

October 1, 2017

# The Westport Wave

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## WVS Annual Meeting October 6<sup>th</sup>

Thad Van Bueren,  
President, WVS

We'd just like to remind you that the **Westport Village Society Annual Members Meeting** will be held on **Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** at the **Westport Community Church** on Abalone Street starting at **6:30 PM**. This year the WVS is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We invite you to renew your membership or join the WVS for the first time. See the "Meetings" page on our website for an application form and information about the meeting (<http://www.westportvillagesociety.org/>).

The WVS annual meeting begins at 6:30 PM with a casual opportunity to socialize. Snacks and beverages are provided and your contributions of edible treats are welcome! Catch up with local friends, become a member, and view our historic photo collection. We call the official meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting starts with a brief review our activities over the past year. The expiring terms of three Directors will be filled by a vote of members living in or owning property in the membership area. **We offer here statements from three candidates that have expressed interest in serving on the Westport Village Society Board for a three-year term.**

## Community Meeting



**Steve Brigham**—Friends, we all know (and we all are very proud) that Westport is a very self-governing community, as communities go. It reminds me of the grand sociological dreams that I and my friends had back in college in the 1970s, hoping that much of America would someday be led by such self-governed, enlightened communities. Well, we've got that right here in Westport right now, but that grand privilege comes with an obligation for all of our citizens. And that is to be a community volunteer.

Now community volunteerism can take many forms, especially in a small town such as ours. Some of us here in Westport today are most comfortable as worker bees, while some of us are very well-qualified administrative bees, and many of us necessarily end up doing both jobs. We need worker bees every day, most emphatically. But we also need administrative bees, because administration is important. In the case of the WVS, we as a community simply could not own the Westport Headlands if it weren't for everyday volunteer folks serving on a strong WVS Board.

That's because this Board, and this organization, legally must exist and run correctly or else we all won't own our Westport Headlands at all. And of course, without the WVS Board, none of our many other community service projects would get done either. The WVS, and the WVS Board, is all about the people of Westport controlling their own destiny.

If you want to volunteer for Westport, we all can and will use your specific talents. It just might be that stuff you actually like to do is exactly what needs to be done! So volunteer today -- six years ago when I first was elected to the Westport Village Society Board, they let me do what I really wanted to do, which was gardening and journalism. If I could fit in you can too. A diversity of talents is what truly makes a great team!

If elected on October 6<sup>th</sup>, I will continue to serve the Westport community as a WVS Board member.

**Lesli Langslet**—The Westport Village Society is a vital resource and asset to the community, whose goals of land preservation, community benefit and involvement are key to the sense of belonging and purpose experienced by those who have been affected by their efforts. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I respectfully submit my application to serve on the Board of Directors. Everyone who passes through the Northern Coast of Mendocino County is able to enjoy the efforts and commitment to this land and the people who live here. My interest in serving on the board stems from my work with other nonprofits and desire to continue to strengthen our community, while respecting the dedication and experience of those who have served before me.

As the Association Executive for the Coastal Mendocino Association of Realtors, I am dedicated to maintaining an understanding of local issues while working with multiple agencies on numerous projects to strengthen and improve communities along the Mendocino Coast. My previous experience includes working with homeless and severely mentally ill at the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center. As a paralegal and grant writer, I have researched multiple issues and obtained over a million dollars in funding for nonprofit organizations. Through my experience, I have gained insight and understanding of the many challenges and opportunities that nonprofits struggle

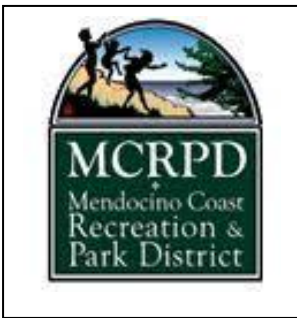
with on an ongoing basis. If elected to the Westport Village Society, I promise to bring dedication and commitment to our community as it moves forward. I would be honored to contribute to that work.

**Thad Van Bueren**—I am interested in continuing to serve on the Board if elected for another term. I am dedicated to the WVS mission, sharing its core values of land conservation and community benefit projects. I find great satisfaction working collaboratively with the Board and other WVS members to accomplish shared goals. I've served on the WVS Board since 1999, acting as the President for a dozen years and contributing at other times as Vice President, Treasurer, newsletter editor, and the manager of three grants totaling nearly a million dollars that were used to acquire and improve the Headlands property. My experience also includes acquiring and managing a large transportation grant to plan safe pedestrian and bicycle paths along Route 1. Working with knowledgeable members of the community, I also wrote a local history.

I appreciate our village and the role WVS plays in our shared experience as a community. I am dedicated to making sure the WVS is well managed and effective so that the organization remains a vital and sustained force for good by involving our diverse and talented community members. There are many beneficial projects worth pursuing in the future and I hope you will share your ideas at the Annual Meeting October 6th. I will work hard toward our shared goals if elected.

## ***24/7 Westport Wave***

*The Westport Wave* is always free to everyone at any time on the Newsletter page of our website [westportvillagesociety.org](http://westportvillagesociety.org) – where you'll always find our most current issue as well as over five years of monthly back-issues, all in living color, with live links! Check it out, and tell your friends!



## October MCRPD Classes at the Westport Recreation Center

Tabby Korhummel

**Mondays 9:30AM** – Yoga with Melinda

**Tuesdays 8:30AM (New Time!)** – Tai Chi with Beck  
(drop-in rate \$5/class)

(Please note Thursday Zumba Fitness has been  
CANCELLED)

**Coming soon on Tuesday Nights, SharQui Belly  
Dance Fitness!**

We love new students, so please come try all of our  
classes! All classes are great for beginners and  
experienced exercisers alike! For more information  
please call Tabby at [707-367-0010](tel:707-367-0010) or message the  
**Westport Community Recreation Center on  
Facebook.**

## Westport Yoga

Melinda McLaughlin

Westport yoga continues on Mondays at 9:30AM in  
the recreation center on Abalone Street. This practice  
is founded on the teachings of B. K. S. Iyengar and  
includes a variety of asanas (poses) to strengthen and  
improve the body's functions. Our October practice  
will focus on our feet and the lofty goal of finding the  
optimum balance between strength and flexibility!

The drop-in rate is \$12/class. Purchase of six or more  
classes is available for \$10/class. Props, which are  
essential to this practice, are on hand thanks to  
Westport Village Society and Mendocino Coast Park  
and Recreation District. While yoga mats are also  
available, your own mat is always a great idea.

## Art Journaling with Donna Traycik on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

**Special Class!** On Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, from  
11:30AM to 1:30PM, Donna Traycik will teach a class  
on Art Journaling. Learn how to explore your inner  
self through color, line, and texture on a daily basis,  
through creative drawing with colored pencils to  
reflect your moods, memories, dreams, and aspirations.  
All materials are provided, \$20.00 class fee. Please  
pre-register by calling 367-0010 or by message on the  
Westport Community Recreation Center Facebook  
page.



## Westport Halloween!

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!





## It's Harvest Time at the Westport Community Garden!

Steve Brigham

In **October** at the Westport Community Garden, we've got **butter lettuce, romaine lettuce, red leaf lettuce, arugula, three kinds of kale, rainbow Swiss chard, cilantro, strawberries, Chinese snow peas, yellow zucchini, cucumbers, and three kinds of tomatoes, all organically grown and ready for picking!** And it's all **ABSOLUTELY FREE** to everyone! That sounds like a pretty mean salad to me for no expense, and you will not believe how flavorful a salad can be when you use fresh-picked tender greens and vegetables instead of that days-old store-bought stuff! All **you** have to do is **GO TO THE GARDEN** and harvest on your own, so just stop by any time (right next to the Recreation Center at the end of Abalone Street) 24/7 and go for it! At the price of vegetables these days, think of all the money you'll save – plus, you know right where they are grown and you know that your food is not just organic but also just as fresh and as vitamin-packed as it can be!

## WVS Mini-Grants

Since the inception of the Westport Village Society Mini-Grant Program in October of 2014, 16 grants have been awarded, in three different community service categories: 1) benefit/beautification of the community, 2) events, and 3) outreach. The WVS is continuing this program, and funds are available again this fiscal year, through June 30, 2018. Please see the Mini-Grant Application Form on our WVS website [www.westportvillagesociety.org](http://www.westportvillagesociety.org) for details. With your help, we look forward once again to serving the Westport community in 2017-2018!

## Depression and Bipolar Support Group Mondays in Fort Bragg

Baile Oakes

This year I had the good fortune to experience a Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) Peer Support Group and found it to be a truly healing step along my path to peace. With the help of many people within and outside of our coastal community, we presently have the opportunity to manifest an ongoing **weekly Monday evening meeting at Saint Michael's Meeting Room (corner of Franklin and Fir Streets) in Fort Bragg from 7:00PM to 9:00PM.** These weekly support group meetings are designed for high functioning individuals with depression, bipolar, and related mood disorders and/or family members. Meetings are free, with donations accepted.

Support from others who have experienced depression and other related mood disorders is essential to recovery. One of the most helpful things one person can say to or hear from another is "I've been there." Depression and bipolar disorder can be isolating illnesses. A DBSA Peer Support Group is a path to help connect you with others who have been there as well. For more information please see: [http://www.dbsalliance.org/site/PageServer?pagenam=peer\\_landing](http://www.dbsalliance.org/site/PageServer?pagenam=peer_landing)

## 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 and weed cutting, painting, handyman work, and more. We can help you with registration paperwork and compliance/completion documents. If you are interested, please call Gary Quinton, (707) 964-7073.



The Westport Community Church

## Westport Community Church October 2017 Calendar

Founded in 1880, the **Westport Community Church** is a multi-denominational church which serves the Westport community and its many spiritual paths. It is also the prime meeting hall for the Westport Community and its activities. In addition to being a community meeting hall, we are also doing our best to nurture our tradition of having weekly spiritual gatherings at the Church (which is at the end of Abalone Street on the left), with all religious and spiritual denominations both welcome and encouraged to hold both regular and special services here. Please contact us at [westport.community.church@gmail.com](mailto:westport.community.church@gmail.com) for use of the Westport Community Church for community meetings, activities, or religious services, and also to see how you can help keep our Westport Community Church organization improving and our Westport Community Center buildings and grounds maintained and improved.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katharine White leads our regular 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is a simple, quiet meditation for 45 minutes followed by Katharine 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.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Carolyn Cathey, on “Abundance”

Abundance! How does it work? Merely positive thinking? Or is there more involved in opening to and receiving the bounty of the Universe from our Unlimited Supplier that supplies all of our needs? Come prepared to discuss your own experiences with what works in receiving abundance, or you are welcome to participate by listening and deciding what works best for you.

Donations are welcome to support the Church!

*Carolyn Cathey's new book, “Divine Messages from Jesus for a magnificent life” is now available in paperback and Kindle versions. For more information, please see <https://carolynecathey.com/divine-messages-from-jesus/>*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katharine White leads our regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is just like our 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Service.

*Please note that the Westport Community Church now has a new e-mail address, [westport.community.church@gmail.com](mailto:westport.community.church@gmail.com). If you would like to be on our mailing list and receive reminders of our programs and services as well as other Church news, please send us an e-mail and we'll include you on our e-mail list.*

*You are invited to our monthly community volunteer meetings on the first Sunday of every month at 11:30PM at the Church – please stop by to see how you can help improve our valuable Community Center and community resources!*



## 911 Dispatch Contract Update

WVFD

Calls to 911 for medical emergencies, traumatic injuries, and fires in Mendocino County are routed to CalFire's Howard Forest facility for dispatch. CalFire has been providing this service since 1985 under a series of contracts with Mendocino County. CalFire personnel are familiar with our coastal communities and often respond to these calls. They have the knowledge and professional experience to know what resources to dispatch to an emergency and to coordinate those resources by radio from Howard Forest.

The County's Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has been trying to put the dispatch contract out for bid for quite some time. HHSA has also been working to create an Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) for ambulance service covering the inland areas in the County so that one ambulance company would provide service in the EOA. Since the coastal areas of the County are outside the EOA, the consolidation of ambulance service will not affect our coastal communities. We will continue to receive ambulance service from Mendocino Coast District Hospital.

HHSA wanted to put the EOA ambulance contract and a new County-wide dispatch contract out for bid at the same time. The Board of Supervisors approved that process at its meeting on August 15 by a vote of

3 to 1. Supervisor Dan Gjerde was not present at that meeting and did not vote.

Fire Departments in Mendocino County became concerned that HHSA may have been looking for an opportunity to consolidate dispatch services and EOA ambulance services in a single provider. If that were the case, the dispatch contract could be awarded to an inland ambulance company that does not have CalFire's expertise. Fire Departments on the coast were also concerned that an inland ambulance company serving the EOA would have no connection with the Mendocino Coast which is outside the boundaries of the EOA.

Chief Andres Avila of the Anderson Valley Fire Department took the lead in a coordinated effort to persuade the Board of Supervisors to reconsider and change its decision that authorized HHSA to put the dispatch contract out for bid. Fire Chiefs made phone calls, and WVFD sent an email, to Supervisor Gjerde asking for reconsideration of the decision. WVFD also sent a four-page letter to the Board of Supervisors explaining why the dispatch contract should not be put out for bid. On September 19<sup>th</sup>, after hearing comments from Fire Chiefs and other representatives of at least 10 fire departments, Sheriff Tom Allman, the County radio communications technician, and representatives of HHSA, the Board of Supervisors reconsidered its earlier decision and passed a motion directing HHSA to negotiate a new dispatch contract with CalFire. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Supervisors Dan Gjerde, Georgeanne Croskey and John McCowen voting in favor of the motion. As the result of their votes, the dispatch contract will stay with CalFire. It will not be put out for bid.

## Remembrances

For inclusion in the November *Westport Wave*, please send your remembrances of Frank Maurice and Nedra Lancaster to [westportwave@gmail.com](mailto:westportwave@gmail.com), or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488. Thank You!





## Crossing the Digital Divide – Cloud Cushions

Joe Feigon

*Editor's Note: Following is the second in a series of articles on Web use and computers, graciously provided by Joe Feigon, courtesy of the Mendocino County Observer. Thanks, Joe!*

The rainy season is fast approaching, and it can be tough on electronics. Electronics of all kinds last much longer where the temperature is consistent, the humidity nominal, and the air clean. I cheerfully accept the fact my electronics may not live as long as they could, but I can't risk losing my work, nor can you.

It's important to back up "stuff" you can't replace. It's convenient to back up "stuff" you want in one place. Some things are inconvenient to replace, some impossible. No one wants bad news. Impossible happens. Understand and use the cushion of a Cloud, and avoid hearing the dreaded: "It's gone".

Online storage is easy, safe, and fairly seamless. If you're a Gmail user, upload some files to Google Drive, it's secure, only you can access it, and it won't go away if your laptop drowns. Dropbox is free if you use less than 5GB (ample for stuff you can't replace). Microsoft users can (if they haven't already) create an

account on [live.com](http://live.com), or [outlook.com](http://outlook.com), or register with an existing email account provided you have Windows 8, 8.1, or 10.

Data "in the Cloud" is stored in huge data centers, where hundreds of "servers" track changes in client files, keep backup images of all those files, distribute active and backup libraries through massive, high-availability, redundant storage-area-networks. Security is managed on several levels: authentication servers validate user credentials and/or ssh-keys through a web interface. The

authenticated user is given a valid session ID (behind the scenes), that will cripple any file transfer should there be a "man-in-the-middle" attack. Once authenticated, all file transfers (to/from) your Cloud provider is encrypted or transported through an encrypted tunnel.

The major storage providers (Microsoft, Amazon, Dropbox, Google, Apple) have serious equipment and brain power protecting their storage area networks. Most data stores are replicated between multiple data centers, just in case the West Coast falls in the Pacific. Your data, stored at Microsoft or Dropbox or Google or Amazon is safer against loss or theft than it is in your office, at your ranch, in your safe, or at Aunt Sally's flat in Queens, New York.

What's on your computer that you cannot replace? How big is that folder? Do you have a fiduciary responsibility for that data? Define what data can't be replaced; measure it, value it, and decide an appropriate archival period. Some things should be kept forever, some should be purged after time. Medical records, Legal Records, Public Records, Personal Records. Physical copies to a safe deposit box or fire safe, electronic copies to your private Cloud account. Got it?

More articles by Joe can be found on at:

<http://www.mendocinobroadband.org/crossing-the-digital-divide-by-joseph-feigon/>



## **The Switzer Farm of Westport**

**Gary Weiss**

Hello, Westporters (Westportians?! We are your new neighbors, Gary, Michiko, and our kids Maia (28), Natasha (24), and Kenzo (18). And our dog, Avi (13). We bought the Fee house on the southern edge of town in 2015, and have been working on it ever since. We love it here, as I know you do. During the next few years, Michiko and I will split our time between Westport and San Francisco, where Michiko works, but hope to make Westport our main living place when Michiko retires in about 10 years. We see this as our “forever” home.

We bought the house because it was my dream to restore it to its original state. In fact, I quit my job of 32 years as a lawyer to do that. I love Victorians, and I am always reading and thinking about Victorian design and construction. I have serially restored 3 Victorians in San Francisco, making each our home until the next project came along. I have been collecting Victorian gas lights, plumbing fixtures and furnishings for the past 30+ years, storing them in our basement and waiting for an opportunity to use them on a restoration project like this. My plan was to find

a great house to restore and then quit my job to make restoration my new job.

I first saw an online listing for the house in 2009 – and thought it was perfect. But it was way too expensive for us and we were in the middle of a recession, so I forgot about it. But in June 2014, I ran across it again online and saw that the price had been cut in half. For Father’s Day, I asked my family to give me the present of a visit to Westport. We came up here, and immediately I fell in love with the house and Westport.

My family was hesitant, however. Michiko

wondered why no one had ever made an offer on the place for the 7 years it had been on the market. She thought it might be haunted. (It’s not. I have spent about 150 nights alone here during the restoration, and I can certify that it’s ghost free!) Over the next few months, we negotiated with the sellers, the heirs of Fran DuBois, until they agreed to sell to us in March 2015. I quit my job and made the Westport house my new job.

I immediately got to work on the restoration. The house was in fundamentally good shape, as Fran had added a modern foundation, roof, and electrical system. I am guessing he saved the house from its demise, because it had fallen into disrepair when he bought it in the 1960’s. (Fran saved all his records, for which I am very thankful.) However, Fran also added lots of 1960’s-1970’s features, and our aim was to take those out and replace them with 1880’s elements that would have been part of the house originally.

We worked with Joe Odegaard, a great preservation architect in Mendocino, and Scramaglia & Hayes, a great construction crew based in Fort Bragg, Darrell Godwin, our master plumber from Fort Bragg, and Rob Whelan, a talented carpenter from Ukiah. We:





The Switzer House in 1884

- (1) took out all the 1970's windows on the West wall (upstairs and down), and replaced them with exact copies of the original 1880's windows that remained elsewhere on the house,
- (2) replaced the 1970's era kitchen and bathrooms with 1880's versions of those rooms,
- (3) added a pantry and laundry room, and
- (4) built a new veranda facing West, based on mid-19<sup>th</sup> century designs.

In the process, we installed all the old lights, toilets, sinks and bathtubs that had been in my basement! We also put in an entirely new heat system and a new hot water system. We refinished half the floors, pulling off the 1970's parquet floor tiles to reveal beautiful original fir subfloors. I did a lot of that work myself. (Tony Scramaglia was kind enough to lend me his equipment and show me the ropes.) I probably took 10 years off my life by stripping off by hand the heavy black mastic glue that held the tiles down.

All of the work is chronicled in my blog, [SwitzerFeeFarm.tumblr.com](http://SwitzerFeeFarm.tumblr.com). Visit and "follow" it. (I

have only 20 followers, which is kind of embarrassing.)

Now, we are working on landscaping, gardening and cleaning up the outside. Send us your ideas and advice!

I would also greatly appreciate your sharing with me any old photos or information you have regarding the house or the Switzer or Fee families or Westport in general. (In the photo at left, those are the Switzers standing by the house soon after it was built in 1884 – but I have

found only a photocopy of the photo itself. If anyone has the actual photo or negative, I would love to see it.) I know there are lots of Fee descendants in the area, and I am hoping you haven't thrown anything old out!

How are we going to use the house? As I mentioned up top, this will be our main living place in 10 years. During the next 10 years, Michiko and I will be here generally 2 nights a week. When we are away, we plan to rent the house out, to vacationers and to the occasional bride and groom that want to hold their wedding here. Our hope is that this will be a good thing for Westport – wedding guests will need places to stay, eat, or buy supplies before or after a wedding, and will also discover the Westport community. We want to be good neighbors, so please let us know your ideas, concerns, or wishes.

We plan to call the house "Switzer Farm of Westport." (SwitzerFee wasn't catchy enough, and Fee Farm sounded a little weird.)

We have met some of you, and are excited to meet all of you. Please knock on our door and visit with us any time you see our Jeep in the driveway!



## 2016-2017 Water Year Rainfall

Steve Brigham, Editor

There are three basic systems for measuring annual rainfall totals: Calendar Year, Rain Year, and Hydrologic or Water Year. In California's dry-summer climate, it has long been the convention for rain-measuring folks to use the Rain Year (July through June), mainly because it seems logical to start a new rainfall year during our driest months. But two years ago during a California drought, that changed because the stream-flow-measuring hydrology folks got real popular and convinced the rain-measuring meteorology folks to use their Hydrologic or Water Year (October through September). Although a lot of rainfall-measuring folks didn't like it, at least we'd all be using the same system.

So how did they come up with October through September? Simply put, the stream-flow folks are primarily concerned with measuring snow melt and runoff, and a lot of snow at the higher elevations doesn't melt until the end of summer, and then by October 1<sup>st</sup> it can start snowing again at the higher elevations. Because the stream-flow folks won out it is now the National Weather Service's convention to use the Water Year for their annual rainfall statistics. Further, the volunteer CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow) citizens' precipitation measuring network (now in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, Canada, and the Bahamas) decided to use the Water Year too. So that's why we start a new rainy season year on

October 1<sup>st</sup> these days, and why we've had to wait so long to post our annual 2016-2017 rainfall totals.

If it seems like it's been a long time since it rained much, you're right – it hasn't rained much around here since April (which is normal in our climate). But you will remember that last fall and winter were quite rainy in California. Here on the Westport

Headlands (where our average annual rainfall is around 43 inches), I measured a total of 63.21" of rain from October 2016 through April 2017. I really wanted at least 65 inches, but I figured we'd easily get to that number with 5 months left to go in the Water Year. It ended up being much closer than I thought, and it went down to the final drips of September (on September 20<sup>th</sup>) for us to finally go over the top. We ended up with 65.03" of rain for the 2016-2017 Water Year on the Westport Headlands.

Although I promise that I didn't cheat on my total, I came perilously close to recording an even 65.00" for the year, which would have been a lot like the time in the 1850s that British scientists meticulously measured the height of Mt. Everest and it came out to be *exactly* 29,000 feet high (figuring no one would take that round figure seriously, Surveyor General Andrew Waugh added two feet to the official height, and later became known as "the first man to ever put two feet on Everest"). Happily, I got that extra .03" in September and so avoided the round number (although I could have always just stuck to centimeters, which ended up at 165.18).

Because of convergence and orographic lift, you folks up in the canyons and hills of Westport do get more rain when it does rain than I do here on the Headlands – up to 25% more – and further inland some places near Branscomb can nearly double my totals (like a lot of the smaller recording stations, we'll have to wait until October for their official totals, but I don't doubt that there were some very big numbers near



Branscomb this year). Among major stations nearby, Laytonville has impressively ended up with 92.30" of rain for the 2016-2017 Water Year, and Leggett did even better at 108.80". In the Battle of Humboldt County, Honeydew (147.74") edged out Petrolia (143.87") for the most rain (and the most orographic lift). Further north in Del Norte County, Crescent City turned in an impressive 94.32", and moving further inland into the Siskiyous we get to the 2016-2017 State Rainfall Champ, which is Camp 6 RAWS (Remote Automated Weather Station) just east of Gasquet, with 180.03 inches (hey, they almost hit a round number too, and "they" is a robot!)

So when is it going to rain again? Will it rain a lot in Westport this winter too? Tune in next month, and we'll take a look at that!

## Preparing for the Rainy Season

WVFD

It seems hard to imagine right now that we're approaching our annual rainy season in Westport. Projected weather patterns suggest that the upcoming season may bring us significantly more rain and cooler temperatures than we had last year. Representatives of WVFD plan to attend a briefing next month in Eureka to learn the latest forecast from NOAA and other agencies. We'll let you know what we find out in the November 1<sup>st</sup> issue of the *Wave*.

Heavy rains create a risk of extended road closures and power outages in our community. We have made arrangements for the Office of Emergency Services and the American Red Cross to come to Westport in November, on a date to be determined, and conduct a seminar about what each of us can do to prepare. These agencies are willing to conduct a seminar in Westport if enough people are interested in attending. If you're interested, please let John Allison know by email ([jrallison27@gmail.com](mailto:jrallison27@gmail.com)). We'll also have a signup sheet at the Westport Store. Admission is free.

## October 2017 Westport Calendar

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** – Westport Community Church Monthly Board Meeting, 11:30AM, Westport Church

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Westport Church

**October 5<sup>th</sup>** – Full Harvest Moon, 11:40AM

**October 6<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Village Society Annual Members Meeting, 6:30PM, Westport Church

**October 8<sup>th</sup>** -- Carolyn Cathey, on "Abundance", 10:00AM, Westport Community Church

**October 11<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

**October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Bookmobile, 9-9:30AM, Store

**October 14<sup>th</sup>** – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Firehouse

**October 15<sup>th</sup>** – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

**October 15<sup>th</sup>** – Art Journaling With Donna Traycik, 11:30AM-1:30PM, Westport Recreation Center

**October 19<sup>th</sup>** – New Moon, 12:12PM

**October 21<sup>st</sup>** – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Church

**October 26<sup>th</sup>** – Bookmobile, 9-9:30AM, Store

**October 31<sup>st</sup>** – Westport Halloween – Trick-or-treating starts at the Westport Recreation Center at 5:15PM, followed by a potluck (see page 3)

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*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](http://www.westportvillagesociety.org), to read and download both our current issue and over five years of past issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by October 27<sup>th</sup>, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at [westportwave@gmail.com](mailto:westportwave@gmail.com), or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488. Thank You!