

December 1, 2014

The Westport Wave

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

Holiday Greetings!

Steve Brigham, Editor

It's a controversy every year, at least in the USA, and there's absolutely no need for it. There are so many different Holiday celebrations all over the world and all over our country at this time of year, but why can't we publicly celebrate them? What's wrong with publicly celebrating and saying (or printing) Christmas, or Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa, or any other cultural festival? Have we been reduced to a country where "no" is the only word we know? I sure hope not.

Well here's a novel concept – why not celebrate *everyone's* Holidays? I got an e-mail from Santa Claus the other day, and he encouraged me to tell you all that he works for all of humanity equally. And if you disagree with him and you don't love and respect all humans equally, you're just flat-out not going to get any presents! So don't be afraid to celebrate Christmas, or any other Holiday, and don't be afraid to say (or print) your words!

The Spirit of Santa Claus is for all of us and all of our Holiday celebrations, so why not at this time of year simply focus on thanks and love and appreciation (and inclusion) for everyone on Earth? Millions of folks all over the world of many denominations are doing just that right now, and they all love Santa Claus too! Maybe it's Santa Claus who can really unite all of us. He'd like that idea, and I would too!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR
HOME-TOWN JOURNALISTS AT
THE WESTPORT WAVE!**



Come help trim the Westport Holiday Tree on December 12th!

Community Tree Lighting Friday December 12th at 5:00PM

Sarah Mathias

A Community Holiday Tree for Westport is coming to town! And if it isn't up already, it will be soon. The idea to put up a town tree this Holiday season was born at the last Community Center Committee meeting and through the hard work of a few community members, will be a reality. Keep an eye on the lot across from the Westport Store (at Abalone St. and Highway 1) for a 20-foot tree awaiting adornment. We'll get the lights and a topper on it, but

we need the help of the community to finish it. If you'd like to donate an ornament or two or more, you can leave your donations at the Recreation Center (formerly the Westport School) – look for a tub by the door. We'll get the ornaments up on the top portion of the tree, and you can come a little early (starting around 4:00PM) to the tree lighting and personally add your ornaments to the bottom (reachable) portion of the tree. We'll do the official tree lighting on the same evening as the kids' Holiday festivities (see below), on Friday, December 12th at 5:00PM. The kids will be coming down between 4:00 and 4:30PM to add any ornaments they've made, then will stay for the tree lighting before retreating to watch Christmas movies in the warmth of the Recreation Center.

Kids' Holiday Crafts and Movies Friday December 12th at 2:30PM

Sarah Mathias

There'll be plenty of Holiday fun for the kids at the Westport Recreation Center on Friday, December 12th, starting with Holiday crafts and snacks at 2:30PM. All local children and their friends are invited to come make ornaments and other Holiday crafts, then head over as a group to add ornaments to the Community Tree. We'll stay for the tree lighting at 5:00PM, then head back to the Recreation Center for popcorn and short Christmas movies (*A Charlie Brown Christmas*, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, and the like).

Sing Along and Party at the Hotel Sunday December 14th at 6:00PM

Wrap up your Holiday festivity-filled weekend with a Community Party at the Westport Hotel! Everyone is invited to the Hotel on Sunday, December 14th at 6:00PM to sing carols and share Holiday sweets. Goldie Westheimer will be providing the music, so just bring your voice to add to the chorus and a plate of something sweet to share with your neighbors!

As of November 29th, we've had over 13 inches of rain this fall in Westport! That's over 10 inches more than we had last year at this time, and it's way over 100% of our average rainfall to date!



The Westport Community Church

Westport Community Church December – January Calendar

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 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!

December will bring to our village's Church a wonderful offering on **every Sunday this month beginning at 10:00AM**. So far we also have a program scheduled for Sunday, January 11th at 10:00AM. Descriptions of our upcoming services are as follows:

December 7th – Rabbi Margaret Holub

Margaret has been the Rabbi of the Mendocino Coast Jewish Community since 1989. A Jewish community is a little different than a church or another kind of faith community in that it is a place of community for Jewish people and others who may express their spirituality in many different ways. Sometimes I think of MCJC as a place of many conversations: religious, secular, cultural, emotional, intellectual, political, mystical, practical... Hopefully all of this exploration leads to more love and more kindness, towards each other, in our local community and in our world.

So the effort that you are all making in Westport to foster a place for spiritual sharing seems right in step with things I care about very much! I'm planning to lead a very short morning service with some Hebrew singing (don't worry!) and prayer, then just stick around to talk about Judaism and anything else that might come up. I thank you all very much for this invitation.

December 14th – Dr. Steven Doyle, Center for Spiritual Living

Steven will speak on The Perennial Philosophy, a practice that presents the spiritual seeker with paths which can lead to awakening. Dr. Doyle has studied the ancient Hindu texts for five decades. After the talk we can have a question and answer session along with discussion of the book.

Steven Doyle, Ph.D. has trained in Ericksonian hypnosis, Movement therapy and Shamanic practices. He has lead seminars in hypnosis, and many other healing modalities in the Western states and Hawaii over the past 40 years.

December 21st – Our Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katherine White is helping us to establish an ongoing Quaker Worship Group meeting on the third Sunday of every month. 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.

December 28th – Mettika Hoffman, Fort Bragg Buddhist Sanga, Three Jewels Hall

Mettika will present the Buddha's teaching regarding pointers for "right speech". The morning will begin with a simple guided meditation which is appropriate for beginners as well as those who have already tried meditation. Meditation cultivates awareness of the present moment of here and now. After the 20-minute guided meditation there will a Dharma talk pointing to the Buddhist teachings that using skillful speech may prevent unhappiness. In a nutshell, the test of skillful speech is to stop and ask yourself before you

speak: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it beneficial? Does it harm anyone? Is this the right time to say something?

January 11th – Carolyn Cathey, "Spiritual Healing through Love and Law"

Love and Law. They sound opposite, don't they? Love is soft and Law is rigid. Love is emotional. Law is unfeeling. Love is creative. Law is robotic. But if Love and Law are put together, and followed wisely, Spiritual healing occurs and lives are enriched.

Carolyn Cathey, Student Practitioner at the Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, sheds light on the significance of Love and Law, why they matter, and how we can use these tools for healing in our lives.

All Sunday Services/Meetings at The Westport Church begin promptly at 10:00AM. Join us!

Westport Municipal Advisory Council Meeting December 2nd

You are invited to attend the next meeting of the Westport Municipal Advisory Council, which will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, at 7:00PM at The Westport Church. At this meeting, we will review our past year's activities and discuss possible topics for the year ahead. We would like to remind the community that the WMAC was created to provide an avenue of communication with the County and other government entities. We would appreciate your suggestions for topics for future meetings. Anything that falls under our County charter is relevant. The WMAC could invite guest speakers such as our County Supervisor Dan Gjerde, the County Planning Director or lead staff, etc. if the community is interested in having a direct conversation with them.

Are You Reading This In Color?

Just a friendly reminder here that anyone at any time can go to www.westportvillagesociety.org and read or download current and past issues of *The Westport Wave* in full color, absolutely free. Plus, the websites and e-mails mentioned in the newsletters are live links, which is quite handy when you want more information. So tell your friends, and let's all read *The Westport Wave*!



Westport Volunteer Fire Department News

Frank Maurice, Chief, WVFD

Dear Westport and surrounding area residents,

The Westport Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) thanks all of you for your time helping out at our fundraising events and for your monetary donations. We really appreciate your generosity. WVFD provides the first response to structure fires, wildland fires, vehicle accidents, rescues, and medical emergencies within our response area, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We constantly strive to be well equipped and well trained.

We now have 3 new Firefighters who will be taking the 160-hour EMT training this Spring – please welcome John Allison, Glenn Jones, and Jeff Mathias to the Westport Fire and Rescue team! Also, Lin Taylor-Maurice has returned to WVFD as an EMT and as our Chaplain after pursuing and obtaining her PhD in Holistic Ministry. Our firefighters recently attended an all-day training on Saturday the 22nd of November on CPR, AED use and First Aid, which gave them the opportunity to learn and practice the updated protocols for responding to medical emergencies.

This past summer, we conducted engine pump tests and hose tests, and completed pre-fire plans for the 19 commercial buildings in and around Westport. The results were submitted to ISO, which is the organization that audits fire departments for insurance rating purposes. We hope the results will help all of us get better insurance rates.

While all of us at WVFD are unpaid volunteers, training, vehicle maintenance, equipment, and building repairs all cost money. We rely on our fundraisers and your donations to cover our expenses. **We ask you all to consider making an additional year-end contribution to WVFD by sending a monetary donation to Westport Volunteer Fire and Rescue, P. O. Box 63, Westport, CA 95488.** We are a 501c3 nonprofit (EIN: 32-0204441), and donations are tax deductible. All of us at Westport Fire hope every one of you had a warm and Happy Thanksgiving and wish you a wonderful Holiday Season! Thank you!

WVS Mini Grant Projects

Bobbie Knapp

The Westport Village Society has approved a Mini Grant fund to enhance and support the Westport Community. Any WVS member or resident of the Village of Westport is eligible to apply for a grant which would be of benefit for the Village. These grants will be increments of \$50 between \$100 and \$250. The Grant Committee is now accepting applications.

Two Grants were approved by the Grant Committee in October. The first one went towards reimbursement for the materials used for the new Westport Community Center sign. The second was for Halloween Craft Day and Westport Kids & Community Halloween parties. Both meet the criteria that the project should be “beneficial to the Westport community”. Once again, the Westport Village Society would like to invite the community to think about using this opportunity. Just fill out the attached form on page 9 of this newsletter and mail it to:

Westport Village Society
Post Office Box 446
Westport, CA 95488
Attention: Mini Grant Committee

Local Listings

Our Local Listings has moved to our website, www.westportvillagesociety.org, so check them out for local businesses and service providers. If you wish to have your name or business name included in the website list, please contact Sarah Mathias (962-0181 or sarah.e.mathias@gmail.com).



The Cast of *Circle Mirror Transformation*
(photo by Larry Wagner)

***Circle Mirror Transformation,* Featuring Scripted and Improvised Action, Playing Now at the Mendocino Theatre Company!**

Felicia Freitas

(Editor's Note: Get ready to go to the Theatre, and do it NOW! This splendid production, directed by the world-famous Westportian Ann Woodhead, will only play until December 14th. My apologies for not getting this publicity in time for last month's Wave).

The Mendocino Theatre Company is proud to present *Circle Mirror Transformation*, a subtle and touching new comedy by Pulitzer Prize winning Playwright Annie Baker. This innovative and fresh new work is directed by accomplished theatre, dance, and movement expert, Ann Woodhead.

Four somewhat lost individuals enroll in a six-week-long drama class in the small, eclectic town of Shirley, Vermont. Led by their enthusiastic instructor,

a woman named Marty from Eureka, California, this strange group of bedfellows soon discover more about themselves than they could have anticipated... culminating in a hilarious journey toward transformation. This intimate and unusual play, featuring both scripted and improvised dialogue, is a most compelling story for anyone who appreciates the power of theatre.

Circle Mirror Transformation, a play about acting itself, is known for its meta and imaginative look at the magic of the performing arts. The production features the talented and diverse performers Catey Simonton, Bobby Horn, Terilynn Epperson, Joe Preuss, and Tiarra Rogers.

***Circle Mirror Transformation* plays at the Mendocino Theatre Company at 45200 Little Lake St. in Mendocino through December 14th, from Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00PM and 2:00PM on selected Sundays. For tickets or more information, please contact the Mendocino Theatre Company Box Office at 707-937-4477, or go to www.mendocintheatre.org.**

Holiday Recipes

Barb Anderson

Miniature Maryland Crab Cakes

1 lb. lump fresh crab meat
1 egg
½ cup bread crumbs
2 Tbsp. chopped green sweet pepper
2 Tbsp. chopped red sweet pepper
¼ cup mayonnaise
1 Tbsp. finely chopped parsley
Dash salt
Pepper and Cayenne pepper

Pick over crabmeat to remove shells or cartilage, being careful not to shred crabmeat. It should remain in lumps. Sprinkle red and green pepper over crabmeat. Lightly toss crabmeat with egg, mayonnaise, and seasonings. Slowly sprinkle bread crumbs into mixture. It should be moist, with no trace of crumbs. Form into small cakes and lightly sauté in melted butter until lightly browned. (Please note: Do not use frozen crabmeat in this recipe.)

Apple Cider Pot Roast

1 tsp. Fresh ginger, grated
 1 tsp. Salt
 ¼ tsp. Pepper
 1 (4-4½ lb.) rump roast
 2 slices bacon, uncooked
 1 Tbsp. Butter
 1 Tbsp. Oil
 ¾ cup chopped onion
 1 carrot, minced
 1 stalk celery, minced
 1-½ cup hard cider
 1 (10-1½ oz.) can beef broth
 1 clove garlic

Combine ginger, salt, and pepper; rub over meat. Let stand 30 minutes. Coat meat lightly with flour. Place bacon, butter, and oil in a Dutch oven. Saute until bacon is brown. Add meat to pan. Cook until all sides are brown. Add celery, carrot, and onion. Saute for 5 minutes. Add cider, broth, and garlic. Simmer, turning occasionally, about 2-1¼ hours. Sauce can be thickened if you wish a gravy. Serves 6.



Grosjean-Tornell, and Baile Oakes. A special thanks to Donna Traycik for creating the beautiful backdrop to photograph the children in front of and to Xave Hale for supplying dishes and offering to wash them up afterward – and thank you to those that made sure he didn't have to do too many.

I am grateful that these activities had such generous funding through the Westport Village Society Mini Grant program and by a donation from Xave Hale. Thank you for investing in our children and providing the means to do something special for them. Thank you to all the residents and businesses of Westport who answered their doors to give our kids a treat and to everyone who showed up at the Westport Church afterward to enjoy food and each other's company.

Last, but far, far from least, I wish to thank the Westport Volunteer Fire Department. I asked them to participate in whatever way they could, and they did



Halloween in Westport!

Sarah Mathias

My dear friends and neighbors, I wanted to take a little space to express my gratitude to all those who made our Halloween festivities a success. Thank you to everyone who helped plan, set up, and clean up: Jessica Whitmire, Heather Hawes, Kayla Cooper, Xave Hale, Beverly Smith, Lesli Langslet, Dawn





so much more than I had anticipated! In addition to signaling the start of trick-or-treating by driving the Rescue and Tanker vehicles by the Recreation Center (complete with sirens and lights) and handing out yummy treats to the kids, our trick-or-treating party was accompanied by Lin Taylor-Maurice, and all of our crossings were made safe as Frank Maurice and Jeff Mathias coordinated with Lin and held traffic on Highway 1 for us.

What an awesome way to show our children how precious and important they are! Thank you all! I have compiled the photographs that I took and that I received from Baile Oakes, Jessica Whitmire, and Heather Hawes into a small album that currently resides at the Westport Store. Enjoy the memories!



Logan's Corner

"Indian Summer Insect Funk '14"

Termites droppin' on my head,
Termites droppin' on my bed,
Termites shavin' all around;
We never hear their sound.

Beetles chewin' trees,
Carpets full o' fleas,
Yellow Jackets n' bees in the knees

Ants in my kitchen
Start me ta' bitchin':
"Where the hell they comin' from?!"
(some bugs ain't so dumb)

Spiders chill me to the bone,
They make themselves at home;
At least they don't use the phone.

Centipedes with countless legs,
Slurpin' up all the dregs.
Flies that bother, flies that bite;
Mosquitos' gonna be out tonight,
With all the knats that got the knack;
Ready for attack –
We're their evening snack.

It's an Insect Revolution! Insect Revolution!
(my friend Jon J. say:)
"creepy-crawler, creepy-crawler!"...

-- J. Logan Smith, 8/14 Westport, Ca.

The Westport Wave is a free monthly community newsletter published by the **Westport Village Society**, a non-profit 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 each month's newsletter are also available for free at the Westport Store. Visit www.westportvillagesociety.org, where you can sign up to receive *The Wave* by e-mail and also read and download present and past issues of *The Wave*. Contributions for our January 1st, 2015 issue are due by December 28th, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@wildblue.net, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.



Time And Tide

Steve Brigham

"Sun sure is going down early these days, yup, yup."
And indeed it is, but it's going down early sooner than you think!

Our **Winter Solstice** is coming up on **December 21st at 3:03PM**, and that's the shortest day of the year in Westport, right? Well, if you've got Holiday company, it might actually seem like the *longest* day of the year – but yes, it is technically the shortest day here at 9 hours and 22 minutes between the "official" sunrise at 7:32AM and the "official" sunset at 4:54PM (more about that later).

So if December 21st is the shortest day of the year, it's also the day when the sun rises the latest and the sun sets the earliest, right? Well, not exactly. In reality, our latest sunrise won't happen until January 6th, and our earliest sunset will actually be on December 7th. This is because of two key concepts: the Equation of Time and the Declination of The Sun. And you've just gotten your first Christmas present, because I won't go into those concepts right now. (But you can read more about them if you want to at www.timeanddate.com, which is a fun place to watch the world go around, especially if you like numbers.)

So here's the rundown: the earliest sunset of the year in Westport will be on December 7th at 4:51PM (sorry I don't have the time in seconds – since actually all the days from December 2nd through December 13th are listed with a 4:51PM sunset. By December 21st, the sun won't go down until 4:54PM. And

conversely, the latest sunrise of the year will be on January 6th at 7:36AM (actually, all days from January 1st through January 10th are listed at 7:36AM), which is nearly 4 minutes later than December 21st, when the sun will rise at 7:32AM. Now you can tell all your friends that the latest sunrise day and the earliest sunset day in Westport both have official day lengths over 7 minutes longer than our shortest day of the year. Try it – it's a great conversation stopper!

Some of you intuitive types might be wondering what all these "official" sunrise and sunset times even mean. In fact, your personal sunrise can be much later if you've got a big mountain in the way of the southeastern horizon (or if you sleep in late). For many of us in Westport, "official" sunset times are a bit more useful, especially if you've got a clear sky over the ocean, and I hope your company gets to see a few of those. Anyway, here's hoping that your days during this Holiday Season are just as long as you want them to be!

December 2014 Westport Calendar

December 2nd – WMAC Meeting, 7:00PM, Church
December 3rd – Westport Volunteer Fire Department
 Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Firehouse
December 6th – Full Moon, 4:27AM
December 7th – Rabbi Margaret Holub, Westport
 Community Church, 10:00AM
December 11th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
December 12th – Kids' Holiday Crafts, 2:30PM,
 Westport Recreation Center
December 12th – Westport Holiday Tree Lighting,
 5:00PM, across from the Westport Store
December 14th – Dr. Steven Doyle, Westport
 Community Church, 10:00AM
December 14th – Community Caroling Party,
 Westport Hotel, 6:00PM
December 16th – Hanukkah Begins at Sundown
December 21st – Third Sunday Quaker Meeting,
 Westport Community Church, 10:00AM
December 21st – Winter Solstice, 3:03PM
December 21st – New Moon, 5:36PM
December 25th – Christmas Day
December 26th – Kwanzaa Begins
December 28th – Mettika Hoffman, Westport
 Community Church, 10:00AM
December 31st – New Year's Eve

August, 2014

WESTPORT VILLAGE SOCIETY

MINI GRANT APPLICATION FOR WESTPORT

Name of project:_____

Your full name:_____ Phone #_____

Address:_____

Please check appropriate box(es): resident [☐]; property owner [☐]; WVS member [☐]

Name(s) of people involved in project:_____

Have you applied for or been awarded a previous “Mini Grant” from WVS?

Yes_____No_____If so when?_____

This “Mini Grant” will range in increments of \$50, from \$50 to \$250 and should be **beneficial to the Westport community**, i.e. paint/repair jobs, adverts for community oriented events (such as classes or farmer's market), dumpster for clean-up, play dates at the school, planting flowers/trees, or painting fire hydrants.

Please explain concisely your planned use of this grant, start date, length of time for completing your project, and specific costs:

(*continue on back*)

Mail to WVS, PO Box 446, Westport, CA 95488, Attention Mini Grant Committee.

Submitted by_____ Date_____

NOTE: For a timely response, phone 964-7355 10 business days from date of mailing.



DECEMBER 2014 Drop-In and Enrichment CLASS SCHEDULE



Westport Community Recreation Center (At the Westport School)

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
10:30AM-12:00PM		9:00-10:30AM	9:30-10:30 AM	
YOGA WITH JULIA 90min		TAI CHI WITH SCOTT MENZIES	 W/Tabby 60min	COMING SOON: Easy-Does-It Gentle Yoga
6:00PM-7:00PM				
ZUMBA TONING PLUS ABS				

*Drop-in Rate for 90min. class is \$12, or \$10 with class card
60min class is \$8, or \$6 with class card

*Motivator Rate! \$65 a month unlimited drop in!

Questions? Call Tabby @707-367-0010

