

Willits Weekly

Online & Print



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Real Estate
Section
Thursday!

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
Donations Accepted Edition No. 177 **Thursday, October 13, 2016**

Highway signage wish list compiled

Damian Sebouhian
Reporter
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Gleaning suggestions from the public, city councilmembers and city staff regarding post-101 bypass signage, City Planner Dusty Duley has compiled a sign request list for the Willits City Council to review. Pending council approval, the sign list will be submitted to Caltrans, after the bypass is open.

"Caltrans will look at the requests after the bypass is completed," Duley told the Revit-ED committee members during Tuesday's meeting.

Duley divided the sign request list into five

Read the rest of **Signage**
Over on Page 11

Draft vacancy ordinance close to ready for council

Damian Sebouhian
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The "Vacant Commercial Property Registration and Property Maintenance" ordinance is one step closer to being finalized for Willits City Council review, after Revit-ED committee members suggested only minor changes to the latest draft organized by City Planner Dusty Duley.

If approved by the council before or at December's meeting, the ordinance could go into effect as early as January 2017. In such a scenario, owners of vacant commercial buildings would then have 90 days to register with the City of Willits Community Development

Read the rest of **Vacancy**
Over on Page 15

Milk tanker flips on northern interchange

Dan McKee
Reporter
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A northbound tanker full of milk flipped over on Highway 101 at the northern interchange for the new Willits bypass shortly after 10:30 am on Friday, October 7, leaking milk onto the ground beside the highway.

Driver William Ruf of Fortuna, 52, was not injured, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The tractor and trailer both left the roadway, so motorists did not

Read the rest of **Tanker**
Over on Page 15



Above: Wolverine spirit to the fullest! Clockwise from left: Fatima Perez Uvalle, Leti Mendoza, Robert Chavez, Mikayla Blake, Araceli Arellano, Tatyana Guevara, Nick Amador, Carolyn Bakewell, Nathan Kim, Kayla Cottrell, Daisy Barrett, Brandon Smith, Sierra Bostick, Kaylan Stone, Savannah "Wolverine" Southwick, Briana Lopez, Taylor Polen, and Amaia Hammock. Below: Wolverine mascot Savannah Southwick smiles for the camera.

Welcome back to The Wolverine

By Steve Jackson, Western Web

It was 1968 when I had my first taste of journalism as a photographer at the now defunct Nova High School in Redding. My family moved from Trinity County to Redding during the summer. I went from being one-half of the two-person student body at Douglas City School to one of 900 ninth-graders at Nova. It did not go well for me.

My involvement with journalism helped immensely. Journalism is a group effort requiring participation and

cooperation among people with diverse skills working to produce a product that is informative and interesting. I was a shy, largely skill-free kid, but I had a camera. As a photographer I met lots of folks and had to interact with them to contribute my part. As a country boy from a one-room schoolhouse trying to adjust to having 10 times more people in my class than I had in my hometown the previous year, the experience was invaluable.

In fact, my experience as a student, mentor, printer and longtime supporter

of scholastic journalism is that every person who participates is changed for the better. In my case I became a better photographer, began to write, developed socialization skills and, most importantly, met girls.

Many people think producing a student newspaper teaches only about newspapers, and newspapers are more of an endangered species than

Read the rest of **Wolverine**
Over on Page 11



Photos by Maureen Moore

Questions for the Candidates

Here are seven questions on Willits issues from Willits Weekly's city reporter, Damian Sebouhian, for the five candidates for Willits City Council in the upcoming November 8 election: incumbents Bruce Burton and Madge Strong and challengers Bill Barksdale, Gerry Gonzalez and Saprina Rodriguez.



Bill Barksdale Madge Strong Gerry Gonzalez Bruce Burton Saprina Rodriguez

Summarize your background and tell Willits voters about yourself.

Bill Barksdale: I've had a long career as a real estate agent helping people find agreement and reaching mutual goals. I served as chair and a hearing officer on the County Assessment Appeals Board (tax appeals) for a number of years, and worked with business people as chair of the County MLS. Currently I serve

as a member of Willits Revitalization & Economic Development Committee. As a nonprofit board chair and director, I've worked with artists and technicians. I've also had college-level classes in urban planning, economics and business law. Willits has been home for my spouse and myself nearly 30 years.

Bruce Burton: I went through Willits schools and graduated from U.C

Berkeley with a B.S. in forestry in 1972. I returned to Willits and worked in the livestock business and then started Willits Redwood Company which I still operate. My son, Ernie, works in the business, and Shira and Airyan also live locally. I was a volunteer fireman

Read the rest of **Candidates**
Over on Page 13

Yes on AF files spending report

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
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The Mendocino Heritage Initiative of 2016 has filed its second-period Form 460 financial report, showing the campaign has taken in \$50,638 since January 1.

The form was filed the afternoon of October 5, six days past the deadline.

By comparison, the No on AF committee has received \$7,620 in contributions during the same period. From the beginning of the year, the Yes on AF committee has received 6.6 times more money than the No on AF committee.

All the identified, large-scale contributions to the Yes on AF committee have

Read the rest of **Spending**
Over on Page 15

Public pot workshop next Tuesday

Damian Sebouhian
Reporter
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Willits' first Commercial Cannabis Industry Policy Workshop will be held Tuesday, October 18, from 4 to 6 pm, in council chambers at Willits City Hall.

Organized by the recently formed cannabis "working group" composed of city councilmembers Holly Madrigal, Ron Orenstein, and city staff, the meeting will be held "to gather information for development of a commercial cannabis policy within city boundaries," according to City Manager Adrienne Moore in an October 11 press release.

Currently the City of Willits has a ban on outdoor cannabis cultivation, but

Read the rest of **Workshop**
Over on Page 15

Mail-in ballots on the way to voters

North county voters should be receiving their mail-in ballots soon, according to Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Susan M. Ranochak.

Both absentee and sample ballots were to be mailed Tuesday, Ranochak said in an October 6 press release. Ballots also are available at the county clerk's office in room 1020 of the County Administration Building, 501 Low Gap Road in Ukiah.

Voters who have not received their vote-by-mail ballots by Wednesday, October 19, are urged "to call our office to arrange to receive a replacement

Read the rest of **Ballot**
Over on Page 11

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

From the Woodhouse family

To the Editor:

As many of you know, Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse has been absent from several board of supervisors meetings. Supervisor Woodhouse has a medical condition and is presently under a doctor's care. We are hopeful Supervisor Woodhouse will be able to return to work in early November.

The family is asking for understanding and consideration of their privacy during this difficult time. Updates will be provided as information becomes available.

The Woodhouse family, Willits

Willits City Council report

To the Editor:

Greetings... Here are the highlights from tonight's [October 12] short City Council meeting:

- Presented a proclamation to the Willits Chamber of Commerce to recognize and promote "Support Your Local Chamber of Commerce Day" on October 19, 2016

- Adopted a resolution amending changes in rates and fees, retroactive to September 1, 2016. The revised fees are: 1) establishing a \$75 reprogram charge for non-payment, in the sewer fund, to be consistent with other departments; and 2) truck fill station charges – reduce the per load access fee and the per gallon fee to be more competitive.

- Adopted an ordinance authorizing the implementation of a Community Choice Aggregation Program by participating with the Sonoma Clean Power Authority. The program is scheduled to go into effect July 1, 2017.

- Councilmember Holly Madrigal reported on the Revit-ED committee meeting, at which the committee continued their work on a draft ordinance to address chronically vacant commercial properties. They also reviewed ideas for various types of signage needed on highways and within the city to promote the services and amenities Willits has to offer.

- Vice Mayor Ron Orenstein reported that the city will hold a public workshop next Tuesday, October 18, from 4 to 6 pm at Willits City Hall, to gather information for the development of a commercial cannabis policy within city boundaries.

That's a wrap!

Adrienne Moore, city manager, Willits

Yes on mental health measures

To the Editor:

We would like to encourage everyone to vote for the mental health measures AG/AH. Our sheriff's department and the local hospitals are not and should not be our county's default crisis centers.

If you know someone or have a family member who is in a mental health crisis, it is critical that they receive professional care – in a local and safe place. To be removed to a distant location usually intensifies the situation and isolates and terrifies the person. It is also more difficult to advocate for, support and visit someone who is miles and miles away. Recovery and the return to community is harder. And, of course, it is much more expensive to everyone, including the county.

There are many initiatives and measures on the ballot that are vying for our tax dollars, but we think Measure AG/AH is the most important and worth every cent!

Anita Sison and Rick Hawley, Willits

KLLG radio programmers

To the Editor:

Oh my gosh! We have been inching closer to completing the new KLLG on-air studio and are preparing DJs and programmers to present their shows to you, the Willits community! On Wednesday, October 5, we had a programmer meet and greet in the studio.

Over 20 programmers showed up and shared their show topic and content. The offerings are diverse and exciting, including topics such as children's stories in Spanish, country punk music, old-time radio hour, local news, sports, eclectic downtempo techno, bluegrass and new grass, joyful news, environmental discussion, a health show, and so much more!

There are still plenty of time slots available for you to have your show on KLLG! As programmer coordinator, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who has put so much thought and effort into creating a show to share, and invite everyone in our community who is interested to contact me to discuss having your idea turned into a show on the new radio station, KLLG, Willits hometown radio!

Michelle Jean Cummins,
KLLG programmer coordinator

No on AF

To the Editor:

I am writing you concerning the initiative AF Heritage Act. The AF Heritage Act is a 60-page ordinance that has been written by greedy marijuana growers that have no concern for our environment, fisheries or wildlife.

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors has just revised the 9.3.1 program. The new 9.3.1 program has a number of safeguards to protect our environment, fisheries and wildlife. If the AF Heritage Act is passed, it will eliminate many of the protections in the 9.3.1 program.

The AF Heritage Act does not contain the wildlife exclusion fencing as provided by the 9.3.1 program. The wildlife exclusion fencing in the 9.3.1 program is to protect the deer, elk, wild pigs and bears from growers who would either shoot or poison them if they threaten their marijuana crops. If the AF Heritage Act proponents really cared about the wildlife, they would not have removed the wildlife exclusion fencing from their ordinance. Trinity County's new ordinance copied 9.3.1 program when it came to wildlife fencing.

Even the spokesperson of the Mendocino Wildlife Association, Traci Pellar, who is an advocate for wildlife and marijuana growers, stated in the September 6 Ukiah Daily Journal that the AF Heritage Act lacked significant wildlife protection.

Another flawed provision in the AF Heritage Act is that it requires a two-year Mendocino County residency to be a marijuana grower. This provision is obviously unconstitutional and would open Mendocino County to certain litigation.

The major flaw with the AF Heritage Act is on page 20 of this act: That the compliance mechanisms and related penalties bear no teeth to those who violate the ordinance. Under the proposed act, you could effectively violate all 60 pages of the act, and the initial penalty is a \$100 fine and a 60-day compliance order. If the violation continues after 60 days there is a \$1,000 fine and another 60-day period to comply. If after the second 60-day penalty assessment, the violator is then subject to a 1 percent fine on their total receipts of sales.

This third penalty provision is an absurdity to anyone who engages in the cultivation of marijuana as marijuana grower defense attorneys would never advise their clients to provide incriminating receipts to the government.

Basically, for the price of a pound of marijuana (\$1,100), you buy an entire grow season that results in profits exponentially in excess of the meager penalties. This is an obscene absurdity.

But the true tragedy of this faux act is that the quality of life in Mendocino County for those who live without 100 feet of one of those large industrial cultivation sites would be exposure to endless noise and pollution. The quality of life for those who end up living next to one of these large industrial cultivation sites would be decimated with no recourse.

If the AF Heritage Act is passed and enacted, a green rush of out-of-county growers would descend upon us and result in certain destruction of our wildlife, fisheries and watersheds.

As a 36-year resident of the Blue Rock Creek area north of Laytonville, I have many neighbors who are conscientious marijuana growers and seem to be doing very well under the existing 9.3.1 program. In my opinion, the proposed AF Heritage Act would result in out-of-control industrial marijuana cultivation. This also has been expressed by Bruce Anderson of the Anderson Valley Advertiser. In his September 7 editorial, he described the AF Heritage Act as "totally nuts."

As a cattle rancher and wildlife conservationist, I strongly urge a "No" vote on the AF Heritage Act.

Chris Brennan, Laytonville

Bicycles vs. autos

To the Editor:

Has anyone run a count of how many bicyclists versus autos use Main Street?

I seldom if ever see bicyclists except on the back roads which seem to be their preference. On the other hand, I see plenty of cars and trucks on Main Street.

As for when I go "downtown," I use the median lane to go to either Savings Bank or Tri-Counties Bank or Baechtel Road or Brown's Corner or all the others which can only be entered from Main Street. I come to them from the north so I can only turn left with the center lane. Now why would you accommodate an occasional person on a bicycle?

If you take out these lanes, do you realize what a mess there would be of backed-up traffic all the way through the lights? Wow! All the center lanes are needed. What illogical sense is it to eliminate them? They are the only thing that keeps traffic moving smoothly and not backing up. I can't believe your reasoning is the bicycles need lanes more. When it rains I never see bicycles at all.

You need to re-think this, because it is obvious you don't live here.

One more thing: if the marijuana law goes through at the ballot, then there will be a dispensary. It would be foolish to let someone put it in the county instead of the city. The council should exercise some common sense and allow it within city limits so the city will collect the revenue they sorely need. It has to go somewhere, so let it benefit Willits.

Bobbie Recio, Willits



4-H Sewing Group

Kids who love to sew hold bake sale to raise funds for a serger

The Willits 4-H Sewing Group held a bake sale in front of ER Energy on Saturday. And what a bake sale it was! The tables were covered with an abundant display of homemade baked goods and treats, many in Halloween colors and theme.

The Sewing Group members, dressed in white and green 4-H uniforms, are raising funds to buy a serger sewing machine, so they can make professional-looking seams and take their skills to the next level. Members,

whose own sewing creations were hung from the pop-up tent – including dresses, PJ pants, and shorts with pockets – are sewing enthusiasts.

"Sewing machines are fun to use," said Namid David. "It's interesting to learn to do new things with them." "Learning how to sew changes your fashion forever," said Grace Aguilar.

"I really love to sew. It's great to make clothing," Ava Mucke said. Aurora-Belle

Read the rest of **4-H** | Over on Page 6

Above, left: The 4-H Sewing Club. Back row, from left: Namid David, Ava Mucke, Aurora-Belle David, and Grace Aguilar. Front row, from left: Jaden Dusky and Cheyenne Dusky. Above, right: Dusky, left, and Aguilar with specially wrapped treats.

Below, from left: Grace Aguilar poses with the tempting display of Halloween cupcakes. Aurora-Belle David holds a partially finished potholder, demonstrating the stages of sewing it. Potholders made by the Sewing Group. Pajama pants and a unicorn pillowcase with French seams. Aguilar holds the group's fundraising sign.

Photos by Jennifer Poole



FRANK HOWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INVITES YOU TO

Ladies' Night Out



Grab a friend, a sister or a neighbor and join us for an evening of girl time in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness month. Enjoy fun activities while learning more about how to take care of yourself and stay healthy at any age.

Fun

Shop for unique gifts and accessories at our new Gift Shop

Fabulous

Try some delectable appetizers and enjoy chair massages, giveaways and prizes

Important

Schedule your mammogram and have all your questions answered about women's health in an informal Q&A session with Dr. Kimberly Faucher, Gynecologist

Tuesday, October 18

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

1 Marcela Drive | Willits, CA

Spots are limited. RSVP to
707.456.3591

To schedule your mammogram*
call 707.456.3091

Most insurance accepted, special \$190 rate for uninsured women.

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital
Adventist Health

The American Cancer Society recommends annual screening mammograms for women starting at age 40

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.

Willits Weekly

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‘Ladies Night Out’ Shopping, appetizers, massages and health information at HMH

By Cecilia Winiger, HMH

Women are always so busy taking care of others that they forget to take care of themselves. But during the month of October, in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Frank Howard Memorial Hospital is encouraging women of all ages to take time for themselves during its first-ever “Ladies Night Out” event. Scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, the event promises to be fun, inspiring and informative.

Moms, daughters, friends can all have fun while shopping for unique items at the new hospital Gift Shop, and trying out appetizers from Roots Restaurant. Attendees can also enjoy massages and giveaways, chat with a women’s health specialist, and make an appointment for a mammogram.

HMH’s medical imaging team will also be on site to answer questions about breast health and mammograms. “While we wanted this to be something fun, we also want women to realize that it’s OK to take time to take care of themselves, and getting a mammogram is one of the many ways they can do that,” explains Katie Hageman, medical imaging director at HMH.

Kimberly Faucher, MD, women’s health specialist, agrees: “One in eight women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. That means almost all of us will know someone – a mother, a sister, wife, daughter or a co-worker struck by this disease. It’s important to take the first step at fighting this disease, and that includes getting a mammogram every year once you turn 40.”

Following the massages and the shopping, Dr. Faucher will be on hand to answer questions about women’s health during an informal Q&A session. “Being a woman is not easy. There are so many things we have to think about when it comes to our health: regular screenings, hormones, menopause and certain cancers. It’s important to stay on top of things and make sure we are taking care of ourselves too.”

The American Cancer Society recommends that women get screening

mammograms starting at 40. For women who have a history of breast cancer in their families, Dr. Faucher recommends starting screenings earlier. “For example, if your mom was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 40, you should begin yearly screenings when you turn 30. Regular mammograms can help find breast cancer at an early stage, when treatment is more likely to be successful,” she explains.

There’s also another exam you can do by yourself in the comfort of your own home – a breast self-exam. “Doing regular breast exams can give you an idea of what your breast should feel like, so that you can tell when something is off, and you can bring it to your doctor’s attention for further testing.”

The “Ladies Night Out” event will be held at the Medical Imaging lobby, located on the first floor of the new hospital. To reserve your spot, please call 456-3591.

The average mammogram screening takes just five minutes to schedule and approximately 15 minutes to complete. HMH has a state-of-the-art imaging department which provides diagnostic X-rays, CT scanning, digital mammography, bone mineral density scanning (dexa), ultrasound, echo cardiology, and MRI. For more information or to schedule a mammogram please call 456-3090.

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital is part of Adventist Health, a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 75 communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Our workforce of 32,700 includes more than 23,400 employees; nearly 5,000 medical staff physicians; and 4,300 volunteers. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 19 hospitals, more than 260 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 15 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers. Adventist Health ranked #10 in Becker’s list of the largest nonprofit hospital systems in the U.S. for 2015. Visit www.howardhospital.org for more information.

Gateway Improv Night

Local actors, directors and playwrights to raise funds for Willits Community Services

The Willits Community Services and Food Bank is proud to announce the first annual Gateway Improv Night at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, October 29 at 7 pm. The event is a benefit for WCS, featuring local actors, directors and playwrights. It is designed to provide a fun evening of entertainment for audience and participants alike. The process will also demonstrate aspects of stage play development to the public.

The performance will take the form of a lighthearted competition, within the context of a friendly, cooperative atmosphere, with judges selected at random from the audience. Prizes will give recognition to the best performances. There will also be some optional audience participation for part of the performance.

So come on out to support WCS with your dollars, but also to cheer, jeer, participate and — most of all — have a lot

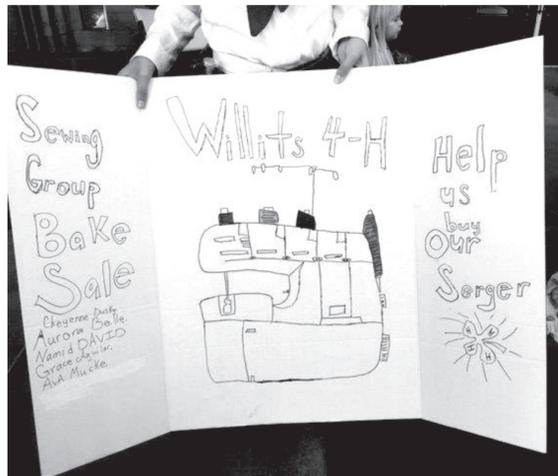
of fun. Be there to witness the beginning of an exciting new tradition.

Participants in the event will include Don Samson and Mike A’Dair (as playwrights),

Virginia Hanley and David Christmas (as directors), and Mary Burns, Spencer Copperfield, Kelly Kesey, Matt Gaynor, Rod Grainger, Ron Greystar, Prana Roberts, Annie Samson, Mimi Cézanne Stoll and Pete Winslow (as actors).

Tickets are \$20 and available at Mazahar, WCS (229 East San Francisco Street, or call 459-3333), or from David Patch (459-7054). The sponsors of the event guarantee that every dollar of ticket sales goes directly to WCS. The Willits Community Theatre is at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). Sponsored by: John Ford Ranch, Sanhedrin Nursery, and Ace Copy and Shipping.

— Willits Community Services



“Help us buy our serger” says the 4-H Sewing Group’s fundraising sign for the bake sale.

Photo by Jennifer Poole

The rest of **4-H** | From Page 3

David agreed: “My sewing means I can walk around wearing clothes I made myself, and not store-bought.” David won 1st place at the county fair, in the Juniors Division, age 9-13, for her light-green sleeveless summer dress made with a Simplicity pattern.

Sewing teacher Diana Mucke made pumpkin cinnamon rolls for the bake sale. The 4-H Sewing Group meets every

The rest of **Africa** | From Page 5

themselves, people taking care of themselves, people living in peace, because when you have food, you are happy.”

Currently, Kenya, like many other African countries, is far from abundant.

In a country that’s just smaller in area than the state of Texas and with a population of over 40 million, many in Kenya “still struggle with the basics,” Kangethe said. “People can’t feed or clothe themselves. People can’t even have shelter. It’s all over the world, but it’s more so in African countries.”

With a family of eight siblings, a wife and two children, Kangethe knew he’d be making a sacrifice by leaving them to come to the United States for nine months.

“I had to come to a conclusion, because the community and the world is above everything else,” Kangethe explained. “I solute [my wife, Katherine] because I know that she is taking care of the family while I’m here in America. I’m not here as a tourist. I’m here to learn. I told her that she’d struggle for a little while, but that I would return with a lot of knowledge to help my family and my community.”

Benedict, who is was born and raised in Nigeria, moved to Ghana after leaving the banking business and marrying a missionary. She already has plans in the making to create a farming center called Grow West Africa.

“People cannot farm on their land because of climate change,” Benedict said of the current conditions in West Africa. “We have no water. So, I was looking for a technology that would help fix this problem. My goal is to teach everybody in West Africa [about growing our own soil and food] and pass on this knowledge. Before now, West Africa used to produce its own food, but now we depend so much on importation of

Thursday, she said, and when the group is getting ready for their spring Fashion Revue, they meet twice a week. “They’re so into sewing,” she said. “They want to sew. They want to make clothes, and see how clothing might be made.”

Those interested in the sewing club or in helping club members get their serger, can call Mucke at 707-513-9758.

food. It’s a general problem.”

Before the meal began, attendees were treated to several South African songs performed by the Emandal Choir. Kangethe accompanied the choir on drums while Olawumi performed traditional African dances.

After the performances, the two recited prayers in their native tongues, everyone moved to the dining area, and the feasting began.

Sweet cornbread and a spicy salad of various peppers served as appetizers, accompanied by two varieties of sweet potato and eggplant soups.

Diners filled their plates with a variety of uniquely tasty bean, corn, rice and amaranth combination dishes, some including chicken.

Food not supplied by Ecology Action included donations from the Willits Farmers Market.

It was a true representation of the abundance that can be created by local farming. It’s what Samuel Kangethe and Olawmi Benedict are striving to resurrect for their people.

“I have made friends in Mendocino County who really care for this world,” Kangethe said. “I have seen that they are people who want a good world, and those people I met care and want to know how we are faring in Africa. We will be sending reports about what is happening, and saying hi.”

To learn more about Ecology Action, go to <http://growbiointensive.org/>

The Willits United Methodist Church, located at 286 School Street, will be organizing another “Dinners from Around the World” in the near future, cuisine to be announced.

Pretty Maxine

Maxine, a 5-month-old female, was brought to us as a stray kitten in June. At first she was very timid and spent most of her time hiding behind her litter box, but as time has passed she’s blossomed into a calm, sweet kitty who thoroughly enjoys being petted. If you’d like to give Maxine her very first real home, call or visit today!



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

Memorial for Harold Potter

Willits Frontier Days is sad to note the passing of Harold Lewis Potter on October 5, 2016. Potter was born on June 2, 1959, had been involved with Willits Frontier Days for eight years, and received the Top Hand award for the 90th annual celebration in July of 2016. The public is welcome to come and attend a Celebration of Life from 11 am to 1 pm at the Willits Community Center on Saturday, October 15. Feel free to bring a finger-food tray to share, and a favorite story about Harold, too.



Cheerleading | Mychaela Nowlin, 16, Sophomore

Position: Base

Breakfast of Champions: Peanut butter toast with honey

Love for the Sport: “It’s really fun, and being loud comes natural to me.”

How Long Playing the Sport: 10 years

Athlete of the week for cheerleading is Mychaela Nowlin. She’s an over-achiever, brilliant and has a ton of team spirit! She has so much drive and desire to succeed, she’s is a true inspiration to all ages! She is a cheerleader, wrestler and swimmer, but academics are number 1 for this Doll, and her hard work has proven to pay off! She’s been given the opportunity to promote early to the next grade and graduate ahead of her own class because of her dedication and determination! She sets an excellent example for peers to follow! Way to go Mychaela!

Girls Soccer | Emily Acevedo, 15, Sophomore

Position: Midfielder

Breakfast of Champions: Oatmeal and fruit.

Love for the Sport: “I like how the sport brings people together and makes a family, and the intensity of the sport.”

How Long Playing the Sport: Since she was 4 years old

This week’s WHS Varsity Girls Soccer player of the week is sophomore and team captain Emily Acevedo. Emily helped lead the team to a 5-0 victory against Lower Lake on Tuesday night, with 3 goals and 1 assist! She is also 2nd in League with assists this season!

— Coach Tatiana Cantrell

— Coach Sarah Humphries

— Coach Billy Arms

JV Football | Drake Wisdom, 14, Freshman

Position: Fullback

Breakfast of Champions: Breakfast burrito & orange juice

Love for the Sport: “The hitting.”

How Long Playing the Sport: Four years

This week, my nomination for player of the week is Drake Wisdom. He made numerous tackles, stepped in at wing back, and stepped up in a big way. He had 10 carries for 70 yards and a touchdown. It was hot on the field because we played a day game on turf. If Drake hadn’t stepped into that role, we possibly could have not won the game. He allowed the other backs to rest after they carried the ball as well.



A new community pharmacy offered by the same hospital you know and trust.

Today, you’ve got a lot more to feel better about. Now there’s a community pharmacy offered by the same hospital you know and trust. So you know you’ll get the same personalized attention and excellent care.

Howard Pharmacy is Coming Soon!

Watch for announcements about our opening date.

Howard Pharmacy
A service of Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital
— Adventist Health

3 MARCELA DRIVE, SUITE B IN WILLITS | 707.456.3005

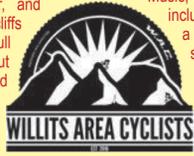
Thursday, October 13

Willits High School Soccer Games: at WHS home field against Middletown on Thursday, October 13. Girls game at 4 pm (coach Tatiana Cantrell); boys game at 5:30 pm (coach Noel Woodhouse).

Friday, October 14

Willits High School Homecoming Football Games: at WHS home field against Cloverdale on Friday, October 14. JV game, with coach Billy Arms, 5:30 pm; varsity game, with coach Mike Colvig, 7:30 pm.

Willits Area Cyclists' Taco Rampage: Friday, October 14 at 6 pm at the Brooktrails Community Center. "We'll be serving up fresh-caught fish tacos, enjoying some local beer, and watching crazy bikers jump off cliffs in a big screen showing of 'Redbull Rampage.' Admission is FREE, but bring some money for tasty food and drinks. All proceeds benefit the mission of Willits Area Cyclists: to build and improve trails and promote mountain biking in Willits. Visit wactrails.org for more info.



"To Couple, Or Not To Couple?," a production of four sizzling, socially engaging one-act plays, opens at Willits Community Theatre opens tonight. This second-stage production showcases the insightful work of local playwrights Don Samson and Damian Sebohian, with two plays from each writer covering themes from relationships, money and sex, to crazy neighbors, burial and empty-nesting. Opens Friday, October 14 at 8 pm, and continues Saturday, October 15 at 8 pm, Sunday, October 16 at 2 pm, Thursday, October 20 at 7 pm, Friday, October 21 at 8 pm, and Saturday, October 22 at 8 pm. Advance tickets, \$10, are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.

Shanachie Pub: Marty's Garden, "a hefty dose of psychedelic boogaloo [blended] with a base of Backwoods World-Beat Banjo Jazz, playing a set that includes original compositions, standards, oddities, mantras, instrumentals, blues, and freak outs." Friday, October 14, 9 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.



Marty's Garden

Saturday, October 15

"To Couple, Or Not To Couple?," a production of four sizzling, socially engaging one-act plays, at Willits Community Theatre, Saturday, October 15 at 8 pm. See Friday, October 14 listing for details.

What's Happening Around Town

Pura Vida Harvest Dance Party: The Willits Grange presents Pura Vida Harvest Dance Party, Saturday, October 15, a live music event with food and activities, featuring live dance music by "salsa piquante" band Pura Vida. Doors open at 6 pm for dinner: Empanadas with organic Caribbean Rice & Beans plus mixed salad \$10. Take-out available. Music, 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Children's Activities include costume making 6 to 7 pm, and a movie at 9 pm. Halloween costume sale, live auction/raffle and more. 291 School Street. Advance tickets \$20 at J.D. Redhouse; tickets at the door \$25, all to benefit the Grange. Children under 12 free (donations welcome at kids' activity room to support the Grange Youth). Info: 459-9716. See article elsewhere on Calendar for more details.



Pura Vida

Shanachie Pub: Voodoo Horseshoes, "original psychedelic roots rock from Missoula, Montana: Banjo, electric guitars, driving dynamic rhythm with some didgeridoo and keys thrown in for good measure. Their newest album: "Rambling Nation." Saturday, October 15, 9 pm. \$5 cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

'Socks and Undies' Drive: The Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street, is collecting new socks and undies for Willits school-age children in need, children ages 5 to 12 years old, and for foster children ages 12 to 17. Also, men's and women's undies in medium, large and extra-large sizes. Socks for both women and men should be regular adult sizes, 9-11. On Sunday, October 16, shortly after worship service ends at about noon, the community is invited to help box up the socks and undies. Questions?: 459-2855.

"To Couple, Or Not To Couple?," a production of four sizzling, socially engaging one-act plays, at Willits Community Theatre, Sunday, October 16 at 2 pm. See Friday, October 14 listing for details.

Willits Dances of Universal Peace: Monday, October 17 from 7 to 9 pm, in room 4 of the Little Lake grange, 291 School Street. "Meets to create peace in our own hearts and to extend peace to this changing world we live in, through sacred world chants & movement."

Sunday, October 16
'Promoting Local Food and Farming': Little Lake Grange and the Grange School of Adaptive Agriculture present "Promoting Local Food and Farming: Achievements and Challenges," a forum, on Sunday October 16 from 3 to 5 pm, at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Panelists will make brief presentations

on their work and lead a discussion of what needs to be done to build a vibrant local food economy in Mendocino County. Panelists include: Miles Gordon from North Coast Opportunities, speaking on the Gardens Project and NCO's incubator farm about how to take care of yourself! RSVP: 456-3591. See article on page 6 for more details.

project; John Bailey, also from NCO, speaking on the Food Hub; Kyle Farmer, representing the Inland Mendocino Land Trust; Devon Jones, executive director of the Mendocino County Farm Bureau; Ann Waters, president of Little Lake Grange; April Cunningham, presenting on NCO's Food Systems Project and consumer education; Linda MacElwee, talking on the Anderson Valley Foodshed; Jen Dalton, representing the Mendocino County Food Policy Council; Scott Cratty, owner of Westside Renaissance Market, and general manager, Caroline Radice, on the Good Farm Fund; and the Mendocino County Farmers Market Association. Info: Michael Foley at 707 216-5549 or foley.mw@gmail.com.

Monday, October 17

Assemblymember Jim Wood at Brickhouse Coffee: "Come join Assemblymember Jim Wood for a coffee break! Talk with Mendocino County rep Jim Wood about issues affecting our community, Monday, October 17 from 2 to 3:30 pm at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street. For questions or to RSVP, contact: Ruth Valenzuela at 707-463-5770 or valenzuela@asm.ca.gov.



Willits Library October Book Sale: Friends of the Library members-only day today, Thursday, October 20. (Renew your membership or join at the sale! \$10 regular, \$5 senior or \$100 membership for life). Willits Community Center. Sale runs Friday, October 21 through Sunday, October 23, for the general public, including Sunday's \$3/grocery bag sale. Volunteers needed: sign up at the library or call Marcia at 459-2614 to volunteer. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Tuesday, October 18

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movie: "Sully," "Snowden," and "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com.

"Ladies Night Out" at HMH: Grab a friend, sister or a neighbor and come to Howard Memorial Hospital for "Ladies' Night Out" on Tuesday, October 18, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Medical Imaging lobby. Shop at the gift shop, try some appetizers from Roots, win great prizes, schedule your mammogram, and learn more about how to take care of yourself! RSVP: 456-3591. See article on page 6 for more details.



You Knew Me When

Willits High School Volleyball Games: at home court against Clearlake on Tuesday, October 18. JV at 5 pm (coach Tim Miller), and varsity at 6 pm (coach Jill Walton).

Wednesday, October 19

"Plant Your Tree": "A Beginner's Tutorial For Researching Your Family Tree, Using Ancestry.com," is a free program Wednesdays, starting October 19 from 9 to 10 am, at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Staff will walk you through basic searches, as you look for birth, death, marriage, census records, and much more. Led by Benjamin MacBean, Youth Services librarian for the Willits Library, has been an amateur genealogist for 15 years (13 of those years using ancestry.com). Sign up at the library's Public Service Desk - must have basic computer skills. Limited to five people per session). Info: 459-5908.

Thursday, October 20

Willits Library October Book Sale: Friends of the Library members-only day today, Thursday, October 20. (Renew your membership or join at the sale! \$10 regular, \$5 senior or \$100 membership for life). Willits Community Center. Sale runs Friday, October 21 through Sunday, October 23, for the general public, including Sunday's \$3/grocery bag sale. Volunteers needed: sign up at the library or call Marcia at 459-2614 to volunteer. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Willits High School Soccer Games: at WHS home field against Cloverdale. Girls game at 4 pm (coach Tatiana Cantrell); boys game at 5:30 pm (coach Noel Woodhouse).

"To Couple, Or Not To Couple?," a production of four sizzling, socially engaging one-act plays, at Willits Community Theatre, Thursday, October 20 at 7 pm. See Friday, October 14 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: You Knew Me When, "Outfitted with an array of instruments, You Knew Me When is a husband and wife indie folk-rock pairing with a full band sound. Formerly of Nashville, TN, the duo have toured full-time since June of 2012." Visit www.youknewmewhen.com. Thursday, October 20, 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, October 21

Willits Library October Book Sale: Willits Community Center, see Thursday, October 20 listing for details.

"To Couple, Or Not To Couple?," a production of four sizzling, socially engaging one-act plays, at Willits Community Theatre, Friday, October 21 at 8 pm. See Friday, October 14 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Gypsy Moon, "With soothing harmonies, soul-stirring poetry, and instrumentals that make the hips sway, Gypsy Moon is constantly reinventing their version of indie-folk to include celtic melodies, latin rhythms, jazzy vocals, bluegrass drive, and a gypsy swing." Visit www.gipsymoonband.com. Pick & Pull opens Friday, October 21, 9 pm. \$5 cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.



Gypsy Moon

Saturday, October 22

Willits Library October Book Sale: Willits Community Center, see Thursday, October 20 listing for details.

"KLLG 97.9 Station Delivery": A musical benefit for and official launch of KLLG 97.9 FM, with local favorites The Dirt Floor Band, Pick & Pull and Bug Guts. Saturday, October 22 at the Willits Center for the Arts. Beer & wine, kombucha and jun, and snacks available by donation. Doors open 7 pm; music starts at 8 pm. \$15, advance tax at J.D. Redhouse. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

"To Couple, Or Not To Couple?," a production

of four sizzling, socially engaging one-act plays, at Willits Community Theatre. Final show today: Saturday, October 22 at 8 pm. See Friday, October 14 listing for details.



Good Bad Band

Shanachie Pub: Good Bad Band, "5 piece high energy bluegrass band based out of SF ... characterized by acoustic elements and rustic tones." Visit www.facebook.com/neckbeardboys. Saturday, October 22, 9 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, October 23

Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am, Sunday, October 23 (the last breakfast this year!), with live music. "Join your friends at the Grange Breakfast! \$8 buys you a plate of the best "scratch" pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around. Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods.... Choose our Sourdough Wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-free, Beeler's Quality Bacon, Organic Local Farm Fresh Eggs, Real Butter, Juice, Organic Coffee or Tea. Live music. \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Extra sides of Organic Fruit and Amish Organic Maple Syrup. Little Lake

Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial, 1 block west of 101)

Willits Library October Book Sale: Willits Community Center, see Thursday, October 20 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Sol Tribe, "a blend of reggae dub & alternative out of San Antonio, Texas ... Sol Tribe's sound embodies a blend of reggae dub & alternative with a large presence and unmistakable feel." Visit www.reverbnation.com/SolTribe. Sunday, October 23, 6 pm, special Sunday start time. \$5 cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Drop-in Knitting Circle: Due to popular demand, the Willits Library is holding the drop-in knitting circle every Saturday of the month, from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your projects to share and show off! We will have expert knitters on board who can solve any problems and teach everyone to knit! Bring your own projects - we'll supply the coffee! Sign-ups are not necessary - everyone is welcome to drop in."

Library Coloring Club: Want a little color in your life? Then by all means, come to the library! The Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, is hosting a Library Coloring Club, every Tuesday at 6:30 pm for ages 14 and up. "We've got the crayons and the paper - you bring the imagination."

Mendocino Wildlife Association invites you to bring your **WILD** to our **Halloween Bash** family friendly fundraiser **Oct. 29, 2016 > 5pm-Midnight** Harwood Hall, Laytonville, CA **Exciting Raffle!** Prizes for Best Costumes **Food & Fun starts at 5** **DJ Dancing at 8** Purchase Presale Tickets at: Healthy Start, JD Redhouse, The Chief, Long Valley Feed or Mendocino Book Company \$15 in advance • \$20 at the door details.mendowildlife.com

WALK & BIKE MENDOCINO **Pick Up Your Paws!** **Join Us for Blosser Lane Walk to School Day** When: **October 20th, 2016.** Where: There will be two meet-up spots ***Back Parking Lot at Baechtel Grove** 7:50 AM ***Burger King Parking Lot** 7:50 AM Please make sure your children wear comfortable walking shoes. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to join. For additional information, please call Blosser Lane Elementary @ (707) 452-3232 or Walk and Bike Mendocino @ (707) 457-3217. See back for route maps.

WILLITS AREA CYCLISTS' TACO RAMPAGE We'll be serving up fresh caught fish tacos, enjoying some local beer, and watching crazy bikers jump off cliffs in a big screen showing of Redbull Rampage. Admission is FREE, but bring some money for tasty food and drinks. All proceeds benefit trail building and maintaining in Willits. **10.14.16** 5PM - FRIDAY BROOKTRAILS COMMUNITY CENTER

Harvest Dance Party with Pura Vida 15 October 2016 Little Lake Grange At School & Pine Streets in Willits Dinner @ 6:00 pm • Live Dance Band 7:30-10:30 Advance Tickets \$20 at JD Redhouse; \$25 at the door **Also Caribbean** Dinner Menu & Price TBA

Celebrate Your Wild Life Dance Party

Saturday, October 29 at Harwood Hall, Laytonville. "Come and Celebrate your Wild Life with a Bash and Hoot!! We honor the bats, the bears, the bobcats and all the creatures of the night at this DJ Dance Party!!" Dinner by Fox and Hound and Chief starts at 5 pm. Full bar! Full fun, Kid Zone, costume prizes, a raffle, and an extreme boogie tune selection. A fundraiser for Mendocino Wildlife Association. Visit us online at mendowildlife.com

Willits Library October Book Sale

October 20-23
 Willits Library October Book Sale: Willits Library's most exciting event of the year, the October book sale at Willits Community Center, set for October 20-23. Our entire community has been contributing quality, gently used books all year for our massive sale. The first day, Thursday, October 20, is reserved for Friends of the Library members. It's a great time to renew your membership or join for the first time (\$10 regular, \$5 senior or \$100 membership for life). Get the first choice of all the wonderful books of every genre, including beautiful, like-new special books suitable for gift giving (think Christmas), vintage books, science, gardening, travel, self-help, mystery, historical, cooking - a wealth of delicious reading to enjoy by the fire all winter. Friday and Saturday will be regular sale days for everyone who loves books and wants to support the library. Then, on Sunday, the most exciting day of all for many of us, all the books that are left (except for special or vintage) will be offered for only \$3 per grocery-sized shopping bag. Volunteers are needed for a set-up crew on Sunday, October 16, cashiers for Friday and Saturday, and take-down crew on the afternoon of the Sunday, October 23. There is a sign-up sheet at the library, or you may call Marcia at 459-2614 to volunteer. This is community involvement at its most fun. We look forward to seeing you there! - Friends of the Willits Library, FOWL



Directors and cast members for the four short plays showing at Willits Community Theatre October 14 to October 23: Back row, from left: Rod Grainger, Kelly Kesey, David Patches, Ron Greystar, Matt Gaynor, Tori Perrault, Lee Stipe, Christie Carlton, and Gloriann Lucero. Front row, from left: Don Samson, Damian Sebohian, and Janet Denninger.

Gateway Improv Night to benefit Willits Community Services

Saturday, October 29
 The Willits Community Services and Food Bank is proud to announce the first annual Gateway Improv Night at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, October 29 at 7 pm. The event is a benefit for WCS, featuring local actors, directors and playwrights. It is designed to provide a fun evening of entertainment for audience and participants alike. The process will also demonstrate aspects of stage play development to the public. The performance will take the form of a lighthearted competition, within the context of a friendly, cooperative atmosphere, with judges selected at random from the audience. Prizes will give recognition to the best performances. There will also be some optional audience participation for part of the performance. Participants in the event will include Don Samson and Mike A'Dair (as playwrights), Virginia Hanley and David Christmas (as directors), and Mary Burns, Spencer Copperfield, Kelly Kesey, Matt Gaynor, Rod Grainger, Ron Greystar, Prana Roberts, Annie Samson, Mimi Cézanne Stoll and Pete Winslow (as actors). Tickets are \$20 and available at Mazahar, WCS (229 East San Francisco Street, or call 459-3333), or from David Patches (459-7054). The sponsors of the event guarantee that every dollar of ticket sales goes directly to WCS. The Willits Community Theatre is at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). Sponsored by: John Ford Ranch, Sanhedrin Nursery, and Ace Copy and Shipping. - Willits Community Services

Senior Center Lunch
 Week of October 17 through 21
 Monday: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, Tuesday: Baked Chicken, Wednesday: Lemon Tilapia, Thursday: BBQ Pork/Bun, Friday: Roast Beef
 Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55: \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Harvest Dance Party with Pura Vida

Saturday, October 15
 A local live music event to benefit the Little Lake Grange, with food and activities for all ages. Saturday, October 15 at the Grange, 291 School Street. Doors open 6 pm for dinner and drinks: freshly baked Empanadas with organic Caribbean Rice & Beans plus a mixed salad, \$10. Take-out meals and desserts available. Music by Pura Vida - spicy Latin mix that is diverse, energetic, and always danceable - from 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Children under 12 get in free! We are excited to open our freshly renovated Room 6 for Children's Activities. Come for costume making 6-7. We have a variety of fabrics for a small materials fee, or bring your own costume design to get started for Halloween (children to be accompanied by a parent, please)! Also offering crafts and games, with "quiet time" movie showing at 9 pm. Donations welcome at kids' activity room to support the Grange Kid Sitters. Live auction with Rachel Britten. Tickets \$20 advance, available at J.D. Redhouse, or \$25 at the door. at the door \$25, to benefit the Grange. Info: 459-9716.

"KLLG 97.9 Station Delivery"

Musical benefit, October 22
 Willits is havin' a baby, and we want you to help welcome it to the world! Join us at the Willits Center for the Arts on Saturday, October 22 for the KLLG 97.9 FM Station Delivery, a musical benefit for and official launch of Willits' first community radio station. Hometown boys The Dirt Floor Band will be headlining the festivities, supported by local bluegrass dirtdbags Pick & Pull, and local favorites Bug Guts gettin' things started right. Beer and wine, homemade kombucha and jun, and yummy snacks will be available by donation to keep everyone well fueled. Wanna become a charter member of KLLG? We'll be able to sign you up right there and then. We'll also be hosting a silent auction and raffle, all proceeds going to the station. All this and so much more fun stuff you'll just have to come see for yourself. And don't worry - if you get lost in the crowd just look for Barbie, she'll take you where you need to go. Trust us on this one... Doors open at 7 pm, music starts at 8 pm. \$15. Advance tickets at J.D. Redhouse. Tickets available at the door, too, if it doesn't sell out! - KLLG 97.9 FM

Senior Center Lunch

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COLUMN | At the Movies
'Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children'
 The Story: Jake has always been a loner. He does not think of himself as special, not in any way, neither clever, nor brave. Yet his eccentric and mysterious grandfather gave young Jake the nickname "Tiger," and at bedtime, Jake's grandfather showed him haunting photographs and told him stories about a special house filled with amazing children who possessed strange and mysterious powers. And then his grandfather described the enigmatic woman who raised and protected them. Her name was Miss Peregrine.
 My Thoughts: I do love Eva Green as Miss Peregrine. She has gravitas. She commands the screen. Her performance is exceptionally strong and should be noted. There are time travel paradoxes in the flick, and some holes in the story where dramatic scenes end quite abruptly as if something - some actions or dialogue - had been cut out. That said, I was quite taken by the movie. Director Tim Burton ("Ed Wood," "Sweeney Todd," "Edward Scissorhands") has fashioned striking images for us, his audience; some images are terrifying, some are beautiful and romantic. The movie should be seen on the big screen.
 Parents: During the film, I noticed a mother remove her young sons from the theater. "Miss Peregrine..." is too scary for children. Teens and up.
 Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

Willits Area Cyclists' Taco Rampage
 Friday, October 14 at 6 pm at the Brooktrails Community Center. "We'll be serving up fresh-caught fish tacos, enjoying some local beer, and watching crazy bikers jump off cliffs in a big screen showing of 'Redbull Rampage.' Admission is FREE, but bring some money for tasty food and drinks. All proceeds benefit the mission of Willits Area Cyclists: to build and improve trails and promote mountain biking in Willits. Visit wactrails.org for more info.

City Council Candidates Forum

Tuesday, October 25
 Come meet & greet Willits City Council candidates Bill Barksdale, Bruce Burton, Gerry Gonzalez, Saprina Rodriguez and Madge Strong. Tuesday, October 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Candidates will have 2 minutes each to comment on written questions from the audience after initial 3-minute introductions. Hosted by the Little Lake Grange and the American Association of University Women, AAUW, Willits Satellite. Info: 459-4444.

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Ongoing Events

Willits Summer Farmers Market: the Willits Farmers Market is now in Bud Snyder City Park, from 3 to 6:30 pm every Thursday afternoon. Veggies, strawberries, cherries, flowers, local meats and local grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.
Grateful Gleaners: Do you have more orchard or garden produce than you can use? You can help feed hungry families in our community. Call the Grateful Gleaners at 367-9759 to harvest and deliver your unsprayed fruit, nuts and vegetables to local agencies such as Willits Community Services & Food Bank, Willits Daily Bread, the Kids Club, Nuestra Alianza, etc.
Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Artist Nancy Adair at Re-Evolution: Nancy Adair is showing her paintings at the Re-Evolution gallery/shop through September. Re-Evolution is a gallery and fair trade clothing and accessories emporium located at 15 West Mendocino, 11 am to 6 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Call Re-Evolution at 234-0607 or Nancy Adair at 459-5239 for more information or to set a special time to meet the artist at the gallery.

Free Bridge Lessons at the Library: Saturdays, 10 am to noon, at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, continuing through November 5. Come alone or come with a friend. If you didn't make the first meeting or two, that's fine: The lessons are ongoing, and late-comers are accepted. For more information call Donna, 459-9035.

KLLG Radio Action Group: meets Mondays at 5:30 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Room 10. Learn about and participate in building Willits Hometown Radio. Volunteers needed. More information is available at www.KLLG.org or by calling Lanny Cotler at 367-1812.

Tuesday Night Potluck Bingo: Potluck dinner and bingo every Tuesday at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. "Be sure to bring a dish to share!" 5 to 7 pm; \$5 buy-in; 50 cents per card. Info: 459-6826.

Al-Anon Meeting: Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Ride-Aid at the Evergreen Shopping Center. Saturdays at 10 am at St. Francis Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 66 East Commercial Street. "Al-Anon Family groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience strength and hope to solve their common problems. We believe that alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery."

Drop-in Knitting Circle: Due to popular demand, the Willits Library is holding the drop-in knitting circle every Saturday of the month, from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your projects to share and show off! We will have expert knitters on board who can solve any problems and teach everyone to knit! Bring your own projects - we'll supply the coffee! Sign-ups are not necessary - everyone is welcome to drop in."

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Soroptimists International of Willits: Women's service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets second and third Tuesdays of every month, noon to 1 pm, at Old Mission Pizza, 1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

Life Changes: Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesday from 10 to 11 am. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Volleyball Open Gym: at Baechtel Grove gym; Sundays and Tuesdays at 7 pm. Some experience desired, but not required. \$5 per night; first night free. Info: Jeff at 354-1850.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the RMH Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Free Sheriff's Activity 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 6:30 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 10 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 Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday 8 pm. No cover. "Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable." Open Mic Night every Wednesday, 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7:30 pm; pre-signup list starts

Mushroom, Wine & Beer Camp

Top chefs, mushroom walks, music and more to benefit the museum

Photos from a previous Mushroom, Wine & Beer Festival. Photos by Nathan DeHart.



Savings Bank, Fat Quail Quilt Shop owner named 2016 Arts Champions



Debbie Bowles, owner of The Fat Quail Quilt Shop in Laytonville is this year's "Individual Champion for the Arts."

The board of directors of the Arts Council of Mendocino County is pleased to announce the 14th Annual Mendocino County Arts Champion Award recipients: The Savings Bank of Mendocino County in the category of Business Champion for the Arts; Debbie Bowles of The Fat Quail Quilt Shop in Laytonville as Individual Champion for the Arts; Elliot Little as Artist; Pavlos Mayakis in the category of Education; and SPACE (the School of Performing Arts and Cultural Education) in the brand-new category of Art Organization Champion for the Arts.

Each year, nominations for Arts Champion Awards are received from the community. The winners are selected by the Arts Council of Mendocino County's board, and formally recognized by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors.

The Savings Bank of Mendocino County, this year's Arts Champion in the Business category, has actively supported the arts in many ways, for many years. Beyond its normal banking services, the Savings Bank provides financial support to arts organizations throughout the county as well as to many other worthy local causes and events. On a regular, ongoing basis, the Savings Bank helps to publicize and showcase local artists in a wide range of media, by providing space for ever-changing art exhibits in all of their branches throughout the county. Rotating art exhibits keep décor fresh and interesting, educate and inspire the incidentally passing public, and give local artists exposure, experience and encouragement.

This year's Individual Champion for the Arts is Debbie Bowles, owner of The Fat Quail Quilt Shop in Laytonville. Her

nominator said that Bowles has been an "inspiration for at least a million stitches in the north county." She and her shop have become the focus of creative activities including a local quilting guild, an annual quilt show and sale that raise money for a local scholarship fund, and other services and activities that have been featured in national publications and have helped put Mendocino County on the global quilting map. The shop provides a place for quilters to work, machines for lessons and creations, a related library and bookshop, and an inspiring selection of fabrics. "The shop is an artistic vortex in Laytonville," says Arts Council board member Loren Madsen.

The Mendocino County Art Champion Awards are annually celebrated in October to coincide with National Arts and Humanities Month, a coast-to-coast celebration of culture in America. To learn more about National Arts and Humanities Month, visit the Americans for the Arts website at www.americansforthearts.org or the California Arts Council website at www.cac.ca.gov.

The 2016 Mendocino County Arts Champion Awards is tentatively scheduled to be presented by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors at its meeting on Tuesday morning, October 18. (Please check ArtsMendocino.org for a confirmation of this event date and time). An official proclamation will be issued in the Supervisors' Chambers at the County Administration Center, 501 Low Gap Road in Ukiah. The public is welcome to attend, and a public reception to honor the winners will be hosted by the Arts Council of Mendocino County in Conference Room B after the supervisors' meeting.

For more information on the Mendocino County Art Champion Awards and other Arts Council of Mendocino County programs and services, visit www.artsmendocino.org or call 707-463-2727.

— Arts Council of Mendocino County

Redwood Meadows is an active independent senior community featuring 101 apartment homes, primarily a mix of one and two bedroom apartments which are single story 4-plex cottage-type set amongst seven acres of park like landscaping.

We are a smoke-free and pet friendly community. We boast a community center where activities are held like card games, Bingo, birthdays and socials. We also have a barbecue area for residents to get together for social functions.

Redwood Meadows is conveniently located adjacent to the William F. Harrah Senior Center with a thrift store, cafeteria and taxi service, and Howard Memorial Hospital is just blocks away.



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The rest of Signage | From Page 1

categories: possible additional signage for Highway 101, Highway 20, billboards in town and on the highway, entryway signs, and wayward signage.

Duley told the committee while it isn't expected Caltrans will agree to every request on the list, the city is still in the negotiation process and that "now isn't the time to prioritize."

"We are prepping ourselves to bring the list to Caltrans," he said. "We want all of it, but it's going to be a back-and-forth process."

Duley's list includes requests for the following Highway 101 signs: Mendocino County Museum; Vietnam Memorial; service signs at both interchanges in both directions; more mileage signs stating that Willits is "x" miles ahead; a sign before exits noting Willits and services "1 mile ahead"; and signs noting "hospital next exit."

According to Duley, Caltrans will only agree to erect a museum sign along the highway if the museum receives a certain number of visitors per year. It's the same with the Vietnam Memorial sign.

Barksdale noted the Vietnam Memorial hasn't been up long enough to establish an adequate number of visitors.

"I've told Caltrans that very thing," Duley admitted with frustration.

Included in the list is a request for a sign on westbound Highway 20 noting downtown Willits to the north.

Museum Director Alison Glassey, present at the meeting, suggested downtown be renamed "uptown."

"There's enough difference from the usual old town or downtown, that it would catch people's attention," Glassey offered, adding that calling it "uptown" would complement its northerly location.

Glassey also suggested a large stretch of East Commercial Street be given a name reflective of its status as a cultural center.

"We have an amazing cultural and recreational zone with Noyo Theatre, Frontier Days, the [two parks], the Center for the Arts, the library, Roots [of Motive Power], the museum, the college; you name it, it's there [on East Commercial Street]," said Glassey. "We could figure out a name for this cultural district and market it."

When it came to discussing billboards, Duley suggested raising some in areas within the city limits that would be visible from the highway.

"They would be 50-foot by 20-foot civic type billboards that didn't advertise businesses, but [instead] advertise things like the museum, the parks or Frontier Days," Duley said.

"There's a [permit] exemption I feel the city would qualify for," Duley said. "There could be a benefit of establishing a civic type of billboard by Sparetime Supply [for example]. It could be double-sided [for people to see] driving along the highway."

Wayward signage possibilities were discussed, which, according to Duley, "are those signs within the city to direct visitors to a number of services." Such signs could include those mentioned above as well as the hospital, the Skunk Train, the Willits Chamber of Commerce, the Willits Farmers Market, public parking lots, the post office, and Willits City Hall.

Some of the in-town signage discussed at the Revit-ED committee meeting has already been tackled by the Downtown Willits Streets & Alleys Connectivity Study, which, according to Duley, will be reviewed in its draft form by the Willits City Council during its October 26 meeting.

No date has been set for the next Revit-ED committee meeting.

MENDOCINO COUNTY
1850
Current Job Openings:
Account Specialist Supervisor
Asst. Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures - Cannabis Program
Operations Specialist
Program Specialist II
Sr. Public Health Nurse
Social Worker I-V
For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr EOE.

MENDOCINO COUNTY
1850
Current Job Openings:
Equipment Operator
Senior Heavy Equipment Mechanic — Fort Bragg
For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr EOE.

The rest of Ballot | From Page 1

ballot," Ranochak said.

She reminds voters the last day vote-by-mail ballot applications may be received is 5 pm on November 1.

"If for any reason a voter will be unable to appear at their polling place and vote on election day, November 8, they may apply for and vote by mail," she said.

"For those interested in observing the vote-by-mail process," Ranochak added, "we normally begin getting voted ballots back the week after they are mailed." Ballot signatures are checked and the ballots are filed in precinct order "on a daily basis once we have received our mail."

Mail is delivered at approximately 11 am on Mondays and 10 am Tuesdays through Fridays. "The public is invited to observe this process, as well as our other processes," Ranochak said. "Normally the last week of October through November 14 is the highest volume for our office receiving and processing voted ballots."

Those wishing to observe the vote-by-mail process may call the Elections Office at 234-6819 for schedules and more information.

The rest of Wolverine | From Page 1

the giant panda.

Those people, of course, are very wrong. Newspapering requires collaboration, investigation, creativity, integrity and commitment. The student learns creative design, writing, problem solving, critical thinking, negotiation and many other skills that are important in life as well as journalism. Besides, the giant panda was taken off the endangered species list last month.

As for newspapers — put the funeral on hold. You are reading an amazing example of a newspaper that is thriving. Willits Weekly offers up stories and photos of your neighbors and friends. Hyperlocal, on-the-scene coverage is just one successful model among today's newspapers.

And while journalism is changing, it isn't going away. There are still plenty of opportunities out there to student newspapering skills directly. The talents learned at a student newspaper are valuable in all forms of media and, frankly, in all pursuits in life.

So, welcome back, Wolverine. To the students embarking on this journey, remember you are carrying on the proud tradition of student-run newspapers in the USA that dates back to 1777 (when your parents were young). Truth-seeking newspapers are the cornerstone of a free press and are necessary to maintain a democracy. You are a contributor to that grand institution.

I offer the advice of my mentor, friend and funding source for the California Scholastic Journalism Initiative, along with many other student journalism projects, Reb Rebele, who told me 35 years ago: "Work hard, have fun and be proud."

Congratulations, Wolverines. Everyone at Western Web is excited to be a small part of your new beginning.

The rest of Mushroom | From Page 10

bus back to the museum at 5 pm.

For tickets and a continuously updated list of participants please visit www.MendocinoMuseum.org. For more information, email Info@MendocinoMuseum.org or call 459-2736.

All proceeds from the Mushroom, Wine and Beer Camp benefit the Mendocino County Museum and help the museum continue its work of collecting, conserving, presenting, and celebrating the stories and lives of the places and people of Mendocino County. Learn more about local history and the Mendocino County Museum's temporary, permanent, and upcoming exhibits at www.MendocinoMuseum.org or visit the museum in Willits.

— Mendocino County Museum

MENDOCINO COUNTY
1850
Current Job Openings:
Equipment Operator
Senior Heavy Equipment Mechanic — Fort Bragg
For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr EOE.

MENDOCINO COUNTY
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After School Yoga at Our Yoga Center: Kids can decompress with an introduction to yoga poses, meditation, and mindfulness. Recommended ages 8-13. Thursdays, 4-5 pm. Call to sign up: 707-841-6100.

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Stock your freezer for winter. Beef halves available! \$6/pound cut, wrapped and frozen. 350-400 lbs. John Ford Ranch. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call now 459-5193.

Classroom Grandparents Wanted
Foster Grandparents are over 55, on a limited income, and able to volunteer at least 15 hours a week. Volunteers will receive a tax-free stipend. Call 707-462-1959.

Community HU Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, October 27, at 6 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Ancient Wisdom for Today. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

Computer Help
Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC and Macintosh. Repairs and configuration \$40/hr. Tutoring \$20/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email macamergin@yahoo.com.

Duplex for Rent
Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex in Brooktrails. All appliances. Laundry room, central heat & air, garage. Incredibly nice. No smoking, no pets. \$900/month plus \$1,800 deposit. Call 984-6479.

Family Yoga
Family Yoga at Our Yoga Center: Do yoga with the kids in an engaging and creative environment, and help strengthen the family bond! Thursdays, 11-11:45 am. Call to sign up: 707-841-6100.

For Rent
Professional Office Space for rent; various sized offices. \$100 per foot. Madrone Professional Group. Call Margie at 459-6874 or Megan at 972-8776.

For Rent
3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Fenced yard, garage, beautiful country setting. No smoking. \$1,400/month. \$2,800 deposit. Must have verifiable income. 707-984-6479.

Help Wanted
Adventist Health Homecare & Hospice Services - Mendocino County, F/T & P/T & Per Diem. RN's and PT's needed. Call Trudy HIR 456-3230.

Industrial Complex
Openings in industrial complex on Robert Drive, Willits. Secured area. Lincoln Realty: 459-4599.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RV's and Trailers \$390 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Rhonda (707) 367-6178. See at <http://www.oakrivne.net/hp>

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

Vacationing?
Pet and house sitting available. Dogs, cats, horses, you name it; in home or my home. Veterinary technician experience. Excellent references. Call 707-367-9319.

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

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

Winter is coming!
John Ford Rancher's Choice Box: 50 pounds of steaks, roasts and ground beef. \$300 (was \$350), amazing deal! Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call now 459-5193.

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Inner Resources Institute

Meditation center offers workshops, space for daily practice

By Andria Stone, features writer

"Life is like being in the middle of a chess game and you don't know the rules. It makes it really hard to win." This, according to Chinmayan who, along with his wife and partner, Nicola McGraw, created the Ultimate Freedom Workshop, a course designed "to transform your life experience into a satisfying spiritual path." Ultimate freedom, according to Chinmayan, is "freedom from all sources of distress. It is freedom from ego." He has been studying meditation for over 50 years with various teachers, including Tibetan monks.

The course itself is non-dogmatic, though it incorporates practices derived from Buddhism and Hinduism, and is intended to help students learn proper meditation skills in order to reduce stress and negative thinking and to promote inner healing.

"We work with the 'principle of realization,'" said Chinmayan. "A lot of negative behaviors occur because we aren't aware we're doing them. Most people are unaware of how unaware they are."

Originally titled "Spiritual Bootcamp 101," Chinmayan and McGraw decided to change the name to "Ultimate Freedom," as the word bootcamp "makes people picture a drill sergeant screaming at people. We're not about that at all. Our goal is to provide spiritual tools that can be immediately applied to one's life and to show people how to live successfully, with meaning and purpose."

Each class focuses on a different topic, ranging from stress to

relationships, with meditation utilized throughout.

"This is the sort of [workshop] that would have no problem getting people to sign up in the Bay Area," Chinmayan said, "but we wanted to do it here. We love Willits, we love Mendocino County, and we wanted to bring world class teachings to the community." Residents since 1981, they say they plan to be here for a long time to come.

"Willits is a community where the people are very open to meditation and spirituality," McGraw said. "Even the physical area is a perfect setting,

here in this beautiful valley with the mountains rising around us."

The workshop is a part of the Inner Resources Institute, which Chinmayan started in 1977, and is, according to him, now in its fifth incarnation.

He created the institute because he "felt that life as we are taught to live it, was missing peace and unconditional love. Here, our main practice is love."

Meditation is the main focus of the institute, as Chinmayan believes that the practice is beneficial to all, though "you



Meditation teacher Chinmayan and his wife and partner, Nicola McGraw, in front of the Grace Church on Hearst Road.

Photo by Damian Sebahian

must be willing to do the work!" To help facilitate this work, the institute is open each morning for those who wish to join in half-an-hour of silent meditation.

"I find it helpful to meditate with other people," said Lucy Shido, a student. She went on to say that having a place to go daily just for meditation is helping her stick with it and that the results have been very positive for her.

Chinmayan emphasized that classes are designed to meet the needs of both beginners and those for whom meditation is already a part of life. The meditation space is airy and light, with a variety of stools, chairs and cushions available for use. Questions are encouraged during each course and printed visual aids are available as well. The Inner Resource Institute also

produces a monthly, online newsletter.

Participation in the classes and in the daily meditation has been growing slowly, mostly through word of mouth, says Chinmayan, "but we've been constantly improving the courses and we now have a wonderful staff. Things are getting pretty darn wonderful!"

The Ultimate Freedom Workshop takes place each Saturday for two hours beginning at 2 pm, and is free of charge. The last class will be held October 29, but if you wish to participate in the workshop in its entirety, a new round of classes is planned. Daily meditation is offered at 8 am, with doors opening at 7:50 am. All classes and meditations are held in the Grace Church at 1500 Hearst Road. For more information call 707-357-4676.

The rest of Candidates | From Page 1

from around 1980-2000, member of Rotary since 1991, and board member of Savings Bank and the hospital. I was first elected to the Willits City Council in 1992.

Gerry Gonzalez: I was born in Willits. I graduated from Willits High School and have an A.A. from Mendocino College in business management. I later graduated from Sonoma State earning a B.A. in criminal justice administration and business management. I started as a police dispatcher and volunteer reserve police officer. I have been a police officer with the City of Willits since April 1987. I have been a sergeant, captain, and later, chief of police since 2003. I have raised my family here, and I am one of the founding members of the Kids Club. I am proud to call Willits my home.

Saprina Rodriguez: My husband and I are business owners of Ace Copy & Shipping, Imagination Station, and Learning Depot Academy. I understand the struggles of small businesses. I have degrees in business management and accounting. As a school board trustee for four years (president 2013-2014), I used my skills to understand a complex budget. I've lived in Willits 30+ years. My husband and I have seven children (biological and adoptive). I'm running for city council because I'm passionate about effecting positive change in our community. Volunteerism is at the core of my family. I'll work hard and remain fair, consistent, ethical and transparent.

Madge Strong: I've served on Willits City Council for four years, bringing my skills, dedication and background to this job. My experience includes: • 30 years as a professional land use, environmental and economic planner • 10 years as board member and president of WELL (Willits Economic Localization) • Serving on the EDFC, MTA and county museum boards • Past board member of Bay Chapter Sierra Club and chair of Alameda County Sane/Freeze • Member, supporter and volunteer with Phoenix Hospice, Little Lake Grange and many other local groups. I'm an open-minded problem-solver; also an avid musician and gardener.

In what ways do you think the City of Willits could boost its revenue in the face of the 101 bypass?

Bruce Burton: I will propose to close off the downtown to vehicle traffic once a month for an evening to encourage residents and visitors to shop downtown.

Gerry Gonzalez: The city should be active in economic development efforts. There will still be people going to the coast and passing through Willits. Willits could do a number of things, including boosting the number of hotels and eateries, as this is really the last full-service community before Eureka. Other communities offer amenities, but many of them close down for the winter. This is not the case for Willits. Another area we can focus on is to increase clean industry and employment opportunities. It could be tourism or showcasing our local medical offerings. A diversified economy helps guard against booms and busts.

Saprina Rodriguez: The city needs to work with investors to create opportunities for growth in housing development, local goods and manufacturing. The current cost of doing business is expensive, and the process is lengthy. We can look at ways to increase communication and streamline the process. The city also needs to continue the process and conversation with the whole community about the next steps in downtown vision and implementation.

Madge Strong: One obvious way is allowing regulated and taxed cannabis operations (see question No. 6). Another is more special events such as Kinetic Carnival, maker fairs, rodeo, music and theater in the park, and others featuring our many attractions (see No. 3). Improving our downtown (in conjunction with relinquishment of Main Street to the city) will help us survive and thrive in a post-bypass economy. Let's work to attract other industries that are good for employment and the environment.

Bill Barksdale: City Council needs to create an inspiring, written Specific Plan with a target all can see. Revenue comes from jobs and spending, good schools, and sound financial management. Happiness brings with it an attitude of abundance. As a community we need to identify what makes you turn off a highway and choose to stop. What grabs people? For many it's shopping or attractions or health and fitness. For locals it's good jobs, good schools, caring about each other through public service. Gas tax is a major source of Willits revenue. These are the guts and engine that drive an economy.

What do you think are the most significant attractions Willits has to offer the average visitor? And/or what do you think are the best reasons for visitors to come to Willits?

Gerry Gonzalez: Attractions include

the Skunk Train, our close proximity to the Mendocino coast, and Jackson State Forest offers opportunities to outdoor enthusiasts. During the summer Willits offers the Frontier Days celebration as an attraction that draws people from many parts of California, including Mendocino County itself. The Community Car Show and Roots of Motor Power are other attractions, along with the museum. These are all the best reasons to come to Willits, but we need to explore ways to expand our appeal. Potentially some sort of festival or music event could increase the draw to town during the spring or fall.

Saprina Rodriguez: Willits is so diverse and the scenery is incredible! Willits has great places to hike, bike and run. Willits' pace is a retreat from city life. We're at a crossroads of opportunity to bring all of Willits' offerings known by enhancing our town and sharing a common vision. The community theatre, arts center, rodeo, farmers market, and the numerous events put on by local non-profits are the gems of Willits!

Madge Strong: We have so many wonderful attractions here, including: Skunk Train, our state-of-the-art hospital, county museum and Vietnam Memorial, Roots of Motive Power, Willits Center for the Arts, live theater, music, skate park, dog park, fantastic restaurants and shops. I'd like Willits to be known as the greenest and healthiest town in California! With good promotion (thanks to the Willits Chamber of Commerce and others), Willits can be on tourists' radar. Caltrans must improve signage for Willits on Highway 101!

Bill Barksdale: We've made our attractions a best-kept secret. Imagine driving down Main Street and seeing beautiful, colorful banners flying in the breeze from our tall light poles marketing our attractions – The Skunk Train adventure, live theater, music events, recreation, county museum, community festivals, the Solar Festival (let's bring it back), the art center, our hospital, student victories. Work with local merchants to tie community events into their marketing. Let's make Willits a place that celebrates life. Now, I want to turn my car off at that "WILLITS NEXT EXIT" sign. People seek happiness. Offer it to them, and to yourself.

Bruce Burton: Though Willits has visitor attractions, such as Frontier Days, Roots, and the museum, I do not believe the city's future well-being should be focused there. Willits is a workers' town, and we need to focus on manufacturing growth.

What are the top three challenges facing the City of Willits today?

Saprina Rodriguez: 1. Lack of a common vision! I believe the council needs to come together to express a community vision, with a strategic plan for accomplishing the vision. This can only happen with an open process. The business community and families won't thrive without a clear vision. 2. Safety! The number of trimmigrants in our community is a challenge. I see them getting dropped off by the busload. Also, are we doing all we can to support the safety needs of our law enforcement and fire personnel? 3. Water, water, water! How can we better protect our water resource and preserve the environment?

Madge Strong: The top challenge is maintaining quality city services and providing needed improvements in the face of tight budgets (likely even tighter post-bypass). Another is addressing housing needs, both for year-round residents and seasonal immigrants. Finally, I want Willits to be at the forefront of water and energy conservation and other environmental innovations.

Bill Barksdale: 1. Willits does not have a community Specific Plan, an inspiring, exciting vision of where we want to go. The city's current mission statement is dull and uninspiring. It needs to be short and visionary to motivate creative goals. 2. Our schools. Support best teachers and staff. Get behind them. Create inventive, compelling teaching, sports and the arts. Help kids who have bad home situations. Kick substance abuse, and instill self-esteem in students, staff and families. Stop classroom disruptions. Learning is important. Kids need a positive view of the future so they have a reason to get there. 3. Cannabis.

Bruce Burton: The top three challenges: Fiscal stability of city finances; attracting and retaining workforce professionals; commercial and industrial investment.

Gerry Gonzalez: 1. The economy post bypass – Most of the city revenue comes from sales tax generated from fast food and gasoline sales. 2. Water – While our reservoir along with other towns' are full, we are in still in a drought, and water will continue to be a challenge to potential growth options. 3. Cannabis – We have gone from total prohibition and an outlaw mentality in this county to a legal framework being set up by the state for medical and a possible state vote on legalization. This presents a challenge, as we have to navigate the many knowns and unknowns as a community.

Of those challenges, pick one and tell us about a solution.

Madge Strong: We are currently updating our general plan's housing element, which will address that issue. Budget requires ongoing diligence. Focusing on environmental issues, I'm concerned about the potential impact of turning our emergency well water system into an ongoing water source, while we have yet to optimize water conservation. I want Willits to join the rest of the county in adopting a plastic bag ordinance. Other environmental measures include: • Solarizing city facilities • Ban on Styrofoam • Protecting heritage trees • Stream setbacks (For further details please refer to www.madgestrong.blogspot.com.)

Bill Barksdale: The schools are the territory of the school board. I think the cannabis issue has to be reasonably and compassionately explored, then incorporated into a visionary Specific Plan. Please read my answer to the last question, "What do you feel is the most important role of a city councilmember?" and you will have my response to this question.

Bruce Burton: The city budget has been running about a \$300,000 deficit for the last several years. I have not supported these expenditures, and I would hope to convince future council members of the necessity of a balanced budget. The strategy seems to be to deficit spend, and then ask the voters for sales tax and rate increases. I suggest the public trust is built by responsible spending before you ask for help.

Gerry Gonzalez: I think that water is one of the most important things we need to focus on right away. The rains are coming again, and we will quickly forget that we are still in a drought. The key to development and even possible limits to the emerging cannabis industry will be water. First and foremost we need to make sure we have a stable source of water for our residents. Afterwards, we can look at what development is compatible with our community and our water supply. Water is the key to solving or at least addressing the challenges I have identified.

Saprina Rodriguez: My first task as a councilwoman would be to look closely at the city's current vision, strategic plan and ordinances. Within 30 days I want an open study session meeting where all councilmembers decide on common goals, process for meetings and community input. The first step is to look at the structure before we can effectively make change. Second, I'd like to share my vision for Willits. I'd like to invest time into the idea of turning city hall into a centralized non-profit and genuine community center. Can we consolidate city hall services to the Willits Justice Center, saving money?

What direction do you think the City of Willits should take regarding cannabis cultivation within the city limits?

Bill Barksdale: There's no way to please everyone on this issue. Cannabis is a powerful drug with a potent odor. It's not like any other crop in that regard. Wine is a drug that smells when it's fermenting, but grapes in the field don't have a strong odor for the life of the plant, as cannabis does. I oppose outdoor grows in the city. There's no way to get away from the odor if you don't like it. Armed criminals don't break into vineyards and shoot people to steal grapes, as sometimes happens with cannabis. We can explore regulated indoor growing.

Bruce Burton: I do not favor pot "legalization" in town. First, it is federally illegal, and no local ordinance applies. It is a breach of your oath of office to do otherwise. I strongly recommend steering clear of sanctioning these practices ahead of federal law. Regarding the backyard growing in town, I believe it an inconsiderate and inappropriate activity to expose one's neighbor to.

Gerry Gonzalez: The state of California Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act (MMRSA) created a framework to bring this industry into a regulated environment. We need to work within the legal framework and use proper zoning to allow for this industry to come in a legal fashion. I have spoken with the new director of the Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation, Lori Ajax, and she was quick to caution that local municipalities should be working on local regulations of their own in anticipation of the new state regulations. Cannabis is here, we should direct where and how it comes into our town.

Saprina Rodriguez: The first step in any situation is always to gather as much community input as possible. The next step will always be to look at the short-term and long-term effects of a decision. The city shouldn't be making hasty decisions to meet the needs of any group of investors at the hint of money. The city's budget shouldn't be the driving force for cannabis cultivation within city limits. We need to look at the impact to our water resources, safety of our communities, ability to attract new non-cannabis business, educational impact,

and neighbors' rights to enjoy the their own homes.

Madge Strong: Medical cannabis is now legal in California, with recreational use following soon. Though cannabis should not be Willits' main claim to fame, it's already an important – and should become legitimate – part of our economy. I support the city allowing strictly regulated and taxed commercial cannabis operations, testing labs and dispensaries in appropriate zoning districts. As legalization reduces the risks and profit that drive the underground economy, we could consider modifying the current restriction on outdoor grows, provided there are safeguards protecting neighbors, schools, etc.

What do you feel is the most important role of a city councilmember?

Bruce Burton: The most important role of a city councilmember is the building and maintaining of public trust. This is a multifaceted responsibility, including fiscal management, vision and strategy. It is not always accomplished by listening to the loudest voice.

Gerry Gonzalez: Someone who listens to his/her constituents while at the same time looks forward as a visionary; in other words a person who sees where we want to be years from now. An individual who helps set policy and who will work with staff to accomplish the goals of the city for the betterment of the community. Someone who is willing to devote their heart and soul into the position/role, as this is what it will take to secure funds and assistance from state and federal government sources. Someone who comes prepared for meetings and is engaged and approachable.

Saprina Rodriguez: The most important role should always be to listen, research the facts, and communicate effectively. An effective councilmember needs to be active in the community, available, and aware of economic trends. I've demonstrated those traits when I served this community for four years on the Willits school board. As a trustee, I gave tirelessly of myself, time and money. If you'd like more information about me or my stance on local issue, current ballot propositions, or measures: visit "Saprina Rodriguez For Willits City Council" on Facebook. I can also be reached by phone @ 354-2539 or e-mail: saprinarodriguez@gmail.com.

Madge Strong: Council members represent the whole community (not just city limits). Our job is to listen to all viewpoints with care and respect and then, to the best of our ability, make decisions for the greatest common good. Qualities needed: open mind, respect, good judgment, problem-solving attitude, and diligence. I hope I earn your support and vote.

Bill Barksdale: A council member has to listen, learn and lead with inspiration. They have to evaluate resources, cut what's wasteful, corrupt, and fix what's broken, support what's working, identify the hidden resources and use them – and create an inspiring plan to move forward. Measure progress, year one, year two, year three, etc. Are we on target or do we make adjustments to refocus on the goal? People get frustrated, the job stinks sometimes. Deal with the "burn-out" factor. Make a new plan focusing on the next goal. Use spare resources wisely. One must learn to be an effective and visionary leader.



CHP's Ukiah Area has new commander

The California Highway Patrol's Ukiah Area, which includes southern Mendocino County up to Commercial Street in Willits, and Lake County, has a new commander.

Capt. Bruce Carpenter is a 34-year CHP veteran, who previously commanded the Quincy Area and Willows Area offices, the CHP said.

Carpenter previously served Mendocino County residents as a sergeant assigned to the Ukiah Area in 1996.

The new commander replaces Capt. Jim Nellis, who has been transferred to the

Read the rest of **CHP** | Over on Page 15



The gift of good health is one of the best gifts you can give yourself. Getting a mammogram takes 30 minutes of your time that might ensure you'll have more time with your loved ones for years to come.

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Hometown Harvest Moon

FFA exhibits, live music, and kids' fun were highlights of downtown festival

Above: Tara Logan gets ready to work her German wheel. Above, right: Willits High senior Rocky Boat and Sober Grad Committee volunteer Sherri Lovell sell raffle tickets for Sober Grad's Fall Basket.

At right: Heather Whitehurst shows off treats from Pamela's Products.

At right, below: Willits FFA members and advisors, from left: Kelley Case-Brackett, James Brown, Cole Moyle, Caitlyn Forrester, and Bonnie Riley.

Below, from left: Alex Rodriguez and Tara Logan pose on one of the duo's German wheels. Jaxson Green crosses the Monkey Bridge built by Boy Scout Troop 42. Lucy Shrubbs shows off a beautiful henna adornment.

Photos by Mathew Caine



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Willits man held for violating parole

Mendocino County sheriff's deputies arrested a Willits man shortly after 1:30 pm on October 1 at a state probation officer's request.

The parole officer conducting a search on 25-year-old David Monthei in the 2400 block of North Highway 101 discovered Monthei was in violation of his parole and wanted Monthei arrested, said sheriff's Sgt. Quincy Cromer.

Monthei was booked into Mendocino County Jail where he is being held without bail.

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

Redway man held for pot possession

A 52-year-old Redway man was arrested shortly before 1 pm last Thursday after sheriff's deputies discovered he was in possession of more than five pounds of marijuana.

Deputies on patrol in Laytonville stopped to talk with Richard Franciskovich, whom they found sitting alongside Highway 101, according to a Sheriff's Office press release.

One pound of the pot was being packaged for sale, deputies said.

Franciskovich was booked into Mendocino County Jail on suspicion of possessing marijuana for sale. Bail was set at \$25,000.

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

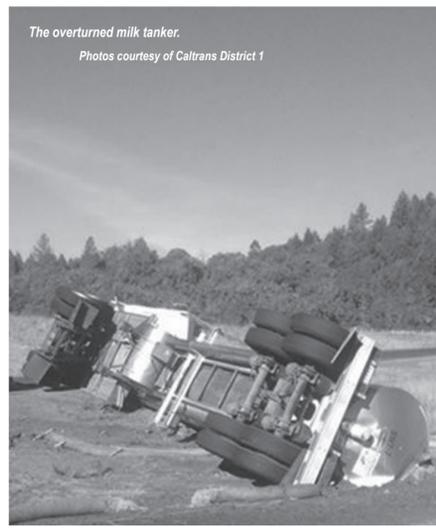
Traffic stop leads to federal arrest

A traffic stop on a vehicle traveling westbound on Highway 162 near Covelo shortly after midnight on Sunday, October 2, led to the arrest of a Martinez man wanted by federal authorities.

A sheriff's deputy took 41-year-old Daren Glosser into custody after learning he was on federal probation for a marijuana-related offense and a felony warrant for his arrest had been issued by the United States Marshals Service, said sheriff's Sgt. Quincy Cromer.

Glosser was taken to county jail, where he was held without bail.

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



The overturned milk tanker. Photos courtesy of Caltrans District 1

The rest of Tanker | From Page 1

experience any delays as a result of the non-injury accident, said Caltrans officials, but removal operations impacted traffic flow for about 45 minutes later in the day.

Although the cause of the accident remains under investigation, the Garberville office of the California Highway Patrol said it appeared Ruf's tanker approached a sharp turn "a little too fast."

Commenters on Facebook - including many readers from out the area - were amused by the pictures posted by Caltrans District 1.

"Thousands of ferret cats descended upon the crash site, complicating matters for police and rescue crews," said Philadelphian Seth Cole, in one of many jocular comments on the Caltrans post. Cleanup "crews stated they were simply going to have to wait for the cats to drink their fill before attempting to proceed," Cole continued.

"Now all we need is a cookie truck to go careening off the road," Eureka resident Arron Everett Morgan posted.

"No use crying over spilled milk!" quipped Noe Arribus, an engineering supervisor at Fremont-based Thermo Fisher Scientific.

The rest of CHP | From Page 1

San Diego Area. Carpenter says he "is looking forward to working with his public safety partners and the community at large" to fulfill the CHP's mission of safety, service and security.

"Saving lives is the core mission of the CHP," Carpenter says, using "a proactive approach to make our roadways safer through the use of education and enforcement."

He says he "welcomes open dialogue and community input with the ultimate goal of [achieving] the best quality of life possible for the residents of Mendocino County."

Carpenter said he "will make himself available to individuals and groups upon request to keep the conversation going and build an atmosphere of trust and transparency throughout Mendocino County."

He can be reached by email at bcarpenter@chp.ca.gov or by phone at either 467-4040 or his cellular number: 530-518-9895.

The rest of Workshop | From Page 1

allows up to six plants to be grown indoors.

The "working group" was formed to research ordinances and for the council to consider after several property owners expressed a desire to establish indoor commercial cannabis cultivation businesses within the city's industrial zones.

The public workshop will "hear comments from all interested parties [that will be used] to develop a balanced and informed" policy recommendation for the city council to consider, Moore said.

"Policy development will initially focus on indoor cultivation, manufacturing, and testing, as well as all of the regulatory elements of commercial cannabis activities, such as land use compatibility, odor and noise control, water usage, wastewater pretreatment, electrical usage, hazardous materials handling, sensitive receptors (i.e., schools, parks, residential areas, etc.), permitting process, rates and fees, security, and code enforcement," she noted.

The rest of Vacancy | From Page 1

Department, if the building isn't occupied by a business within that time.

According to the ordinance draft, registration comes with a fee "in an amount established by city council resolution [and] shall accompany the registration form. The registration payment deadline will serve as the date for calculating an annual renewal fee which shall be paid every year the commercial building remains vacant."

Although Duley purposely omitted any specific fee and penalty amounts in the ordinance itself, he did draft a separate proposed registration fee structure to the Revit-ED committee for review.

According to Duley's note to the draft: "Any registration fees established by the city council will be added to the City Rates and Fee Schedule. By not identifying/including fees in the ordinance, we avoid the need to revise the ordinance every time we want to update the registration fees."

While there is still some disagreement about the penalty amounts for commercial buildings that remain vacant over a period of many years, the committee did agree the initial registration fee after the first 90 days of vacancy would be set at \$100 "per vacant commercial building."

From there, if the building remains vacant "for at least one year but less than two years," a fee of \$500 per vacant commercial building will "be collected by the city."

The fees climb to \$1,000 per vacant commercial building "that is vacant for at least two years but less than three years"; \$3,500 for vacancies "for at least four years but less than five years"; and \$5,000 per "vacant commercial building that is vacant for at least five years, plus an additional \$500 for each year in excess of five years."

Committee member Bill Barksdale argued the five-year vacancy fees were not high enough for certain owners, who would most likely receiving hefty tax write-offs from their chronically vacant buildings.

"What they're writing off is the potential value of the income of the property that's being lost each year," Barksdale explained, using the Van Hotel as an example. "Let's say there are 100 units in there. If each unit is worth - on the low end - \$500 per month, that's \$50,000 per month, and that's \$600,000 per year write-off."

Duley suggested, in an off-the-

The rest of Tanker | From Page 1

cuff manner, sending a notice alerting the owner that "we shall send the IRS notice that your property is unrentable in its current condition."

"If the fee isn't painful, there are people who can afford to keep [their buildings vacant]," Barksdale said, suggesting language should be added to the fee structure stating, in effect, "after five years the fee shall be doubled every year thereafter."

Duley said he would consult with City Attorney Jim Lance to see if such a fee could be "justified."

For those failing to register any vacant commercial building after the 90-day period, "the city may register [the building] and impose the annual registration fee on the owner." And "the city may collect any unpaid registration fee by use of any method authorized by law."

All funds collected from fees and penalties "shall be used to offset the city and fire department's cost of inspection, administration and enforcement."

The revised draft ordinance defines commercial property owners who live "out of the area" as those who live outside Mendocino County "for at least six months a year, and are therefore required to provide the information for a local property manager with authority to act with respect to the property."

The draft ordinance also calls for annual inspections for vacant commercial properties to be conducted by a city-designated officer and the Little Lake Fire Department fire chief "for the purpose of conducting an annual fire code compliance inspection."

Additionally, owners of vacant commercial buildings are required to conduct their own monthly inspections "to determine if the building in compliance, or if notification of noncompliance is reported to the owner(s) or their local property manager."

The revised draft ordinance explains other requirements for vacant commercial buildings, including maintenance and security requirements, signage requirements, and other penalties and procedures.

Duley is expected to make some final tweaks to the latest draft ordinance before submitting it for an agenda discussion item as soon as the October 26 Willits City Council meeting.

been from members of the marijuana industry. According to the second-period Form 460 report, major contributors to Yes on AF from January 1 to September 25, include Gabe Martin, director of the Leonard Moore Collective, a Mendocino cannabis dispensary (\$7,000); Lurane Cassidy, owner, Weather Top Nursery in Laytonville (\$5,000); J. Blake Johansen, Pacific Wholesale Network (\$5,000); Susan Schindler, a north county property manager (\$5,000); Tahoe Wellness Cooperative, a South Lake Tahoe dispensary (\$3,500); Madrone Collective, a consortium of cannabis farmers from the North Coast region (\$3,000); Dragonfly Wellness Center, a Fort Bragg dispensary (\$1,674); Joshua Keets (\$1,200), and Casey O'Neill, Nikki Laestro, Matt Johanson and Adam Steinberg, who each gave \$1,000 to the Mendocino Heritage Initiative campaign.

The list of financial backers for the No on AF committee includes retired county recycling manager Mike Sweeney (\$1,000), Ukiah businessman Ross Liberty (\$1,000), Anderson Valley logging operator Mike Anderson (\$1,000); Willits environmental activist Ellen Drell (\$500); former Third District supervisor and musician Hal Wagenet (\$250); Patricia Hickey, executive director of the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (\$200); Duane Wells, retired Mendocino County assessor (\$200); and Lorraine Brodowski, retired (\$200).

Some question the Mendocino Heritage Initiative's statement, arrived at by adding numbers from its August 1 and October 5 financial reports, claiming the campaign committee has received \$15,314 in contributions that were individually less than \$100.

According to Sweeney, who is coordinating the No on AF campaign, if the contributions were in cash amounts of \$100 or more, they were illegal.

California Government Code Section 84300 declares cash contributions of \$100 or more illegal, Sweeney said.

The California Fair Political Practices Commission states: "A committee may not accept a cash contribution of \$100 or more. Such a contribution may be returned to the contributor prior to the end of the reporting period, provided the cash was not previously deposited or spent. A cash contribution that is inadvertently deposited into the committee bank account must be refunded with 72 hours of receipt."

Reacting last week to a press release written by Sweeney, Mendocino Heritage Initiative of 2016 campaign manager Sarah Bodnar said: "All official financial reporting is being handled appropriately in accordance with the law. Contributions of over \$100 have been reported in full compliance with FPPC code."

In last week's press release, issued before the 460 form was filed, Bodnar implied Sweeney's claims were baseless. "No misdemeanors have been charged against the [Yes on AF Campaign], and FPPC staff have confirmed that our filings are complete, and no further information has been requested of our committee."

However, Jay Wierenga, communications director for the California FPPC, said FPPC records of email conversations don't indicate FPPC staff told the Yes on AF campaign what Bodnar's press release said they did.

"Obviously, we don't track all phone calls or phone conversations," Wierenga told Willits Weekly. "But a check of our emails to our 'Advice' area on our website from the past few weeks shows one contact with [the AF] committee's treasurer, who identified herself as Louise Donaldson, who simply asked for a schedule of when our 460s are due."

"That's all we have," Wierenga said. Donaldson resigned as treasurer of the Mendocino Heritage Initiative of 2016 sometime after August 1. According to the most recent 460 report, as of October 5, the new treasurer of the Yes on AF Committee is Scarlett Trillia.

Political committees are required to submit more forms than just the 460. One such is the 497 form, which is required to be filed when campaign committees receive contributions of \$1,000 or more within 90 days of an election (starting August 10 this election). These forms must be submitted to the county elections office within 24 hours of receipt of the contribution.

The Mendocino Heritage Initiative campaign has received several of those larger donations, but to date, according to Mendocino County Assistant Registrar of Voters Katrina Bartolomei, it has not submitted any 497 forms to the elections office.

Bartolomei confirmed the No on AF Committee has been delinquent with 24-hour reporting of larger contributions as well. Although it has received three contributions of \$1,000 or more (Sweeney, Liberty and Anderson) it has only submitted a 497 form for the Anderson contribution, according to Bartolomei. The 497s for both the Liberty and the Sweeney contribution have not yet been submitted.



Above, from left: Jenny and Carter; Lea and Racer with Brie and Emma; Katie and Kali Rain; Alison with Camdyn and Daylee; Teresa and Roxanne. The moon in the background was originally created for Camdyn's newborn photo shoot. It was fun to photograph him in front of it again four years later. At right, from left to right: Irene and Konner; Ashtan and Jake with Aybrie and Kaleb; Brandi, Matthew and Waylon.



Under the Harvest Moon

Thank you to everyone who came out to get their photos taken with Maureen Moore at the Harvest Moon celebration. The event was held as a 50/50 fundraiser for the Mendocino County Care-A-Van and raised \$200 for the mobile vet service. See all the photos online at: <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/harvestmoon2016>



Above: Mariah, Frankie, Lauren, Cassidy and Trent. At right: Anna, Jakoby, Tim and Lucy. At far right: Izzy and Shawna with River and Alaska.

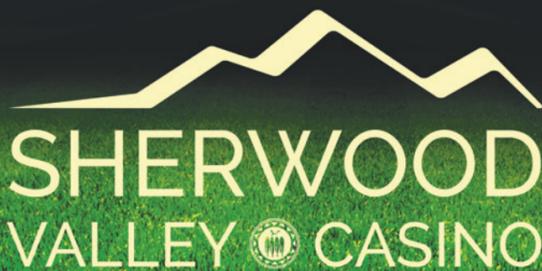


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