

# Caspar Community News

October 2019

Sunday, October 20th 4PM

**COMMUNITY MEETING:**  
*traffic calming street art?*

**Potluck Dinner Afterwards**



Our October Community Meeting, after the usual circle of introductions, will start with the suggestion of [street painting](#) as a way to inspire drivers to slow down in Caspar.

Many of us walk, with children, dogs, or even horses, to check our mail, attend an event, or for the pleasure of being outside on our beautiful coast. Many of us (not just visitors) also speed through town. When my neighbor's puppy was killed by a car driven so fast the driver apparently didn't notice, it occurred to me that we who live and walk here are the best people to make our streets safer.

Figuring that the county helps those who help themselves, I remembered an article on traffic calming street art. Street art could be a good first step to making our neighborhoods and town center safer to enjoy on foot, as well as being a fun project to take on together.

There are many ways we could implement street painting, and other ways to calm traffic. Caspar Community's Board of Directors and I invite you to join the conversation at our **Community Meeting on Sunday, October 20, at 4 pm.**

After our one hour meeting we will share a meal and continue conversation. Come to meet your neighbors, make plans, tell stories, and for the tasty food!

*Sienna*

**There's some  
street painting  
eye candy  
on page 4**

**and more about  
street painting  
(with resources)  
here on the Caspar  
Commons website**

***also in this issue...***

**Thank you, Paula – Welcome, Lea  
Little Free Library**

**Barn Project ~ Freeze Drying  
Community Garden**

**Caspar identity gifts**

**Thank you, Paula!**

The Caspar Community Board of Directors would like to thank Paula Glessner for her many contributions as Event/Facilities Manager. Paula lavished care and attention on the Community Center. Her organization of procedures and information will provide a solid foundation for moving forward. She has chosen to retire to address personal concerns and will be missed in her active role but promises to remain involved.

**Thank you, Paula.**

...

I have been experiencing health issues that have led me to decide, along with my doctors encouragement, to retire from my position on September 1st. I want to let everyone know that I appreciate the support I've received for my work here at Caspar Community Center over the last year and two months! I have had a lot of fun organizing volunteers and working around the building. I've been blessed to get to know a lot of wonderful people and hope to see you all when I feel up to volunteering in the future. Thank you for everything!

~Paula Glessner

**Caspar Welcomes Lea Stedman as Event/Facilities Manager**

My name is Lea Stedman, and I was born and raised near Caspar. I am 39 years old and a mother of two, married and pursuing a degree in Sociology. I currently own a non-toxic cleaning company here on the coast [editor's note: [All In One Housekeeping](#) is fabulous!] and hope to make a difference in people's lifestyles by advocating for greener and more sustainable lifestyle choices. I have loved growing up here and being surrounded by such natural beauty and unique people. This area is truly magical and I hope to be a part of protecting and preserving it.

I have worked on the coast in many areas of management and service in restaurants, printing, and social media marketing.

I am very grateful to become a part of the Caspar Community and have been happy to meet so many new faces and to learn of all the elements that make this place such a special community. I am looking forward to working hard and with heart as I become further involved with Caspar Community's events and future developments, and sustainability. Thank you for this opportunity!

~Lea Stedman



**Little Free Library**

The Community Center's latest addition is a free library out under the mail pavilion. It was constructed by local wood working artist Paul Reiber and installed by Paul with a little help from me on Friday the 13th of September. Paul would like to thank Larry Sawyer for donating the glass door.

There is a non profit international organization called [Little Free Library](#) started in Wisconsin in 2009 that now lists over 90,000 Little Free Libraries world wide, in 91 countries. There are currently 4 or 5 of them in Fort Bragg as well as a couple that aren't affiliated with the organization. For a couple of years I've been feeding books to the ones in Fort Bragg, trying to shrink my incredibly high mountain of books.

One day earlier this year my wife Carlie said to me that there ought to be one at the Caspar Community Center. That really rang a bell in my mind and I asked a number of people involved with the Center if they thought it was a good idea. The responses I got were always very positive. One day I talked to Paul Reiber about it and he said that he had thought about building one but the idea had got lost in the shuffle somewhat. My mentioning it rang that bell in his mind and a couple of months later it became a reality.

I've already put about 50 books in it and many have already found homes. I've also noticed that others have been donating to it also. As the sign on it says "Take a book, donate a book, Enjoy." I hope that you will take the time to do that.

~ Jima Abbott

**Food Freeze Drying**

The Caspar Community Emergency Preparation Project purchased a HarvestRight food freeze drier last winter for use by the community. In that food processed in this way and stored dry has a shelf life of 25 years it is a good way to stockpile healthy, wholesome meals and ingredients for use during an emergency. The fresh or cooked foods are placed on trays, where they are frozen to -40° or colder. Once the food is frozen, the freeze dryer creates a vacuum and the ice in the food changes from a solid to a gas. The water vapor is discarded and the food is then dried completely. This process takes about 24 hours.

The plan was for the machine, which measures approximately 3'x3'x4', to move directly into our newly rehabilitated barn, but as with many construction projects, this has taken longer than anticipated. We are now close to moving in the freeze drier.

Having stored the machine in my home garage for the last number of months, I have had the opportunity to use it. Here are some things I have learned. It will be a great way to preserve leftovers from an a breakfast or pub night if there is enough to fill up the five trays. I was able to do this with breakfast stratas that are packed away in the emergency trailer. Raw eggs can be freeze dried and are also stashed. Freeze dried bananas are really good, and are especially popular with my 3 year old grandboys. Getting produce at the peak of the season is best. I tried fresh apricots and they are “interesting” but the batch of wild blackberries I just did are great.

This machine needs to follow a strict maintenance schedule. It will be fun to work with other community members to stockpile food and meals for use in the case of an emergency.

~Dalen Anderson

**News from the Caspar Garden**

Fall is in the air, and the Community Garden is flourishing with organic food and bee-friendly flowers. Quite a bit of the extra produce has gone to neighbors, the Food Bank, and the Hospitality House. There are currently seven gardeners, each with a unique style and flair. There are two beds available. Please [contact Rochelle](#) if you are interested in joining the garden

Merideth and Bob Frey have donated a terrific aluminum cart so we haul heavy items to the garden without driving on the grass. The cart arrived at a perfect time for moving the huge pile of wood chips generously donated by Tonk’s Tree Service to the area by the remodeled barn and the southern front entrance of the Center. **Thanks to the generosity of community members who make it happen in**

~ Annie Lee

**Barn Project Complete!**

Your generous contributions have made possible the goal to rebuild the barn into a secure and weatherproof work and storage facility.

Upon deconstruction it was apparent that the barn was in worse shape than anticipated. This is fairly common with an older structure. The building rested on redwood timbers on top soil. The building was infested by wood eating insects. The building has sunk deep into the soil and was off level by more than four inches.

The old fir flooring was removed. The building was raised on jacks and a deep concrete foundation was installed. Damaged framing was replaced. The siding also was damaged and leaking. The siding was replaced by shiplap hardy board. New doors and windows were installed. A concrete sidewalk was poured connecting the barn to the existing walkway. New LED lighting is installed as well as electrical service for our freeze/dry unit. Ask for a tour next time you're at the Center.

~ Bob Frey



photos by Annie Lee

# Caspar Schwag



We have new magnets (\$2) and patches (\$6) available at 4th Sunday Breakfast. You can also get our Caspar-imprinted clothing at our

## ETSY STORE

[etsy.com/shop/CasparCommunity](https://etsy.com/shop/CasparCommunity)



**T-shirts \$20**



**Hoodies \$40**



**Full-zip Hoodies \$40**



**Caspar is a State of Mind (on the back) T-shirts \$20**



**Pro-grade Apron \$40**

*Caspar Community gets a nice mark-up on these high quality products. Great for holiday gifts!*

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more street art & resources at [CasparCommons.org](https://CasparCommons.org)



In the 1990s, citizens of Portland, Oregon, started painting their own intersections; a former volunteer says it was ‘not just about traffic calming’ but also ‘building a sense of community.’”  
 — [citylab.com](https://citylab.com)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

First & Third Fridays, 9am  
October 4 & 18, November 1 & 15  
Caspar Community Board  
All Welcome

Friday, October 11, 6:30 - 9pm  
**Caspar Pub Night**  
Family Friendly - Teens Welcome

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Saturday, October 26, 10am-12pm  
**HEADLANDS WORK DAY**

**Pop-up Dance Party**  
**Funkacillin**  
Saturday, October 26, 7-10pm

Sunday, October 27, 9-11am  
**Caspar 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Breakfast**

Monday, September 23, 7pm  
**Emergency Preparation Meeting**

Sunday, November 10 **SILENT AUCTION**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE PARTY**

A complete schedule can be found at our website.



Keith Wyner

## New Year's Eve Dance Party

Caspar Community will once again host a New Year's Eve celebration. **Mama Grows Funk**, Mendocino County's exciting new dance band, is Pilar Duran, Rob Marcello, Ui Wesley, Gabriel Yañez, and Paul Schulman. Mama Grows Funk brings a dynamic mix of funk, soul, Latin, and R&B influences to the dance floor with the aim of uplifting spirits, getting feet to move, and making booties shake!

We hope you are able to join your friends and neighbors as we dance 2020 into focus this December 31st.

The annual Caspar Fall Fundraising dinner and silent auction is scheduled for **Sunday, November 10**. We are in the planning process now and would love your ideas and help. Please email [caspar@mcn.org](mailto:caspar@mcn.org) or call 964-4997 if you would like to help us put on a great party.

If you would like to receive email about hometown Caspar events, email your request to [lists@casparcommons.org](mailto:lists@casparcommons.org).

## This edition of Caspar Community News

was laid out by Sienna M Potts

Photos by Sienna M Potts except where noted. Submissions of activities, events, or information of interest to Casparados is invited. Send them to

[lists@casparcommons.org](mailto:lists@casparcommons.org)

We  Caspar

