



Willits Economic Localization Newsletter

The WELL Bucket

Volume 15 , Issue 5

Sept/Oct 2019

Community Events

Sept & October 2019

Sept. 7 & 8, 9am-4pm - Roots 37th Annual Steam Festival. BBQ 4pm on Sat. Free train rides, historic steam locomotives and engines, live music, silent auction and raffle.

Sept. 7, 9:30-10:30am - Native American Cornucopia at Green Uprising Farm, 2301 E. Hill Road – an homage to the farming genius of the indigenous people. Info at 216-5549 homesteadingsara@gmail.com.

Sept. 7 and nearly every weekend to Nov. 2 – workshops at School of Adaptive Agriculture, see page 3 for topics and further info.

Sept. 7, 5-9pm - Little Lake Firefighters Open House & Fund-raiser at (temporary HQ) Substation, 1575 Baechtel Road. Visit littlelakefiredepartment.com or call 459-6271 for info.

Sept. 10, 1-3:30pm - first of a 6-week series of Healthy Living classes. See page 8

Sept. 11, 6:30pm - Empowerment workshop at Wellness Studio, see page 5

Sept. 12, Sept. 19, Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 6-7:30pm – Music in the Park (Rec Grove). See page 5

Sept. 13-14 - Salmon Awareness Festival in Covelo, see page 7

Sept. 16, 6:30pm - WELL Coordinating Committee meeting at the Hub

Sept. 20 - International Climate Strike, Santa Rosa or Ukiah see page 1

Sept. 21, 9am-12pm – Coastal & Inland Clean-up Day, meet at Willits City Hall. Bring gloves, tools: jrobbins@cityofwillits.org

(Cont. on pg 10)

CLIMATE CRISIS REPORT – by Madge Strong

The acclaimed film “PARIS TO PITTSBURGH” was shown in Willits over the Labor Day weekend on Sept. 1. There was a musical introduction – “Believe in the Future” by Madge Strong and members of Emandal Chorale. After the film



there were short presentations about what we can do locally from Eileen Mitro of Climate Action Mendocino and Shelly Ryan of the [Climate Reality Project](#). Over 70 people attended this event, organized by WELL and co-sponsored by Little Lake Grange.

The film – in addition to highlighting the disastrous consequences of unchecked climate change - gave numerous examples of actions states, cities, and individuals can do. Twenty states and hundreds of cities (including Pittsburgh, of course) have pledged to meet or exceed the Paris climate goals, regardless of federal inaction. It also touted the tremendous economic benefits and jobs created by sustainable energy like wind and solar.

Eileen Mitro urged folks to attend the upcoming **Climate Strike on Sept. 20**. On one hand, there’s a bigger impact from a larger event, so they are organizing carpools to the Santa Rosa demonstration. Contact her at climateactionmendocino@gmail.com to join the carpools! A local group is also staging a Climate Strike rally at the Ukiah Courthouse at noon, potentially drawing student strikers from Ukiah High School. **On Sept. 21st**, there will be a climate contingent at the Ukiah Farmers Market.

Shelley Ryan added information about the Climate Reality Project’s work around the world. She also noted that shifting to a plant-based diet can dramatically reduce your carbon footprint.

A lively Q&A and discussion followed, including more ideas for local actions. Supervisor John Haschak was thanked for helping create the new county-wide Climate Advisory Council, to which he has appointed Ellen Drell, Walter Smith and Javier Silva as our District 3 representatives. Ellen noted the 15-person group (3 each from the five supervisorial districts) will soon be setting up working committees to come up with a range of specific local projects to reduce our county’s carbon footprint. To get involved, contact Ellen at 459-2643.

The film touched on the need to localize and reduce energy use in our food system. Michael Foley took that a step further, noting that better farming practices also can have dramatic carbon-absorbing effects. Willits is cutting-edge with our local School of Adaptive Agriculture and Ecology Action both having excellent workshops on how to do this. (See articles in this issue!)

One local person is educating people not to let their cars idle. (For example, turn

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

it off while waiting in a long line; park and go in an air-conditioned building rather than sit in your car with the AC on.) Another person suggested reducing use of internet searches, which use loads of energy. "Powerdown" by Richard Heineberg was highly recommended for ideas to reduce greenhouse emissions.

To help WELL continue to organize and publicize local actions addressing the climate crisis, contact Lyn at lyn@twinberry.net.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY – SEPT. 21

For the fourth year, Willits folks will celebrate International Peace Day on the Equinox. This year, Emandal Chorale will sing peace songs at Brickhouse Café at 10am, and then continue with peace songs at the Ukiah Farmers Market after 11am. Come add your voice! (This will be complementary to the Climate Strike!) For info contact Don Willis at 459-9347.

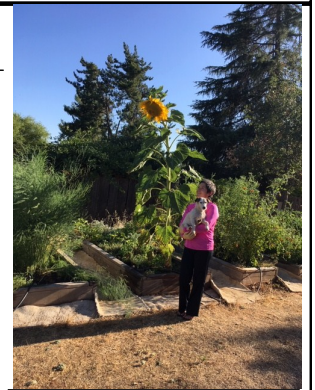
PAINT THE TOWN UPDATE

Don't take all these splashes of color and creativity around town for granted! The painting of K-rails, trash receptacles, and fire hydrants has been accomplished (and continues) thanks to many volunteers, donations of money & materials, and organizing efforts by WELL. We're hoping to expand our efforts with more funding this Fall and into 2020.

To keep this project going strong, please support WELL with your membership and/or send an extra donation earmarked for Paint the Town to WELL, PO Box 42, Willits CA 95490 or use Paypal at www.well95490.org/join-donate.

To volunteer or propose a design for more public art, contact WELL via Paul Jacobson at 4paulj@gmail.com and Lisa Montez at office@well95490.org.


WELL distributed hundreds of sunflower starts in 2017, and we continue to give out sunflower and other seeds to encourage 'Plant the Town' by residents and businesses. We'll be at the next Hometown Celebration Oct. 17. Here's one of the results!



Tania Borrás and Ditto with giant sunflower

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ADAPTIVE AGRICULTURE WORKSHOPS (Farming & Beyond!)

The School of Adaptive Agriculture (aka Farm School) is hosting a series of workshops for back-yard gardeners and small-scale farmers, and even some for cooks, weavers, do-it-yourselfers and health issues. Here's the upcoming schedule:

Sat. Sep 7, 12-3 pm - Intro to Wool Work - Washing Wool, with Kathryn Rossum

Sat & Sun, Sep 7 & 8, 8am - 5pm - Beginning Carpentry & Shed Construction, with Takashi Yogi

Sat, Sep 14, 10am - 3pm - Herbal Extracts and Medicine Making, with Yvonne Mayshark

Sat, Sep 14, 12-3 pm - Intro to Wool Work - Carding Wool - Kathryn Rossum

Sat. Sep 21, 9am - 1pm, Quinoa! Harvesting & Processing, with Sara Grusky & Ellen Bartholomew

Sat. Sep 21, 12-3 pm - Intro to Wool Work – Spinning, with Kathryn Rossum

Sun. Sep 22, 10am - 12pm - Spelt Weaving: An Ancient Tradition, with Anna Hope

Sun Sep 22, 1pm - 3pm - Herbal Support For Stress Management, with Caitlin Wolf

Sat Sep 28, 12-3 pm - Intro to Wool Work – Weaving, with Kathryn Rossum

Sun Sep 29, 10am - 3:30pm - Reawakening Resilience, with Kailea Frederick & Ana Victoria Salcido

Sat Oct 5, 8am - 1pm - Humane Chicken Butchering, with Eliot Hartley & Ruthie King

Sun Oct 6, 12pm- 1:30pm - Wild Medicinals: An Herb Walk, with Selena Rowan

Sat Oct 12, 9am - 3pm - From Kernel to Tortilla: Harvesting, Processing & Cooking Flour & Flint Corn, with Michael Foley & Sara Grusky

Sat Oct 12, 12pm - 1:45pm - Herbal Care for Children, with Kimberly Vadelnieks Stoepler

Sun Oct 13, 10am - 12pm - The Benefits of Spices, with Tina Tedeschi

Sun Oct 13, 1pm - 3pm - Getting Familiar with Electricity, with Takashi Yogi

Sat Oct 19, 10am-1pm - Plastic Reuse - Building with Bottle Bricks, with Anna Hope

Sun Oct 20, 10am - 12pm - Making Life Easier with Tools & Physics, with Takashi Yogi

Sun Oct 20, 1pm - 3pm - A Holistic Approach to Depression, with Caitlin Wolf

Sat Oct 26, TBD - Food, Forests and Fungi, with Rye N Flint

Sun Oct 27, 12pm - 3pm - Infused Herbal Oil Techniques: High Quality Extractions from Farm to Jar, with Selena Rowan

Sat Nov 2, 1pm - 4pm - Skin Care for Farmers, with Beth Riedel, AHG, NC

More information and registration can be found on the Upcoming Workshop tab of our website: <http://www.school-of-adaptive-agriculture.org/extension/>



BIOINTENSIVE MINI-FARMING WORKSHOP Nov. 1-3



Ecology Action and John Jeavons present our biannual 3-Day GROW BIOINTENSIVE® Sustainable Mini-Farming Workshop in Willits November 1-3.

GROW BIOINTENSIVE is the **original** *regenerative, organic, sustainable agriculture*, rooted in heritage farm-craft and proven with science. Bestselling author, farmer, and Ecology Action Director John Jeavons and Ecology Action farm staff will share the skills they have grown over 48 years of developing, using and teaching this wonderfully productive system.

In just 3 days, you'll learn how **reduce water use up to 66%**, use up to **94% less energy**, and **grow soil fertility up to 60 times faster than nature** - all while **increasing your garden yields** - plus much more.

Whether you're a backyard gardener or a market farmer, this workshop will build skills that will last you a lifetime. Come, have fun on a sustainable farm in beautiful Mendocino County, and learn *How to Grow More Vegetables* (and other crops) than you ever

thought possible, on less land, and with less water than you can imagine!

Complete information, prices, and registration are available at: growbiointensive.org/workshop.html Or contact: Ecology Action (707) 459-0150

www.growbiointensive.org

contact@growbiointensive.org

CITY NEWS – by Madge Strong

The City of Willits continues to address many opportunities and challenges. Here are a few highlights: Caltrans has accelerated work on completing the Sherwood Road intersection realignment. When completed, the City will soon gain ‘ownership’ of Main Street north of Highway 20, enabling some future plans for improvements.

The City has undertaken a major upgrade on the Maple Street and vicinity utilities and road (which unfortunately also involved a recent gas leak and temporary evacuation of the area).

City Council authorized rate increases for both water and wastewater services, following an already-approved rate study on what is required to meet present and future obligations (debt service and facility maintenance and improvements).

At direction from the City Council early this year, staff has proposed changes to the City’s Commercial Cannabis ordinance to allow such business activities for both adult use and medical cannabis, still only in certain zones and subject to stringent requirements. A second public hearing and potential adoption of the proposed changes will be scheduled in September.

Meanwhile, staff is processing three applications for cannabis dispensaries.

Two major new developments are being proposed in the City: (1) A large aquaponic cannabis grow and hemp-oil processing facility just north of Baechtel Road; and (2) A training and operation center for the California Conservation Corps across from the Hospital on E. Hill Road. These will go through normal planning review and approval processes.

The City continues to work with Little Lake Fire Department and other agencies on preventing and preparing for fire emergencies, as well as addressing PG&E’s planned power outages. Check the City website for more information.

SUPERVISOR HASCHAK REPORT

Power Shut-offs and PG&E Herbicide Use

“PG&E’s public safety power shutoffs are looming over every residence on the grid in the county. All services such as gas stations, grocery stores and medical facilities will also be affected. The county will spend \$126,000 on generators and electrical work just to keep the administrative center open. Chief Wilkes of Little Lake Fire Department said that a power shutoff might cause two, three, even four times as many fires due to people using generators in unsafe ways. [NOTE: See City of Willits or PG&E websites for important info on this!]

“The Board of Supervisors approved sending a letter to PG&E that I wrote with Supervisor Williams requesting reimbursement for that amount and that PG&E stop spraying herbicide on or near our roads... The issue arose from sprayed brush left by the roadside and under power lines which is a fire hazard.” [NOTE: Above are excerpts from District 3 Supervisor John Haschak’s report - See Willits Weekly Aug. 29 issue for full text.]

Emergency Preparedness

Supervisor Haschak has also been actively involved with the Sherwood Firewise Communities’ efforts to coordinate various agencies plans and to educate the public on evacuation routes and other ways to be prepared and notified in the event of a fire emergency.

Register for emergency alerts at www.nixle.com or with the Sheriff’s office www.mendosheriff.com. For a comprehensive list go to www.sherwoodfirewise.org. People can also sign up for emergency alerts at www.broadcastify.com.

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MUSIC IN THE PARK starts September 12

With a little something for almost everyone, Music in the Park is striving to bring Willits something new every music season. The Fall 2019 series of concerts are Thursdays, 6-7:30pm at Rec Grove Park. Here's the Lineup:

September 12 - Snaps for Sinners!

Snaps for Sinners is a saucy swing ensemble with influences ranging from traditional Jazz to Folk-Punk and Country. They are hellbent on making people dance and have a good time, while also delivering a powerful progressive message.

September 19th - The Real Sarahs!

Rising stars in the west coast Americana scene, The Real Sarahs are skillful harmony singers and evocative songwriters, blended with acoustic instruments. They embrace many genres of music, from folk, jazz, blues, bluegrass, to country.

September 26th - Funkacillin!

Funkacillin, a group of five Mendocino County musicians, represent the edgier side of funk, incorporating rock and soul, while keeping the music fun and danceable!

October 3rd - The Johnny Young Band

Country roots, with a rockin' soul, the northern California-based Johnny Young Band delivers a high-octane mix of country, rock and pop favorites guaranteed to set any dance floor ablaze.

The City of Willits organizes these FREE community concerts using no City funds, thanks to many generous sponsors: Solid Waste of Willits, Metal FX, Adventist Health, Howard Memorial Hospital, The Skunk Train, Canna Park, Emerald City, Vegan Buddha Organic Flowers, Dogwood, Modular Processing Systems, Alianza de Willits, Willits Power & Equipment.



The Real Sarahs

EMPOWERMENT EVENTS

THE MONTHLY SPEAKER SERIES

BODY TALK ENERGY THERAPY

Allowing Soul's Voice
in Bodymind Healing

SPEAKER:
HOLLY BARNARD, CMT

Sept 11th, 2019, 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm

At Cultivate Wellness Studio, Little Lake Grange,
Room 4, 291 School, St, Willits, CA 95490

Free admission, donations will be shared with the speaker.
Please arrive on time as courtesy to the speaker.

Your Hosts:

Michelle Cummins, L.Ac www.cultivateacupuncture.com 707 972 1902
Claudia Wenning, ND www.claudiawenning.com 707 371 6103

THURSDAY OCTOBER 17TH

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MEASURE V UPDATE - by Naomi Wagner

The saga of Measure V, the Initiative passed overwhelmingly in 2016, unfolded dramatically on Aug. 6th. Measure V declared the intentional leaving of dead, standing trees for over ninety days to be a public nuisance under County Health and Safety Codes due to fire danger, including to fire fighters themselves from toxic smoke and hazardous trees.

Following morning public comment at the Board of Supervisors from Inland and Coast constituents demanding answers and action, the BOS was unexpectedly informed the same afternoon by the Attorney General's office that, after waiting almost three years, *no* legal opinion on the Ordinance would be forthcoming, due to a "conflict of interest".

The conflict is understood to arise from CalFire's recently filed Wildlands Management Plan, proposing the use of herbicides including Glyphosate and Imazapyr (think "hack and squirt", injecting a cell-disrupting substance into the tree, leaving it to die standing) on some 250,000 acres of State Areas of Responsibility (SARs); if and when CalFire's plan is challenged in court, as expected, the AG would evidently be required to defend it.

The SARs overlap private timberlands, including that of Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC), the biggest user of forest herbicides in the County, killing millions of trees across thousands of acres. Primarily tan oaks, these trees provide food and habitat for wildlife and are of great cultural importance to Indigenous peoples. Hack and squirt is also used in Humboldt County by MRC's northern twin, Humboldt Redwood Company (HRC).

While some timber companies are abiding by V, the overall quantities used and areas covered are increasing. Forest Stewardship Council Sustainable Certification rules require MRC and HRC to phase out herbicides entirely and abide by all laws, but the companies ignore their commitments while continuing to profit from the lucrative "green" label.

Herbicides are now used year-round, increasing fuel loads exponentially, even as climate change brings hotter, more frequent fires

The Pacific Alliance for Environmental and Indigenous Action (PAEIA) was formed several years ago to address just such bioregional problems as these, by supporting local groups like SEIJ (Social, Environmental, Indigenous Justice), bringing together Tribes, groups and individuals from Point Arena to Trinidad.

Data from the Mendocino County Ag Dept. for the years 2017 and '18 show the shocking extent of herbicide use totaling thousands of gallons. For an interactive Mendocino County Forest Herbicide Map go to www.rnef.org, scroll to the bottom and click on the color map. Click on the red symbols for additional information.

Now the question of Measure V enforcement is up to the BOS. The matter will be set as an Agenda item in November. If you support V, contact your Supervisor and show up at the BOS hearing. To be informed of the meeting date, contact Naomi at nomiwagner@yahoo.com.



Activists at MRC office on Aug. 6 urge compliance with Measure V

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SALMON AWARENESS FEST & UPPER EEL CLEAN-UP - by Pat Higgins

The Eel River Recovery Project is planning its most ambitious Salmon Awareness Festival ever in Covelo on Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14, and ending the season in the upper Eel River by helping with the annual clean up there on October 5.

The Women Bear Dancers will open the Salmon Awareness Festival Friday Sept. 13 at 6 PM at Hidden Oaks Park in Covelo, a new addition to the event that celebrates the new salmon run in the Eel River. At 10 AM on Saturday morning there will be a workshop entitled *Restoring Forest Health in the Middle Fork and North Fork Eel River Watersheds*. This year the event will focus on the potential to win a CAL FIRE grant to fund crews to do forest health work in Mendocino National Forest. An afternoon education fair at Hidden Oaks Park will include displays by ERRP and other sponsors and community groups. A fun addition this year is the fantastic Cosmic Family Band will play at the festival.

At 5 PM, there will be a traditional salmon feast with the fish cooked ceremonially on stakes around an open pit fire. The dinner will also include corn. Donations for the meal are optional but welcome. People are invited to bring their favorite potluck side dishes, but such contributions are optional. A special treat after the feast will be the Round Valley Feather Dancers performing traditional dances at 7 PM, followed by the make Bear Dancers, with ceremonies from 9 PM into the night. Camping at Hidden Oaks Park will be allowed on Saturday night after the event.

The Salmon Awareness Festival is co-sponsored this year by ERRP, Round Valley Indian Tribes and Firescapes Mendocino. Volunteers are needed to help put on the feed. For more information see ERRP Facebook or call Ernie Merrifield at 707 983-8120.

ERRP is trying to promote an upper Eel River Salmon Park between Potter Valley Project Dams (see eelriverrecovery.org for more information), and we want to join the local community in their annual clean-up of the area on Sat., Oct. 5. Ride out of Willits from the Hub (630 S Main St) at 8 AM, meet in front of the Potter Valley Store at 8:30 AM or just go straight to Pioneer Bridge upstream of Cape Horn Dam. The Potter Valley Tribe, which recently

got 855 acres of their ancestral territories between the dams returned, will serve morning snacks and lunch. Solid Waste of Willits will haul all the garbage collected away for free. Bring sunscreen, work gloves, sturdy shoes and beach accessories in case the day is hot and the river is swimmable. Visit to amazing viewpoint after the event. Call Pat Higgins for more information at 707 223-7200, and stand by for the fall Chinook run parade in November.



KLLG News

Willits Hometown Radio, KLLG - 97.9FM, is a project of Little lake Grange: to equip and provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas, education, resources, emergency information, and training for the production of local radio programming by and for the people of Willits and the surrounding area. We celebrate local culture and encourage wellness, prosperity, and community resiliency.

KLLG has received an important grant this summer. The Community Foundation of Mendocino County has donated \$5,000 for our local station to purchase a generator. This will help us serve Willits and those in our listening area during a time of electrical outages and disasters.

Local Author Show: Do you live within the KLLG/Willits listening area? Have you self-published or had a book published? Would you consider reading a few short selections from your poetry, essay collection, novel, non-fiction book, or how-to, etc. for presentation on KLLG, the local radio station?

Earlene Gleisner is developing a program called "**Authors' Spotlight.**" Your short excerpts will be inserted into 'The Mix', KLLG's music offerings which is on the airwaves up to 24 hours a day. Excerpts can be educational, inspirational, informational, uplifting, thoughtful, and more. They must abide by FCC rulings. Inquire through Earlene Gleisner at earleneg73@gmail.com



WELL CoCom Summaries

July 22, 2019

Memberships: We continue to solicit membership renewals, and we're giving all volunteer painters comp membership for the year. Try to encourage folks who like us on Facebook to become members. A subcommittee will work on ways to expand membership, especially younger folks.

Paint the Town: While volunteer painting continues, we need to focus on sponsorships, grants and/or crowd-funding to enable scaling up and paying artists for larger projects, some of which also need approval from the City. This Fall we want to outreach to businesses and groups! We may also try again for a Community Foundation grant, keeping the scope more focused.

Climate Action Program: We discussed the plans for this Sept. 1 event. (See report elsewhere in this issue.)

Aug. 12, 2019

We are sad that Laura Toomey Roland will be retiring from the CoCom due to the demands of her job. Here's an opportunity, however, for some other WELL members to step up to help keep our work going! Call Madge at 459-1493 if you're interested!

Budget Review: We are continuing to just break-even, year-to-year, and are fortunate to have a reserve in our account. Aside from possible grants, however, we rely on renewals and need to expand our membership base. Keep getting our message out as WELL!

Paint the Town: We are in process on preparing a report to City Council on accomplishments-to-date and getting approvals-in-concept for some larger projects (including painting utility boxes and City Park bathroom) that we then hope to fund in 2020. Meanwhile, we still have (limited) funds earmarked for PTI, and we give the go-ahead for painting two trash bins at old Howard Hospital.

If we can meet the tight time schedule, we hope to put together a Paint the Town 2020 calendar in time for sales this winter – it could be a good fund-raiser!

Upcoming Events: PR and other tasks are in process for the Climate Crisis event. For this Fall we may consider hosting an event for EDFC to do outreach to offer loans to businesses & entrepreneurs in Willits. We should coordinate with WEC on a possible reprise of Hubbub!

Next CoCom Meetings: 6:30pm, Sept. 16 and Oct. 14 at the Hub, 630 S. Main St.



Improve the quality of your life with a

Healthier Living Workshop

Willits

STARTS: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 1:00-3:30 PM

MEETING AT: Frank R. Howard Foundation

3 Marcela Dr., Ste. A (Lamprich Center, north of hospital)

FREE Lifestyle Makeover!

- A free 6 week series of classes held once a week for 2.5 hours
- For adults with on-going health conditions (arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, chronic pain, etc.)
- For caregivers, family members, or friends of someone with a chronic condition
- For practicing new tools in a helpful and supportive group
- For learning ways to maintain your independence



A PROGRAM OF THE FRANK R. HOWARD FOUNDATION

*Willits Leaders
Suzanne Picetti & Susanna Wilson*

2019 COCOM Lay Red Well 2019

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NEW PLANS FOR CARING KITCHEN

The Caring Kitchen has been growing... We started off in 2017 serving 9 clients and their families. By the end of 2018, we were serving 24 clients and families. In early 2019 we increased to 30 clients. AND... as of August 1st we are now serving 36 clients and families!

This means we need more people power...

- **Join as an adult volunteer doing food prep for client meals...** Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 9:30-11:30am at the Mendocino College kitchen in Ukiah.
- **Drop in as an adult volunteer** to do the dishes for an hour... More client meals means more pots and pans to clean! Come by our Mendocino College Ukiah kitchen any time between 11am-4pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
- **Do some gardening** as an adult or teen volunteer... The Caring Kitchen helps out at the Mendocino College Agriculture Mini-Farm in exchange for fresh, organic produce. Tuesday mornings are best for our schedule. Call us for info!

Encourage a teen to volunteer with the Caring Kitchen! We have kitchen and garden opportunities after school on Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 3:30-5:45pm.

Adult volunteers, please contact April Cunningham at acunningham@ncoinc.org or 467-3212

Teen volunteers, contact Tarney Sheldon at sheldont@ncoinc.org or 462-1950

EDFC – County Economic Assessment & New Business Loans

Now Available! The 2018-2019 Mendocino County Economic Assessment is now available from Economic Development and Financing Corporation (EDFC), a non-profit organization based in Ukiah, CA. The comprehensive 28-page report looks at the current economic conditions in Mendocino County including real estate, income levels, business demographics, and industry specific trends..

According to the report, “Mendocino County’s economy has been on an upward trend but local growth has been slower and less extensive than comparable metrics at the state and national levels. It is possible to conclude that the local economy is stable, but also vulnerable to economic downturns and especially to natural disasters such as fires and earthquakes. There is a pressing need to engage in activities that build economic resiliency.”

“The purpose of this report is to provide critical information that business owners, local governments, and community members can use to make informed decisions and take positive actions,” says Gurewitz.

Funded in part through a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits, and the County of Mendocino, the report delves into current events, statistics, and on-the-ground experience to create a detailed picture of our local economy. This report is part of an Economic Recovery and Resiliency planning process that began with the Mendocino County Economic Summit on January 31, 2019 and will continue through the fall and early winter with a draft plan available in late May of next year.

EDFC is a Mendocino County based 501c3 non-profit organization. In addition to coordinating economic development, EDFC also offers business loans from under \$5,000 up to \$250,000 to start-up and existing businesses in Mendocino and Lake Counties. For more info, visit www.edfc.org or call Heather Gurewitz at 707-234-5705.

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(Continued from page 1)

Sept. 21 - International Peace Day, noon at Ukiah Farmers Market

Sept. 22, 8-11am - Grange Pancake Breakfast

Sept. 28, 2pm - Not Just Cowboy Poetry at Emandal Farm

Oct. 5, 8am - ERRP Field Trip for Eel River clean-up, see page 7

Oct. 14, 6:30pm - WELL Coordinating Committee meeting at the Hub

Oct. 17, 3-7pm - Harvest Moon Celebration downtown Willits, see page 5

Oct. 20, 2-5pm - Elder Talk 'School Days' at Little Lake Grange, featuring elders who attended school at what is now the Grange. Coffee & tea served; dessert potluck. More info: rachel-louise.britten@gmail.com.

Oct. 27, 8-11am - Grange Pancake Breakfast

Nov. 1-3 - 3-day workshop at Ecology Action, see page 3

Nov. 8-10 - Annual Mushroom Festival. Details TBA.

Ongoing:

Thursday Farmers Market, 3-6pm at Mendocino Ave., just off Main Street (No Farmers Market July 4)

Art in the Plaza, Sat. & Sun. 10-4 behind Café 77

Willits City Council, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 6:30 at City Hall

WELL Coordinating

Committee 2019

Paul Jacobson, 459-1418, 4paul@gmail.com

Lisa Montez, 972-6792 ellemontez7@gmail.com

Tim Rice, 456-1146, tim@multitalents.net

Madge Strong, 459-1493, mstrong@willitsonline.com

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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.

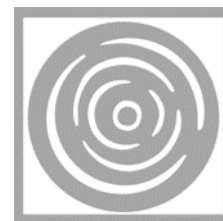
Our Mission: To foster the creation of a local, sustainable economy in the Willits area by helping residents to learn valuable skills and take action, and by partnering with other organizations to share knowledge and support projects that build a thriving community

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Willits Economic Localization
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