Sheriff takes public's

cannabis questions

in Laytonville

Kate Maxwell Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman took questions concerning local law enforcement practices and marijuana grows from a large crowd of residents in Laytonville's Harwood Hall last Sunday.

Allman spoke at the Long Valley Garden Club's Cannabis Renaissance Series' concluding event, which has hosted speakers on topics that included environmentally friendly growing methods, current medical research, and policy and legal efforts in the region and state.

Following brief

Read more of **Ouestions** Over on Page 9

Council passes deficit

budget, still hopes to balance books

Zack Cinek zack@willitsweekly.com

The city's 2014-2015 budget was whittled and reworked to ensure smaller deficits before being passed by the city council last week.

The city's figures banked on some assumptions, one of which is that city water rates will be increased by 20 percent. That rate increase is expected to be considered by the council at its September 10 meeting.

city's The general fund and its water and sewer departments are all currently in the red. However, City Manager

Read more of Budget | Over on Page 10

Council approves

hospital support buildings

Zack Cinek Reporter zack@willitsweekly.com

Development of the new Adventist hospital campus on East Hill Road drew a little bit closer when the Willits City Council approved a permit for buildings to support the hospital.

The Frank R. Howard Foundation Medical Campus picked up support from council members serving as the city's planning commission with

Read the rest of Campus Over on Page 13



This weekend is the annual Roots of Motive Power Steamup and first-ever Lumberjack Show. The Roots dudes will be showcasing many pieces of their antique and restored logging and locomotive equipment, offering train rides, and giving tours of the Engine House. The Lumberjack competition will include professionals and a group of locals who will try to chop and saw their way to first place in traditional lumberjack tasks. Below is a schedule of which pieces of machinery will be running when, as well as some of the other Roots events. See inside on page 4 for additional info about Sunday's Street Printing event and the Calendar on pages 6 and 7 for additional event info.

Saturday, September 6:

All day long: Engine House Tours

9 am: Railroad Operations begin with Bluestone Heisler #1 Bluestone will pull train until 12 pm, Switch with #7, Remain under steam for double heading at 3 pm

10 am: Ohio Locomotive Crane, Bucyrus Erie 50B Steam Shovel moves to pit, Willamette Yarder debuts with Port Huron Portable Steam Engine, Mansfield and printing press, tractors smoothing Shovel Pit

11 am: BE 50B at Pit, Buffalo Springfield Steam Roller, Raymond Steam Crane

Read the rest of



It's Time wins expansion approval

Zack Cinek

SUSHIEXPRE

Reporter zack@willitsweekly.com

TOKI Co.

city council to expand and further refine its outdoor eating space on a Commercial Street sidewalk.

Council members approved a use permit for expansion of outdoor seating by a 4-1 vote at the last city council meeting. Councilman Larry Stranske voted "no."

Stranske favored using a space in the alleyway rather than sidewalk space. Schmidbauer Lane is the short alleyway between It's Time and the Noyo Theater, leading to a public parking lot near Main Street Music and Video.

A redwood tree and a small lattice fence occupy a spot in the alley way already. "So if they wanted to keep this clear, why did they allow that?" Stranske

Retired City Planner Alan Falleri volunteered to work on the use permit for It's Time. He

Popular Willits eatery It's Time has won approval from the presented the project to council members and fielded questions on the permit.

In its application for the use permit, It's Time submitted a map of the block, a diagram detailing the layout of the 600-square-foot establishment, and two diagrams showing how the barricade will be constructed.

> Stranske stated concerns about safety and the city's liability. "I am really concerned about whose liability is on the line, because that is still going to be used by trucks and 18 wheelers coming down Commercial Street," he

"The city only has liability if it is determined city sidewalks have dangerous conditions," City Attorney Jim Lance opined.

Falleri said the space has to be clearly visible to satisfy the terms of an alcoholic beverage license with the state ABC.

in hospital construction

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Howard Frank Memorial Hospital announced an "unforeseen delay in construction progress" Wednesday afternoon for the new hospital being built on East Hill Road.

The delay will push the opening of the new hospital to spring 2015, instead of later this year. A dedication ceremony had planned for November 16, and the hospital had been expected to be occupied in January 2015.

"The construction of the new Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital has experienced a delay," said

Read the rest of HMH

Over on Page 13

County rejects

grand jury library claims

Mike A'Dair

Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

"Innocent and falsely accused." That's the official response to claims in the 2014 report by the Mendocino County Grand Jury that the county is taking advantage of its library system.

The grand jury report alleges the county has failed to treat the library as a special district, has usurped the powers of the county librarian, has bilked the library system on its A87 administrative costs, and has paid the county librarian out of library funds, which the grand jury claims

Read the rest of Library Over on Page 13

No funds to reverse decline



Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Supervisors on Tuesday staged a tactical retreat before seemingly а insoluble problem - the inevitable decline of the county's paved system. The board took no action on Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde's motion to allocate \$2 million this year on corrective maintenance on county's paved roads.

Read the rest of Roads

Over on Page 13

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Vote was held in Willits. It laid out a series of rate increases

Water Rates

To the Editor:

According to a recent statement by Governor Jerry Brown, we are "in the midst of perhaps the worst drought that California has ever seen since records began about 100 years ago." Many of you have experienced droughts before, but this one was a real eye-opener. As the reservoirs dried up, we became very aware of how critical and fragile our water supply is, and fortunately, we dodged that bullet with the rain that refilled the reservoirs. That rain, combined with a truly heroic effort by the water users to conserve, of 2014 then we were last year.

But, unfortunately, it's not yet over; there's still more to be done to improve and secure our water supply into the

In January 2014, the City of Willits took steps to develop an emergency water supply, using water from wells in \$14.42 is the added cost if 10 units (7.480 gallons) is used. Little Lake Valley. The project is currently more than half completed, and is expected to cost about \$2 million, and the city is seeking additional grants to augment the \$500,000 grant that was already awarded to the city. The emergency water project has received the most attention in the past several months, but there is another water-related issue that has been on the table for a lot longer.

The existing water supply is centered around the two city-owned reservoirs from which water is pumped to the water treatment plant. The treated water is then distributed throughout the city to the water users by a system of pipes, holding tanks and pumps. The original water system was constructed in the 1920s, and was acquired by the city in 1984, and since then, the city has spent millions of dollars to repair, replace and upgrade many of the components of the system, but there's still a lot more to do.

A list of projects has been prepared to maintain our water system, among them, repairing the leaks and normal wear and tear that happens over the years. The biggest of these is the replacement of the water main under North Main Street, and the total cost of all of the necessary repairs and you to all who helped our team achieve the \$7,600 mark. upgrades is more than \$6 million.

As part of the ongoing budget process, city staff analyzes the operating costs and planned repairs and upgrades, comparing these expenses to the cash reserves in the Water Fund and the projected revenue that will be collected. Periodically, the projections are reevaluated to factor in increases in costs and unanticipated emergency expenditures, as well as reduced revenue because of water conservation.

This is a classic "Catch 22"! The city experiences a water emergency that threatens our water supply – drought – and the citizens are asked to reduce their water usage in order to save as much water as possible, and as a result, water revenues drop, making it more difficult for the city to meet all of its financial obligations!

So in order to assure you, the water users, that you will continue to enjoy a safe, secure and steady supply of water whenever you open your faucets, it becomes necessary to address the projected cash shortfall that would prevent the city from fulfilling those assurances. And, unfortunately, that means a water rate increase - something that nobody

Water rate increases can only be done with the approval of the voters - in this case, the water rate payers everyone who is hooked up to the city water supply. This is accomplished by means of Proposition 218, an act that was passed by the voters in 1996, also known as a "Protest Vote." Instead of having a costly and time consuming election to approve the new water rate, the rate payers need only send a written protest to the city, declaring that they do not approve of the new rate. If a simple majority of the rate payers vote "no," the rate is not enacted. Otherwise, the new rate does go into effect.

2008 was the last time a water rate Proposition 218 Protest

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.

that could be implemented by the city council over a period of years, and the city council did increase the rates in subsequent years, with the last rate increase being in 2011. Because water rates were not increased in 2012 and 2013. there still remains an additional 20 percent rate increase that can be imposed under the 2008 Proposition 218 vote. And because of the needed repairs and projected shortfall in revenues and reserves, the city council is scheduled to consider whether or not to impose the additional rate increase at the city council meeting of September 10. If the council votes not to impose the new water rate

puts us in a slightly better position at the end of the summer then, simply stated, the needed repairs will not be made, and there is the real likelihood of future system failures. However, if the new rates are implemented, the repairs and upgrades will be done over the next five years or so at an additional monthly cost to rate payers of \$5.67 to \$14.42, depending on the amount of water used. \$5.67 is the added cost if 2 units (1,498 gallons) is used and To determine what the increase will mean to you, simply check your recent water bills: along the bottom of the bill is the number of units of water you used during that billing period. Since we all have experience conserving water that is, getting by with less – it's very likely that the financial impact on individuals will not be great.

> I urge everyone who is able to, to attend the meeting to have the opportunity to participate in the discussion and decision making process.

> > Ron Orenstein, Willits

Willits Rocks!

Many thanks go to each one of you who helped to make the 3rd Relay for Life of Willits so successful. Volunteers did all the accomplishments, and all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

Our team, "Miracles In Motion," sends a special thank We know these contributions will make a difference in people's lives. A special thanks goes to Buster's Burgers & Brew and to Flatiron Construction for sponsoring us with \$500 donations each. The following Willits business establishments gave \$100 to support our team: Kemmy's Pies, Willits United Methodist Church, Solid Waste of Willits, Dr. Henry Rued, Dr. Fred Jacobs, and Misty Made & Sew Much More. Our three raffles made over \$400. because of donations by Carol Deuel, Diana Mann, and the Brooktrails Lodge. Willits Cares! Willits Rocks!

Those of us who attended our Willits Relay for Life appreciate your support for this meaningful experience. Thank you, thank you!

Miracles In Motion team members: Linda Abby, Betty Banham, Diana Blundell, Gayle Ann Holz, Kati Muhlhauser, Rosemary Landry, Betty Lemmer, Charlotte Oeding, and cocaptains: Ginger Larson and Pat Moeller

Round Valley Reading

To the Editor:

Paws to Read, the summer reading program at the Round Valley Public Library, was lots of fun this year! Over the duration of the program, we had 16 programs and 232 attendees. Nineteen children signed up to keep track of their weekly reading by stacking up dog bones in their dishes. The program ended on August 16, with a special presentation by "Wild Things": real wild animals cared for by North Coast Wildlife. After the wildlife show, everyone enjoyed ice cream donated by Keith's IGA.

On behalf of the library and the Round Valley community, we thank M & M Feed True Value, Keith's IGA, Yovelo Frozen Yogurt, our talented presenters, and the Friends of the Round Valley Library for their support of this program.

> Rachel Borum, on behalf of the Round Valley Library Team

Puny Proposals

I didn't know whether to laugh or cry when I heard about Caltrans' latest plans for the Little Lake Valley wetlands unfortunate enough to be in the path of the Willits bypass.

As part of their June agreement for reinstatement of their suspended 404 operating permit, lead agency Army Corp of Engineers required Caltrans to implement certain conditions. These included an evaluation of ways to significantly reduce the amount of fill destined for dumping on some 30 acres of wetlands to build a platform for the planned four-lane interchange on the project's north end.

Reducing fill and lessening impacts is seen as a way for Caltrans to compensate for damage already done to public values (water, soil, air and wildlife) known as temporal losses, resulting in said permit suspension. The northern interchange as currently designed includes an enormous 4-lane diamond structure with on and off ramps, full stop intersections and a roundabout that is about 200 feet across, larger than the one in Lake County.

Citizens groups are proposing a downsized version that would eliminate the diamond, leaving the roundabout. Data shows this structure would meet traffic needs while saving 24 acres of wetlands, reducing harm to archeological sites and taking less time and money to construct than the enormous diamond interchange that includes four bridges. The citizen proposal cites facts and figures from credible, independent research sources and Caltrans' own data. To date, Caltrans has failed to produce a single document to refute the citizens' figures.

Caltrans proposes to reduce fill by keeping the giant 4-lane diamond, making a few small changes in slope and shoulder widths, and - yep - eliminating the roundabout. Incidentally the roundabout is on uplands, not wetlands, so eliminating it doesn't reduce wetland fill. They don't say how much their plan would reduce fill or spare wetlands or

Caltrans' stock answer to downsizing is that it would cost too much and take too long. They say redesigning the roundabout is complicated, yet they are already engaging in a redesign of the northern interchange by eliminating the roundabout. They don't cite figures derived from actual calculations but toss around large, arbitrary numbers. They claim the 4-lane diamond interchange is necessary for the Phase II portion of the project, when the additional two lanes would be built. This statement is meaningless because everything they are currently building is geared towards the full build-out. The roundabout is already part of the current 4-lane design and could easily accommodate the 2-lane bypass as it merges with the 2-lane highway

Why is Caltrans holding onto to hopes for the 4-lane "freeway to nowhere" like a drowning bureaucracy to a straw? Considering the area's loss of population (census figures show Willits population dropped 9 percent since 2000) and lack of need, future funding for the 4-lane is extremely doubtful. Congressman Huffman, who twisted arms behind closed doors to get Caltrans' permit reinstated, said on August 11, at a "Meet the Public" in Ukiah that he believes Phase II "will probably never be needed." Phil Dow, Caltrans' master funder on the Mendocino Council of Governments, has made similar statements

Now we hear Caltrans may be considering putting in a roundabout at Brown's Corner. Ouch! Not that Brown's Corner shouldn't have a roundabout, but if it's good for the goose, why not for the gander?

By now I've gone from laughter to tears of chagrin and back several times. Reduce fill on the wetlands? Yay! Eliminate the roundabout? Booo! A roundabout at Brown's Corner? Right idea, wrong direction. Come on, Caltrans, don't make me laugh with these puny proposals. It hurts too much. How about some significant fill reductions, some real wetland saving? And watch out for those arch sites.

Naomi Wagner, Willits

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707-459-2633; 707-972-7047	ADDRESS:
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Maureen Moore, designer and photographress /	In the mail: ☐ 6 Months - \$40 ☐ 1 year - \$75 ☐ Additional donation included \$
maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047 Mike A'Dair, reporter / mike@willitsweekly.com	In the mail: 6 Months - \$40 1 year - \$75 Additional donation included \$ Home delivery: 6 Months - \$30 1 year - \$50 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local area
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Above: Nan Trichler and Marv Anne Trevey, the self-proclaimed "Matriarchs of Mariposa

Right: Costeaux Bakery

Bottom left: Shoppers enjoying sales and samples. Bottom right: Carly Taylor holds a coupon for 15 percent off a

Years!

Mariposa Market celebrates 35th anniversary in Willits community

What a great time we had! The store was packed with samplers of excellent food and revelers enjoying the music and camaraderie. We had a lot of demos from many of our venders and tons of free samples for our customers.

Everyone got to draw a coupon at the register good for 15 to 35 percent off their entire purchase. Thirty-five years is a long story for a store that started as a produce market and morphed into a full-service natural foods grocery. Thank you to everyone who made this happen.

- Mary Anne Trevey



Willits Weekly bundle: ___Y __ Mail form and check made out to "Soroptimist

International of Willits" to P.O. Box 311, Willits.

CA 95490. All ads are black and white and

run one time in WW. For info: 707-972-7047 or

Get included in the

2015

Soroptimist phone book

Soroptimist International of Willits has once again decided to

partner with Willits Weekly, the only locally owned newspaper

This partnership will not only offer additional visibility

to the supporters' advertisements, but also helps both

the Soroptimists and Willits Weekly to provide local and

community-supportive resources to residents of the Willits

Willits Weekly will run repeats of ads for businesses

choosing to "bundle" their purchase, and those ads will

be printed alongside Soroptimist-themed content in the

With the amazing success of the 2014 book, the 2015 book

Willits Weekly is also a women-owned and community-

focused business in our community, and the SIW are proud to

There's no need to wait to be included! Four black-and-

white options are listed below to meet all your advertising

Phone Book Business Card: \$120

WW Bundle: (+\$40) = **\$160 for both**

Phone Book Quarter Page: \$160

WW Bundle: (+\$60) = **\$220** for both

Phone Book Half Page: \$210

WW Bundle: (+\$100) = \$310 for both

Phone Book Full Page: \$360

WW Bundle: (+\$200) = \$560 for both

offer the wonderful bundle deal to the advertisers.

needs. Deadline for ads is September 30, 2014.

will also be distributed inside a future edition of Willits Weekly.

in Willits, for our 2015 community phone book.



Possible parking area for a small RV. Come take a look at this!

please everyone. Close to shopping, schools, and transportation

FLAGSTONE PATIO

Offered By: Sal Madrigal • 707-354-1950

CalBRE# 01139481

Beautiful, one-of-a-kind home in quiet Westside neighborhood. House has been totally remodeled

top to bottom. Boasts roomy 1,800 feet of living space, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with open floor plan

with bright kitchen and family room, great for entertaining. Many amenities and custom touches to

CAPABILITY BROWN LANDSCAPING

REALTY WORLD

136 Mill Creek Drive

\$325,000

(707) 459-2237



Morning Session: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 9, 10, 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. **Evening Session: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.** Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 7, 8, 9 and 10 p.m. May win once per promotion day! For both Morning and Evening sessions: Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay and a \$2.00 Food Coupon

TUESDAYS - Guys Night 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay.
Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash,

last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash. WEDNESDAYS - Ladies Night

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Play 50 coin-in, receive \$5 Freeplay. Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6-9:30 p.m. for \$25 Cash,

last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash. THURSDAYS – Super Senior Day
The Senior Freeplay will be preloaded to the Players Club Card.

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: Hot Seat Drawings each hour. Winners receive \$40 Cash Half off lunch coupon for those partcipating. Specials posted at Creekside Café. 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Lunch hours.

FRIDAYS - Super Plinko 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: Hourly Hot Seat Drawings. Winner will get a chance to play Plinko for a chance to win \$25-\$200 Cash!

JEEP GIVEAWAY

Drawing: Saturday, September 27 after 9:00 p.m. Use your club card, July 1-September 27, to earn drawing tickets. Every 100 points = 1 drawing ticket for a chance to win a qualifying entry into the Jeep Giveaway. Redeem tickets at Players Club Booth. Tickets must be in the drawing barrel before the 10:00 p.m. ticket drawing. Each Saturday, Random Hot Seat Drawings: 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. for \$50 Cash. Qualifying entry drawing at 10:00 p.m. will be drawn from the ticket barrel. Saturday, September 27, at 9:00 p.m., 3 additional drawings (from the ticket barrel) for qualifying entry into the Jeep Giveaway. **Must redeem daily.**

100 Kawi Place in Willits **459–7330**



Stonework a Specialty

Louis Rohlicek



BUD GARMAN 707-459-5859 **Environmental Restoration - Ponds** Septic & Water Systems - Site Development Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery













image of a steam roller. Left bottom: San Francisco Center for the Book's Chad Johnson inks one of the linoleum blocks prior Bottom: Master printer Rik Olson, right, admires one of the large prints at Roadworks 2013 in San Francisco. Rik Olson will be on hand at the Roots Festival in Willits on Sunday, September 7, between 11 am and 2 pm.

Roadworks 2013 event in San Francisco.

Left: The completed image is carefully lifted off of the

Left below: San Francisco Center for the Book volunteers hold one of the prints of Rik Olson's artwork. Many of Rik Olson's pieces of art feature the

Street Printing at the

Roots Steam **Festival**

Making art with the Buffalo Springfield steam roller

Roots members are always looking for exciting ways to demonstrate the wonders of steam power. This year's Roots Steam Festival features a demonstration of street printing using the Buffalo Springfield steam roller as the "printing press."

Roots ventured down to San Francisco in 2013 to participate in an event at the San Francisco Center for the Book, the 10th annual Roadworks Printing Festival. The Center for

the Book is a printing museum. preserving not only the hardware of early printing systems, but also teaching classes to preserve the knowledge necessary to operate

the early machinery. The fascination with street printing is that by using a pavement roller, large format prints are made possible, larger than the print capacity of most printing systems.

Artists carefully carve "battleship grade" linoleum blocks. These blocks are inked, and special grade printing paper is laid over the block. Several layers of protective blankets are placed on top of the assembly, which is placed on the pavement. In our case, the 7-ton Buffalo Springfield steam roller gently rolls over the artwork, "pressing" the paper against the inked linoleum block. The process is kinetic and exciting, and the resulting prints are exquisite

The Roots Festival Street Printing event will take place on Sunday, September 7 in Recreation Grove between 11 am and 2 pm. Some linoleum blocks and carving tools will be available for aspiring artists to try their hand at the printing technique. Rik Olson, one of the master printers for the San

Francisco Center for the Book, will be on hand to guide more info on the Roadworks Printing Festival, set for September 28 in San Francisco's www.sfcb.org/





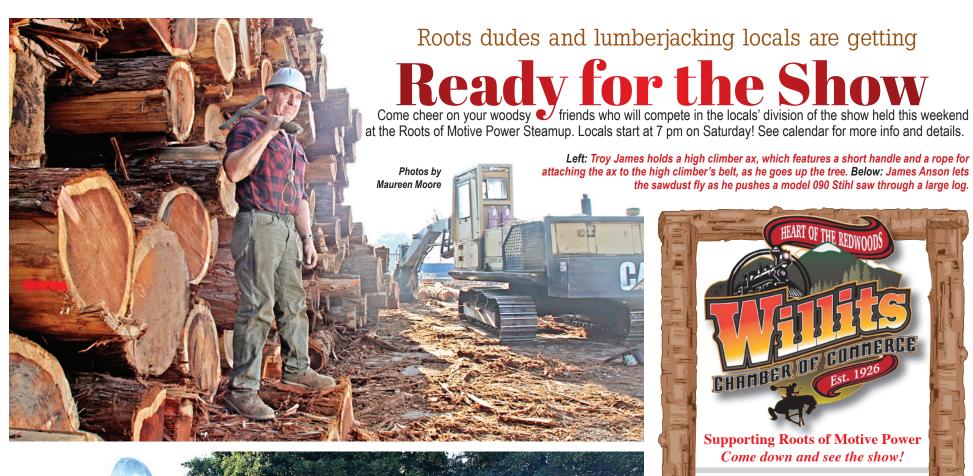




GET YOURS: I 🎔 Willits Weekly **T-Shirts**

Sizes: M - XXL **\$20 each**

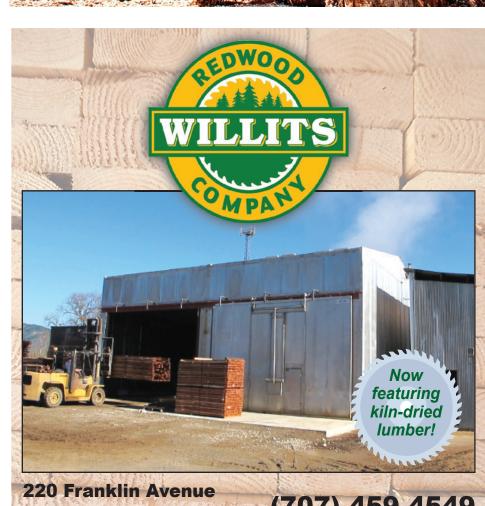




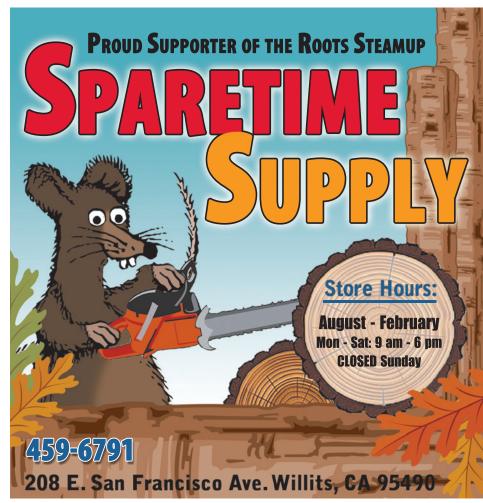








(707) 459-4549 Willits, CA 95490





Thursday, September 4

Shanachie Pub: guitarist Wil Cameron, new in town from Nashville, originals and covers. 6 pm. No cover. Visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=crbs2nERGkl. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, September 5

Tom Woodhouse for Supervisor Headquarters Kick-Off Party: from 4 to 7 pm at Tom Woodhouse's Campaign Headquarters, 2 North Street, at West Commercial Street. "Come by for drinks, snacks and a campaign sign!" Info: 367-6334 or www.tomwoodhouseforsupervisor.

Holly Madrigal for Supervisor **Headquarters Kick-Off Party:** from 4 to 7 pm at Holly Madrigal's Campaign Headquarters, 716 South Main Street, next to Country Skillet. "Enjoy refreshments and local wine tasting Pick up your bumper stickers, buttons and signs. Or register to vote!" Info: 707-841-0612 or www.voteholly.com.

Saturday, September 6

Roots Annual Steam-Up: the annua Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival this weekend features, for the first time, the Timberwork's Lumberjack Show (Saturday at 1 and 6 pm), as well as a local lumberjacks competition

(Saturday at 7 pm). The Roots crew will be steaming up their vintage logging and rail equipment, and offering free steam train rides, on Saturday (9 am to 4 pm) and Sunday at the Roots facility, 420 East Commercial Street. Saturday's train rides will include a double-header steam locomotive on Saturday, with both the Mason County No. 7 Baldwin Locomotive and the Heisler No. 1 Locomotive drawing the passenger cars. Saturday's event also features a free Classic Car Show, a Beer & Wine Reception, a silent auction and raffle (the biggest fundraiser of the year for Roots), and a BBQ put on by the famous Frontier Days BBQ crew (all from 2 to 5 pm at the Rec Grove). The Gas Engine & Tractor Association will be displaying vintage and original steam contraptions at the Rec Grove Park both days. Roots equipment steamed



paper bags at our distribution center at Willits Community Services, 229 East San Francisco,

Holiday Craft Fair Call for Artists

December 12, 13 and 14, 2014 at the Willits Community Center. All interested artists, hand crafters,

Volunteer Wednesdays

at the Grange Farm School

construction sessions for volunteers, at the school 16200 North Highway 101, south of Willits.

assist in projects with the Farm School team and to tour the school. Please bring water and gloves,

Grange Farm School open house days will continue every Wednesday and one Saturday per

month. September 20 is the next Saturday volunteer work day. Contact info@grangefarmschool.

'Coffee with your Congressman'

The public is invited to attend "A Casual Conversation with Congressman Jared Huffman,"

Tuesday, September 23, 8:30 to 10 am at the Country Skillet Restaurant, 708 South Main Street.

event; please RSVP to Huffman.CAscheduling@mail.house.gov or 707-962-0933.

Willits, CA 95490 (please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope).

and your favorite garden tools if you are interested in focusing in the field.

org with question or comments.

flown by commercial pilots.

the 75-ton Bucyrus Steam Shovel, the 1940 Raymond F440 Steam Crane, a steam donkey, vintage tractors, a

giant diesel varder, and a steam roller. Roots will be doing "Steam Roller Street Printing" on Sunday

up and on display includes

of printing on a grand scale, using designs carved in linoleum. Tickets for lumberjack shows: pm show: \$6 adults; \$1 kids; and 6 pm show: \$8 adults; \$4 for kids. BBQ tickets: \$12; \$6 kids. For more info, to volunteer over the weekend, or to donate items for the silent auction/raffle, call Michael Hammang at 354-1918. More info on Roots at www. rootsofmotivepower.com or the "Roots of Motive Power" page on Facebook.

from 11 am to 2 pm: "the power

Free Bridge Lessons: "Beyond Basics": a nine-week series of free bridge lessons at the Willits Library, taught by ACBLaccredited bridge teacher, Donna Vaiano. Starts Saturday, September 6 and runs through Saturday, November 1, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm. "Do you want to spruce up your bridge game? Review some new bidding strategies? 'Beyond Basics' is for those students who are already

familiar with basic bridge skills. More info: 459-9035 or visit "Friends of the Willits Library" Facebook page

Grand Opening Salon 707: to celebrate the new renovated Salon, with a BBQ and a raffle. "Stop on by!" Stylist Tarrah Irwin is offering a free haircut (anytime) to anyone who has 10 inches or more of hair to donate to Locks of Love. Tarrah was the stylist who shaved the heads of Sharron Kidd and Jennifer

Sookne to raise funds for the American Cancer Society at this summer's Relay for Life event. Info: 456-1177.

Maker/Inventor Group at Wowser: Have an idea for an invention and want to throw concepts around? Want to meet like-minded individuals? Want help with

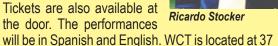
prototyping? Want to learn about patents? Bring some ideas about what you want this new group to address, and come to the initial meeting of the group, 1 to 3 pm today at Wowser, your local build facility, 330 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-9697 or cyndee@wowser.org or roger@ wowser.org.

"The Lego Movie": The new Lego movie showing

Emmet's epic quest is here! Come and see Street across from the Little Lake Grange during 12:30 pm with coffee and refreshment. Educational "The Lego Movie" at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, on Saturday, September 6, at 2 pm. Info: call the library at: 459-5908.

Songs and Poems from the Spirit": a benefit performance for Nuestra Alianza Family Resource Center of Willits, will be held at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, September 6 at 7 pm. Musician Marcos Pereda and poet-musician

Ricardo Stocker will be joined by vocalist Kristine Robin in a fundraiser for the nonprofit center that provides support services for local Hispanic residents. Advance tickets for the benefit show are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com, or phone the WCT office at 459-0895 for credit card orders.



West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub) in Willits. Shanachie Pub: bluegrass (traditional and modern) from the Cherry Pickers. 8:30 pm. No cover. 50

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

Sunday, September 7

St. Anthony's Menudo & Tortilla Lunch: The Mexican community will be selling a Menudo and Tortilla lunch at the St. Anthony's Church Hall, 58 Bush Street. 10 am to 1 pm, or until sold out. "Please join us for a delicious meal with freshly made warm tortillas." \$6 per plate.

Bingo at the Senior Center: Sunday Bingo at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Doors open at 10:30 am. Snack bar opens at 11 am. Games begin at 11:30 am. Bingo buy-in \$10. Info: 459-6826 or visit www. willitsseniorcenter.com.

Community Sock SER and Undie Sunday: Willits Methodist Church finishes up its "Sock and Undie"

drive today. The church has been gathering new packages of socks and underwear to supply Brookside and Blosser Lane elementary schools as well as Redwood Children's Services, so that when a child is in need of either a new set of socks or underwear that need can be filled. Donations of new, unopened packages of socks and underwear in sizes to fit children from kindergarten through high school can be left in the church office at 286 School

church office hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, between 9 am and noon. Today's service, 10 am, a special worship service to commemorate 'Peace with Justice Sunday," features many songs from the 1960s: the pastoral message is "When Will We Ever Learn?"

What's Happening Around Town

Youth Speaks Out Radio: 3 pm on KZYX/Z Radio, Laytonville High School students will discuss the



Marcos Pereda

a 'police state'? Should police be trained to shoot to disable rather than kill?" KZYX/Z (91.5/90.7/88.1 FM and streaming on the web at www.kzyx.org); more info and archives, at www.youthspeaksout.net.

Monday, September 8

Suicide Prevention Week Activities: Mendocino County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services is sponsoring the 2nd Annual Mobile Story Board Tour, during Suicide Prevention Week, September 7 to 14. The tour features a collection of stories and art work submitted from those who have had personal experiences with severe depression or suicide. In addition, there will be a short suicide prevention presentation at each event. Third District events are scheduled for Monday, September

from 10:30 am to 11:30 am in Laytonville at Healthy Start Family Resource Center, 44400 Willis Avenue; Monday, September 8 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in Willits at Manzanita Services, 286 North School Street; and Thursday, September 11, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm in Covelo at the Yuki Trails Human Services Program, 2300

Henderson Road. More info: 707-472-2332. Willits Garden Club Meeting: 12:30 to 2:30 pm at the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse,

16100 North Highway 101. Social time starts at

talk by Mellisa Bouley, certified master gardener, on "Native Plants: Dealing with the Drought and Saving Seeds," begins at 1 pm. Guests are welcome, and there is no charge. Info: Lucille Garcia at 459-9995 or Gary Bodensteiner at 459-2708.

GRID Alternatives Volunteer Orientation: Want to hone up your solar skills? Gain handson experience installing solar PV by volunteering with GRID Alternatives! GRID is a non-profit solar organization making renewable energy accessible to low-income families. Bi-weekly installs in Mendocino and Lake counties. Volunteer Orientations monthly. Next orientation is Monday, September 8 from 5 to 7 pm at

the Willits Library. No experience necessary. Give GRID a call at 707-202-6421 to get involved. **Grange Youth Movie Night:** starting tonight and Monday evenings through October 27, around 6 pm, Grange Youth is showing the Harry

Potter series. Movie Night is a fundraiser for Grange Youth to attend the Grange Convention, Grange Camp, and other activities. Dinner (changing each week) is available, as are snack foods and drinks. 291 School Street.

Tuesday, September 9

PFLAG Meeting: Confidential support meetings for parents, families and friends who have loved ones who are LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender) are held on the second Tuesday of every odd-numbered month in Willits, including tonight. 6:30 pm at Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. The group meets on evennumbered months in Ukiah. Info? call Delynne, 707-367-8094.

> Thursday, September 11 Suicide Prevention Week Activities: in Covelo, see Monday, September 8 listing for details.

Friday, September 12

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show at the Boonville Fairgrounds. Gates open at 9 am and close at midnight. Fun on Friday: FFA and 4-H Horse show, 8

am. Junior Dog show, 10 am. Fiber festival opens, 10 am. Bean spitting contest, 2 pm. Ali De performance, 3 pm. Wine tasting, 5 pm. Open swine show, 7 pm. Circle

Willits Farmers Market:

Summer market at City

Park, every Thursday from

3 to 6 pm. Tomatoes!,

greens, onions, strawberries

watermelon, summer squash.

peaches, squash and other

dinner, crafts, live music, and more.

cucumbers,

summer produce, cut flowers, local meats and fish,

Grateful Gleaners: This volunteer crew is available

to pick fruit that you aren't able to use, to donate

to local organizations in need of fruit. If you're

interested in having fruit picked by the Gleaners, or

in volunteering with the group, contact the Gleaners'

voice mail, 513-9489, and leave a message, and

Junior Grange After-School Program: "an after-

school program democratically run by children ages

5 to 14, with guidance from Grange adults." Mondays

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

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

annual dues. Activities – including chess, fundraising

projects, organic gardening, cooking, and a new skill

each month: September: "Grid Beam Construction"

and October: "Sewing Halloween Costumes" – are

free to members (except for singing classes on

Tuesdays taught by Nancy New, info: 459-1276).

Visitors of all ages are welcome! Info? Contact

Zeynep at 707-972-8558 or zeyny34@yahoo.com.

they will return your call as soon as possible.

707-459-1596

24675 Birch St., Willits, CA www.brooktrailslodge.com

Proud sponsors of Willits Weekly's color Calendar

of champions, 7:30 pm. See full schedule online at www. mendocountyfair.com, and see article elsewhere on Willits High School

Football: Come cheer

on the jayvee and varsity teams during their second home game of 2014 at Maize Field, behind WHS. The Wolverines will play Elsie Allen. Jayvee starts at 5 pm and varsity at 7 pm. More info: 459-7700.

Willits Library Author Night: local author Jed Diamond is featured at this Author Night at the Willits Library, Friday, September 12 at 7 pm. Diamond, a licensed psychotherapist and the author of 10 books including the international best-seller, "Male Menopause," is the founder and director of MenAlive, a health program that helps men and the women who love them to live well throughout their lives. Diamond's latest book is "Stress Relief for Men." Some of the areas Jed will discuss are: "Why Sex Matters": cutting-edge information from the new science of Gender Medicine; "Why Men Die Sooner and Live Sicker" and what we can do to help men and their families; and "How to Use the Tools of Energy Healing to Live Well." This event is free to the public and is sponsored by the Friends of the Willits Library.

Saturday, September 13

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show at the Boonville Fairgrounds. Gates open at 9 am and close at midnight. FFA and 4-H Showmanship, 9 am. Fun on Saturday: Angora rabbit demonstration, 10 am. Junior beef show, 11 am. Shearing and skirting demonstration, 1 pm. Bubble gum blowing contest, 3 pm. Fleece auction, 4 pm. Parade of champions, 7 pm. See full schedule online at www. mendocountyfair.com, and article elsewhere on Calendar page for more highlights.

Willits Airport Day & Sixties Fly-In: Celebrate the 50th annual anniversary of the Willits Municipal Airport with aircraft and helicopters rides offered for sale, as well as rock'n'roll oldies music, food provided by the Willits Lions Club and Harrah Senior

League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511

South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from

2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and

Friday at 7 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to

7 pm. Tweens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL

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

MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic every Wednesday. New

time: 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7 pm. 50 South Main

Just For Fun Choir: directed and accompanied by

Nancy New. Meets Mondays at the Senior Center,

1501 Baechtel Road, from 1 to 2:30 pm. Accepting

new members of all ages and abilities. Info: call

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays from 2:30

to 4:30 pm in downtown Laytonville. Buy local:

vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork,

grade level will have one parent

representative, in grades 9, 10, 11,

and 12, and one member at large.

Lastly, two community members will

be elected to serve on the school site

If you have an interest in serving on

the school site council, please call Rose

Mehtlan at 707-489-7700 or email her

Please let her know your name, your

child's name and grade, and which

opening you are seeking to be elected

to. Any elected seat shall be for two

The "Coffee and Tea with the

Principal" meetings will start Thursday.

September 11. "Coffee with the

rosemehtlan@willitsunified.com.

Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Nancy New at 459-1276.

and more.

Free Zumba for Teens:

Zumba is always free for

teenagers on Friday nights

at Studio Joy, 1262 Blosser

Lane. Class at 6 pm with

Melissa. Info: 707-841-7499

or www.studioiovwillits.com.

Free Sheriff's Activity

Center, vintage and contemporary aircraft, and classic cars. 10 am to 4 pm. Free admission. Willits Airport is located four miles north on Sherwood Road and one mile east on Poppy Drive. Info at Calendar page for more www.WillitsFlyIn.com or see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Brooktrails

Ladge:

Not JUST Cowboy Poetry & Apple Pie Throwdown: annual event at Emandal – A Farm on a River - out at Hearst features headliner Juni Fisher, Western Entertainer of the Year, plus the fourth annual apple pie contest, open mic, swimming, picnicking, and a silent auction. 2 pm. \$25, \$10 kids 12 and under, and free if you bring a pie to the contest. For more info, visit www.emandal. com or see article elsewhere on Calendar page.

Sunday, September 14

Harrah Center Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am. Pancakes, eggs, and your choice of ham, bacon, or sausage. 1501 Baechtel Road. Adults \$7 Members \$6, and kids \$5. Info: 459-6826 or visit www.willitsseniorcenter.com

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show at the Boonville Fairgrounds. Gates open at 9 am and close at midnight. Fun on Sunday: Church services. 8:30 am. Small and large animal Round Robin, 9 and 10 am. Sheep dog trials, 10 am. Spinning contest, 2 pm. Tortilla tossing contest, 3 pm. See full schedule online at www.mendocountyfair.com, and see article elsewhere on Calendar page for more highlights.

Fair Time!

Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show is next weekend

The annual county fair is right around the corner, and the community is encouraged to make the trek over the hills to the town of Boonville where the Mendocino County Fair

and Apple Show will be held September 12

through 14. Along with the rides, food, animals and exhibits, the fair showcases the California Wool and Fiber Festival, the Junior and Senior livestock shows, the popular sheep dog trials, performances by McKenna Faith and Ali De, rodeos, football and soccer games and much

Some highlights include:

California Wool and Fiber Festival, starting at 10 am on Friday, Saturday and Sunday; Open horse show, 11 am on Friday; Apple Bowl - JV Football, 3 pm on Friday; Apple Cup - Varsity Soccer, 5 pm on Friday; Apple Bowl - Varsity Football, 7 pm on Friday. Gymkhana, 10 am on Saturday; CCPRA Rodeo, 8 pm on Saturday; McKenna Faith performance and dance, 9:30 pm on Saturday. Sheep dog trials, 10 am on Sunday; Classic Car Show Judging, 10 am on Sunday: Parade, 12 pm on Sunday, CCPRA Rodeo Finals, 2 pm on Sunday.

Admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for juniors aged 13 to 18, \$6 for children aged 7 to 12, and admission is free for kids 6 and under. Special pricing promotions include Friday, September 12, when admission for seniors aged 65 is just \$3 and over and children under 12 are welcomed into the gates for free.

Carnival tickets are pay-one-price for unlimited daily rides until 6 pm and cost \$20 presale and \$30 at the gates.

The fair will be open from 9 am to midnight

For more information and a complete list of events, see www.mendocountyfair.com.

every day.

iewelry, aprons, children's clothing, knife sharpening Cards and Games

Willits Library is delighted to announce the following ongoing opportunities to play games in our Community Room. All activities are free!

at the Willits Library

Join our Tuesday bridge sessions from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Info: Donna at 459-9035. On Tuesday evenings play "Dungeons and Dragons,

the Adventurers' League," from 6 to 10 pm. Both newbies and experienced players, ages 13+, are welcome to join. Pregen characters will be provided, or you may create your own custom character. Sessions will be led by experienced Dungeon Masters. For more information, call Dan at 972-

On Saturday mornings from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm, beginning September 6, you are invited to improve your bridge skills with a nine-week series, entitled "Beyond Basics." Topics include counting dummy points, responding Principal" will be at 8:30 to 10 am, and and rebidding in no trump, pre-empts and introduction to 'Tea with the Principal" will be at 3:15 duplicate. Info: Donna at 459-9035

to 5 pm. Please check out the high Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4:30 pm, bring your chess set and have some fun with friends. All ability levels welcome. More info? Call Raymond at 841-0473.

Not JUST Cowboy Poetry Willits Food Bank needs recycled bags Please help the Willits Food Bank by recycling your clean plastic grocery bags and large brown **Apple Pie Throwdown**

across from Sparetime. Bags may be dropped off on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday between Whether you believe in using Crisco or butter or "This is a serious need, as we use three to four bags per person every time we open our doors coconut oil for your crust, Gravensteins, Pink Pearls, to those who need this service. Unlike the 'old days' the local markets no longer make these bags

Pippins, Seek No Furthers, or Arkansas Blacks for your filling, adding berries or ginger or cinnamon for more flavor adventures, the Fourth Annual Apple Pie Throwdown at Emandal's Not JUST Cowboy Poetry is Willits Cultural Arts Center is now accepting entries for the 28th Annual Holiday Craft Fair, set for the place to show your stuff! This year's event is set

for Saturday, September 13.

and specialty foods entrepreneurs should request application forms by e-mail to Bonnie Belt at Belt.bonnie@gmail.com or by mail: Willits Holiday Craft Fair c/o Bonnie Belt, 2291 Buckeye Drive, There's always a "People's Choice Award," and there will also be engraved rolling pins for: Most Delectable Filling, Most Aesthetically Pleasing. The Perfect Crust, Best Over-All Apple Pie, and new this year, Most Creative. Sheriff Tom Allman will step up as a judge this year, along with Dave or Jenny Bring your own picnic lunch and enjoy under the cool shade of redwood trees or at the reservoir Watts, and an out-of-towner or two. If we're lucky, from noon to 2 pm every Wednesday. Starting at 2 pm, we will be hosting guided farm and Lori from Ardella's will return, to lend her expertise Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome to come any time from 2 pm until dusk to

Bring a pie for the contest, and get free entrance to the show. Otherwise, tickets are \$25/adult, \$10 for kids 12 and under.

A benefit for Willits Library and Willits Daily Bread, Open Mic begins at 2 pm, pie judging at 2:30 pm, and concert at 3 pm. Headliner this year is Juni Fisher, Western Entertainer of the Year. Holly Madrigal has graciously consented to emcee the

Bring a picnic, come early and swim in the river, enjoy the One of a series of district events Huffman is doing around the Congressional district. This is free gardens, sit in the shade, eat homemade ice cream, taste all the pies (last year we had 29 entries!), and buy something Padula, and Tedd Dawson, M.D.

Vintage and contemporary aircraft as well

as classic cars from across northern California

have been invited to the celebration, especially

honoring cars and aircraft of the 1960s. The

airport will be open to visitors from 10 am to 4

pm. Admission is free. Willits Airport is located

four miles north on Sherwood Road and one

mile east on Poppy Drive. Exhibit space is

available by contacting airport manager and

event producer Dan Ramsey at 841-6252.

More information is available online at www



Malanyon Adams, Emandal's head gardener and apple peeler, oversees one of the Labor Day guests using the antique apple peeler.

special at the Silent Auction (put on by, and to benefit Willits Senior Center).

Tickets are available at: Willits Library, Willits Senior Center, Willits Daily Bread, Printing Pus, Yokum's Body Shop, Firefly Framing, Goods' Shoppe, or by calling or emailing Tamara Adams, 459-9252, cowboy poetry@emandal.com. For detailed info, visit: www.emandal.com.

Generously sponsored by: Willits Redwood Company Yokum's Body Shop, Shuster's Transportation, Inc., North Coast Plumbing and Heating, John Ford Ranch, Alfred Kerr, D.D.S., Sparetime Supply, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Rich

Harrah Center Ice Cream Social, September 15, featuring Greg Schindel Drive-Thru BBQ Chicken Dinner for 2, September 19, Harrah Senior Center Frontier Days Ranch Rodeo,

Round Valley Indian Days Celebration & Softball Tournament, September 26 to 28, Hidden Oaks Park, Round Valley Reservation

BEGINNER'S CLASS STARTS SEPT. 8

MONDAYS 7-8 PM

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS UPSTAIRS IN THE GREAT ROOM

Save the **Date**

September 20, Rodeo Grounds

LocaLights with Just Enough and David Partch, October 12, Willits Community Theatre

Upcoming at WHS from Principal Jeffrey Ritchley Willits High School has many voted upon by their peers. Each

During the week of September 8

upcoming events in which we would like to keep you up to date on. Willits High School Back to

School Night will be on Tuesday, September 9 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. The evening will start with a quick welcome from the principal, and each academic department will have a classroom in the main hallway to visit throughout the Sanhedrin High School's

Back to School Night will be Monday, September 8 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. This event will be a meet and greet with the teachers and staff. Both events will include a brief "Welcome" from the principal, department presentations, and informal conversations with the teachers. The evening will end with a Title parent meeting in the

to 12 and at Back to School Night, WHS will have elections for this year's School Site Council. According to California

Education Code 52852, a School Site Council shall be composed of the principal; representatives of teachers selected by teachers at the school; other school personnel selected by peers at the school; parents of pupils attending the school selected by such parents; and, in secondary schools, pupils selected by pupils attending the

At the secondary level the council shall be constituted to ensure parity between the principal, classroom teachers and other school personnel; equal numbers of parents or other community members selected by parents: and pupils.

This year Willits High School will have two faculty members, and two classified members, nominated and

We hope to see you soon!

school website for all sports events!

Pg. 6 **Phone:** 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 **Email:** willitsweekly@gmail.com **Mail:** P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Willits Airport Day: Airplane and Helicopter Rides

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Willits Municipal Also featured will be rock'n'roll oldies music, lots of great food

Airport on Saturday, September 13, Willits Airport Day & Sixties and beverages provided by the Willits Lions Club and Harrah

Fly-In features aircraft and helicopter rides for sale. Last year's Senior Center, and an opportunity to thank local firefighters

event sold rides to 130 passengers for flights over the valley, for their service. REACH Air Medical Services, soon to serve

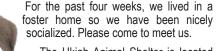
with an opportunity to see progress on the Willits bypass and Mendocino County from the Willits Airport, will display their EC

other local landmarks from the air. All aircraft are safe and are 135 medical helicopter and answer questions.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home | Brother Dean

name is Dean and, like my siblings, I am just 2 months old. My family consists of four girls and four boys.

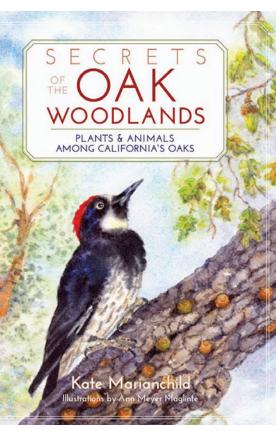
OK, so now you want to know what breed our parents were, and I must confess I do not know. Even the experienced shelter staff are scratching their heads with these questions.



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 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm.

We have many other wonderful dogs and cats awaiting their forever homes here as well. To view photos and bios of more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: www. mendoshelterpets.com or visit our shelter. For more

both new and used. information about adoption please call 463-4654.



COLUMN | Resendez Reads

The title is "Secrets of the Oak Woodlands: Plants and Animals

Among California's Oaks" written by local naturalist Kate Marionchild, and illustrated by Willits watercolor

artist and art instructor Ann Maglinte (2014, Heyday Press, published July

True to its title, this book will tell you things you never suspected

about the intricate web of life housed in your nearby mature oak trees.

As I read along, I kept making up tabloid headlines about the shocking

lives of acorn woodpeckers: "Details

of Lurid Group Marriage Revealed!"

or, as I read about the nesting habits

of woodrats: "Who Will Inherit Multi-

Our region is well noted for the

photogenic beauty of the redwoods,

but as an ecosystem they cannot

compare with the complex profusion

of species in the oak woodlands.

any other person in the room as you exclaim,

Ann's beautiful watercolors showed me a

This book

will be an eye-opener

for budding naturalists

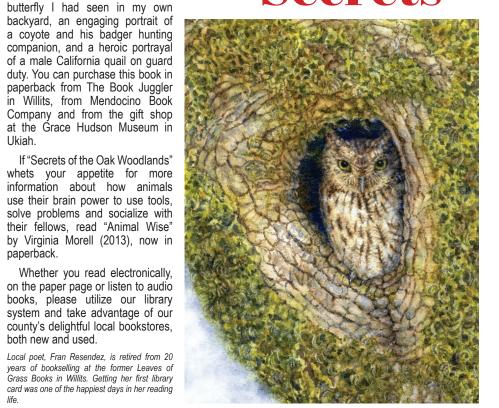
of all ages. It will inspire you to interrupt

Storied Luxury Rat Condo?"

Fran Resendez

"Listen to this!"

Local Author Reveals 'Secrets'





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Imagination Station

Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. r program begins at 18 months • Preschool: ages 3-5 • Elementary program: ages 6-10 7 South Marin Street • Willits 459-6543



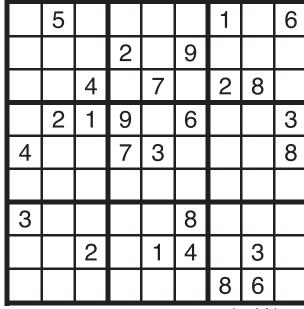


WILLITS

1565 S Main St · 707-459-5938

Puzzle Page & More Activities & fun for kids of all ages

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!

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

need to feel better this week,

Sagittarius. A change of scenery

or even looking to an old friend for

advice can make a real difference.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

The friends you thought you could

count on turn out to be the real

deal, Capricorn. Just see what

they have in store for you this

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

It is okay to have strong

opinions, Aquarius. But respect

the opinions of others who may

disagree with your point of view.

pointless situations

Learn how to walk away from

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

There's more to the story than

week. You will be so surprised.

In The Stars

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

within your capabilities. Do not

Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you're wearing your heart

on your sleeve this week. Don't

worry, as your willingness to

share your emotions will endear

vou to others.

ARIES Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, take the high road when Leo, unless you try you will never A new perspective is all you you find yourself in the midst of a be able to tell if something is disagreement with a friend. It may be tempting to stick to your guns, be afraid to fail. It's better than but the disagreement is nothing putting in no effort at all.

too significant.

TAURUS Apr 21/May 21

Much is going on, Taurus, and you have trouble zeroing in on a focal point. Unless you make a list of all you want to accomplish, you may get lost in the shuffle.

> **GEMINI** May 22/Jun 21

You sometimes change your There are only so many hours moods on a whim, Gemini. But lately you have been more pick and choose your activities steadfast in your convictions. This accordingly. You likely will not be behavior will continue for some able to squeeze everything in.

> **CANCER** Jun 22/Jul 22

Don't make any rash moves in the next few days, Cancer. For whatever reason your common sense meter is a little off. You may want to run ideas past a trusted friend for a while.

Weapons

Lion Dance

in the day, Libra. You need to

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

SCORPIO Scorpio, if you want to get involved in something, then by

all means give it your best shot If it's something foreign to you, let others take the reigns until you're more comfortable

meets the eye, Pisces. Quick dictorious **Your First** Class is FREE!

iudgement may land you in hot water. Wait for the dust to settle. 24 Hour 7 Days a Week **Emergency Service • Call Anytime** Tom Wake - Plumbing

Serving in Mendocino and Lake Counties **Full Service Residential, Commercial** Faucets & Tubs •Garbage Disposals Pipe Repairs
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EXPERIENCE

Kung Fu

introduction discussing his priorities and strategies as head of county law enforcement and the importance of community dialogue, Allman answered questions from the public, both anonymously by written card and from audience members. The talk was moderated by Hezekiah Allen, executive director of the Emerald Growers' Association, and a previous series speaker on environmental

Ouestions

Rumors of unmarked helicopters conducting eradication raids in the county were on the minds of many attendees, which Allman addressed in several ways. He declared county law enforcement does not own a helicopter, although it does periodically lease one which, as such, is not clearly marked as Sheriff's Office property. "If I had the money for a helicopter, I'd get four or five deputies instead," said Allman.

The county is not working with private security outfit LEAR Asset Management, he added, although timber companies and other landowners may legally hire private no warrant is required. "Property lines security to protect property from aren't visible from the air," he trespass grows.

"I advise them they cannot remove He said county officers will

cut down because that's transporting under the law,"

Sheriff's deputies need Allman's permission to work off-duty, he said,

and none are currently doing so. Many of the rumors are based in areas such as Woodman Canyon north of Laytonville, where Allman has confirmed the county conducted operations during July with Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force agents and COMMET (County of Mendocino Marijuana Eradication Team).

One audience member related a firsthand encounter with what he presumed were law enforcement officers conducting a Potter Valley raid who refused to identify themselves, but Allman reiterated county and local officers are required to provide their name and badge numbers, and he has been "encouraging officers to do as much videotaping and recording as possible ... so everyone's on their

Grows not clearly connected to a residence, he explained, are considered "open field searches" and

even one plant that's been refrain from cutting plants deemed to be in compliance, and emphasized the importance of posted doctor's recommendations. Sheriff's deputies, he said, have the option of cutting and removing, chipping, or leaving cut

plants on-site, depending on the stage Allman encouraged concerned

citizens to document helicopter tail numbers and other suspicious activity and communicate with his office when seemingly illegal or "vigilante" raids occur. He emphasized that while he works to maintain good working relationships with outside agencies, not all state and federal law enforcement officials are obligated to notify him of their activities, and are subject to different laws concerning identifying themselves to the public, particularly when conducting undercover operations.

Although he did not attend the event in uniform, Allman spoke to the audience of his desire to remain "as accountable to you as possible," and his availability to discuss questionable incidents. He alluded to several incidents where his office had damaged property or acted in error, but emphasized his willingness to

The rest of Questions

On Page 10

Crossword Puzzle

CLUES ACROSS

54. Male ice dancing champion 1. Nuclear near reach weapon 56. Tops of birds' heads 5. Delicately beautiful 58. Carrier's invention 59. Children's author Blyton

53. Not out

60. Anise liqueur

64. Adult females

1. Emit light

2. Not long past

4. Masculine

7. Farm state

3. Casually inspect

5. Wish harm upon

6. Capable of soothing

10. An enclosed field

Olson twins

14. Coastal

13. Initials of one of the

8. Initials of HLN legal host

9. Planets 120 degrees apart

65. Yellow Dutch cheese

CLUES DOWN

63. Listing

12. Reordered letters 15. Representation

19. Large black dog breed 24. Atomic #18 25. Followed

11. Queen of the gods

16. 24th state

17. Irritated

27. Equal, prefix 28. Cablegram (abbr.) 29. Affront

26. Ivy University

30. 7th Hindu month 31. Competed 33. Slur over 34. Shape before marketing

38. Comes into being 39. White House architect 40. Brazilian dance 43. Somalian supermodel

45. Electric Cobra model 80 48. Local area network (abbr.) 49. Substitution

50. "Thornbirds" actress Ward

18. Remote control aircraft (pl.) 20. Oersted (abbr.) 21. Blue Hen school 22. Praise

27. Egyptian goddess 29. Atomic #21 30. Boxer Muhammad 31. Fast gallop 32. Indicates position 33. Geological time

23. Vestment

34. Elizabeth's Prince 35. Balkan nation 36. Israeli politician Abba 37. Indicates ability 38. Universal recipient

blood group 40. Clairvoyant 41. Blandish 42. Of I 44. Former OSS 45. Deviously plan

46. Polished shoes 47. Visual processing membrane 49. Tibet's capital 50. 2nd musical tone 51. Expression of sympathy

52. Bog Labrador-tea 54. To furnish with a ceiling 55. Frosts 57. Natural logarithm

61. -__, denotes past 62. Atomic #22

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Questions | From Page 9

address such mistakes. Referencing his conflicts with federal authorities over the 9.31 marijuana compliance program and the need to maintain communication with federal authorities, Allman told the crowd "other agencies would love to come in here ... and say 'we'll take it from here,' but they're not

accountable to the people."

Copies of the county's 9.31 regulations were passed to attendees, and Allman also encouraged growers to join the Sheriff's Office zip tie program, saying "it's given a lot of people comfort."

Plant locations are not recorded as part of the program, he added, and encouraged those with medical prescriptions to post parcel maps and photocopied recommendations on garden fences, if worried about ambiguity concerning property lines.

"My guys know how to read a parcel map," Allman added.

Both the 9.31 regulations and incident report forms are available on the sheriff's website.

Allman cited the success of joint enforcement efforts in previous years, such as Operation Full Court Press, which he says have resulted in significantly fewer big grows in the county. "I'm not aware of any grows over 500 plants."

He also clarified that participation in the county's restitution program for "abusive grows," which utilizes a section of California's Health and Safety Code and is set at \$50/plant and \$500/processed pound. The advocacy group, Mendocino Cannabis on domestic violence as the feds want restitution program is voluntary and Policy Council, for the November to spend on marijuana."

The rest of From Page 1 Roots

12 pm: Estep Diesel, Mason County Logging #7 takes over train operations. Willamette - Washington Iron Works Yarder, BE 22 B at Shovel Pit

1 pm: Bucyrus Erie 50 B at Shovel Pit, Raymond Steam Crane, LeTourneau Crane Demonstrations

2 pm: Buffalo Springfield Roller, Crane, Locomotive Willamette & Stationary Engines including Eureka Foundry Horizontal Spool Donkey, Tractors at Shovel Pit, Ranch Car Tours

3 pm: Bluestone Mining & Smelting Heisler #1 ioins Mason County #7 for doubleheader, Bucyrus Erie 50B Shovel Demonstration at Pit, Willamette & WIW Duplex Loader, Raymond Steam Crane, Estep Diesel 4 pm: Train movements to prepare for Sunday. Bluestone #1 spotted for diesel operation conclude.

Sunday ops. All steam and 4:30 pm: Roots of Motive Power Fundraiser Auction and Raffle 5 pm: Barbecue ends 6 pm: Lumberjack Show

Sunday, September 7: All day long: Engine House

H E R A

P R E C U T

9 am: Hand Car & Speeder Adrienne Moore and some Demonstrations on Loop council members believe

10 am: Willamette begins operations. Springfield Roller moves to Recreation Grove for street printing, Raymond, Ohio Railroad Crane

Shovel Pit

11 am: Street Printing begins in Recreation Bucvrus Erie Demonstration at Bluestone Mining and Smelting #1 begins Train Operations on Loop, Willamette & Stationary Engines, Estep Diesel

12 pm: Willamette Yarder. Yarder, Tractor Estep demonstration at Shovel Pit, Raymond, Ranch Car Tours 1 pm: Bucyrus Erie 50B, Ohio Locomotive Crane, Willamette Yarder & WIW **Duplex Loader**

2 pm: Street Printing finishes. Bluestone Mining Heisler #1, Buffalo Springfield - returns to Roots Yard, LeTourneau Tourna-Crane demonstration, Willamette, BE 50B moves back to shop, Estep Diesel, Tractor Demonstrations at Shovel Pit

3 pm: Shut down of all steam equipment

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H O B A N S A M B A

E N S U E D Y A L E I S O

not offered to all offenders. 2015 ballot. If passed by voters, the measure would serve as the county's Allman also outlined his marijuana policy in anticipation of countywide enforcement objectives for eradication operations, which he described as a "business

person, you will agree, are the most

Illegal water diversions – being the

top priority in this extreme drought

year – have resulted in three arrests

which "the DA is taking very seriously,"

he said. Allman also referenced profit-

seeking outsiders "doing things to our

When asked for clarification

from the audience concerning

what is considered a "commercial

grow," Allman stated that despite

dispensaries in the state creating "a

little bit of a grey area," he considered

a commercial grow anything in which

there was evidence of "growing for the

purpose of making a lot of money," and

repeatedly told the crowd cannabis

produced for profit is considered a

felony, and he considers eradication

if there is intelligence concerning

Those attending the meeting

were also given handouts outlining

a countywide proposed "Cannabis

Policy Initiative" by the newly formed

money being exchanged.

Buffalo

land that we would never do.

important.

statewide legislative changes in 2016. The outline proposes a countywide plan" county deputies are supposed policy change addressing discussion to use to justify any eradication. of "shifting the regulatory system from These include grows considered to a nuisance enforcement framework to be "commercial" operations, trespass agriculture, horticulture, and related grows on private property, and public classifications." land grows, which Allman says are

Early into his presentation, Allman also significantly down in Mendocino asked the crowd who had lived in the county in 1996, when medical He listed grows involved with marijuana legislation was legally first environmental degradation and illegal passed. More than one-third raised water diversions as those that "if you are really a Mendocino County

"I can only imagine where we'll be in 10 years," he said.

Allman concluded the forum with his thoughts concerning the future of marijuana law within the county and

He said he had come to believe in the efficacy of medical marijuana over the past 15 years, and envisions a massive legislative change by 2016. However, as a law enforcement officer, he added, consistency of laws should be prioritized, as problems arise over differences between counties and

"What's legal in Mendocino County could be a felony in LA," he noted, contrasting the uniformity of the legal definition of assault in California counties to the current contradictions concerning California's marijuana regulations.

Allman ended his comments by speaking on law enforcement priorities more generally, remarking: "I wish I had as much money to spend

Track, Tractor operations at the budget can be balanced with a little more work.

> "I am optimistic we may get to a balanced budget," Moore said. "We are very close to it."

The general fund deficit totals about \$130,000. The water department fund faces a budgeted deficit of about \$6,600, while the sewer department budget shows a \$276,712 shortfall, according to a city report.

However, money could be saved as city management discusses reorganization while holding talks with employee bargaining units.

The city gained some ground on balancing its books since a draft budget was presented in June.

Water funds showed a \$228,500 shortfall then, while the general fund's shortfall was brought down from about \$500,000.

As part of the revised, proposed budget, Willits City Pool was set to be closed. The city also chopped funding for the Economic

Development The rest of and Finance

From Page 1

Corporation and Willits' Local First program for a savings of \$6,000.

After discussion, council members decided to fund the pool. The savings by closing the pool for the current fiscal year would have been small, only about \$5,000.

Operating the pool for a season costs the city more than \$35.000. "We can anticipate it is going to be close to \$37,000," Finance Director Susan Holmes

If the pool was axed, or is axed in the future, Mayor Holly Madrigal and City Manager Moore suggested it could be operated by a voter-approved recreation district in the Willits area.

Councilman Bruce Burton said he did not like the idea of looking at items like the pool one by one.

"It actually has income, as meager as it may be; the ball fields have no income,'

Councilwoman Madge Strong said the pool should be kept for 2015, but then

On Page 13 Budget

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



At top: one of Ursula Partch's textile pieces and one of her

At right: are paintings by Peggy Hebrard, from top down: "My Cowboy" featuring Ray Hebrard and his cowdogs, a portrait of Jesse Pittman, and a floral painting.

Below: several of Morgan Rex's sunburst sculptures.



New show opens at

Willits Center for the Arts

The show at the Willits Center for the Arts this month features work from Willits artists Ursula Partch, Peggy Hebrard and Morgan Rex. Between the three of them, the show will display what Partch calls "a multitude of techniques": art works including fiber art hangings, metal and glass sun sculptures. paintings, textiles, photography,

Kate Maxwell Features Writer

with long careers dedicated to improving their practice. The show will open this Saturday evening, September 6, with a reception from 7 to 9 pm, with a

performance by local group the New Blu Trio, featuring vocalist Ursula Partch is a textile artist who has been working with fibers for 50 years and weaving for 30, a craft she first learned in

Mendocino County. "My main technique is combing handwoven fibers with felt layers," says Partch. She creates pieces ranging from wall hangings to garments and accessories, like scarves and earrings, as well as making her husband's and her own clothes for over three decades. Partch, originally from Germany, has lived in Willits for

the last eight years and has participated in a number of other shows at the WCA and around the county. She has taught classes in the fiber arts for local students, including

at the Willits Kids Club and Willits High School She is also a member of the Corner Gallery & Art Center, an artists' cooperative in Ukiah, and more of her work can be found there.

One of her projects is a group of works made entirely from local materials – "all the wools, the yarn, all the dyes from local plants" - some of which will be included in the show. In addition to the work displayed in the gallery throughout the month, the opening will feature more of Partch's garments and accessories for visitors, who "can touch them, feel them, wear them - they just can't walk home with them!" she laughs.

Peggy Hebrard is a dedicated painter and an avid photographer who has been making art "since about 1960." Initially inspired to copy a painting of a small boy in a Kimball catalog, Hebrard has subsequently dedicated herself to creating

art: winning awards for paintings, and "taking tens of thousands of photographs" of nature and life around her. "My greatest love is painting florals, portraits, and animals," says Hebrard: "when I paint a flower, I become that flower

Hebrard's work takes a variety of forms, all which will be displayed at the show. "A camera can capture a frozen moment in time, but a painting can capture the essence, she writes. She will also show several commissioned pieces, including a pet portrait from a Hayfork family who will be attending to collect it. "I'm sort of known as the dead dog lady," she says, going on to explain how wonderful it feels to capture the exact essence of a beloved family pet.

Hebrard's life as an artist is deeply intertwined with being a teacher, and her contributions to the show reflect that as a source of her inspiration. She has taught art and English in Northern California schools and locally for many decades, but currently her efforts are primarily dedicated to her free tole painting class at the Harrah Senior Center (works from which will

be in the show), and to encouraging the artistic inclinations of her grandchildren,

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WCA | Over on Page 13



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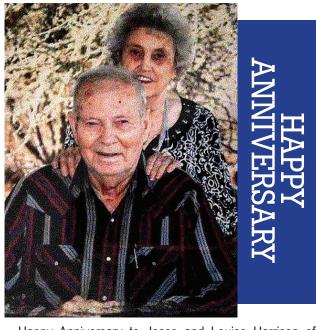
This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5











Happy Anniversary to Jesse and Louise Harrison of Willits who have been married 68 years. They were married on September 4, 1946 and are now the proud great-grandparents to 12 great-grandchildren.









Above: left: A group of "rank" ladies just after the wild cow milking event. Right: Chris Bartow grabs for the horn of a roped steer.

Who's ready for the Ranch Rodeo?

flashy and fancy with their colorful chaps and manicured manes, the real ranching cowboys and cowgirls have different requirements for their day-to-day activities, some of which will be showcased at this year's Ranch Rodeo.

Held September 20 at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds, the third annual event will focus on tasks more related to real-life situations for ranchers and their horses. The event is free for the public to attend and will start at 1

The "Calcutta auction" will give event-goers a fun angle on attending: people can bid on the teams at the beginning of the show. Whichever team wins the event will earn its bidders a percentage of funds raised. The Barbeque Cookoff, co-chaired by Sherwood Valley Casino, will be a fun addition to the day. Teams will cook and serve tasty food for the enjoyment of the judges and those with tasting tickets: \$10 each. The first-place winner will receive smokers donated by Willits Frontier Days and Metal Fx. The secondplace winner will receive knives donated by ER Energy. The third-place winner will receive a barbecue basket donated by Sherwood Valley Casino. The winner of Best Decorated Table gets a gift basket donated by Flowers by Annette.

Calf branding, ranch doctoring, team sorting, ribbon roping, reverse team roping, saddle cow riding and kid's

Though professional rodeos and area gymkhanas are dummy roping will all showcase a more refined skill set for the horse and rider and provide event-goers with a different look at ranch life.

> Events will be completed in teams of three; all teams must compete in all events to be eligible to win. The firstplace team will receive a cash award and belt buckles. The second-place team will also receive a cash payout prize.

> In the calf branding event, riders will have to rope a calf and mark it with a paint branding iron. The ranch doctoring event will require riders to sort and rope a steer, catch it, then mark it with an "x" to indicate where a shot would be administered. Team sorting shows the team's ability to select numbered animals from the herd and move them through a mock gate. Ribbon roping requires the team to rope, mug and remove a ribbon from the animal's tail.

> Reverse team roping is similar to regular team roping, except the riders will start at opposite ends of the arena, making them run to the other end, re-orient with the steer, then catch a clean head and heel shot. Saddle cow riding is not necessarily a daily ranch-life activity, but gives the cowboys and cowgirls a chance to have some fun, essentially doing bull riding on a full-grown mamma cow ... with three of those riders in the arena, all busting out of the chutes at the same time.

> Kids dummy roping gives the little ones a chance to practice their skills at roping, preparing for when they are able to do so from horseback. This event will start at 2 pm. Three age groups will be competing, with each group's winner receiving a prize donated by Mendocino County Farm Supply.

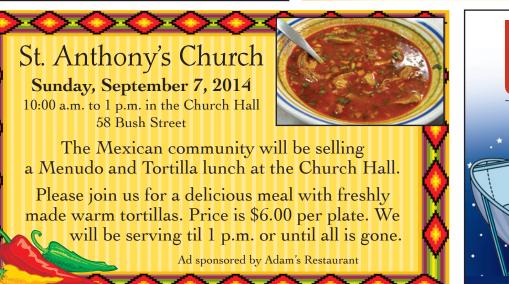
> "The traditions of the hardworking life on the ranch are in danger of being lost." explained one of the event's coordinators, Mary Fonsen. "We want to showcase the skills of ranchers and their true and real-life ranch horses and keep people interested in the ranching lifestyle."

Fonsen and her husband, Mike, are ranchers themselves, frequently working their cattle and using many of these dayto-day skills with their own herds.

"We also want to impress our attention to ensuring humane and positive interaction with the cattle - in this event and in real life." explained Fonsen. "You have to be able to handle and move the cattle from time to time, and a large emphasis has been put on required disqualification for excessive roughness when dealing with the animals. They are an investment for the ranchers, and it's in no one's interest to stress or hurt them.'

Organizers are still looking for additional three-person teams to sign up for the event. A working knowledge of riding and roping is required, but all levels and ages of horsemen are welcome to sign up. To sign up or for more information, go to www.willitsfrontierdays.com/yearround.html or contact Marcy Barry at 272-5395 or Mary Fonsen at 354-0112.

- Maureen Moore





The rest of

From Page 10 Budget

a rate hike for pool-users may be considered.

"I think there is not a whole lot of studies and plans for a meat packing stomach up here for cutting the pool plant, a biomass power plant, and a without discussing other options," business incubator at the old Ukiah jail Strong said.

For the budget at large, Burton said he favored the idea of taking out allocated staff positions which have not been filled.

"I believe there may be some positions in this budget that do not have a social security number next to them yet," said Burton.

Strong asked fellow council members to take a vote on each of the budget items.

The council voted 3-2 to keep the Madrigal and Ron Orenstein voted pool in the budget. Councilman Larry to pass the budget. Burton cast the Stranske and Burton voted "no." "It is something we subsidize, and

something we do for the public good," are tasked with cutting a budget there the hospital we open in spring will Madrigal said. is going to be bloodshed," Councilman

EDFC director John Kuhry's plea Orenstein said.

Campus | From Page 1

approval of a use permit

The campus on Haehl Creek Drive

will come together in phases to include an eight-unit temporary housing facility, three medical office buildings, and a wellness center.

A community pool, kitchen, exercise rooms and a resource library will all be part of the wellness center, according to a City Hall report.

Margie Handley, head of the Howard Foundation, and Howard Foundation member Tom Herman represented the project before the commission.

"We have a wonderful relationship with the Adventist hospital system, Herman said.

The prospect of



Ella, Michael, Wyatt and Audrey, and her young neighbor Jessica, all of whom will be featured in the show and in attendance at the reception.

Morgan Rex is a local artist who works with metal, glass and, in his newest pieces, with water as well. Rex has worked as a commercial artist creating wind chimes for 30 years, but has maintained his passion for more sculptural metal work alongside his commercial products.

"I started in metal work, and after about 20 years added glass in," he says, "and now, just this year, I'm using water." Rex works using steel sheet metal and glass he finds "in secondhand shops, in gift shops, from fishing floats," and wherever it crosses his path. "Glass is an interesting thing because it comes in so many different forms to repurpose," he says. His "passion of late" is his series of sunbursts, which combine a standard metal frame with a unique design of metal and glass in the center of each piece.

Rex will be showing primarily new work, including recent experiments with hammering the steel in his pieces, design-based works, and sculptural water fountains. "This gallery show is providing me with a good reminder to make all the things I envisioned in the past, but never completed," he says. More of his finished work can be found at www.funwithsuns. com, at Morgan Rex's page on Facebook, and at the WCA's Holiday Craft Fair.

All three artists are available for commissions. The show will run through September 28: gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm; and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 pm. 71 East Commercial Street. Info: www.willitscenterforthearts. org or 459-1726.

swimming pool seemed even better on a night when the city pool almost went hospital construction was on time,

to the city earlier this summer The rest of

was not enough to persuade the

council to fund the organization's

Work done by the EDFC includes

The Willits Police Department

received some money, about \$80,000,

some of which was appropriated from

In addition to the proposed 20

percent water rate increase, another

source of money figured into the

budget is increasing sewer department

revenue by \$60,000 through permits

Council members Stranske, Strong,

Assembly Bill 109.

for receiving sewage.

council's single "no" vote.

"It is a strong need in the community; it would be great to have a swimming pool," said Herman.

The hospital's Commonwealth Garden, a walking trail, and more new homes built this year in the Haehl Creek neighborhood put an exclamation mark on the development.

The city has been wary of approving projects needing more water than four single-family homes, but council members voted last year to approve a senior living facility in Haehl Creek.

"We feel as reasonably certain as we can be that we can supply this in the Willits community is evident development." Mayor Holly Madrigal

Councilman Ron Orenstein called the project "amazing" and a "jewel."

2010, Adventist Health announced it "This is going to be great. Thank was budgeting \$61.2 million for the you," Orenstein told Herman and new 25-bed hospital. Handlev.

From Page 1 Roads

Department of Transportation parlance, corrective maintenance is big stuff: treatments that repair, resurface, repave, and sometimes even reconstruct paved roads.

According to the 2013 Pavement Condition Index study roads with a PCI between 70 and 100 are considered good to excellent. A PCI rating of 50 to 69 is considered fair. A PCI of 25 to 49 is considered poor, and from 0 to 25 is considered to be failed. The 2013 report estimates the county's current PCI rating at

The report states 30 percent of county paved roads are in poor condition, and another 33 percent are in a failed condition. Which means 63 percent of the county's paved roads are either ailing or failed.

And reversing or halting the deterioration of county paved roads will be costly. According to county Department of Transportation Director Howard Dashiell, in a normal year the department spends about \$500,000 on corrective maintenance. If the county doubled that sum, and spent \$1 million annually on corrective maintenance, Dashiell said, the PCI would still slide in 10 years from its current 42 to 24. If his department quadruples what it currently spends, from \$500,000 to \$2 million, the PCI goes down over the decade to 31.

Spending \$5 million annually - that is, spending 10 times what is now being spent - would keep the PCI close to its current condition; it would slip from 42 to 40.

Spending \$9 million on corrective maintenance annually would bump the PCI up slightly over the next 10 years, from 42 to 50, according to the report,. That's almost 20 times what the county currently spends on corrective maintenance.

The problem is the county doesn't have an extra \$9 million a year lying around. The total Department of Transportation budget is \$9.17 million, and that includes everything: wages, salaries, retirement costs, routine and preventive road maintenance, bridge replacement and repair, equipment purchases, emergency road repairs, and corrective maintenance.

In a normal year, the county might have an end-of -year budget carryover of between \$2 million and \$3 million. That carryover is always reallocated to needs and projects in the next year's budget,

double the Department of Transportation budget.

Dashiell said his department would be hard pressed to find a spare \$2 million to dedicate to corrective maintenance. He pitted corrective maintenance against routine and preventive maintenance, which he defined as the more mundane tasks of the DOT. These include 23 separate tasks, including storm drain inspection and cleaning, pothole patching, ditch cleaning, culvert cleaning and replacement, street sweeping, chip sealing, roadside mowing, brush and tree removal, cattle guard repairs and 14 other categories of work.

Performing routine and preventive maintenance helps to keep the PCI up. Dashiell said. "We know reducing routine and preventive maintenance lowers PCI and increases corrective maintenance costs," he said. "The county needs to increase corrective maintenance while preserving funding for routine and preventive maintenance.'

Supervisors did not bring Gjerde's motion to a vote. Instead board members left the door open for the board to reconsider Gjerde's motion during final budget deliberations on September 9 through 11.

"I believe the PCI is important, but there are a lot of things that are important," said Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg.

Speaking with Willits Weekly a few days before Tuesday's meeting, Third District Supervisor John Pinches reflected on the significance of the PCI report. "I don't think our roads are in that bad a shape," Pinches said. "As for spending more on roads, yeah, we could do that, but I could say that about mental health. I could say that about social services. You could easily double the amount of money you spend on both of those. But the fact of the matter is, we don't have the money. We have to live within what we have.

"It's kinda like going outside your house and looking at the temperature. You can see it's hot. But is there really anything you can do about it? I think the only way you're gonna change it is with more money," Pinches said.

"I think they need to spend more time thinking about the roads," Gjerde said during a brief recess. "There are options for the county and the county needs to pursue those options to fund resurfacing the roads. I hope they'll dedicate more time to the subject, because the county is failing resulting in a balanced budget. There is no the people of Mendocino County in failing extra \$8.5 million available to essentially to resurface the paved roads.

The rest of HMH | From Page 1 Library

Rick Bockmann, president and CEO of

Howard Hospital. "I am disappointed

that due to a construction delay, we

have to postpone the opening of the

Health

spokesperson Nick Bejarano could

"The advanced technology in this

building is substantial," said Amy

Ford, senior project manager for

the new hospital construction, in the

press release. "When you combine

the complexity of the building, with

the rigorous inspection process and

oversight from state inspectors for

hospitals, schedules can be delayed.

It is worth the extra time investment

to ensure the standards we strive

for are met to ensure quality health

care for our community. As a result

be the world-class facility that Willits

Margie Handley, president of

the Frank R. Howard Foundation.

said she, too, was "very shocked

and we had made all of our plans

for the dedication. But when you

have a construction project of this

size, you can never anticipate what

might happen, and while we're all

disappointed, delays are usually for a

administrative team at the hospital

"is working diligently" with HBE, the

lead design-build firm on the project,

to update the current timeline, and

will share an updated timeline once it

'Adventist Health's commitment

to provide best-in-class health care

with the building of the new hospital,"

When the contracts with the Frank

R. Howard Foundation were signed in

CEO Bockmann said

good reason.'

becomes available.

Bockmann said

not add any more details about why

new hospital.'

Adventist

"The unfortunate thing is when we of this delay, we are confident that

the delay had occurred.

is against state law.

The county's official

response, authored by acting-From Page 1 County Counsel Doug Losak and approved on last week by

Angelo and submitted to supervisors on July 22. According to the official response, the county is innocent of having "historically and continuously failed to recognize or treat the library as a special district" because it is not a special district. "Based on applicable laws, the Mendocino County Library is not a special district with its own governing body, separate and distinct from the county as is, for example, the Mendocino County Air

the board of supervisors, largely echoes the special response to

the grand jury's library report authored by County CEO Carmel

Quality Management District," according to the response. Supervisors and the CEO are likewise innocent of having usurped the authority of the county librarian. The response states "Education Code Section 19160 establishes the powers and duties of the board of supervisors regarding the library. This section states that the county free library is under the general supervision of the board of supervisors which may (a) make general rules and regulations regarding the policy of the county free library, (b) establish, upon the recommendation of the county librarian branches and stations throughout the county and may locate the branches and stations in cities wherever deemed advisable, and c) determine the number and kind of employees of the library."

The response goes on to state: "Based on the above, it is clear that the County Free Library is not a special district that operates separate from the county. Therefore, operating in a manner similar to how other county departments are operating does not violate

In its response to the grand jury report, the county partially disagreed - and therefore, partially agreed - with grand jury findings that "A87 costs charged to the library are not clearly identified in the budget and the amount charged is questionable. and disappointed. We thought the

> A87 costs are costs paid back to the county for what the response terms "central administrative and overhead expenses to county departments related to federally funded grants or programs." In other words, if a county department receives federal funding, it has to pay back to the county certain costs for depreciation and uses of facilities, even if those facilities belong to the county.

> The county response to the grand jury claims states: "The county correctly allocates the A87 costs attributed to the county library. However, the county will strive to more clearly identify A87 costs in the county's budget in the future with a separate line item titled 'A-87 costs.'

> The most troubling allegation in the grand jury library report is that the county has deprived the County Free Library of at least \$1 million for the period 1998 through 2013, contrary to statements made by the CEO to the board of supervisors." The grand jury claims this siphoning off of money is due to the fact the county librarian has historically been paid, and is now being paid, out of funding allocated by the county to the library. The grand jury claims the county librarian needs to be paid from county general funds.

> The overarching goal of the grand jury is to point out that as things are currently being done - it would be possible for the county to pay its librarian with funds derived from Measure A, which is against the intent of the measure.

> As CEO Angelo did in her July 2014 response, the supervisors categorically denied any wrongdoing on the part of the county. "It is unclear what law is being referenced in this finding," the response states. "The elected county auditor-controller is in charge of the accounting process for the county library. No documentation regarding the allegations contained in the above findings has been brought to the board of supervisors' attention. The board of supervisors adopts by reference the response of the auditorcontroller to this finding.

The response refers to that of Auditor-Controller Lloyd Weer, who denied grand jury allegations in a statement made in conjunction with Angelo's July 22 response

Weer wrote: "All Mendocino County officers [department heads] are paid in the same manner and out of the fund in which they work. The General Services director is paid out of the general fund the Department of Transportation director is paid out of the road fund, the air pollution control officer is paid out of the air quality fund, and the librarian is paid out of the library fund.

"The County Free Library law does not require that the librarian's salary comes out of the 'general fund' and, therefore, the county has not deprived the library of any funding," Weer wrote.

The California Government Code, in Section 19147 and Section 19148, clarifies how librarians are to be paid, and when both sections are read, the county appears to be in violation of

"The salary of the county librarians shall be paid by each of the counties in equal monthly installments at the same time and in the same manner and out of the same fund, as the salaries of other county officials are paid." (Section 19147)

"The board of supervisors of a county over 400,000 population, as determined by the 1960 decennial census, maintaining a County Free Library may provide that the salary of the county librarian be paid from the same fund used for maintaining and operating the County Free Library." (Section 19148)

Section 19148 distinguishes between the way county librarians are to be paid in larger counties and how they are to be paid in smaller counties. The language in Section 19148 appears to imply a county with a population of less than 400,000 in the 1960 census may not pay its county librarian from funds used to pay for the maintaining and operation of the county library. Mendocino County's population in 1960 was about 51,000.

Hamburg knocks grand jury trend

As supervisors were getting ready to approve their package of responses to the grand jury report, Supervisor Dan Hamburg (5th District) expressed dismay at what he termed "a gulf of disconnection" between the board of supervisors and the grand

"There were 12 findings made by the grand jury with respect to the library. There were 10 with which we wholly disagreed, and there were two with which we partially disagreed. That's a pretty high percentage of disagreement. With the recommendations, [again, on the library issue] there were 19 recommendations made. Fully 16 of those are slated to not be implemented. So, you can really see this huge gulf that exists in this report.

"And I think Supervisor McCowen is correct in pointing out that in these two other reports related to mental health, there is a huge gap," Hamburg continued. "There were nine findings made with regard to mental health privatization by the grand jury, and in our response we fully disagreed with eight of them, and we partially disagreed with one of them.

"So this is a gulf of disconnection that makes me wonder: what is the grand jury really up to in some of these areas?... I've had so many people in my district who are really reasonable people usually, just so enflamed by this report on the library. And I don't know what got it all started," Hamburg said. "But I frankly don't think there's a lot in the grand jury report that is fully truthful. I do think some damage was done to the credibility of the CEO, to the credibility of the entire county."

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Willits Weekly | September 4, 2014



Willits High School
Wolverines battle the El
Molino Lions on the WHS
field during last Friday's
game.

Blake Leslie, #7, throws the ball. Blake threw three touchdown passes during the Friday game, and cheers from the crowd could be heard across the otherwisequiet north end of town.

Willits Wolverines TJ Buzzard, #52, and Colton Pinson, #51, on the field.

Wolverine Will Smith, #20, receives the ball during Friday's game.

Photos by Kim Pinson

NEXT HOME GAME:

Friday, 9/12 5 pm & 7 pm at WHS

The first of the

Friday Night Lights

WHS Varsity Wolverines play hard against El Molino: final score: 36-45

"The kids played really well!" noted Sean Leslie, Willits High School's head coach for the varsity football team. "Even though we ended the game at 36-45, they kept the score tight and really played hard for their first time out on the field!"

Last Friday was the first home game for Willits High School's football team, which they played against El Molino, a school from Forrestville in Sonoma County.

Leslie noted that the El Molino kids had already scrimmaged a few games prior to WHS's first time out on the field, and mentioned how proud he was of the players on the Wolverine team for really holding their own.

"There are about 15 kids that moved up this year from the jayvee team last year who are really good additions to the varsity team," explained Leslie. "They were great last year, and this year, they're even bigger, stronger and faster."

There were three players that Leslie mentioned who made notable plays during the Friday game: 16-year-old juniors Blake Leslie, Justin Thom and Will Smith.

about 350 yards.

Justin, the wide receiver, caught three of the touchdown passes from Blake, and Will Smith was able to run the ball down the gridiron for a touchdown.

Coach Leslie also noted the defense's great job holding the line during the "shootout style" game – with both teams consistently making touchdowns and scoring points back and forth.

"Everyone on the team this year is such a team player, too," explained Leslie. "They have great sportsmanship, and it looks like it will be a really great

> Around 25 players are on the varsity roster this season, and Leslie and some coaching associates are thinking that, with the great group of 2014, the Wolverines will be a good contender for the

Come cheer on the jayvee and varsity teams during their next home game, Friday, September 12, at Maize Field, behind the high school. The Wolverines will play Elsie Allen. Jayvee starts at 5 pm and varsity at



ACL1 title.



www.pondsun.com • tonysorace@pacific.net







Vote Holly Headquarters Grand Opening

Sept. 5th, 4-7pm 716 S. Main St., Willits

Your vote is needed.
Join Us.

Stop by and pick up your sign, buttons, and bumpersticker

