William Online & Print g willitsweekly@gmail.com ₩ **Selooking** A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits Donations Accepted Edition No. 130 Thursday, November 5, 2015

Council OKs temporary home for John's Place

Damian Sebouhian Reporter damian@willitsweekly.com

Following lively discussion by concerned parties on both sides of the issue, the Willits City Council approved a conditional use permit for Daniel and Jeanne Chesser, owners of John's Place on a 3-2 vote. Pending approval by the state Department of Alcohol Beverage Control, the Chessers will be moving their full-service bar to a somewhat controversial location.

Since a fire destroyed John's Place on Commercial Street in November 2014, the Chessers have been seeking а temporary location for their business while reconstruction gets underway.

The new, temporary

Read the rest of John's Over on Page 11

Supes OK Dollar General

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Meeting in Willits on Tuesday, supervisors earlier reversed unanimous tentative decision and voted 3-2 to allow construction of Dollar General store Redwood Valley.

The board voted to approve the Dollar General store despite overwhelming opposition to the project by Redwood Valley residents, who had submitted a petition to supervisors containing more than 1,700 signatures.

According to Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg, recommendation members of the county counsel's office that supervisors not oppose construction of Dollar

Read the rest of Supes Over on Page15

Santa Cruz man dies in solo 101 crash

A 58-year-old Santa Cruz man died last shortly before 2 pm Sunday, November 1, when he apparently lost control of his 1997 Volkswagen on a curve in the southbound lane of Highway101 north of Willits.

A recent rain had left the roadway wet, according to Jeremy Lozensky, a special duty officer with the California Highway Patrol.

The VW struck a dirt embankment on the shoulder of the highway, ran up a hillside and overturned before dropping back onto the center of the highway.

A 66-year-old Fortuna William Johnson, driving north at the time,

Read the rest of Crash

Over on Page 11







Coyote Valley,

Round Valley

tribes sue

Caltrans

Jennifer Poole

Editor & Reporter jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Two Mendocino County

Indian tribes filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court

last week, alleging the

California Department of

Transportation, as well as

various federal agencies,

"have intentionally destroyed

sites and failed to properly

protect historical sites"

during construction of the

The Coyote Valley Band

of Pomo Indians and the

Round Valley Indian Tribe

filed the action on October 30

for violations of the National

Environmental Policy Act

and the National Historic

Preservation Act. The tribes

are being represented by

the law firm Cotchett, Pitre

Caltrans

County Air

Quality

fines Grist

Creek

The Mendocino County

Air Quality Management

District has fined Brian

Hurt, owner of Grist Creek

Aggregates, Inc. of Covelo,

for

violations of state air quality

management laws.

multiple

Mike A'Dair

Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Over on Page 15

Read the rest of

Willits bypass.

archaeological



At top, from left: Wendy Wilmes, left, Herbert Pruett and Sherri Gregory-Pruett, center, and Jade Frankum, right, show off their "I VOTED" stickers earned Tuesday.

Above: The poll volunteers at the Willits Community Center pose for a quick photo between assisting voters.

Below, from left: Ballots were dropped into boxes at the Community Center, left, and the Brooktrails Community Center, right. Brooktrails poll workers Jeanette, Judy and Evie smile in front of the cozy fireplace at the Brooktrails Community Center.

Photos by Maureen Moore

Ubelhart re-elected to college board

Incumbent Paul Ubelhart has been elected to another term on the Mendocino

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Lake Community College Board Trustees, representing the Willits area.

Final Election Night results show Willits resident Ubelhart with 56.78 percent of the vote (649 votes), with Willits resident Rick Kale, principal of Round Valley Elementary/ Middle School in Covelo, coming in second, with 24.15 percent (276 votes). Read the rest of Challenger Perri Kaller, also of Willits,

drew 18.02 percent of the vote (206 votes).

Only 209 votes remain to be counted in the Mendocino College board election, said Voter Registrar Sue Ranochak. About 1,200 ballots countywide remain to be counted, with 6,159 ballots countywide already counted. Voter Registrar Sue Ranochak said there weren't a lot of ballots dropped off at the polls this election.

With ballots counted so far, voter turnout in the Mendocino College race is only 14.9

Over on Page 11









According to an October 21 notice of violation: "On October 20 ... a district inspector observed a Crumb Rubber Heating and Blending Unit operating at the Grist Creek Aggregates facility, located at 37342 Covelo Road, without benefit of permit, a violation of district regulations and state law and the conditions of the Authority to Construct issued to the facility. Read the rest of

Grist Creek Over on Page 11

Some may need flood insurance due to new FEMA maps

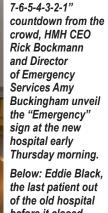
Damian Sebouhian Reporter damian@willitsweekly.com

Due to a countywide revision of preliminary FEMA flood insurance rate maps, homeowners with mortgages whose properties fall within the newly allotted floodplain will be required to purchase flood insurance, pending a 90-day appeals period.

John Sherman, floodplain administrator for Willits, presented the revised Emergency Federal Management Agency maps at last week's city council

Read the rest of

Flood Over on Page 11



After a "10-9-8-

before it closed its doors after 87

At bottom: Hospital construction project engineer Amy Ford and HMH CEO Rick Bockmann give each other a heartfelt high five.

> Photos by Melissa Cramer



New Howard Memorial Hospital officially open for patients

By Cecilia Winiger, for HMH

Nurses, EMTs, volunteers and administrative leaders gathered at the break of dawn Thursday in the main conference room at the old hospital to get their final briefing.

At exactly 6 am Rick Bockmann, HMH president and CEO, declared the new hospital officially open. "There is a special spirit that lives here, the collective power of over 350 people, working together for quality care and excellent patient experience," he said. "May that spirit live on. May this hospital be a beacon of hope well beyond our future."

As soon as the hospital was opened, and the signs lit and unveiled, the first patient left the old hospital. The ride took about 10 minutes, and the patient was immediately wheeled to her room on the second floor. After this, the whole process moved along smoothly, with patients being transported to their rooms at the new hospital within 10-15

minutes. A few minutes before 8 Read more of am, the last patient left the old hospital on One Madrone.

HMH Over on Page 7





A future vision

To the Editor:

On Veterans Day, Wednesday November 11, 2015, the Mendocino County Fallen Vietnam War Veterans Memorial will be dedicated.

What happens next for the memorial?

A few years ago, there was an article in the Willits News discussing the future of Willits after the bypass is completed. A community leader talked about the need for activities and events that would draw in tourists and

As I recall, it went something like this: "We need something that would bring them off Highway 101 and give them a special reason for coming into Willits." It would have to be something meaningful, making Willits a special destination. Some attraction that one did not mind taking an inconvenient exit and driving a few miles to go and visit.

I have a future vision: Imagine if you will, a veterans grove of redwood trees next to the museum where concrete benches faced the Vietnam War memorial. A place where veterans, friends and family sit in the shade and reflect on how they were impacted by the Vietnam War and other wars. It would be a central gathering place for veterans To the Editor: organizations and groups where conversations lead to new friends and old friendships are renewed. Connections are made here.

Our memorial would be an official part of every Memorial Day, every 4th of July, and every Veterans Day, giving extra meaning to celebrating those holidays. Visitors would make a return visit and tell others about this special place in Willits that they really should stop in and see. Eventually, everyone who lives in Mendocino County will want to see the memorial at least once. When tourists on the Skunk Train ask, "What's there to see in Willits?," there will be a good answer for them.

How can we be so sure this vision will materialize?

One need only look at what is happening to other Vietnam War memorials. The Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. has 4 million visitors annually. Across the country new memorials and museums are on the rise. The Gary Sinese Foundation is working to establish a new museum for Medal of Honor recipients. Every year the "Run For manages the historic properties in Little Lake valley. The Wall" motorcycle trip goes to the National Vietnam Memorial in Washington for Memorial Day, making a stop at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park in Angel Fire,

The Angel Fire memorial started small, starting with the life insurance of a fallen Marine who was killed in Vietnam. Every year it has grown and has now become one of New Mexico's most visited memorials. It is currently expanding, thanks to donations of land by veterans. The memorial has 45,000 visitors every year. Along the route, the American through. People line the streets and wave flags as they

Imagine our own annual "Redwood Run" of 5,000 motorcyclists with many coming off the bypass and gathering in Recreation Grove as they travel north to Piercy. Many riders are veterans, and they will go out of their way to pay tribute to other fallen veterans. What if they knew there were veteran displays inside the museum, and they lined up to see them?

There could be more people in Recreation Grove than on a typical 4th of July BBQ, with vendors for camping equipment, motorcycle apparel, music, etc. The museum could seek donations for memorial expansion and upkeep. The gift store could sell memorial keepsakes. Recreation Grove is an ideal location for just such an event, expanding it every June when the Redwood Run takes place. Some motorcycle enthusiasts may even come back for the 4th of July activities the following month on a return visit.

That is just one example of what is possible. The potential for growth is there. It is happening in other locations. If it is planned for, managed well, and the City of Willits promotes it, there are a lot of possibilities and opportunities that can come from it. A non-profit organization could be formed to help manage the funding. A promotion company could be hired, or make it a city function to promote the events. While volunteers will be needed, there will also be new jobs

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. Willit

Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits lette 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

Whatdo YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Going forward, having the bypass to allow those who choose not to visit and pass on is actually a good thing, especially if motorcycles lined both sides of the streets in town. This vision of the future is just a start, to get people thinking about what will become of Willits, and what it can become, for better or worse.

Dennis Miner, Willits

Caltrans stalls crucial agreement with tribes

By this letter, Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo is reporting to the state, local governments, and our neighbors in surrounding communities that after 18 months of effort, Caltrans has indefinitely stalled, if not altogether abandoned, the finalization of a crucial agreement related to the Willits bypass project.

From January to December 2014, Sherwood Valley worked closely with Caltrans to create a Programmatic Agreement (PA) that would mitigate the adverse effects to historic properties occurring within the bypass project. as well as set forth protocols for how best to manage any new discoveries of cultural resources during project

When new project staff took over in 2015, substantial internal agency edits to a nearly complete PA began in earnest. Specifically, Caltrans District 3 staff has worked tirelessly to revise the PA in ways that move the document further and further away from an agreement that responsibly

What's more, each of the five draft versions of the PA provided by Caltrans to Sherwood Valley in 2015 has been substantially worse than its predecessor, ultimately leaving the tribe without a document we can sign.

Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo's comments on the last version of a draft PA, which were provided to Caltrans on September 2, 2015, highlight the reasons for the tribe's To the Editor: lack of concurrence and concern:

"Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo's Tribal Council cannot Legion hosts a free dinner for motorcyclists passing agree to or accept CT's July 2015 version of the [PA] because the execution of CT's proposals will:

> (1) appreciably and inappropriately limit the number of archaeological deposits across the WBP that will constitute a site qualifying for in-field NRHP-eligibility assessment:

(2) significantly decrease the number of archaeological sites within the WBP that will meet the threshold for NRHP-

(3) replace necessary (i.e., legally mandated, professionallyand ethically-best) NRHP assessments and data recovery with cursory construction-based monitoring; and

(4) drastically diminish (if not altogether divest CT of) CT's legal obligation to consult with federally-recognized Indian Tribes that are culturally affiliated with the lands encompassed by the WBP regarding inadvertent discoveries of archaeological resources.

"Furthermore, agreeing to CT's proposed processes would create an exceedingly troublesome precedent for all California Indian Tribes with regard to (1) their legal rights to government-to-government consultation and (2) the legally compliant and culturally appropriate management of cultural resources on all current and forthcoming Caltransmanaged undertakings...

This same communication concluded with a request for Caltrans to contact the tribe to bring the PA to finalization. A subsequent letter from the tribe dated October 2, 2015 made a similar plea. Caltrans has not responded to or acted upon either request. Such reticence is deeply disturbing to Sherwood Valley. However, it has not altered the tribe's resolve to continue its demands for the successful execution of a project-based agreement, as evidenced by the following statement from tribal council:

"Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo's leadership has consulted in good faith with Caltrans regarding the Willits Bypass Project for over two years and acted in a trustworthy manner with unimpeachable integrity. We have tried to build consensus, attempting to understand Caltrans' limitations while championing our unwavering goal of being responsible stewards to our aboriginal lands

- the Little Lake valley - and the natural and cultural resources that this landscape

"Sherwood Valley has spent hundreds of hours and tens of thousands of dollars in an attempt to create a PA that adequately manages resources of concern to our community and offers some restitution for the great harm inflicted upon Mitom Kai and its people, the Mitom Kai Poma and their

"It has been a grief-filled process, punctuated by disrespectful, subversive, and cavalier attitudes and acts on the part of Caltrans. We

find this behavior particularly egregious given the fact that the tribe has not attempted to delay or stop construction of the bypass, despite it being a project that was never supported by Sherwood Valley. Rather, the tribe has only asked for the state and its agents to merely comply with the letter and spirit of existing statutes, regulations, and directives while undertaking the project - most notably Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and presidential and gubernatorial executive orders and memoranda, as well as U.S. Department of Transportation and CT policies, on the subject of tribal consultation and environmental iustice

"The tribe finds Caltrans' refusal to continue conducting the consultation required to finalize a mitigation-based agreement for the Willits bypass project unjustifiable and unacceptable. Despite the agency's recalcitrance and lack of integrity on this matter, however, Sherwood Valley will remain steadfast in our efforts to exact satisfactory mitigation for the adverse impacts to our community's resources within the Little Lake valley. Our tribe will not quietly or idly stand by and permit a failed PA to be yet another tragic outcome of the Willits bypass project."

Moving forward, Sherwood Valley will continue to reach out to Caltrans, as well as other consulting parties on the project – including the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Office of Historic Preservation, and the Federal Highway Administration – to finalize an agreement document that secures mitigation for those historic properties negatively impacted by the bypass project. Our community will also maintain its in-field monitoring presence and persist in advocating for more substantial and valuable archaeological investigations and more meaningful and transparent consultation.

> Tribal Council. Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo, Willits

Thanks to Care-A-Van

I would like to thank all of the people who make the Care-A-Van animal program possible. The one held October 28 at J.D. Redhouse in Willits was a big success. Many animals were able to receive vaccinations and other services at a reduced cost. It is a very important program for the community. Thanks again.

Judith Tauber, Willits

Longvale residents suffer from asphalt fumes and noise

Twenty-five residents who live near the new Grist Creek Aggregates/Mercer-Fraser asphalt plant on the Covelo Road in Longvale gathered Saturday, October 24, to talk about the noise and air pollution the plant has generated since it went on line in September.

The group convened on a wide turnout by Covelo Road close to Highway 101 and Outlet Creek. Because the plant, which is 2.2 miles east of the highway, was making asphalt that morning, the acrid odor of burning rubber drifted down the valley to the meeting site. Large trucks rumbled by, taking asphalt to areas on the highway where Caltrans is doing roadwork.

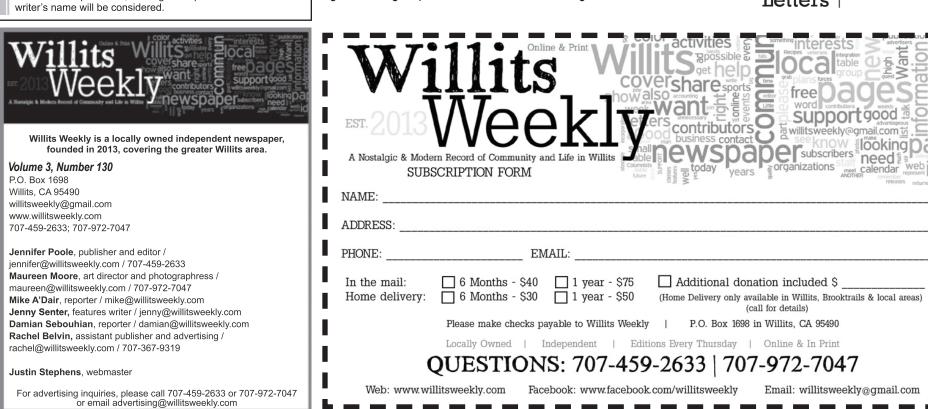
Although Grist Creek Aggregates owns the production site, Mercer-Fraser, a much larger, Eureka-based construction company, operates the plant and owns the plant itself, a fact most residents said they learned only recently.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors approved the plant in March, without the full environmental impact review that neighbors requested. The supervisors subsequently rescinded their decision, turning it over to the county Air District, which issued a permit for the plant. Friends of Outlet Creek appealed that decision by the Air Board. which voted 3 to 1 to uphold the permit.

Many neighbors of the plant complained that clouds of fumes, particularly those emitted when old tires are melted into the asphalt, sting their eyes and throats.

> Read the rest of Letters

Over on Page 13





Above. from left: Revelers in costum

At right: Grangemaster Michael Foley, a graduate of the "School of Farming." Below: Bruce Burton & Friends with Jon Mather, left on keyboards, Bruce Burton on banjo, Ernie Burton on guitar, and Bear Kamoroff on stand-up

Photos by Mathew Caine



Hot Buttered Rum Bruce Burton & Friends

Bluegrass costume ball benefits the Farm School

own Bruce Burton and Friends.

The Halloween benefit concert held at the Little Lake Grange Friday – the night before Halloween – was a howling success. Willits folks young and old showed up dressed in an array of costumes and danced to the unique bluegrass sounds of Hot Buttered Rum. Warming up the gathering crowd was Willits'

The event, promoted by Pooba's Cosmic Pickle Productions as part of a concert series, was put on to benefit the Grange Farm School.

According to Ruthie King, director of operations for the school, the benefit was "to help raise money for operating costs so we can keep the program running for next year, and have another two terms of students."

The Grange Farm School, located six miles south of Willits at Ridgewood Ranch, follows sustainability practices and offers classes in a variety of agricultural

"Our students don't just learn crop and livestock operations," King said. "They learn about business management, industrial arts, how to fix their own engines welding, carpentry, appraising, electricity and plumbing."

Hot Buttered Rum

Over on Page 6









1950s. Concert

ooba. Ron and

Angela Greystar.

Sheryl McFadden.

Photos by Mathew



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Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku

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How To Sudoku:

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

CLUES ACROSS

1. Owed 7. Shawl 13. Slow tempo 14. Bodily structure 16. Sun-god

17. Franklin or Eleanor 19. Degree 20. Norwegian poet

28. To clear or tidy

33. DoD computer language

34. One Direction won at

2014 awards

36. No. Am. peat bog

38. Clear wrap

40. Napped leather

41. In a way, takes

43. Transported

44. Back muscle

45. Unhappy

47. Wrong

51. Epic poem

48. Chit

29. 9th month

30. Hit lightly

31. Pinna

67. Block, Fire & Reunion 22. Local school organization 69. A set that is part of 23. Consumer another set 25. Brews 70. Hair product 26. Hero

CLUES DOWN

53. Capuchin genus

56. Weight unit

58. Foot (Latin)

61. Roosevelt V.P.

64. Railroad track

55. traz: The Rock

59. Egg-shaped nut palm

60. A radioactive element

65. More dense, less liquid

1. Ineffective 2. 39th state

4. In a moment 5. Japanese Prime Minister Hirobumi 6. Tyrant 7. A cruelly rapacious person

8. Point midway between NE and E 9. Abnormal breathing 10. Essential oil or perfume

obtained from flowers 11. Italian river

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12. Fixed firmly into

13. Opera songs

15. Cloth measurement 18. 7th Greek letter 21. Extractor 24. For boiling water to

make tea 26. Possesses 27. Edible tuberous root

30. Glass window sheets 32. Tactics 35. More (Spanish)

38. Makes a choice 39. Great Plains indians 42. Baglike structure in a

37. Our star

plant or animal 43. Female sibling 46. Diverge

47. Adherent of Islam 49. Defer 50. Semitic gods

52. Indian term of respect 54, 10 decibels 55. Surface regions

Japan

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57. Small amounts 59. Liberal rights organization 62. Teeny

and Lynn 63. Volcanic mountain in Williams hold the "Disappearing 66. Atomic #71 Nines" auilt 68. Canadian province in front of the

Methodist

Above: Pastor

Landry, left,

Raffle tickets are \$1 each and six tickets for \$5. A portion of the proceeds

will go to the Valley Fire victims. Tickets are available at the church office, 286 School Street, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to noon, and at the November 14 concert by Just Enough (6 pm at the church), or by calling the office

Methodist Church to raffle quilt

Volleyball | Beatriz

Gandarilla, age 18, Senior

Position: Captain, defensive specialist

Breakfast of Champions: Oatmeal with

Love for the Sport: "I love the feeling

volleyball gives me.

Cross Country | Kyleena

Amador, age 15, Junior

Breakfast of Champions: Mini-Wheats

Love for the Sport: "I love traveling

Kyleena is the only girl on the team who

has competed in every race this season.

She continues to improve each week and

just set a PR (personal record) on her

home course in Brooktrails by running her

- Coach Dave Smith

Position: Cross country

cereal with banana

everywhere!"

fastest time yet.

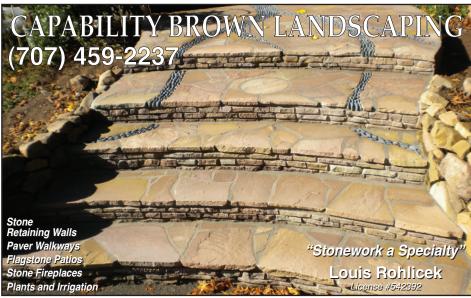
and Christmas basket

Willits United Methodist Church is selling raffle tickets for two big prizes for a raffle to take place on the first Sunday in December, December 6. No need to be present to win!

One of the prizes is a "Disappearing Nines Quilt," handmade and donated to the Willits church by a Methodist Church member in Eureka. The lovely quilt, mainly in tones of blue and yellow, highlighted by squares with red and pink flowers, is 70 inches wide by 94 inches long, perfect for The other prize is a Christmas basket, filled with 26 holiday items, including an apron and table runner, two tea towels, a Christmas bowl, a candy-cane striped candle and holder, 10 Christmas ornaments, Christmas

tea lights, an activity Advent calendar, a Christmas cookie cookbook, a cookies-for-Santa plate, Christmas cards, and a variety of snacks.







Out to Lunch with Maggie & Dick

Roland's Bakery & Bistro

of them with you.

Visiting Roland's Bakery & Bistro in My "Amazing Athlete" for this week is team captain Beatriz Gandarilla. Bea has been Maggie Graham Mall one lovely an asset to the team for years. She never

day this fall stops hustling and working to improve her we chose the skills. She also continues to show immense outside seating. People-watching as support for her teammates and coaches. shoppers strolled by, I remarked: "I feel so - Coach Holli Walton sophisticated – as though we are in Paris!"

The menu offers many choices and, remembering that this is a bakery and that all the breads and pastries are made on site, it was difficult deciding what to order. They have a full range of appetizers, salads, sandwiches, quiches, plenty of vegetarian choices and various coffee drinks. The breakfast menu lists quiches, bagels, scrambled eggs & cheese or breakfast burritos which are served from 8 am to 11,

A very distinct pleasure of living in this and then lunch kicks in from 11 to 4 pm. town is the wealth and variety of great local did hear the waitress say they were thinking eateries. We've had such fabulous lunches of being open some evenings for dinner? out lately, I got excited about sharing some Speaking of our server, she was an added bonus, friendly, cheerful and helpful.

I settled on the "Quesadilla, with pork jalapeno, onion, black beans, cheese salsa and sour cream." Great choice! It was divine. I loved every unique bite, right to the very last one. Dick chose the "Cubano, on panini with pork, pickles, mustard and Swiss cheese." As we swapped tastes, it was hard to decide whose was best. Both dishes incorporated flavorful, distinctive tastes.

With iced tea as our beverage, we topped it all off with a pecan pastry each. Yum, and groan.... It's a good thing we had skipped breakfast that day, and a very light supper that night was all that was needed

Watch for another installment of "Out to Lunch." With so many great places to pick from, which will be next?



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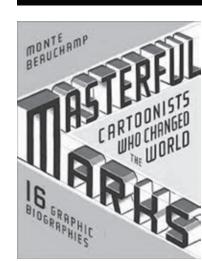
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COLUMN | Resendez Reads!

If you read the funny pages as a kid, or enjoyed reading comic books in your youth, or currently enjoy political cartoons in the papers or online Fran Resendez then you are a perfect candidate to enjoy the pleasures of graphic novels, travel journals or even

raphic biographies that combine storytelling with drawn art. There's a whole new generation of graphic artists to explore. But the author that I want to recommend to you today is an intelligent and charming young artist named Lucy Knisley (pronounced "nigh-slee")

She is an award-winning author who has published several graphic books and contributed to comics anthologies. I've recently read two of those books, both autobiographical journals kept during two separate trips to Europe. Knisley is an American raised in New York, who attended art school in Chicago. Her perspective revolves around visual stimulation, ood (she was raised by a chef), and friendship.

The first book is titled "French Milk" (2008), which refers o Lucy's unquenchable thirst for Parisian dairy products - which tasted so much better to her than American. Her graphic style is pared down to visual essentials, but manages to be engaging and to portray herself and her surroundings

Her journal records her sojourn to Paris with her mother o celebrate both her 22nd birthday and her mother's 50th. hey rent a small apartment and set out to leisurely soak up classic French experiences over a period of five weeks. We are treated to the atmosphere of the streets and cafes, images of their delightful meals, descriptions of the art at various museums, and even flea market shopping. It all seems so fresh and delightful as seen through her eyes.

In the second book, "An Age of License" (2014), Lucy returns to Europe to attend a comics convention in Scandinavia. She goes to France for more culinary adventures and for some romance as well. The title of this book derives from a French phrase that defines this period of one's youth as a time for exploration and experimentation efore the commitments of adulthood seize hold.

I found this volume even more engaging and certainly more emotionally complex than the earlier. It also seemed that Knisley's visual style had grown. I look forward to reading more of her autobiographical comics, as she has two other

> Read the rest of Reads

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Over on Page 6

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'Grief, History, and Healing'

Vietnam Veterans Memorial honors fallen Mendocino County servicemen

by Roberta Werdinger, for the Mendocino County Museum

The Mendocino County Museum will host the unveiling and dedication ceremony of the Mendocino County Fallen Vietnam War Veterans Memorial at 2 pm on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11. The public is invited to attend and families of the veterans will be present.

The museum will be open free of charge during its regular hours of 10 am to 4:30 pm in honor of the occasion; visitors can view personal effects and photos of the servicemen who died. The schedule of activities includes the reading of names and hometowns of the 22 Mendocino County servicemen who lost their lives during that war and will be the first time these 22 residents have been honored as a group.

"When America goes off to war, our families go off to war too," observes Dennis Miner. Born in Willits, the 5-yearold Miner viewed actor Audie Murphy in the World War II movie "To Hell and Back" at the Novo Theatre. According to Miner, "That set my career."

At age 19, he enlisted in the military and spent 20 years in the service, achieving the rank of sergeant. After leaving active service he attended college with the help of the Vietnam Era GI Bill and retired as a Major. Having never been sent to Vietnam, Miner felt naturally connected to and curious about the servicemen in his area who had fought there, many of whose families he knew.

With the 50th anniversary of American involvement in the war approaching. Miner wrote a letter to the nowdeceased mother of Kenneth Allan Butler, Jr., a Willits resident killed in the war in 1968 at the age of 20. In the letter, Miner expressed his grief for the life that Butler did not live, as well as the pride his mother should take for her son's sacrifice for what he thought was right.

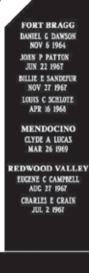
Writing this letter prompted Miner to embark on a quest to learn the names and stories of the other Mendocino County servicemen who had died. As he reflects: "In rural Mendocino County the news [of a serviceman's death] traveled mostly by word of mouth.... Usually no one could answer the question that followed: 'What happened to the U.S. believing they had to stop communism wherever

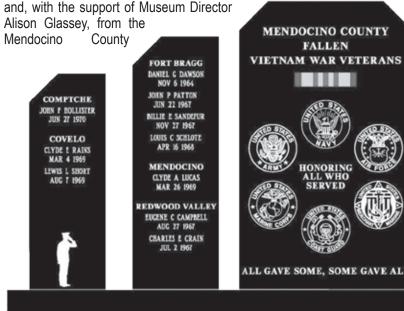
To fill in these gaps, Miner collaborated with veterans' groups and the Mendocino County Museum to produce testimony and photos which he collected in a booklet that will be available at the memorial service; this research also extends the "Veterans History: Personal" exhibit that is on permanent display at the Museum.

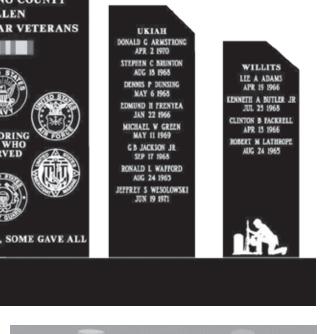
Miner spearheaded the project to create the memorial, approving design plans, scouting locations, and gaining endorsements from the Willits City Council

Alison Glassey, from the Mendocino County









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Saturday • Nov. 14, 2015

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

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Fashion Show

at Willits Harrah Center

Admission \$12



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The roots of the war in Vietnam stretch back to 1954.

when the rise of a communist-backed regime in North

Vietnam led to opposition from U.S.-allied South Vietnam.

The U.S. and the Soviet Union were locked in a battle for

world dominance known as the Cold War, with some in

In 1965, the U.S. landed Marines at Da Nang, Vietnam,

initiating a 10-year conflict that employed 500,000 U.S.

personnel, involved the Air Force, Navy, Marines and

Army, and claimed 58,000 American lives. Estimates for

U.S. forces withdrew, the Saigon government in South

Over on Page 11

Read the rest of

Veterans

Vietnam fell to communist forces.

Board of Supervisors.

it spread.

At left: Lifting the memorial into place.

Photos by Holly Madrigal

Below: A mock-up of the design for the memorial, honoring 22 fallen Mendocino County servicemen, which is to be unveiled at a 2 pm ceremony on Veterans Day, November 11.

published titles and two books in the making. Check out her website, lucyknisley.com to see examples of her work and watch an excellent video on how you two can create your own travel journal.

Lastly, I chanced upon an excellent graphics biography of influential cartoonists called "Masterful Marks: Cartoonists Who Changed the World in 16 Graphic Biographies," (2015) by Monte Beauchamp. The author pays homage to a mixed bag of cartoonists from Walt Disney, Edward Gory and Charles Schultz to R. Crumb, Dr. Seuss and the grand old man of Japanese manga, Osamu Tezuka.

Each short biography is drawn by different contemporary artists with widely varying styles, but all are an interesting portrayal of the creative mind and the many barriers that commerce sets up to getting one's work "out there." My only criticism is the lack of women cartoonists as both subject matter and contributing artists – only one female illustrator is included. That means we've got to go forth and

Whether you read by page or device, please utilize our library Vietnamese dead range from 1 to 3 million. In 1975, as system and patronize independent bookstores both new and used. Local poet. Fran Resendez, is retired from 20 years of bookselling at the former Leaves of Grass Books in Willits. Getting her first library card was one of the happiest days in her

Hot Buttered Rum

Keeping with the theme of sustainability, Zocalo Collective provided farm-to-table food for the concertgoers, including ribs from John Ford and goat meat raised on a local private farm.

Pooba has been making good use of the grange for music events and has the venue booked for several more shows in the future, each show put on as a benefit. "We're doing benefits for Montessori School, for the Senior Center, North Coast Opportunities ... a bunch of different charities," Pooba said. "Except for the Valentine concert, all the shows we do here are family events," he added. "Children 12 and under are always admitted free of charge." Pooba's daughter, Kaya, is an important part of the family production company, he said: "She outranks me!"

When asked about Willits mayor Bruce Burton's involvement, Pooba explained that they've been on each other's radar for some time, but didn't connect until recently. "Last February [the last time Hot Buttered Rum was in town], we were planning shows simultaneously without realizing it. When he found out he asked me if we could join forces."

Pooba stressed the importance of people from differing spheres of influence using music as a bridge to find common ground.

"My view is that if we can get people together and play music together, then the advantage of that is we can talk together, and if we can talk together from different camps, then we can do it in town. And hey, maybe we can realize we have more in common than we thought."

Burton has been playing banjo for more than 35 years. A 2014 CD, "Let's Take the Long Way Home," features Bill Evans and other well-known bluegrass players. As stated in his album notes, "I love a beautiful melody, and the banjo has a unique tone to express it." Friends who played with Burton Friday included his son, Ernie Burton, on guitar, Bear Kamoroff on stand-up bass, and Jon Mather on keyboards.

Sponsors for the Grange concert included Lagunitas Brewing Company, Frey's, J.D. Redhouse, North Coast Opportunities, KZYX&Z, and Ancestor Radio Productions.

The next Grange concert is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, and features the bands Rising Appalachia and The Real Sarahs, playing as a benefit for Montessori Tree of Life Charter School's gardening project. A New Year's party is also on the schedule, with a Brazilian Carnivale theme. featuring Samba Da, Pura Vida and Mystic Sol.

Visit www.grangefarmschool.org or "Grange Farm School" on Facebook for more information about the









At top, left to right: The first patient moved in to the new Howard Hospital, Dorothy Bettencourt, with hospital construction project engineer Amy Ford on her left, and Howard Hospital CEO Rick Bockmann on her right. HMH staffers pose behind the counter in the entrance hallway. Howard Foundation President Margie Handley writes on a "Remembrance Wall" in the old hospital conference room

Above: Jamie Bailey, LVN, at left, Amy Ford, center, and Rebekkah Steinbeck, RN, with Dorothy Bettencourt, the first patient to take a ride on one of the fancy elevators

Below, left to right: Eddie Black, the last patient at the old hospital, enjoys his moment in the spotlight. The new Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Staffers pose for one of many photos taken on opening day.

Among those transferred to the new hospital was Dorothy Bettencourt, a resident of Ukiah for 42 years, who underwent hip replacement surgery at the old hospital two days before the move. Bettencourt, who went on a tour during the open house last month, says she had no idea she would be the first patient. "I was blown away by the new hospital. But I didn't know I would get to be an actual patient so soon.

From Page 1

While Bettencourt was the first inpatient, Wayne Workman was the first outpatient, walking in a few minutes after the hospital officially opened to get labwork done. "I came to the old hospital and was told they were closed," he said. "So I came here. I didn't expect all of this.'

Eddie Black, the last patient at the old hospital also had hip surgery at HMH's Orthopedic Joint Center program. At age 50, he does not fit the typical patient profile of a hip replacement patient. but an active lifestyle has taken its toll. "But I would rather have it here than anywhere else," Black said. "It's a better choice than going to a big hospital in the city. They definitely have the small-town spirit here and they treat you like you're family."

Black, who was discharged later that day says he "will definitely be back, to get my other hip replaced," he said, "It has been a great experience,"

As the last patient was moved out, there were Photos by Melissa Cramer cheers and tears as Bockmann led the staff in

saying goodbye to the hospital that has served the community for 87 years.

"If you are tempted to resist the urge to mourn this, I say, don't," Bockmann said. "Babies have been born here, hips, knees, and shoulders renewed; physicians have come, some have gone, many have stayed, lives have been lost and many have been saved."

There were more tears and tissues passed out as he ended, "This flame of compassion and healing will continue to burn in each of us. It is with a mixture of joy and sadness that I officially declare this location of HMH closed. Goodbye One Madrone."

Amid the tears there was also a feeling of excitement and joy. Longtime HMH employee Cindy Bodensteiner, who has worked at HMH for almost 40 years, said: "I will miss this place. It's hard not to cry. But this is good for us, our community needs this. I'm excited to continue the tradition of great

The community came together to make the transition from the old hospital to the Marcela Drive facility successful. VeriHealth/Falck provided six ambulances and more than 25 personnel to help transport patients. Little Lake Fire Department, Brooktrails Fire Department and the Willits Police

Read the rest of

Over on Page 15







Saturday November 7 & 14

Hot Seats (20 Winners)

1P to 2P – 1 random winners per hour 2P to 3P - 1 random winners per hour

5P to 6P - 2 random winners per hour

3P to 4P - 1 random winners per hour 4P to 5P - 1 random winners per hour 6P to 7P – 2 random winners per hour 7P to 8P - 2 random winners per hour 8P to 9P - 3 random winners per hour 9P to 10P - 3 random winners per hour 10P to 11P - 4 random winners per hour

Hot Seat winners will choose one balloon (that will be located at the Players Club). Inside each balloon will have a slip of paper that will determine how much Free Play or Cash the customer has won.

WIN UP TO \$100 IN CASH, OR FREE PLAY!



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Willits

Harrah

Center

Thursday, November 5

"The Cannabis Hour" Radio: Mendocino County District David Eyster will be Jane Futcher's guest on the pledge-drive edition of "The Cannabis Hour," Thursday, November 5 at 9 am, on KZYX radio, 91.5 FM or www.kzyx.org. They will talk about cannabis and the law in Mendocino County - past, present

and future. There will be time for a few call-ins toward the end of the hour at 895-2448. To hear programs you may have missed, visit jukebox.kzyx.org

Shanachie Pub: Dennis Jones Blues Band, on Thursday. November 5. "High-energy stage performance. Sizzling hot guitar solos. Smooth and soulful vocals. Backed by a rhythm section that is second to none, this IS Dennis Jones. Visit www.dennisjonescentral. com . 8 pm, \$7. 50 South Main Dennis Jones

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

Friday, November 6

Q&A on Foster Care: Love children? Redwood Children's Services offers a Q&A presented by Rebeca Diaz, to learn about foster care and how you can make a difference in your life and the life of a child. 5:30 to 7 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.RCS4KIDS.org or

B.R.E.W. Club Beer-Making Demo: in conjunction

Brewing Research Engineers of Willits), dedicated to all forms of fermentation and slow food including beers, ales, wines, ciders, meads, preserves, pickles, bread and more, meets the first Friday of every month at 7 pm at Peter's Sushi & Chinese House, 383 South Main Street. Info:

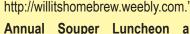


Events

Shanachie Pub: Desert Warehouse, Dub/Tech. "traveling electronica DJ," on Friday, November 6. 9 pm. No Cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, November 7

with "Learn to Homebrew Day," starts at 10 am at Coast Hardware, 113 East Barbara Lane. Free and open to the public, 21+, but reservations are recommended: call 459-1338 or email to: rchewett1@aol.com. "Home B.R.E.W. club members will be brewing a 5-gallon extract beer kit donated by Coast Hardware. All steps in the brewing process will be demonstrated. All raw ingredients will be on display and equipment will be available for inspection. Home B.R.E.W. (Home



Annual Souper Luncheon and Bazaar: at the Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street (across from the Grange) is set for Saturday, November 7. The Bazaar is from 10 am to 2 pm, and the Soup Luncheon

is from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. \$7 for soup, bread. and dessert for adults and \$3.50 for children. For pie and coffee only, \$3.50.

> Mendocino County Museum Heritage Lunch: this 6th annual event features an afternoon of food, drink, and mushroom, wine and beer inspired talks with local connoisseurs; "Celebrate Mendocino County's Annual Mushroom, Wine & Beer Festival with the Mendocino County Museum. 1 to 3:30 pm. \$35, proceeds benefit museum exhibits, events and education programs. Sulin Bell of Kitchen Capers will be providing a sumptuous lunch of mushroom-themed dishes, including

freshly baked rolls from Emandal Farm and a variety of Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese, served alongside complimentary wine and beer. Merry Winslow and Alison Gardner of "The Wild Mushroom Cookbook" will present on foraging

for, and cooking with, local wild fungi. Mark Beaman, Mendocino Wine Company will talk about the history of Parducci winery, as well as discuss its current ownership and focus on quality and Passow, president of the Willits Homebrew Club, and

barrel aging operations manager for Anderson Valley Brewing Company, will present a brief journey into the history of beer, touching on subjects ranging from beer ingredients to what beer used to be like 9,000 years ago, all the way up to recent events such as Prohibition and the Craft Beer Movement in America. Acoustic musical accompaniment will be provided by Anita Blu and John Wagenet of Twining Time. The museum's collections of historical equipment will also be on view, from a complete still to the first wine-bottling machine in the county. Visit www.mendocinomuseum.org.

"Silk & Iron": the November show at the Willits Center for the Arts opens tonight 9 pm. The show features work by Malanyon Adams, Sarah Adams, Brian Bowles and Lisa Bowles. Runs November 7 through 29.

What's Happening Around Town

County": An exhibit by Willits photographer Steve Eberhard is opening tonight, Saturday, November 7, at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street. Opening reception is set for 6:30 to 9 pm, and the photos will be on

display through January. Dead on the Grange: Live stream at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, of the Dead & Company Madison Square Garden concert in New York City. Grateful Dead members Mickey Hart, Bill Kreutzmann and Bob Weir, with singer/quitarist John Mayer,

playing two sets of music drawing largely from the Dead's historic catalog of songs. Stream begins at 4:30 pm. Suggested donation to benefit the grange: \$5; no one turned away. Bring your instruments for jamming before and after the show.

"Speakeasy: An Evening of Original Monologues": one-night-only performance at

the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, November 7 at 7 pm. The Mendocino County talents participating in the event include Bruce Andich, Becky Button, Lara Eventide, Jane Futcher, Emmy Good. Weslie Hall, Kevin Klay, Tara Logan, Nancy Nelson, Linda Posner, Peter Smith, and Ursula Schlichting. The "Speakeasy" is a repeat of the successful, sold-out

monologue event held last year at WCT. Tickets for this year's event are \$5 and will be available only at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie

Shanachie Pub: Hannah Kile Trio, Saturday, November 7. 8 pm. No Hannah Cover. "Hannah Jane Kile is a 20 year old songbird [and guitar player] who embraces her robust yet sweet voice to convey vulnerability & strength in each of her songs. Visit: www.hannahjanekile.com. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's with an artists' reception from 6 to Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

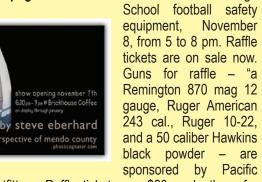
Sunday, November 8

Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am Sunday, November 8, at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501

Baechtel Road. Pancakes, eggs any style, and your choice of sausage, ham, or bacon. Adults \$7,

"One Neighbor's Perspective of Mendo Members \$6, Kids \$5, Info: 459-6826

Willits Kiwanis Club & WHS Football Gun Raffle & Spaghetti Dinner: fundraiser for Willits High



Outfitters. Raffle tickets are \$20 each, three for \$50, or seven for \$100. Winners will be drawn at the Spaghetti Dinner; need not be present to win. Dinner tickets are \$10, and dinners can be picked up to go. For tickets or more Info, call Matt Rountree at 707-841-7052 or Dean Verdot at 707-367-2603.

Monday, November 9

Willits Garden Club Meeting: The free monthly Willits Garden Club meeting features guest speaker Beth Brennerman taking about "Fall Gardening." Monday, November 9 at the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse, 16100 North Highway 101 6 miles south of Willits, west of 101, south of Ridgewood (Sea Biscuit) Ranch. Social time starts at 12:30 pm, with coffee and refreshment. Presentation starts at 1 pm. Guests are welcome. Info: Lucille Garcia 459-9995 or Gary Bodensteiner

Pie & Ice Cream Social: 1:30 to 2:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. This month's entertainment is Erin

Fisher, singing. Games, drawings, pie, ice cream, music, friends and fun. Adults \$1.50; members \$1. Info: 459-6826.

Tuesday, November 10

AN EVENING OF MUSIC

Willits United Methodist Church

\$10 Suggested Donation at the door

Stay and socialize after the show

Refreshments Available

or Information contact Clancy Rash - 367-088

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 movies: "Bridge of Spies." For showtimes: www. noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-

Wii Bowling: Every Tuesday at the Harrah Senior Center Dining Room, 1501 Baechtel Road. Starts November 10, 1:30 to 2:30 pm. Info: 459-6826.

Rising Appalachia: Live at the Little Lake Grange; a benefit for the Tree of Life Charter School's school garden. With Arouna Diarra, a master N'goni player from West Africa, and Willits duo The Real Sarahs. Music starts at 7 pm, doors open at 6 pm. The Asheville-based soulful Folk/World troubadours Rising Appalachia are led by sisters Leah Song and Chloe Smith: "Expect everything from folk standards to jazz, to New Orleans soul,

to old mountain traditionals, to activist anthems." Visit: www.risingappalachia. com. Tickets, \$20, may still be available at J.D. Redhouse; online tickets are sold

Shanachie Pub: Honey Mountain Do-Dos, Tuesday, November 10. 7 pm. No Cover. Featuring Brett Sisun and Jeremy Meyer, multi-instrumentalists, who "blend backgrounds of country-blues finger picking, jug band music, old time and cartoon jazz." Visit http://artistecard.com/ HMDD. 50 South Main Street, behind

Adam's Restaurant, Info: 459-9194.

Wednesday, November 11 Veterans Day

Veterans Day Breakfast: Willits American Legion Post 174 Veteran's Breakfast is set for Wednesday, November 11 from 8 to 11 am at the Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street, This annual breakfast is FREE to all veterans, military and emergency response personnel, firefighters,

law enforcement officers, and Boy and Girl Scouts.

County Mendocino **Museum Vietnam Veterans** Memorial Dedication: "Join us at the Mendocino County Museum on Veteran's Day, uesday, November 11, it 2 pm, for the unveiling of a beautiful monument to the Mendocino County

An evening of music with

Just Enough

Saturday, November 14

Enjoy an evening of music on that made them feel happy. Close

Saturday, November 14, with harmony vocals, acoustic guitars

acoustic trio Just Enough, at the (and the occasional ukulele) mix up

men killed in action during the Vietnam War more than 40 years ago. Family and community will gather to honor and reflect." Refreshments will be served after the ceremony. The museum exhibit 'Veterans' History: Personal" is "currently focused on the 22 men from Mendocino County killed in the Vietnam War." 400 East Commercial Street. Open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 am to 4:30 pm.

Willits United Methodist Church, 286

This Willits-based trio is made up of

friends Kate Black, Clancy Rash and

Helen Falandes. Each has played

and sung in a variety of musical

configurations as long as any of

them can remember, reaching back

School Street. 7 to 9 pm.

\$1 students 6-18; children 5 and under are free. Info: 459-2736 or visit www. MendocinoMuseum.org. See article on page 6 for more details.

Free today; regular prices: \$4 adults;

Thursday, November 12

WHS Boosters Club Meeting: The monthly WHS Boosters Club Meeting is set for 6 pm, Thursday, November 12, at the Willits High School Food Center. Help support athletics and other extracurricular activities at WHS!

Friday, November 13

Shanachie Pub: Congo Sanchez, Friday, November 13. 9 pm. \$7. Featuring Congo (from Thievery Corporation), Haile and Flex: "downtempo reggae



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

Saturday November 14

Tea & Togs: 4th annual Fashion Show and Afternoon Tea at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 2 pm. Featuring fabulous finds from the Harrah Center Thrift Shop. Enjoy scones, cakes, tarts, teas. \$12: a fundraiser to benefit Outreach Department. Tickets available at Harrah Senior Center, Info: 459-6826.

Just Enough: acoustic trio Just Enough, featuring Kate Black, Clancy Rash and Helen Falandes, at the Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. 7 to 9 pm. \$10 suggested donation. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more info.



Don Carlos in Covelo: Jamaican roots reggae veteran plays a benefit for Friends of the Round Valley Public Library at the Round Valley Library Commons, 23925 Howard Street. Saturday,



pm every Thursday at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. First day at the Grange on **November 5.** Fall and winter produce, local meats and local grains, dinner, baked goods, gift items, chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

The Emandal Chorale: ongoing rehearsals on Wednesdays, 5 to 6:30 pm, for the Chorale's 21st season, at the Little Lake Grange great hall, 291 School Street. No auditions: Open to all who love to

Inner Resources Institute: three just-started free programs at the new Inner Resource Institute. 1500 Hearst Road (at Hearst and Valley roads in the old Grace Baptist Church building). • Morning **Meditation**: Every morning at 6 am. • **Kirtan**: Every Thursday at 7:30 pm. Devotional singing and chanting led by Chinmayan. • Sunday Morning Service: 10:30 am. Satsang and fellowship consisting of a short talk on practical spirituality; meditation: Kirtan and worship: and a prayer service in which we pray for individual, family and humanity's needs. Info: 707-357-4676 or

Thursday Night Bingo: Potluck dinner and bingo every Thursday at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 6 to 8 pm; \$5 buy-in; 50 cents per card. Info: 459-6826

innerresourceinstitute@yahoo.com.

Willits Frontier Twirlers Square Dance Club: Monday night workshops at the Willits Center for the Arts, upstairs in the great room. Newer dancers from 7 to 8 pm; plus dancing from 8 to 9 pm. Lawrence Johnstone, caller. Guests always welcome! Info: Jenny Watts, 459-9526.

Al-Anon Meeting: Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Rite-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

Willits Winter Farmers Market: from 3 to 6 not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in."

Willits Library Public Events: "Pajama Story Time" for families, Tuesdays at 7 pm. "Stories for Crawlers and Walkers," Thursdays at 11 am. Technology group for help with hand-held devices, Fridays at

1 pm. Youth Game Night, ages 10-14, Fridays from 5 to 7:30 pm. Dropin Knitting Circle, Saturdays from 3 to 4:30 pm. 390 East Commercial Street. More info: 459-5908.

Gallery hours: Thursday through

Friday from 4 to 7 pm; Saturday

and Sundays from 12 to 3 pm. See

article on page 12 for more details.

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,

interested in community service are welcome: new members are encouraged to join at any time. Life Changes: Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am.

1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women

Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Volleyball Open Gym: at Baechtel Grove gym; Sundays and Tuesdays at 7 pm. Some experience desired not required. \$5 per night; first night free.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the HMH Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. 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: Open Mic every Wednesday. 8 pm. Sign-ups start at 7 pm. Movie Night every Tuesday. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant, Info: 459-9194

Karaoke Night at Al's Redwood Room: Every Wednesday night, starting at 9 pm. 207 South Main Street. Info: 459-2444 Laytonville Winter Farmers Market: Mondays,

November to May, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville

Thanksgiving Dinner **Volunteers Wanted**

Willits Community Services is requesting volunteers to help with the 26th annual Willits Community Dinner at the Harrah Senior Center. Those interested can call 459-3333 to sign up or

Senior Center Lunch

Week of November 9 through November 13 Monday: Mac/Beef Tomato Bake

Tuesday: Chicken Fried Steak Wednesday: Meat Loaf

Thursday: Chicken Salad on Lettuce

Friday: Baked Sole

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.

Actors Needed!

As part of Willits Community Theatre's production of Scripted, I'm looking for three actors ages 20-40, two men and one woman, for a short 10-minute play called "No Sound of Music" by Seth Freeman. The play is about "the mostly true story of the creation of the world's favorite Christmas carol." Witty, clever, touching. Directed by Damian Sebouhian. For more information contact Damian at 707-599-5621 or dsebouhian@yahoo.com.





The shelter is located at 298 Plant Road, Call the Adoption Desk at 467-6453

do with your bounty? Getting tired of your

Join the Friends of the Willits Library on Thursday, November 12 at 7 pm for an evening with Alison Gardner and Merry Winslow, authors and chefs who have just published "The Wild Mushroom Cookbook, Recipes from Mendocino." No charge for admission.

Alison and Merry will be offering sample appetizers and tasty treats representing some of the approximately 275 recipes, in chapters devoted to appetizers, dips, spreads, pickles, sauces and gravies, breads, soups, salads and salad dressings, side dishes, entrees, drinks and desserts. There are recipes for commonly

Willits Weekly | November 5, 2015

Are you a mushroomer? Wonder what to oyster mushroom and porcini, and recipes for rather esoteric wild mushrooms, also.

There are also recipes for the cauliflower

for all spayed and neutered

Friday, Nov. 6 &

Saturday, Nov. 7

cats and kittens!

mushroom, sweetbread mushroom, blewits, man on horseback, candy caps, beefsteak mushroom, milk caps, shrimp russula, variegated russula, cocorra, grisette, matsutake, hawk wing, yellow feet, hedgehogs, shaggy manes, deer mushrooms, volvariellas, and many more. If they are commonly found in our area, and edible, we tried to include them. Many recipes are interchangeable for several or many different kinds of mushrooms, and if you don't eat wild ones, grocery store mushrooms could be used in many (but not all) recipes.

Don't miss this fun and mouth-watering eaten wild mushrooms, like chanterelles, evening of fun and information at the

before. Refreshments available for to roots in Oklahoma, Washington and Maine. A little over two years purchase after the show. Admission ago they fell into playing some tunes is a \$10 suggested donation at the together and found a sound and mix door.

a variety of tunes: some folk, some

Just Enough is sure to play at

least one song that you will love -

something dear and familiar from

your past or something rare and

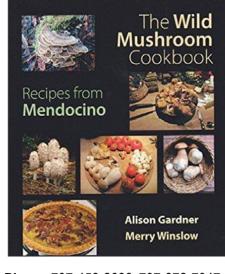
obscure that you've never heard

blues and Americana roots music.



REDWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. (707) 467-2000

Cooking with Mushrooms at the Willits Library Willits Branch Library conference room, 390 East Commercial Street. Sponsored might fit this theme include: by Friends of the Willits Library.



If you have a vintage toy or two November 13.

pretend food or kitchen implements, dress up clothing or accessories such as a fireman's hat, dolls accessories, vintage toy vehicles, and other objects with which you may have pretended away the hours as a child. We would especially love to get a children's tea set, a rocking horse, and vintage vehicles. Aren't sure if the toy is "vintage"? We are quite open in

MendocinoMuseum.org.



Mendocino County Museum seeking vintage toys for display

The Mendocino County Museum in Willits is looking for tovs for our Vintage Toy Display, which will be opening the beginning of December 2015. This year's to this topic.

at home that you would be willing to donate or loan to the museum for the display, please contact us or simply bring them in! The Some examples of toys that

our interpretation of the word! Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-2734 or Info@

the Soviet spy Rudolf Abel (Mark Rylance). After the Daniel Essman famous trial. Donovan is sent to East Berlin to negotiate with the Soviet KGB; his new duty is to arrange a prisoner swap: Rudolf Abel for the captured American U2 pilot Francis Gary Powers. A true story

'Bridge of Spies'

The Story: It's the late '50s, early '60s. It's the Cold

War. James Donovan, an insurance lawyer (Tom

Hanks), is asked by the U.S. government to defend

My Thoughts: Score one for the good guys. No sex, no gratuitous violence. This is a Spielberg movie, a great movie, right up there with "Schindler's List." It's the kind of movie, featuring a decent, ethically rigorous and morally certain hero, that folks are always complaining Hollywood has forgotten how to make. I guess Hollywood hasn't forgotten I loved it. I was captured from the opening shot. Such

graceful camera and editing. Also ... the musical score by Thomas Newman is classic, old school ... there when you wanted it, not there when you didn't. Parents: Not really a movie for younger children; but for mature children and young adults, this suspenseful

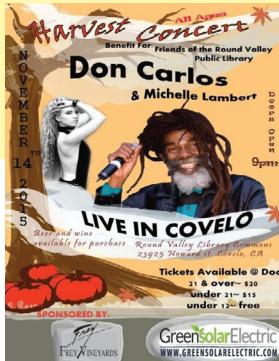
morally and ethically stimulating. More For Parents: "Bridge of Spies" is, without caveat or qualification, a 5-star positive movie.

movie will be exciting, historically educational, and

Note: Written by Matt Chapman the Coen brothers are listed as coscreenwriters!

COLUMN | At the Movies

Willitsian Daniel Es attenuated by the wisdo





Willits Farmers Market moves indoors this week

Thursday, November 5 is the first Winter Farmers Market of the season, with the market moving indoors theme is "Let's Pretend," and we to the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Winter are looking for items that relate produce, eggs, local raised meats, dinner, baked goods, handcrafted jam, holiday gifts, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Winter market hours are 3 to 5:30 pm. Notes from the market: "As we move indoors there are some amazing changes happening this week to our food selections. Robert from Bolliver's Fine Foods & Confections will be bringing his amazing deadline for toy donations is Artisan Chocolates. Along with his fabulous pot pies, tarts, cakes, cookies and so much more deliciousness. Fairall's Farm Fresh Eggs & Produce menu is changing just slightly by bringing back the ever-popular homestyle lasagna. Amanda will have a gluten-free veggie polenta lasagna or her meat lasagna, plus don't forget about her Italian breadsticks. She will also be continuing her savory wraps, cookies, sweet breads as well." Visit "Friends of Willits Farmer's Market" on





Fax: 707 459-1607 Adam Meza, Owner 230 Shell Lane Willits, CA 95490



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Above, from left: Captain America (aka Jeremiah Reedy) leads visitors into the haunted house at the fire station. Laurina, Ira and Eme Owsiany

pose for a quick photo after trick-or-treating at J.D. Redhouse.

Kevin, Janet and Jeremiah Reedy in front of the haunted Volunteers Vickie Titus and her

granddaughter, Jenna Wells. hand out candy and books to Below, from left: MacBean has

the children's rapt attention during his special Halloween storytelling event. After the festivities, Juniper

Rose, Katie and Kiran Cochran enjoy reading their new books



ARE YOU IN THE DARK?

WILLITS POWER & HARDWARE CAN HELP BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY!

At left: Fire Department members show off their costumes before resuming their posts inside the haunted house.

Willits celebrates in hometown style

Halloween in Willits was full of family-friendly fun this year. Many young ones started their evening with a spooky

storytelling at the library. Children's Alice Ledford librarian Benjamin MacBean did Features Writer a fabulous job playing a variety of

characters and utilizing frightful props such as mixed vegetables and a failing report card. The one-man show was the perfect mix of suspense and belly laughs.

Following the show MacBean led princesses, superheroes, animals and other creatures through the library for a trick-or-treat parade. Costumed volunteers gave out treats, and children were allowed to pick two books to take home.

Children headed to an array of ghoulish activities after the library's celebrations

concluded. Downtown businesses had treats ready for all the costumed tricksters that came through. Neighborhoods were alive with the undead and other nightmarish creatures. Local photographers from Printing Plus were taking free portraits at a booth set up on Commercial Street. Perhaps one of the most exciting attractions downtown was the 2nd annual Haunted House at the fire station.

The haunted house was a big hit: Creepy characters jumped out at every corner, scaring parents just as much as their children. Local fireman Kevin Reedy said the first haunted house was kind of an impromptu decision. His son, Jeremiah, was released from the hospital on Halloween last year after undergoing brain surgery.

Since Jeremiah was unable to go trick-or-treating, the family was going to give out candy at the fire station. The fire department crew decided to make Jeremiah's homecoming a little more exciting, and they threw together the haunted house. It was an instant success.

Coming together to make Halloween special for the community epitomizes the common values of the Little Lake Fire Department. In Reedy's words: "We're all about family and community here." This also seemed to be the general spirit in the Willits community this Halloween; despite the scary costumes, friendliness and camaraderie were evident throughout town.

Willits Weekly checked in with the Willits Police Department to ask about Halloween night incidents, and Officer Jake McFadden reported it was a relatively quiet night in town, "with no reports of vandalism or problems with trick or treaters.'



with his 65-year-old wife, Sharon, in a 2000 Dodge pickup truck, was forced to swerve out of the VW's way to avoid a collision. Lozensky said. The out-of-control VW still "contacted" the front of the pickup, which was forced off the edge of the road and overturned onto its roof.

Both Williams and his wife were temporarily trapped in the Dodge, the CHP said, but escaped uninjured.

The VW driver, whose name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The accident remains under investigation, Lozensky said. "It is unknown at this time if alcohol or drugs were factors in the cause of this collision.

Caltrans, the Little Lake Fire Department, CalFire, and Veri-Health Ambulance responded to the accident.

This report was based on a press release from the CHP's Garberville office.

Vote From Page 1 The rest of

percent, slightly lower than the countywide turnout – so far - of 17 percent.

"With the new California State Law E+3," Ranochak office said, "allowing ballots postmarked on or before Election Day and received in our office within three days after Election Day to be counted, we may receive a few additional ballots, although we do not expect the numbers to change drastically."

"It was a very guiet election," Ranochak said. "We expect next year's June primary to be much busier," she said. "A Presidential primary and no incumbents on the ballot for President next year – my feeling is it might be a turnout like meeting. A public meeting will be scheduled in the near it was in 2008."

Ubelhart said he was excited to continue to be a part of the Mendocino College board: "We're doing some good and exciting stuff, and I want to stick around long enough to encourage it.

"To me, everything is really going in the right direction as far as the college is concerned," he said. "We're reaching down into the high schools, with this concurrent enrollment now, and embedded counselors in the high schools to talk to the kids about their future

"We have people available to answer questions and organize tours to see the campus, so students can get a real feel for what college is all about," he continued, "why it's important, and what we can offer. We're trying to grab the kids before we lose them, to get them interested in education."

When he started as a trustee, Ubelhart said, "We didn't have the buildings in Willits and in Lake County, and now we need to expand on that, and improve it, and offer as many opportunities as we can for the jobs of the future."

Other Mendocino County races included elections for the Fort Bragg Unified School District, the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District, the Potter Valley Irrigation District, the Ukiah Valley Fire District, and a bond measure in the Potter Valley Unified School District, which (in initial results) appears to have passed with the required two-thirds vote: 68.49 percent yes to 31.51 percent no.

The rest of Veterans

The war created bitter divisions and tumultuous protests in the U.S. Veterans were sometimes scorned upon their return, even as their stories remained untold and many remained missing in action. (First Lieutenant Lee Aaron Adams of Willits, for example, did not have his remains identified until 2005.)

In 1982, a widely-acclaimed Vietnam Veterans Memorial was unveiled in Washington, DC, spurring the process of healing and remembrance. The unveiling and dedication of a monument in Willits, in the heart of Mendocino County, finally brings this process home. The local memorial uses a black granite design similar to the larger memorial in the

Miner states: "This event will not seek to make any statement about the correctness of the war. It will however, honor those who have sacrificed and recognize those who have suffered in their loss. Our goal is to honor, heal and to remember." That remembrance often is best embodied in stories, which is the job of the museum as a whole to narrate and preserve.

The schedule of activities includes the reading of names and local hometowns of all 22 servicemen who fell in the war. All veterans will be recognized for their service. Veterans Outreach will be on hand to offer assistance. Local singer Necole Suttles will be on hand to sing traditional songs, including a version of "Taps" with lyrics, a song that dates back to the Civil War.

Following the dedication ceremony, refreshments will be served inside the museum for all who attend. Local musician and DJ Hal Wagenet will play music from the

A special seating section will be reserved for the "Honored Guests," the families and close friends of those listed on the black granite panels of the memorial. Another section of seating will be reserved for "Special Guests": Commanders of the county American Legion posts, Veterans of Foreign Wars members, county supervisors, and those key individuals who have supported the memorial. A receiving line will be set up at the side entrance to the museum where the special guests will meet and greet attendees before entering the building for refreshments.

The Mendocino County Museum is at 400 East Commercial Street in Willits and online at www. MendocinoMuseum.org. Contact the museum for general questions at 459-2736, and for seating questions, call Dennis Miner at 472-8417.

Grist Creek | From Page 1

"In addition, the [inspector] observed fugitive emissions from several aggregate transfer points, a heavy-duty diesel oil delivery truck idling in excess of the five minutes allowed by state law, and the lack of appropriate signage as required by state law and district regulations."

The notice from county Air Pollution Control Officer Robert Scaglione warned Hurt that, although he was being penalized \$21,954, the penalty could escalate quickly. According to the notice of violation: "Anyone violating state air pollution law or a regulation or order of the district is strictly liable for a civil penalty of \$1,000 and may be liable for a civil penalty of up to \$10,000.

California's Health and Safety Code provides for civil penalties of up to \$25,000 for each violation of state law and air district regulations pertaining to emissions regulations. Each day during any portion of which a violation occurs is a

Scaglione also informed Hurt that if he failed to come into the office for a consultation by October 30, the case "will be referred for further legal action. If this course is taken, it will result in a substantial increase in the penalty sought."

Willits Weekly attempted to contact Scaglione; however, he was out of the office during the week of November 2, and no one else at the air quality office would speak to the press.

Willits Weekly also contacted Grist Creek Aggregates' owner Brian Hurt. However, Hurt also declined to speak to the press. "There is just so much stuff going on right now, and it's not being reported truthfully, so I am just going to The rest of stay out of it and let the attorneys figure it out," Hurt said.

The rest of Flood From Page 1

future for residents to look the maps over and determine if their property falls within the new floodplain zone. The appeals process won't begin until after that public meeting.

The maps are also available on the City of Willits website. The color-coded maps represent a drastic increase in the floodplain from previous maps (the latest compiled as

Referencing the maps, Sherman explained: "Red areas indicate an expansion in the floodplain, and the areas in green represent a decrease in the floodplain. All the reds are in the city, and all the greens are in the wetlands."

It wasn't made clear why there was such a discrepancy between the new maps and those made in 2011. However, according to Sherman, "A couple of years ago our city engineer noticed there was some elevation differences between our existing FEMA flood maps."

Once brought to the attention of FEMA, the agency employed new geo-positional satellite technology and determined the city floodplain zone had, indeed, increased.

"These are the first digital maps we've ever had for the community," said Sherman.

Mayor Bruce Burton, concerned some Willits residents may blame the bypass project for the significant change, iterated there was no correlation. Sherman confirmed, saying: "They're not related. [The new maps] were created before the bypass construction started."

According to FEMA regulations, if a property is owned free and clear, the owner has no obligation to alter his or her buildings or to buy insurance. If you are within the flood zone and owe a mortgage, then insurance is required. Also, Sherman explained, the regulations "have to do with new construction or reconstruction – substantial improvement – if the construction improves the property value more than 50 percent."

Sherman stressed no residents would be called and ordered to make changes, or to buy insurance immediately. The public will have an opportunity to review the maps and to challenge them, if they deem it necessary.

"There will be a 90-day appeal period for people to familiarize themselves with the maps and how their properties might be affected," Sherman explained. "Then there's a six-month period after that where FEMA puts all the appeals together – they make the adjustments that are appropriate for the maps – and then these maps become

According to the October 28 city council agenda summary report, during the six-month period: "The city must amend our floodplain and floodway ordinances to adopt the preliminary FIS and FIRMs." [Flood Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Maps]

Property owners within the flood zone who raise their buildings one foot above the flood level will qualify for lower

Sherman explained there are efforts underway to "enhance the flooding in the wetlands areas and reduce the flooding in the city." One such project involves removing silt and gravel from the Broaddus Creek bridge, which, according to Sherman, was almost 50 percent blocked.

"Now it's been removed," Sherman said. "The process of diverting water into the wetlands has been increased by removing those obstructions.'

Addressing concerns from members of the public in attendance who strongly doubted the credibility of FEMA's findings, Sherman said: "If we feel their figures are wrong then we have to demonstrate they're wrong," noting that using historical data wouldn't be enough, because conditions change over time.

Any surveys will have to be conducted and measured against the FEMA maps, and sent to the agency during the 90-day appeals period.

If the maps are approved and finalized, Sherman said, homeowners who fall within the flood zone "will be looking at the summer or fall of 2016 to get insurance." To view the FEMA maps go to the City of Willits

website's main page, www.thecityofwillits.com. Beneath the councilmembers pictures, under "Important Documents" you'll find links to four "Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate

Willits woman stabbed on Ukiah street; ex-boyfriend held

An 18-year-old Ukiah man has been arrested on suspicion of stabbing his ex-girlfriend while she was walking with a friend in on School Street in downtown Ukiah during the evening of October 27.

The victim, an 18-year-old Willits woman whose identity has not been released, said she did not see or hear anyone before she was suddenly "hit" several times in the upper torso and head, according to Ukiah police detectives.

She sought medical treatment after she realized she had been stabbed, and was interviewed by police at Ukiah Valley Medical Center. The woman was later transported to an out-of-county hospital for treatment of "serious" injuries,

Shortly after 4 pm on Thursday, October 29, Ukiah police officers, assisted by the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force and Fort Bragg police, arrested Michael James at his home in the 300 block of Plum Drive on a warrant charging him with attempted murder.

He was taken to county jail, where he is being held in-lieu

Police are not seeking any other suspects in the case, detectives said.

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

John's | From Page 1

site is a community-commercial zoned, 1,800-square-foot building located at 151 North Main Street. The property is about 1.5 acres and is bordered by Highway 101 to the west and the railroad tracks to the south, and is about onetenth of a mile south of the Sherwood Road intersection and

The Chessers' previous application for moving their business to the site was denied by the city planning commission (in Willits, the city council acts as the planning commission) on July 22 of this year, due to several concerns regarding traffic impediments, noise pollution, and the building's proximity to WHS and Sanhedrin High School.

In revising their application, the Chessers agreed to a set of conditions, including: no amplified live music; the construction of a fence around appropriate parts of the property; and conducting necessary upgrades to the

They also agreed to refrain from putting up signs directly advertising alcohol and tobacco products. The only sign raised would advertise the name of the business: John's

Lastly, the Chessers agreed the move would be temporary, asking the permit be good for only two years. In that time, they said, construction of John's Place at its original 555 Commercial Street location would be complete

While these conditions ultimately proved acceptable to a majority of council members, several members of the community strongly opposed issuing the permit, arguing high school students would be walking past the establishment at least twice a day and also at night after certain school activities (dances and football games, etc).

WHS Principal Robert Chavez, raised concerns about inebriated patrons congregating outside John's Place and interacting negatively with students. "As our young ladies and young men pass by the bar, even with the best of intentions, [employees of John's place] would not be able to control their patrons.

Those concerns were echoed by other WHS and Sanhedrin High School faculty as well as parents of teenagers, and even a few middle school students who read short prepared statements.

Nancy Viegas, Youth Advocates member and a junior at Willits High School, raised an important point about liquor licensing, reading from a statement: "ABC may deny any retail license to a business located within 600 feet of schools, public playgrounds, and nonprofit youth facilities. The proposed location is 226 feet from the high school and across the street from Sanhedrin. That alone should be good reason to deny [the use permit].

Employees and supporters of John's Place denied there is any legitimate danger to students. There are no windows on the building facing Main Street, they argued. The entrance itself is opposite the street, and the fence would contain any loitering patrons.

Having an operating business that lights the area, argued Shelly Redwing, is actually safer for students walking by at night. "Right now, there's no lights," she said. "There's so many homeless and vagrants and campers down in there, I'm afraid to walk by there at night the way it is now."

Councilmember Holly Madrigal, who voted against the permit, raised doubts the ABC would grant John's Place a liquor license at a location so close to schools. Although she had originally voted in favor of the permit during the July hearing, she admitted the many calls she received from concerned community members helped way her in the other

Councilmember Madge Strong also changed her vote; Strong had voted to deny the permit in July, but voted "yes'

Mayor Bruce Burton's tie-breaking vote settling the matter in favor of the use permit surprised a few, since he had originally voted against it.





SPECTRE



(PG 13) 2 hrs 30 mins Fri: 5:20 & 8:00pm Sat/Sun: 12:00, 2:30, 5:20 & 8:00pm Mon/Tues/Thurs: 4:20 & 7:00pm Wed (Labor Day): 1:30, 4:20 & 7:00pm

Movie Times for 11/6 thru 11/12

THE PEANUTS MOVIE 2D/3D

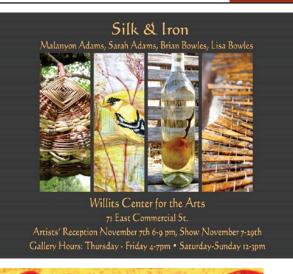
(G) 1 hr 26 mins Fri: (3D) 5:45 & (2D) 8:30pm Sat/Sun: (3D) 12:15 & 5:45pm (2D) 3:15 & 8:30pm Mon/Tues/Thurs: (3D) 4:45 & (2D) 7:30pm Wed (Labor Day): 2D) 2:15 & 7:30, (3D) 4:45pm



(PG13) 2 hrs 21 mins Fri: 4:15 & 7:15pm Sat/Sun: 1:15, 4:15 & 7:15pm Mon-Thurs: 4:15* & 7:15pm *4:15 show is open caption for the hearing impaired.

BRIDGE OF SPIES

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



Starts Fri., Nov. 13th:

STEVE JOBS

At top, left: "Silk & Iron" poster.

preserved fruit and flowers using

At top, right: This egg basket was

specially designed for duck eggs

Above: Quilting is another one of

Right: "Mountain Mahogany" by

"World's Largest Paper Airplane"

Photos by Jenny Senter

Below: Metal sculpture of the

At top, center: Sarah Adams

by Sarah Adams.

Malanyon Adams.

by Malanyon Adams.

Sarah Adams' mediums.



Silk & Iron' November show at Art Center

showcases inspiration from everyday items

"Silk and Iron" is the theme, but apple, reeds, alder, cotton, farm journals, paint, old electrical insulators, paper, sea weed, manzanita, cochineal, and so much more were all used to create the art by four talented friends on display at the Willits Center for the Arts in November. Jenny Senter

Malanyon Adams, Sarah Adams, Brian Bowles and Lisa Bowles will be on hand to welcome art lovers to the artists reception on

Saturday, November 7, from 6 to 9 pm at 71 East Commercial Street. The common thread throughout these artists' work is their love for nature. Each one of the artists sees beauty in everyday items they come across in their workday.

Sarah Adams, who lives and works at Emandal Farm, became fascinated with eggs and found a way to use her basket-weaving skills to display them. She learned to weave baskets about 10 years ago in an art class at Emandal. She uses only natural materials, many

of which are grown on the farm, in the creation of her baskets. She has lovingly collected turkey, quail, ostrich, chicken and duck



Sarah's husband, Malanyon, is a third-generation resident of Emandal Farm on the River collects his art supplies while

east of Willits. He went to North Carolina to study metal working as a contractor. working at John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, Above, right: Lisa Bowles used where he met Sarah. They returned to help on the family farm clippings from antique poultry

Malanyon said he found his time learning blacksmithing

and welding from local metal worker Jere Kirkpatrick to be invaluable in his knowledge of metal working. He incorporates those skills in his art to reflect his love of nature and the farm. The art show not only includes Malanyon's metal sculptures, including the "world's largest 'paper' airplane," but also his new-found love for photography. Malanyon said he has gone through a few cameras and has discovered that only a waterproof and shockproof camera can hold up to his active life as a farmer/photographer. Textile artist Lisa Bowles, who showed a few of her quilts at July's "A Rural Life" exhibit at the art center,

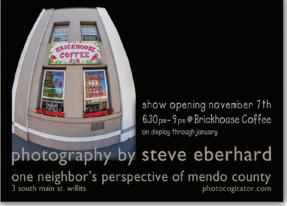
shows just how multi-talented she is, with not only several quilts but paintings, too. Painting was Lisa's initial tool of choice when she started her art career, and she puts as much detail and variety of materials into her paintings as she does into her quilts. Her art is multi-faceted and should be enjoyed from afar and close-up,

Lisa's husband, Brian, a wrestling coach and former teacher at Willits High School, joins this talented group with his fascinating collages using construction materials from the past. His work in construction supplies him with a plethora of treasures to create his unique art. Also on

to display more than 100 unusual eggs that Sarah has collected. If you are interested in helping out at the Willits Center for the Arts (no art experience necessary to volunteer), please contact Nancy Nazarian Reed at 707-459-1239

display will be a sink cabinet and an egg "basket" grid Brian made

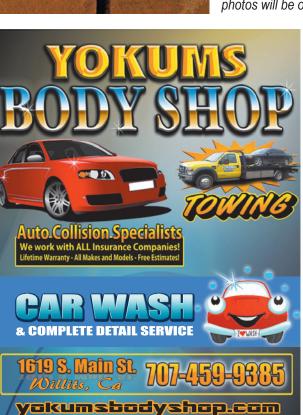
Editor's Note: Saturday night will be an Art Block Party in downtown Willits, with photographer Steve Eberhard opening his own show at Brickhouse Coffee at 3 South Main Street, just up Commercial Street from the Willits Center for the Arts. The opening reception for Eberhard's show, "One Neighbor's Perspective of Mendo County," is set for 6:30 to 9 pm, and the photos will be on display through January



1600 S. Main St.

Willits, CA 95490











Above, left: Brian Bowles

journals for her multi-media





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For Sale off your Arts/ Crafts with this easy-toassemble Chrome Tubing & Connectors shelving units Includes 1/4" Plexiglass shelves. For Jury Arts & Crafts Booth Shows. \$25 takes all. 456-1170.

For Sale 2006 Harley Davidson Buell Blast motorcycle. Very clean. Stored 4 years. Runs very well. Yellow & black. 75 miles/gallon. Good commuter bike. 459-6085.

Free Kittens Have been fixed by vet Would make good mousers They are indoor and outdoor kittens. 707-459-9033

Help Wanted Adventist Health-Homecare Hospice Services Mendocino County. F/T P/T - Per Diem positions RN. Home Health Aide. Physical & Occupational Therapist. Great Team 8 Great Benefits. Call Trudy-H/R #456-3230.

> Mendocino County Currently recruiting for:

Performs highly responsible & specialized technical office support duties. For full job description details & to apply, to go:

Mendocino County Currently recruiting for:

ettings. Bilingual English/Spanish encouraged to apply. For full job description details & to apply, go to: http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm Final Filing date 11/5/15

Currently recruiting for: Social Worker I. II and III

For further information on the above positions or to apply, go to: http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm

Mendocino County

 Nurse Case Manager Senior Nurse Case Manager

http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm Click on "Job Opportunities"

Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency Currently recruiting for:

• CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER For further information on the above position

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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.

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Furry Lisa is a 1-year-

old female mixedbreed dog who currently weighs 12 pounds. Lisa came to us a little on the shy side, which is understandable, especially for such a small dog. The shelter is a loud,

overwhelming place! But in the two weeks she has been here, including a weekend visit with a family, she has made great improvements. Her spunky, silly, sweet self is coming out, and it is an absolute joy to see! She obviously wants love and attention from shelter staff and volunteers, and has also made some doggie friends. We would love for her to go to a calm home where she will get oodles of love, attention and patience. Once she knows she is safe and loved, this little beauty is going to fully blossom and it's going to be a beautiful thing!

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

The rest of Letters

From Page 2

No one knows for sure what is in the smoke, although the California Air Quality Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse. Some residents said they must close their windows and doors to keep out the noise and smell. Three went to the hospital because their breathing was impaired. The grinding sound of gravel on a conveyor

belt that emanates from the plant sometimes goes all night, one resident said. There are no limits on the plant's hours of operation A man who identified himself as David

told the group that he lives across from the plant. The noise and polluted air have destroyed his dreams, he said, as well as the quiet home he worked hard to build for his family. He said that at times he feels like ending his own life he is so distraught by what's happened.

"Most of us moved here to get away from noise and pollution," one woman said at the meeting. "It's not habitable the way it is now. People shouldn't have to evacuate their homes. We have nowhere else to go." Sue Crews, who lives west of the plant on Helms Road, told the group that when the plant starts up, she often leaves her home in tears of pain and frustration because the air and fumes burn her eves and throat. Her husband, Phil, said he is beside himself because he feels helpless to protect his Woodhouse said: "It was grandfathered in wife, his daughter and his home from the plant's assault.

"I don't want to sue them," Phil Crews said. "I don't want money, I just want some fresh air. I built my home with my own hands. I raised my children on my ranch. This is our soul, our blood, our sweat, our tears." Members of the group discussed strategies

for stopping the plant, including: writing letters to newspapers and the board of supervisors; calling the county and state air quality boards to complain when the fumes and noise are bad; giving money to assist the Friends of Outlet Creek lawsuits; holding regular community meetings; recruiting a media-relations coordinator, and posting a sign somewhere along Covelo Road saying: "The odors you smell emanate from Grist Creek Aggregates/ Mercer-Fraser.'

In an interview with KZYX news last week, Supervisor Woodhouse said he hopes the state inspectors will soon be able to assure residents that the air they are breathing is safe. He said he was not surprised that neighbors in the area were complaining because "they are very vocal." The supervisor suggested that residents

unhappy with the plant should not have bought land in an area zoned industrial. But, according to Friends of Outlet Creek, the board changed the zoning at the site

from rangeland to industrial in 2008. Most residents at the meeting bought their land Management is investigating, according to or homes long before that date. Many have said they were not notified by the county at the time of its intent to change the zoning. According to Friends of Outlet Creek member Lyn Talkovsky, a California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, review should have been done on the new asphalt plant regardless of the zoning of the site. "I don't think it's ethically or legally justifiable to set aside state environmental laws put in place to protect basic needs such as the air we breathe," Talkovsky said. Woodhouse said the supervisors did not need a full environmental study because an asphalt plant had been located on the site in the past. But the Friends of Outlet Creek members say the previous asphalt plant, which few in Longvale even remember, was a much smaller operation under different ownership. The equipment formerly used to make asphalt was removed years ago, around 2002. Furthermore, opponents argue, environmental laws are much more stringent today than they were at the time asphalt production was first approved by the county for the site some time during the

Asked by KZYX why he and the board approved the controversial and zoned properly. We need asphalt in this county. I'd rather have the jobs here if we need the asphalt here.... I'm certainly not pretending it's perfect."

Woodhouse said that although the plant is on the Outlet Creek flood plain, it won't be operating in the winter, when the rains come. "All these piles of rock and sand and gravel will be cleaned up. They'll be gone." The supervisor said Grist Creek is doing what it can to make the odors more palatable, such as putting "cherry flavoring" in with the burning tires to mitigate the

The cherry flavoring does not help resident Robert Lawrence, a Grist Creek neighbor interviewed by KZYX. He said that he and his wife have been suffering from sinus headaches and other health issues since the plant went on line.

"We both feel that we're actually being poisoned, that we're some kind of a sacrifice zone for Tom Woodhouse and his cronies," Lawrence said. "It's a pretty big blow. We're kind of reeling from it. We sunk our savings into this place, but it doesn't look like we could ever sell it. Who wants to come out here and live by an asphalt plant? Maybe Tom Woodhouse would. I'd certainly sell it to him if he wants to buy it." Jane Futcher, Longvale

Activity Report

October 25 to October 31

Prepared by WPD Sgt. Jake Donahue

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 196 incidents this week.

During this seven-day reporting period, WDP officers were assigned 18 criminal investigation reports, made 8 arrests issued 3 traffic citations and investigated 4 traffic

Of note for the week **Sunday October 25**

 Officers investigated a theft of a purse from an unlocked vehicle parked in the Evergreen Shopping Center parking lot.

Monday October 26

- · A female was arrested pursuant to an active warrant.
- · A male was arrested for drug possession.
- · Officers investigated two traffic collisions and passing a counterfeit bill.

Tuesday October 27

· A male was arrested for

- · A male was arrested for violation of a municipal
- A male was arrested pursuant to an active
- reported burglary vandalism, and a domestic

Officers investigated

Wednesday October 28 Officer investigated a

traffic collision.

Thursday October 29 Officers responded to a

reported disturbance in the 10 block of East Commercial Street. During the course of their investigation, it was alleged that during altercation, Shannon Culbreth struck the victim in the face multiple times with a wooden staff, causing significant injury. Culbreth was subsequently arrested and booked into the

Mendocino County Jail. Suspect: Shannon Culbreth, 20, Willits

Charges: 245(a)(1) PC Assault with a Deadly

· Officers arrested a male

for public intoxication. · Officers arrested a male for theft.

Officers investigated a reported burglary.

Friday October 30

 Officers were assigned reports for a burglary and a traffic collision.

Saturday October 31

 Officers investigated an incident of vandalism and provided assistance to an allied agency during an attempted murder investigation

4 6 5 3 6 5 9 8 8 3 9 6 5 9 5 6 5 2 8 9 9 3 2 6 4 5 8 6

Willits Power's Pet Parade

Dressed-up pets and people alike came to celebrate Halloween during Willits Power and Hardware's Pet Parade event on October 31. The event ran from 12 to 4 pm and offered attendees fun games like pumpkin bowling, poke-a-pumpkin, a turn in the Yokum's Body Shop bounce house, and a chance at the pumpkin ring toss.

Many chose to come in costume and to participate in the Pet Parade Costume Contest. Nine awards were given including: Best Ream to Rachel Belvin and Trigger; Best Overall to Walker, Wyatt and Bistardo; second place in Overall went to Bobbi Lippmann and Caynin; third place Overall went to Grady and Cookie Sharkey.

Other awards were given to Alyssa and her one-eyed guinea pig Bisquit for the winner of "Scariest." "Nerdiest" went to Matt and Gus; "Cutest" went to Courtney and Maya; and Willits Police Officer Mark McNelley and his K-9



Three judges helped determine the winning pets and people in costume, including Willits Mayor Bruce Burton, Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman, and Willits Chamber of Commerce President Lisa Epstein.

Willits Power's Melanie Grossman noted she was happy to see a good turnout, and that patrons enjoyed playing the games and seeing the dressed-up pairs.

Three vendors were also on site offering goodies: pet store Tropic Tails had treats and pet products for all kinds in Overall went to Carol and Tyson; and fourth place in of critters; Jacki Pealatere and her Picaro Gordo booth featured wooden pet memorials, ornaments, puzzles and more; and new Mexican restaurant Tagueria Maria had food options, including some tamales that Grossman noted were "to die for!"

Maureen Moore







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Above, left: Costume winners and their critters pose for the camera. Above, right: Officer McNelley and K-9 Lutz. Below: Walker, Wyatt and Bistardo speak with the judges. Below, far left: Judges assess costumes to determine the

Below, left: Costume participants Matt, Jim and Bobbi hold At bottom: Matt tries his hand at pumpkin bowling during the Pet

Photos by Rachel Belvin







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Supes | From Page 1

General was decisive, at least in his mind.

Hamburg voted with the majority on the issue. Voting with him were Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse and Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gierde. Supervisors Carre Brown and John McCowen voted to deny Dollar General authorization to build a Redwood Valley store.

During a closed session meeting during Tuesday's lunch hour, Acting-County Counsel Katharine Elliott and Deputy County Counsel Matt Kiedrowski told the board if it overturned planning commission denial of an appeal for a building permit for Dollar General, issued in June by the Department of Planning and Building Services, attorneys for Cross Construction would likely sue the county, and the chances of the county winning the case were less than 5 percent.

The key point on the issue, pointed out to the board by Cross Construction attorney Sabrina Teller on October 6, is that building permits are ministerial and not discretionary.

That means if an application to construct a building meets the requirements of county codes, and if the projected use conforms with county zoning laws, then county staff has to issue the permit as a matter of course. The act of doing so is not discretionary; the county has no choice but to issue the permit.

According to Teller and also to the county counsel's office, for the board of supervisors to withdraw the permit would be turning a ministerial act into a discretionary one, which is illegal.

Before casting his vote, Hamburg explained how he got to the point where he was able to vote against the will of Redwood Valley residents and in favor of Dollar General's right to build a store in the peaceful rural community.

"One of the speakers talked about government being 'of, by and for the people,' and it's pretty clear, if you look at where the people are, the people are overwhelmingly opposed to this. At least the people who are in favor of it haven't been showing up in any great numbers," said Hamburg.

"The phrase 'of, by and for the people,' that comes from Lincoln, the Gettysburg Address. A hundred years before that, another American revolutionary, John Adams, talked about a government of laws, and not men.

"And if you look at that theory, and you hold to that theory, Dollar General - as distasteful as they are to me, and as much as my heart is totally with the people in this room. I want to keep [Dollar General] out of Redwood Valley. I still can't get my head around the idea they followed the law. We don't like the law. The law is imperfect. The General Plan written in 2009 was imperfect. There's a lot of really 'wobbly' language in there, including the language about smart growth and aesthetics. As our own counsel said, it's very

"But still, in Mendocino County law, the granting of a building permit in a commercial zone is not discretionary act. It is a ministerial act. And unfortunately for me, hating everything about Dollar General and the type of business they represent doesn't change the fact that it is a ministerial act under the law. And I get back to that question: are we a government of men, and women, or are we a government of law?

"Here's the other thing. This thing has really been bothering me. If we go down this path, if we approve this appeal and withdraw Dollar General's use permit, we are committing ourselves to a court fight in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. To make a decision to risk hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars on a case our own attorney tells us has a 5 percent or less chance of winning ... that's a tough one. That's a tough one for me," Hamburg said.

Before casting his vote, Woodhouse spoke to Redwood Valley residents, several of whom were in the room. "You all heard that each of the speakers is very sincere in their feeling," he said. "They put a lot of thought into this, like you put into your lives. You are going to be potentially paying a penalty that is going to help other communities, because I am going to vote to abide by the laws that hold the whole thing together.

"I care very deeply about you. We do want communities to rule themselves. Thank you for your patience," Woodhouse said.

When Woodhouse said Redwood Valley residents would be "paying a penalty that is going to help other communities," he was likely referring to a vote that took place earlier in the meeting, when supervisors approved extending a moratorium on issuing building permits for "formula businesses."

The question is complex. It represents an effort by supervisors to allow communities to weigh in on issues like that of the Dollar General store in Redwood Valley, and could end up being a kind of template that will be placed over issuance of building permits in cases where large chain stores (or "formula businesses") wish to locate a store in a small rural community, such as Elk, Manchester or Covelo.

Crafting language that would protect small rural communities from corporate invasion, while still allowing the issuance of such permits as ministerial rather than discretionary actions, would be a challenging legal feat, and county staff requested the board extend the moratorium on further permitting of formula businesses for 10.5

The board approved the extension of the moratorium on a 4-1 vote, with Woodhouse casting the lone opposing vote.

HMH From Page 1

Department also helped at both locations.

On opening day, the new emergency department saw 32 patients, a typical day, according to ED director Amy Buckingham. "We're excited to provide more space, privacy and comfort and therefore better care for our community," she added.

"This is truly a new beginning," said CEO Bockmann. "A bigger

and better facility to match our excellent patient care, and I hope it serves our community for generations to come.'

The new hospital, located on One Marcela Drive, on the corner of East Hill and Haehl Creek, is more than double the size of the old one. It offers 25 private rooms with bathrooms, state-ofthe-art operating rooms, a spacious emergency department with trauma bays, and a helipad.

"It's been 20 years since we've updated the Mendocino Town

Plan. It has cost a lot of money, especially when you consider

that this is a status quo plan. I mean, we're not trying to turn this

He noted the process to rewrite the Mendocino Town Plan

The contract amendment was approved 4-1, with McCowen

Late in the afternoon, after votes on the formula business

moratorium and the Dollar General building permit had taken

place, Planning and Building Services staff person Jon Moore

informed supervisors that, because of a change in state policy on

how Community Development Block Grant programs are funded,

counties can no longer hold unspent money in a revolving fund,

As a result, Moore said, Mendocino County has \$1.5 million to

During discussions on Tuesday, the board ranked 11 projects.

1. Access ramp in town of Mendocino, \$128,000; 2. acquisition

of approximately three acres of undeveloped land in the City of

Ukiah for construction of "tiny houses" for the homeless, a project

\$410,000; 3. site development on aforesaid land, including water

and sewer, but not including house construction; \$605,000; 4. a

disabled access ramp for the Willits veterans building, \$150,000;

near Point Arena, \$20,000; 6. construction of an Americans

with Disabilities Act-compliant fishing platform at Mill Creek

Park, near Talmage, \$30,000; 7. a grant to West Company for

its work in supporting small and startup businesses, \$100,000;

8. rehabilitation of the Dana Grey School athletic fields, in Fort

Bragg, \$200,000; 9. repair and resurface Benson Lane and

Hanson Road in the Fort Bragg area, \$520,000; 10. provide

money to provide financial assistance to first-time homebuyers,

\$500,000; and 11, paving a segment of trail in the Fort Bragg

Supervisors approved the spending package, valued at \$2.71

which had survived a first cut administered to the list by Moore.

but must spend the money as it becomes available.

spend on community development projects.

The projects, in order of preference, are:

one of the main attractions in this county.

Supes rank projects on CDBG wish list

into Disneyland," Hamburg said.

Board of supervisors meet in Willits

The board of supervisors met Tuesday in the conference room a lot of that money comes from the town of Mendocino, which is at the rear of the Mendocino County Museum in Willits. Conditions were cramped, and there was not enough preparation time to fully plug in all the microphones or make sure all the switches were flipped in the right direction on the sound board. However, these technical shortcomings were eventually overcome.

The morning began on the wrong foot, when county staff

Mike A'Dair Reporter nike@willitsweekly.com

realized there was no flag present in the room to pledge allegiance to. An old flag was found somewhere in the museum but, there being no flagpole or flagpole holder, it was draped over

the wall of a conference room cubicle. Those present pledged allegiance to the flag, which as always was glorious, but which under the circumstances looked somewhat non-majestic.

Supervisors began the day by presenting proclamations to several groups and individuals. Susan Holli was recognized for her efforts on behalf of low-income people. American Legion members from Fort Bragg and Willits were on hand to observe the board as it named November 11 as Veterans Appreciation

The board also recognized November 11 as National Family Caregivers Month and National Adoption Month. Martin and Saprina Rodriguez of Willits, who have adopted four children, made brief remarks to the board, as did other adoptive parents.

Supes extend contract for Mendocino Town Plan consultants

Supervisor John McCowen pulled an item off the board's of Redwood Community Services and a host of other nonprofits. consent agenda, concerning the Mendocino Town Plan. The item amended an existing contract with coastal planners Dall and Associates, hired by the county to offer advice on the update of the Mendocino Village Town Plan, upon which county staff has 5. construction of a two-mile-long public trail at Pelican Bluff been laboring for the past four years.

The amendment is for services from Dall and Associates in an amount not to exceed \$100.000.

McCowen said he could not vote for the amendment. "This contract is very poorly written," McCowen said. "There is no explanation of how or when they will be paid. There is no statement of how much they will be paid, per hour. What we hired them for was to prepare a spreadsheet on how the town the Rural Community Housing Development Corporation with plan conformed, or did not conform, with the California Coastal Plan. But the consultants, with or without the approval of county staff, chose to rewrite the town plan, rather than to draw up a consistency analysis as per the contract. So in effect we are paving the consultant to fix their own mistake. To me, this is million, unanimously. unconscionable and I can't support it."

When asked how much money the county has spent on the town plan, Supervisor Dan Hamburg did not cite a figure. "What we have in it is our staff time, plus this contract. We're looking at a lot of money," Hamburg said. "But the other side of the coin is, the county derives a lot of money from the tourism industry, and

Advisory Board A joint meeting between the board of supervisors and the county's Library Advisory Board, scheduled for 3 pm Tuesday,

was rescheduled for the board's December 8 meeting.

Supes reschedule meeting with Library

Caltrans | From Page 1

& McCarthy, with offices in Burlingame, Los Angeles and New York, along with co-counsel Sharon Duggan in Oakland.

The rest of

In an October 30 press release, Phil Gregory, counsel for the tribes, said: "Caltrans must not be allowed to demolish cultural resources and sacred sites simply to build a highway bypass. Imagine Caltrans treating a church with such disrespect.

"This case challenges Caltrans' ongoing failure to properly protect the tribes' ancestral sites in constructing the bypass. Caltrans' ground-disturbing activities are devastating ancestral Native American sacred and cultural sites.'

Attorney Pete McCloskey, a former Congressman and a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, stated in the same press release: "It is outrageous for Caltrans to refuse to properly engage in consultation with the tribes over their ancestral lands. These historic properties include archaeological and ethnographic resources, as well as human burial sites. Caltrans has yet to implement a process for identifying historic properties, cultural resources, and archaeological sites, which is incredible to our native California tribes.'

Caltrans representative Phil Frisbie, in an October 30 statement, called the allegations "misconceptions and misinformation."

"These statements are factually inaccurate, and are damaging not only to this project - which will link Californians north of Willits to the rest of the state with a safe, reliable, and efficient route through Mendocino County," Frisbie said, "but also to the taxpayers of California, who will ultimately end up footing the bill for this unnecessary legal action.

"All state and federal historical preservation laws are being followed," Frisbie said. "Caltrans has worked closely with state and federal historical preservation agencies, and will continue to do so. All cultural resources identified during project development were avoided," Frisbie continued

"Caltrans worked with the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo, as well as state and local historical societies, to identify all known cultural resources within the bypass project area. The bypass project was designed to avoid impacting all these known

"Potential cultural areas are being properly handled," Frisbie added. "Potential cultural areas, discovered after construction began, are being handled, following all laws. These resources are being avoided if possible, or further investigations are being performed to clear the areas for construction."

Michael Hunter, chairman of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, said: "Our tribal elders felt it was essential to stand up to the aggressive and resistant manner Caltrans has treated the local tribes. Caltrans refuses to protect our cultural heritage.

"On September 12, 2013, in the dead of night, Caltrans' bulldozers destroyed one of our sacred sites in Little Lake Valley without tribal monitors notified or present," Hunter said. "The

National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation referenced the destruction of this ancient village as a 'major violation of

"Caltrans refuses to protect ancestral archaeological sites, and we ask other Indian nations and concerned citizens to join in demanding Caltrans protect our sacred sites and that government-to-government consultations with tribes be conducted meaningfully and respectfully."

James Russ, president of the Round Valley Tribal Council, said: "There was a complete lack of tribal consultation, as well as no planning or preparedness to address tribal concerns, prior to starting construction of this project. Since the beginning, Caltrans has known the project area has a moderate to high potential for buried archaeological remains. Because Caltrans continues to proceed in bad faith, such as isolating our tribal monitors, we are forced to look to the court to protect our religious, ancestral, and cultural properties that are being desecrated by Caltrans.

"Our main objection is not the bypass project in itself," he noted, "but the reckless way Caltrans conducts business with tribes and tribal communities. Our tribe does not take lightly the disrespect to our sacred sites and our tribal people."

In response to this point, Caltrans' Frisbie said: "Governmentto-government meetings are being held every time a tribe asks. District 1 has the highest concentration of federally recognized Native American tribes in California, and we always arrange government-to-government meetings with tribes and the Federal Highway Administration whenever asked."

The Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, with tribal offices in Willits, was not party to filing the complaint. "We saw a copy of the complaint when everybody else did on Friday," said Lee Clauss, archeological and historical preservation law consultant for the Sherwood tribe. "The tribal council is having their legal counsel review it."

The Sherwood tribe did put out a statement on October 24, detailing the tribe's own frustration that "after 18 months of effort, Caltrans has indefinitely stalled, if not altogether abandoned, the finalization of a programmatic agreement with the Sherwood tribe "that would mitigate the adverse effects to historic properties occurring within the bypass project, as well as set forth protocols for how best to manage any new discoveries of cultural resources during project construction.'

For the full statement by the Sherwood tribe, see the Letters page in this week's Willits Weekly. A link to the full legal complaint can be seen on the Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy website at http:// www.cpmlegal.com. Official information from Caltrans about the Willits bypass project can be found at www.willitsbypass. wordpress.com.

Willits Weekly | November 5, 2015

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Pg. 16

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