

# Willits Weekly

Online & Print

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits



By donation

Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Edition No. 31

## Farr: Remco chromium plumes getting smaller

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
zack@willitsweekly.com

Plumes of chemical contaminants underground at the old Remco building are getting smaller, Anne M. Farr, Ph.D., a doctor in charge of the cleanup trust, told city council members at their November 13 meeting.

The Remco business operated from 1945 to its bankruptcy in 1995. The City of Willits sued Remco, an industrial icon in the town, to clean up polluted properties.

Farr showed council members charts showing locations and the spread of the plume. Most contamination at the Franklin Avenue building centers around 60- to 70-foot-deep tanks used to plate huge cylinders, Farr explained.

"We removed those tanks from the site - so those are all gone," Farr said. Extraction and treatment of groundwater and releases of vegetable oil are used to clean up the site.

Farr showed maps dotted all over the property where tests have been done. "We sort of looked everywhere to make sure we are not

Read the rest of **Remco** | Over on Page 11



## Happy Thanksgivukkah!

Some might be checking the turkey on Thursday by the light of the menorah this year, as a rare overlap will occur of the celebration of Thanksgiving and Chanukah on November 28. The day traditionally reserved for turkey and stuffing will this year share the fame with the first day of the Jewish holiday celebration. Popular culture has embraced this partnership with the "Thanksgivukkah" moniker.

So why not "nosh" on the traditional favorites, with a kosher or combo approach this year? Manischewitz wine-brined turkey? Rye-crusting apple pie? Sweet potato latkes? Challah and fig stuffing? Pecan and cranberry rugelach cookies? Pumpkin apple cake? The possibilities are endless. Open your palates to new fun flavors! Mazel Gobble Tov and Happy Thanksgivukkah!

Above: Bruce and Cassandra Andich had fun preparing a 22-pound fresh turkey with the blackberry variety of the popular Manischewitz wine. Challah bread, cranberries, tangerines and menorahs added to the festivity.

Photo by Maureen Moore

## McKinnon gets six years for arson fires

Zack Cinek  
Reporter  
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Former Little Lake firefighter Brice McKinnon was sentenced to six years in prison last week for fires he set in the Willits area this summer.

CalFire investigators arrested McKinnon, 22, on August 27 for setting a series of fires in July and August this summer in the Willits area. McKinnon pleaded guilty to setting five fires at a previous hearing.

McKinnon had two prior arson-related convictions as a minor, according to the District Attorney's Office, and he was a member of the fire department when he set the blazes.

Each of his five convictions are a "strike" under the Three Strikes law.

If McKinnon is convicted of any serious or violent felony, including any future arson, he could face up to 25 years to life for each future conviction, the DA's Office stated.

Mendocino County District Attorney David Eyster stated McKinnon may have the option of getting mental health help in prison if he so chooses, depending on the services available at the particular

Read the rest of **Arsonist** | Over on Page 9

## County workers seek unique ideas for new mental health program

A small group of mental health workers has been soliciting ideas for a unique, innovative way to deliver mental health services in Mendocino County.

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

Millionaire's Tax that voters approved in 2004 to fund mental health services in California.

The one requirement is that the project or program must be a new and unique service delivery system. No other county in California can currently be operating it.

According to Mendocino County Mental Health Services Act Coordinator Karen Lovato, it has been a challenge to come up with a project idea that meets the state requirements, although county mental health workers have

Read the rest of **Mental Health** | Over on Page 11



## Hospital construction reaches midpoint



"In a little over a year, that helicopter going over our heads will be touching down right here," said Rick Bockmann, CEO of Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, during a press tour of the new hospital building going up off East Hill Road.

The tour was held to celebrate the halfway point in the construction project, which broke ground on August 13 this year.

The helipad at the new hospital is impressive: it will be big enough to accommodate a Black Hawk helicopter, construction project manager Amy Ford said. It's located just outside the emergency facilities of the new building, on the first floor's west side, so airborne patients can be rushed right inside. The new emergency facilities include six ambulance bays, six private treatment rooms, and two trauma rooms.

The new two-story building is impressive, too, just looking at it from the outside. But inside, the structure is amazing, especially the 552 tons of steel framing, much of it still visible.

At a cost of \$62 million, including funds from

Read the rest of **Hospital** | Over on Page 11

Clockwise from top left:

A view of the half-finished new hospital off East Hill Road.

Structural steel framing and pipes reflect the light.

Rick Bockmann, CEO of Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, and Amy Ford, project manager, led the press tour.

Wayne Bashore, facilities director for the Willits school building projects, left, enjoyed the tour as a guest. Contractor Jay Lewis, right, represented HBE Corporation, general contractor for the hospital project.

One of three stairwells up to the second floor; there will be two large elevators, too.

Photos by Melissa Cramer Photography, courtesy of Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital



# Time to get Festive!

Willits Weekly Christmas Party – Friday, December 20 at Willits Center for the Arts

The community is invited to attend Willits Weekly's first annual holiday party held on December 20 from 4 to 7 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts.

A night of fun is planned, with Christmas music and merriment as well as the main event: a cookie contest.

We have invited a number of "celebrity" bakers to make treats for the contest including: Tam Adams of Emandal, Kathryn Sterngold of SugarKat Kitchen, Lori Dorholt and Kathy Albright of Ardella's, Lynn Kennelly of the Willits Chamber of Commerce, a team from Howard Memorial Hospital, and the ladies of Les Schwab Tire Center. (And the list is growing!)

Contestants will bake off dozens of cookies and holiday

sweets which will be on display at decorated tables for the tasting. Attendees will be encouraged to sample and vote for their favorites. Judges will also cast their vote, and a "People's Choice" and "Judges' Favorite" award will be given.

As well as bragging rights and a surprise prize, winners will have their photos in the paper, along with cookie and treat recipes.

There will also be a cookie swap table, so those who want to bring cookies and treats to exchange with other eventgoers can do so, and take home a bag of cookies at the end of the night.

A soundtrack of holiday music will keep the spirit of

the evening festive, and the community is welcome to come and mingle and enjoy the evening at the Great Room upstairs at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

Willits Weekly will also have back issues available, and T-shirts and gift subscriptions packaged for holiday gifts.

Can't wait to see you all there!

*Jennifer & Maureen*

## Highway 20 barn

To the Editor:

Thank you for the article earlier this month about Harvey Brown's barn on Highway 20. As you reported, the building was recently demolished for salvage.

Mark Walker told me he built that barn by himself in 1920. He placed the diamond-shaped air vent under the northern ridge-pole eaves so anybody could identify it in conversation. He showed with his carpenter's square how he determined the angle of the roof and the cut of the joists, made to length with the proper nocks before he lifted them into place.

After that summer of 1920, the structure stood for almost 100 years, a monument to individual ingenuity and industry.

I add the humble memory that when he and his wife, Ina, visited our house in June 1986, on the occasion of our daughter Hannah's high-school graduation, he was restless indoors. This is a characteristic I used to notice in other old-timers, men of the 19th century. They had to be outside working.

He walked with me around the house, a small farmhouse to which, with the help of friends, I had added sizable sections as the family grew.

Especially he was interested in the redwood shakes that my son and I had split out with a froe and nailed for rooves and sidings. Cap Kroh had supplied us with the shake bolts from west of Willits. Mark said finally: "This is an unusual house. I don't think there is another house like it remaining in the Willits Valley." He brought a cedar sapling as a graduation gift that we planted. It is as high as the house now.

Shortly before he died he gave me an intricately carved wooden trunk in which his first wife Mary's parents had shipped possessions home when they returned from the kingdom of Siam. They were among the Christian missionaries who proselytized in the Far East from the time trade opened in the early 19th century.

Mark was a rare man, an independent land-holder, the kind Abraham Lincoln had in mind when he wrote, "We here highly resolve ... that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth."

Goodbye to Mark Walker's hand-built hay-barn on the Fort Bragg Road.

He lived to be 107 years old. His remains are a little way west out Highway 20, in the family plot at the Willits Cemetery. The epitaph says only: "Veteran World War I."

William Ray, Willits

## Thanks!

To the Editor:

We just wanted to send out a HUGE thanks to the Willits Community, Dave's friends and family really came together to provide us with more than enough baked goods for the bake sale. [Local Dave Dethman is in critical condition due

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Below: Emmy Heiken and Rockell Rutler sit at the bakesale booth

to a logging accident; also see donation jars in stores around town.]

Every penny helps, and we are so appreciative to have made the \$2,457 that we got to have the honor of handing to his parents on Sunday afternoon! Thanks again!!

Kaela Casteneda, Emmy Heiken, Rockell Rutler and iwheelfordave Crew, Willits



## Bypass the protesters!

To the Editor:

Thanks and kudos to Caltrans, DeSilva Gates Construction, Flatiron Construction, and HB Wick Drains on a spectacular first season of construction on the Willits Bypass. A group of local bypass lovers and acceptors recently organized a second "Thank You Bypass Workers" lunch. We were warmly and graciously received by a very nice and diverse group of workers, many of whom have been astonished and hurt by the hostility they have faced from bypass opponents this year. We vowed to have another lunch in the spring to welcome the crews back.

Meanwhile, Caltrans' Project Engineer Geoffrey Wright and Project Manager Mauricio Serrano have given informative updates at the last two City Council meetings. In the first update, Wright thoroughly debunked the "underground dam" theory relentlessly advanced by City Council Member Madge Strong and other bypass opponents. He explained that soil is porous and water flows through it even when it is compacted. There is no way wick drains and compacted soil on a very small portion of Little Lake Valley (less than 50 acres) can prevent the flow of water or dry out the almost 8,000 acre valley.

Of course millions of homes and other buildings sit on compacted soil that has never created any underground dams as far as anyone knows. But Strong and others persist in their myth-making. Some bypass opponents have suggested that the bypass will eliminate our morning fog and change our climate. Others have blamed Caltrans for low water levels and predicted both flooding and "desertification" – turning LLV into a desert – as the result of bypass construction. What will they say when all the predicted catastrophes fail to materialize? Bypass construction will ruin our karma?

At the last City Council meeting, Strong had the nerve to chide Caltrans for construction delays, after she herself persistently engaged in and supported civil disobedience and other protest tactics, contributing to delays. She also complained about Caltrans' removal of topsoil from a borrow site on the south end of town instead of the old Apache Mill site on the north end of town, where Caltrans was taking fill for the northern interchange until bypass opponents filed a lawsuit and succeeded in blocking use of the northern site. Are you kidding me, Madge? Stop obstructing and maybe construction will proceed more quickly and efficiently!

Strong and other bypass opponents have also been promoting their alternative design for a scaled-down northern interchange that they claim will save money and spare LLV. There are so many problems with the proposed redesign, it is hard to restrain my sarcasm. First of all, I

shudder to think of all the traffic problems we would have if 55 mph and faster freeway traffic was routed into a small roundabout, even ignoring the fact that the design promoted by the protesters has traffic entering the roundabout from different directions toward different directions – i.e., toward head-on collisions! Who do we want designing our roadways: professional engineers with years of training and experience or the armchair "experts" of SOLLV?

Even if the proposed redesign was feasible, which it is not, it is too late to change plans. Strong and others claim it would be easy and would actually save money because Caltrans already has plans for a scaled-down model. A few preliminary sketches is not the same as construction plans, which can run thousands of pages. Anyone who has ever had a house built or remodeled knows a late change in plans costs a fortune and extensive delays. And how would the redesign avoid harm to LLV, as Strong and others claim, when the trees have already been cut down, the wick drains have all been installed, and thousands of square yards of earth have been moved?

Incredibly, Strong and other bypass opponents are still telling each other it is not too late. They promise to continue the protests when construction begins again in the spring. At the same time, they plead for leniency for those protesters facing criminal charges. One of the accepted purposes of criminal punishment is deterrence. I think the punishment for this year's illegal protesters should be stiff enough to deter future illegal actions.

I say protest all you want. Exercise your constitutional rights to freedom of speech and assembly – at Mariposa, at the post office, at Safeway, in the park, in the press. But if you trespass and hold up construction, I think you should have to pay the costs of the delay. Why should I have to pay it as a taxpayer? If Caltrans and the contractors can prove \$100,000 or \$300,000 or \$500,000 in delay costs, that's what the protesters should be fined. That doesn't even include the costs of law enforcement – multiple CHP officers guarding construction sites and workers 24/7 for almost a year. If you really want to make a case for leniency, you might consider promising NOT to engage in further illegal and expensive obstruction.

Congratulations Caltrans! Bypass the Protesters! E-mail me at rcovin13@gmail.com, and I'll send you a "Thank You Caltrans" bumper sticker.

Randi Covin, Willits

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**THANKFUL**  
What are YOU thankful for this year?



I, Nicole McLeod-Basler, am thankful for my family (photo at left), and my mom, brother and sister!

## SOBER GRAD Basket Winners

Congratulations to Jeff and Heather Walker, the winners of the Sober Grad Fall Basket.

Pictured with the winners and representing the 2014 Senior Class, Devina Cash.

Thank you to everyone in the community who helps to support this great cause.

Photo by Rachel Cash



**November** is National Home Care & Hospice Month

The staff at **Home Care & Hospice Services Mendocino County**

wish all of the community a **Happy Holiday Season**

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Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters from area residents, focusing on Willits issues, activities, events and people, have priority. Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred.

Letters & Commentaries must have a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No anonymous letters will be published.

**Willits Weekly**

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 1, Number 31  
P.O. Box 1698  
Willits, CA 95490  
willitsweekly@gmail.com  
www.willitsweekly.com  
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I, April Lamprich, am thankful for my best friend!



I, Maureen Moore, am thankful for Donna Blake (holding Sophie) and Sallie Palmer, too!



I, Alison Hughes, am thankful for bacon.



I, April Lamprich, am thankful for all the time I had with my Pops! Not a day goes by that I don't miss you!



I, Roxie, am thankful for my squeaky koala and play time with Kretos.



I, Jeanne King, am thankful for my home in the forest.



I, Rashed Niderost-Mckemy, am thankful for my healthy boys! I love u Giuseppe n Nikola! ♥♥♥

**GIVING THANKS**  
What are YOU thankful for this year?



I, Jennifer Poole, am thankful when the cats get along!



I, Jacqueline Standley, am grateful for an amazing family! ♥

**Brooktrails Fire thankful for donation**

The Brooktrails Fire Department – and Brooktrails residents with pets – have a special "Thank You" for Gary and Alice Coon on this Thanksgiving holiday. The Brooktrails couple has donated two life-saving Pet Oxygen Mask Kits to the volunteer fire department.

These reusable kits will be carried on fire apparatus, says Fire Chief Daryl Schoepner, and used to provide care to pets during incidents. "The kits will provide oxygen delivery to both dogs and cats," Schoepner said. "This will be a great addition to our equipment inventory."



Ashes, the Brooktrails Fire Department's Arson K-9 "reminds you" to consider making a donation today to your local fire department

Read the rest of **Pet O2** Over on Page 9

Ashes, the Arson K-9, with one of the new Pet Oxygen Mask Kits.

Photo by Brooktrails Fire Department

**Brewed Awakening**  
will be open at 2 AM on Black Friday!

**Willits Weekly**  
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A Montage & Movies Record of Community and Life in Willits

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**Happy Holidays from Sparetime Supply!**

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**SANTA RAT RESERVE NOTE**

Subject to stock on hand

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5 - Paulo, city  
6 - Z man right  
7 - Honey (abbr)  
8 - Anno Domini  
9 - Malibu and Walkie  
10 - To burst in  
11 - Mild yellow Dutch cheese  
12 - Liquefied natural gas  
13 - Douronouls  
14 - Spoiled child  
15 - Founder of Buddhism  
16 - Ireland  
17 - One who confronts boldly  
18 - Atomic #2  
19 - Feels concern or interest  
20 - Get up from  
21 - Sound of disappointment  
22 - Out of 100 (abbr.)  
23 - Address Kerr  
24 - 10  
25 - Satisfies to excess  
26 - More dry  
27 - Of the  
28 - Lay a tax upon  
29 - Ed Murray's home  
30 - Neversman Reiter  
31 - Swiss mountain  
32 - Hill  
33 - Potato, tossed or green  
34 - Italian automaker  
35 - Birthplace of Abraham  
36 - Scheduled visits  
37 - Vermont capital (all row, column and box: sp)38 - Assisted  
39 - Persian kings  
40 - Accumulate  
41 - 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!  
42 - Small social insect

51 - Desoxyribonucleic acid  
52 - Greek cheese  
53 - Express pleasure  
54 - Don't know when yet  
55 - 13th Hebrew letter  
56 - Chinese terns  
57 - Li

Can you unscramble all these Thanksgiving words (and local business words) in:

**The TURKEY TANGLE**

CROAN \_\_\_\_\_  
EBGBIO \_\_\_\_\_  
AHCVC'S ECL \_\_\_\_\_  
TRALSDUJMK \_\_\_\_\_  
SOLERCFLAS \_\_\_\_\_  
OHWBSIGINE \_\_\_\_\_  
FRITGI \_\_\_\_\_  
JFTALM \_\_\_\_\_  
Agyvr \_\_\_\_\_

**giblet Jokes**

Why did they let the turkey join the band?  
Because he had the drumsticks!

What is always at the end of Thanksgiving?  
The letter "g"!

What are unhappy cranberries called?  
Bluetennial!

Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?  
The outside!

Why did the turkey cross the road?  
To get new tires!

Draw your three favorite foods on the plate

**Tire Iron Tie-Tac-Toe**  
Choose who will be Irons (X's) and who will be Tires (O's) three in a row win!

Get your tires checked at Les Schwab Tire Center of Willits before journeying to Grandma's house this year!

**The GRATEFUL GOBLER**  
What are you thankful for this holiday? Show us in the space below. Color the turkey, cut it out and hang on your fridge!

**The GRATEFUL GOBLER**

Finish!

Start!

**Crossword Puzzle**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12				
14				15	16	17			
18			20				21		
22				23				24	
26		28	29			30			
36	37								
40				41				43	44
45				46					
49			50			51			
53						55	56		
57			58			59			61
60									

**Sudoku**

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

**ANSWERS ON PAGE 9**

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Regions  
6. Abu \_\_\_\_\_ UAE capital  
11. Forever  
13. Lower position  
14. Masterpiece series  
16. Atomic #18  
19. Cuckoos  
20. Goat with comical horns  
21. European money  
22. Flaw the surface  
23. Restaurant bill  
24. Indicated  
25. Spower (abbr.)  
26. On an advance  
28. Ancient Egyptian King  
29. Insert mark  
31. Palm fruits  
33. Peels a fruit's skin  
34. Many not ants  
35. Cathode-ray oscilloscope  
36. Bo \_\_\_\_\_ "10"38. Satisfies to excess  
41. Of the  
42. Lay a tax upon  
45. Ed Murray's home  
46. Neversman Reiter  
47. Swiss mountain  
49. Hill  
50. Potato, tossed or green  
52. Italian automaker  
53. Birthplace of Abraham  
54. Scheduled visits  
57. Vermont capital (all row, column and box: sp)58. Assisted  
60. Persian kings  
61. Accumulate

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Unkeked  
2. Rangle  
3. Sea eagles  
4. Small social insect

**FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS:**

1124: Bly Conroy, Actor (7-1); 1125: Bly Burke, Actor (4-1); 1126: Warena Beaufield, Singer (3-1); 1127: Brooke Langton, Actress (4-1); 1128: Ed Harris, Actor (9-1); 1129: Kelly Curcio, Actress (2-1)

It's almost TURKEY TIME! But, while you wait, enjoy the fun and games on the placemat & puzzle page sponsored by

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**UP TO 50% OFF STARTING FRIDAY-SUNDAY**

Meet the amazing Arnold, a 2-year-old Pitbull/Labrador mix! He came into the shelter as a sad stray dog, along with another canine companion who has since been adopted. He was a bit on the thin side, and missing some fur – but since he has been living here, he is eating well and his fur is starting to grow back. He is very affectionate and loves to please whoever he's with. He also loves to go for walks! We believe he will make a great companion or family pet – and so we hope you will come meet this sweet guy!



Arnold is part of the Back in Black campaign, a national campaign to promote black and dark-colored dogs and cats who very often get overlooked. With this promotion, his adoption fee will be only \$50 if he is adopted in the month of November – plus \$25 licensing for Mendocino County residents. The adoption fee for cats and kittens is just \$50 for the month of November.

**Amazing Arnold**  
Photo by Rod Coats

The Ukiah Animal shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view more of our wonderful adoptable animals, please visit our website: [www.pawstoadopt.com](http://www.pawstoadopt.com) or visit our shelter. You may also contact Adoption Coordinator Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 for more information.

**Buy any chainsaw, get a free loop of chain and a free hat**

**STIHL** chainsaw advertisement with image of a chainsaw and a hat.

Now both businesses are located back at 1600 S. Main St. in Willits!

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Enrolling Year Round Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Preschool: ages 2-5 • After-school daycare: ages 10 months - 9 years Drop in for a tour!

7 South Marin Street • Willits 459-6543

# Classifieds

**TELL OUR ADVERTISERS you saw it in Willits Weekly!**

**Algebra, Geometry**  
College Preparatory Mathematics, Individual Instruction. Mac Smith 459-MATH

**Body Life Studio**  
"Wonder and Awe Within" Workshop Dec. 15 from 1-5 Explore inspirational movement in the natural forces of breath, gravity, imagination. For adults. Questions, registration - bodylifestudio@gmail.com

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

**Consignments Accepted**  
Gavel Down Sales, located at 1611 South Main Street, is open Tues through Sat, 10 am to 5 pm, and is accepting quality home furnishings for consignment. Contact Kapila at 707.459.1300.

**Culinary Arts Instructor/Cook**  
Willits Charter School is seeking a Culinary Arts Instructor / Cook. 30 hours/week. Contact Willits Charter School @ 707-459-5506 for further information.

**For Rent**  
West side of Willits, small cottage suitable for one person. Wood heat only. No pets. \$750 per month, includes water and electricity. 459-5030.

**For Rent**  
Medical/Health Office Space, Approx. 400 square feet with changing rooms. Separate entrance, front office staff available, shared bathroom. Main SW Hwy 101 frontage. Available day or month, call 707-459-4689.

**For Rent**  
2 bedroom, 1 bath, close to downtown. No pets. No smoking. Water/garbage paid. \$770/month. Armo: 459-9601.

**For Rent**  
Quiet, clean studio, close to downtown Willits, Westside, garbage and water paid, NS/JP. \$525/month. Armo: 459-9601.

**Help Wanted**  
Ardella's Downtown Diner now hiring all positions. Apply within. No phone calls please.

**Help Wanted**  
Housekeeper wanted for Baechtel Creek Inn. Must be able to go up and down stairs, lift up to 30 pounds, and be reliable and willing to work. Apply in person.

**Help Wanted**  
Maintenance person wanted for Baechtel Creek Inn. Must be available on weekends, and weekdays. Apply in person.

**New Patients Welcome**  
Phillip J. D'Angelo, DDS  
Cosmetic/Family Dentistry  
707-459-4664

**Old Cars Wanted**  
ALWAYS LOOKING for Cars, Scooters & Motorcycles! '40s thru '50s. Show Car to Parts Car. Please call Alan: 489-7165 or email agrossman@pacfic.net.

**Pinball Machines**  
PINBALL MACHINES for sale. 459-6372.

**Racing Truck**  
Traxxas Radio-Controlled Model Truck for sale. Includes recharging equipment. Used twice – never raced. Looks like new. Asking \$250 firm. Call evenings: 707-456-0381.

**Rummage Sale**  
Every Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm at 1st Baptist Church, 145 Wood Street. Rain or shine. We accept rummage donations, and have an ever-changing selection of goods!

**Volunteers Needed**  
Come meet wonderful people and make a difference in your community. Pick up an application at the Harrah Senior Center on Baechtel Road. Hope to see you soon.

**CLASSIFIEDS!**  
\$10 | 30 words | 2 weeks!

**Menorahs, latkes and light**

Left: Sara's grandson, Misha Hammang-Zaid, brings a light into the holiday.

Below: A one-of-a-kind Hanukkah menorah handmade by Sara Mann.

Photos by Sara Mann

"We have come to drive away the darkness  
In our hands is light and fire.  
Each one of us is a small light,  
But together our light shines bright.  
Go away darkness, blackness be gone!  
Give way to the light!"

Since childhood, Sara Mann of Willits, owner of Mazahar, has sung this traditional children's song with family and friends during the lighting of the menorah and the Hanukkah holiday.

A meal of delicious foods, including potato latkes, usually accompanies the candle lighting festivities. It is traditional to eat fried foods, because of the significance of oil and the use of it to light the menorah for the holiday.

Mann recommends using creamy white or red potatoes and grinding them into a fine consistency for the latkes. Use a ratio of one egg per potato and season with salt, pepper and lemon rind. Form potato mixture into patties. Deep fry and top with sour cream and apple sauce.

– Maureen Moore

**The rest of Arsonist** | From Page 1

prison facility in which he is ultimately housed.

McKinnon first received mental health help as a minor, yet that mental health assistance did not adequately protect the community from his re-offending, Eyster said.

In a letter to the court, the psychologist who had evaluated McKinnon as a minor, and who helped develop a "safety plan" for him and his family (should McKinnon experience renewed fire-setting urges and seek to act on those urges), said McKinnon fit the profile of a recurring arsonist who posed a heightened threat to the safety of the community, Eyster added.

McKinnon's fires were set on July 13 at the Willits Cemetery, again at the Willits Cemetery on August 13, on August 4 on property owned by Tony Madrigal in Mendocino County, on August 7 in Brooktrails, and again on property owned by Peter Koch on August 24, according to the DA's Office.

Total sentence imposed by Superior Court Judge Ann Moorman was six years, eight months in state prison.

Eyster said he is pleased with his department's record on arson cases: "Of those convicted of arson, repeat offenders and defendants convicted of setting multiple fires that endanger fire personnel and all of us who live in Mendocino County – two case characteristics that both fit

**ashes helps demonstrate the mask.**

Photo by Brooktrails Fire Department

**The rest of Pet O2** | From Page 5

first responders, to be used for pet oxygen kits or other needed equipment, to help keep our communities safer. Donations to the Brooktrails Fire Department can be sent to 24860 Birch Street, Willits CA 95490.

**Puzzle Answers** From Page 4

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

Last week, Chief Schoepner and Ashes visited with kids at the Imagination Station Preschool/Childcare Center, and the pair helped out with the investigation of a \$1.5 million residential fire loss north of San Francisco.

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

**Condolences Column**

**ROY JOHNSON**

ROY ELIS JOHNSON, 86, of Willits passed away in his home November 25 following a long illness. Born to Georgia and Milton Johnson on August 20, 1927, Roy grew up in Ferndale and Fortuna.

A 1945 graduate of Fortuna High School, he served as a radio operator in the Army Air Corps then graduated from Humboldt State College. He worked for Eureka newspapers, got his real estate license in 1960, then his broker's license in 1970 and worked as a realtor in Santa Rosa.

In 1978 he moved his family and business to Willits. He retired from real estate in 1992 and, with his wife, Beverly, traveled extensively all over the U.S. and Baja in their motor home. Roy was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite and Aames Shriners.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Beverly, his sons Mark, Jeff and Jack, his stepdaughter Judy Hope, seven grandchildren, and many great grandchildren.

Roy and Bev organized a pinocle group which brought many valued friendships to their retirement years. He will be missed by his family and friends. His family is grateful to Phoenix Hospice for their very helpful support.

A funeral will be held at Anker-Lucier Funeral Home Saturday, November 30 at 11 am.

Little Lake Fire Chief Carl Magann issued a statement to the press following McKinnon's sentence, noting the potential for loss of life and property from fires like McKinnon's: "Even the movement of firefighters and other personnel responding to and from these fires creates a risk both themselves and to the public," Magann said.

Magann added those involved in any act of fire-setting "must understand and realize the consequences of their actions."

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# Column

## Merl Edward Scott



Merl Edward Scott, better known as "Scotty," passed away on November 18, 2013 at home with his loved ones. He was 88 years old. Merl was born in Deerfield, Missouri on April 7, 1925 and was the eighth child of Herbert and Ava Scott's 10 children.

During WWII, while working at the Richmond shipyards, he met the love of his life, Fae, who he wrote many love letters to while serving in the Merchant Marines in the Pacific Ocean. Scotty, Fae, and 4-year-old Anne moved to Willits in 1951, where they owned and operated the Scott and Nelson Union Station on Main Street. M.E. Scott Trucking began in 1954, when Scotty bought a teal 1958 Diamond T logging truck. He loved hauling logs, working in the woods and hanging out at the White Cottage with his buddies Joe Shuda, Bob Alecksick, Lonnie Dockins, and John Alcorn.

He leaves behind his wife, Fae, of 68 years and two daughters, Merlene and Brenda. He was preceded in death by his eldest daughter Anne Scott Harms. Other family members include: Merlene's husband Jim and children Hillary and Colby, Brenda's children, Katelyn, Brooke, Brittany, and Kylee, and their father Mel. Other grandchildren include: Anne's two daughters, Denise and Darla, and their brother Bradley and his brother Justin. Spouses include: David, Chris, Laurel and Briana. Great grandchildren: (Denise's children) Delaney, Miranda, Duncan, and Ava; (Darla's children) Dalton, Breanne, and Bradan; and (Brad's children) James and Henry; as well as son-in-law George, and Debbie and Brad's mother, Geri.

He is survived by his sister Mabel (and late husband Arch), brother Marvin and wife Fran, and Fae's sister Dee and her husband Frank, and many many nieces and nephews who love their "Uncle." Special friends: Warren and Kathleen, Jeff, Fritz, Paul, and Nick.

A Celebration of Scotty's Life will be held at the Agape Bible Church Hall at 2 pm on Friday, November 29, 2013. The celebration will include a potluck, so bring your favorite dish, as well as memories to share with friends and family.

We all know that Scotty would love to have a "Yard Sale." Many of his antiques and "treasures" will be on display for all to enjoy.



I, Peter Montgomery, am thankful for my new pants



I, Donna Schindel, am thankful for Malakai Schindel's window art at Room to Bloom (with Elvia & Orion)

## Willits Weekly T-Shirts

A perfect gift for this holiday season!



What could be better this holiday season than to unwrap one of Willits Weekly's brand new "I ♥ Willits Weekly" T-shirts? The crisp black shirts are printed with white lettering on the front and our signature "WW" circle logo on the back.

Shirts are available in unisex sizes from medium to XXL and cost \$20 each. They come festively wrapped in cellophane and ribbon, ready for immediate gift giving.

Gift subscriptions are also available this year and make great gifts for locals as well as out-of-towners. Getting the paper delivered in the mail is a great way for people no longer living in the area to stay connected with our community, as well as convenient for locals who don't want to track down a copy in town.

Six-month subscriptions are available for \$40, and one-year subscriptions are available for \$75. A sewn newspaper bag with ribbon handles and fancy presentation certificate makes a Willits Weekly gift subscription a festive and quick choice for readers of all ages.

T-shirts will be for sale at J.D. Redhouse starting Friday, November 28, and will also be available at Willits Weekly's Winter Willits Farmers Market booth. The market is on Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange (skipping Thanksgiving Day).

For more info or to place an order: 972-7047 or email willitsweekly@gmail.com.

- Maureen Moore

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Scotty loved his membership and involvement with the Lions Club for over 30 years, especially serving as president in 1978-1979, chairman of the Easter Egg Hunt, the Pancake Breakfast, and the Super Bowl Party at the Community Center. He was also involved as a volunteer fireman for the Willits Fire Department in the early 1950s.

**Dinner For 2 \$19.95**

Each plate includes: 1 Burrito, 1 Enchilada and 1 Corn Taco with Rice and Beans and a small bean dip.  
MUST PRESENT COUPON. EXCLUDES FRIDAYS. COUPON GOOD THROUGH 12/31/13

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We're Thankful For You, Our Customers!

Please, Don't Drink & Drive.

Happy Thanksgiving!

From,  
**DragonFly Natural Power Trivia**

Why must cashews be roasted outdoors?

1st Person To Call or Text With The Correct Answer Wins A Free 1st Run Movie Rental!

Last Week: The Giraffatitan weighed about 130,000 lbs. (& was 37' Tall.)  
Brought To You By:  
**DragonFly Natural Power** 29

## THANKFUL

What are YOU thankful for this year?



I, Michelle Tobin-McCoy, am thankful for my incredible husband

**ER ENERGY**  
KITCHEN & HEARTH

**BLACK FRIDAY SALE WEEKEND**  
Friday, November 29 - open 6 am to 6 pm!  
Sale continues Saturday & Sunday

PICK YOUR DISCOUNT  
**10% - 40% off**  
Plus free giveaways at both stores!

**Photos with Santa**  
December 1st from 11 am to 3 pm  
at the Willits store  
\$5 for a digital image - proceeds split with Willits 4H

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