

October 1, 2020

The Westport Wave

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Make a Date With Democracy

Dorine Real

How will you vote? I don't mean *who* (whom) will you vote for, or *which* measures will you support. I mean *how* will you get your ballot, decide on your votes, complete the ballot, and get it safely to the elections department to be counted? You have a lot of options this year, both as to *how* you go about voting and *when* you do each step, so it's important to have a plan.

First of all, are you registered? Are you sure? Go to the Secretary of State's website, <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>, to check that your registration is active and the information is correct. If you need to register or change your registration you have until October 19th, but don't take a chance on not getting your ballot in time – do it now! (And remind your friends.)

Next, check out your voter information. Mendocino County will be mailing out this information on September 24. Do fill out the sample ballot so you'll be all set when the real ballot arrives by mail sometime after October 5th. Besides the official voter pamphlet, you may want to check out other sources of nonpartisan information such as the League of Women Voters' votersedge.org. Talk the issues over with your friends, but be aware that they may not have the accurate facts. Plan a time when you can sit down and complete your sample ballot. And please remember, no matter how much you love the people

in your "bubble," your ballot is your own and is completely private.

While you're waiting for your ballot to arrive, you can decide how you want to return it. If you're going to a polling place, you'll still want to have the ballot filled out ahead of time. Think about what time of day works best for you, and allow time for a wait. You'll need a face covering, something to read or play, and maybe even a raincoat. If you must take a child with you, toys and snacks are in order.

If you decide to return your ballot by mail, make all your decisions early (by October 5th) and mark your sample ballot. Then all you have to do is transfer the choices to your official ballot, sign it, and put it into the mail. Mailing early is good for the postal system, good for the elections department, good for democracy – and it's good for you, because your ballot can't get misplaced.

You have a special option this year, putting your ballot into a special official "Ballot Repository" (drop box). There will be one on the coast at Fort Bragg City Hall. Ballots will be taken from this box directly to the Elections Department to be counted. Just because this option is so quick and easy doesn't mean you should put it off! Plan a time to sign the ballot and make the drop. Then celebrate – you're a voter!

(Editor's Note: When voting by mail, always make sure you sign your ballot on the envelope where it says to. If you don't sign your ballot, or there is a question about your signature, the State should notify you by postcard and you can correct it. That's why voting by mail as early as you can is so important!)

WVS Annual Meeting

Thad Van Bueren, President, WVS

Due to the pandemic, the **Westport Village Society will host a virtual Annual Member Meeting on October 2, 2020** to announce Board election results, share information, and hear from members. This change is necessary to safeguard our community and members, as well as to comply with current health orders. WVS hopes to return to a normal Annual Meeting format in 2021. If you need information about how to join the virtual meeting, please email wvs@westportvillagesociety.org in advance.

Westport Community Store & Post Office Expands Service During COVID-19 Crisis

In this COVID crisis, the **Westport Community Store** now offers the following services:

- Call-ahead ordering – store personnel can grocery shop for you
- Curbside pickup of take-out food orders, groceries, PO Box Mail and packages delivered to the store
- Delivery of take-out food orders, groceries, PO Box Mail and packages delivered to the store
- Flexible non-contact payment methods
- All orders will be packaged and disinfected prior to pickup or delivery

The Westport Community Store wants to do anything possible to help its customers stay safe and minimize possible spread of COVID-19. Deliveries available in the greater Westport Community area. Call the Store at 964-2872 to order or get more information.

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

Help In Westport During The COVID Crisis

Gary Quinton and Bill Knapp

When you live in the Westport community, you do not live alone. You do have friends and neighbors. It's kinda like the old sitcom Cheers, "where everybody knows your name".

If you get sick or are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 during these unprecedented times, remember that you live in an unprecedented part of the United States. This is not the big city where you are just a name and number, you are a neighbor and friend. If you are quarantined at home, let your community know about it. For your sake and ours. We want to help, and we can.

If you are quarantined at home with COVID-19 or in self-quarantine because of medical advice, symptoms or underlying medical conditions, it will be hard living in our area, but your neighbors can make the difference, we can help.

We might not come in for a cup of coffee, but we can get you needed supplies. We can assist you and still be safe to ourselves, our families and our neighbors. When you're quarantined, there might be things that must be done around your property, that have to be done. We can help. There might be any of a long list of things you cannot do, that a neighbor can do, but only if you let us know.

We want to reactivate the Westport Neighbor to Neighbor Network. Contact either of us if you need help or can help if notified. We will coordinate calls for help and offers to help, while helping as much as we can.

Gary Quinton at (707) 964-7073 or email gquinton@mcn.org

Bill Knapp at (707) 964-7355 or email bill@netwidget.com

Your Neighbors can't help you if they don't know you need help. Remember, if you have an emergency, any emergency, call 911! Be calm and safe, and use common sense. Social distancing is proving to be effective. We are all in this together.



Westport Halloween (Social Distance Edition) Is A Go!

Sarah Cullar

Even though we can't quite stick to our Westport tradition, Val Hale and Erin Detrick have worked out a way to still have a Covid safe, socially distanced Halloween, but we need the help of local folks. **Your task is to create and donate 30 individually wrapped candy/goodie bags to the Westport Store by October 10th.** These donations will go into 30 larger goodie bags to be distributed to the local ghouls and goblins on Halloween night. Having them in by the 10th will allow them to sit untouched for some time just to be safe.

On Halloween night, local kiddos will participate in a socially distanced, outdoor parade through town beginning and ending at the Store (please come out to cheer them on as they pass – we will take our usual route). We will gather at the store at 5:15PM, and set out shortly thereafter. At the end of the parade

the kids will each receive a goodie bag and be present across from the store when the WVFD pulls the ticket for this years' quilt winner.

Please join us in making this happen and have a little fun in these strange times.

Halloween Family Movie Night October 31st at 7:30PM

Aimee Maxey

This month, we will have movie night on **Saturday, October 31st, Halloween.** The movie will be a "scary" one – we haven't chosen the right one yet, but it will be something chilly!

We are going to run the movie at the Hotel back lawn at 7:30PM, with all the right Covid protocols in place. Since we will be getting into colder weather, I would encourage everyone to bring jackets, blankets, and if you'd like one, a camp chair (we do have hay bales just in case). It would be fun if people wanted to dress for Halloween – just a thought!

Westport Hotel Fall Activities

Tabby Korhummel, General Manager, Hotel and Pub

First off a BIG thank you to all the volunteers and attendees that have made our last community dinner fundraisers a success. And an even bigger thank you to Dorine and Lee for making it all happen. Together we raised over \$3,488.00 for our Westport Volunteer Fire Department at the first dine out and \$1200.00 at our dinner and movie night. We are also so happy to have raised \$500.00 for our Community Hall/Church.

Our October event is Pumpkin Carving in the pumpkin patch with Root Beer & a Dog OR Beer & a Brat OR Veggie Dog & Water (JK), on Saturday, October 10th from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. We will have socially distanced stations for carving. Be safe and wear a mask when near others outside of your social bubble. As usual all \$\$ collected will go to WVFD.

We hope to see you six feet away and masked at our next socially distanced non-event. Seriously though we really miss our fun nights in the pub and all of you. As someone really wise once said “this too shall pass”.

November is pie season and we are gonna have some pie tasting for you! We love our annual “Pumpkin Pie and Other Things Pumpkin” contest. This year all pies will be made in-house with local berries, pumpkins, and apples! Check the November *Westport Wave* for details.



Fresh beets and other great veggies now at the Westport Community Garden!

October In The Westport Community Garden

Melinda McLaughlin

In **October**, the **Westport Community Garden** is chock-full of **Peas, Tomatoes, Lettuce, Kale, Chives, Beets, Cucumbers, Eggplant, and both Winter and Summer Squash**, all ready for you to harvest, **ABSOLUTELY FREE!** All are welcome to supply your kitchen with these delectable organic delights. Just bring a cutting utensil and a bag to carry the goods home! These fresh vegetables are **free to everyone every day**, so please come do your part by harvesting regularly so that nothing goes to waste! We’re at the end of Abalone Street at the Westport Community Center (look for the greenhouse).

Please visit, pick, and take some food home. And don’t forget all you weeders out there, we meet every first and third Saturday at 10:30AM to keep the garden tidy!





Have You Been Counted?

Dorine Real

Have you been counted? Only about one third of the households in our area have responded to the census so far – way fewer than in most other areas of Mendocino County. California as a whole is undercounted compared to other states. Being undercounted can really hurt us, because the census count is used to determine our share of Federal dollars, the number of seats California has in Congress, and our political representation at all levels of government. We will have to live with these results for the next ten years.

It only takes a couple of minutes to complete the questionnaire online. It is secure and confidential – personal information is never shared with other agencies. Please just go to <https://my2020census.gov/> and get it done!

Westport Church October Spiritual Programs Cancelled

Baile Oakes

Due to the COVID crisis, regular Westport Community Church services are cancelled for the foreseeable future. Stay safe and stay healthy!

“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into friend.”

– *Martin Luther King Jr.*

Boat Permits Required

WVS

Boat permits must be obtained every year if you plan to store your vessel on Eddie White Beach at the bottom of the Headlands stairs. Certain rules apply to the privilege of storing a boat at the Headlands Park. Those rules and a permit application are available at the Westport Village Society web site on the Headlands subpage. Hard copies can also be obtained at the Store. The program will be managed by Val Hale who can be reached at 489-6380 or you can email WVS at wvs@westportvillagesociety.org with questions.

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.



October 2020 Westport Calendar

(Please note that because of the COVID crisis, meeting occurrences, dates, and modes may vary.)

Thursday, October 1st – Bookmobile, 9:30AM-10:00AM, Westport Store (service outside of Bookmobile only)

Thursday, October 1st – Micro Full Harvest Moon, 2:05PM

Friday, October 2nd – Sukkot Begins at Sundown

Friday, October 2nd – Westport Village Society Annual Meeting, 7:00PM, Zoom Teleconference (see page 2)

Tuesday, October 6th – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Monthly Meeting CANCELLED (see <http://www.westportmac.org/>)

Friday, October 9th – Sukkot Ends at Sundown

Saturday, October 10th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Hotel

Saturday, October 10th – Pumpkin Carving At The Westport Hotel, 1:00PM to 3:00PM, Westport Hotel Pumpkin Patch (see page 4)

Sunday, October 11th – Monthly Westport Church Thich Nhat Hahn Discussion Group CANCELLED

Wednesday, October 14th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM (call Chief Dan Maxey at (707) 357-4353 to attend remotely)

Thursday, October 15th – Bookmobile, 9:30AM-10:00AM, Westport Store (service outside of Bookmobile only)

Friday, October 16th – Super New Moon, 12:31PM

Saturday, October 17th – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 9:00AM, Westport Church (no public allowed due to health order)

Sunday, October 18th – Monthly Westport Church Quaker Worship Group CANCELLED

Thursday, October 29th – Bookmobile, 9:30AM-10:00AM, Westport Store (service outside of Bookmobile only)

Saturday, October 31st – Halloween

Saturday, October 31st – Micro Blue Full Moon, 7:49AM

Saturday, October 31st – Westport Halloween Parade through town, starts at 5:15PM at the Westport Store (see page 3)

Saturday, October 31st – Halloween Movie Night, 7:30PM, Westport Hotel back lawn (see page 3)

Sunday, November 1st – Daylight Saving Time Ends, 2:00AM (set clocks BACK one hour)

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. Both the current *Westport Wave* and over 8 years of monthly back-issues are also on the Newsletter page of our WVS website www.westportvillagesociety.org. Contributions for our November 1st, 2020 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by October 26th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com. Thank You!