

April 1, 2019

The Westport Wave

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



Nope, this is no April Fools joke – this feud from over 150 years ago was one of the greatest feuds in our vast local feudin’ history, and you can find out all about it **at the Westport Community Center on Saturday, April 20th, at 2:00PM!**

The Archaeology of The Little Lake Feud

Thad Van Bueren

Most people have heard of the famous Hatfield-McCoy Feud. But did you know there were actually more fatalities in the Little Lake Feud near Willits between 1867 and 1885? Local archaeologist and historian Thad Van Bueren will discuss the Little Lake affair on **Saturday April 20th at 2:00PM**. This presentation at the **Westport Community Center** will be illustrated with a slide show.

The story is grounded in recent archaeological investigations of a farm where several members of Elisha Frost’s family lived from the 1870s until World War I or later. The Frost clan moved from Missouri to Little Lake around 1860 and sided with the Confederacy. Another prominent local family, the Coates, were staunch Republicans who supported Lincoln and abolition of slavery. While California was a free state, the electorate of the period was strongly polarized. Partisans of both persuasions settled in the Little Lake Valley near Willits, like other parts of the County.

Strong feelings led to disputes that in this case broke into open hostilities on the fateful day of October 16, 1867. Elisha Frost and five Coates men died in the deadly shootout that day, while three other injured men survived. The Petaluma Weekly Argus called it “a revolting affair” in an October 24, 1867 article, while other newspapers cast it as simply unfortunate. A Coroner’s inquest documented the details of the affair from physical evidence and the accounts of onlookers, but no one was ever prosecuted. The families mingled during the funeral procession, with the dead buried in close proximity in the Little Lake Cemetery.

The violence spawned two more bloody shootouts and a lynching between 1867 and 1885. Seven additional fatalities occurred, while others were injured but survived those later incidents. The thread of the dispute shifted to infighting among the members of the Frost clan. Newspapers and family testimony suggest Elisha Frost's brothers persecuted their nephews for reasons that may have been rooted in the distribution of his estate. It is clear that Uncles Mart and Isom Frost systematically attacked and harassed some of Elisha's sons. One of the attacks likely took place at the investigated farm.

Only two men ever served time for the violence perpetrated during the Little Lake Feud. Isom Frost was found guilty of murdering his nephew James Frost and served time in Folsom Prison. In contrast, Elisha's sons James and David Frost were both acquitted of murder for acting in self defence during attacks perpetrated by the uncles and their confederates. The story illustrates how the dispute over slavery rippled across the years, impacting the families and community over several generations.

The Little Lake Feud offers a morality tale that still provides food for thought about divisive issues. The accompanying illustration (see page 1) comes from the *Sunday Call* magazine of August 6, 1899, one example of how the troublesome events were revisited over time. This April 20th, 2019 slide presentation is free, but donations to the Westport Community Center are welcome. The Center occupies the former School building next to the Westport Church, at 24900 Abalone Street in Westport.

**Aimee's Exercise Class Returns
Beginning April 6th – Every
Saturday from 10:00AM to
11:00AM at the Westport
Community Center!**

Aimee Maxey

Beginning **Saturday, April 6th**, Aimee Maxey will host an ongoing fitness and exercise class **every Saturday from 10:00AM to 11:00PM at the Westport Community Center**. The title is "20x3", meaning each segment will have 20 minutes

dedicated to the mode of exercise. The first 20 minutes is cardio – this is beneficial for circulation and oxygen consumption – and memory building, because it will be choreographed. The second 20 minutes is weight resistance, beneficial for endurance, muscle mass, metabolism, and bone density. The final 20 minutes will focus on the core – the foundation of all movement, staying upright, and protecting the back. We will follow this up with a mindful, relaxing stretch at the end to feel complete. I am asking for 5 dollars per participant per class, and I will share my earnings with the Community Center fund. This class is intended for all ranges of fitness – do not feel intimidated about your level, I will accommodate you!



**Headlands Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 21st at 11:00AM!**

Sarah Cullar

Hey kids! The **Great Westport Easter Egg Hunt** is happening on **Easter Sunday, April 21st, at 11:00AM** on The Westport Headlands! We're asking that each child participating bring a dozen eggs, filled or dyed. Donations of eggs can be left at the Westport Store on Saturday, April 20th. So get your parents (and grandparents) *mooving*, and see you there!



April at the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub

Tabby Korhummel, Hotel and Pub General Manager

First off, a big THANK YOU to all who “dined out for the WVFD” in March! We raised \$1494.00 for the Westport Volunteer Fire Department, not including the extra “boot” donations!

We have lots of fun things planned for April at The Pub, even a surprise (no fooling)! This includes music every Saturday in April with two musicians that we have not had play here yet, including the Seaside String Trio – **please see our flyer on page 8 for info.**

Our Art show will change mid-month, when we will feature **Shirley Washburn**’s paintings in celebration of her 88th Birthday!! Thursday, April 25th will be the opening artist reception, with a toast to Shirley.

For Earth Day weekend, April 18th thru April 20th, our menu will feature specially priced “green” items. And for any families or friends wanting an escape to Westport for two nights or more, we will discount rooms for parties that either carpool or travel in an electric vehicle (which can be charged right here at the Hotel at our EV charging station).

This year, we will offer a buffet-style **Easter Brunch** and Decorated Egg Contest on **Sunday April 21st**. Brunch will feature Lee’s famous waffle bar, egg dishes, bacon, breakfast potatoes, mimosas, and more, and will be served from **10:00AM to 2:00PM**. Remember to bring your decorated eggs for the contest!

Last but definitely not least we will have an April **“Paint Night in The Parlor”** with Derek DiOrio, which is always a very popular event! We play games, laugh and make art! This will be on **Friday, April 26th**, from 5:30PM to 7:30PM. A \$35 class fee covers materials and drink – call to reserve your spot! **The Old Abalone Pub is open from 5:00PM to 9:00PM every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for Dinner, and also from 3:00PM to 5:00PM every Saturday for Tea.** Please call (707) 964-3688 for reservations, and like our Facebook page for weekly specials: <https://www.facebook.com/abalonepub> Remember to mention “Local Love”!

Westport MAC

Thad Van Bueren

If you have an interest in local issues that involve interaction with government agencies (local, state, or federal), please consider applying for one of the two vacancies on the **Westport Municipal Advisory Council**. Contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to obtain an application. The position is appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and you must be a registered local voter. The WMAC is an advisory body that holds public meetings to understand local concerns. Actions are then taken to convey local opinion to the people who make decisions that affect our lives. You can learn more at: <http://www.westportmac.org/>.

24/7 Westport Wave

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 seven years of monthly back-issues, all in living color, with live links! Check it out, and tell your friends!



Westport Community Church

Thad Van Bueren, Secretary, WCC

It is great to see the Community Hall and Church buildings being used for more activities. In addition to spiritual services and community meetings, art and recreation classes are now taking place and a history talk is planned April 20th (see page 1 of this issue of The Wave). Contributions from donors and event participants are helping keep the facility viable.

There are some new things afoot. Through a generous donation, propane heaters will soon be installed in both buildings with fuel donated on an ongoing basis. The monthly water and sewer bill is also being paid through the generosity of donors. The new heating system will allow safe and rapid heating. We also want to thank SeaKay for offering to supply free WiFi service and a router in the Community Hall. This internet service will facilitate classes, live streaming for meetings and other events, and who knows what else.

Other donations are also in progress. Several folding tables were donated to support classes, and a new cover for the greenhouse in the Community Garden will be installed soon. The garden is the brainchild of Steve Brigham, whom we appreciate for his vision and dedication to a shared supply of fresh organic veggies. But with these positive developments, the WCC also recently received some bad news. A termite inspection revealed serious problems in the Church building. The infestation is so extensive that tenting the structure is required and the cost will be substantial. The WCC therefore asks you to consider

a generous donation to keep our community buildings viable. Tax deductible donations can be sent to the **Westport Community Church at P.O. Box 23, Westport CA 95488**. Thank You So Much!

April Spiritual Programs

Baile Oakes

3rd Sunday, April 21st, 9:30AM

(please note new time for this month only)

Thich Nhat Hahn Discussion Group

This discussion group is focused upon Thich Nhat Hahn's Book: "Living Buddha, Living Christ". No need to have the book. We will

share passages from the book and discuss how they might or might not influence how we show up for our selves and all Creation.

4th Sunday, April 28th, 10:00AM

Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katharine White continues to gift our community with a Quaker Worship Group meeting. Katharine usually begins with a reading from Quaker passages, then leads us in a quiet meditation. Participants are encouraged to share thoughts that arise during this time of meditation. This is followed by Katharine leading us in 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.

"May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." -- Nelson Mandela

Community Events Notice

You can reserve the Church or Community Hall for classes and other events on the calendar at the Store. Reservations are on a first come basis. Donations are encouraged to help with the costs of running the facility. Please leave the buildings in better condition than you found them, turning off lights and appliances, taking away the trash, and locking up. Due to insurance issues, no smoking or alcohol use are allowed at this time. Contact Val Hale with any questions at 489-6380.



Treasure Hunt A Big Success!

Elika Freeman, Event Co-ordinator

The second annual **Westport Treasure Hunt** was a great success! The weather was lovely, and many couples, individuals, and families came to town to find some goodies. This year's hunt included riddles, codes, and cyphers to solve, plus a variety of new modalities to use to search, including orienteering with a compass, digging in the sand, and pulling up lengths of ropes to find the prizes. The Kids' Hunt was a wild good time, which included mermaids from Mermagick and Mendocino Mermaids. The beach clean-up raffle was a huge success with many of the prizes being donated by the vendors at the makers market and lots of people hunting and subsequent competitive gathering of flotsam and microplastic. We managed to load a 50-gallon can with trash brought up from the beaches!

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to my helpers Melinda McLaughlin, Roxanne Hovan, Paul Snowdy, and Jeffrey Whitehouse for help running the hunts and the booth. And of course the generosity of our local businesses and residents who made the prizes as wonderful as could be: Donna, Dawn, and Thad donated lovely art and darling felt creatures from their home art studio. Amelia Rose, Heather Denise, Heather Chapelle, and Tabitha Korhummel gave an

assortment of custom glass wear, stunning jewelry, tasty herbal elixers, and a potted succulent garden. Local businesses: Mendo Dog, Westport Beach RV, Westport Hotel and Abalone Pub, Westport Store, Napa Auto Parts, Mendocino Coast Music Together, Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, and Gayle at GGs on Franklin Street all sponsored prizes for the hunt and continue to support local fundraisers. Many of the vendors at the market donated some of their wares including a beautiful abalone-covered elephant from Westport-raised Mike Stillwell! A few local individuals donated cash with which I was able to put together some potted plants, and lovely burl charcuterie boards.

As with last year, I learned some things that worked really well and also things to improve on for next year. **A huge shout out to Kyle Siler for putting together such a lovely event for Westport's Third Annual WhaleFest!** Now onward to the Ducky Race on Mother's Day, May 12th! See you all there!

WVS Mini-Grants

The Westport Village Society Mini-Grant Program awards grants in three different community service categories: 1) benefit/beautification of the community, 2) events, and 3) outreach. Funds are available again this fiscal year, through June 30th, 2019. Please see the Mini-Grant Application Form on our WVS website www.westportvillagesociety.org for details.

Missing A Boat?

Please call 964-7272 or contact wvs@westportvillagesociety.org if your kayak has disappeared from the beach at the bottom of the stairway on the Westport Headlands. The WVS will no longer allow boat "parking" on that beach without a permit. Please apply for a permit at the same email address above, and you can also attend the WVS Board Meeting on April 20th at 9:00AM to supply input on the boat permit process. Thank You!

Why I Love The National Weather Service

Steve Brigham, Editor

Well folks, we did pretty good rain-wise here in Westport in March, thanks especially to some fast and furious, highly localized thunderstorms which dropped a lot of rain and hail here, especially during the last week of March. We ended up with 8.58 inches of rain for the month here on the Westport Headlands, bringing our seasonal total (since October 1st) all the way up to 39.95 inches (as usual, you folks up in the hills and canyons have received more than that). Here in town, we only need 3 more inches of rain in April and May (actually, we have until September, but it never rains much here in the summer) to get to our annual “normal”, which is around 43 inches. This is very doable! Our March 2019 total rainfall was about 115% of the statistical average for the last 5 years – pretty close to our seasonal percentage now too. You can follow rainfall averages across the state every day here:

<https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/awipsProducts/RNOWR/KCLI.php>.

If you're like most people, you like to know what the weather is going to be like every day and also in the near future. Everybody has their own favorite way of getting weather forecasts, whether they're quick videos or more extensive written reports. Real weather nuts like me greatly prefer the latter, and there's no better way to get that than our own National Weather Service (weather.gov). Every day, I like to start with the Mendocino Forecast Discussion <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.3076&lon=-123.7989>, and from there you've got a million things to click and places to go to that can keep you busy for hours. Just think of a place, type it in, and you'll find out what the weather is like there (and likely to be) – plus, at the bottom of the page under Climatic Outlook, you'll get all the latest long-range forecasts for the week and months ahead. But I sure like the **Forecast Discussion** (which is updated twice a day) best. **I just swoon over their weather terms!** (if you don't understand them, just click them, and they will be explained). Here's the forecast from March 26th, which turned out to be pretty accurate. *Can you guess what the weather was like? ****

(NWS EUREKA, for NW California) Tuesday, March 26th, 2:53PM DISCUSSION...Light showers will remain possible over the interior mountains into the early evening hours as [instability](#) remains over that area. More widespread rains will return across the area later tonight ahead of the next system, an upper low presently located near 40N/135W. The 500 [mb](#) low will bottom out around 531 [dam](#) Wednesday morning, then gradually fill as the storm very slowly wobbles NE. The [NAM](#) and the [GFS](#) are coming into better agreement regarding the progression of dynamic and thermodynamic forcing Wednesday morning, with a strong band of [vorticity](#) pivoting NE around the E periphery of the upper low. This feature should be coincident with modest [instability](#) (near 500 [J/kg](#) MUCAPES and [LI](#) values below 0). In additions, the models line up [Q](#) vector [convergence](#) and upper [divergence](#) in the same general area. The HRRR model depicts a fairly well organized line of [convection](#) oriented SE to NW that lifts N late tonight and Wednesday morning, grazing the Redwood Coast and spreading N by midday. As a result, have refined the [thunderstorm](#) forecast to spread [isolated](#) activity across the coastal waters early Wednesday morning, along with adjacent coastal areas near and N of [Cape Mendocino](#) through midday. SE to S winds will increase overnight tonight, with gusts over 40mph before daybreak at higher elevations near and N of [Cape Mendocino](#). Any convective activity would also potentially mix stronger wind gusts down to the surface. The duration, areal extent, and expected maximum wind speeds look marginal at this time for any wind advisory, so will defer to later shifts to allow time to monitor model and observational trends. As the upper low become more negatively tilted, periods of positive [vorticity advection](#) and lingering [instability](#) will support a continuation of shower activity into Thursday, winding down Thursday night. Snow levels are generally expected to remain above 4000 feet through this event, with significant snow accumulations confined to the highest elevations. Modest responses to rivers are expected this week, with [crest](#) levels remaining below action stage.

*** Like the forecast said (or tried to say), it was cold and rainy here for the next couple of days, with a couple of bonkers thunderstorms (just a little late, in the early morning and late night on Thursday).



Save the date! Annual Rubber Ducky Races May 12

April 2019

Westport Calendar

Tuesday, April 2nd – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Monthly Meeting, 7:00PM, Westport Community Church

April 5th – New Moon, 1:50AM

Saturday, April 6th – “20x3” Exercise Class with Aimee Maxey, 10:00AM to 11:00AM, Westport Community Center (every Saturday) (see page 2)

Wednesday, April 10th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Business Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

Thursday, April 11th – Bookmobile, 9:00-9:30AM, Westport Community Store

Saturday, April 13th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Firehouse

Sunday, April 14th – Palm Sunday

Friday, April 19th – Good Friday

Friday, April 19th – Full Moon, 4:12AM

Friday, April 19th – Passover Begins at Sundown

Saturday, April 20th – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 9:00AM, Westport Community Church

Saturday, April 20th – Noyo Food Forest Earth Day Celebration, 10:AM to 4:00PM, Fort Bragg

Saturday, April 20th – “The Little Lake Feud” History Talk by Thad Van Bueren, 2:00PM, Westport Community Hall (see page 1)

Sunday, April 21st – Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 21st – Monthly Thich Nhat Hahn Discussion Group, 9:30AM, Westport Community Church (PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME FOR THIS MONTH ONLY DUE TO EASTER) (see page 4)

Sunday, April 21st – Westport Headlands Easter Egg Hunt, 11:00AM, Westport Community Headlands (see page 2)

Sunday, April 21st – Westport Community Church Monthly Board Meeting, 1:00PM, Westport Community Church (please note new time for this meeting only due to Easter)

Monday, April 22nd – 50th Annual Earth Day!

Thursday, April 25th – Bookmobile, 9:00-9:30AM, Westport Community Store

Friday, April 26th – “Paint Night In The Parlor” With Derek DiOrio, 5:30PM to 7:30PM, Westport Hotel (see page 3)

Saturday, April 27th – Last Day of Passover

Sunday, April 28th – Monthly Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM, Westport Community Church

Sunday, May 12th – (Save The Date!) – Westport Mother’s Day Rubber Ducky Races, Westport Beach RV and Campground, 11:00AM to 4:00PM

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 the Newsletter page on our website www.westportvillagesociety.org to read and download both our current issue plus over seven years of past monthly issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our May 1st issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by April 26th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488. Thank You!



SPECIALS ALL EARTH DAY WEEKEND.

Save \$50 off rooms when you carpool or drive an EV. Charge up at our EV charging station. And try our "Green" menu items.

THURS.-SAT 5-9PM FOR DINNER & 3-5 SAT TEA

APRIL EVENTS

April 6th *Butch Kwan

April 13th *Marcus Mcallen

April 20th *Seaside String Trio

Sunday 21st *Easter Brunch

Thurs. 25th *Art Opening

Friday 26th *Paint Night

April 27th *Matt Westmorland



Full Tea by reservation Saturdays 3-5pm

*Easter Brunch Buffet Served 10-2
Waffle Bar, Frittatas, breakfast sides
Mimosas and more. Reservations call
707-964-5688*

