

October 1, 2016

The Westport Wave

Published by the Westport Village Society, P. O. Box 446, Westport, CA 95488

You Are Invited to the WVS Annual Meeting on October 7th

Thad Van Bueren,
President, WVS

Please come join your neighbors and friends at the **Westport Village Society Annual Meeting** on the evening of **Friday, October 7th at the Westport Community Church**. This is a

great chance to visit with neighbors, find out more about what the WVS does, and share your ideas for new activities. You can learn more about the nonprofit Westport Village Society at our web site www.westportvillagesociety.org or also on our Westport Village Society Facebook page.

Our Annual Meeting begins with a casual opportunity to socialize with neighbors at 6:30 PM. You don't have to be a member to join us – everyone is invited! Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages are provided and contributions of edible treats are most welcome if you feel inspired to bring something along! Catch up with local friends and view photos from the 1970s and beyond that Lee Tepper will share. You can also join or renew your membership in the WVS. Your dues cover communications with our members like this monthly newsletter. Additional donations support our diverse community programs.



Westport is one of the few places in the world to have a community park as big as the town itself! (The park's got a pretty nice view, too!) The Westport Headlands was acquired in 2000 and is maintained for all by the Westport Village Society.

The main part of our Annual Meeting kicks off at 7:00 PM with a brief review of WVS activities during the last year. Qualified WVS members will then vote in a secret ballot to fill the expiring terms of two Directors. Please consider running for the Board if you find the WVS mission compelling and want to contribute. You don't need to be on our Board to get involved, however. Everything we do happens because volunteers step forward to help!

After the election, we'll talk about your ideas about activities that may be worth pursuing in the coming year. One thing we'd like to highlight is a renewed commitment to land conservation. Also, if you are artistically inclined, WVS plans to adopt a logo this coming year. We encourage you to bring along ideas for that logo to be shared at the Annual Meeting, and please include the words "Westport Village Society" in your design. Come join us on the evening of Friday, October 7th for a great time!

MCDH Board Candidates at the Westport Hotel 6PM October 4th

Rob Scott

Steve Lund and Patti Darland, two candidates who are running for seats on the **Mendocino Coast District Hospital Board of Directors**, will be at the **Westport Hotel at 6:00PM on Tuesday, October 4th** to discuss issues facing our local hospital with members of the Westport Community. All are invited to attend!

Steve is a retired Superintendent of the Fort Bragg Unified School District and Patti is a Registered Nurse and home health care consultant. They both currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Mendocino Coast Hospital Foundation.

Since we live in a remote area, medical care is particularly important to all of us. Please attend this important discussion for your own sake, and for your family's, neighbors', and community's sake too!

County Cannabis Ordinance To Be Reviewed at WMAC Meeting

7PM October 4th

Thad Van Bueren

On **Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00PM**, at their monthly meeting at the Westport Church, the **Westport Municipal Advisory Council** will consider the Draft Cannabis Ordinance proposed by the County. This is your opportunity to offer local input on that measure. A copy of the draft ordinance is available at the WMAC website on the "Next Meeting" page. Check it out with this link: http://www.westportmac.org/next_meeting.jsp. The agenda for the meeting may include other matters of local interest. Check for it at the next meeting page on the WMAC website or the bulletin board at the Westport Store 3 days prior to the meeting.



There's a whole lot of diggin' going on at the Westport Slide!

What's With the Westport Slide?

Steve Brigham, Editor

OK, 2 years of waiting at the stoplight and millions of dollars later, Caltrans finally got the Seaside Highway 1 "storm damage repair" (damage from 2005!) pretty much done in September. Meanwhile, they'd finally paved the Westport Grade (aka the Westport Slide) just south of town. Yay! No more waiting! All our roads are fixed! Well, not exactly...

The Westport Slide is a place just south of Westport where the Coast Highway traverses a large, ancient, and still-active landslide that has been gradually slipping down to the ocean for hundreds if not thousands of years. Seemingly, this is just a gradual process, but every so often, Caltrans has to come through and re-align the roadbed, sometimes having to dig into the hill to have the space to do so.

The Westport Slide tends to move more when we have a lot of rain. Last year we did, and although more "permanent" repairs are still to be funded, an "emergency" \$4.275 million has recently been appropriated to do a little more than just repaving. The bad news for Westportians is that this construction will be going on through November, so

we'll have to deal with a one-way stoplight again for another two months!

What's going on now is a "partial fix", and here's the official report: Caltrans engineer Frank Demling reports that a \$4.275 million contract was approved in late August for temporary emergency repairs to Highway 1 between post miles 75.5 and 76.5. The repair will address an active slide located north of Chadbourne Creek, also known as Blues Beach. The work is being performed by Granite Construction and should be complete by the end of November. The work order notes the slide has been a source of local concern as communicated by the Westport MAC.

Recognizing that there will be ongoing movement within the slide area, this emergency repair will create a structural section that can be maintained until the permanent restoration project is delivered. The current repair will raise the vertical profile to correct sight distance and traversibility problems and address drainage problems. A thick pavement cap will be placed at the scarp edges and roadway areas subject to accelerated shifts. Erosion control, shoulder restoration, utility relocation, and the installation of a monitoring system are included in the work.

A couple of weeks ago, when this new construction started, I started looking on the Internet for any clues as to what-in-the-wide-world-of-sports was going on. And I landed on the website of our own Westport Municipal Advisory Council! (www.westportmac.org) Never underestimate the WMAC – on this website, you can see a couple of very interesting Caltrans documents, including a full April 2014 Caltrans study of the Westport Slide (in the Documents section of the website), which even includes an estimate for a \$250 million tunnel solution! And the current Westport Slide work project report is there as well, at:

http://www.westportmac.org/next_meeting.jsp.

24/7 Westport Wave

Did you know that *The Westport Wave* is always free to everyone at any time on the Newsletter page of our website westportvillagesociety.org – where you'll always find our most current issue as well as over four years of monthly back-issues, all in living color! Check it out, and tell your friends!



Halloween In Westport!

Sarah Cullar

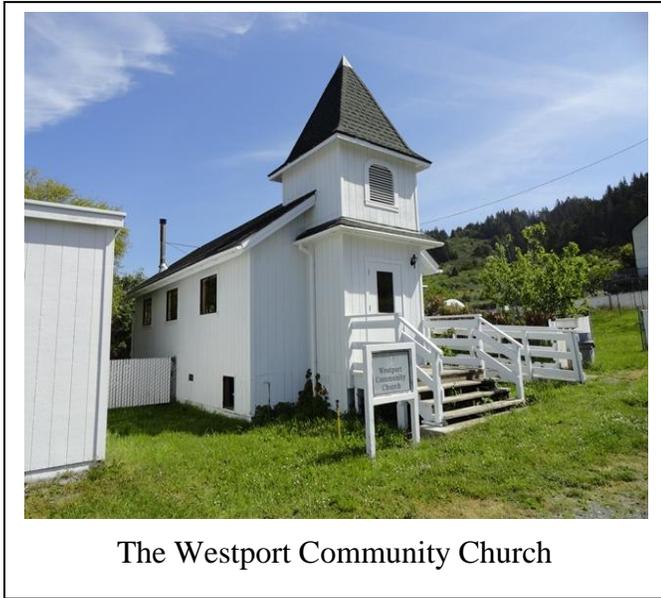
It's almost Halloween! Once again, on October 31st, we'll gather as a community for Trick-or-Treating and a potluck. On Halloween night all Trick-or-Treaters can gather at the Westport Church and Recreation Center at 5:15PM. We'll set off through the town around 5:30PM. Everyone is welcome to come to the Church afterward for a potluck. The potluck will start when we get back from Trick-or-Treating. Based on how long it took us last year, this should be around 6:45PM, but if you live in town you can keep your eyes on the Trick-or-Treat route. We'll start off toward Omega, then go to Pacific, then weave our way back to the beginning via Pelican and Seaview. Hope to see you there!

October at the Westport Community Garden

Steve Brigham

Summer may be over, but there are still plenty of fresh, organically grown vegetables at the Westport Community Garden this month. They're absolutely free to all, 24 hours a day – all you have to do is stop by (at the Community Center at the end of Abalone Street) anytime and harvest your fill!

For October, we'll have the last of our Italian and Blue Lake green beans, tomatoes, and summer squash for the year. Also this month, we've got lots of several kinds of lettuce, cilantro, 3 kinds of kale, and 3 kinds of Swiss chard. So go for it – Mom says fine!



The Westport Community Church

Westport Community Church October 2016 Calendar

Founded in 1880, the **Westport Community Church** is pleased to offer a variety of experiences to help us discover ways to become more in touch with our spiritual heritage. We are doing our best to nurture a tradition of having weekly gatherings at the Church (which is at the end of Abalone Street on the left) to explore various spiritual paths. All suggestions and participants for services are welcome at the Westport Church – and we welcome all denominations to hold services here!

We still have the 4th and occasional 5th Sundays of every month open for community members to suggest other speakers and topics for these days. Please contact Church President Millie Saunders at 964-3030 to discuss your ideas and see how you can help the Westport Community Church.

1st Sunday, October 2nd, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katherine White leads our regular 1st Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is a simple, quiet meditation for 45 minutes followed by Katherine reading Quaker passages and a shared discussion of our experience including sharing of any of our thoughts or readings that one is inspired to bring to

the group. This has been and will continue to be a very peace-filled and nurturing experience.

2nd Sunday, October 9th, 10:00AM – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, on “Feeling Inadequate? Unworthy? Think Yourself Tall!”

Carolyn Cathey, Spiritual Leader, discusses how to live the life you desire in her talk, “Feeling Inadequate? Unworthy? Think Yourself Tall!”

Do you ever feel unworthy, or that you don’t believe in yourself and in your magnificence? If you have a challenge with self-confidence, aren’t you tired of living the falsehood that you are not good enough? Are you beginning to sense that, somewhere in history, you’ve let mankind decide your worth for you? And believed them? And that in your acceptance of their incorrect beliefs of who you are, you’ve allowed others to control you – to control your destiny? If so, you’ve accepted and lived a lie that is the opposite of the truth.

Come to this Sunday discussion and learn how to live your magnificence. Discover how to “Think Yourself Tall!” Donations are welcome to support the church.

3rd Sunday, October 16th, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katherine White leads our regular 3rd Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is just like our 1st Sunday Service.

October at the Old Abalone Pub

Thank you to all our loyal locals who are making the **Old Abalone Pub** a success! **Our October and November hours at the Old Abalone Pub will be Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 5:00PM to 9:00PM, and we will also be open for Afternoon Tea on Saturdays from 3:00PM to 5:00PM.** These hours will continue until December 3rd, after which we will be closed until we re-open for Valentine’s dinner on February 9th, 2017. Come visit us in October and November and check out our new fire pit out on the deck where you can sip a glass of wine, beer, or cup of coffee and keep warm by the fire!



Derek DiOrio and one of his many creations.

Portrait of a Westport Artist

Steve Brigham and Derek DiOrio

(Editor's Note: One of our most distinctive Westport artists is Derek DiOrio, whose studio is right here in town. As befits our town, much of Derek's creations are inspired by the sea and the creatures within, but what's really amazing to me is how he uses mixed media to make a unique visual "performance" out of every creation he does. During October, you can see some of Derek's works on display at the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub – don't miss it!)

At a very young age Derek displayed a strong love for drawing. Being rooted from Rhode Island, his early sketches consisted of waves, seashells and boats; however, over the years, stranger, more imaginative illustrations began to surface. Unfriendly aliens began to ride vicious, half-mutant dinosaurs. Malfunctioning robots spewed oil unwillingly while powering gargantuan tree monsters... and vile, deep-sea creatures boarded rusty, shipping freighters to feast on the goods. Drawing began to become a way in which Derek could escape from the real world and lose himself for hours on end in a mysterious and exciting world that could only come from within his

own psyche. Today this notion still rings true.

"I studied art in the hopes of finally being able to solidify the connection between my brain and my hand. I thought I'd be able to put whatever I saw in my head on paper; however, after years of self-criticism and disappointment I've realized and accepted the fact that I will never be able to attain this... And I'm so glad. The mystery that comes from making art is what makes it so therapeutic for myself. I can keep my head down working on a project for hours and hours until eventually lifting my head up and thinking, 'Whoa.. What just happened?... Where was I?... And what the hell is that!?' Its scary, exciting and beautiful all at the same time. You never really know what's going to happen or what you're going to get at the end of it all. The whole process is a lot like getting lost in the woods; yet, having all the right tools and experience to know that no matter what happens you're going to end up somewhere beautiful... Whether you like it or not."

Today, Derek Anthony DiOrio is a working illustrator, fine artist, and graphic designer currently living in Westport. His concentration is in mixed media and assemblage – utilizing everything from pen & ink, watercolor, and acrylic paint to foam core, wood, and metal. His two primary tools of choice are the X-Acto blade and the orbital jigsaw. Depending on the medium, he interchangeably uses each instrument to depict a bizarre world of mischief, heartache, and "inky" humor – all the while exemplifying the beauty and good-nature of chaos. It's a world where methodical asymmetry is just as visually balanced as symmetry. A place where juxtaposing themes, images, shapes, sizes, colors, etc. all work harmoniously together as a balanced aesthetic expression.

A small selection of Derek's work will be on display at the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub during the month of October – so come on down for a pint or some food and let your eyes set sail upon the vast, underwater world of sea monsters, sunken ships and loathsome lobsters which currently adorn the walls! Bon Voyage!



Life is just a walk in the park!

The Westport Headlands

Marty Anderson

One of the great things about living in Westport is the Westport Community Headlands Park. This 9-acre public park, which was acquired in the year 2000 by the Westport Village Society with the generous help of the State Coastal Conservancy, not only preserves a beautiful stretch of our town’s coastline and beach, it also is just plain fun for any dog to explore! Every time Barb takes me there (on a leash, of course), I just have the best time in the world!

Besides the large lawn area, one of the things I like best about the Westport Headlands is that it is an excellent nature preserve, and a terrific, protected habitat for a huge amount of native plants and animals. Now I haven’t seen too many of those animals (I hear that a lot of them come out at night), but with my sniffer, I really don’t have to. You humans just don’t know what you’re missing by not having good working noses! Why just a few minutes on the Headlands gives me much more exciting information than what you people get in hours of reading your newspapers (even *The Westport Wave*!)

It is truly commendable when you humans use those big brains of yours to do something really worthwhile, like buying and preserving wildlife (and dog) habitat instead of just building houses on it. And

so my hat is off (see photo) to the Westport Village Society for having the foresight 16 years ago to preserve our beautiful Westport coastline forever. Oh, and here’s my sales pitch: the non-profit volunteer-operated Westport Village Society really deserves your support for taking care of the Westport Headlands and so many other community projects! Go to their meeting on October 7th at 6:30PM at the Westport Church. And tell them Marty sent you!

WVS Needs Volunteers For Historic Trail Route Work

Thad Van Bueren

The Westport Village Society is looking for volunteers to help clear vegetation to reopen a historic well-used trail route in our area. Please call 964-7272 or email me at wvs@westportvillagesociety.org if you are interested. Thanks!

Logan’s Corner

“What to Keep”

Love is more than skin deep;
 Love is more than skin tight.
 Love is more than a liberal style;
 Love is more than a redneck plight.
 And love is more than black and white.

Love sings louder than bullets wail;
 Love wings stronger than the strongest gale.
 Love is part of our soul;
 Love makes the world whole.
 And Love is more than skin deep.

Love is more than a cross or a star;
 Love is more than a prayer for Life.
 Love yearns only for more Love;
 Love has no strife.

Love keeps workin’ while we sleep;
 Love is more than skin deep.
 Love is what we need to keep.

J. Logan Smith
 9/27/16
 Westport, Ca.

For Syria

Batul Merchant

Hope dwells,
in shattered mortar,
and dust clouds
and bodies whole, no more.

Hope dwells,
when hands join,
to lift, to heal
and salvage what remains.

Hope dwells,
in salty streams,
and plaintive cries.
Humanity, not yet abandoned.

Hope dwells,
while hearts beat
steadily, knowing.
Forevermore, we are truly, One.

Court-Ordered Community Service Opportunities In Westport

Gary Quinton

Do you need to serve court-ordered Community Service or serve in a Sheriff's Department Work Release program? Why not serve it in your community? We would value your time!

There are several places and varied types of work in Westport where you can provide your hours and get credit towards the satisfaction of your court order, including work for the Westport Volunteer Fire Department, Westport-Ten Mile Cemetery District, and the Westport Village Society. Jobs include grass/weed cutting, painting, handyman work, and more. We can help you with the registration paperwork and compliance/completion documents. If you are interested, please call Gary Quinton at (707) 964-7073.

October 2016 Westport Calendar

October 2nd – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

October 2nd – Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown

October 4th – MCDH Board Candidates Discussion, 6:00PM, Westport Hotel

October 4th – WMAC Meeting, 7:00PM, Westport Community Church

October 6th – Westport Community Church Quarterly Board Meeting, 4:00PM, Westport Church

October 7th – Westport Village Society Annual Meeting, 6:30PM, Westport Community Church

October 8th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Firehouse

October 9th – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, speaks on “Feeling Inadequate? Unworthy? Think Yourself Tall!”, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

October 11th – Yom Kippur begins at sundown

October 12th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Firehouse

October 13th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

October 15th – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 9:00AM, Westport Church

October 15th – Full Moon, 9:23PM

October 16th – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

October 27th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

October 30th – New Moon, 10:38AM

October 31st – Halloween

The Westport Wave is a free monthly community newsletter published by the **Westport Village Society**, a non-profit community-benefit organization. Internet subscribers to *The Wave* receive their **COLOR** copies on or before the first day of every month by e-mail. Printed (black-and-white) copies of our current newsletter are also available for free at the Westport Community Store. **Check out our website www.westportvillagesociety.org, to read and download both our present issue and over four years of past issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our November 1st, 2016 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by October 26th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488. Thank You!