

Not opposed to REACH

To the Editor:

As our letter to the editor in December stated, Keep the Code is not opposed to a REACH helicopter base project at the Willits Airport, if approved by the City of Willits with appropriate mitigation conditions and conservation measures to protect both human and natural resource environments.

For example, the county General Plan does limit noise impacts to Brooktrails neighborhoods from the Willits Airport. Of course, the mitigation for noise impacts can only be implemented if the city, county, Brooktrails Township and citizens require and ask for those conditions of approval for such airport projects through a public and environmental review process. To their credit, the Willits City Council recognized this responsibility to comply with environmental review at their meeting this past November 12.

The good news is that the helicopter noise impact can very likely be mitigated for adjacent residential neighborhoods and the northern spotted owls that reside in the adjacent forest habitat. These noise mitigations for the helicopter flights can include conditions to land and take off in a southerly direction, maintaining appropriate vertical over-flight buffers to avoid adverse noise impacts, and adequate sound barriers for residences immediately adjacent to the heliport.

My understanding is that REACH has verbally agreed in public forums to provide such mitigations. However, without an environmental review, needed mitigations would be unknown. Now the next step is for the city to complete the environmental review, conduct the public hearing, and require mitigations as conditions of a permit for the project. Then the conditions are enforceable regardless of who owns REACH.

And in the meantime, emergency helicopter pick-up of patients at the Willits Airport will not be affected by the proposed project's environmental review and approval process. I would hope and pray that the majority of our community would agree with a primary goal of Keep the Code, in that the cost of time and resources to protect and conserve our shared environment is worth the benefit of a higher quality of life here on Earth.

Bob Whitney,
for Keep the Code, Willits

From the WHS principal

To the Editor:

I would like to invite parents and guardians of WHS students to some upcoming events during the month of January. Currently, I am planning a series of one-hour parental involvement seminars. The first seminar will be January 14 from 6 to 7 pm at Willits High School in the Media Center. This first seminar will be called "Detrimental Effects of Cyber Bullying" and "How to use the Parent Portal."

The purpose of the seminar will provide information about the detrimental effects of cyber bullying, and the need to have a positive digital footprint. In addition, I will provide information on the use of the

The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and 3rd District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once a month.

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

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What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Aeries Parent Portal.. Aeries allows parents and students to track student grades, attendance and more.

Please come and learn how cyber bullying impacts our teenagers and how, as parents, we can protect our teenagers and prevent cyber bullying.

Future seminars will focus on "What Is the WASC Accreditation?" "Common Core in the Classroom," "What Are Standardized Tests?" and much more.

Coffee with the Principal returns at 8:30 am on Thursday, January 15, and "Tea with the Principal" is set for 3:30 pm that afternoon.

The Coffee and Tea with the Principal events are an opportunity for parents and community members to talk with the school administration informally about current events at the high school while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Willits High School at 459-7700 or email jeffritchley@willitsunified.com.

Jeffrey Ritchley, principal,
Willits High School

A community question

To the Editor:

After reading Don Willis' letter about the excessive costs (both in terms of tax dollars spent and opportunities lost) of the bypass completion, I got to thinking. What if we redesigned the next part of the bypass so it was smaller and cost less? What do we really need here? Perhaps if the next part was humbler, we'd have the money for a second access for Brooktrails and other important transportation projects. This is a community question that calls for a community discussion.

What do you think?

Rebel Fagin, Brooktrails

WELL year in review

To the Editor:

Willits Economic Localization (WELL) celebrated our 10th anniversary in 2014, and we are proud of our accomplishments as an organization, working to improve our community's self-reliance, health and economy. We have also continued to support other groups working and educating on localization.

Here are a few highlights of WELL events and activities over the past year:

- In early February, we hosted a presentation by WELL president (and Willits Mayor) Holly Madrigal about the lessons of Cuba that can inspire Willits.
- In late February, we co-sponsored (with the Grange) a forum on water-wise gardening – how to grow food in a drought, featuring a dozen local experts and hands-on demonstrations.
- In late April, we held a forum on "Saving Water, Energy and Money", featuring several speakers and local contractors who supply energy & water conservation improvements.
- In May, we co-sponsored a candidates' forum with the four contenders for 3rd District Supervisor.
- In August, we co-sponsored (with NCO) our 8th annual garden tour, featuring six local gardens and a group lunch. This event also raised \$375 for two of the gardens.
- In October, we celebrated our 10th anniversary, with excerpts from "End of Suburbia", a retrospective

slide show, displays, a Skype visit with WELL co-founder Jason Bradford, and home-made cakes.

- In November, we held our annual potluck and brainstorm.

- We recently gave a \$400 grant plus a \$400 "Pay It Forward" loan to the Brooktrails Community Garden.

We also participated in and/or co-sponsored other events, including: classes on fruit-tree pruning and "how to grow fruit in Willits"; a North Coast Transition gathering; a talk by Will Tuttle on the "Peace Diet"; and a Paul Cienfuegos training and follow-up Democracy School trainings that led to an independent, broad-based countywide Community Rights Network and the successful Measure S.

And, finally, our newsletter and updates continue to inform our members and the broader community on other activities, such as the Town Hall forums, Grange events, Willits Healthy Action Team walks, Hometown Celebrations, Wowser events, Kinetic Carnival, efforts to minimize impacts of the Caltrans bypass, Farmers Market, local fuel production, and more.

We still have a long way to go! WELL will continue to focus on localizing our economy, becoming as self-sufficient as possible. It's our best strategy for survival – and it's something we should do anyway, for the health and well-being of our community.

For more info or to join WELL, please contact Madge at 459-1493 or mstrong@willitsonline.com.

Madge Strong, Willits

USDA grant for: 'Farm to COOL'

To the Editor:

North Coast Opportunities is pleased to announce that it has been chosen as one of 82 project sites spanning 42 states and the Virgin Islands to receive support this year through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm to School Program, an effort to better connect school cafeterias and students with local farmers and ranchers.

The \$100,000 grant will impact up to 2,000 Mendocino County middle school students across three school districts and four middle schools in Ukiah, Redwood Valley, Willits (Baechtel Grove Middle School), and Fort Bragg. It will also support three educational farms in Mendocino County: Brookside School Farm and the Grange Farm School in Willits, and the Noyo Food Forest in Fort Bragg. The goals of the grant are to increase procurement and utilization of local produce in school meals, increase farm production capacity, and increase student participation in school meals.

"USDA is proud to support communities across the country as they plan and implement innovative farm to school projects," said USDA Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. "Community partners are coming together to ensure a bright and healthy future for students, local farmers, and ranchers. These inspiring collaborations create long-term benefits for students as they develop a meaningful understanding of where food comes from, and support our farmers and ranchers by expanding market opportunities for local and regional foods."

USDA's Farm to School Program is part of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, which authorized USDA to provide grants and technical assistance to help schools gain better access to local foods. For a complete list of fiscal year 2015 Farm to School grant recipients, please see: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/grant-awards>.

NCO will use this USDA support service grant, playfully dubbed "Farm to COOL" (Cultivating Options for Our Lunch), to focus intensively on middle school students. Middle school is the time when lunch participation tends to drop off, as school cafeterias are no longer considered "cool" places to be. Until now, Mendocino County middle school students have not received the concentrated attention that could change this perception. For example, elementary students have opportunities to join farm field trips and are more likely to eat in cafeterias, while middle schools have lower meal participation, less parent involvement, and fewer opportunities for enrichment through field trips.

During the 13-month Farm to COOL project, student councils and after-school program participants will be engaged to ensure this is a student-directed effort. For example, students will conduct surveys and help coordinate peer-targeted marketing campaigns to promote school menus. Additionally, students and parents will learn about how food is grown by visiting educational farms for "Meet the Farmers" and "Family Farm Work Day" events. Students will also engage with their own food service staff through fun "Meet the Cooks" events at each school.

"This grant is a tremendous opportunity to connect with middle schoolers and show them just how cool food can be," says Farm to COOL Project Coordinator Megan Watson. "If we can continue to instill the values of eating healthy, local food that we start teaching in elementary school, we'll have a much better chance of making sure these kids grow up with those values intact."



Middle school students sample two varieties of persimmons in Fort Bragg Middle School's "Grow the Good Garden" greenhouse.

Photo by Sherry Ackerson

Over the past decade, NCO has leveraged relationships with numerous community partners to revitalize the local food system by supporting renewed food production, distribution and infrastructure, marketing and promotion, and nutrition education. As a result, local production is increasing, as is community demand for and access to healthy local foods.

"We're excited to add the Farm to COOL project to our local food system efforts," says NCO Executive Director Patty Bruder. "It aligns with our mission at NCO to empower people through community action, and it's wonderful to be able to work directly with a younger generation." For more information on NCO, visit www.ncoinc.org or call (707) 467-3200.

Elizabeth Archer,
outreach coordinator,
North Coast Opportunities



At the Willits Art Center:

Works by Robert Nixon, Sr.

on sale to benefit WCA

Stepping into the gallery at the Willits Center for the Arts this month, the walls are full of local landscapes, still lifes, and other artworks for sale from the estate of the late Robert Nixon, Sr., with all proceeds going to support the WCA.

Nixon was a prolific, primarily self-taught artist who moved with his wife to Willits from Lodi when he retired in the late 1970s/early 1980s, to be closer to his son, Willits dentist and photographer Robert Nixon, Jr., his daughter-in-law Bette, and their family. The show presents art works from throughout his career, including oil paintings, watercolors and abstract pieces, as well as more realistic scenes painted in "plein air" from everyday life and the places he lived.

When Nixon passed away around five years ago, and the family selected their favorite pieces of art to keep, Bette discovered "a whole closet full" of additional art works. Hoping they

would see new life and help out an important community resource, she donated them to the WCA, and those works are now displayed in the gallery fundraiser.

"I thought it would be nice to be able to share these for the community to enjoy, and if it can support the WCA, then even better," said Bette. "So many organizations like this struggle to get support in these financial times, and they're so important."

All art works in the gallery are for sale and affordably priced, with most at \$50 and under. "It is a great opportunity to purchase original works from a very talented painter at a very reasonable price," explained WCA volunteer Nancy Reed, while minding the gallery on Sunday. Since some of the work is unframed, which is unusual for the gallery, the art work is a steal for anyone's home collection.

The show includes almost 100 pieces, many featuring places that will be familiar to

locals, including views of Brooktrails, where Nixon lived, scenes from the Little Lake Valley, the Mendocino coast, Clearlake and Mount Konocti, as well as Lodi and places Nixon visited. "He would draw in the places he went; he would paint from photographs and magazines; he

Read the rest of **WCA** | Over on Page 12



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Coming Friday, Jan. 16th
American Sniper

TAKEN 3

(PG13) 1 hr 49 mins
Fri: 5:45 & 8:15pm
Sat/Sun: 12:45, 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:45 & 7:15pm

ANNIE

(PG) 1 hr 58 mins
Fri: 5:30 & 8:00pm
Sat/Sun: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:30 & 7:00pm

UNBROKEN

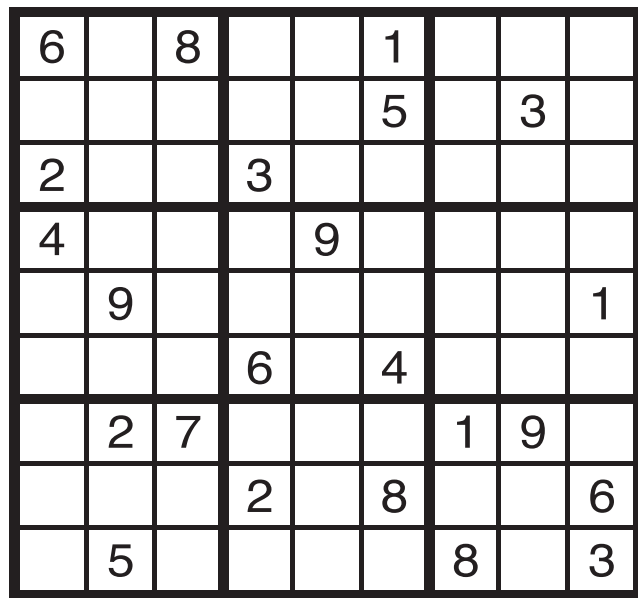
(PG13) 2 hrs 17 mins
Fri: 4:45 & 7:45pm
Sat/Sun: 1:45, 4:45 & 7:45pm
Mon-Thurs: 3:45 & 6:45pm

Movie Times for 1/9 thru 1/15 This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

Puzzle Page & More

Activities & fun for kids of all ages

Sudoku



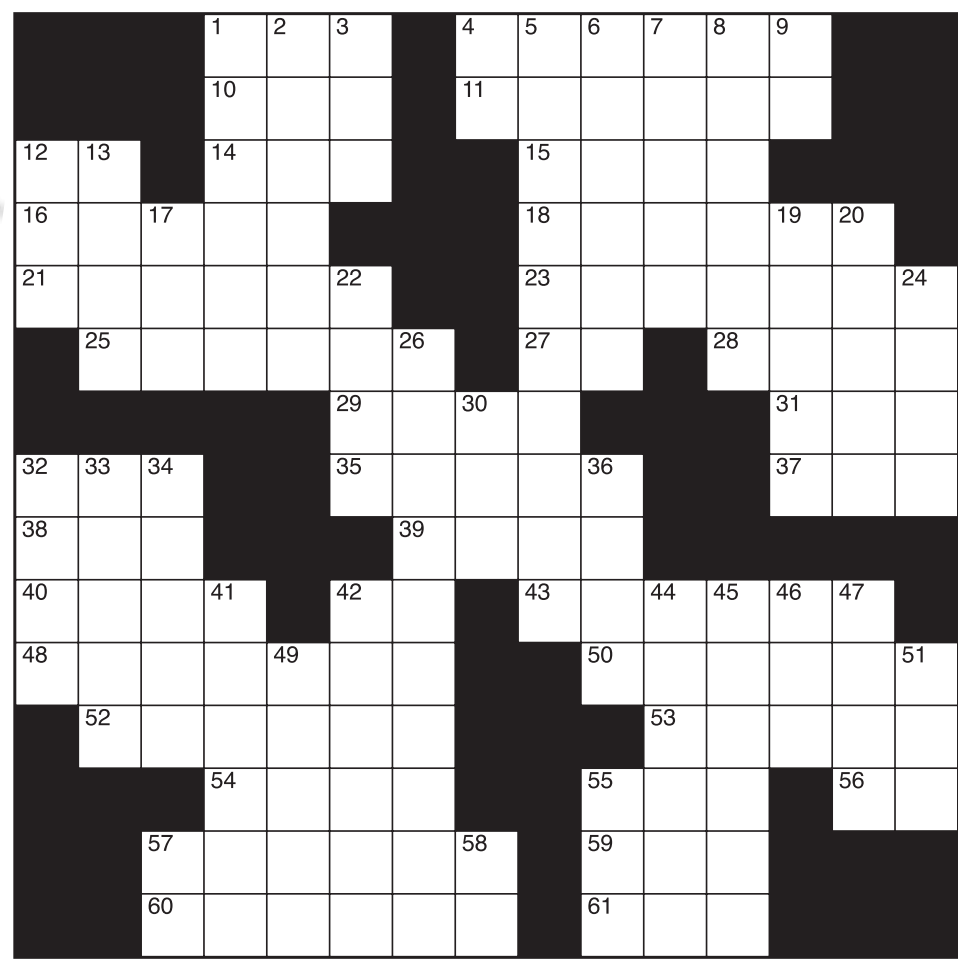
Level: Intermediate



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!

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Humbug
2. Meaningless talk
10. Conceit
11. Not studied
12. Megabyte
14. When born (abbr.)
15. Placed on a golf ball stand
16. Melekeok is the capital
18. Mischievous
21. Mason's mortars
23. Spain's former monetary unit
25. Small fries
27. Article
28. Capital of Yemen
29. Type of Theater companies
31. Plastic, paper or shopping
32. Electronic countermeasures
35. Language along the lower Yenisei River
37. Institute legal proceedings against
38. Beam

CLUES DOWN

1. Besmear
2. Genus dasyprocta
3. A male ferret
4. Unit of volume (abbr.)
5. Italian hors d'oeuvres
6. N.W. German city & port
7. Language along the lower Yenisei River
8. Adult females
9. ___ denotes past
12. Gas usage measurement
13. Fishhook point

CLUES ACROSS

39. Old World buffalo
40. Latch onto
42. Physical therapy
43. Conditions of balance
48. Half pro
50. Resounded
52. Sales event
53. Separates seating areas
54. N.M. Pueblo people
55. Bridge building degree
56. Fullback
57. Peyote
59. Afflict
60. Rests on one's knees
61. Having negative qualities

CLUES DOWN

17. Mauna ___, Hawaiian volcano
19. In a way, thrusts birthplace
20. Grimm brothers
22. Withered; dry
24. Genus salvia
26. About senator
30. Livestock enclosure
32. Work units
33. Hebrew name meaning dog
34. A tumor composed of muscle tissue
36. Satisfy to excess
41. Third mast
42. A horse's strut
44. Tree producing gum (Arabic)
45. Armour carried on the arm
46. Winged goddess of the dawn
47. Ego
49. Hesitancy
51. Young woman of society
55. Founder of Babism
57. Mark (abbr.)
58. Jeans maker's initials

ASTROLOGY WORD SEARCH

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

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| AIR | CONSTELLATION | RETROGRADE |
| AQUARIUS | EARTH | RISING |
| ARIES | ECLIPSE | SAGITTARIUS |
| ASCENDANT | FIRE | SCORPIO |
| ASTROLOGY | GEMINI | SIGN |
| BIRTH | HOUSE | STARS |
| CALENDAR | INTERPRET | SUN |
| CANCER | LEO | SYNASTRY |
| CAPRICORN | LIBRA | TAURUS |
| CELESTIAL | NATAL | TRANSIT |
| CHART | PISCES | VIRGO |
| CONFIGURATION | PROGRESSIONS | WATER |



Left: Rachael Britton and Jess Pearce talk farming on the ranch tour.
 Photo by George Reinhardt
 Right: Cody Bartholomew, project manager at Ridgewood Ranch, and a friend ride the ethanol-fueled tractor at the ranch.
 Photo by Ruthie King



Growing fuel

Could small-scale alcohol stills power local farms?

Brought together by an interest in the future of alcohol-based fuels, experts and participants from around northern California gathered at the Little Lake Grange in early December for a two-day "Farm Hack" conference.

The "Fuel Farming for the 21st Century" event, organized by the Mendocino Alcohol Fuel Group, the Grange Farm School, and young farmers group the Greenhorns, featured hands-on demonstrations of how such fuels could be produced and used locally, along with tours of projects already using alcohol fuels.

Each day began with presentations by local and regional experts, and continued on to Ridgewood Ranch south of Willits, the location of the Grange Farm School and a historic 300-gallon "Revenoor" still – purchased by Golden Rule Farm in the late 1970s – which is now the focus of a local effort to produce alcohol-based fuel for farm use.

One main topic of discussion was about ways local farmers could utilize locally grown crops and alternative feedstocks – such as apples, Jerusalem artichokes, cattails or "lees" leftover from wine production – to make fuel to power farm equipment in environmentally sustainable and economically viable ways.

The Revenoor still, operated for five years on the farm during the oil crisis, was retired from use after five years of being run primarily with purchased corn and molasses heated with wood, creating fuel used for a car and forklift. Cody Bartholomew, project manager at Ridgewood Ranch, explained that the small scale of the original set-up – and having to purchase materials – made the still inefficient for long-term use, but left it in almost brand-new condition.

Bartholomew, along with Farm School program director Ruthie King and members of the Alcohol Fuel Group, has essentially restored the still to working order. The group is working on the often byzantine and difficult permitting process to legally produce fuel for farm use. They hope a working still will enable students at the school, local visitors, and the broader community to see the possibilities for alcohol fuel in action, and ultimately inspire greater use of the carbon-neutral resource. Bartholomew is also exploring ways to heat the still using solar power and employ other alternative energy sources on the farm.

How small producers can best navigate the permitting process was a repeated question during discussions,

as conference presenters shared information about funding possibilities, regulatory requirements, and ways alcohol fuel could potentially be produced and used residentially and cooperatively.

Other presentations – featuring home-made and uniquely designed stills (all constructed for less than a few thousand dollars), modified tractors, bicycles, and other machines running on ethanol – enabled visitors to watch the processes in action.

The local conference was part of a series of "Farm Hacks" taking place around the country to encourage the "do-it-yourself" and "open-source" exchange of ideas and designs for innovative and energy-efficient farm tools and equipment. "I really wanted to attend this Farm

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



Above: Mike "The Mechanic" Ott shows off the modified tractor at Ridgewood Ranch to a curious visitor.
 Photo by Ruthie King

Above, right: A crowd gathers at the Ridgewood Ranch metal shop for tours, discussion, and farm-cooked lunch.
 Photo by George Reinhardt



Mendocino College
 North County Center
 Full-Semester Classes Begin: Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Sec Name	Title	Units	Bldg	Room	Days	Times
ART-210A-0002	Drawing	3	WHS	ART	MW	5:30PM- 8:20PM
ASL-201-2010	Sign Language: Level II	3	NCC	8020	T	5:30PM- 8:20PM
BIO-202-2020	Human Biology	3	MCMU	3	Th	1:00PM- 3:50PM
BOT-101.3-4861	Inter Typing/Boarding	1	NCC	8010	MW	5:30PM- 6:20PM
BOT-120-0000	Microsoft Word, Beginning	1.5	NCC	8010	MW	5:30PM- 6:50PM
BOT-121-0010	Microsoft Word Advanced	1.5	NCC	8010	MW	7:00PM- 8:20PM
BUS-132-0132	Entrepreneurial Management	3	NCC	8020	F	9:00AM-11:50AM
CCS-10-0001	Transition to College	3	TBA	T	2:15PM- 5:05PM	
CCS-100-1000	Career Planning Success ST	1.5	NCC	8020	Th	5:30PM- 8:20PM
CCS-119-1190	Orientation to College (4 Sats) ST	1	NCC	8020	S	9:00AM-12:50PM
CDV-101-0101	Prac/Curri in Preschool	3	MCMU	3	M	5:30PM- 8:35PM
CDV-125-1250	Creative Activities	3	LLG	2	Th	9:00AM-11:50AM
CDV-180-0180	Child, Family and Community	3	NCC	8030	F	9:00AM-11:50AM
CSC-164-0164	Electronic Spreadsheets	3	NCC	8010	Th	5:30PM- 9:20PM
CSC-20-2000	Beginning Computer Skills ST	1.5	NCC	8010	MW	7:00PM- 8:05PM
CSC-201-2011	Computers & Computer Applic. ST	3	NCC	8010	TTh	9:00AM-11:20AM
CSC-500-5000	Workplace Software Lab	0	NCC	8010	TBA	TBA
CSC-500-5555	Workplace Software Lab	0	NCC	8010	MW	5:30PM- 8:20PM
EAS-211-2110	Weather and Climate	3	MCMU	3	T	1:00PM- 3:50PM
ENG-10-1010	Basic Reading and Writing	5	NCC	8030	MW	3:30PM- 5:50PM
ENG-12-4927	Intermed Reading/Writing	5	NCC	8030	MW	9:00AM-11:20AM
ENG-60/160/560	Read/Write Lab	0-1	NCC	8000	TTh	4:30PM- 5:50PM
ENG-60/160/560	Read/Write Lab	0-1	NCC	8000	MW	11:30AM-12:50PM
ENG-200-0022	Reading and Composition	3	NCC	8010	T	5:30PM- 8:20PM
ENG-200-0200	Reading and Composition	3	NCC	8010	MW	9:00AM-10:20AM
ENG-205-0205	Critical Thinking	3	NCC	8020	Th	9:00AM-11:50AM
ENG-80-8000	Academic Reading and Writing	4	NCC	8030	MW	6:00PM- 7:50PM
ENG-80-8080	Academic Reading and Writing	4	NCC	8020	MW	9:00AM-10:50AM
ESL-5/501	ESL: Laboratory	0-1	LLG	2	TTh	8:00PM- 9:20PM
ESL-7AB/507	ESL: Beginning	5	LLG	2	TTh	5:30PM- 7:50PM
ESL-9AB/509	ESL: Intermediate	5	LLG	2	TTh	5:30PM- 7:50PM
HLH-213-2130	Lifeguard Training (+5 Saturdays) ST	2.5	LLG	2	W	6:00PM- 8:20PM
HST-208-0208	Women in American History	3	MCMU	3	W	5:30PM- 8:20PM
HUS-156-1560	Case Management/Documentation	3	NCC	8002	W	5:30PM- 8:20PM
HUS-170-1700	Introduction to Social Work	3	NCC	8002	Th	5:30PM- 8:20PM
MTH-11-1100	Basic Mathematics	3	NCC	8030	TTh	3:30PM- 4:50PM
MTH-220-2200	Statistics	4	NCC	8020	MW	4:30PM- 8:20PM
MTH-40AB/540	Mathematics Laboratory A/B	0-1	NCC	8000	MW	4:00PM- 5:20PM
MTH-45-0045	Prealgebra	4	NCC	8030	MW	1:00PM- 3:50PM
MTH-55-0505	Elementary Algebra	5	NCC	8010	MW	1:00PM- 3:20PM
MTH-56-5600	Intermediate Algebra	5	MCMU	1	MW	5:30PM- 7:50PM
PSY-205-5023	Introductory Psychology	3	NCC	8030	T	5:30PM- 8:20PM
PSY-216-2160	Social Psychology	3	NCC	8030	T	9:00AM-11:50AM
SOC-210-2100	Marriage and Family Relations	3	NCC	8020	M	1:00PM- 4:05PM
THE-230ABCD	Contemporary Dance: Beg/Int	2	OYC	ROOM 1	WF	5:30PM- 7:20PM

REGISTER NOW!
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 More complete information available on WebAdvisor at www.mendocino.edu

Adam's Restaurant
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PANCAKE BREAKFAST!
 Sunday • January 11TH
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 Pancakes, eggs, and your choice of sausage, ham or bacon.
 Adults \$7 • Members \$6 • Kids \$5

ICE CREAM SOCIAL!
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 Lic. #884811

Friday, January 9

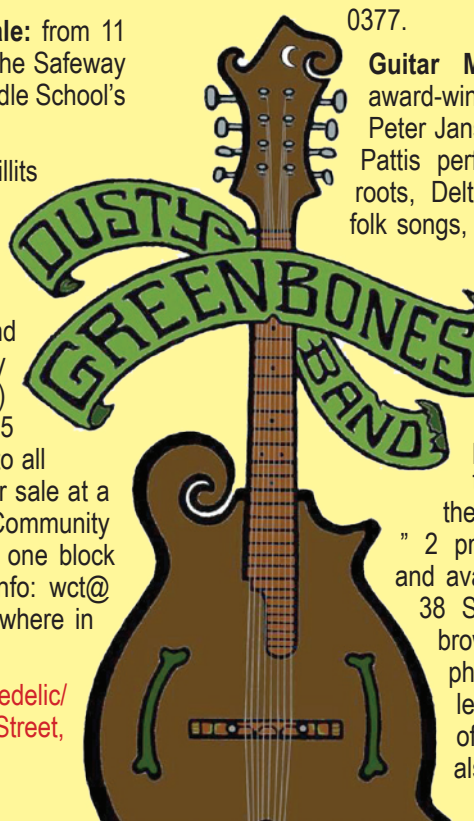
San Francisco Giants World Championship Trophy Tour: Northern California tour to communities with Jr. Giants organizations. Set for 5 to 7 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Featuring the 2014, 2012 and 2010 trophies. Fans will have the chance to have their photo taken with the trophies and to support their local Junior Giants. 1 photo per person: "If you come in a group, you can take a group photo or individual photo, but not both. Depending on volumes of fans and line control, personal camera use for photos with the trophies will be determined onsite. Fans will also have the opportunity to have a professional photo taken with the trophies and can purchase those prints onsite and online." Arrive early to ensure a photo, as the line will be cut off, if needed, to allow the trophies to leave at the designated end time. Fans are accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Info: http://sanfrancisco.giants.mlb.com/sf/fan_forum/trophy_tour.jsp.



Jim Hale with Giants trophies.

3rd Annual Whole Foods Cooking Class: the first of a third annual series of free classes on vegetarian cooking and health, sponsored by the Willits Seventh-day Adventist Church. 1 to 3 pm every other Sunday through March 22 at 145 Haehl Creek Drive (next to new hospital construction site). "Learn about the benefits of whole foods on your health and how to prepare healthy, appetizing meals. Cooking demonstrations, recipes, magazines and cookbooks available." Today's class: Whole Food Diet & Health Impact. January 25: Diabetes. February 8: Heart & Cardiovascular Health. February 22: Cancer & Bone Health. March 8: Inflammation & Gluten-Free Diet. Info: 841-0377.

Guitar Masters at WCT: National award-winning acoustic guitar masters Peter Janson, Steve Davison and Larry Patis perform Celtic tunes, American roots, Delta blues, instrumental gems, folk songs, solos and duets at the Willits Community Theater, as part of a national tour. "Rare indeed is the chance to catch this master trio in concert where they bring passion and effortless performance to a journey through different forms of the national treasures in music." 2 pm. Advance tickets are \$15 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone for credit card orders, leave a message at the WCT office, 459-0895. Tickets will also be available at the door.



Saturday, January 10

Baechtel Grove Basketball Benefit Bake Sale: from 11 am to 3 pm in front of Mehlman's Insurance, in the Safeway plaza, to raise funds for the Baechtel Grove Middle School's 8th grade girls basketball team.

WCT "Meet the Season" Preview: the Willits Community Theatre invites the public to come to the WCT Playhouse to "Sneak Preview" the 2015 theater season at a free open house. 7 pm. "Join the Willits Community Theatre board and staff for this free event. Enjoy wine and cheese. Admire, appreciate and enjoy our newly re-upholstered seats. (Thank you, everyone!) Hear directors talk about their exciting 2015 plays! Bring your check book - season tickets to all five main stage productions will be available for sale at a limited-time-only bargain price!" The Willits Community Theatre is located at 37 West Van Lane, just one block west of Mazahar Boutique on Main Street. Info: wctonline.com or 459-1868. See article elsewhere in Calendar at details.

Shanachie Pub: Dusty Green Bones, with Psychedelic/Jam-Grass/Rock. 8:30 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

What's Happening Around Town

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits



Sunday, January 11

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

Monday, January 12

Willits Garden Club Meeting: The club's January meeting is set for 12:30 to 4:30 pm at the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse, 16100 North Highway 101, six miles south of Willits (west of Highway 101 and south of Ridgeway (Seabiscuit) Ranch). Social time starts at 12:30 pm with coffee and refreshment. At 1 pm, guest speaker, Don McEdward, consulting geologist and engineer, will discuss "Groundwater." Guests are welcome, and there is no charge. Info: Lucille Garcia at 459-9995 or Gary Bodensteiner at 459-2708.

Senior Center Ice Cream Social: 1:30 to 2:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. This month's entertainment is The Just for Fun Choir, "Name that Tune." With pie, ice cream, coffee & prizes, Members \$1; non-members \$1.50. Info: 459-6826.

GRID Alternatives Volunteer Orientation: "Want solar job training? Gain hands on experience installing solar PV while volunteering with GRID Alternatives to install Solar PV for low-income families in your community! To learn more, attend our Volunteer Orientation on Monday, January 12 from 5 to 7 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street." Visit www.gridalternatives.org for more info.

Mondays at Wowser: ongoing series of free Monday evening events at the Wowser maker space, 330 East Commercial Street. 6:30 pm. Lectures, slide shows/videos, guest speakers, "salons" (presentation followed by discussion) or demonstrations. Info: 459-9697 or www.wowserlc.com.

Tuesday, January 13

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movie: "Annie" and "Unbroken." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.



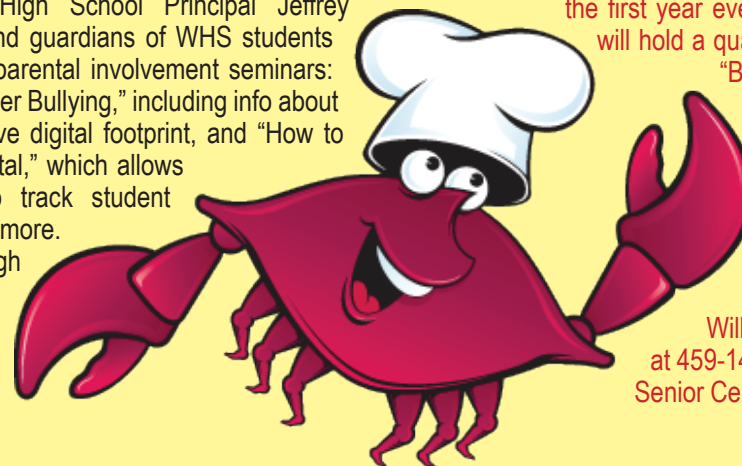
Willits Unified School District Town Hall Meeting, Part II: with WUSD Superintendent Pat Johnson; the public is invited to learn about the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), Student Achievement, and the WUSD's "Multiyear Outlook." 5:30 to 7 pm at Willits High School Media Center, 299 North Main Street. Info: District Office at 459-5314.

"Healthier Living: Live Your Best Life":

starts this evening: a series of six free 2.5 hour workshops presented by Avenues to Wellness. Designed for adults with ongoing health conditions (arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, lung disease or smoker), or for caregivers, family members or friends, or for adults interested in becoming more physically and socially active. You will learn: Tips to better manage your health; strategies to reduce pain; fatigue, stress, anxiety and sleep loss; communication skills to work better with doctors, family and friends; goal-setting and problem-solving; health eating and physical activity; and ways to maintain independence. Tuesdays from 5:30 to 8 pm, 11 Oaks at the corner of Walnut Street and Highway 101. Pre-registration required: call Charlie at 707-972-3191 or Susan at 707-671-5939. Info: atwforhealth@gmail.com or www.CAHealthierLiving.org.

Wednesday, January 14

WHS Seminar: Willits High School Principal Jeffrey Ritchley invites parents and guardians of WHS students to the first of a series of parental involvement seminars: "Detrimental Effects of Cyber Bullying," including info about the need to have a positive digital footprint, and "How to use the Aeries Parent Portal," which allows parents and students to track student grades, attendance and more. 6 to 7 pm, at Willits High School. Future seminars will focus on "What Is the WASC Accreditation?" "Common Core in the Classroom," "What Are



Standardized Tests?" and more. Questions? Contact Principal Ritchley at 459-7700 or email jeffritchley@willitsunified.com.

Thursday, January 15

Coffee or Tea with the Principal: an opportunity for parents and community members to talk with the school administration informally about current events at the high school while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea. "Coffee" at 8:30 am on "Tea" at 3:30 pm. Questions? Contact Principal Ritchley at 459-7700 or email jeffritchley@willitsunified.com.

"The Culture High": Presented by Now and Then Film Series, 7 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "A riveting documentary that tears into the very fibre of modern day marijuana prohibition to reveal the truth behind the arguments and motives governing both those who support and those who oppose the existing pot laws." Visit www.theculturehigh.com. \$5 suggested donation. Organic popcorn and chocolate, refreshments for sale by the Grange. Info: 459-6362.

Saturday, January 17

Rotary Club Crab Fest: this annual all-you-can-eat crab, minestrone soup, salad, and bread fundraising dinner starts at 6 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Tickets are \$45; advanced purchase is recommended. Live music by Ed Rinehart on the piano and Bear Kamoroff on the bass. No host bar and this year, for the first year ever, the Willits Rotary Club will hold a quarter auction at the event: "Bring all your quarters and be prepared for a good time! The proceeds will be divided between the old and young: the Willits Senior Center and scholarships for high schools seniors in Willits." For tickets call Ann at 459-1440, or drop by the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Shanachie Pub: The Gnarly Pints, violin/guitar duo from mountainous Northern California. 8 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.



Sunday, January 18

Patrick Ball in concert at WCT: Celtic harpist and storyteller Patrick Ball returns to Willits Community Theatre after a sold-out performance last year, with his spellbinding stories and mesmerizing sounds from his Maplewood harp. 2 pm. Advance tickets are \$15 and available online at brownpapertickets.com; in person at Mazahar 38 South Main Street; or call the WCT office at 459-0895 and leave a message. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.



Celtic harpist Patrick Ball returns to Willits Community Theatre

Celtic harpist and storyteller Patrick Ball will bring his popular performance to Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, January 18 at 2 pm. After delighting a sold-out WCT audience in early 2014, Ball will return with his latest combination of spellbinding stories and mesmerizing sounds from his Maplewood harp. In his passion for eloquence and a deep devotion to the mythic oral tradition, Ball spins together his Irish wit, tales from the old country, and compositions from Ireland's national treasure, Turlough O'Carolan.

The crystalline, bell-like resonance of the legendary Celtic harp is guaranteed to take Ball's listeners into deepest realms of the imagination. Ball has been awarded grants for his work by the Zellerbach Family Fund and the California Arts Council and is the recipient of the Circle of Excellence Award from the National Storytelling Association. His one-time appearance will be a rare treat for Willits with his amazing harp and magical story-telling.

Advance tickets are \$15 and available online at brownpapertickets.com; in person at Mazahar 38 South Main Street; or call the WCT office at 459-0895 and leave a message. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out.

— Steve Hellman, for WCT

Harrah Senior Center Lunch Menu

Week of January 12 through 16

Monday: Beef Stew

Tuesday: Ravioli w/Meat Sauce

Wednesday: Baked Chicken

Thursday: Beef Stroganoff

Friday: Chicken Fried Steak

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.

Concert to Raise the Roof

"Renew, Reroof," a concert at Willits United Methodist Church, on Sunday, January 25, will help raise money to put a new roof on the church. The concert begins at 5 pm and will be followed by a soup supper at 6:30. 282 School Street, across from the Grange. Local musicians scheduled to perform include "Just Enough," an ensemble of Kate Black, Clancy Rash and Helen Falandes; the Emandal Choral; and young singer-songwriter-cellist Sarah Rose McMahon. Suggested donation for the concert is \$10 and for the supper \$8, with all sales at the door the night of the concert.

The church roof is original to the building, constructed in the 1960s, and leaks. Estimates for replacing the roof are near \$100,000, but the church has already raised or set aside about a third of that. The church hopes to replace the roof this summer but this will depend on the success of ongoing fundraising.



Blosser Lane PTO Raffle

Blosser Lane PTO is raffling off a two-night stay (a \$1,500 value) in Casa Estrella, a beautiful 2,700-square-foot, 4-bedroom, 3-bath vacation rental in Sonoma County, with a big beautiful backyard, a heated pool, hot tub and BBQ. The house is in a quiet neighborhood five miles north from the Sonoma Plaza and only one mile from the nearest of several wine tasting rooms. Tickets are \$20. Check out www.vrbo.com/574475 for more details. All proceeds go to the Blosser Lane PTO to help fund field trips, school supplies, assemblies and free book giveaways. For tickets, due January 16, call Wendi Kvasnicka at 707-354-0755.

Call for artworks / crafts to display at Willits Library

The Willits Library is scheduling its 2015 calendar for its locking glass cabinet suitable for displaying small works of local arts or crafts. Display space is available for one calendar month on a first come/first serve basis. "We WANT to showcase your ART!" Call 459-5908 or 459-7839 for more information.



Call to enter Chili Cookoff

The Harrah Senior Center invites teams to enter its annual Chili Cookoff contest, set for March 6 this year, from 5:30 to 7 pm. All proceeds benefit the Outreach program at the center. "Enter your chili for a chance to win a great prize and bragging rights!" \$25 entry fee. Prizes will be awarded as follows: 1st Place Prize: Most Votes/Most Popular Chili; Hottest Chili; Best Booth/Best Dressed Team and "The Most Crooked Team" (a judges' award). Questions, or to sign up: 459-6826.



1980s Willits High School Reunion

The Willits High School Class of 1985 is sponsoring a 30th (plus or minus a few years) class reunion, set for Saturday, June 20, 2015, with a family-friendly private charter on the Skunk Train with a BBQ stop at Northspur. "If you went to WHS during the 80s or have a strong attachment to these fellow classmates, we would love to have you join us!"

Train leaves at 3:30 pm and returns approximately 8:30 pm. With a souvenir DVD available and a photographer on board taking candid shots during, available for you to take home with you. Tickets are \$64.66 per adult; \$48.46 per child, includes BBQ, with no host beer/wine/snacks on the train. Maximum capacity 200 guests. Menu: Barbecued Chicken or Tri-Tip (beef), Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans, Green Salad, Potato Salad, Three Bean Salad, Bread, and famous Blackberry Sundae for dessert.

To help get the word out or to help with the planning, please contact Tanya (Stamps) Pettitclerc at 530-559-3577. Checks (made out to "Tanya Pettitclerc") can be mailed to 257 Laurel Street, Willits CA 95490 or send payment via PayPal to tanyabibeau@yahoo.com.

The Peking Acrobats Mateel Community Center

The awe-inspiring and vibrantly colorful Peking Acrobats, from China, will perform at the Mateel Community Center in Redway on Tuesday, January 20, as part of their 2015 North American Tour. Doors open 7 pm. "This highly skilled troupe of legendary acrobatic entertainers are expert at treacherous feats of daring! Defying gravity they perform mind-bending, white knuckles maneuvers, balancing atop a precarious pagoda of chairs and performing amazing displays of contortion, flexibility, and control. Their trick-cycling, precision tumbling, somersaulting, and gymnastics really push the envelope of human possibility with astonishing dexterity and incredible balancing feats." Also featuring Jigu! Thunder Drums from the Shanxi Province in China. Advance tickets \$35, available online only at www.mateel.org.



The Peking Acrobats

Rotary Club Crab Fest

Saturday, January 17

The annual Rotary Club Crab Fest is set for Saturday, January 17 at 6 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Featuring all-you-can-eat fresh crab, minestrone soup, salad, and bread. Tickets are \$45; advanced purchase is recommended (last year's event sold out). Live music by Ed Rinehart on the piano and Bear Kamoroff on the bass. With a no host bar and this year, for the first time, the Willits Rotary Club will hold a quarter auction at the event: "Bring all your quarters and be prepared for a good time! The proceeds will be divided between the old and young: the Willits Senior Center and scholarships for high schools seniors in Willits." For tickets call Ann at 459-1440, or drop by the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Healthier Living Live Your Best Life

Group starts 1/13/15 in Willits atwforhealth@gmail.com



Who Should Attend?

- Adults with on-going health conditions (arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, lung disease or smoker)
- Caregivers, family members, or friends of someone with an on-going health condition
- Adults interested in becoming more physically and socially active

During six FREE 2 1/2 hour workshops you will learn:

- Tips to better manage your health
- Strategies to reduce pain, fatigue, stress, anxiety, and sleep loss
- Communication skills to work better with doctors, family, and friends
- Goal-setting and problem solving
- Healthy eating and physical activity
- Ways to maintain independence

Sign Up Now!

CONTACT:
Charlie @ 707-972-3191
Susan @ 707-671-5939

DATES: Tuesdays for 6 weeks commencing on January 13, 2015

TIME: 5:30-8:00 PM

LOCATION: 11 Oaks @ the corner of Walnut St. and Hwy. 101 in Willits

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

"It gave me the courage to get my life back on track..."

Workshop participant



The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program Workshop © 2012. The Board of Trustees, Leland Stanford Junior University. All rights reserved. This program may only be used or reproduced by organizations licensed by Stanford University. www.CAHealthierLiving.org



Cleaning up Christmas

Scouts and cheerleaders gather trees (and donations!) from area neighborhoods

Above, left: Boy Scouts Nick Hebel, left, and Zachariah Delleit picking up trees on Mill Street Saturday afternoon, with Jen Delleit helping out.

Above, right: Back row, from left: Boy Scout Nick Hebel poses with cheerleaders Leslie, Kayla, and Amanda. Front row, from left: Kristyna, Irene, Victoria, Haley, Julie and Kaylan.

Boy Scout Troop 212 and the WHS Competition Cheer Squad joined forces on Saturday to pick up Christmas trees from Willits neighborhoods. This by-donation community service was a fundraiser for both groups of young people, who worked to pick up the trees and to collect donations.

The cheer squad will use their share of the funds to pay fees for cheer competitions over the next couple of months. Troop 212 uses the funds raised by this annual event every year for awards, advancement, weekend camping fees (Troop 212 does one camping trip every month, rain or shine), and other supplies for the troop.

An estimated 400 former Christmas trees were picked up Saturday. The trees were chipped and shredded to use as mulch on the fields at the sewer plant.

Delores Pedersen of Troop 212 said the two groups would like to thank: Aaction Rents of Ukiah for the

donation of the chipper/shredder; Rich Huddle of Huddle Construction for arranging for the chipper/shredder and also helping by driving his truck and trailer to pick up the trees; Les Schwab Tires for use of their back parking lot to be the drop-off location; Nat Collicott of Coastal Mountain Construction for the use of his chain saws; and all the parents that spent the day helping the kids. "It could not have happened without them," Pedersen said.

Troop 212 meets Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm at the First Baptist Church on Wood Street (the street between The Book Juggler and J.D. Redhouse). Boys in fifth grade, or age 11 to 18, can join, and new members are welcome. Those interested can call Pedersen at 707-972-3911 with any questions.

— Jennifer Poole



Photo by Jennifer Poole

Photo by Leisel

Rotary Club Crab Fest

Annual all-you-can-eat crab, minestrone soup, salad, and bread fundraising dinner.

Jan. 17, 2015 • Dinner Starts at 6 p.m.

Willits Community Center
111 East Commercial Street

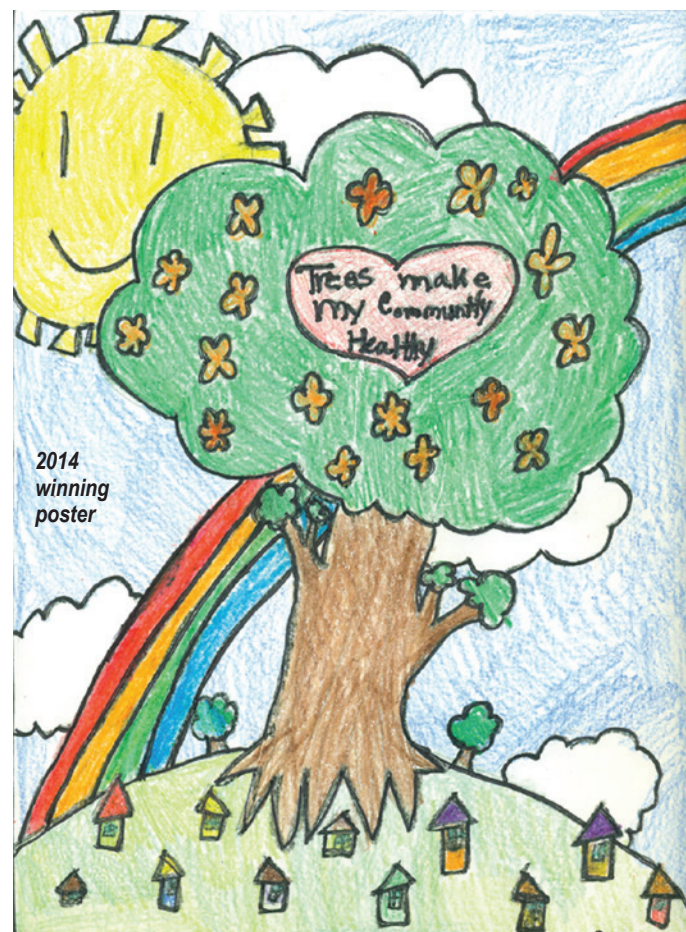
Tickets are \$45

Live music by Ed Rinehart on the piano and Bear Kamoroff on the bass.

— No Host Bar —

After dinner a quarter auction will be held with proceeds being divided between the Willits Senior Center and scholarships for high school seniors in Willits.

For tickets call Ann, 459-1440 or drop by the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.



2015 California Arbor Week Poster Contest 'We Need Trees and Trees Need Us'

To help educate Californians on the value that trees provide to building successful, healthy cities and neighborhoods, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and California ReLeaf are announcing the annual statewide Arbor Week poster contest for students in third, fourth and fifth grades.

Students are asked to create original artwork based on the theme "We Need Trees and Trees Need Us." Submissions are due to California ReLeaf by February 13, 2015. Winners will be featured at the California State Fair and also awarded cash prizes provided by the California Community Forests Foundation.

California Arbor Week runs March 7 to 14 every year to mark famed horticulturist Luther Burbank's

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

Studio Joy

THE place for Zumba Fitness in Willits

Happy New Year, Willits! Let us help you reach your fitness goals in 2015!

NEW STUDENTS:

Never been to our studio? First class is free!

New Student special: 5 classes for \$35 (reg. \$47.50). Limit 1 per person.

Returning Student special: Monthly passes on sale! \$75 unlimited classes within the month! (\$67.50 students and seniors).

- Discounts for teens, students and seniors
- Wellness Program participant with employees of Mendocino County, Howard Hospital and Mariposa Market
- Children under 13 are always welcome and always FREE

Studio Joy offers Zumba, Zumba Toning, Zumba Gold and now R.I.P.P.E.D. to the Willits community.

Tuesday and Thursday night Zumba is now at 5:30, followed by R.I.P.P.E.D. at 6:30

For our full schedule, our teachers and pricing, see our webpage: www.studiojoywillits.com or call: 707-841-7499. And like us on Facebook: Studio Joy, Willits

R.I.P.P.E.D. with **Judy Coughlin** begins Tuesdays and Thursdays January 6th at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to use your Studio Joy cards and passes. Drop in \$10.

1262 Blosser Lane • Willits, CA
707-841-7499

Weekly Promotions for January

MONDAYS - Rooster & Owls

Earn 3X Points all day.

Morning Session: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 9, 10, 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Evening Session: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$50 Cash at 7, 8, 9 and 10 p.m.

May win once per promotion day!

For both Morning and Evening sessions: Play 50 coin-in (150 sessions), receive \$5 Freeplay and a \$2.00 Food Coupon

TUESDAYS - Guy's Night

Earn 2X points all day.

6:00-10:00 p.m.

Play 50 coin-in (100 sessions), receive \$5 Freeplay. Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6:00-9:30 p.m. for \$25 cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

WEDNESDAYS - Ladies Night

2X points all day.

6:00-10:00 p.m.

Play 50 coin-in (100 sessions), receive \$5 Freeplay. Hot Seat Drawings every half hour from 6:00-9:30 p.m. for \$25 cash, last drawing at 10 p.m. for \$100 Cash.

THURSDAYS - Super Senior Day

The Senior Freeplay will be preloaded to the Players Club Card from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Hot Seat Drawings each hour. Winners receive \$40 Cash.

Half off lunch coupon for those participating.

Specials posted at Creekside Café. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

FRIDAYS - Friday Fun

9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.: Earn 100 points, receive \$10 freeplay

2:00-8:00 p.m.: Hourly Hot Seat Drawings for \$75 Cash

9:00 p.m.: Hot Seat Drawing for \$100 Cash

SATURDAYS - Winter Wonderland Cash

4:00-10:00 p.m.

Hourly Hot Seat Drawings. Have a chance to win up to \$150 Cash.

SUNDAYS - Snowflake Surprise

12:00 Noon-9:00 p.m.

Random Hourly Hot Seat Drawings. The Winner will choose a Snowflake of their choice and have a chance win up to \$150 Cash.

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

Management reserves all rights.

Willits Weekly CLASSIFIEDS

Algebra, Geometry SAT & ACT Test Prep
Mac Smith 459-MATH

Community HU Song
In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song, Thursday, January 22, at 6 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 E Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: Experience the Light & Sound of God. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

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

For Rent
Commercial/office space on Main Street. Near Mariposa Market. 475 square feet, plus common areas. \$450/month plus utilities. Call 459-2643 or 459-4110.

Gift Subscriptions
A subscription to Willits Weekly is a great gift for anybody who wants to keep up with what's happening in Willits. Home delivery (to the greater Willits area; papers arrive early Friday morning) is \$30/6 months and \$50/year. First-class mail delivery (papers arrive in Friday's mail to local addresses) is \$40/6 months and \$75/year. Send a check to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits CA 95490, or call 459-2633 to get a subscription started right away.

Help Wanted
Willits Charter School seeks a skilled IT person, 5 to 10 hours per week. Pay DOE. Must be skilled with Apple systems, PCs, servers. Contact Jennifer Lockwood at lockwood@willitscharter.net or call 707-459-5506.

Help Wanted
Willits Charter School seeks a Part Time Instructional Math Aide, as well as Yard Duty. Skilled in working with middle/high school students a must. \$10 per hour. Hours from 11:45 am to 3:40 pm. Contact Jennifer Lockwood at lockwood@willitscharter.net or call 707-459-5506.

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!

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

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.

Volunteers Wanted
The Willits Senior Center has many areas where your expertise and talents are needed. Front Desk, Thrift Store, Dining Room, Sunday Bingo, Sunday Breakfast, Special Dinners, Landscaping, Garden, Firewood. Come join our Team. Call Mariya at 707-459-6826.

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

Hack, so I got a day off and took a co-worker with me," explained one young Sacramento-area farmer, who was considering the costs of a small-scale alcohol still at her farm. "It seems like this could be something that would really work for us, be sustainable and be cost-effective."

Speakers from Humboldt, Sonoma, and Marin counties gave overviews of some of the current applications being examined for alcohol fuels, including Teisha Mechetti of MoonLighting Fuels in Humboldt, which uses forest slash for commercial fuel production. John Wick of the Marin Carbon Project discussed his ongoing "Fuelshed Project" research with regional agencies and universities, utilizing alternative energy sources on his farm; Jerome Carman of Redwood Coast Energy Authority talked about future regulatory and funding changes for alternative energy and fuel sources; and Linda Collister, fire marshal with the Healdsburg Fire Department, and hazardous materials program manager for Healdsburg and Sebastopol, covered distilling safety and permitting processes.

Guests lingered well after the scheduled events to continue conversations about potential collaborations and experiments with local fuel production, a sure sign of a successful conference. "While I learned countless new and interesting bits of information related to fuel alcohol, I gained the most inspiration from the breaks and meals when we had a chance to speak openly about the possibilities and creativity that fuel our group," King wrote in a follow-up email distributing further resources from the event.

"It's really been a great weekend," said the fuel group's Debbie Baron, who demonstrated home fermenting techniques. "I'm already thinking about who else we should invite to speak next time."

The Mendocino Alcohol Fuel Group meets monthly at the Fort Bragg Grange; those interested in attending meetings, joining the discussion listserv, or getting more information should contact mafinfo@gmail.com.

Below: Debbie Baron of the Mendocino Alcohol Fuel Group, at right, begins one of the Sunday panel discussions at the Little Lake Grange.



Photo by Ruthie King

The rest of **Arbor** | From Page 8

birthday and to raise awareness of the benefits of trees in our communities. Cal Fire and California ReLeaf are partnering to encourage cities, nature groups, schools, and youth organizations to celebrate California Arbor Week by planting trees in their communities. California ReLeaf is an alliance of community-based groups, individuals, businesses, and government agencies working to protect the environment by planting and caring for trees and the state's urban and community forests.

"Trees are vital, functional parts of our communities, our homes and yards, and our lives," said Cal Fire Deputy Director Duane Shintaku. "This is especially true during times of challenging drought conditions. Focused education for California's youth is one of the most effective ways we can increase awareness of the important roles trees play in California and the many benefits they provide to the communities in which we live."

The goals of Arbor Week include educating Californians about trees, encouraging tree planting, teaching elementary school children the environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees, and protecting the state's valuable natural resources.

"One of the numerous benefits of trees is that they make California's cities and towns healthier places to live," said Cindy Blain, executive director of California ReLeaf. "Children who have access to nature and green spaces to play and learn are more active, have lower incidences of obesity, concentrate better in school, and demonstrate healthier social behaviors. Planting and caring for trees means investing in a better future for our children and California."

Contest rules, as well as lesson plans and educational materials related to the value of trees, community benefits of trees, jobs in the urban and community forestry field, and tree identification can be downloaded at www.arborweek.org/ contests.

OBITUARY | Mildred Brown

Mildred Pauline (Tanner) Brown, a long-time Willits resident, passed away at the age of 88, on December 23, 2014 in Marana, Arizona, after a long illness. Born December 1, 1926 in Arkansas, where she was raised, she moved to California in the 1940s with her husband and two oldest children. She loved her family, gardening, cooking, canning, sewing and crocheting, and was dearly loved by every life she touched.

Mildred is survived by her children: Shirley (Ed) McDaniel of Marana, Arizona; John (Judy) Brown of Grass Valley; Diane Forsberg of Grand Junction, Colorado;

COLUMN | Wowser Makes



Solar Power!

We hear about it all the time; we've seen small ticky-tack arrays and massive "cover the shopping mall roof" arrays. What does it mean? Why would anyone want to put that stuff on their roof?

Interested? Let's talk. Why would someone want that on the roof? It's not a fashion statement. Panels only blend in with a black roof. But they do provide something very useful: hot water and electricity. Nearly everyone has picked up a hose lying out in the sun, and found it had 20 feet of hot water in it.

So it's easily done in a more professional manner – heating water for a pool, or water for your house – but it only works on sunny days. There are several different styles of solar water heaters, but they all rely on the sun to heat the water for you. This can be useful for any house, with either a tank or tankless water heater. Preheating the water with solar can reduce your energy bill: electric or gas.

The PV (photovoltaic) panels mount in the sun (they do call them solar panels); either on a roof, a tall pole, or inclined racks on the ground, whichever you prefer. Their power gets fed to some electric boxes which regulate and condition the power for use. If undamaged, most panels have a greater than 20-year lifetime, so you need to plan the mounts to last accordingly.

And the cost: simple grid-tie systems have a pretty quick payback period of eight to 15 years generally, depending on the rate arrangement and credit plan available from your electric provider – and depending on your sun conditions: lots of sun equals a faster payback. Areas with a morning or evening marine layer, where it blots out some of the harvestable hours, will have a longer payback.

What are the harvestable hours? Generally early morning and late afternoon, the sun has thicker layers of atmosphere to shine through. And if it's shining on your panels at an oblique angle, some of it bounces off, and is lost. So 10 am to 2 pm are pretty well considered the "core" hours for fairly good harvest, and there are tables and such online to help define them in your zip code.

If you decide to go off the grid with batteries, you have more gear to purchase, and with the periodic battery replacement, you never "break even" or have "free" electricity. There is always a piece of gear to replace or repair, batteries to manage, and backup generators to service. Just ask any off-grid friends how much fuel they had to buy in November and December 2014. I burned 28 gallons myself, but loving the rain anyway. Just part of the cost of "being out there."

Next time I write a Wowser Makes column: micro-hydro! Thanks for reading, and be safe.

Mike Burgess is a retired spacecraft electronics engineer with years' experience at TRW/Northrop-Grumman and a co-founder of Wowser. He has extensive experience with electronics, and off-grid living with solar power, which makes him a perfect fit as an instructor at Wowser.

Brian (Teresa) Brown of Gainesville, Florida; her sister, Louise (Jessie) Harrison of Willits; brother-in-law, John M. (Percy) Tanner, Jr. of Arcata; 13 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. All will miss her dearly.

Mildred was preceded in death by her husband, William Virgil Brown; her son, Rodney Phillip Brown; her parents; her older brother and sister; and a great-grandson.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Agape Bible Church in Willits from 2 to 3 pm on Saturday, January 17, 2015.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Anker-Luckier Mortuary.

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WORD SEARCH

Words found: C, V, Y, V, I, W, O, D, N, A, T, A, L, A, I, R, N, S, F, I, F, E, W, O, E, R, E, C, N, A, C, S, Y, N, A, S, T, R, Y, G, R, U, F, A, Q, U, A, R, I, U, S, T, A, R, S, S, I, Q, W, A, R, A, C, Y, S, U, N, P, G, D, B, G, T, E, N, U, H, E, A, N, O, P, O, L, N, H, A, T, B, N, E, T, D, I, B, T, A, C, T, R, O, Y, F, N, Q, O, A, E, I, F, R, U, N, W, U, R, G, F, E, S, C, A, E, B, S, S, T, S, V, O, R, T, P, L, T, A, D, B, R, S, P, V, I, S, O, T, T, S, G, T, E, U, M, H, N, T, E, E, U, P, R, E, N, E, S, S, R, F, E, R, S, R, V, V, R, F, T, R, O, F, I, L, I, S, I, S, U, A, L, P, E, Y, A, A, H, C, I, A, A, Y, L, C, U, M, R, E, F, D, O, R, L, G, R, N, E, F, G, L, E, P, C, E, O, O, E, A, E, E, U, O, A, N, G, F, S, H, A, I, V, O, G, E, R, H, G, L, T, L, A, E, T, S, Q, V, I, S, B, P, G, E, N, M, I, F, A, V, O, A, L, T, O, I, S, R, U, T, R, B, R, M, U, S, E, T, N, R, I, A, R, E, Q, Q, O, T, R, D, A, L, I, U, Q, T, I, R, T, H, C, G, Y, T, Q, G, H, G, F, T, C, L, V, L, E, W, O, F, S, E, N, O, T, T, A, R, U, G, I, F, N, C, B, N, H, A, H, T, R, I, B, L, A, T, T, S, E, L, E, C, V, C, O, S, D, Y, D, S, S, S, Q, T, V, T, N, A, D, N, E, C, S, A, M, F, O, I, P, R, O, C, S, U, M, C, T, N, P, S, E, C, S, I, P



The main building at the Mendocino College North County Center; photos courtesy TLCD architecture.

By Gary Quackenbush, special correspondent for NBBJ

Mendocino College's North County Center satellite campus in Willits is now able to serve students who previously had to travel to Ukiah for classes. The new center replaced existing interim classrooms and leased facilities situated in multiple locations.

Measure W, which passed in 2006 and authorized \$67.5 million of facilities bond funds for Mendocino College, enabled plans to move forward for a new permanent Willits center as well as for the library/learning center on the Ukiah campus and another new educational center in the Lakeport area.

This first phase of the North County Center, located at 372 East Commercial Street, provides a convenient and collaborative environment for students in downtown Willits, according to Arturo Reyes, Mendocino College president and superintendent. The new building includes three classrooms, administrative space, and the Learning Center.

The Learning Center, located immediately adjacent to the administrative offices and the computer classroom, is both the heart and hub of the campus and provides a collaborative learning resource environment that promotes interaction.

Developed on two acres of a 4.1-acre site, the 6,742-square-foot main building was designed by TLCD Architecture's Brian Wright with inviting educational and social spaces to allow students to spend quality time while pursuing academic opportunities, often while working multiple jobs.

The building is oriented toward the street in order to give the campus a public face, while encapsulating more private outdoor space beyond and allowing future expansion. A shade structure provides a comfortable outdoor space for gathering and studying, and a concrete cistern element celebrates the flow of rainwater from the roof to a rocky bath and into a bioswale.

The structural form expresses the classroom and administrative functions as volumes

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North County Center:

One of North Bay Business Journal's "Top Projects" for 2014

Editor's Note: This story is reprinted from the North Bay Business Journal, www.northbaybusinessjournal.com, which profiled Mendocino College's North County Center in Willits December 15 as one of its "Top Real Estate Projects in the North Bay" for 2014. The North County Center was selected by the Journal editorial staff from nominations solicited from architects, contractors, commercial real estate and other professionals from around the North Bay. The 25 projects selected for this eighth annual award were honored at a reception December 18 at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park.



under a pitched roof, evoking the rural nature of the surrounding community. The building exterior features deep roof overhangs and plate steel shade elements that serve to modulate direct sunlight in classroom and study spaces.

Weathering steel panels that are slowly oxidizing to their final rusty red color highlight the exterior palette. This material was chosen to fit with the redwood that is so prevalent in the architecture of the region, but does not require maintenance.

A wood and glass sliding storefront wall provides a visual

Read the rest of College | Over on Page 11

The rest of MCTF | From Page 1

returning to Mendocino County to head the Task Force.

During his tenure, Russell was involved in a number of high-profile county drug enforcement cases, some involving "open field" searches or tips from out-of-state investigators. The Major Crimes Task Force participated in mysterious helicopter raids last summer, during which Russell allegedly told subjects of the raids he did not have to respect Mendocino County cannabis regulations outlined by Sheriff Tom Allman.

He also made national news in a November 2013 Ukiah Daily Journal article in which he stated he estimated at least half of all Mendocino County residents were involved in the marijuana industry, claiming people were moving here to grow marijuana and ship it to their home states for sale, with that number doubling annually.

"I could stay busy just following around souped-up trucks with 19-year-olds driving them," Russell joked in the story about local eradication efforts. "We're fighting the good fight. We try to keep the commercial grows down, but we're hugely outnumbered ... and the growers know it. It's a year-round job."

Russell primarily earned press coverage for large-scale drug bust cases, such as one in Piercy of a long-term operation that ended in 11 arrests, including trimmers; a Potter Valley raid of a "family operation"; and a raid on Ukiah dispensary Reflections of Avalon, run by a former Lakeport police officer.

In a February 2012 UDJ story shortly after he was appointed to lead the Major Crimes Task Force, Russell outlined his shifting objectives and the budget limitations he anticipated during his tenure.

That year the state had cut the number of similar task forces from around 55 to 18, and left Mendocino County with only short-term funding, in part supplemented by asset forfeiture funds.

At that time, Russell said the task force's executive committee had asked him to broaden his focus from primarily drug busts. Russell said he was considering expanding the task force's goals from "meth, coke, heroin, and commercial marijuana" operations to include gang activity and criminal organizations.

Once the state Department of Justice completes its internal recruitment and hiring process, Russell's replacement will take direction from the executive committee managing the Major Crimes Task Force. That committee includes Sheriff Allman, District Attorney David Eyster, representatives from local police departments, state parks police, state parole officers, the California Department of Justice, and the FBI.

Recruitment is conducted internally and can be a promotion opportunity or a lateral move for qualified commanders interested in leading the task force.

"Ideally we would have some overlap, but that wasn't feasible. Our intention is to have not too long a lag time," said the DOJ's Shaw of the hiring timeline.

Van Patten told Willits Weekly the executive committee does not play a formal role in the recruitment process, but will give direction to the new hire. However, Shaw said the executive committee is invited to participate in the selection process and interviews, noting "we like to have them involved so we can get their local input."

Shaw said while funding for the position will require a new funding request, Mendocino County is "first in line" to receive funding. "We've had a long-standing relationship—over 20 years—with that task force," said Shaw, "and it is a priority to continue operations."

Upon hearing of Russell's impending retirement in late October, Willits Weekly attempted to reach Russell for comment several times without response. There has not yet been a public announcement of Russell's retirement.

The rest of Supes | From Page 1

Woodhouse told Willits Weekly: "I feel very welcomed by the board. That's been the tone, and the staff has been very positive to me. It's been a great group of hardworking people, so I feel very privileged to be here. It's going to be comfortable working on very difficult problems. I feel very comfortable—not concerned—but more excited about all we have to do."

Woodhouse said people in his district who wish to talk to him may call him either at his Ukiah office (463-4441, 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday) or at his Willits office, Creekside Properties at 2 North Street, 459-4677.

The rest of College | From Page 10

connection to the computer classroom for students and administrative staff in the Learning Center. The Learning Center's design was patterned after the concept of a "marketplace," with high ceilings, exposed structure, and low dividing elements. The material palette includes polished concrete floors, acoustical ceiling clouds that float between exposed steel beams, and reclaimed redwood paneling derived from wine tanks in Northern California, and similar in color to the weathered steel panels on the exterior.

Also featured is a large expanse of south-facing glass oriented toward the street that provides abundant daylight for the hard-at-work students while promoting the center in the evenings as a beacon of local educational opportunity.

The general contractor for this project was Midstate Construction, with civil engineering provided by Brelje & Race Consulting Civil Engineers. KPW Structural Engineers, Costa Engineers (Mechanical and Plumbing), RHAA Landscape Architecture and Planning, O'Mahony & Myer Electrical Engineers, energy consultant Sol-Data, and Davis Langdon, cost estimating, were also part of the project team.

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Crime Roundup

Gunmen escape with pot during Mill Creek Court robbery

Two masked men, one armed with a pistol, interrupted a marijuana purchase Tuesday evening at a Willits home in the 100 block of Mill Creek Court.

Willits police officers were summoned after a neighbor reported hearing an argument and what sounded like a gunshot at the house around 6 pm, according to police Chief Gerry Gonzalez.

Officers found two people at the residence, who admitted they were in the process of concluding a marijuana sale when two masked men entered the home, ordered them to the floor and stole the pot. As they were leaving, one of the suspects fired a shot at the occupants, but missed.

The robbers escaped before officers arrived.

The robbery remains under investigation. Anyone with information about the incident may contact Sgt. Mark McNeley at the Willits Police Department at 459-6122.

Willits woman held for attacking husband

Mendocino County sheriff's deputies

The rest of Slide | From Page 1

a little more of a buffer, and not as steep a slope," said Frisbie. A work plan will be finalized for that area once crews begin removing the loose material, but "rock is a definite possibility."

Additional traffic controls or one-way traffic is not anticipated, "not any greater than there are right now," and heavy rains are not anticipated for the next few weeks. Caltrans expects traffic in both directions should return to the detour after work on the larger slide is done; fixing the

The rest of WCA | From Page 1

City Manager Adrienne Moore said she plans to recommend council members form an ad hoc committee.

The city would like to see the center as an independent facility that can sustain itself, Moore said.

Councilman Ron Orenstein has stated an interest in helping the WCA.

"Pretty much it was volunteers who put in seven to eight years work to get it to where it is now," Orenstein said.

Dingman says that in another year he will have been involved with volunteer efforts at the center for 20 years.

WCA renovated its home in the old Women's Improvement Club building starting in 1992.

The center's doors opened in 2000 at the 1926 structure between the Carnegie Library and the Noyo Theatre.

"The sweat equity in this project is substantially more than the money that is put into it," Dingman said.

The center's volunteer-powered past may just be what is needed looking to the future.

"We have all the players we need in town, with all the skills and interests," Orenstein said.

The rest of Parrish | From Page 1

The \$9,460 Behnke ordered Parrish to pay covers costs listed by Caltrans as equal to four days of unused stitcher rental by Caltrans contractor DeSilva Gates, and the costs of "sanitizing" the stitcher to working condition on July 1, 2013, the day of Parrish's removal.

Caltrans spokesman Phil Frisbie said the agency "will not be providing a statement on the ruling," adding "Caltrans wasn't going after restitution," and the request had come from the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office after Parrish agreed to sentencing.

Frisbie said the restitution request "was a normal part of the process here in California" under Parrish's sentencing agreement.

Parrish is the only bypass project protester who has faced such a request.

As part of the proceedings, the DA's office had asked Caltrans' lawyers to appear in court to justify the amounts requested for damages, which took place at the October hearing.

Mike Geniella, spokesman for the DA's office, confirmed the plea agreement required a restitution request, but emphasized the large amounts "started and ended with Caltrans." DA David Eyster, he said, had no ability to determine the amount of real damages.

"The bottom line is, Caltrans' legal representatives came to us with that amount, and when the amount requested became an issue, we asked their lawyers to come to Mendocino to justify their request to the court, requiring a decision from Judge Behnke," he explained. "We are not in opposition to the ruling."

"I feel gratified Judge Behnke ordered a restitution amount that's a small fraction of what Caltrans was pursuing, but I'm still upset about what I perceive as the injustice of someone like me being

arrested a 28-year-old Willits woman December 29 after she allegedly attacked her husband in their home in the 29000 block of North Highway 101.

Tiffany White was booked into county jail on suspicion of inflicting corporal injury on a spouse.

When deputies were called to the home, they found White's husband with injuries to his neck and head, according to sheriff's Lt. Greg Stefani. The man told deputies he and his wife had been arguing and the disagreement escalated into a physical altercation shortly before 7 pm.

The woman is being held on \$30,000 bail.

Willits man held for kidnapping, torture

Brian F. Ramsey of Willits, 44, was arrested last week by Ukiah police on suspicion of kidnapping and torturing a man with whom he had been traveling for several weeks.

Officers found the man, who had suffered obvious injuries to his face and body, just after 7 pm on December 29 after responding to a phone call from a laundromat in the 100 block of East Gobbi Street.

The man told police he had met

Ramsey in Humboldt County, and the two men had been traveling between there, Ukiah and the Bay Area, living in Ramsey's 1989 Dodge van.

During their travels, police say, Ramsey allegedly became violent, stabbing his companion with knives, a screwdriver and sticks, and preventing him from escaping. The victim added Ramsey also had threatened to harm his dog.

The man said Ramsey had finally released him on Gobbi Street just before he called police.

The victim was taken to Ukiah Valley Medical Center for treatment, and later transferred to an out-of-area hospital.

Several hours later, Ramsey called police to report his van had been stolen while he was out walking his dog. When officers arrived, they discovered the victim's dog with Ramsey. The animal had been injured, police say.

Ramsey was arrested on suspicion of kidnapping, torture, false imprisonment, assault with a deadly weapon and threatening a witness.

He was booked into county jail in lieu of \$55,000 bail.

Crime Roundup by contributing reporter Dan McKee; based on reports from law enforcement agencies.

smaller slide is not expected to require a lane closure.

During December's heavy rains, Caltrans also installed additional K rails around part of the temporary storage pond, "to ensure no errant drivers" came to an accident in low-visibility, slippery conditions, and began clearing the old highway in anticipation of slide repair. Frisbie says pond pumps were tested in the days prior to the storms and performed without issue.

Dingman said a core group is coming together that includes June Ruckman, Nancy Reed and himself.

Some of the group's recent efforts include getting membership renewal envelopes ready to be mailed and seeking new members.

"We are going over the show schedule for 2015 to make sure that it is solid and established," said Dingman.

Orenstein notes the center has made money in the past.

Plans to incorporate and become an official not-for-profit organization were ended late last year when a promising advisory committee led by Bill Barksdale backed out.

Dingman said an exhibit in July with a Willits Frontier Days theme is in the works, too. A strong schedule, fundraising, and quarterly music events to raise money are also on the group's mind.

The group has plans for tabling in front of Mariposa Market in search of new board members, and anyone wanting to support the center through membership, Dingman said.

To become a WCA member, Dingman says to give him a call at 841-7880. If you care to go to City Hall, the city council meets 6:30 pm Wednesday, January 14.

defendant was convicted," with Parrish's culpability complicated by additional protesters of the bypass project at the time.

"This decision has given me insight into Caltrans' accounting strategy, which is as overinflated in my restitution claim as it is in the Willits bypass project," said Parrish of the previous claims.

In addressing Parrish's claim of compelling and extraordinary reasons, Behnke said he considered his actions in the context of broader opposition to the project and in light of Parrish's delayed sentencing arrangement. "Parrish's crimes were committed as part of a wider protest against the construction of the Willits bypass. There was significant public opposition to the project."

The decision additionally concedes: "Parrish has no real prospect of actually being able to pay substantial monetary restitution," and that "with the people entering into a settlement for a delayed entry of judgment on two intractable misdemeanors, it is a bit incongruous to seek a six-figure restitution award."

In January 2014, Parrish was sentenced to a delayed entry of judgment of two misdemeanors, which will be reduced to infractions if he completes 100 community service hours and maintains the conditions of the agreement without further incident, which is the case so far.

Behnke said he is considering the restitution award in light of that agreement and Parrish's record. The delayed sentencing is set for January 2015, at which time the charges could become misdemeanors instead of infractions, if Parrish has violated the agreement terms.

"It will give me some time to explore my options," Behnke said, adding he did not believe he had the ability to appeal the restitution order.

“He would just get a vision in his mind and start painting.”

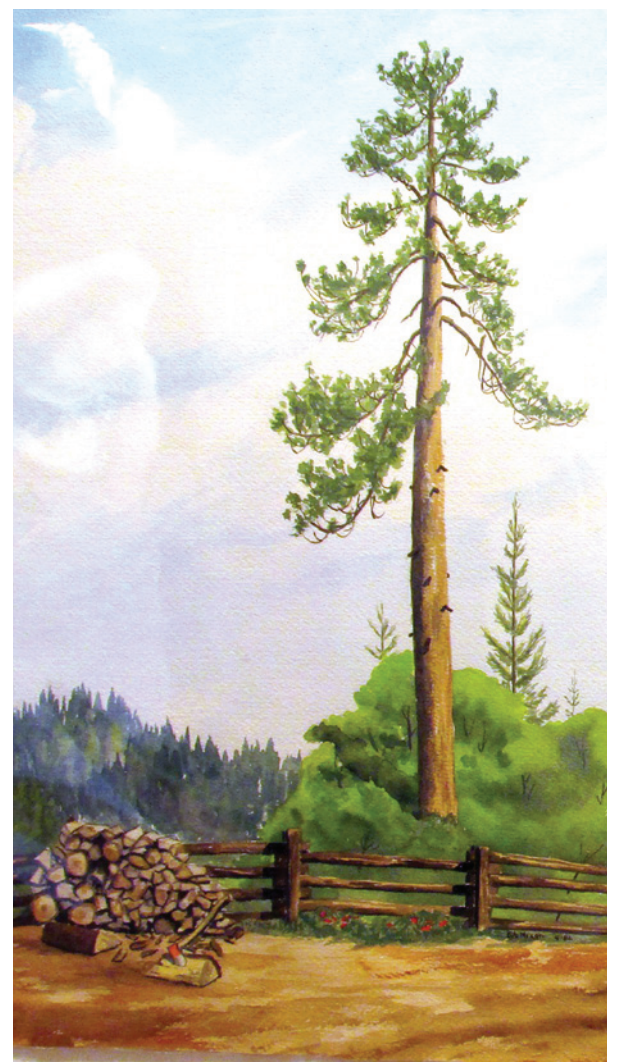
The day after the show opened, Reed said 11 paintings had already sold, and a steady stream of visitors kept arriving at the gallery Sunday despite closing time fast approaching. “People really appreciate this kind of realism,” Reed said. “I know I would be very happy my work is being seen and enjoyed.”

“It’ll also be helpful for the center, since we’re still hosting classes and having groups meet, all with volunteers right now,” Reed elaborated.

Bette agreed that the opening had been a success. “I think it’s being really well-received, and I’m glad to see it,” she said. “A few people even wanted the same painting at the opening! I hope it works out well for the center.”

Reed explained she is asking people to wait until the last Sunday of the show, January 25, to collect their paintings, so that gallery visitors can keep enjoying them all throughout the month. The art is priced with small stickers, and anyone interested in purchasing a painting can do so right away by informing the host and putting money in the WCA donation box. Visitors are encouraged to stop by soon, as paintings are going fast.

This month’s show runs through January 25 at the Willits Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 pm.



Amazing Athlete of Willits High School



Photo by Rachel Belvin

BASKETBALL |
Hannah Friend, 17, Junior

Breakfast of Champions: Yogurt with granola

Position: Forward

Love for the Sport: Getting steals!

Hannah has been my most consistent player all season, and last weekend in our tournament in the Bay Area she didn't slow down. Hannah creates a tremendous amount of steals and turnovers from her excellent defensive skills and basketball IQ! Hannah was always there for us with much-needed offensive and defensive rebounds and points in the paint. She knows what needs to be done to be successful, and her work ethic is top notch! We are grateful to have her on our team!

– Coach Jody Ward

OBITUARY | Jean Johnson

Jean Johnson

Jean Louise Johnson died December 20, 2014 following many years of declining health. She will be remembered by her loving husband, Dick Johnson, and three children: Robert, Julie and Rick. Born October 22, 1938 in Kokomo, Indiana, Jean was the second child of Mildred and John Fricke. She joined the Air Force in 1956, married in 1958, and was widowed in 1971 with three young children.

In 1974 Jean married Dick Johnson. They retired in 1990 and moved to Willits, where she for many years enjoyed Tole painting, the Brooktrails Women’s Club,



and, most recently, becoming very active with the Red Hat Ladies of Willits. Jean was proud of her military service and met monthly with a group of ladies who had also served in the military.

Memorial services will be held on January 22, 2015 at 2 pm at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Willits. The following day, Jean will be taken

to Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, her final resting place, and laid to rest with military honors. When his time comes, Dick will take his place beside her in the National Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

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Ferny the Aussie

Ferny was owner-surrendered to the shelter by his owners because they were no longer able to care for him. He is a 3-year-old neutered male Australian Shepherd mix. Ferny lived inside and outside in his previous home, and slept on the bed at night. He loves to roll on his back to rub along the floor while you tickle his tummy. He also knows some basic commands and is house-trained.

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.

Photo by Sage Mountainfire



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