz-O'Brien plays the flute.

Photos provided by Carolyn Bakewell

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

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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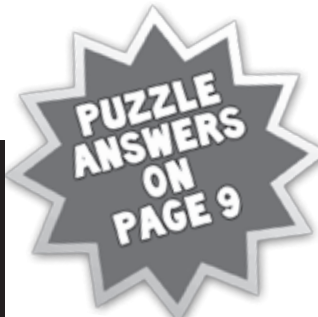
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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate



How To 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 the puzzle!

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13			14			15		
16				17			18			19		
20					21					22		
26	27	28	29				30					
31							32					
33							34	35	36	37	38	
				39	40	41		42	43			
				44	45			46				
				47				48				
49					50			51	52	53	54	55
56					57			58				
59					60					61		
62					63					64		

PET OWNERSHIP WORD SEARCH

S V L S L T I A O N C N U E U K E R Q M X L T Q A I
 A R I D F O W I L K U S B P O N O L S O N O R E W E T B A S
 K D C B C I K I U P H F T E T E H D N O I R E W E T M L
 R E I M K I S U P H F T E T E H D N O I R E W E T M L
 V E H I T U R C Q D L E M X A N S T S T R I D G U E I S Y
 U H I C Q C A N C E W R I A S H S T W H E P C F L S D P
 G N G U N P M F O N C E W R I A S H S T W H E P C F L S D P
 P N N E R G E R O I A N S I A C E P U F U N R P M R C G A
 A R N E R G E R O I A N S I A C E P U F U N R P M R C G A
 A I B S N Y O G L E V T H I C U G L Y S M C K Q U O
 S A R B E T S E H E M S N A E A N E L R U P E
 I T A R D E I X X C E L E M S N A E A N E L R U P E
 E Y C R E S A E R T O T A O U O I Q F K S
 M G V P T L E R O S B N E M R U B H U D B

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| ADOPTION | GENETICS | PAPERS | SIRE |
| BREED | KINDNESS | PARASITE | SOIL |
| CANINE | LICENSE | PEDIGREE | SUPPLIES |
| COMPANION | LITTER | PET | TRAINING |
| CRATE | MANGE | PUREBRED | QUICK |
| DYSPLASIA | MITES | REGISTERED | VACCINATION |
| EXERCISE | NAILS | REINFORCEMENT | WASTE |
| FELINE | NEUTER | SHELTER | WHISKERS |
| FUR | NUTRITION | | |

CLUES ACROSS

- Limited period
- PC graphics file format
- Coarse file
- Smooth and lustrous
- Equal, prefix
- Waxplant genus
- One who puts up with
- H. Potter's BFF
- Strays
- Night flight
- Over the counter (abbr.)
- Salt Lake state
- DWTS's oldest judge
- A way to cut off
- Hunted beings
- Sacred tobacco pipe
- Electronic data processing
- # of nativity kings
- Nebraska's largest city
- School spirit rally
- 20th Greek letter
- Belonging to Greek Mother Earth
- Daisy tanacetum
- Skilled in many areas
- Mures river city

CLUES DOWN

- Czar
- Czech River
- Nev. Senator since 1987
- Person of ancient Media
- Russian meat pie
- Atom with the same atomic #
- Harmony
- Watery discharge from the eyes or nose
- Arteries
- "Breaking the Silence" author Katrina

CLUES ACROSS

- Brew
- Extreme fear
- Ethiopian monetary unit
- Cardboard box (abbr.)
- Esoteric
- Sword similar to a foil
- ... you!
- Grass tree
- Queen of Sparta
- Major division of geological time
- Supply with nourishment
- Crushing blow
- Florida state dessert
- Della __ singer
- Meshlike fishing device
- Storage warehouse
- Play a role
- Humbug
- Single Lens Reflex
- Billiards stick
- Parts of an hour (abbr.)
- A.K.A. opt key
- Tool to work the soil
- Not or
- Pain in the middle or inner ear
- Collection of Psalms for liturgical use
- Int'l. news organization
- High Ottoman official
- Equipped with gears
- __ Doria, ship
- Informal complaint
- Kurt Weill's 1st wife, Lotte
- Cain and __
- Canadian flyers
- contest
- At some prior time
- Make sense of language



Photos of Anthony Ward's floral art taken by Chris Hardaker, Brooktrails Community Garden member



Flower Guru

holds workshop at Brooktrails garden this weekend

Local floral artist Anthony Ward will be sharing his love for the craft at a workshop this weekend at the Brooktrails Community Garden. Ward is widely known as a "flower guru," and he has created floral sculptures for Maya Angelou, Thich Nhat Hahn, Alice Walker, Deepak Chopra and the Dalai Lama. Ward's current workshop, "Being With Flowers: Floral Art as Spiritual Practice," is inspired by his deep connection to flowers and nature.

"For the longest time humans and flowers have been having this relationship," Ward mused. "Flowers have helped us rise in our humanity. Concentrating on beauty makes you a better person; it brings peace into your personal life and will help you be more compassionate to people and more connected to the earth. Just taking a moment with a flower throughout your day is like a form of meditation."

Ward's work has been inspired by the Japanese art form of "ikebana," which roughly translates to "giving life to flowers." Unlike traditional Western floral bouquets with huge, multi-colored blossoms spilling out in all directions, ikebana encourages restraint and minimalism, emphasizing graceful lines, natural shapes and symbolism. Like Ward, many of its practitioners also consider ikebana to be a spiritual practice as well as a way of beautifying the surroundings.

"One of the things that is a huge blessing in this art form is that, to me, each flower is already a masterpiece. Nature is the greatest artist of all. I am a student of nature and the flowers," Ward acknowledged. "When I am creating, I am deeply present and engaged in each moment – each fragrant, colorful, spellbinding moment."

At the Saturday, April 25 workshop, Ward plans to share his creative process with the class and then invite participants to experiment with the artist's palette of flowers he provides. He also plans to use natural materials like logs and lichens – sourced in Brooktrails – to inspire arrangements.

"Living in Willits has helped me take my art to a deeper place," said Ward, "because of the moss and the redwoods and the natural beauty of the environment."

Does the "Flower Guru" have a favorite flower?

"Whatever flower I happen to be holding is my favorite flower. Right now I'm holding calla lilies, so they are my favorite flower," Ward says with a smile.

You may have noticed some of Ward's arrangements

at Brickhouse Coffee and in front of the now-shuttered Mom's Place in Brooktrails. He is currently working on a collaboration with the owners of George's Geodes and Gems, bridging the natural connection between flowers and gemstones. He is inspired by an enormous amethyst geode at the store and plans to create a floral sculpture to accompany and enhance it.

Eager to share his life's calling with the world, Ward is nearing completion on his first book, "Dancing with the FLOWERS: Floral Art as Spiritual Practice," with a foreword written by Eckhart Tolle. Although some call Ward a master, he still feels he has much to learn. Ward says he is always learning new things when he leads workshops and his work is always evolving through his interactions with others.

Ward's "Being With Flowers" workshop will be held Saturday, April 25 from 9 am to 5 pm at the Brooktrails Community Garden. There is a \$100 to \$150 sliding-scale fee for the all-day workshop. A portion of the proceeds from the workshop will go to the garden, which continues to thrive in its fourth year. For more information about the workshop, call 707-459-5267.

'When you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for the moment.'

- artist Georgia O'Keeffe

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Every month, a random week – or multiple weeks – will be chosen for Willits Weekly to run our Phrase Find contest. The contest will feature five phrases that can each be found in an ad in the current edition. Each phrase will match only one advertisement. The first person to EMAIL the correct answers to willitsweekly@gmail.com will win a prize.

For this week's prize, you can win **TWO FREE TICKETS to the BROOKTRAILS FIRE DEPARTMENT'S SPAGHETTI DINNER!**

Answers will only count as correct if they include the COMPLETE NAME OF THE BUSINESS, as shown on the ad where the phrase is found.

Winners will be replied to via email and will receive instructions on how to get their prize at that time. Winners will also be publicly announced in the next round of Phrase Find.

Phrase Find will be run on random weeks at random intervals, so make sure to check often to see if the current edition contains the contest. Phrases will only be pulled from regular display advertisements: not from classifieds, news stories, letters to the editor, Calendar or other editorial content.

Facebook posts, messages, texts, phone calls, personal conversations or any other form of communication will not be counted as entries. All entries must be emailed to: willitsweekly@gmail.com only. Email time stamps/order in inbox will indicate the winner in the event of a tie.

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 2. Where can you have "LOWERING" done?
 3. Who does "Enrolling Year Round"?
 4. Whose fax number is "459-2319"?
 5. Who can help with "Living Trusts"?
 Willits Weekly's Phrase Find - April 23, 2015
 EMAIL answers to willitsweekly@gmail.com
 April 16 WINNER: Jake O'Rear

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 or look for us on Facebook
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NOYO THEATRE
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 707-459-NOYO (6696)
 www.noyotheatre.com
 Starts May 1st:
 Disney Nature: Monkey Kingdom

THE LONGEST RIDE
 (PG-13) 2 hrs 8 mins
 Fri: 4:45 & 7:45pm
 Sat: 1:45, 4:45 & 7:45pm
 Sun: 12:45, 3:45 & 6:45pm
 Mon-Thurs: 3:45 & 6:45pm

PAUL BLART: MALL COP 2
 (PG) 1 hr 34 mins
 Fri: 6:00 & 8:15pm
 Sat: 1:30, 3:45, 6:00 & 8:15pm
 Sun: 12:30, 2:45, 5:00 & 7:15pm
 Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:15pm
 NO THURSDAY SHOW!

WOMAN IN GOLD
 (PG-13) 1 hr 50 mins
 Fri: 5:40 & 8:00pm
 Sat: 1:00, 3:20, 5:40 & 8:00pm
 Sun: 12noon, 2:20, 4:40 & 7:00pm
 Mon-Thurs: 4:40 & 7:00pm

AVENGERS 2: AGE OF ULTRON IN 3D
 (PG-13) 2 hrs 21 mins
 Thursday - April 30 at 7:00pm
 (PG-13) 2 hrs 23 mins
 Thursday - April 30 at 4:00pm
AVENGERS DOUBLE FEATURE IN 3D
 Special Price \$15 for Both Films!

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Thursday, April 23

"Lips Together, Teeth Apart": the final weekend for Terrence McNally's award-winning play at Willits Community Theatre, directed by Bill Barksdale. The Tony Award-winning playwright follows two couples as they spend the 4th of July weekend partying on Fire Island – with unexpected results. Runs through April 26. Plays Thursdays at 7 pm for \$10, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$15, and Sunday, April 26 matinees at 2 pm for \$10. This production contains adult language. Advance tickets are 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 for all shows at the door. The playhouse is located at 37 W. Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).



Savings Bank Shred Event: Savings Bank of Mendocino County and Integrity Shred offers an opportunity to the public to bring documents for safe, secure on-site shredding to Savings Bank of Mendocino, Willits branch, 145 South Main Street, from 9 to 11 am. Limit of three 35 pound boxes. Hours and number of customers accommodated may be limited to truck capacity. Savings Bank representatives will be available to supply information about preventing identity theft and what to do if your identity is stolen.

"Lips Together, Teeth Apart": 7 pm. See Thursday, April 23 listing for details.

Friday, April 24

Career Fair at Mendocino College North County Center: the North County Friends of Mendocino College hosts a 1st Annual Career Fair from 9 to noon at the Mendocino College North County Center, 372 East Commercial Street. "North County employers will be on-hand to discuss employment opportunities within their companies. What specific skills and training are needed will be a topic of discussion, and college counselors will be available for students to learn what career and academic paths lead to specific employment options." Employers attending will include CalFire, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital,



Mendocino Private Industry Council and the County of Mendocino, and individuals representing general areas such as child development, auto repair, culinary careers, the insurance industry, and more. Also sponsored by Solid Waste of Willits. For more info, call Peggy Randrup at 459-6224.

What's Happening Around Town

the Willits Elementary Charter School community on April 25, 2015 at Rec Grove from noon to 4 pm for El Dia de los Niños / Earth Day celebration. Featuring student dancing and musical performances, delicious food and 'aguas frescas,' a jump house, Earth Day activities, a raffle, and a salsa competition." Free and open to the public.

"The Willits Bypass, Supersize or Downsize?": A forum from 4 to 6 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Speakers and topics will include: "How to Downsize Phase I – and Forget Phase II"; Madge Strong; "Why the Destruction of Pomo Cultural Sites Matters"; Priscilla Hunter; "What Caltrans' Mitigation Plans Costs Us & The Environment"; Ellen Drell; "How Caltrans Gets OUR Local Transportation Funds"; Rosamond Crowder. Q & A and discussion to follow speakers. Refreshments available. Sponsored by: Save Our Little Lake Valley (SOLLV), the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Earth First!, and the Willits Little Lake Grange.

WHS Boosters Club Fundraiser: Tri-Tip Dinner and Quarter Auction to raise funds for the WHS Boosters Club. At the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Dinner at 6 pm; auction at 7 pm. \$25 per ticket; \$5 paddle. "All In" Paddles available at the door. Tickets may be purchased at the House Doctor, 65 Main Street, or call Donna at 459-2752.

"Lips Together, Teeth Apart": 8 pm. See Thursday, April 23 listing for details.

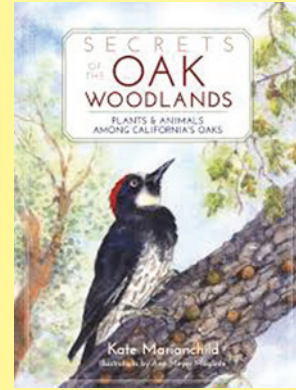
Sunday, April 26

Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast: every fourth Sunday breakfast at the Little Lake Grange, 8 am to 11 am. Choose Sourdough Wholegrain or Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes, Beeler's Quality Bacon, organic local farm fresh eggs made to order, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. \$7; \$6 seniors; \$4 under 10. Extra sides of organic fruit in season or Amish maple syrup, \$1. 291 School Street (two blocks south of Commercial, 1 block west of 101).



Talks on Buddhist Psychology: 10 am to noon at the Muse; see Saturday, April 25 listing for details.

Kate Marianchild Book Talk & Signing: 2 to 4 pm at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 E Commercial Street. Author and naturalist Kate Marianchild gives a free illustrated lecture on two of our most fascinating native plants: California buckeye and common manzanita. Kate will explore the unique survival strategies of these species and their intricate relationships with insects, birds, mammals, and fungi. Marianchild is the author of "Secrets of the Oak Woodlands: Plants and Animals among California's Oaks." Light refreshments will be served. Info: visit www.MendocinoMuseum.org or call 459-2736.



"Lips Together, Teeth Apart": 2 pm. Final show of the run! See Thursday, April 23 listing for details.

Cassie and Maggie MacDonald: Celtic duo brings their high-energy fiddle and keyboards performance to the Willits Community Theatre. "The MacDonald sisters' act encompasses a sheer musical joy, exciting and innovative styles, and a balance with the integrity of classic Celtic tunes. They hew close to their roots and yet also explore and test the boundaries of traditional music, bringing a breath of fresh air to the genre with their original compositions and arrangements. They have been enchanting audiences far and wide with their infectious energy, driving rhythms and lilting melodies." 8 pm. Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. Willits Community Theatre is located at 37 W. Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).



Cassie and Maggie MacDonald

Tuesday, April 28

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. Call the theater for this week's Tightwad movies. For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com, 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.



"Do 'good dogs' get spaghetti, too??" - Ashes

Wednesday, April 29

Responsible Beverage Service Training: 9 am to 1 pm. No-cost training for businesses that sell or serve alcohol and organizations who serve alcohol at fundraisers. This training is based on standards set by the California ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) and is an educational experience that provides servers with the information and guidance to protect themselves, community good and/or business establishment from legal ramifications associated with serving alcohol to minors, overly intoxicated individuals, or other issues, and how to avoid these issues in the first place! Willits Center for the Arts upstairs meeting room, 71 E Commercial Street. To register or for more information, contact training sponsor Laytonville Healthy Start at (707) 984-8089.

Friday, May 1

WCS Spaghetti Drive-Through Dinner: a benefit for Willits Charter School, with funds going towards the WCS prom and other school activities. Dinner includes: spaghetti and meatballs (made with local beef donated by The Ford Ranch), salad, fresh garlic bread, and a chocolate chip cookie (vegetarian option available). Dinner is \$15; or two for \$25. Available at the front office of the Willits Charter School or from WCS representatives selling tickets around town. Food pickup is at the Willits Charter School parking lot, 1431 South Main Street, 5 to 8 pm. Info: 459-5506.

Saturday, May 2

Brooktrails Firefighters Association Spaghetti Feed: annual fundraising event for the volunteers of the Brooktrails Firefighters Association, 5 to 8 pm, at the Brooktrails Community Center, 24860 Birch Street. All-you-can-eat meat or vegetarian spaghetti, salad, bread and beverages. Lions Club no-host bar. Also, DJ "Mikey T" Tobin, Ashes the K-9 Arson Dog, and the REACH team's booth. Tickets, available from firefighters or at the fire station, 24860 Birch Street, are \$10 for ages 13 and over, and \$5 for kids 12 and under. More info: 459-4441.

"Willits On Stage 3": a "marvelous variety show with friends, neighbors

and special guests!" This third annual fundraising benefit for Willits Community Services & Food Bank is set for Saturday, May 2, at 7 pm, at the Willits High School Auditorium. Lineup (in order of appearance) includes: Kevin Coppfield as MC; The Energizers, a local Zumba group; The Cloud 9 Dancers doing two performances (age 7 to 9 doing hip hop and age 10 to 14 doing contemporary dance); Terry Mallon doing a juggling act; singer/songwriter Cameron MacDonald doing original songs on guitar; Chanterelle, featuring vocal trio Madge Strong, Diane Smalley and Helen Falandes; The Just For Fun Choir, led by Nancy New; jazz trio Tones of Madrones; singer/guitarist Falco; juggler Chad Eventide; a song and dance routine by Linda Posner and Cheryl Lockwood, 9, accompanied by Loren and Simba; singer Erin Fisher, doing an opera aria and another number; Just Enough, featuring Kate Black, Helen Falandes and Clancy Rash; Aurelie Clivaz and her capoeira group; and – closing the show – Malakai Schindel doing instrumentals from his new CD, "Aradan." Doors open at 6:15 pm, and the Willits High School Peace Club will be offering concessions before the show, which starts at 7 pm, and during intermission. Tickets are \$10 in advance, and \$15 at the door; free for children under 5. Tickets are available at Goods Shoppe, Main St. Music, Mazahar and 101 Donut Shop. Info: 456-9429 or 459-3333.



Sunday, May 3

Guitar Virtuoso David Rogers: 2 pm at the Willits Community Theatre. The program includes Spanish music, songs by Leonard Cohen, the Rolling Stones, Roxy Music and the Beatles, along with compositions of J.S. Bach and Rogers' own work. His performance will also include music for the 16th century vihuela, the original guitar, invented in the mid-15th century in the south of Spain. Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street, online at www.brownpapertickets.com, or phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.



Greg Schindel in concert at WCT

Sunday, May 10

Local folksinger Greg Schindel will appear in concert at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse at 7 pm on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10.

Schindel writes and sings songs reflecting the life and beauty of rural northern California and his own spiritual approach to living close to the land. His music is upbeat, acoustic, poignant and dynamic. According to show producer Mike ADair, Schindel is worth hearing. "His lyrics are incredible," ADair said. "He expresses the beauty and wonder and sadness and humor of life. He is a poet. And he is a great performer."

Since 1983, when he settled in Willits, Schindel has performed at numerous concerts, festivals and benefits. He won "Best Act" at the Willits Country Pickers Fourth of July concert series three years in a row. He has recorded four albums of original material, "Originals" (1984),

18th Willits Walk for Health & Wellness - Sunday, May 31

Registration for the free 18th annual Willits Walk for Health & Wellness opens at 9:30 am at J.D. Redhouse, 212 South Main Street. Men, women, and children of all ages are welcome (and also well-behaved pets on leashes). Bicyclists are also invited. The walk begins in downtown Willits and winds through the neighborhoods. The entire walk is 5 miles, but people can walk some or all. Rain or shine! The walk will finish at Rec Grove for the Avenues to Wellness (ATW) Free Family Food and Fitness Fair from 11:30 am to 2 pm, including: great food samples from Howard Hospital Chef Kyle Evans; fun fitness activities; free health screenings; Zumba and yoga for adults and kids, and much more! Info: Information: Willits Healthy Action Team (W.H.A.T.), Jed Diamond 707 459-5505.

Emandal Chorale 20th anniversary concert

The Emandal Chorale will celebrate its 20th anniversary of singing as a community/peace choir on Saturday, May 16, at 7 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. The concert will present some of their most memorable songs, old and new. Guest artists will include Spencer Brewer, composer, pianist, and performer, and Val Rogers, a dynamic South African song and dance leader from Eugene. Tickets are available now for \$10 at Mazahar in Ukiah; they will be \$15 at the door.

North Street Collective's Spring Showcase

The North Street Collective presents art exhibits, interactive events, an art fundraising sale, food, music, multimedia and woodworking at this year's free Spring Showcase, Saturday, May 9 from 2 to 5 pm at 350 North Street. Featuring the work of Nishanga Bliss, Lynea Diaz-Hagan, Noel Woodhouse, Natasha Hoehn, and Nina Behrsin. Cash, check, and credit cards accepted for all items on sale. Visit www.northstreetcollective.org for more info.



"The Willits Bypass, Supersize or Downsize?"

A forum on "The Willits Bypass, Supersize or Downsize?" will be held on Saturday, April 25, from 4 to 6 pm at the Little Lake Grange in Willits, 291 School Street. Speakers and topics will include: "How to Downsize Phase I – and Forget Phase II"; Madge Strong; "Why the Destruction of Pomo Cultural Sites Matters"; Priscilla Hunter; "What Caltrans' Mitigation Plans Costs Us & The Environment"; Ellen Drell; "How Caltrans Gets OUR Local Transportation Funds"; Rosamond Crowder. Q & A and discussion to follow speakers. Refreshments available. Sponsored by: Save Our Little Lake Valley (SOLLV), the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Earth First!, and the Willits Little Lake Grange.

Cat special at the Ukiah shelter

If you're thinking about adopting a cat, take advantage of the Ukiah Animal Shelter's "Pounce into Spring" special happening through May 10, and you can name your own adoption fee for any cats that are ready to go home, or \$50 for any cats who will need to stay at the shelter to be spayed or neutered.

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6 pm. To view photos and bios of more of the shelter's adoptable animals, please visit: www.mendoshelterpets.com or drop in at the shelter during open hours. Info: 467-6453.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of April 27 through May 1
Monday: BBQ Chicken
Tuesday: Polish Sausage with Biscuits & Gravy
Wednesday: Sloppy Joes
Thursday: Chicken Enchilada Casserole
Friday: Pork Loin
 Harrah Senior Center serves 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: 459-6826.



2014 Hometown Celebration

Sponsor the Hometown Celebration!

The Local First committee of the Willits Chamber of Commerce is seeking new sponsors for one of Willits' great summer events, the Hometown Celebration, set for Thursday, June 25 this year.

"Planning is underway for the next Hometown Celebration," said Greta Kanne of The Book Juggler, "and we're looking for new business sponsors to join our list of regulars to help make this fantastic event happen." It costs about \$3,000 to put on this celebration of downtown. Kanne says: "These events cost roughly \$3,000 to put on and are a largely volunteer effort. If we get 15 businesses to each put in \$200, we can pay for the musicians who make these celebrations come alive and we can advertise in our county media outlets to draw the largest crowds ever to Downtown Willits. Can we do it?!" (Willits Weekly is proud to be an in-kind sponsor of Hometown Celebration every year.)

Sponsors get their name on ads and the event posters, distributed around the county, and also get a free booth space or free storefront participation fee. They also get a share of the goodwill generated by the event, enjoyed by crowds of strolling celebrators picking up free samples, special deals and discounts, dining downtown, watching music and entertainment all along the strip, and winning one of the heaps of prizes at the Chamber of Commerce's prize wheel.

Hometown Celebration is also looking for vendors and food providers, as well as new business sponsors. Those interested should call Lynn Kennelly at the Willits Chamber of Commerce: 459-7910.

David Rogers at WCT
 Rogers' performances have been broadcast on National Public Radio, including both the nationally syndicated "Performance Today" and "Harmonia" programs. He has given recitals and conducted master classes throughout North America, including performances and classes at the San Francisco Conservatory and the University of Southern California and The Interlochen National Arts Camp. Rogers has taught at Southern Oregon University for 13 years.
 Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street, online at www.brownpapertickets.com, or phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.
 – Steve Hellman for WCT

Save the Date
Farmers Market at City Park, first outdoor market of the year, May 7
B.R.E.W. Homebrew Club Beer- and Bread-Making Event, May 9
Afro-Funk Experience, Little Lake Grange, May 9
Emandal Chorale 20th Anniversary, Little Lake Grange, May 16
Willits Walk for Health & Wellness, starts at J.D. Redhouse, May 31

COLUMN | At the Movies



'The Babadook'

The Story: Amelia (Essie Davis) is a single mother whose husband died in an automobile accident.

Now, every night, she comforts her 6-year-old son Samuel (Noah Wiseman) with bedtime stories. Samuel is terrified of monsters; he won't sleep. Amelia finds a child's picture book called 'The Babadook.' Horrors await anyone who reads it. Amelia reads it ... out loud ... to her son ... oh damn!

My Thoughts: As many readers know, I work as the Movie Guy at Main Street Music and Video, and we just got in this DVD. And what a great, low-budget independent movie it is. Apparently I'm not alone in my opinion; everyone likes "The Babadook." It got 97 percent approval on Rotten Tomatoes, the movie critics' website.

Where do monsters come from? Writer/Director Jennifer Kent's amazing little flick answers the question. Monsters are born of emotions that we are afraid to feel. Repressed emotions give birth to hideous things, shadowy monsters which will haunt us and destroy us from within.

In this movie, (there are) so many things to fear. The terror a young mother feels when her husband dies, suddenly and horrifically, the terror that a fatherless little boy feels when nighttime comes and he must go to bed alone in the dark; the vertigo-like fear of giving in to the depths of one's grief, versus the need to cope with daily life. This well-paced movie deals.

Parents: A horror movie for adults!
Note: Rearranging the letters in "Babadook" (and I can't take credit for noticing) spells "A Bad Book." Very clever!
Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.



Willits Charter School - Open Enrollment

Willits Charter School's Open Enrollment period for 6th through 12th grades ends on Thursday, April 30. "Stop by for an application; charter school spaces fill up quickly!" 1431 South Main Street.

Amazing Athletes of Willits High School

A Benefit Event for Willits Community Services and Food Bank

Willits On Stage 3

Willits High School Auditorium
Saturday, May 2, 2015 7 pm

A Marvelous Variety Show with Friends, Neighbors and Special Guests!

ALL TICKETS: \$10.00 in advance, \$15.00 at door. Children under 5 FREE
IN WILLITS: Goods Stamp Shop, Main St. Music, Mazahar, and 101 Donut Shop
IN UKIAH: at Mendocino Book Co. INFO: 707.456.9429 or 459.3333

SPONSORS: 101 Trailer & RV • Adam's Restaurant • Emandal-A Farm On a River
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Main St Music & Video • Mariposa Market • Ponderosa & Sun Realty
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Randy Cantua

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO

APRIL 2015

MONDAY • 9AM-10PM
CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY
Earn 3X Points ALL Day
Morning Session 9AM-2PM
Hourly not seat drawings for \$50 free play
Evening Session 5PM-10PM
Hourly hot seat drawings for \$50 free play.
For each session earn 50 points to receive \$15 bonus play plus a \$2 food coupon.

FRIDAY • 9AM-9PM
PAYDAY FRIDAY
9AM-9PM - Earn 100 points to receive \$10 free play.
2PM-8PM - Hot seat drawings each hour for \$100 free play.
9PM - Hot seat drawing for \$150 free play.

TUESDAY • 6PM-10PM
GUYS NIGHT
Earn 2X Points ALL Day
Earn 50 points to receive \$15 free play.
Hot seat drawings every half hour from 6pm-9:30pm to win \$50 free play.
Drawing at 10pm for \$100 free play.

WEDNESDAY • 6PM-10PM
LADIES NIGHT
Earn 2X Points ALL Day
Earn 50 points to receive \$15 free play.
Hot seat drawings every half hour from 6pm-9:30pm to win \$50 free play.
Drawing at 10pm for \$100 free play.

THURSDAY • 8AM-6PM
SUPER SENIOR DAY
If you're 55+, this day is for you!
8AM-6PM - Earn 50 points to receive \$15 free play.
Plus 1/2 off coupon for meal special at the Creekside Cafe.
9AM-6PM - Hourly hot seat drawings for \$50 free play.

SATURDAY • 4PM-10PM
SATURDAY NIGHT MADNESS
Hot Seat drawings every hour. Win \$50-\$150 free play based on your level of play that day.

SUNDAY • 12PM-9PM
SUNDAY SURPRISE
Hourly hot seat drawings. Winners will choose one of 12 Sunday Surprises to keep the action going.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS
Come celebrate your April birthday here. Just stop by the Players Club booth and present your players card and a valid photo ID to receive your Birthday Bonus Free Play!

707-459-7330
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Management reserves all rights.



Softball | Haily Findley, 16, Sophomore

Position: First base
Breakfast of Champions: Oatmeal and fruit
Love for the Sport: "I can forget about things when I'm on the field; all the drama floats away."

My nominee for Athlete of the Week this week is sophomore Haily Findley. Haily has done an excellent job at first base this year. She is emerging as a team leader and continues to progress as a softball player. Haily comes to every game ready to play and to give it her all. She always self-corrects and strives to do her best. She has proven over and over again that she is an asset to our team. She always has a positive attitude and continually lifts the spirits of her teammates. — **Coach Ricky Hendrix**



Softball | Amanda Mason, 18, Senior

Position: Shortstop
Breakfast of Champions: Peanut butter and banana with protein shake
Love for the Sport: "There's always something different going on; you can never know what to expect."

My second nominee is Amanda Mason, a senior and one of our team captains. She was moved from third base to shortstop this last week, which I feel was a good move for her and the team. She is one of those players who can play and excel in any position she is put in. She always gives it her all in practice and during the games. She has had a great bat all season, and this last week against Kelseyville went 2 for 3.

— **Coach Ricky Hendrix**



Congrats Norah Henckell

Norah Lena Caroline Henckell was born on March 20, 2015 at 2:56 pm in Ukiah. Our precious baby girl weighed in at 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 18 inches long. She is welcomed by proud parents Johan and Erin Henckell, big brother Maxwell, grandparents Andrea Smith, Art Mowry, Sally Henckell, Roger Smith, Simone Light, Karsten and Corrina Henckell, aunt and uncles Celeste and Scott Cameron, Sasha and Stephen Bullen, and cousin Spencer Cameron.

Future florists

4-H floral group learns floristry skills

Each month, members of the newly formed Willits 4-H Floral Group gather at Flowers by Annette to learn skills that could lead to careers in the floristry industry.

"They learn the basics about flower arranging," explained mentor Annette Piron. "Their goals are to learn to identify types of arrangements, what occasions flowers are used for, how to use the right tools, how to arrange fresh and silk flowers, and to learn all they can about floral design."

The group plans to enter arrangements into the Junior Building at the Redwood Empire Fair in August. They also recently delivered some arrangements to the ladies at Holy Child Residential Care Home for all to enjoy.

More information: 459-6588.

Below: 4-H Floral Group members pose with the arrangements sent to Holy Child Residential Care Home, including, back row: Jasmine Mendoza and Lilah Garman; and front row: Mariah Ochoa, Megan Nava, Emma Garman, Ella Garman, and Katelyn Germann.



Mellow Sanford

Sanford is a 2-year-old male Siberian Husky who weighs 52 pounds. He is a double threat with his good looks and fantastic personality. Sanford is a kind soul and very mellow. He is also a dream to walk on a leash. The important thing to remember when considering adopting a Husky is good secure fencing. Sanford seems like a dog that will be content chilling around the house, but you wouldn't want to take a chance of losing this great dog.

If you're thinking about adopting a cat, take advantage of our "Pounce into Spring" special happening through May 10, and you can name your own adoption fee for any cats that are ready to go home, or \$50 for any cats who will need to stay at the shelter to be spayed or neutered.

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

Photo by Sage Mountainfire

Willits Weekly CLASSIFIEDS

30 Words | \$10 | 2 Weeks

Algebra, Geometry SAT & ACT Test Prep
Mac Smith 459-MATH

Brooktrails Flea Market Vendors Needed
2015 Market is Saturday, June 6. Booths cost \$20 each. Vendors check in: 6 to 7:30 am. Market open: 8 am to 3 pm. Call to reserve booth space: 456-0734.

Community Hi Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community Hi Song, Thursday, April 23, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E Commercial Street. HI (pronounced huy) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

Computer Help
Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$35/hr. Tutoring \$15/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email macamerger@yahoo.com.

Dance-Song Workshop
Lively Up! A South African Dance-Song workshop with Val Rogers, Little Lake Grange, Willits, Friday, May 15th, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. For more information or to register, go to www.valrogers.org.

Deluxe Mobile Home For Sale by Owner
If you want a home with all maintenance done, see this one. Very Nice! Features: 1. Double-pane windows, 2. Double roof, 3. Forced air heat, 4. Carpet, vinyl, stove, sink, dishwasher and refrigerator — all 10 years old or newer, 5. New toilet, 6. Painted white throughout, 7. Two new chandeliers, 8. Venetian blinds and drapes, 9. Large cupboards, 10. Big closets, linen closet, 11. Size 24 x 50; 1,200 sq. ft. 12. Two bedroom, two bath; 13. Large yard, 14. Wood utility shed, 15. 900 brick patio, 16. Easy maintenance, 17. 1980 Stoneridge trailer. Great price: \$68,000. 707-459-8570 daytimes. Nothing left to do but move in and enjoy!

Knife Sharpening
Keith Knife Sharpening returns to Willits. Every Thursday at the Farmers Market. Sharpening knives, scissors, garden tools. 541-297-5378. Farmers Market at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School St, through April.

SEWING AND ALTERATIONS
Seamstress and Sewing Teacher Barbara Carlson
Visit my webpage: zibergirl.com
707-367-6182, Willits

Volunteers Wanted
Frank Howard Memorial Hospital is looking for positive members of the community to volunteer in various departments of the hospital. Hours: flexible and can include weekends. More info? Call 456-3245.

Volunteers Wanted
The Willits Senior Center has many areas where your expertise and talents are needed. Front Desk, Thrift Store, Dining Room, Sunday Bingo, Sunday Breakfast, Special Dinners, Landscaping, Garden, Firewood. Come join our Team, Call Mariya at 707-459-6826.

Foster Homes Wanted
TLC Child and Family Services, a foster family agency, is looking for additional homes in Willits and Ukiah. These homes would house children who have been removed by Child Protective Services for neglect or mistreatment, for up to 30 days. Most of these children are between the ages of birth and 10 years old. Applicants must have at least one spare bedroom, and one parent must be home full time. Experience with children is required. Guaranteed monthly income, with generous increase upon placement. Parent(s) will receive training, social worker and aide support, and respite. Income is tax exempt, and retirees are welcome. Please contact TLC at 707-463-1100.

For Sale
Large vintage dresser with tri-fold mirror. \$75.00 or best offer. 707-889-0752.

Gift Subscriptions
A subscription to Willits Weekly is a great gift for anybody who wants to keep up with what's happening in Willits. Home delivery (to the greater Willits area; papers arrive early Friday morning) is \$30/6 months and \$50/year. First-class mail delivery (papers arrive in Friday's mail to local addresses) is \$40/6 months and \$75/year. Send a check to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits CA 95490, or call 459-2633.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for additional freelancers. We need an additional writer/photographer (or two) to provide feature stories, business stories, or community items on a freelance basis. Ideally, we'd like a features freelancer who'd be happy to submit at least 4 feature stories/community items a month. Photo skills are a must; experience with journalism is a plus, but not required. Also, if there's an experienced news reporter out there looking to do some news freelancing, we'd like to talk to you about the possibilities. Call 459-2633 for more information, or send resume and/or clips to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Help Wanted
Help Wanted at Brewed Awakening Drive-Thru Coffee. Part-time, afternoons and weekends. Experience preferred, but not necessary. Bring resume to 1437 South Main Street, Willits.



Mother's Day Photo Submission Call!

Mother's Day is just around the corner (Sunday, May 10!!), and Willits Weekly is ready to honor moms in the community with our annual photo collage feature.

This is something we do FOR FREE for the community, and everyone is encouraged to participate!

You can tag "Willits Weekly" on Facebook in your images or text them to Maureen at 972-7047, but emailing digital photos to willitsweekly@gmail.com is best.

However, if you only have a print photo, it can be brought to Ace Copy and Shipping and scanned and sent to us easily.

Make sure to include a caption naming the people in the photograph from left to right. We need to have all images in by end of day Monday, May 4. The photo collage will appear in the Mother's Day edition of Willits Weekly, Thursday, May 7.

Questions? Call 972-7047 or email willitsweekly@gmail.com. We will try and print as many as we can, so get yours in early and get included with this fun way to honor all our mothers!

The rest of Spaghetti

From Page 1

Ashes the K-9 Arson Dog will be onsite, giving demonstrations of her scent-sniffing skills, and the REACH team will also be in attendance, answering questions, signing up new members and talking with the community.

Mike "DJ Mikey T" Tobin will be behind the DJ booth providing music and entertainment for the event.

Tickets are available now from firefighters or at fire station, 24860 Birch Street. Tickets are \$10 for adults (13 and over) and \$5 for kids (12 and under).

More info: 459-4441

WE'RE GIVING AWAY TWO FREE TICKETS TO THE FEED

The first two people to come to the Willits Farmers Market on Thursday, April 23 from 3 to 5:30 pm and tell us the NUMBER OF THE ENGINE that Ashes the K-9 Arson Dog is photographed on will each win one ticket to the May 2 event! The photo showing the answer can be found in this edition of Willits Weekly. Winners must come to the market in person to claim their prize. One ticket per winner; two winners will be chosen.

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Track Meet

Results from last week's meet hosted by Willits High School

Maize Field at Willits High School was full of runners, sprinters, hurdlers, jumpers and throwers during the only home-field track meet last Wednesday, with the stands full of cheering family and friends. Athletes from a half-dozen schools competed Wednesday: from St. Helena, Calistoga, Sonoma Academy, St. Vincent's, and Technology School, as well as Willits.

Several Willits students placed well in their events, including Robert Swoboda, Ankit Patel, Will Smith, Aiden Bertilino-Haley, Gabby Agenbroad, Bianca Guevara, Victoria Silva, Vera Tyrrell and Jessica Tyrrell.

Coach Dave Smith submitted the following report with more complete results:

Five Willits athletes took first place in an event. Sophomore Robert Swoboda won the pole vault at 9'6". Ankit Patel won the 400 for the second week in a row, with a time of 1:01. Will Smith was a double winner in the shot and discus. Will is currently leading the conference and the Redwood Empire with the best throw so far this season in the discus, at 141 feet. Freshman Aiden Bertilino-Haley took first place in the JV long jump, with a leap of 14' 5". And our top scorer on the girls side was Junior Gabby Agenbroad who, like Will, won both the throwing events. Her winning shot put was 30'6", while her discus throw of 85' 3" beat the field of 14 girl throwers.

Some other good performances were Bianca Guevara and Victoria Silva, both girl sprinters. Each girl placed in three events. Vera Tyrrell ran a very good 300 hurdles race, finishing with a time of 57.3 seconds, well below the qualifying mark of 65.3 seconds. She finished in third place, with less than 1 second separating the top three runners. Her twin sister Jessica took third in the triple jump and fifth in the long jump.

There were no team scores. The pennant will be determined at the league championships in St. Helena, with the winner of that one meet earning the league title. Each athlete must make a qualifying standard to compete at the league championships.

— **Dave Smith and Maureen Moore**

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NEW THIS MONTH! BEGINNING MONDAY, APRIL 20TH

Ballet Barre returns! Beginning Monday, April 20th, Suzanne Wagner returns to teach 2 different Barre classes: Barre for beginners and seniors Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am and NEW CLASSES: more advanced Barre class on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 am. Find muscles you never knew you had!

NEW CLASSES: Beginning April 21st, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 am join Kerri Griggs for Insanity, the revolutionary, cardio-based total-body conditioning program, based on the principles of MAX interval training. Work at your own level. Modifications offered. Burn up to 1000 calories in less than an hour!

See our webpage for our full schedule: www.studiojoywillits.com

STUDENT SPECIALS FOR APRIL:

- New Student and Welcome Back! special: 5 Class Card for \$35!
- We are currently offering Zumba®, Zumba Gold®, R.I.P.E.D.™, Insanity™, and Ballet Barre!

Wellness Program participant with employees of Mendocino County, Howard Hospital and Mariposa Market.

City, County and State fire and police officers get 20% OFF 10- and 20-class cards and monthly passes.

Thank you for your service!

NEW STUDENTS!

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Shanachie Pub celebrates 15 years

The Shanachie Pub in Willits celebrated its 15th anniversary last weekend, with a Friday night party featuring live music and a bountiful spread of good eats catered by the Pub's neighbor, Adam's Restaurant.

Owner Pete Swanton said it's been a great 15 years providing a warm and friendly place downtown for locals and visitors to enjoy a glass of wine or beer, and for local and touring musicians to play.

Jennifer Poole, Editor & Reporter, jennifer@willitsweekly.com The outside yard of the Pub was full of well-wishers and friends Friday night, enjoying the food and drink. The first song by opening band, Charley Crockett, had fans out on the floor dancing, as the warm evening faded into night.

Swanton was especially pleased to celebrate the



15th birthday of his establishment along with the birthday of his great friend and fellow pilot, John Howroyd from Quamichan Lake in British Columbia, Canada.

Howroyd flew down for the party in about six hours, stopping to pick up another pilot friend, Jake Thiessen from Independence, Oregon, along the way.

"The freedom to fly is spectacular," Howroyd said. "There are areas near the big cities which are tightly regulated, but when you're flying, you realize the vastness of this country." Howroyd said he'd always seen the Willits airport on the charts,

but until he met Swanton – at an airport in British Columbia – he hadn't stopped.

"It's important that people in Willits realize what an asset their airport is!" he said. "This is a beautiful location. This is the kind of place people like to see from an airplane." And after visitors experience the friendliness of Willits – "The folks all talk to you!," Howroyd said. "That's a great thing to experience" – they'll be likely to come back for a repeat visit, and spend their tourism dollars.

"Your community has done a smart thing with this airport," he said. "This airport has major potential for Willits."

Both Howroyd and Thiessen emphasized the idea that flying wasn't only for the very wealthy, saying it cost \$81 in gas to fly from Independence down to Willits, a 500 mile journey that Google Maps says would take 8 hours and 46 minutes to complete on the highways.

Howroyd, a retired schoolteacher, said he's spent about \$40,000 over the last 14 years on his hobby. But the custom RV-4 he built himself from a kit, designed by the great aircraft designer and kiplane manufacturer, Richard VanGrunsven, is still worth as much as it was the year he finished it. Thiessen's plane, also built from a VanGrunsven kit, cost \$50,000 to build, and is worth \$60,000 today. "It's really magical that average guys – people without a lot of money – can have the joy and the utility of building something like this, to soar like an eagle," Howroyd said.

Above, left: Pilots Pete Swanton, Jake Thiessen and John Howroyd pose – with Swanton's pup, Link – in front of Howroyd's custom RV-4 kit plane, painted a cheery yellow.

Above, right: Noel Woodhouse and Hollie Walton at Shanachie's 15th anniversary party.

At far left: Howroyd's RV-4 takes off from Ellis Field Saturday morning.

At left: One party-goer makes a selection from the spread catered by Adam's Restaurant.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



The rest of Town Hall | From Page 1

Allen lives full-time in Sacramento, O'Neill said.

There are a number of bills about marijuana in Sacramento this year.

In February, Assemblyman Jim Wood introduced the Marijuana Watershed Protection Act, Assembly Bill 243, which would "address the environmental impacts of medical marijuana cultivation, and would seek to mitigate the impact of the crop on California's water quality and supply."

Wood's bill passed 6-2 last week in the Assembly's Agriculture Committee and is scheduled for more review before the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

North Coast State Senator Mike McGuire's SB 643, the "Medical Marijuana Public Safety and Environmental Protection Act," was approved by the Senate Business and Professions Committee on Monday. That bill would oversee the medical marijuana industry, "including environmental protection and water regulations, law enforcement, licensing, public health-related to edibles and product testing, marketing, taxing, transporting, zoning, local control and re-sale," McGuire's office says.

In addition to farming opportunities, other business and marijuana history could boost the economy or draw people to the area.

On the business side, a laboratory that could test cannabis is something the region lacks.

"We need a lab here desperately," Futch said. "People from Humboldt [County] have to send cannabis to Santa Rosa to get it tested."

Futch said she feels a cannabis display at the Mendocino County Museum would be a draw for post-bypass Willits.

Futch and others were to meet with Mendocino County Museum Director Alison Glassey to talk about the project.

Futch and O'Neill both talked about what it feels like to grow marijuana in Mendocino County.

"It is not fun to feel like a criminal," Futch said. "It is not fun to feel like that helicopter might be landing; it is not fun to worry if you will be busted for providing medicine for trying to earn a living; it is not fun. It is almost over – but it is not over yet."

Madrigal, like others, is not sure how legalization of marijuana would affect Willits or the county.

"I do not see this as a panacea for Mendocino County," said Madrigal. "I do not see this as a cash cow going forward."

As of late, TV news network CNN has aired coverage of Colorado's legal marijuana industry, as well as other pot stories of interest.

The network's coverage ramped up further for April 20, or 420, a day known for people publicly smoking marijuana. A park in the City of Arcata, for example, attracts throngs, and the San Francisco Chronicle reported Monday's 420 party in Golden Gate Park may have attracted more than 15,000 people.

Growers in the Rocky Mountain state grow their marijuana crops indoors. Will California do the same?

"I am really against us taking on a model like that – talk about environmental degradation," Madrigal said.

Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse noted his district is "ground zero" for marijuana, which he compared to the housing bubble.

"We are still in a pot bubble, and we have been our whole lives here in Willits," he said.

Meeting organizers indicated they hope to have more Town Hall meetings that may look at the water use and medical aspects of the crop.

The 95490 Town Hall group hosted Sunday's meeting. The group has previously hosted town hall meetings on topics like community involvement and economic revitalization.

The rest of Fire | From Page 1

to constitute a fire hazard, the Little Lake Fire Department will provide a Notice of Violation in order to inform property owners/managers about the necessity to remove the weeds and combustible fuels from their properties.

The notice is a courtesy reminder sent by the fire department to owners of parcels within the City of Willits reminding them that they are responsible for weed abatement on their properties by June 15, 2015.

Starting on May 4, 2015, the Willits Fire Department will actively begin conducting inspections on all affected properties within the City of Willits. Properties not in compliance with the City Municipal Code and the California Fire Code will be issued an official Notice of Violation for compliance. If by June 30, 2015, the lot or property is still not in compliance, property owners will receive a citation and a hired contractor will abate the problem and the property owner will be billed for abatement costs.

Should a citizen receive a courtesy notice from the Little Lake Fire Protection District, they are encouraged to act on it promptly.

If the public has a concern about fire-prone grass and brush near their home, or for a list of abatement contractors, they should contact the Little Lake Fire Protection District at 459-6271. Someone will investigate whether the brush or grass removal is necessary or possible. The Little Lake Fire Protection District appreciates the community's assistance in building defensible spaces between their homes and any wildland areas.

It is important that firefighters be able to locate your address during an emergency. Please make sure your address for your home or business is clearly marked and visible for emergency responders, day or night in dusty or smoky conditions. Please make sure that street signs are clearly available and easily seen. Firefighters from outside of the County of Mendocino could be assisting during large fire events, and may not be familiar with the area.

If you live in a State Responsibility Area (SRA), you are responsible for ensuring that your property is in compliance with California's building and fire codes that call for homeowners to take proactive steps to protect their property from a wildfire.

California law requires that homeowners in SRAs clear out flammable materials such as brush or vegetation around their buildings to 100 feet (or to the property line) to create a defensible space buffer. This helps halt the progress of an approaching wildfire and keeps firefighters safe while they defend your home.

The rest of Arrested | From Page 1

every window."

Four engines, three from the main fire station in Laytonville and one from the Branscomb substation, and 15 firefighters battled flames for about two hours before the fire was extinguished. Firefighters remained at the scene until after noon mopping up.

During the process, Little said, firefighters discovered a "number of butane cylinders" beneath melted plastic garbage bags outside the house and notified the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

In addition to the butane canisters, Capt. Greg Van Patten said deputies

a fire hazard. In the event that overgrown weeds are found

The first 35 feet around your structure is the most important zone: Create horizontal and vertical fuel breaks to give your home a chance for survival.

What works in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) will also work for property owners and managers within the Local Responsibility Area (LRA). Be proactive in your preparations against fire. Remove combustibles from around all standing structures. Give your structure a chance against fire.

Don't be dependent on open burning to get rid of combustible vegetative materials. Mulch vegetation or recycle it at Solid Waste of Willits. Unless there is a major turnaround in our weather outlook, open burning will probably end early statewide.

As a reminder, all large pile burn permits expire on April 30, 2015. All small burn pile (dooryard) permits will expire on May 30, 2015. It is always possible the burn season may end even earlier with the current weather conditions.

Several controlled burn escapes have already occurred this month in our county. Plan your burning carefully, and consider your current situation. Ensure that a responsible person is in attendance until the fire is dead out and cold. If a fire escapes your property, you could face civil and legal charges, including the cost of fire suppression.

Surface water is gradually disappearing throughout the county. Without ponds, streams, and lakes, helicopter operations using the bucket for fire suppression are greatly hampered. Without these water sources, rural firefighting can be hindered as engines seek available water sources, or must shuttle water from remote reservoirs.

Because of the changing fuel conditions, the low fuel moisture recovery, the lowering relative humidity, above-average temperatures, and the continuing effects of the statewide drought, firefighters will be threatened by increased fire behavior, active fire spread, and the increased potential for major fire configurations. This increased potential for fire behavior and fire spread will also require the use of more resources, firefighters, equipment and water. All fuels and fuel types present in our county will burn and will burn at rates normally seen in late August or early September.

All property owners, managers, and citizens are asked to be cautious in their daily activities. Even the action of trying to create a buffer could create the spark or heat source necessary to start a fire. Use caution with smoking materials, and please use common sense with any fire or open flame. Even something as harmless as a small warning fire has a great potential to cause damage to our neighborhoods and destruction of our forest lands.

found other "evidence [suggesting] honey oil was being manufactured at the residence with the use of butane fuel," and turned the case over to the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force.

Although Child Protective Services was called, it was decided the two young girls would be left in the care of their mother, who was not arrested, and who, police say, apparently knew nothing about her husband's alleged honey oil production.

Vionnet was arrested that Tuesday evening, and remains in county jail in lieu of \$80,000 bail on suspicion

of manufacturing concentrated cannabis and several misdemeanor arrest warrants.

Honey oil production is widespread in Mendocino County, according to Sgt. Darren Brewster, who took command of the county's Major Crimes Task Force in January. With highly concentrated levels of THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, honey oil costs between \$50 and \$70 per gram, or \$22,000 per pound.

"It's a major commodity," Brewster told the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, "five times more expensive than methamphetamine."

The rest of Supes | From Page 1

land have been converted into stands of dead trees, and these swaths of standing, poisoned firewood constitute a heightened fire danger.

An information sheet provided to this reporter at a rally held during the lunch hour at the County Administrative Center claimed MRC has used the hack-and-squirt method on 85,000 acres over the past 15 years, using about 60,000 pounds of herbicides in the process.

According to a letter written by MRC lead forester Mike Jani, "Herbicide use has been an important and necessary tool in the replanting and restoration of the natural balance (between tan oak trees and marketable softwood trees like redwood and Douglas fir) on more than 60,000 acres of MRC forestlands, and the establishment of nearly 6 million redwood and Douglas fir trees that otherwise would not be on the land."

During the April 21 meeting, more than 200 people gathered in the supervisors chambers to ask the board to do something to get MRC to stop using the hack-and-squirt method. So many people were present that a portion of the audience was removed to a conference room, where they listened to the proceedings on the office complex's intercom system.

Of the 25 people this reporter heard speak over a two-hour period – not all the speakers – one speaker favored using the hack-and-squirt method: MRC's forester Jani. Many of the speakers called on supervisors to strengthen Hamburg's resolution and make it an ordinance.

A scheduling decision by board Chairwoman Carre Brown helped create an antagonistic atmosphere in the board chambers. Despite public interest in the issue, the forest herbicide debate was not a timed agenda item; another item, a discussion of Mendocino County fire danger this summer, was scheduled for 1:30 pm.

As a result, the 200 people who attended the meeting to talk about herbicide use in the forest were forced to listen to two hours of reports from nearly 20 fire chiefs from the various county fire districts.

Brown then called a recess before beginning the herbicide discussion.

Many of those who spoke on the issue were mature veterans of the county's environmental movement. And after listening to two hours of routine statements from local fire chiefs on an item of secondary interest, not everyone in the audience was in a conciliatory mood.

New Settler Interview publisher Beth Bosk became confrontational during her allotted three minutes, insisting on reading two letters from people unable to attend the meeting. After about five minutes at the microphone, Bosk began her own remarks, but was repeatedly asked by Chairwoman Brown to sit down. She refused to do so, challenging Brown to have her arrested and dragged out of the room. After Hamburg repeatedly told Bosk to sit down, she finally did so.

At about 6 pm, the public ended its comments and the issue was returned to the board for a vote. Hamburg and Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde said they would support Hamburg's resolution. Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse said he would oppose it.

"We have a serious fire hazard all over the county, not just on MRC property," Woodhouse said. "The use of these herbicides is not a long-term solution or an acceptable practice. I think we can all agree on that. And while this motion is a good talking point, it is not in a form I can support."

"I agree with where we want to go; how we get there is the problem," Woodhouse said.

Second District Supervisor John McCowen agreed with Woodhouse. According to Woodhouse, who spoke to this reporter later by telephone, after McCowen announced his opposition to Hamburg's motion, the audience became upset.

"There were groans and yells, people began yelling 'traitor!' and stuff like that," Woodhouse said. "Then Carre Brown told the audience their behavior had convinced her that she could not vote yes."

Brown voted no, and Hamburg's resolution to temporarily and voluntarily halt the use of herbicides on private timberlands was defeated.

During the post-meeting phone conversation, Woodhouse was asked, if he did not like the form of Hamburg's approach to a solution, what would be a form he could support?

Woodhouse said he favored a forum of community dialog. "I am looking at a kind of forum or committee that would include community members, people from the timber companies and people from government, to get together and find a new policy."

"I am going to keep working on this issue," Woodhouse said.

The rest of CTE | From Page 1

boundaries of the Willits Unified School District in effect paid \$1.3 million to expand and modernize the high school's CTE facilities, especially the wood shop and the metal shop, when local voters approved Measure B in 2010.

Despite the sizable expenditure of money, the high school's use of the facilities has been moderate, with only three classes offered each school day. Since the high school offers six periods a day, it could offer as many as 12 periods of CTE: six of wood shop and six of metal shop. That means the classrooms are only being used at about 25 percent of their potential.

On Friday, April 17, administration and faculty members from both the high school and the college met to take a look at the facilities, including the wood and metal shops and the high school farm. Afterwards, much of the group returned to the college to discuss the nuts and bolts of what could be done.

According to Polak, the biggest problem they encountered was that many of the college's technical classes feature lab periods of up to four hours, too long to easily fit into the hour-long class schedule at the high school.

"One of our teachers said a major problem was that the periods are so short," Polak said. "In a class like sustainable building trades or green building techniques, if you are working within an hour-long class, you barely have time to get your tools out and it's time to put them back."

The school district suggested using the "A" period, from 7 to 8 am. That done, it would be easy to extend a morning class to the end of the first period, which would mean the class would last close to two hours.

Polak noted the college's auto shop instructor toured the facilities and found the metal shop classroom too small to offer much in the way of auto shop. "He wants to do it. He wants to make it work," Polak said. "We are looking at what we can do."

When asked if there was a contradiction between efforts being headed up by Woodhouse and those being cultivated by the district and the college, Polak said she was not aware of a problem. She did say the college is now the preferred agent for offering technical classes.

"Recently the state put a great deal of money into a program to beef up career tech classes," Polak said. "At the same time, it said county offices of education should no longer be in charge of funding those classes. The state Legislature turned that over to the colleges, especially the community colleges. So now the offices of education are working through us."



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'The Amazing Manzanita and the Beautiful Buckeye'

A talk by author and naturalist Kate Marianchild

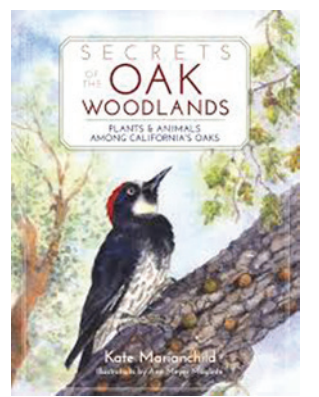
On Sunday, April 26, from 2 to 4 pm, the Mendocino County Museum will welcome author and naturalist Kate Marianchild, who will give a free illustrated lecture on two of our most fascinating native plants: California buckeye and common manzanita.

Basing her talk on John Muir's famous saying, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe," Marianchild will discuss manzanita's intricate role in the oak woodland web of life, describing its relationships with silk moths, ants, pileated woodpeckers, bush-tits, woodrats, bears, and other species. She'll also describe this plant's pollination strategy, its multiple adaptations to drought, and the evolutionary rationale behind its thin, red, peeling bark.

Marianchild will go on to discuss California buckeye, whose over-the-top chemical defenses have very different effects on native insects and the non-native European honeybee. She'll also talk about buckeye's unusual adaptations to drought, the mystery surrounding its seed dispersal, and its relationships with echo blue butterflies, squirrels, and other species, including humans.

Marianchild is the author of "Secrets of the Oak Woodlands: Plants and Animals among California's Oaks" (Heyday: July, 2014). Told with the engaging style of a storyteller and illustrated with 36 lovely watercolors by Ann Meyer Maglente of Willits, this scientifically up-to-date book profiles 22 oak woodland plants and animals, including the eccentric acorn woodpecker, the dusky-footed woodrat, and the California newt.

Appealing to both investigative scientists and casual nature lovers, "Secrets of the Oak Woodlands" is Heyday's top-selling 2014 release; it is already entering its third printing. Marianchild will be available to sign copies of her book, which can be purchased at the lecture for \$19.50 (cash or check only). Light refreshments will be served. More info: contact the Mendocino County Museum at 459-2736 or visit www.MendocinoMuseum.org.



'Willits On Stage 3'

Annual variety show features friends and neighbors

"Willits On Stage 3," the third annual "marvelous variety show" to benefit Willits Community Services and Food Bank, is set for Saturday, May 2, at 7 pm, at the Willits High School Auditorium.

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
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"It's going to be featuring our amazing local talent, as usual," said producer Kevin Copperfield. "The show looks very tight!"

There were three auditions scheduled for the show, which attracted some new talent: "We'll have four or five new acts," Copperfield said. "The first two shows were very well-received, and we're looking forward to a nice crowd for our third benefit."

Many years ago, Copperfield said, there were annual talent shows held in Willits. "At one of the WCS board meetings, we were brainstorming for fundraisers, and I suggested a variety show. Why not? It's good for us as a fundraiser, and it's good for the community to have an outlet. Maybe you're not a serious actor or actress, you're not on the stage, but you've got a little something you know how to do. It's not a talent show: there's no judging. We encourage everybody to come out and see their friends and neighbors on stage and, some day – maybe next year – it could be you!"

Copperfield will emcee the show, which will open with The Energizers, a local Zumba group. The lineup continues with: The Cloud 9 Dancers doing two performances (age 7 to 9 doing hip hop and age 10 to 14 doing contemporary dance); Terry Mallon doing a juggling act; singer/songwriter Cameron MacDonald doing original songs on guitar;

Chanterelle, featuring vocal trio Madge Strong, Diane Smalley and Helen Falandes; The Just For Fun Choir, led by Nancy New; jazz trio Tones of Madrones; singer/guitarist Falco; juggler Chad Eventide; a song and dance routine by Linda Posner and Cheryl Lockwood, 9, accompanied by Loren and Simba; singer Erin Fisher, doing an opera aria and another number; Just Enough, featuring Kate Black, Helen Falandes and Clancy Rash; Aurelie Clivaz and her capoeira group; and – closing the show – Malakai Schindel doing instrumentals from his new CD, "Aradan."

Hal Wagenet is doing the sound, Kevin Moore is doing the lights, and Ruthanne Volz is the stage manager. There's still a couple spots for volunteers to help out the night of the show: those interested should call Copperfield at 456-9429.

Doors open at 6:15 pm, and the Willits High School Peace Club will be offering concessions before the show, which starts at 7 pm, and during intermission.

Sponsors for the benefit this year include: 101 Trailer & RV, Adam's Restaurant, Emandal-A Farm On a River, Friends of the Eel River Watershed, J.D. Redhouse, Laytonville Disposal Company, Main St. Music & Video, Mariposa Market, Ponderosa & Sun Realty, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Scott's Tanks, Sparetime Supply, State Farm Insurance, Willits Furniture Center, Willits Redwood Company and Willits Weekly.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, and \$15 at the door; free for children under 5. Tickets are available at Goods Shoppe, Main St. Music, Mazahar and 101 Donut Shop, and in Ukiah at Mendocino Book Company. For more information, call 456-9429 or 459-3333.

Earth Day at Mariposa Market

Community members came to celebrate Earth Day at Mariposa Market on Wednesday, April 22 and enjoyed samples, raffles, music, sales, and more.



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DEADLINE: May 4, 2015

Contact: Rachel Belvin
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Career Fair

Mendocino College North County Center to hold event Friday

From 9 am to noon on Friday, April 24, local employers will gather at the Mendocino North County Center for the 1st Annual Career Fair, hosted by the North County Friends of Mendocino College. Employers will discuss employment opportunities – and what specific skills and training are needed for their companies and industries – with Career Fair attendees.

Some employers expected to attend include CalFire, Howard Hospital, the Mendocino Private Industry Council and the County of Mendocino, and there will also be individuals representing opportunities in general areas like child development, auto repair, culinary careers, the insurance industry, and more.

The Career Fair is open to anyone wishing to attend, and is free of charge. The North County Center is located at 372 East Commercial Street in Willits. Mendocino College students along with Willits High School and Willits Charter School students are all encouraged to come. College counselors will be onsite to help guide interested persons down a guided curriculum course that will help fulfill the requirements needed by the employers.

The event is co-sponsored by Solid Waste of Willits. More info: 459-6224.