

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TRANSITION STYLE—MAKING SEBASTOPOL SMILE!
Local Sustainability Group Presents a New Concept in Fashion Shows**

July 28, 2011, Sebastopol—*Transition Style*, an event at which elder/younger pairs will promenade down a red carpet to flaunt their personal style, will be held on August 21, from 3 p.m. to 6:30, at Sebastopol's Masonic Hall. The show will also feature local musicians, poets, and a healthy feast prepared by Transition Sebastopol's Local Food group.

All of the apparel on display will be handmade or assembled entirely from thrift stores and closets. Organizer Alexandra Hart explains, "The textile industry creates a lot of pollution. When you get clothes from flea markets, secondhand stores, or your own closet, that reduces the amount of *stuff* in the world."

Meanwhile, in the weeks leading up to the event and beyond, Transition-themed art exhibits will be on display at Renga Arts, Guayaki, Sequoia Cohousing, and other locations around town. These pieces, created by West County artists working in a variety of media, will be on Transition topics (sustainability, resource conservation, localization, community-building, honoring diversity, local food production) and/or composed primarily from recycled, repurposed, or compostable materials.

Transition Style was conceived by Hart, 72, cofounder of the Elders Salon of **Transition Sebastopol**.

The mission of **Transition Sebastopol**, formed in 2007, is to create a positive vision of the future by cultivating community resilience in response to potential challenges of resource depletion, climate change, and economic instability. Transition Sebastopol was the 9th official Transition Town in the United States. There are now over 60 Transition initiatives in America.

The **Elders Salon** meets regularly to exchange ideas, wisdom, and to offer younger folk (in Hart's words) "some things that might be helpful if and when a crisis comes."

Transition Style pairs up individual elders and young people to create a personal "look" together, while enjoying and learning from each other. Currently, Transition Style pairs are enjoying 10-20% discounts at local thrift stores.

Michael Cephess, a young menswear and artwear designer and instructor in the Design Department at the University of Washington, will cohost the August 21 event with Hart.

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