

February 1, 2021

The Westport Wave

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

Weary Angel

Thad M. Van Bueren

This “Weary Angel” emerged from an 18 inch tall chunk of light green soapstone in January. I was encouraged to share it. I’ve always collected rocks, waiting for a spark of inspiration before carving them. This hefty rock finally caught my attention in late December. I saw the possibility of a furred wing in the raw block. I often begin with nothing more than that kind of vague idea, following the impulse wherever it leads. Something about flight I wondered? I took up chisels and rasps. I had no idea this would be the result.

We’ve all been through a lot this past year and those feelings came out in this sculpture. Worries about the Covid pandemic, economic stress, divisive politics, restricted social contact, the widespread dissemination of outright lies, you name it. It has not been easy. And it got even worse with the violent Jan. 6 insurrection in Washington DC. It’s no wonder there is a sense of weariness! So the outcome of my sculptural process makes sense.

This sculpture, while sobering, is also optimistic. I believe all of us can turn to the spirit of our higher selves. We can become the better people we long to be. In that way it gives me a hopeful feeling. It reminds me why I’m grateful for our spirit of community where we treat others as we would like to be treated, look after each other with kindness, love, and



compassion, and lend a hand as we are able. Mahatma Gandhi observed: “If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change.” It’s a reminder that we have the power to be the change we want to see in the world.

Westport MAC Meeting Feb. 2nd

Thad Van Bueren

The Westport Municipal Advisory Council will meet **Tuesday February 2nd at 7:00PM via Zoom teleconference**. For details about how to participate and to ask any questions, please contact WMAC95488@wildblue.net.

The meeting will feature a presentation by MOVE2030, an organization that is helping Mendocino County prepare a ten year economic resiliency plan. The WMAC provided input last summer based on community input. This presentation will be followed by a question and answer period. Later in the meeting the WMAC will discuss Senate Bill 231, tree trimming at the passing place on Route 1 at the winery, and the Directors will appoint officers to run the WMAC. SB 231 will establish the conditions for Caltrans to transfer the 172 acre Blues Beach property to a tribal nonprofit for management as a permanent nature preserve.

Free Masks for COVID Protection

COVID Response Network

Courtesy of the Mask Awareness Project of the COVID Response Network, complimentary mask kits are available at the following locations, so anyone can pick up free mask packs anytime:

Fort Bragg – Down Home Foods and Colombi Market

Mendocino – Spark Gallery, Corners of the Mouth, and Frankie's

CRN Mission

The mission of the **COVID Response Network** is to do what we can as concerned people to make a broad, deep, and effective response to the threats of COVID-19. Our pilot region is the Mendocino Coast of California.

Westport Church February 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!

*The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it*

Amanda Gorman, “The Hill We Climb”

Westport Community Store & Post Office Expanded 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.**

Westport Village Society News

Bill Knapp, President, WVS

COVID-19 Vaccine and Vaccination information from Mendocino County:

Use this link to get latest info and to sign up for email notifications:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus> You will find information on both vaccination and testing. You will see a dark green column on the left side of the page. Click on “+ Novel Coronavirus” to access several related topics. The county is working on an online vaccination appointment scheduler. Information will be posted at the web page linked above. If you have difficulty accessing the County web site, send an email to: wvs@westportvillagesociety.org and someone will contact you to help.

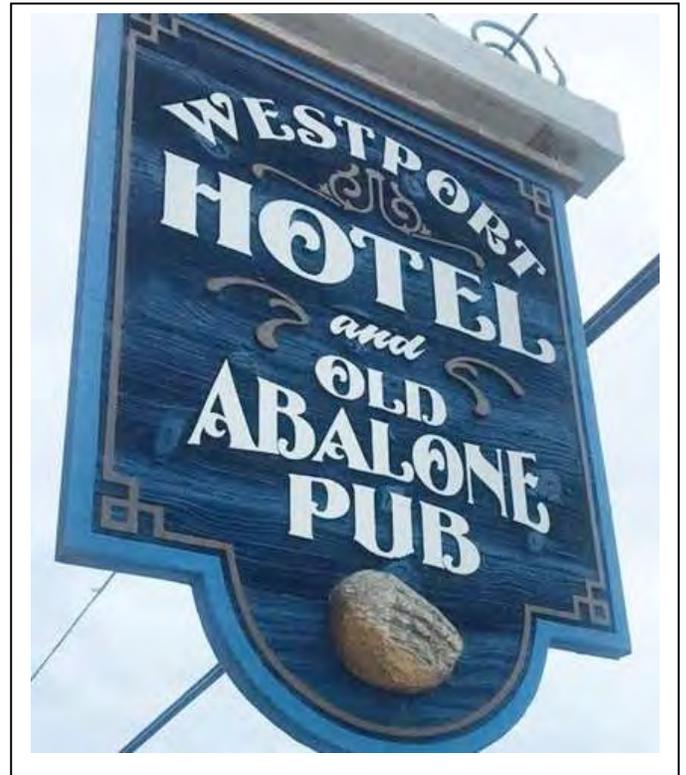
Another resource is the VaccinateMendocino website set up by Supervisors Ted Williams and Mo. This is the link, if it doesn't work by clicking, type or cut and past into your browser search bar:

vaccinatemendocino.com You have to register to set up an account. You will be given information on Tier structure. Once the account is set up, you fill out a brief questionnaire with age, appropriate tier, and contact info. Once that is done, you request to subscribe to vaccine alerts.

At the Westport Village Society January Board Meeting, spring events were discussed, primarily the Whale Festival and Ducky Race. The conclusion was that in-person events will not be possible before summer at the earliest due to the ongoing pandemic. If anyone has ideas about alternative events that are virtual or meet Covid safety requirements and allow people to participate in a fun activity, please contact a WVS Board member or email to

wvs@westportvillagesociety.org. The idea of open virtual meetings reporting on active projects or introducing and discussing possible new projects or activities was discussed. These meetings would take place during the two months of the quarter not utilized by the quarterly business meeting. The idea would be to host a single topic meeting with no business items covered. The Board is investigating possible topics for February and March. A meeting would probably be scheduled the third week of the

month and last between one and two hours. There was discussion about time of day for the meeting, but no conclusion was reached.

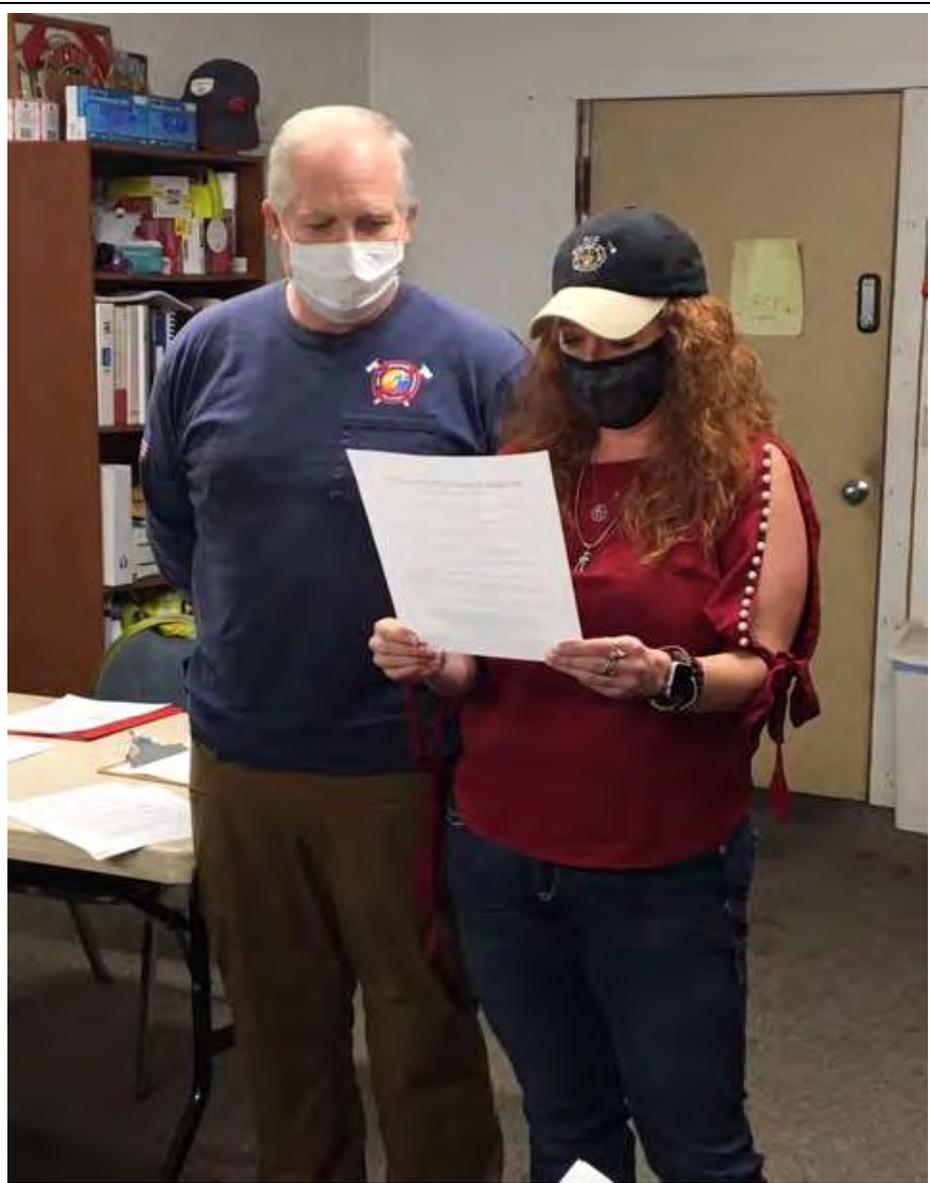


What's Happening at The Westport Hotel In February

Tabby Korhummel, General Manager, Westport Hotel

On **Friday, February 12th** bring your wishes, hopes, and resolutions for the new year – we will have special paper to write them on and then burn them, spreading them into the wind. We will have a small fire on the back patio from **6:30PM to 7:30PM** with hot tea.

Sunday, February 14th from 11:00AM to 2:00PM we will offer **Valentine's Day brunch boxes for you and your sweetheart**. Take it on a picnic or home to snuggle by the fire. Brunch for two includes ham 'n cheddar & spinach or mushroom 'n swiss crustless mini quiches, plus apple sauce crumble cake, cranberry scones, cherry chocolate chip nut muffins, fresh fruit salad, and a single red rose to-go, all this for \$25! Sparkling wine and a limited amount of last minute bouquets will be available for purchase onsite. Proceeds will be donated to the Westport Community Garden Fund.



Chief Dan Maxey swearing in Alta Moore as our newest WVFD active duty member on January 13th. Congratulations, Alta!

As the result of our community’s generous support, we received \$69,780 in general donations during that time, plus \$9464 from various fundraising activities, for a grand total of \$79,244! Thank you all so much for helping us generously exceed our fundraising goal in this difficult year!!

We also received two grants that enabled us to buy a set of new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) and more robust personal protective equipment. And, East Bay Parks Regional Fire District donated one of their surplus fire engines to our Department. This engine should be in service within the next couple of months. It will be in excellent mechanical condition and equipped to CalFire standards as the result of a generous contribution by an anonymous benefactor.

We’re off to a good start in 2021. The highlight for the Fire Department last month is that we have a new member. Alta Moore was sworn in as our eleventh active duty member on January 13th. She currently works as a personal banker at the Wells Fargo branch in Fort Bragg. On January 23rd, Alta, along with two community members who are

interested in joining the Fire Department, successfully completed first responder First Aid, CPR, and AED training in a class taught by Ski Saunders. We may be able to make similar training available to members of our community some time during the next few months.

We now have a Westport Volunteer Fire Department website, at westportvfd.org. If you click on the video on the Home Page you’ll see a short presentation that we put together with the Mendocino Coast Healthcare Foundation. It has some interesting photos and commentary on various WVFD activities.

Fire Department News

Westport Volunteer Fire Department

2020 turned out to be a very busy and productive year for the Westport Volunteer Fire Department.

We had a record number of 101 emergency 911 calls: 27 motor vehicle accidents (including 11 with injuries), 37 medical calls, 15 fires, 3 hazardous conditions, 14 public assists, and 5 false alarms.

When the COVID-19 pandemic delayed some of our tax receipts and made it necessary to cancel our annual fundraising barbecue, we established a goal of raising \$60,000 between July 1st and December 31st.



Volunteers clear invasive plants and fix the gate at the south entrance to Westport Headlands Park.

Headlands Work Day

Thad Van Bueren

It was a warm sunny day at Westport Headlands Park on Saturday January 23rd, a classic unpredictable winter day on California's north coast. Eleven volunteers showed up to help remove invasive plants in sensitive areas and fix a gate post. It was a nice social event and great exercise too!! Donuts and other goodies kept us powered up thanks to several donors. The Westport Village Society appreciates the contributions of Erin Brazill, Rock Bush, Sarah Cullar, Shelby Detrick-Morlatt, Greg Dougherty, Kenai Hale, Jim & Laurie Haynes, Rhiannon Korhummel, Thad Van Bueren, and Carolyn Yale.

We're pleased that this event is gaining momentum. It was our second work day this winter. Because there is much to be done to restore the native plant communities, WVS will continue to hold work days

every third Saturday of the month from 10:00AM to 1:00 PM. The next one will be **Saturday February 20th**. If it rains, the event will be cancelled. Please bring gloves, water, and loppers/pruners. We will socially distance for safety, but it is a good idea to bring a mask as a precaution in case you work close to others. Please contact us at wvs@westportvillagesociety.org if you want to help or have input.

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



“HEY, THAT’S NOT WHERE IT GOES!” A late January storm impressively rearranged our greenhouse location, but we’ll soon put it back where it’s supposed to be!

but, that doesn’t mean there isn’t still work to be done in order for us to have a bountiful growing season. As usual, the community garden work days are the first and third Saturdays of the month (weather permitting). If you’re free and care to join us for a few hours some Saturday in the garden we just ask

February at The Westport Community Garden

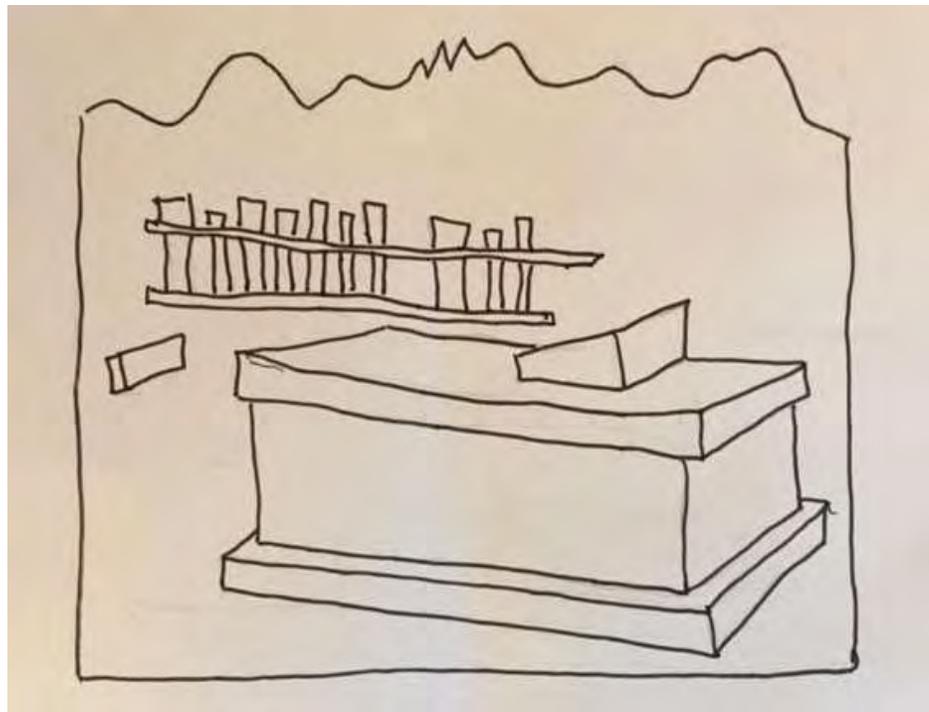
Derek DiOrio

Stop by the **Westport Community Garden** in February for fresh, organically grown veggies – ready for you to harvest, **ABSOLUTELY FREE!** At the Westport Community Garden, fresh vegetables are free to everyone every day, so please come do your part by harvesting regularly so that nothing goes to waste! Just bring your own cutting utensil and a bag to take your goodies home. We’re at the end of Abalone Street at the Westport Community Center (look for the greenhouse).

A variety of winter brassicas, leafy greens and herbs are all available for picking during the month of February. With cooler temperatures and shorter days now upon us, things in the garden have slowed down;

that you please wear a mask and socially distance when possible. If you’re not into the idea of working alongside others during this time, or just can’t make it on Saturday, you can always stop by the Community Center and check the Garden whiteboard to see what needs to be done and work on your own time. Thanks!

Little got done during the month of January (besides the greenhouse making an unexpected move up to the community center roof) so for February we will still be focusing on improving the infrastructure of the garden. Re-building garden beds, repairing fencing, amending soil/compost mulching, laying down weed barrier cloth in the greenhouse, moving potted plants.. and of course... weeding.. there’s allwaaayyy weeding to be done. With these improvements done in the cooler months, and spring right around the corner, we’ll be on track to make 2021 the most productive and bountiful year our little garden has ever had!



Drawing by Bill Brazill

way (underground) on July 16, 1898. The night of her funeral, his house burned to the ground! Eliza was quickly exhumed and her remains now repose in the cement vault ABOVE GROUND! (The above information comes from the Kelley House Museum and *The Mendocino Beacon* pages from the past.)

A brass plaque was placed on the burial vault in 1986. It reads: "Dedicated to the memory of Aliza Walker Cantrell 1854-1898 Pioneer-Wife-Mother Fondly remembered on this 24th day of May 1986 RIP".

Another Westport Story

Bill Brazill

There are not many above-ground cemetery vaults here on the North Mendocino Coast. There is one in Mendocino, a few in Fort Bragg, and also one in our beautiful Westport Cemetery – and this is the one that has always held my interest. Most all of the following information comes from a story told by Abe Snider to his granddaughter Marjorie Roach a very long time ago. Abe passed away at age 92 in 1946 and had lived in Westport for over 50 years. During this time, he was engaged in farming and teaming, and at one time also was the owner and proprietor of the Westport Hotel.

It seems that back in the late 19th century Abe had neighbors by the name of Eliza and David King Walker. As the story goes, Eliza had warned her husband that she would come back and haunt him if he buried her underground should she die before him. As it turned out she did precede him in death, and David had her buried the conventional



A few years ago, a large rose bush covering the burial vault was cut back, so the vault is more visible now.

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.

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.



Sunday, February 14th – Valentine’s Day Take-Out Brunch, 11:00AM to 2:00PM, Westport Hotel (see page 3)

Monday, February 15th – Presidents Day

Tuesday, February 16th – Mardi Gras

Wednesday, February 17th – Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)

Thursday, February 18th – Bookmobile, 9:30AM-10:00AM, Westport Store (service outside of Bookmobile only)

February Westport Calendar

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

Tuesday, February 2nd – Groundhog Day

Tuesday, February 2nd – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Monthly Meeting Via Zoom, 7:00PM (see page 2)

Thursday, February 4th – Bookmobile, 9:30AM-10:00AM, Westport Store (service outside of Bookmobile only)

Wednesday, February 10th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM (call Chief Dan Maxey at (707) 357-4353 to attend remotely)

Thursday, February 11th – New Moon, 11:05AM

Thursday, February 11th – Lunar New Year Begins – Chinese Year of The Ox

Saturday, February 13th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM (call Kayla Cooper at (707)367-1057 for information on attending by Zoom)

Sunday, February 14th – Valentine’s Day

Sunday, February 14th – Monthly Westport Church Thich Nhat Hahn Discussion Group CANCELLED

Saturday, February 20th – Headlands Work Day, 10:00AM to 1:00PM, Westport Headlands (see p.5)

Sunday, February 21st – Monthly Westport Church Quaker Worship Group CANCELLED

Thursday, February 25th – Purim Begins At Sundown

Friday, February 26th – Purim Ends At Sundown

Saturday, February 27th – Full Moon, 12:17AM

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 9 years of monthly back-issues are also on the Newsletter page of our WVS website www.westportvillagesociety.org.

Contributions for our March 1st issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by February 24th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com. Thanks!

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT



COVID-19 VACCINES

BASIC FACTS

- **Are COVID-19 vaccines safe?** The COVID-19 vaccines, including Pfizer and Moderna, are safe and have been approved for emergency use by the FDA. If you have vaccine allergies or severe everyday allergies, are pregnant or breast feeding, or have underlying medical conditions, ask your provider as to whether or not you should get vaccinated, and obtain a note or prescription. Minors under 16 cannot get vaccinated at this time. The Pfizer vaccine is safe for 16 years of age and up.
- **How effective are the COVID-19 vaccines?** They are approximately 95% effective starting 2-3 weeks after you receive your second dose.
- **Can those who are vaccinated still spread COVID-19?** Research is unclear. Anyone who gets vaccinated MUST still wear a mask in public, practice social distancing and avoid gatherings. Your vaccine may protect you, but it is not guaranteed to protect others.
- **Does the COVID-19 vaccine cost money?** No, the vaccine is free of charge. Some clinics may charge a fee for the administration of the vaccine, but that fee is usually covered by health insurance. People without health insurance can get the vaccine at no cost.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **When can I get vaccinated?** Your access to the COVID-19 vaccine depends on your employment, age, and your medical status. As time goes on, vaccines will be made available to further groups. To find out which vaccination group you belong to, visit covid19.ca.gov/vaccines
- **Where is Mendocino County at in the vaccine rollout?** We are currently vaccinating only those who are in the state's Phase 1a Tiers 1, 2, and 3 and the beginning of Phase 1B Tier 1. For more info on these current groups, visit covid19.ca.gov/vaccines. In reality, Mendocino County is ahead of most other California Counties in our vaccination efforts.
- **How can those over the age of 65 get vaccinated?** The state recently opened up vaccine eligibility to those over the age of 65. Most counties, including Mendocino County, have not received enough vaccines from the state to vaccinate those over 65, unless they fit into the Phase 1a Tiers, or Phase 1b Tier 1. We will provide updates on our website, on our social media pages (see links to the right), on radio and newspaper as more information becomes available.
- **How will I know when my group can get vaccinated?** We are establishing an online appointment system. Until then, we will let you know about county-hosted vaccination events and vaccine eligibility updates by means of our website (mendocinocounty.org), radio, newspapers, and social media.

JAN 14,
2021



STAY CONNECTED



Mendocino County
Vaccination Hotline:
707-472-2663



DOC-vaccines
@mendocino
county.org



[mendocinocounty.org/
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