

## Willits Economic Localization Newsletter

# The WELL Bucket

Volume 14, Issue 5

September/October, 2018

# **Community Events**

Sept. & Oct. 2018

Sep. 8, 10am–4pm, Mendocino Firewise and Fire Safe Expo—see page 11. Contact Keith Rutledge – 456-9571 or keithr@pacific.net

**Sep. 8, 10:30-4:30**, Autumn Wild Harvest Class at Motherland Herb School near Willits. For info & registration: http://motherlandherbs..org/ or 459-5030.

**Sept. 8, 1:30-4pm** - Rise for Climate Take Action Forum in Ukiah, at Mendocino Co. Ag Building, 890 N. Bush St.. For info & RSVP: margof@eldersclimateaction.org or 462-1877.

**Sept. 8, 8-11pm** – ABBA Dance Party at LL Grange see page 10.

**Sept. 10, 1:30-4pm** – Healthier Living Workshops begin in Willits (see page 6)

**Sept. 13, 10am**—Work party to prep K-rails, see page 3.

**Sept. 13, 7pm** - Brooktrails Firewise Committee at BT Community Center

Sept. 14, 4pm-sunset – Laytonville end of Summer Party & Art Fair, see page 11.

Sept. 15, 9am – Clean-up Waterways Day. Meet at City Hall or Brooktrails Parcourse parking lot. Wear sturdy shoes and work gloves.

**Sept 16, noon** — Work party to paint K-rails, see page 3.

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# Film "Tomorrow" at the Grange Sept. 20

September 20TH - 7pm- "Tomorrow"- is an inspiring documentary that presents concrete solutions to climate change as implemented throughout the world by hundreds of communities.

In 2012, "Nature" published a study led by more than 20 researchers from the top scientific institutions in the world predicting that humankind could disappear between 2040 and 2100. It also said that it could be avoided by drastically changing our way of life and take appropriate measures. This film offers hope.





A FILM BY CYRIL DION AND MÉLANIE LAURENT

#### Wild Willits Fest: October 20

On Saturday, October 20, the new nonprofit Visit Willits will host the Wild Wil- Recreation Grove with the course wind-

lits Fest: Explore Our Roots. The event is unlike any other. It embodies all that Northern California is about: small town vibes with great food, music, and activities for every age. The event will include a 5k walk/run, 10k and a half-marathon race, live music, local food vendors, food competition

featuring local chefs and caterers, kids' activity zone, artisan market, wellness vendors, and events happening around Willits all weekend.

The event kicks off in the morning from

ing through the Valley. Runners and walkers will be in touch with the land with every step they take and can expect Mother Nature to show off her brilliant fall colors and smells. Along the route, markers will point out various points of interests and unique activities.

The event represents an opportunity to focus on

individual physical fitness while coming together to re-connect with our common denominator, the beauty and bounty, flora and fauna of the Little Lake Valley.

(Continued on page 11)

#### Paint the Town – Happening Now! - by Paul Jacobson

"Paint the Town" is the new theme for the Colorize Wil- - Little Lake Fire Department, through Chief Chris lits Project initiated a few months ago by WELL. The project is moving ahead at full throttle, including painting trash bins, fire hydrants, concrete bunkers, and putting up large photos in empty storefronts.

We've held two wellattended meetings exclusively for the 'Paint the Town' project and a third scheduled for August 30 at 6pm. So much has been accomplished since the last newsletter it's difficult to summarize. Many obstacles and limitations have been

navigated and negotiated by volunteers to bring us forward to the current situation of liftoff. Here are some highlights:

- Laura and Claudia have each visited the recycling center in Ukiah receiving approximately 30 gallons of free base paint from MendoRecycle. Claudia and Brian have also received very generous donations of paint and supplies through Coast Hardware and Mendo Mill.
- Brian Weller has designed and painted our first project with a Mondrian-inspired design on the trash container across from Noyo Theater on Commercial Street. Speaking

of the Noyo, owners Lois and Jeff Hoover, who attended the 2nd "Paint the Town" meeting, are painting the movie theater! They offered to coordinate a "Re-Grand Opening" at the Noyo with WELL to assist fund raising for our project.





Trash bins on E. Commercial: Before & After in style of Mondrian - photos & artwork by Brian Weller



Newly-painted Noyo Theater in art deco style – thanks to theater owners Jeff & Lois Hoover

Wilkes, has given permission and access to paint fire hydrants along Main & Commercial Streets. Four teachers from the Willits Charter Schools along with the Mendocino Youth Project are planning to assist youth in de-

> signing and painting fire hydrants.

- Chief Wilkes also generously agreed to assist cleaning the krails (cement barriers) on the corner of Main & Commercial Street, where we're seeking approval from the owner for that painting project. Several designs have already been submitted, and other ideas
- are welcome. Volunteer work parties may be scheduled very soon!
- We received wonderful coverage about our project through the Willits News, and also presented to the Tourism Board, gaining similar positive responses. Brian presented designs and plans for the trash-bin painting project before the Willits City Council on August 22.
- If that weren't enough, another facet to the project is being undertaken by Madge and Bill Barksdale. They are approaching owners of vacant businesses along Main Street to display the work of local photographers in their empty windows. As we go to

press, large poster-sized photos donated by Ree Slocum are being printed for the first vacant

building. Other photographers' work will follow. All of these initiatives are attempts to brighten up and revitalize Willits. And we have only just begun. We'd

(Continued on page 3)

#### (Continued from page 2)

love to help promote other ideas, such as murals, banners, hanging planters, etc. WELL has donated \$200 to the project for necessary supplies. Willits Center for the Arts has allocated \$400 to the project, and several private donors have already contributed.

If you would like to participate, please contact Paul at 4paulj@gmail.com. To donate for this project, checks can be written to WELL, noted for 'Paint the Town'



Concrete K-rail barriers at Main & Commercial. Prepping and painting work parties will be Thursday Sept. 13 10am and Sunday Sept. 16 noon. COME JOIN THE FUN!

and sent to PO Box 42, Willits. In the near future we also hope to have a Go Fund Me campaign and special donation link through our website and Facebook page.



An illustration of photography to be displayed in vacant storefront windows on Main Street. These are photos by Ree Slocum of local artists-at-work Darrell Carpenter and Sue Ellen Parkinson.

More photos coming soon!

#### LOCAL FOOD - - TOO MUCH??

by Sara Grusky of Green Uprising Farm, co-founder of the Local Food Pledge group

Is there such a thing as too much local food? I can't step out my front door without tripping over dangling grape vines, pears, corn, tomatoes.... Mostly, I can't seem to convince the goats to take a day off....they insist on producing 5 gallons of milk every day, seven days a week. That means I have to make sure they get milked twice a day and have 10 jars sanitized each and every day to store the milk. I am making lots of cheese and kefir to try to store it for longer. I can't seem to find enough people who appreciate our farm fresh milk. This seems to be my biggest problem. This beautiful white gold that the goats are making is immensely valuable. It really is medicine....so full of probiotics, building a healthy gut and a healthy immune system....nothing like the dead milk you buy at the market (even if it is organic) because milk from the market is pasteurized (lots of the good bacteria and enzymes are burned out of it) and homogenized and the cows are usually fed grain instead of grass (even if it is organic....). Our goats are forag-

ing on summer fruit tree prunings, blackberry and walnut leaves, dried madrone leaves, fallen apple and pear, leftovers from the garden and so many other things. Their milk is full of the "terroir" of our valley. If you know anyone who would like some let me know. I am probably going to have to buy some pigs and feed it to them....it would make me sad to feed it to pigs. So, that is my sad lament. My situation as a local farmer who cannot find a market for her goods is, unfortunately, not unique. And, this is where our local food pledge group can play a key role to help hardworking local farmers connect with all of the eaters in our community who want healthy food and want to support our local economy.

Contact Sara at <a href="mailto:homesteadingsara@gmail.com">homesteadingsara@gmail.com</a>; 707-216-5549. The Local Food Pledge group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. For more info: Mary, <a href="mailto:maryzel@willitsonline.com">maryzel@willitsonline.com</a>; 459-3963.

# CITY OF WILLITS NEWS – by Mayor Madge Strong

City government has been very busy, though the work isn't always obvious to the public.

**Budget**: One major endeavor has been developing the annual fiscal-year budget – somewhat behind schedule due to a much-delayed audit from our outside auditors, a shortage of staff in the Finance Department, and a change in format to achieve greater transparency and more accurate projections. City Council is reviewing the draft budget on Aug. 21, with a final adoption scheduled in September. Sales tax revenues have not been as adversely impacted as projected and other revenues are healthy, so the City is in very good fiscal order.

Planning: The revised Housing Element was heard by City Council on Aug. 22. This element is part of the City's General Plan and is required by State law to be updated every five years. It analyzes existing housing needs, identifies opportunities for housing for all income groups. Along with it, staff is presenting changes to our municipal code to implement some of its policies. Next steps in the coming year or two will be the beginning of a much-needed update of the entire General Plan. The City will also be studying changes to our sphere of influence, along with potential annexations. We have seen several conditional use permits come before Council recently, boding well for future development.

The Community Development department is also implementing the new ordinance on vacant commercial properties, as well as overseeing the City's medical cannabis ordinance. (Note that a proposed City excise tax on commercial cannabis businesses will be on the November ballot.)

Some other issues the City is managing:

- Overseeing Caltrans' work in the City (see separate article).
- Monitoring whatever proposals emerge for a mental health facility at the old hospital site.
- Implementing ADA improvements in our buildings.
- Managing the City's airport (which has been an important staging site for air support in recent fire-fighting).
- Restoration logging on portions of our watershed damaged in last year's fire.
- Needed improvements in water and waste-water facilities.

- Working with the County on emergency preparedness and response plans.
- Updating our procurement policies, fees, and other procedures as well as improving our website.

Of course there's also police protection, public works, and myriad day-to-day operations. Thanks to our small, dedicated staff for all their work!

If there's any extra time or money (!), we have a wish list that includes more economic development actions, improving energy management, and enhancing cultural arts and recreation. We've begun the latter with a series of Fall Concerts in the Park (see separate article).

City Council meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, with a public comment period near the beginning of the agenda at 6:30. You can also contact me with questions or comments at <a href="mailto:mstrong@cityofwillits.org">mstrong@cityofwillits.org</a>.

# **Brooktrails Community Garden**

by Freddie Long

A valuable resource for ALL the residents of Brooktrails is now in its 6th year. As Summer continues, our wonderful and incredibly productive garden is replete with summer vegetables and flowers. We are busy harvesting the organically grown bounty: squashes, garlic, kale, tomatoes, beans, sunflowers, greens, chives, onions, grapes, strawberries, raspberries, apples and more!GOOD NEWS! Garden space is available. If you live in Brooktrails and would like to have your own plot please contact Freddie at 459-5267.For more information visit our facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/brooktrailscommunitygarden">https://www.facebook.com/brooktrailscommunitygarden</a>



# CARING KITCHEN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS! By Tarney Sheldon

NCO's Caring Kitchen Project – which prepares and delivers meals to local cancer patients - is recruiting for both adult and teen volunteers! This could be YOU!

For adults, we are seeking:

- Tuesdays: To-go container sanitation crew in Willits (1-2 hours, anytime between 12pm-5pm)
- Wednesdays: Food prep shifts in Willits (10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm shifts available)
- Wednesdays: Mentor teens in the Willits kitchen (3:30pm-5:30pm)
- Weekdays: Data entry and/or Grant seeking in Ukiah (flexible hours between 8:30am-4:30pm daily)

We are also seeking teens between 14-19 years of age who want to learn more cooking skills and to volunteer with the Caring Kitchen as a class project or community service project. They need to be available once a week on a Tuesday or Wednesday after school.

This is a fabulous opportunity to make a lasting impact in Mendocino County! We'd love to meet you. Contact Tarney Sheldon at 462-1950 to talk more about these opportunities, or email her at <a href="mailto:sheldont@ncoinc.org">sheldont@ncoinc.org</a> or visit our website and fill out the online application <a href="https://www.ncoinc.org/programs/caring-kitchen-project/">https://www.ncoinc.org/programs/caring-kitchen-project/</a>.



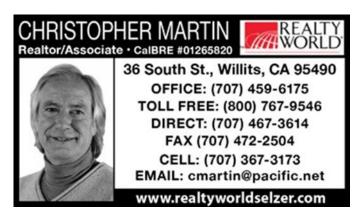
# Herb Guild Active in Willits - Making 'Fire Tonic'

A group of dedicated herbalists recently formed an Inland Chapter of the Mendocino County Herb Guild here in Willits. Among other things, they are brewing up "Mendocino Fire Tonic" (aka 'Fire Cider') – a locally-sourced, all-organic health drink that can help improve overall well-being.

They're making this healthy mix -- apple cider vinegar suffused with honey and a host of herbs -- at the Little Lake Grange commercial kitchen. The 8- and 12-ounce bottles are for sale at the Thursday Farmers Market and Mariposa Market, and several other outlets in the county.

Proceeds will help the guild do other outreach: herb exchanges and cultivation, community clinics and ecotourism. They also want to develop an herbal-learning curriculum for schools and offer scholarships for herbal students. For more information or to attend the Guild's meetings, email <a href="mailto:info@mendocinoherbguild.com">info@mendocinoherbguild.com</a>.





#### CONCERTS IN THE PARK

#### Starting September 20<sup>TH</sup>!

The City of Willits is planning a "Falling Out of Summer" Concert series on Thursday evenings between 5 -7pm, September 20 through October 11th at Recrea-

tion Grove Park. We are looking for sponsors, but so far we have already had generous sponsorships from City staff and their families, including our Willits Police Officers Association, as well as commitments from local businesses. We have a "Call for Bands" out, requesting a band resume and a YouTube

demo video to be sent to <a href="mailto:sgsierra@cityofwillits.org">sgsierra@cityofwillits.org</a>. Our headliner for the first in the series on Sept. 20th is Sam Williams, from Nashville. Opening act is

> hometown hero, Palmer Rundberg, also from Nashville, but originally from Willits. This is a simple affair -- bring your own blankets and chairs and we will supply the music! Check the papers for the line-up of bands for the following Thursdays. Come on over to Rec Grove after shopping at the Farmers Market!



# Healthier Living Workshops – begin Sept. 10



This free series of six workshops begins Sept. 10, 1:30-4pm in Willits and continues Monday afternoons. (The series is also offered in other Mendocino County locations on different dates.) It is directed primarily to adults with chronic health issues (such as arthritis, heart conditions, diabetes, chronic pain) and their families and care-givers, who are interested in becoming more physically active. Sponsored by Avenues to Wellness. Space is limited. Call 456-9676 to reserve

# Healthy Mendocino Hires a Program Manager!

Healthy Mendocino has been working collaboratively mation to action, spearheading Action Teams to imcounty-wide to build a website and programs plement programs in each area of the county.

addressing the key health needs in our rural communities: Childhood Obesity & Family Wellness, Childhood Trauma, Housing, Mental Health, and Poverty.

The Healthy Mendocino Steering Committee is pleased to announce that Patrice Mascolo, who previously worked part-time as the Program Coordinator, has been hired as the Healthy Mendo-

cino Program Manager. She will now be working fulltime to oversee the website, Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and to move from infor-

With its more robust staff, Healthy Mendocino will now be able to strengthen community outreach and promotion, provide project evaluation, and offer action teams administrative and financial support to implement projects that will help them achieve their goals. We want to see endoci real change in health across our county,

significantly improving the well-being of local residents.

For info, go to <a href="http://www.healthymendocino.org">http://www.healthymendocino.org</a>. To get involved, contact Patrice at 467-3228 or pmascolo@ncoinc.org

# **ELECTIONS ARE COMING!** by Madge Strong

Nov. 6, 2018, will be an important date, locally, nationally, and globally. The outcome of our national elections affects everyone. Consider ways you can help. At the local level, we also have important choices, including: 3<sup>rd</sup> District Board of Supervisor – a race between (continued on page 8)

John Pinches & John Haschak. This position may well be a swing vote on County policies.

- Willits City Council choosing two candidates from three contenders: Jeremy Hershman, Greta Kanne, and incumbent Larry Stranske. (The Council seats of Gerry Gonzales, Saprina Rodriguez and myself will be up in 2020.)
- School Board candidates there are four candidates for three long-term seats, plus two candidates for a short-term seat.

Local ballot measures will include:

- Measure I, the City's proposed excise tax on commercial cannabis businesses.
- Measure J, the Little Lake Fire District's proposed measure to build a new fire station.

There will also be 11 State ballot measures. Stay tuned for forums on radio stations and/or look for analysis by California League of Women Voters.

Key dates:

Oct. 4, 6pm - Candidates forum for Board and City Council races at City Hall, sponsored by AAUW, MWPC, WEC, and WELL

Oct. 8 - Mail-in ballots begin being sent Oct. 22 - Last day to register to vote

Nov. 6 - Election day, and last day to send or deliver mail-in ballots.

For latest information, go to www.mendocinocounty.org/government/assessor-county-clerk-recorder-elections.

# CALTRANS & FUTURE OF MAIN STREET- by Madge Strong

We have all been witnessing the transformation of our sidewalks on Main St. north of Highway 20. Caltrans and Granite Construction have been very efficient and also mindful of providing for through-traffic and pedestrian access to businesses. Kudos!

The inconvenience is almost over! It now appears they may finish in time to complete repaving and striping during this construction season. Work will continue, however, on the Sherwood Road reconfiguration (building a 30-foot retaining wall along the widened roadway and a new intersection with Main St.) into next year.

Now what? First, it is the City's intention that Cal-Trans will continue to "own" Main St. until all the work, including Sherwood Road, is completed before the City accepts relinquishment. This will enable the City to observe at least one winter's rainy season and some heavy traffic loads to assure the new road is satisfactory while it is still Caltrans' responsibility. Until then, neither property owners, nor the City, have the right to make changes to the sidewalk median without CalTrans' permission. Ideas have been suggested for

the small "landscape strip" along some of the sidewalks. Staff is currently researching the feasibility, cost and possible grants for options such as bricks or paver strips in place of the wood shavings, as well as planting a variety of street trees in selected locations.

As part of the repaving, Caltrans will be striping for the bike lanes, bulb-outs, turn-pockets and parking as provided in the City's Main Street Enhancement Plan (developed with extensive public participation in 2016). Note that these are all only paint, not in concrete, enabling flexibility for the future if needed.

Meanwhile, the City will receive "as-built" plans from Caltrans so that our engineers can be designing the specifications for future enhancements, including land-scaping, new street lights, wayfaring signs, pedestrian safety enhancements, etc. The City will phase improvements as funding permits.

The new Main Street is emerging, but be patient! We may also schedule another public forum this Fall to review plans and explain the process going forward. Stay tuned.

# Mendocino County Burns - Measure V Ignored - By Els Cooperrider

The citizen's initiative Measure V became law June 8, 2016 and declares "...intentionally killed and left standing trees a public nuisance." As of August 2018 the Board of Supervisors has ignored this law.

It is unconscionable that our county government ignores the will of the people. No one knows why. Does the threat of a lawsuit trump the will and welfare of the people of Mendocino County? Measure V is designed to help lessen catastrophic fires, death and destruction in this time of severe drought and climate change.

When supervisors Brown, McCowen, and Woodhouse refused to join Hamburg and Gjerde to enforce V, County Counsel Katherine Elliott asked the state's Attorney Generals lawyers for a legal opinion in February 2017. AG attorney Catherine Bidart wrote it 14 months later in April 2018. It's been "circulating" among AG attorneys since then, and Bidart cannot give anyone a date for release.

I put in a Public Records Request on August 13, 2018 and received a reply from Bidart stating that Opinion 17-202 cannot be released while being "reviewed" due to attorney-client privilege (between attorneys of the same AG office). This is reprehensible! We the people have had enough. We don't want to wait any longer. Mendocino County burns



and top brass at Calfire called the millions of bone dry dead standing trees as a major problem. In the meantime, Mendocino Redwood Company and other timber operators are continuing hack & squirt and leaving millions of dead standing trees near our homes and roads.

We want the Board of Supervisors to enforce, retroactively, Measure V, and we want it now. This is, after all, supposed to be a democracy and our supervisors are elected to represent our interests and follow the law. Demand your supervisor or candidate supports enforcing Measure V!

#### Please patronize our WELL advertisers. Tell them you saw their ad here! And shop locally!









#### New EVs Charging Station in Willits!

Electric vehicles reduce greenhouse gas emissions AND save money! Willits just unveiled four 'Class 2' (mediumspeed) EV charging stations, conveniently located at the City's downtown lot at Mendocino Ave. and School Street.

At the ribbon-cutting on Aug. 17th, credit was given to the Mendocino Land Trust, which put together funding for this and many other stations throughout the County, as well as Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), which did years of planning on the project.

Mayor Madge Strong commented that "Now visitors can stop in Willits not only to recharge their vehicle but also to recharge themselves, enjoying our restaurants, stores, museum, art center and other attractions."



Janet Orth of MCOG at the new charging stations

# Good time to buy an EV!

Want to get rid of your gas guzzler and save? Sonoma Clean Power, the non-profit that supplies electricity for most local customers (through PG&E lines), is offering some powerful incentives to drive electric. Their Drive EV program offers you up front \$1,000 on a used EV and \$2,000 on a new EV. The savings could add up even more with additional dealer and manufacturer discounts, and other rebates, incentives and tax credits. SCP will also give you a free charger for use at home. *Some of these discounts will expire on Nov. 16, so act soon!* Find out more at SCP's website <a href="https://sonomacleanpower.org/programs/drive-ev">https://sonomacleanpower.org/programs/drive-ev</a>.

#### **CO-COM SUMMARIES**

#### July 9, 2018

Major discussions in both July & August CoCom meetings have been on our Paint the Town project (formerly "Colorizing Willits"). The news is covered in the feature article in this issue.

We also approved co-sponsoring a candidates forum with several other groups, now scheduled for Oct. 4. (See 'Elections' article.)

Plans for Fall programs are on the back-burner while most effort is going into 'Paint the Town'.

#### Aug. 20, 2018

Discussion and action items continued on Paint the Town, with a further planning committee meeting set for Aug. 30th. WELL allocated an additional \$200 toward supplies.

We heard about the Inland Herb Guild, with which we hope to collaborate in future meetings. We also got an update on the City's new EV chargers and Sonoma Clean Power's EV incentive program. (See articles this issue.)

Having a WELL table at recent events has been worth-while, and we plan to table at the Grange's Sept. 20 film 'Tomorrow' and at the Oct. 20 Wild Willits Fest at Rec Grove.

WELL, as one of the investors in the Wool Mill project, received notice that the Mill is behind their intended schedule, but that EDFC is committed to repay investors. We will send EDFC a letter saying we're willing to postpone payback if that's helpful.

We will discuss a Fall program and/or a celebration potluck at our next meeting. Meanwhile, save the possible date: **Sunday Nov. 11, 4pm.**Next CoCom meetings: **Sept 17** and **Oct. 15, 6:30** at Willits Hub, 630 S. Main St.

# **WELL Coordinating Committee 2018**

Paul Jacobson, 459-1418,
4paul@gmail.com TimRice, 456-1146,
tim@multitalents.net Laura Toomey
Rowland, 354-3410, lauratoomey@comcast.net
Madge Strong, 459-1493,
mstrong@willitsonline.com LynTalkovsky,6213215,lyn@twinberry.net

There are currently two vacant seats. If interested, come to a meeting or call Madge at 459-1493.

# **More Grange Events:**

September 8th - 8 to 11pm- ABBA Dance Party - Best of ABBA music and light show - follows after the showing of Mama Mia2 at the Noyo Theater, which starts on Aug `17th. Dress up! Let's Dance like they did in the 1980's. (or the movie) \$10 benefits the Grange Light System - No host wine bar by Frey Wines, snacks for sale - DJ's TBA Little Lake Grange, 291 School St, Willits

October 6th - Battle of the Bands - KLLG Fundraiser - mark the date!

October 19th - 7pm - Rocky Horror Picture Show Movie - Bring your RHPS stuff! Watch - Party -Dance to this retro cult film with plenty of scary fun and some classic songs.

## ART IN THE PLAZA

Every Weekend

"Art in the Plaza" had its debut in late July and will continue to feature local artists and artisans every weekend through September. This free event takes place at the congenial plaza with red and white shade umbrellas behind Café 77. Hours are 9-3 each Sat. and Sun. More info at <a href="https://www.artintheplaza.com">www.artintheplaza.com</a>.

Some spaces are still available for artists to sell their handmade goods (up to 10 artists each weekend). The spaces will be 4X8 & 7X8. If interested, please contact Morgan Rex at 841-0913 or see the application online.

#### ERRP FIELD TRIP TO REDWOODS, SEPT. 29 – by Robin Leler

Eel River Recovery Project teams up with ISF (Institute for Sustainable Forestry - a project of the Trees Foundation) for a free day-long field trip to RFFI's Usal Redwood Forest. RFFI is the Redwood Forest Foundation, a non-profit organization of loggers, environmentalists, community activists and foresters. We will visit a demonstration sustainable forest and talk with local forestry experts.

This Sept. 29 trip may be our last of the summer. It's a great way to enjoy and learn about the spectacular environment around us. Eco-tourism may be part of the future Willits economy!

Meet up at the Willits Environmental Hub, 630 S. Main St., at 9 am to carpool. There is room in the ERRP Willits Go Wild Van for 9 or 10 passengers. For more information visit ERRP, ISF, or RFFI web sites, or phone Robin at 459-0155.







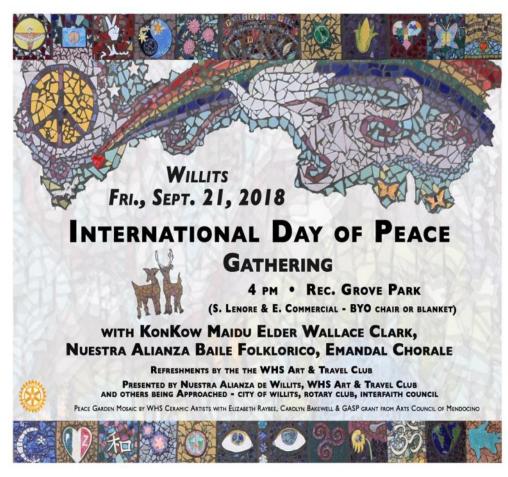


Wild Willits continued

See local farms and ranches. Meet a farmer. Take part in a Pomo dance.

And then return to a festival of local food, art, and wellness. Post run/walk, the Rec Grove will be alive with live music, delicious local food, artist booths, activities for kids, booths featuring body workers, masseuses, herbalists, nutritionists, and performance experts to help runners and non-runners achieve optimal body wellness. There will also be a beer garden featuring Mendocino County breweries and wineries as another way for guests to enjoy the bounty of the season.

For more information and to register to walk or run, visit WildWillitsFest.com and look for us on Facebook and Instagram. To help plan or volunteer, come to Visit Willits meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 4pm, at Willits City Hall.







**Sept. 17, 6:30pm** – WELL CoCom at Willits Hub, 630 S. Main St.

**Sept. 20, 7pm** – Film "Tomorrow" at LL Grange, see page 1

**Sept. 20, 7pm** – Brooktrails Recreation, Greenbelt & Conservation Committee, at BT Comm'ty Center

**Sept. 21, 4pm** – Int'l Peace Day at Rec Grove, see page 11

**Sept. 29, 9am** - ERRP field trip - see page 10.

**Oct. 4, 7pm** - Candidates forum, at City Hall, see page 7

Oct. 8 - Mail-in ballots begin being sent to registered voters

Oct. 11, 7pm - Brooktrails Firewise Committee at BT Comm'ty Center

Oct. 15, 6:30 - WELL CoCom at Willits Hub

Oct. 19, 4-8pm – Hometown Harvest Moon celebration downtown

Oct. 19, 7pm – Rocky Horror Picture Show Movie at LL Grange, see page 10 Oct. 20 – Wild Willits Fest, see page 1 Oct. 22 - Last day to register to vote

Oct. 25, 7pm - Brooktrails Greenbelt Committee (see Sept. 20 item) Nov. 6 - Election day.

ON-GOING EVENTS:

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 7pm – Brooktrails Comm'ty Service District Board at Brooktrails Comm'ty Center

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 4pm – Visit Willits Board meeting at City Hall

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 6:30pm – Willits City Council

Thursdays, 3-6pm – Willits Farmers Market, downtown

Thursdays, 5pm – Concerts at Rec Grove Park, Sept. 20-Oct. 11 Sat. & Sun. 9am-4pm – Art in the Plaza through Sept.

#### WHAT IS WELL?

Willits Economic Localization is a 501(c)3 non-profit, membership organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

**Our Vision:** An enduring local economy that provides health and security for our community.

**Our Mission:** To foster the creation of a local, sustainable economy in the Willits area by helping residents to learn valuable skills and take action, and by partnering with other organizations to share knowledge and support projects that build a thriving community

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