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Donations Accepted Edition No. 160

Dan McKee
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits Police Department officers arrested the 51-year-old musician December 2, 2015 at his East Hill Road home, following an extensive investigation by the WPD and Mendocino County District Attorney's Office into allegations that Moynahan had repeatedly sexually abused the girl over a period of years, starting when the victim was about 5.

Read the rest of
Movnah

Dan McKee
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Selection of a jury to try Terrell James Marshall for the November 1, 2014 murder of 27-year-old Kayla Grace Chesser had been scheduled to commence Monday.

Read the rest of
Marshall
Over on Page 13

Damian Sebouhian
Reporter
damian@willitsweekly.com

Five Mendocino cities were involved in the festival, including Willits, participating for the fourth year. MFF movies playing at the Noyo Theatre included

Read the rest of
Film Fe



Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The MCBA is alleging the county violated state law when it adopted the urgency ordinance without undertaking a California Environmental Quality Act review of the measure.

Read the rest of
Ordinance |
Over on Page 13

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Election results put up at 2 am the morning after Election Day totaled 11,320 ballots countywide, including all the regular ballots cast at the polls on Tuesday and mail-in ballots received before Election Day.

Read the rest of
Ballots |
Over on Page 13

Forrest Glycer
Reporter
forrest@willitsweekly.com

LLFD director Tony Madrigal said he felt confident the event will go well this year. "It should be a little different than previous years, and I think

Read the rest of
Firefighters



At top, from left: Colorful carrots and beets. **The Farmers Market Band, including from left:** Jacqueline Morninglight, Richard Jeske, Loren Herz-O'Brien, Yanahay Hooper, Tom Walz and Don Willis. **A new Bolliver's Fine Foods and Confections find:** Orange and coriander bread, filled with buttery lemon curd, and topped with fresh blueberries and cheesecake. **Above:** The outdoor market gets busy early; come right at 3 pm for the best selection of produce! **At left:** Grady Fonsen enjoys a giant Bolliver's chocolate chip cookie. **Below, left:** A wonderful selection of Farmers Market goodies including that week's hot-off-the-press Willis's Weekly, farm-raised eggs, a lime pie, and a brown bag full of veggies.



At top, from left: Amanda Senseman shows off her lettuce at the Brookside School Farm booth. Market manager Michael Foley holds up two bags of just-purchased John Ford beef. Above, from left: Leslie Williams of Good Earth Kitchen. Lettuce and carrots available for sale. Green Uprising Farm interns Sierra and Maria mist and toss salad mixes. Below, from left: Erick David Diaz Claro and Saurine Carolina Molina Martinez inside their Pilon Kitchen food cart. Tim Gregory peers up from one of the Willits Chess Club tables.



What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Firefighters Fundraiser on June 25

To the Editor:

Please join us for the 90th Annual Firefighters Association Fundraiser and Open House 2016, set for Saturday, June 25 from 10 am to 2 pm. We have decided to hold our Open House and BBQ at the Rec Grove Park this year. Bring your family! There will be rides and activities for kids (and those who wish they were!).

Please support the Little Lake Firefighters Association by purchasing raffle tickets, available at the firehouse, 74 East Commercial Street, if you didn't get your tickets in the mail. Firefighters will also be selling raffle tickets at the Hometown Celebration, Thursday, June 23 in downtown Willits.

Little Lake Firefighters Association is a nonprofit organization made up of 40 volunteers who respond to the community's fires, rescues and other emergencies, 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. Money raised from this fundraiser is used to purchase equipment, to provide the most current training and education to volunteer firefighters, and to fund activities of the association.

With your donation of \$10 per ticket, you have a chance to win the following prizes. The winning tickets will be drawn at the end of the event, and you do not need to be present to win.

- A redwood picnic table donated by Willits Redwood Company
- Two \$500 gift certificates donated by Sparetime Supply
- DeWalt drill with drill bit accessories donated by Willits Power Equipment
- CZ Ringneck .410 break action shotgun
- \$250 gift pack for a World Champion San Francisco Giants game
- Two oil changes donated by Auto Mart Auto Repair (\$100 value)

Also, there will be fire apparatus on display, rescue and fire demonstrations, and fire extinguisher training for local businesses. Food will be available for purchase, and LLFD Fire Department T-shirts will be available for sale. Great door prizes will be given away during the event! (you must be present at the event to win the door prizes). Other organizations and businesses will have tables at the event, including VeriHealth Ambulance, MedStar, insurance services, PG&E, Mendocino Fire Safe Council, ServPro, and more.

Thank you for your support of the Little Lake Firefighters Association.

Kevin Reedy, president, Little Lake Firefighters Association

Vigil for Orlando shooting

To the Editor:

Our Willits 95490 community is such a great community! When I felt overwhelmed with sadness this past Sunday over the mass shooting of 49 people in Orlando, I talked with a couple of friends at the Methodist Church, and we decided to have a community vigil to recognize those lost, and to honor our own grief and sadness about the continuing murders in our country and in other countries.

The Methodist Church is sponsoring a vigil at Recreation Grove on Sunday, June 19 at 7 pm. If you have them, please bring a candle, a blanket or chair, a poem or a song in remembrance of all those lost in the mass shootings of recent years.

All are welcome. Thank you for telling your friends.

Jane McCabe, 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 writer's name will be considered.

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Lack of respect

To the Editor:

I had the pleasure of attending my granddaughter's eighth-grade graduation on June 7, 2016 at the Willits High School football field. I was extremely disappointed at our Willits community for the lack of respect shown to the graduates.

There were several speeches given by graduates with a following of Spanish for the non-English speaking community. The degree of rudeness was incredible. Many people talking, laughing and generally enjoying themselves at the expense of the graduates. These young people were sharing their experiences and goals, and our community chose to ignore and talk over them the entire time.

When the graduates were interpreting for the Spanish community, the noise level increased 100 percent. Those families with small children are not the focus of this comment, as it is understood that children may cry or make noise, but adults know better. Please, Willits community, show respect at these events, as these children are our leaders of tomorrow, and we don't want them to feel that their thoughts and ideas are in vain.

Sheila Gray, Willits

Thanks to Pete Swanton

To the Editor:

I would like to thank Pete Swanton of Shanachie Pub for filling pot holes on West Van Lane and Muir Lane. The holes were so deep they had the potential to cause damage to unsuspecting vehicles. The pot holes were there for more than a year. I have a garage on West Van Lane, so had to dodge the holes every day.

If the U.S. would stop spending billions, if not trillions, of our tax dollars on senseless illegal wars around the world, there would be plenty of money to repair the infrastructure, such as roads and bridges. Some of that money would trickle down to small towns like Willits for needed repairs to our infrastructure like repairs to streets and alleys.

Thanks again, Pete, for filling pot holes and all that you do for Willits to make it a go-to place.

Bob Wilkinson, Willits

Partial museum reopening

To the Editor:

The Mendocino County Museum and the Mendocino County Executive Office are pleased to announce that the museum in Willits reopened to the public on Saturday, June 11. The museum lobby, store, Main Gallery and Engine House will be accessible to the public during the museum's normal business hours.

Extensive testing was conducted throughout the museum and determined which areas are completely safe to the public. The areas mentioned above have been cleared by certified environmental scientists for normal use. Some areas of the museum will remain off limits until additional remediation work and testing can occur. The Executive Office will continue to provide updates with any changes to public access.

For any questions regarding the status of a scheduled event or activity, please do not hesitate to contact Alison Glassey, museum director, at 459-2736.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact Alan Flora, assistant chief executive officer, at 463-4441.

Carmel J. Angelo, CEO, Mendocino County

'Protect Every Drop'

To the Editor:

Caltrans released new survey data on Wednesday, June 15, that shows nearly half of all motorists surveyed admit to sometimes littering along the state's highways. Nearly

one in five California motorists report intentionally dumping something on the side of the highway. Survey respondents confirmed they improperly disposed of items ranging from old furniture and appliances to green waste from their yard such as lawn clippings, branches or leaves. In addition, another 6 percent of motorists admitted that they fail to pick up waste left by pets on the side of the highway.

"These findings are staggering, because this is not accidental public behavior, but rather a conscious decision to improperly discard or leave behind debris along California freeways," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "These items create roadway hazards while also directly affecting the cleanliness of our highways and the waterways. When it rains, stormwater flushes highway debris and pollutants into the storm drain system flowing to open bodies of water."

The quantitative survey was conducted to measure California highway drivers' awareness, attitudes and behaviors when it comes to maintaining clean highways for the purposes of clean waterways. The survey was conducted in February 2016 by ConsumerQuest Research. Responses were collected from more than 300 California drivers across the state age 18 years of age and older who had driven on California freeways or highways in the last 30 days.

Below are several additional survey findings:

- Making the Connection: Overwhelmingly, 84 percent of Californians believe there is a connection between highway pollution and the quality of water. Virtually all of these motorists say that knowing this encourages them to maintain their vehicle properly and not litter or cause pollution on highways.
- Taking Action: The primary action taken as a result of understanding the connection between roadway pollution and water quality is to avoid littering (30 percent), followed distantly by making sure there are no leaking fluids (14 percent).
- Tire Maintenance: Only half of California motorists regularly check to make certain their tires are properly inflated. Perhaps more concerning is that nearly one in five California motorists report that they "go by how my vehicle feels," are sometimes "not totally certain" (how full their tires are), or "don't really worry about this."
- Leaky Car Fluids: Four in 10 motorists discovered a fluid leak from their vehicle in the past several years. While most repaired it immediately, a significant portion did not. Of those who discovered leaking fluids, 20 percent report waiting at least a few days to take action or topping off and not worrying about it.

Caltrans recently launched a new stormwater public education and outreach campaign called "Protect Every Drop" to educate Californians about the sources and pathways of stormwater pollution, including the items found to be improperly discarded during the survey. The campaign encourages motorists to reduce the pollutants that affect water quality in California's streams, rivers, lakes and coastal waters, in order to keep them drinkable, swimmable and fishable. The campaign addresses several actions the public can take, including:

- Performing routine vehicle and tire maintenance, which reduces pollution from vehicles on the roadway.
- Properly disposing of trash and recycling.
- Securing and covering truckloads that may fall off or blow out during travel.

Caltrans owns and operates storm drain systems along more than 50,000 lane miles of the state highway system, which discharge into every major watershed of the state. Stormwater picks up pollution washed off vehicles and roadways when it rains, which makes its way through ditches and pipes that make up storm drain systems.

For more information about the "Protect Every Drop" educational campaign – and for tips and information about reducing stormwater pollution – visit www.protecteverydrop.com

California Department of Transportation, Sacramento

Tag us! We love seeing our community connect with

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Find us on social media: Instagram & Facebook



Sober Grad 2016

Sober Grad night was a success again this year, with about 70 percent of area graduates participating in the graduation-night luau-themed celebration at the Willits Community Center last Wednesday night. Grads came from all the Willits Unified School District schools were invited, including Willits High School, Willits Charter School, San Hedrin, New Horizons and La Vida. Ninety-nine out of 143 graduates attended, along with 66 guests.

During the party, there was a huge amount of free food, including pizza and lots of other food items, donated by parents and friends of the grads. There was also a "no-alcohol" beverage bar where the grads enjoyed "designer" drinks.

There was also a Velcro Wall, ping pong, hand-piped henna tattoos, and a tattoo machine feature which, coupled with music from DJ Ken Steely, kept everyone busy and awake until 4 am when, finally, the party came to an end. Each grad who stayed until the party ended was given a check for \$50. Some received an additional \$20, if the grad helped during the school year.

Four grand-prize winners were selected; each took home a check for \$1,000. Winners were Kristine Gonzalez, Lacey Ayers, Tristan Adams and Marco Escobedo.

Another \$1,800 in cash prizes of \$100 each were awarded to lucky grads Juan Vasquez, Kacee Tyler, Rex Smith, Helen Caceres, Anthony Sorace, Courtney

Humphries, Shiva Patel, Brianna Turner, Nick Rescina, Shana Gayski, Dylan Tyler, Kristyna Hewitt, Tristen Cockrall, Beatriz Gandarilla, Austin Heller, Kelly Carrillo, Justin Thom and Annalise Mendoza.

There were also 165 general prizes distributed to the grads throughout the evening. General prizes consisted of "beach" themed items such as coolers with beach towels, plaques with beach towels, bathroom towel sets, crock pots with cookbooks, rice cookers, mini prep food processors, popcorn poppers, cookie sheets and cooling racks, cutting boards and cutting mats, Marley ear buds with USB cards, flatware sets, twin, full and queen size sheet sets, backpacks, rolling duffel bags, crocks with kitchen items, iTunes gift cards, Google Play gift cards, gas table-top grill with tools, panini makers, cookware sets, Ninja Master Prep blenders, Mr. Coffee makers, Coleman lanterns, hand mixers, toasters, toaster ovens, eight-piece mixing bowls, hand blenders, pails with auto accessories, a hammock, sarongs, and bamboo wind chime.

General prizes were followed by 28 higher value prizes including tents and sleeping bags, microwaves, kitchen tub sets with miscellaneous kitchen items, including dinnerware and cookware sets, \$50 iTunes gift cards, Google Play gift cards, Blu-ray Streaming Players, Roku 3 Streaming

Read the rest of **Sober Grad** | Over on Page 10



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Eric Garcia with sons Hunter & Logan.



Daniel and Rob. "Love you Dad!"



David and Mason Mills.



Earl Dean and Jessie Marlene 2016.



Emily Leishman and Dad.



Surrounded by girls, and embraced with love. Happy Father's Day! Love, River, Alaska, and Shawna.



You have been a great father, from the start, Mark Owens.



Jayden Osajo and Francisco Campos – the best father of them all.



Nick and Jeff. "Love you, Dad!"



Tom Campbell, Jr. & Talisha Melluish.



Emma Andregg and Clint Andregg. First Father's Day.



Happy Father's Day, Casey! You're a great dad; we love you.



Vanessa Andregg, Griselda Villegas, Gerardo Villegas, Emma Andregg, Isabel Gonzalez, Maria Villegas, Melissa Villegas, Analice Villegas and Mireya Gonzalez.



Victor Duran and son Oscar spend their first Father's Day together!



Above: Animal lovers check out available pets at the Humane Society mobile adoption event at Coldwell Banker on Saturday. Below, from left: Luther the kitty is still waiting for a home. Miracle, one of the shelter's senior dogs, needs a loving home. Myron, a 2-year-old white Great Pyrenees, is waiting, too.



Photos by Mathew Caine



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Three dogs find new homes at Humane Society's Willits event

The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County brought dogs and cats for adoption to Willits Saturday, as Realtor Bill Barksdale hosted another mobile adoption event at the Coldwell Banker Mendo Realty office.

Three dogs were adopted then and there on Saturday, and the outreach event has prompted more adoptions at the shelter, too.

Humane Society Dog Kennel Supervisor Adri Vega said one couple who were interested in Myron, a beautiful white Great Pyrenees, came to the shelter this week. Although they decided Myron wouldn't be a good fit with their family, they ended up adopting two 6-year-old cats – one quite shy – that had been raised together, but had to be surrendered to the shelter.

Myron, who is about 2 years old, is still available at the Redwood Valley shelter. "He's good with dogs and he loves

children," Vega said, but he doesn't do well with livestock or cats.

Vega said another man who'd seen a small chihuahua he'd admired at the mobile adoption called on Monday and is hoping to come to the shelter soon to adopt her.

"I consider it a very successful event," Barksdale said. In addition to the adoptions, during the event, he said: "Somebody brought in three rescue dogs that had been abused, and the shelter took them in. We may have saved three little lives."

Barksdale and the Humane Society will work on scheduling another couple of mobile adoptions at Coldwell Banker this summer, but no dates have been set yet. "I like to do them here because we have good exposure, and I've been an animal lover all my life. There'll be a lot of opportunities this summer for people to help find homes for these wonderful little ones," he said.

Barksdale described the dedicated Humane Society volunteers as "among

pho•tog•ra•phress

[fuh-toh-ruh-friss]

fabulous photography & more

happy father's day

to all the wonderful dads out there!

707-972-7047 | maureengetsmail@gmail.com



Happy Father's Day, Daddy.



Hunter, Eric & Logan Garcia.



Aybrie, Kaleb and Jake Whitehurst.



Happy Father's Day to our mom, Cheryl.



Happy Father's Day, Grandpa.



Happy Father's Day to the best dad. Love, Chris and Ryan.



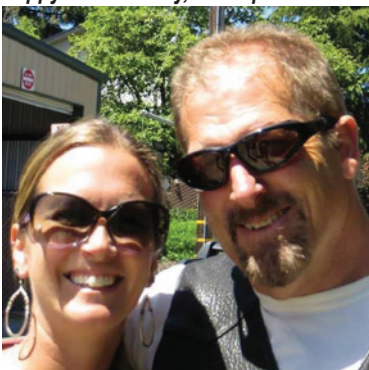
Happy Father's Day to the most awesome dad!!



Happy Father's Day, Ricco, Connor, Coltin and Callen.



Happy Father's Day to all the Gutierrez brothers.



Happy Father's Day!! I <3 you to the moon and back!!



Emma Jones wishes her Daddy, Jake Jones, a Happy 2nd Father's Day!



Happy Father's Day! Arcelia, Martin and Stephanie Duran.



Happy Father's Day to my favorite fishing partner!!



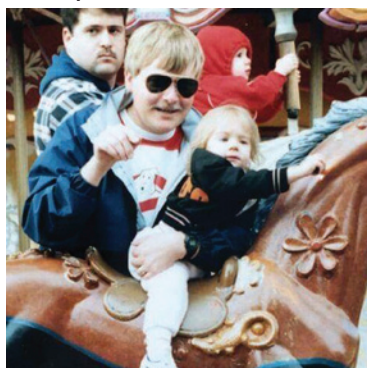
Happy Father's Day to our dad! Thank u for being the best! You rock! Love Luke and Nora.



Happy Father's Day to the best dad, pop, grandpa, papa in the car nut world. We love you.



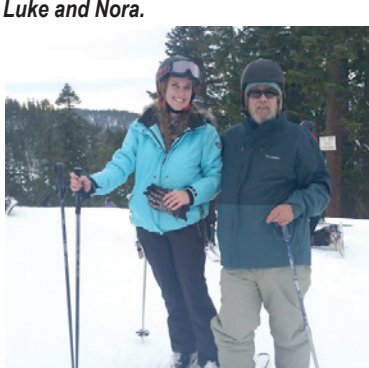
Happy Dad's Day, Dad! I love you!



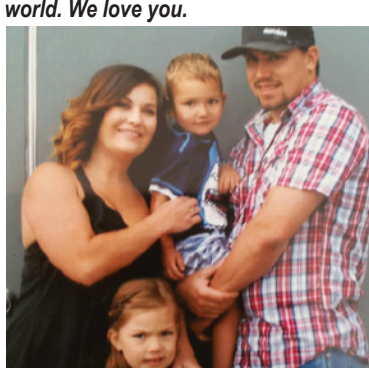
Rich Venturi and Brie Jones, 1989.



Mathew and Waylon Miner.



Courtney, Colter, Lilly and Sammy Glass. "Sammy is such a hard-working dad and husband, his daughter Lilly says he's the best daddy because he likes to ride dirt bikes, helps me be good at tball, and turns on Netflix for me."



Thank you to everyone who submitted a Happy Father's Day photo to the 2016 community collage!



the most marvelous, compassionate people around," and Vega returned the compliment. "Bill Barksdale is awesome," she said. "All of our volunteers were very appreciative of him. It's always a pleasure to have a mobile adoption there; he's so generous, shows his compassion, and we just love him."

The Humane Society will be back in Willits for a mobile adoption event on Saturday, June 25, at Willits Power, from 10 am to 2 pm. "People should know the Humane Society has some of the most wonderful and beautiful cats and dogs around," Barksdale said.

Visit <http://mendohumane.org> for more information about available pets and volunteer opportunities at the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County.



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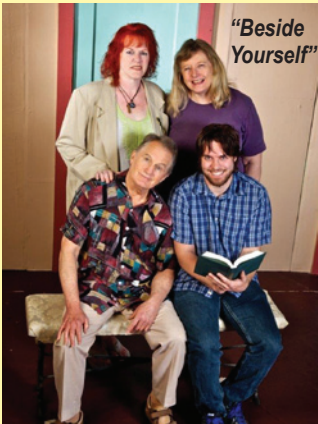
Thursday, June 16

Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party: The Willits Library Summer Reading Program offers a summertime of fun, with reading, special events and prizes, every Thursday, from 11 am to 12 noon, starting Thursday, June 16 with a Kick-off Party and running through August 11. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. 707-459-5908.

City of Willits Streets & Alleys Workshop: *Come share your ideas for downtown Willits' streets and alleyways, Thursday, June 16 at 5:30 pm, at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street. "The City of Willits is studying what improvements to the streets and alleys network could enhance your experience of downtown; this is separate but related to the Main Street Enhancement Project."* Beautify and enhance downtown; provide better accessibility; maintain parking and provide loading zones for downtown merchants; encourage local and regional bicycle and pedestrian mobility; improve public gathering spaces downtown. A presentation on preliminary concepts and a group work session will take place, with refreshments and food. Info: email Dusty Duley, city planner, at planning@willitscity.com

"In the Light of Reverence": Now and Then Film Series presents this "beautifully rendered account of the struggles of the Lakota in the Black Hills, the Hopi in Arizona and the Wintu in California to protect their sacred sites: Devils Tower, The Four Corners, Mount Shasta. All places of extraordinary beauty — and impassioned controversy." Thursday, June 16 at 7 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. \$5 donation goes to protect local Native American sites. Visit: www.pbs.org/pov/inthelightofreverence. Trailers & short films start at 6:30 pm. Serving heirloom organic popcorn with real organic butter and Fair Trade chocolates.

'Beside Yourself': written by Nick Hall, and directed by Kevin H.C. Moore. This "family-friendly farce takes place at an annual genetic research convention held at a beach resort hotel. Four pairs of identical twins are in attendance. When one twin decides she feels like having a little fling to 'improve her marriage' — and her scheming husband gets involved — it sets off a hilarious chain reaction of farcical mix-ups." Featuring actors Jess Craighead, BarbaraLee Likier, David Patch and Jennifer Dellett. Runs through June 26: Thursdays at 7 pm, Friday and Saturdays at 8 pm, a Sunday June 19 matinee at 2 pm and a Sunday June 26 closing show at 7 pm. A special benefit performance sponsored by Willits Rotary Club will be held on the first Thursday, June 16. For benefit tickets, contact Brad Walton at 459-9082 or any Rotary Club member. Advance tickets for all regular shows are 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.



"Beside Yourself"

Shanachie Pub: TV Mike & The Scarecrows, "a Cosmic Twang Stomp band hailing from the West Coast via Indiana. Their songs follow the aesthetic of the Great American Songbook." 9 pm. No cover.

Visit <http://bravescarecrow.com/>. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, June 17

Free Family Movie Night: Bring the family to enjoy a free family movie outside on a big screen, on Friday, June 17 from 7 to 10 pm (movie starts at dusk) at Grace Community Church, 25 Hazel Street. With hot dogs, popcorn and other goodies at an affordable price. "It's a great way to spend time with your family and friends, so grab your low-back chairs and blankets and enjoy!" Info: Natalie 707-354-4829 or the church at 459-3106.

'Beside Yourself': 8 pm at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Pick & Pull, 9 pm. No cover. Fred (upright bass fiddle), Keith (guitar, mandolin, banjo, vocals), and Nate (banjo, guitar, vocals) play "Old Time High Octane Acoustic Hillbilly Dance Music." Visit <https://www.facebook.com/pickpullmusic>. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, June 18

Willits Otters Swim Meet: annual two-day swim meet at the City Pool at Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19. Starts at 9 am each day. The public is welcome. Otters are raising money to replace the boiler at the pool with a raffle, tickets \$10, for a week-long stay at the Los Cabos Marina Condo in Cabo San Luca, Baja California Sur, Mexico. Drawing will be held after the meet on Sunday. More info on tix: Melissa Perez at 367-0401 or Jamie Bouthillier at 272-2772.

Willits Healthy Action Club: the public is invited to this free, first meeting of this new club, founded by Jed Diamond: "Making Willits the Healthiest Little Town in America ... One Step at a Time." "An easy way to put into practice the 9 health-enhancing activities that are sure to add years to your life and life to your years. Each meeting's program will feature three steps to promoting health: A short action-oriented talk on an important aspect of health to put into practice between meetings; a regular walk for health and connection; and an option to eat good food together following the walk at a local restaurant or shared picnic." 10 am at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5505 or Jed@MenAlive.com.

GOP Central Committee meets in Willits: The Mendocino County Republican Central Committee meets in Willits this month, 9:30 am at the Brickhouse Café for coffee/energy on the corner of East Commercial/Main Street, and then walk down to Willits City Hall at 10:15 am where the MCRCO will meet at 10:30 am. For further information or to carpool, contact Evelyn Hayman, 707-948-6467 or go to www.mendocountygop.net.

Frontier Days Sweetheart Judging: The 2016 WFD Sweetheart Appearance, Personality and

What's Happening Around Town

Poise Competition is set for Saturday, June 18 at noon at the American Legion/Veteran's Hall, 189 North Main Street. Hosted by the Willits Soroptimist Club; featuring four Sweetheart candidates, Calayan Knight, Sierra Skinner, Cheyenne Walters and Halee Reed. The public is invited to this free event. The Appearance, Personality & Poise event represents 20 percent of the Frontier Days Sweetheart Contest.

WCT Auditions for "The Nerd": Willits Community Theatre holds auditions for the popular comedy, "The Nerd," by Larry Shue, which will be directed by WCT's Jason Edgington. Dramatists Play Service called "The Nerd" — "one of the funniest plays ever written." The call is for three men between the ages of 25 and 40, one woman in the same age range, a man and a woman between the ages of 40 and 50, and a boy between the ages of 8 and 10. Saturday, June 18 at noon and Monday, June 20 at 7 pm at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. The show rehearses in July and early August, opens August 12 and plays through August 28. Scripts are available at the Willits Library. Info: call or text the director at 367-2116 or email him at jedington@outlook.com.

Free Monologue-Writing Workshop: Saturday, June 18 from 1:30 to 2:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, for persons interested in performing a personal monologue (no more than 5 minutes long) at Willits Community Theatre's "SpeakEasy: An Evening of Original Monologues" at WCT on July 23 and 24. Info: 459-9014 or joker@instawave.net.

'Beside Yourself': 8 pm at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Scratchdog Stringband, from Portland, Oregon: "a fresh blend of classic and contemporary acoustic music ... deriving from influences in Rock, Folk, Country and Jazz." 9 pm. No cover. Visit www.scratchdogstringband.com. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 19

Happy Father's Day!

Willits Otters Swim Meet: annual two-day swim meet at the City Pool at Willits High School, see listing for Saturday, June 18 for more details.

'Beside Yourself': 2 pm matinee at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.

Monday, June 20

WCT Auditions for "The Nerd": 7 pm at the WCT Playhouse. See Saturday, June 18 listing for more details.

Tuesday, June 21

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All

2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movie: "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Thursday, June 23

Summer Reading Program: The Willits Library Summer Reading Program offers a summertime of fun, with reading, special events and prizes, every Thursday, from 11 am to 12 noon, through August 11. June 23: Zumba for Kids. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. 707-459-5908. Next week, June 30: Stories by Emmy Good

10th annual Willits Hometown Celebration: Kicking off Willits Frontier Days, the annual Hometown Celebration — held in downtown Willits on Thursday, June 23, 5 to 9 pm — showcases the essence of the fun-loving community spirit which is alive and well in Willits! Sponsored by the Local First Committee of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. Live music and entertainment, vendor booths, specials and giveaways from downtown businesses and restaurants, and the popular Chamber of Commerce prize wheel, located at Scoops Deli again this year. This year, the entire Willits Farmers Market will set up in the old Rexall parking lot, with fresh produce, craftspeople, prepared dinners and treats. "Bring the whole family to downtown Willits on Thursday, June 23 from 5 to 9 pm ... you'll be glad you did." Don't forget to pick up the new issue of Willits Weekly at our table downtown. More info: visit www.willits.org, email info@willits.org or call 459-7910.

'Beside Yourself': 7 pm at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Dewey Paul Band, from Colorado: "pure improv-influenced Americana, or "Americana Blues," led by guitarist and singer-songwriter Dewey Paul Moffitt. 9 pm. \$5 cover. Visit www.deweypaulband.com. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, June 25

Willits Fire Department Fun(d)raiser: Little Lake Fire Department holds a Public Fire Safety Open House and its annual fundraising drawing on Saturday, June 25, from 10 am to 2 pm at the Rec Grove. Fire volunteers will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs, chili beans, nachos, and other tasty treats, and providing demonstrations in auto extrication, fire extinguisher training, demonstrating apparatus, providing discussion about the new firehouse, volunteering as a firefighter, and many other items. Other organizations will also be providing public safety information. Throughout the day we will be drawing names for prizes for the Little Lake Firefighters Association raffle. Local favorite Tova Scotia will be MC and DJ for the Saturday event. Anyone interested in donating items for a silent auction or door prizes, or for more info, should contact the Little Lake Fire Department business office at 459-6271.

Amateur Radio "Field Day": a national Ham Radio Event, Saturday, June 25 starting at 11 am through Sunday, June 26 at 2 pm, sponsored by

presents the Willits Frontier Days Truck & Tractor Pulls, Friday, June 24 at 6 pm at the Jack Tharp Arena. "Come and watch the local boys try their hand at The Terminator and watch the big boys try for the coveted Full Pull." Tickets: \$13 adults; \$5 children. For entry forms, contact Marcy Barry: 272-5395.

Slam Poetry Night: Live at the Brickhouse, 3 South Main Street. Friday, June 24, 7 pm. Donation. All Ages. Hosted by MC Radioactive. Sponsored by Mendocino County Youth Project.

'Beside Yourself': 8 pm at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.

WFD Street Dance: featuring live music by Double Standyard, Friday, June 24 following the Truck Pulls, 9 pm until midnight at the Rodeo Grounds. 21+ over. Free to attend. No backpacks allowed. Mendocino County's Double Standyard plays blues, Southern rock, country and good old-fashioned rock-n-roll, and features Camille Villavicencio/Lead Vocals, John Perez/Vocals, Brad Hunt/Rhythm Guitar, Jim Switzer/Lead Guitar, Frank VanVranken Jr./Bass, and Scott Wise/Drums.

Shanachie Pub: Dewey Paul Band, from Colorado: "pure improv-influenced Americana, or "Americana Blues," led by guitarist and singer-songwriter Dewey Paul Moffitt. 9 pm. \$5 cover. Visit www.deweypaulband.com. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

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the Mendocino County Amateur Radio Communications Service (MCARCS). Demonstrating "Science, Skill, and Service." The event is free, open to the public of all ages, and will be held behind the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. More info at www.mcarcs.org, or contact John Lemmer, W6FQX@mcrcast.com. See article for more details.

'Beside Yourself': 8 pm at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Solo show by Michael Trew, singer / flutist / guitarist / frontman of Autumn Electric from Seattle, WA. 8 pm. No cover. Visit www.facebook.com/theautumnelectric. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, June 26

WFD Lions Club Cowboy Breakfast: the annual Willits Frontier Days Lions Club Cowboy Breakfast, Sunday, June 25, 7 to 11 am, at the Rec Grove, featuring hotcakes, ham, eggs and hot coffee. Tickets are \$8 adults, \$5/children. Tickets are available at the event or in advance from the WFD Sweetheart contestants.

Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast: every fourth Sunday, this month Sunday, June 26, from 8 to 11 am at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "Join your friends at the Grange Breakfast! With live music. \$8 buys you a plate of the best 'scratch' pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around." Choose Sourdough Wholegrain or Gluten Free Pancakes or Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes, with Beeler's Quality Bacon, organic local farm fresh eggs made to order with real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. \$8; \$7 seniors; \$5 children under 10. Sides of organic fruit in season for \$2-\$3 extra and Amish maple syrup \$1 extra.

WFD Horse Show: starts at 8 am, Sunday, June 26 at the Jack Tharp Arena. Free to attend. "Equestrians have been showing their skills as accomplished riders at the Willits Frontier Days Horse Show since the beginning of the event in the late 1920s. English and Western disciplines are both showcased, and a high point and reserve high point winner are selected from each group and are awarded prizes for their day's efforts. Five local perpetual trophies are available for local Mendocino County riders aged 17 and under: Barbara Hamilton, John Fish, Randy Clark and Don and Petie Coleman, the R Horse Ranch, and the Goss family. These trophies are for local riders aged 17 and under who live in Mendocino County. The WFD Sweetheart

contestants are also judged on horsemanship during Sunday's show.

"Willits Fly-In Brunch on the Greens": Willits Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1027 sponsors this great fly-in opportunity to have brunch — and play a round of golf or disc golf — at one of Northern California's most beautiful golf courses, Brooktrails, on Sunday, June 26, with courtesy ground transportation from the Ellis Field Municipal Airport provided. RSVP at eaglenestnorth@juno.com for reserved seating. Breakfast or lunch will be prepared by "The Grill" at the golf course, serving great food with a variety of delicious selections, prepared to order, with reserved seating under the towering redwoods. More info at www.eaa1027.org



Michael Trew



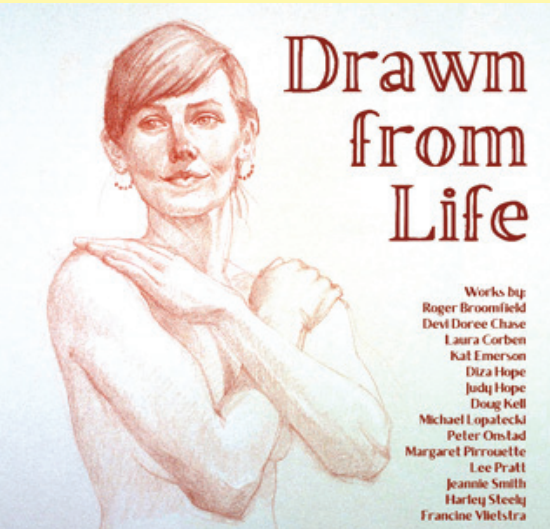
Brandi Cameron, a contestant in last year's national anthem contest

WFD National Anthem Contest: the winner of the Willits Frontier Days' National Anthem Contest, Sunday, June 26 at noon at the Rodeo Grounds, will sing the National Anthem at this year's WFD Parade, Junior Rodeo and CCPRR rodeo. Free to attend.

Jazz Gitan: all-acoustic quintet in the tradition of hot Gypsy Jazz from the 1930s. Sunday, June 26 at 2 pm at the Willits Community Theatre. "This rare show will feature a selection of standards originated by Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli from the early Paris jazz scene.

Presented by Gypsy Jazz veteran Don Price, the show is guaranteed to be a foot-tapping, exhilarating display of classic Latin, Blues and Swing standards performed in the unique up-tempo Django Style." Advance tickets for the show are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

'Beside Yourself': 7 pm closing show at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. See Thursday, June 16 listing for details.



Works by Roger Rosenfield, David Chase, Laura Corbett, Neil Emerson, Rick Hope, Judy Hope, Doug Holt, Michael Ispolachi, Peter Onstad, Margaret Perrowette, Lee Pratt, Joanne Smith, Harlow Stealy, Francine Velsbora

COLUMN | At the Movies



'Money Monster'

The Story: Lee (George Clooney) is a rock 'em, sock 'em financial guru who promotes Wall Street stocks on television. His show is called "Money Monster." Lee's stuffy investment recommendation leads working stiff Kyle (Jack O'Connell) to lose \$60,000 — every penny he has. Lee's director (Julia Roberts) is pretty darn competent (and thank g-d for that), because as things unfold, Kyle in a self-righteous rage brings a hand gun and a bomb-lined vest and commandeers Lee's show.

My Thoughts: So, another movie about crooked dealings on Wall Street. That's a good thing. Jodi Foster directed it. I point out the actors' names because they're big stars; they do their star power best to make this melodrama about financial shenanigans compelling. Denzel Washington gave the big screen a similar jolt in "John Q," wherein he takes over a hospital which won't give his son an operation because of ... well ... money, and in the same vein consider Henry Fonda in "Grapes of Wrath." I am glad in my heart that our movie stars want to speak out for the victims trampled by our social order in movies that recognize that the lack of money is no excuse for the failure of common decency. All in all, this flick is a thriller. You will be entertained.

Parents: Not particularly entertaining for children. There are some mild sex jokes in the flick. Julia Robert's character shows grace under pressure.* Not to be (too) smarmy, but that's a good model for teens. "Courage is grace under pressure. — Ernest Hemingway

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

DOWNTOWN WILLITS

STREETS & ALLEYS CONNECTIVITY STUDY

COME SHARE YOUR IDEAS FOR DOWNTOWN WILLITS' STREETS AND ALLEYS!

END THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016 | 5:00 PM PRESENTATION

○ CITY HALL | 111 E. COMMERCIAL STREET, WILLITS

The City of Willits is studying what improvements to the streets and alleyways could enhance your experience of downtown. The Downtown Willits Streets and Alleys Connectivity Study is designed to help Willits residents and businesses understand the opportunities and challenges to the downtown area and to help the city make decisions about future improvements to the downtown area.

○ CITY HALL | 111 E. COMMERCIAL STREET, WILLITS

Please attend our workshop to learn more about the connectivity study and share your thoughts and ideas about what could be improved. Attendance is completely free and open to all. We will have refreshments and a raffle. We will also have a chance to win a prize.

○ CONTACT

For more information, call or text: DUSTY DULEY, City Planner, 707-459-9014 or dduley@willitscity.com

SLAM POETRY NIGHT

Friday June 24th 2016

Live @ The Brickhouse

7pm - Donation - ALL AGES

Hosted by MC Radioactive

Sponsored by Mendocino County Youth Project

some laugh at the broken universe

embrace the morning

saved

MC Radioactive



Redwood Run 2016

A relaxing time, with good friends and good food at Riverview Ranch

Another Redwood Run is in the archives. I have been attending this "last of the old school biker rallies" for a number of years now, and I have to say this one had to be one of the most mellow Redwood Runs I have ever attended. Maybe it was the low attendance at the Riverview Ranch party: about 1,500 folks. Maybe it was the disorganized schedule and events. The vibe seemed to be just that of existing with no real care as to the outcome. On Sunday, as my lady love, our friends who attended with us and I discussed the weekend event, we had a feeling of disappointment.

On the ride home, when my mind clears and I start to expand my thoughts, I realized the feeling of disappointment was unjustified. I realized that I do not need to rely on the folks who organize the Redwood Run for my entertainment. When I attend the Redwood Run, I do plan on being entertained somewhat with the scheduled biker games, the line-up of bands, and the ever-popular Wet T-Shirt Contest, but it's not what I center my weekend entertainment value around.

Did the disorganized biker games, that were supposed to start at 10 am, but didn't begin to get started and set up until around 1 pm, ruin my weekend? No. Was the fact that once the games got set up, no one entered to participate in the games ruin my weekend? Nope. When MC "Johnny" of the Wet T-Shirt Contest lost complete control of the crowd on stage and the girls who were competing, did it ruin my weekend? Not at all. Why? Because the Redwood Run is not about all that. It's a gathering of friends and fellow bikers: Folks you see maybe once a year at the Redwood Run, or folks you haven't seen for a while and surprise! – you run into them at The Run.

So then I started thinking about the positives. I got to spend the weekend camping with my lady love and friends from our Wild Bunch at a beautiful campsite in Richardson Grove State Park. We had a chance to reconnect with brother and sister bikers who we haven't seen for a while and got to meet some new friends from Idaho. We met and hung out with Randy, the lead singer from the Greg Golden Band, and Danny, the bass player from Great White. I got to meet and get a picture with Holly T., this year's Wet T-Shirt Contest winner. We hung out with Big Jim Gunnink at the Gunnink's Harley-Davidson booth and drank his beer, apple pie moonshine and homemade brandy.

We ate some great steak dinners at the Piercy Volunteer Fire Department booth. For just \$15, you got a New York Strip Steak, corn on the cob, green salad and a bun. An additional \$4 got you a delicious slice of homemade pie. We got to listen to some great music from local bands as well as The Greg Golden Band, Great White and The Fried Brothers.

I have to say that Willits' own II BIG rocked the stage on Friday afternoon. I would suggest to the organizers of the Redwood Run that II BIG needs to be one of the headlines next year ... yes they are that good! (II BIG will be playing this year's Willits Toy Run, Sunday, November 27, 2016 – I know, a shameless plug!). We got to shop at more vendor booths than have been present at recent past runs. Some of the vendors were colorful and entertaining in their own right. I had a chance to speak to Johnny about the Wet T-Shirt contest a short time after the contest. This year's contest raised \$4,195 for the kids. That's \$95 more than last year. Money is raised by folks bidding to be judges, stage sweepers, and up-close gawkers. Holly T won \$1,200, donated by Lonny's Tex Mex Smokehouse, for the talents she displayed on stage.

And the weather was beautiful! T-shirt weather, or no shirt in the cases of some ladies. In talking with other attendees during our traditional stop at Boomer's in Laytonville on the way home, it was a 50/50 split as to good vs. sucks poll about this year's Redwood Run. Was it the best, most eventful Redwood Run I have ever attended? Not at all. Was it a fun run? In my humble opinion, for me, my lady love and our friends, it was a flippin' good time.

For those of you who attended this year but felt it wasn't a good run, I get it. But give some thought to the bigger picture. Was your weekend ruined, or did you really have a good relaxing time? I think you will find that you will start planning on attending again next year, maybe with different expectations. Go there with the thought of connecting with brothers and sisters, enjoying the surrounding areas that offer some great rides, listening to some good music, enjoying the great steak dinners, doing some shopping, and just having fun!

"Pops" out!

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Photos by Rich Venturi

Rich "Pops" Venturi
Contributing Writer

Members of Willits' Wild Bunch enjoy the 2016 event.

The Wet T-Shirt Contest winner, Holly T., poses with a friend and her \$1,200 check. Willits band II BIG rocks the stage.

Rich and Kim Venturi pose with L'Cerna, center, one of, as Venturi puts it: "the more colorful and entertaining vendors." Two ladies enjoy the summer weather at the Redwood Run.

Kat "Tigger" Harris and Jerry "Top Hat" Harris dance with the crowd.

Above, right: The banner welcomes everyone to the 2016 Redwood Run.

At left, top to bottom, left to right: Some of the campers with their bikes and tents at Redwood Run 2016. Summer and Rich from Idaho dance in front of the stage.

Members of Willits' Wild Bunch enjoy the 2016 event.

The Wet T-Shirt Contest winner, Holly T., poses with a friend and her \$1,200 check. Willits band II BIG rocks the stage.

Rich and Kim Venturi pose with L'Cerna, center, one of, as Venturi puts it: "the more colorful and entertaining vendors." Two ladies enjoy the summer weather at the Redwood Run.

Kat "Tigger" Harris and Jerry "Top Hat" Harris dance with the crowd.

Photos by Rich Venturi

Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku



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!

	9			1			4	
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Level: Intermediate

TV DADS WORD SEARCH

N O S L E N E I Z Z O R O B P E T R I E
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AL BUNDY	GEORGE LOPEZ	PHILLIP BANKS
ARCHIE BUNKER	HERMAN MUNSTER	RAY BARONE
BEN CARTWRIGHT	HOMER SIMPSON	ROB PETRIE
CARL WINSLOW	HOWARD	STEVE DOUGLAS
CHARLES INGALLS	CUNNINGHAM	STEVEN KEATON
DANNY WILLIAMS	JASON SEAVER	TIM TAYLOR
DON DRAPER	JIM ANDERSON	TOM BRADFORD
FRED SANFORD	MARTY CRANE	TONY MICELLI
GEORGE	OZZIE NELSON	WARD CLEAVER
JEFFERSON	PAUL HENNESSY	

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WPD Activity Report

June 4 to June 10

Prepared by WPD Sgt. Jake Donahue

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 229 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

June 4

4:20 am: Officers noticed a male subject lying on the sidewalk in the 10 block of East Mendocino Avenue. When they contacted the subject, CAUCKWELL, Richard (53) of Willits, officers determined Cauckwell was too intoxicated to provide for his own care, which was a violation of the terms of his probation. Cauckwell was arrested pursuant to 647(f) PC (Public Intoxication) and 1203.2(a) PC (Violation of Probation).

6 am: CAVELLO, Hannah (23) of Fort Bragg was contacted in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a citation for an active South Gate Police Department warrant.

10:50 am: SMITH, Brandon (27) of Willits was contacted during a traffic stop in the 10 block of Baechtel Road and issued a citation pursuant to an active Mendocino County warrant.

12:50 pm: Officers responded to a traffic collision in the 100 block of North Main Street.

1 pm: LINDE-CARNES, August (26) of Willits was contacted during a traffic stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and arrested pursuant to an active Mendocino County warrant.

3 pm: Officer responded to a theft from a business in the 200 block of South Main Street. During an investigation, after it was determined SUTRA, Kyla (33) of Winters had stolen merchandise, she was released with a citation.

June 5

5:15 pm: Officers were dispatched to a disturbance in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road. When they arrived they contacted SIDDONS, Marya (31) of Willits. During their contact, officers determined Siddons was under the influence of a controlled substance and placed her under arrest pursuant to 11550(a) HS (Drug influence). Drug paraphernalia was subsequently found in her possession.

June 6

7 am: Officers responded to a reported theft in the 1000 block of Poplar Avenue.

5 pm: Officers investigated an attempted vehicle theft in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

10:20 pm: Officer initiated a mental health detention in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

June 7

2 am: Officers were dispatched to a disturbance in the 1700 block of Elm Lane. When they arrived, they contacted SHELLEY, Joshua (33) of Willits and RODRIGUEZ, Christiane (30) of Willits. Officers determined both Shelly and Rodriguez were under the influence of a controlled substance and arrested them pursuant to 11550(a) HS.

9:20 am: Officers responded to a reported man down in the 500 block of Railroad Avenue and ultimately contacted NIETO, Ramon (45) of Willits. Officers determined Nieto was too intoxicated to provide for his own care, and was in violation of the terms of probation. He was arrested pursuant to 647(f) PC and 1203.2(a) PC.

Read the rest of WPD | Over on Page 10

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CLUES ACROSS

- Leavened rum cakes
- Stepped on
- Arab outer garments
- Positive pole
- Sharpening stone
- Atomic #38
- Omnivorous mammal of C and S Am.
- Records electrical brain currents
- Without (French)
- Mother's sisters
- An open skin infection
- Long mucilaginous green pods
- Past tense of 23 across
- Cereal grain product
- Lack of normal muscle tone
- Lean, scrawny
- Work holiday (informal)
- Abnormal breathing
- Peels
- Capital of the Apulia region
- They ___
- Linear unit (Span.)
- More lucid
- 6th largest Russian city
- Fights a short bout
- Ancient Olympic Site

- Companion animals
- Indian frocks
- SE Indonesian island
- The winged goddess of the dawn
- Exchange of goods
- Bird in a pear tree
- A contest in which the winner is undecided
- Tidal bore
- Petite
- Freshwater duck genus
- A nasty smile
- (Largest) Peoples of Ghana
- Unit of loudness
- Double-reed instrument
- Sole genus
- "Dynasty" actress Linda
- Said of a maneuverable vessel
- Macaws
- Seamen
- A women's undergarment
- Cost Information Report
- Trims
- River rising in NE Turkey
- Soap blocks
- Overnight case
- Derivative literary works
- Simply
- 5th wheels
- A furry animal skin
- Burning of the Hindu widow
- Actor Ladd
- Bay Area Transit Authority
- The boundary of a surface
- A brutish giant
- One who divines the future
- Very fast airplane
- Frying vessel
- Scamper
- Container counterweight

CLUES DOWN

- The supporting part
- Poker stake
- Tennis player Bjorn
- Rapid bustling movement
- Centripetal
- Wound around something
- Sumac genus
- Original Equipment Manufacturer
- Alcohol withdrawal symptom
- Unkeyed
- Small water travel vessel
- Family Formicidae
- 3rd largest whale
- Scamper
- Container counterweight

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The rest of
Sober Grad | From Page 3

Players, Bluetooth dual alarm clocks, and UE Roll Wireless Bluetooth Speakers.

There were 30 special helper prizes for grads who helped during the school year. If a grad helped at least three times, they were eligible for one ticket in the drawing. There were many grads who had several tickets in the drawing, and the Sober Grad Committee thanks these grads for all their good help.

There were 13 mega prizes, including Igloo mini refrigerators, flat screen TVs, UE Boom 2 wireless Bluetooth speakers, Beats by Dr. Dre, and the final prize, a beautiful La-Z-Boy recliner donated again this year by Mike and Margie Smith of Willits Furniture, won by an excited Kris Novo.

Additionally, the Sober Grad Committee members were happy to present the Ventura Perez Memorial Awards totaling \$6,750 in increments of \$500, \$250, and \$150 to deserving grads who helped during the year. These awards were presented to the grads at Award Night on May 25. The Sober Grad Committee members are thankful that Ventura Perez included Sober Grad in his bequests to non-profit groups in Willits.

In addition to all the prizes that were awarded to graduates, there was also a casino prize table where graduates and their guests were able to exchange their "funny money" for prizes.

The Sober Grad Committee members thank the community at large for supporting the fundraisers and for their monetary gifts to present to the graduates.

"You are a great community, Willits," said Sober Grad's Ruth Dell'Ara. "And remember, we do this to remind everyone that our kids are our future, and we want them to be responsible young adults who will carry on the tradition of a drug- and alcohol-free sober graduation event."

— submitted by the
Willits Sober Grad Committee

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OBITUARY |

Felix Camp

Felix W. Camp of Willits passed away April 3, 2016 at the age of 69. He was born March 14, 1947 in Stuttgart-Bad Canstatt, Germany. He served in the army from October 5, 1966 to February 1, 1968 as a light vehicle mechanic and served in Vietnam War, 1st of the 5th Mech. Felix was operations supervisor for the Northwestern Pacific Railroad for 34 years. He enjoyed fishing, camping, horseback riding, and particularly always enjoyed helping family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Neal Camp; his step-

The rest of
WPD | From Page 9

6:20 pm: Officers responded to a reported elder abuse at a residence in the 1700 block of South Main Street. Following the investigation, ELLISON, Jhanna (22) of Willits was arrested pursuant to 368(b)(1) PC (Dependent or Elder Abuse), 182(a)(1) PC (Conspiracy), and 1203.2(a) PC (Violation of Probation). DAUGHTON, Thomas (26) of Willits was arrested pursuant to 368(b)(1) PC and 182(a)(1) PC.

June 8
11 am: Officers initiated a sexual assault investigation.

12:20 pm: A theft of a vehicle was reported from the 1500 block of South Main Street.

8:45 pm: FINGER, Geoffrey (67) of Willits was contacted during a traffic stop in the 400 block of Central Avenue and arrested pursuant to 23152(a) VC (DUI).

June 9
5 am: A burglary to a business was reported in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

11 am: Officers initiated an investigation against DAVIS, Demetrius (25) of Vallejo after his vehicle broke down in the 10 block of North Main Street. When officers helped him push the vehicle off the roadway, they smelled an odor of marijuana from the vehicle and subsequently discovered over 200 pounds of marijuana in his vehicle.

1:30 pm: SHEPARD, Tara (44) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Gregory Lane and arrested pursuant to an outstanding Mendocino County warrant.

June 10
10:30 am: A traffic collision was reported in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

2:50 pm: ESQUIVEL, Edward (53) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of Franklin Avenue and arrested pursuant to an active Mendocino County warrant.

8:30 pm: BOLTON, John (39) of Willits was contacted in the 10 block of West Commercial Street and placed under arrest pursuant to 1203.2(a) PC (Violation of Probation) after he was determined to be under the influence of alcohol.

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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 new website: www.mendoanimalshelter.com or visit our shelter during shelter hours. More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

Photo by Sage Mountainfire

Lovely Lily

Lily is a young adult that has a lot to say. She loves to talk almost as much as she likes attention. Lily has some quirks though, she does not enjoy other cats and she does not like to be picked up or grabbed by the scruff. Because she does not like any kind of rough handling, she would not be a good cat to have with small children. Lily would be a wonderful companion for someone who just needed a pal to hang around with on those lazy days. She can be an indoor/outdoor cat and a wonderful friend to have around the house.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, where you can come visit, play with and/or adopt Gus or other dogs and cats, is open to prospective adopters from 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday, and from 11 am to 3 pm, on Saturday and Sunday. 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley (right down the street from the Broiler). Info: 707-485-0123 or hsimo@pacific.net or visit www.mendohumanesociety.com.

Photo by S. Coffman Photography

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Above: Crew members who helped with the cleanup efforts at Willits Frontier Days grounds. Below and right: The grounds' new landscaping.



Photos by Tylor Yaton

Thank you to the Chamberlain Crew

With the Fourth of July celebrations right around the corner, the grounds at the Jack Tharp Arena have received a makeover, at the hands of the Chamberlain Creek Conservation Crew. The crew spent about a week and a half down at the grounds over the last month readying everything for the upcoming festivities. Tasks included weed eating, spreading redwood bark under the bleachers, laying bender board behind the grandstands, staining the picnic tables, raking leaves, and building and painting new stairs leading to the stage. On behalf of the Willits Frontier Days organization, 2016 President Marcy Barry expressed her gratitude to the crew for all of their help.

Get your Frontier Days tickets from the Sweethearts!



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Willits High School junior Camryn Christensen was nominated by the American Legion Post 174 Auxiliary as the local representative for Girls State, and she will attend the California session at Claremont McKenna College at the end of the month. Girls State is a place where girls spend an intensive week of studying and working together as self-governing citizens, learning to participate in mock state governments.

Christensen was selected because she is a great student, has a great personality, and participates in lots of volunteer work and extracurricular activities, explained auxiliary's Vicki Ham. Christensen was recently elected class president for the 2016-2017 school year, and she

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This change could be your phone number (landline or cell) address (home or P.O.), addition of a new business, addition of a new listing, or removal of a listing for moving or death.

We are happy to add or update your listing in our directory. You can email your information to willitsphonebook@gmail.com or call Loraine Patton at 621-0173 and leave her a message.

All changes need to be made by December 1st of this year in order to make the NEW 2017 Directory.



KLLG Tower Up

Low-power radio volunteers raise the antenna at the Grange

Above, left: Volunteers "walk" the KLLG antenna up into position.

At top, right: The new radio antenna.

Above, right: KLLG station manager Lanny Cotler, at right with camera, with KLLG producer Michelle Cummins, in front, with a group of volunteers at the tower raising.

Below, from left: A volunteer works to get the tower in place. Mike Burgess, at the Grange's rooftop. Michelle Cummins with the low-power station's call letters.

At bottom from left: KLLG technical manager Roger Wilson climbs the tower. Michelle Cummins, Kathy Maples, in hat, and friends hold onto the rope across the street. Roger Wilson, on the roof, and Mike Burgess work on affixing the antenna. Tower up!

Photos by Mathew Caine

The KLLG antenna tower was erected behind the Little Lake Grange on Sunday, June 5 with the help of KLLG members, volunteers and several passersby who added their muscle to the effort.

KLLG station manager Lanny Cotler brought in some professional radio engineers who volunteered their time to test the signal, and Cotler delivered a simple address over the airwaves at precisely 11:04 am on Tuesday, June 14.

"This is KLLG 97.9 Willits, the first transmission of this radio station."

The station has come a long way since January, from a seed planted by Cotler, to acquiring the call sign and the channel, to now having all the necessary equipment and space to hit the airwaves.

"We have our soundboard, and we received donations from some public entities," said Michelle

Cummins, KLLG producer, explaining how community support was integral in getting the station off the ground. "The Willits Police Department helped out with buying our emergency activation system.

And we're working with a couple other organizations to acquire some more funds."

According to Cotler, KLLG has raised \$11,000 in funds and will be using borrowed equipment until another \$10,000 is raised to purchase the latest, up-to-date broadcasting equipment.

Cotler estimates that maintenance for the station will cost around \$20,000 annually. As is the case with public radio stations, KLLG will receive funding through membership donations and underwriting from local businesses. Such businesses will be mentioned over the airwaves on a regular basis.

KLLG is a low-power station that will only serve the Willits Little Lake

Valley, but eventually broadcasts will be made available to the whole world once it starts online streaming.

Roger Wilson, KLLG technical manager, explained the next steps.

"We have to apply for our FCC license," Wilson said. "Right now we have a construction permit. A construction permit allows us to do everything except to broadcast words. As soon as we have a signal going well, we can start broadcasting words, but we need to send a letter to the FCC saying we're ready to go."

Community members have been slowly showing interest in becoming programmers for KLLG, but many more are needed, according to Cummins.

"We are looking for diverse programmers," Cummins said. "[So far] we have a Latino show, a car talk show, and a bluegrass show. We want to work with the Willits school board and some of our surrounding schools for a youth program where students would get school credit for working with the station." KLLG plans on holding programmer training workshops in the near future, dates and times to be announced.

Cummins, an

acupuncturist by trade, is planning to host two shows for KLLG herself.

"One show is called 'Cultivating Wellness,' where I'll interview healing arts practitioners and discuss different healing modalities that are available to the community," Cummins said. "On the flip side I'll have a show called the 'Cowpunk Rose'; It's going to be a blend of country and punk music and everything in between."

"This is a great opportunity for everyone in Willits," said Ryan Ballou, social media manager for KLLG, who also plans to be a programmer.

Soon the transmitter will be moved to the Little Lake Grange basement, halfway between the antenna tower and the KLLG studio, which is in the process of moving to room 10 of the building.

The highly experienced radio engineers who helped in testing the signal were Keith Bussman, Brian Henry and Erick Steinberg.

Cotler is aiming for the Fourth of July – his birthday – to begin broadcasting. He is currently requesting youth volunteers to help build and operate a KLLG float for the Independence Day parade.

KLLG, Willits Hometown Radio, can be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. For more information call 367-1812.

The rest of Moynahan

From Page 1

Moynahan later pled no contest to four of the 19 felony counts he was charged with.

Public Defender Linda Thompson told Judge David Nelson at the June 10 sentencing that Moynahan had expressed regret for his actions and "wished he could take it all back."

She added Moynahan had taken "responsibility for his actions" to avoid making his victim relive his assaults during a jury trial.

The girl, who came forward to police as an adult, was in court for Moynahan's sentencing, but chose not to make a statement to the court. Moynahan also remained silent during Friday's hearing.

The Willits resident "was in a position of trust," Nelson said, "and he betrayed that trust and deprived the [victim] of her childhood."

In addition to a stipulated 21 years in state prison, Nelson ordered Moynahan to pay \$10,000 in restitution and a restitution fine of \$5,000.

The rest of Marshall

From Page 1

in state prison, according to the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office.

Marshall also admitted a prior strike conviction, which doubles the prison time, said DA spokesman Mike Geniella. "He also stipulated his sentence shall be 50 years to life, and waived all presentence time credits from November 2014 to the date of sentencing.

"As part of the plea, [Marshall] was required by the DA to waive his appellate rights," Geniella said.

A dance instructor, Chesser had been out with friends Halloween night, but was taken to a Poppy Drive home after she became intoxicated. When her friends returned in the early hours of the morning, they found Marshall, the homeowner's cousin, at the home.

They also discovered Chesser, unresponsive, in one of the house's bedrooms.

When they called 911, Marshall fled from the home in a silver pickup truck. Chesser was rushed to Howard Memorial Hospital, but efforts to revive her proved unsuccessful.

In the meantime, Marshall raced up Highway 162 toward Covelo, and was driving an estimated 70 to 100 mph, according to state traffic officers, when his truck left the road and plunged down a steep embankment into the Eel River.

He was taken to an out-of-county hospital for treatment, and was arrested when he was released.

Formal sentencing has been set for 9 am on July 6 before Judge David Nelson.

Deputy DA Scott McMenomey prosecuted the case against Marshall.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, the California Department of Justice, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Investigations Unit, the San Benito County District Attorney's Investigations Unit, the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Investigations Unit, and the Mendocino County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations assisted in the investigation and trial preparation in the case.

The rest of Ordinance

From Page 1

cannabis cultivation in Mendocino County had over 18 months to draft common-sense regulations, but failed to fully consider the enormous and obvious environmental impacts, as required by CEQA," said MCBA President Paul Trouette.

Trouette and the Blacktail Association – a nonprofit dedicated to improving the condition of local Columbian black-tailed deer herds – are also claiming supervisors violated their own general plan when adopting the ordinance, because they allowed cannabis cultivation inside lands zoned "forestland" and "timber production zone," without enlisting public comment on the question in the manner required by CEQA.

"Not only did the board of supervisors fail to comply with CEQA as required by law, it has also usurped the general plan by approving large-scale dangerously cumulative impacts in zones dedicated to other purposes without review or due process throughout the county," Trouette said in a June 6 statement. "All other agricultural businesses must adhere to CEQA. General plan land-use zoning, which the 'urgency ordinance' modifies, is no exception to this rule, either."

In his statement, Trouette said MCBA "has been increasingly concerned with the destructive nature of unregulated marijuana activities in our beautiful wildlands. Illegal grading, poisons, highly concentrated fertilizers, water theft and trash are the driving components of our CEQA challenge to the urgency ordinance."

In addition to being president of the Blacktail Association, Trouette is also CEO of Lear Asset Management, a private security contractor currently providing services in seven California counties. Lear Asset Management received state and national press attention in 2014 for, as Time magazine put it: being "hired by large landowners to do the work of clearing trespass [marijuana] gardens from private property and to perform forest reclamation, sometimes funded by government grant."

Supervisors formed a marijuana ad hoc committee in late January 2015 to examine the economic impacts of legalized marijuana cultivation. After finding it impossible to draw any definitive conclusions, the ad hoc committee joined other Northern California jurisdictions in issuing recommendations on how the medical marijuana industry might be regulated after legalization.

The California legislature voted to approve the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act on September 11, 2015. On November 3, 2015, the supervisors directed the ad hoc committee to consider modifications to the 9.31 program as a way to regulate the cultivation of medical marijuana. Sheriff Allman's 9.31 program had been discontinued in March 2012 under threat of legal action by the U.S. Department of Justice.

On April 18, 2016, Deputy County Counsel Matt Kiedrowski told the board of supervisors that the county would have to comply with CEQA in drafting a permanent ordinance to regulate medicinal cannabis. Department of Planning and Building Services Chief Planner Andy Gustafson said this process would take about 10 months, too long to get local regulations in place for the 2016 growing season.

The supervisors then, on May 17, passed the urgency ordinance – designed to apply to this year only, while work on a permanent set of regulations moves forward.

Contacted by Willits Weekly, County Counsel Katharine Elliott said the litigation initiated by the MCBA lawsuit is in early, pre-trial stages. Elliott confirmed the Blacktail Association has filed suit, and said the group is seeking an injunction that would suspend the urgency ordinance.

That ordinance, Elliott said, "is an attempt to have some hand in the regulatory process, knowing that people are going to go out and do this anyway, and also knowing the regulatory landscape is going to change on January 1, 2018," when MMRSA will fully take effect on the state level.

"Under MMRSA, someone who is growing medical cannabis commercially can qualify for a state permit, as long as they already have a county permit. So this has put a number of counties in a very tight place, because it is difficult to have a county program ready, in front of a state program, when you don't know what the state program is going to look like," Elliott said.

Elliott said she is in communication with representatives of the Blacktail Association and is trying to negotiate a settlement that would satisfy their demands, short of going to court.

Trouette confirmed he has participated in settlement discussions. When asked what he wanted from the county, Trouette replied he wants the county to conform to CEQA. When asked if that meant he wants the county to issue a negative declaration, or a mitigated negative declaration, or whether he wants the county to undertake a full environmental impact report, he answered: "All of the above."

"We're not looking for money," he said. "We're looking for compliance. This is the biggest industry, next to timber and grapes, and so far it has escaped environmental review. If we're going to expand this industry, then we need to expand enforcement. We can stop a lot of the bad stuff and allow the good stuff to move forward."

"Every industry has to abide by CEQA. We feel the cannabis industry has to pay the piper, just like the rest of us," Trouette said.

Concerning the potential outcome of settlement discussions, Trouette said things were looking good. "Based on the discussions I had today, I'd say there will be a favorable outcome to this – favorable, I mean, for all parties."

The rest of Ballots

From Page 1

The bigger, 15,567-ballot total includes mail-in ballots dropped off at the polls and at the voter office on Election Day, plus ballots postmarked by Election Day and received in the U.S. mail at the county office on Wednesday and Thursday last week. California's new "postmark+3" law considers ballots postmarked by Election Day and received by local voter offices up to three days after Election Day to be valid.

Assistant Voter Registrar Katrina Bartolomie told Willits Weekly the 15,567-ballot figure included 100 ballots received in the mail on Wednesday, and 79 ballots that arrived on Thursday. An additional 28 ballots came in Friday's mail, so the total of ballots needing to be tallied after Election Day is now 15,595.

Adding those ballots to the "Final Election Night Report" makes a total of 26,915 ballots cast – not counting provisionals – which brings the turnout up to 57.5 percent – a good turnout for a primary election, but not as good as the 59.93 percent turnout in Mendocino County's 2008 Presidential primary. Even if all of the 958 provisional ballots are found valid and added to the count, the turnout, which would then be 59.56 percent, would still just under the 2008 mark.

As a point of reference, in last fall's very quiet election, there were 49 provisional ballots cast countywide, and all but three provisional ballots were found to be valid and counted.

It's typical in recent elections – with so many mail-in ballots dropped off at the polls – to have many ballots not tallied in the election night report – and the percentage of uncounted ballots continues to grow. In the November 2014 election, the percentage of ballots uncounted on election night was about 54 percent.

Here's the breakdown by supervisorial district of untallied votes, from the June 9 press release:

"Of the outstanding ballots left to count, the approximate breakdowns for the supervisorial districts are as follows: 1st Supervisorial District – 2,800 ballots; 2nd Supervisorial District – 2,615; 3rd Supervisorial District – 2,494 ballots; 4th Supervisorial District – 4,456 ballots (of which 1,582 are for the City of Fort Bragg) & 5th Supervisorial District – 4,160 ballots."

The uncounted ballots are very unlikely to reverse the local results for Measure V (winning 59.97 percent to 40.03 percent so far) or Measure W (losing, with 56.11 percent voting "No" and 43.89 percent voting "Yes" so far).

But the election for superior court judge has a tighter margin, with only 498 votes separating the two candidates – Keith Faulder with 5,287 votes as of the election night report (52.28 percent) and Patrick Pekin with 4,789 votes (47.35 percent). Also, the district breakdown as of last week's press release showed the two coastal districts, where Pekin was expected to run stronger, had 8,616 uncounted ballots: 707 ballots more than the total of 7,908 ballots remaining to count from the three inland districts.

Voter registrar Sue Ranochak has 30 days after each Election Day to get the final, certified results public and reported to the California Secretary of State. In November 2015, final results were released 10 days after Election Day. But with so many ballots to sort, check signatures on, and count – and so many provisional ballots to research, too – it's likely the final results won't come out as quickly as that this year.

Counting ballots is a public process, and the public is invited to visit the voter office at 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020, Ukiah, to observe the canvass.

The rest of Firefighters

From Page 1

it will be a lot better," he said.

The open house will include rescue demonstrations by LLFD firefighters, displays of fire equipment and vehicles, a raffle and door prizes, and an MC/DJ. Food and beverages will be offered for sale, and there will be rides and activities for kids.

Raffle tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased prior to the event at the fire station at 74 East Commercial Street. There's several high-value prizes to be won this year, donated by local businesses, including two \$500 gift certificates from Sparetime Supply; a Woodhouse reassured directors they were still in line to receive a portion of the county's Proposition 172 funds.

Also at the meeting on Tuesday, Mendocino County Supervisor Tom Woodhouse reassured directors they were still in line to receive a portion of the county's Proposition 172 funds.

"The board is working on it and getting some money pared out of there for you" he said, "and I'm impressed that there's a change happening. The whole process has raised everybody's awareness about the need."

He also reiterated how he admired the way fire district representatives conducted themselves during negotiations with supervisors. "For all the groups I've seen in a year and a half ... the firefighters are the most respectful," said Woodhouse. "It makes it easier to try and meet people's needs when they're polite, rather than demanding or saying 'We're the most important,' because everybody's important."

LLFD directors also discussed the Fire First Responder Agency Special Sale and Use Tax – a countywide one-half-cent sales tax measure proposed for the November ballot. Directors had decided previously they would not endorse it because of the crowded field of tax propositions on the ballot, and they are sticking with that position.

LLFD Training Chief Chris Wilkes was at the meeting and gave an update on the current state of firefighter training, which he said was going very well. Firefighters are currently in the middle of "wildland training," preparing for what should be a busy summer fire season.

New firefighter Chad Leshner was sworn in at Tuesday's meeting after completing the standard one-year probationary period.

Two new cadet applications had been turned in the two days prior to the meeting, "so things are looking good as far as firefighters go," said Wilkes. He pointed out the department filled two engines with firefighters on a call over Memorial Day weekend for a fire in the Pine Mountain area.

"Our roster is filling up, and the nice thing is it's filling up with active firefighters. I feel pretty darn good about it. We're still averaging 12 to 13 [responders] a call."

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At right: Chief Gonzalez, Julissa Perez, Cole Faherty, Karina Brito, Nikeel, Xander Jennison, Elizabeth Coria, Maria (Redwood Market manager, holding the market's RAMA award), Veronica Vannorsdel, and Viviana Zuniga at Redwood Market.

Photo Nancy Villegas



Youth Advocates give out Responsible Alcohol Merchant Awards

By Nancy Villegas, contributing writer

The Willits Youth Advocates have completed one of their biggest projects this year, RAMA. RAMA stands for the Responsible Alcohol Merchant Award, which is a program that recognizes alcohol merchants who are actively involved in promoting a positive, healthy community for Willits by restricting youth access to alcohol through compliance with mandatory beverage control regulations and by having excellent management policies and employee training programs.

On Tuesday, May 17, 2016 Willits Youth Advocates (YA!) were accompanied by Willits Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez to recognize and deliver awards to local businesses for their outstanding efforts to keep alcohol out of the hands of youth in our community.

“RAMA is a program that the Willits Police Department is behind. We recognize responsible alcohol retailers that know the importance of keeping our kids safe as they help their community,” said Police Chief Gonzalez.

Youth Advocates gave RAMA awards to: ARCO AM/PM, Flyers, Mariposa Market and Redwood Market.

The rest of **Film Fest** | From Page 1

“We’re Still Here: Johnny Cash’s Bitter Tears Revisited,” “The Messenger,” and “Dark Horse.”

Ridgewood Ranch hosted a walking tour on the last day of the Willits festival as well as a screening of the short film “Ridgewood Ranch: Home of Seabiscuit,” with original cinematography by Dr. Raymond Babcock.

“This year we’ve had a lot more people purchasing [the movies] online, but we’ve had a lot more people show up at the events, as well,” Wojack said. “The reception in Willits had over 100 people attending.” The reception at the Mendocino County Museum was exclusively for attendees of the “Bitter Tears Revisited” screening on Saturday.

Wojack explained it takes a lot of coordination to match the films with their screening locations. “It depends on what the theaters and communities are interested in,” she said. “We try to program to the community.”

For example, the Johnny Cash movie was a perfect fit for Willits. The film chronicles the 50th anniversary recording of the famous singer’s controversial concept record “Bitter Tears: Ballads of the American Indian.”

“Jeff and Lois Hoover [Noyo Theatre owners] are both cinephiles and have great taste in films,” Wojack said. “They knew ‘We’re Still Here’ was a great fit for Willits, and there

was a passion for it in the community.”

Another movie of note received its United States premiere at the festival, screening in both Fort Bragg and Mendocino village. Filmed in New Zealand and Italy, “Crossing Rachmaninoff” follows pianist Flavio Villani “as he prepares Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2 for his first-ever performance with an orchestra, capturing his journey as he grapples with his challenging work, returning to Italy to perform the piece – and reuniting with his family, who once discouraged him from following a career in music.”

Villani actually came to a screening of the film in Mendocino.

“He was really touched,” Wojack said. “It was the first time he’d seen it screened outside of New Zealand, and he didn’t know what the reception would be from a different culture. He felt very welcomed. The film got two standing ovations.”

The Mendocino Film Festival will begin accepting film submissions sometime in August for the 2017 festival.

Wojack encourages local filmmakers to get involved and to submit their work, whether it be a short piece or a full-length feature.

“We love seeing what our local filmmakers come up with,” she said.

For more information, visit www.mendocinofilmfestival.org.

New Noyo Film Club

Movie buffs watch and discuss ‘Dark Horse’ at special showing

There’s good news for local movie buffs who miss the days of Noyo Theatre’s independent film series. Lois Hoover, owner of the Noyo, has formed a film club, and everyone’s invited. The role of the film club? Meet once a month to screen a movie

preselected by the group, then discuss the movie over food and drinks at any one of Willits’ local eateries.

“There used to be a group of people who would come for the independent film series on Wednesdays and Thursdays,” Hoover said. “They used to informally gather in the lobby after the movie, sometimes they’d go out together and talk about the film; people tell me that they miss [those times].”

Now, those times are back, as a loosely organized, casual and fun film club.

“I see it as a book club, except with movies,” Hoover said.

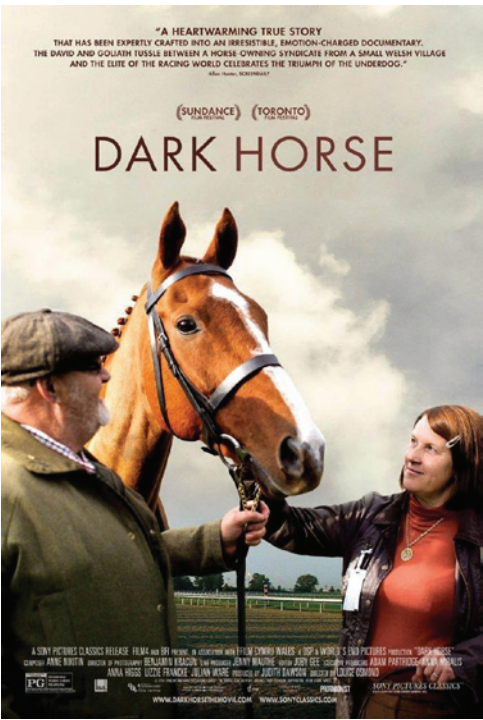
Hoover came up with the idea with her friends Rosie Wagenet and Mickey Fernandez, and the three got the projector rolling (so to speak) during the Mendocino Film Festival earlier this month.

“Dark Horse,” screened as part of the MFF on Sunday, June 5, was screened again on the following Monday for the film club. About a dozen of the roughly 25 people that attended the uplifting tear-jerker of a movie, met afterwards at Al’s Redwood Room for drinks, food and stimulating conversation.

Although “Dark Horse” won an audience award for world cinema at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival, after being bought out by Sony, its distribution lagged, and the film has made very little money.

“It hasn’t made anything,” Hoover lamented. “And it’s a really fine film.”

“Dark Horse” tells the story of the unlikely success of Dream Alliance, a race horse bred, raised and trained through the efforts of a group of friends living in a down-and-out Welsh community. Against all odds, Dream Alliance and his plucky, rag-tag group of charming supporters



The Train Singer, Greg Schindel, arrives for his performance at one of the Mendocino Film Festival’s Willits events earlier in June.

Photo by Jenny Senter

surpass everyone’s expectations, competing against the elite without ever becoming a member of that stodgy, Victorianaesque clique.

The movie is masterful at avoiding overbearing melodrama and, instead, the effects upon the viewer are disarming and endearing, a prime sentiment expressed by the film club during its first meeting.

“It was a great discussion,” said Hoover. “Everybody there was excited about the idea of a film club and wanted to pass it along to others. It’s very casual,” she added. “You don’t have to be a film genius to join in.”

During the meeting, Hoover collected everyone’s emails. She will soon email the group a list of movie options for next month. Anyone interested in

being a part of the selection process can email Lois Hoover at movies@noyothatre.com.

Although the date has yet to be selected for July’s screening, Hoover said it most likely will be the second or third Monday of the month.

Sometime in the near future, Hoover plans on upgrading the movie selection by having the club view a series of trailers. After watching the trailers, the club members will vote, and the winning selection will be rented for a one-night showing at the Noyo.

For more information, Lois Hoover can be reached at the Noyo Business phone: 354-3295.

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