

## Pumpkin Record Squashed Again!

Steve Brigham,  
Editor

If there's one thing that Europeans do better than anyone else at this time of year, it's growing big pumpkins! And now they've done it again, with this magnificent new world-record holder grown by Belgian Mathias Willemijns weighing in at 2,623.5 pounds

(that's almost exactly what my Toyota Matrix weighs!) This monster gourd, which won the coveted world-class Giant Pumpkin Contest in Ludwigsburg, Germany last month, is remarkable not just for its size (which is big enough to make even David S. Pumpkins blush), but also because it absolutely smashed Swiss pumpkinmaster Beni Meier's 2-year-old world record by an amazing 300 pounds! (see the November 2014 issue of *The Westport Wave* for more on Beni's 2014 landmark record pumpkin.)

So now America's got some catching up to do! Giant Pumpkin expert Ron Wallace of Rhode Island isn't far behind with the 2230-pound giant he grew in 2015 (he was the first grower in the world to break the 2000-pound barrier in 2012). But now that the 2500-



New World Record Holder Mathias Willemijns and his 2623.5 pound pumpkin!

pound (and even 2600-pound) barrier has been broken, it's raised the bar for everybody. And there are even some Californians in the mix – close to home, Napa grower John Hawkley grew a 2058-pound pumpkin 2 years ago, so don't count him out.

One secret to growing pumpkins this big is to be able to obtain the highly-coveted seeds from the biggest pumpkins worldwide (just one seed can cost \$1000 or more!) To grow an official record pumpkin, it's not enough to just grow it, since it must be (carefully) transported to and weighed at an officially sanctioned giant pumpkin competition. Any damage or blemishes on a pumpkin can disqualify it, no matter how big it is. As far as size goes, are there any secrets? Well, Ron Wallace says that it takes three things, "Good Seed, Good Soil, and Good Luck!"



## 'Mostly' Iyengar Yoga, Mondays 9:30AM to 11AM

Tabby Korhummel

Yoga classes mostly based  
in the Iyengar teachings are

offered most Mondays at the Community Center on Abalone Street in Westport, from 9:30AM to 11:00AM. Melinda McLaughlin leads the practices. She is a long time beginning student of yoga, new to leading group classes, registered RYT 500 w/Yoga Alliance since 2005, and is NOT a certified Iyengar teacher. Most props are available. Your own yoga mat is always a good idea! \$12.00 drop in/5classes for \$50. All levels of practice are welcome!

## November at the Old Abalone Pub

Joywolf

**Thank you to all our loyal locals who are making the Old Abalone Pub a success!** Our Fall hours at the Old Abalone Pub are 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. Our seasonal closure will last from December 4th to February 9th, when we will re-open the Hotel and the Pub for Valentine's weekend. All of the staff here thanks all the locals who come out and support us having jobs in Westport!

## Westport Winter Market/Craft Fair

Sarah Cullar

It's almost time for the Winter Market and Craft Fair at the Westport Recreation Center and Westport Church. The date has been set for **Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> from 11AM to 3PM**. Jewelry, carvings, yarn crafts, foods, body products, and more will be featured. Vendor spots are available. The table fee is 10% of sales, due after the market is over. The proceeds will go to our Rec Center Programs and to maintaining our Church building. If you'd like to be a vendor, please contact Sarah Cullar (Mathias) at 962-0181 or [westportcafleamarket@gmail.com](mailto:westportcafleamarket@gmail.com). You may also keep in touch via the Westport Markets page on Facebook. (Please see flyer on page 8.)

## Winter Party December 11<sup>th</sup>

Thad Van Bueren

The Westport Village Society invites the community to a winter party at the Westport Hotel on Sunday afternoon **December 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:00PM to 6:00 PM**. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers and provide a holiday gathering for the entire community where we can get together and enjoy each other's company. Savory treats and beverages will be available, and we invite contributions of edible baked goods. We'll provide your first beer or glass of wine, and hot cider and other non-alcoholic beverages will also be available. This is a family-friendly event, so please come and mingle!

If you are artistically inclined, we would love to showcase your concept for a WVS logo at this December 11<sup>th</sup> event. It will be a great place to show off your drawing where all can view and enjoy it. Our only request is that the logo includes the words "Westport Village Society". Use your imagination—and bring your design to the event so we can mount it on the wall. We offer our thanks to the talented members of the community who are willing to submit something for our consideration. Come join us on December 11<sup>th</sup> and get into the holiday spirit!

## 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.





This Ten Mile Trail needs some work!  
Read this article to see how you can help!

started near the top end of the trail this past week. WVS is currently obtaining permission to remove vegetation down the rest of the trail route to make a 3 or 4-foot wide path. If you'd like to help with this project, please give me a call at 962-7272.

Lastly, we also want to give a shout out to Nic and Cris Grosjean for doing some much needed maintenance on the stairs at our very own Headlands Park. The work involved stabilizing the stair rails at the top of the stairs and removing soil slumped against the stairway girders. That maintenance was done under Gary Quinton's direction. Thanks guys!

## News from the Trail

Thad Van Bueren, President, WVS

Trails were an active topic at the WVS Annual Meeting October 7<sup>th</sup>, with discussion including safe access from town to Pete's Beach and the condition of the stairs at that favorite local destination. There were also some ideas about other trails, both existing and imagined. It often takes some dreaming to make trails happen, and maintenance to keep them useful.

We've talked with State Parks Superintendent Loren Rex, and he is grateful for the community's interest in doing some maintenance tasks on the Pete's Beach stairs. We're in the process of organizing a work team for a dry day sometime soon. We plan to use donations given to WVS for Westport Union Landing Park to buy needed supplies such as railroad ties, stakes, and gravel that will be used to stabilize and add missing steps to the path. If you'd like to help, please call me at 964-7272.

WVS will also be undertaking trail maintenance on the foot path from the Caltrans parking lot at the south end of the Ten Mile Bridge down to the old haul road. Yep, that old path is still there, but it is heavily overgrown. Caltrans, State Parks, and the Mendocino Land Trust own the surrounding lands, and they agree that it is desirable to make this great trail a bit easier to use. Some work has already been



The stairs down to Pete's Beach need some work!  
Read this article to see how you can help!



The Westport Community Church

## Westport Community Church November 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 4<sup>th</sup> and occasional 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group**

Katherine 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 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.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, on “Why Are We Here? Learning About Living From Near-Death-Experiences”**

Carolyn Cathey, Spiritual Leader, discusses how to live the life you desire in her talk, “Why Are We Here? Learning About Living From Near-Death-Experiences”.

Near-Death-Experiences (NDE’s) teach us much about life, and living, and what is important. Knowing the answers help guide us to a more blessed and harmonious earthly existence.

Do you have a Near-Death-Experience to share? Come to this Sunday discussion and share what you discovered beyond the veil.

Donations are welcome to support the Church.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group**

Katherine 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.

## **Cleaning For Company?**

Steve Brigham

So maybe you’ve got Holiday company coming? Don’t tell me, let me guess...your windows are really dirty from all the rain, your kitchen counters are all grimy, and there are yucky spots all over your carpet and sofa, courtesy of Puppy Dog, Kitty Cat, and even Polly. What to do, what to do? Well for help, I asked my friend Helen Weels, the Cleaning Lady of Mystery, what she would do – and fortunately, there are easy, effective, non-toxic, and very inexpensive solutions for all these household cleaning problems!

For windows, wash with a sponge and a mild solution of Dawn For Dishes. Use a squeegee (important), and dry with a clean towel for the very best shine. For kitchen counters, use the purple Method brand cleaner, and for pet stains use Folex stain remover. All these cleaners are real cheap at Safeway and are very safe to use – no need whatsoever for harsh chemicals. Happy Cleaning, and Happy Holidays!





## October Surprise!

There were a few October Surprises in the election race this year, but we got our own Westport weather October Surprise last month too, with over 10 inches of rain here on the Headlands (virtually all of it after October 12<sup>th</sup>), which is 4 times as much as normal! So what gives? Well, a lot of real good research shows a tie-in between wet Pacific Northwest autumns and Global Warming. Last year, we only got .35 inch of rain in October (in a wet El Niño year) – but that was not a normal year. Is this autumn rain the new “normal” for Westport?

## New WVFD Fire Engine In Action!

John Allison

Here are a couple of photos from the Westport Volunteer Fire Department's recent training on Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We are practicing pumping water from our newest engine that is able to pump 1,500 gallons per minute to put out a fire. This engine is now fully equipped and will be our primary response engine for structure fires.

Captain Beck Regalia and Captain and Training Officer Jeff Mathias organized this training, and Assistant Chief Dan Maxey worked the Monitor (Aerial Water Gun). Firefighters present included Kelly Chumley, John Allison, Bill Knapp,

Beck Regalia, Jeff Mathias, Dan Maxey, and Frank Maurice, and all went through the engineering process to practice what to do in a structure fire situation. We even learned how to make a rainbow!



## **Please Support Our 2016 WVFD BBQ Raffle Donors!**

**Frank Maurice, Fire Chief, WVFD**

At this time of year, with the Holidays approaching, we are all truly Thankful. And the **Westport Volunteer Fire Department** is especially thankful to all of our wonderful business donors who made our 2016 BBQ Raffle in August such a record-breaking fund-raising success!

So as you do your Holiday shopping, folks, please shop locally, and patronize these businesses – for their support of your Westport Fire Department pays you back in so many ways! And when you do visit these kind businesses, please tell them **“Thanks So Much For Supporting The Westport Volunteer Fire Department!”** Happy Holidays to all!

All Aboard Adventures  
Anchor Charter Boats  
Beach Glass Shop  
Campos Casuals  
Chernoff's  
Coast Cinema  
Cowlick's Ice Cream  
Cucina Verona  
David's Restaurant & Deli  
Dirt Cheap  
Django's Rough Bar & Café  
Dolphin Isle Marina  
Ed's Guns  
Epic Design  
ER Energy  
Figuerido's Video  
Fort Bragg Fishing  
Fort Bragg Rent-All  
Frame Mill Artworks  
Hare Creek Nursery  
Harvest Market  
Howard Creek Ranch  
Inn At Newport Ranch  
J. Kyle Smith Optometrist  
La Bamba  
Las Tre

Lightscares Universal  
Matson's Hardware  
MCDH Hospital Gift Shop  
Mendo Dog – Dog Grooming  
Mendo Mill  
Mendocino Chocolate Co.  
Mendocino Cookie Co.  
Music Merchant  
NAPA Auto Parts  
North Coast Tire  
North Star Nursery  
Noyo Fish Company  
Noyo Fishing Center  
Noyo Point Restaurant  
Noyo River Grill  
O'Reilly's Auto Parts  
Outdoor Store  
Pacific Glass Works  
Pacific Star Winery  
Pacific Star Winery Tasting Room  
Pippi's Longstockings  
Purple Rose Restaurant  
Racine's  
Relish  
Round Table Pizza  
Roundman's Meats  
Sacred Woods Ocean Trader  
Safeway  
Silver's At The Wharf  
Skunk Train  
Sport Chrysler Jeep  
Spunky Skunk  
Starbucks  
Sub Surface Progression  
Subway  
Taco Bell  
Teamwork  
TelStar Charters  
The Bookstore & Vinyl  
The Quarry Gems & Minerals  
Toto Zaida  
Understuff  
US Cellular  
Westport Community Store  
Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub  
Willits Power  
Zappa's Coffee



Time to get out the cookbooks!

## Easy Holiday Gravy!

Marty Anderson

Hey, the Holidays are fast approaching, and this means good news for dogs with considerate owners! I myself am a big fan of turkey, and I look forward to the Holidays in part because of that! It's also always interesting to watch the humans go through all kinds of conniptions to set their house up with seasonal décor (actually, I like the empty boxes best).

So Steve told me to do a piece on Thanksgiving, and although I'm not much into that Original Pilgrim thing, I did find a couple of Barb's antique Thanksgiving figures, which may be just as old! And I also found some cookbooks – and a GRAVY recipe! Now I like turkey gravy a lot, and I'll bet all dogs do! Maybe even you'll like it! In any case, this recipe is so simple and easy that anyone can make it, even a cat! So enjoy, one and all, and Happy Thanksgiving!

### Apple Cider Gravy

Place roasting pan with turkey drippings on 2 burners. Heat on medium. Sprinkle ¼ cup all-purpose flour over drippings. Cook 2 minutes, stirring with a wooden spoon. Whisk in 2 cups apple cider and 1 cup water until smooth. With spoon, loosen up browned bits from bottom of pan and stir. Heat to simmering on medium-high. Simmer 5 minutes, or until reduced slightly, stirring. Strain into fat separator if possible. Makes about 3 cups – serve hot.

## November 2016 Westport Calendar

**November 1<sup>st</sup>** – All Saints' Day

**November 1<sup>st</sup>** – WMAC Meeting CANCELLED

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>** – All Souls' Day

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** – Daylight Savings Time Ends, 2:00AM (set clocks BACK one hour)

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

**November 8<sup>th</sup>** – Election Day

**November 9<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District Quarterly Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Community Church

**November 9<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

**November 11<sup>th</sup>** – Veterans' Day

**November 12<sup>th</sup>** -- Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Firehouse

**November 13<sup>th</sup>** – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, speaks on "Why Are We Here? Learning About Living From Near-Death-Experiences", 10:00AM at the Westport Church

**November 14<sup>th</sup>** – Full Moon, 5:52AM

**November 20<sup>th</sup>** – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

**November 24<sup>th</sup>** – Thanksgiving Day

**November 29<sup>th</sup>** – New Moon, 4:18AM

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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 present issue and over four years of past issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by November 26<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!



# Westport Winter Market and Craft Fair

November 27 from 11-3  
at the

Westport Community Recreation  
Center and the  
Westport Community Church  
(east of the store on Abalone St.)

Jewelry, skin and body products,  
foods, yarn crafts, plants, and  
more!

Spots for vendors available on a sliding scale; \$5-\$20 due  
after the market ends.

Contact Sarah Cullar at

962-0181 or [westportcaflamarket@gmail.com](mailto:westportcaflamarket@gmail.com)  
to reserve your spot.