

Holiday Thanks

Steve Brigham, Editor

I love the Holiday Season. For as long as humans have been around, the Winter Solstice and all of its accompanying feast days, decorations, and celebrations have brought joy and even a profound (and it shouldn't be temporary) reinvigoration of a sense of ethics, morality, inclusion, giving, and most of all **thanks** to the world and the people around you. Nowadays, with the whole world at our electronic doorstep and so many different nationalities represented among our friends and neighbors, we have a unique opportunity. Every culture has a different way of celebrating and giving thanks at this time of year. Why not join in with all of them, all around the world, and celebrate everything!

As the humble Editor of your *Westport Wave*, I've got a lot of thanks to give to **you**, dear readers, for your interest and support all year long! This is also a great time to publicly thank all of my many wonderful contributors to this community newsletter this year, for without their copy and photos, there simply wouldn't be a *Westport Wave* at all!

So my sincerest Holiday thanks and best wishes go out to (in alphabetical order) John Allison, Barbara Anderson, Don Armstrong, Donna Brigham, Bob Finnell, Mark Finnell, Marie Fostiak, Felicia Freitas, Sally Grigg, Val Hale, Toby Hickman, Joel Johnson, Tom Kisliuk, Bill Knapp, Jennifer Korhummel, Tabby Korhummel, Kathryn LeMieux, Sarah Mathias, Frank Maurice, Baile Oakes, Rebecca Picard, Gary Quinton, Dorine Real, Millie Saunders, Liza Saenz-Bernard, Lois Senger, Beverly Smith, Lin Taylor, Donna Traycik, and last but definitely not least Thad Van Bueren, who always cleans up my messes and produces our final, final copy!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to you all, and to all of you in our wonderful home of **Westport, California!**



Santa Claus distributes presents during his visit to Westport two years ago.

Santa To Visit Westport?

Santa Claus is of course a very busy person at Christmastime, but this year, there's a good chance that Santa will indeed be visiting Westport! The occasion will be our **Annual Westport Christmas Caroling Party at the Westport Hotel starting at 5:00PM on Saturday, December 21st**. This event is for children of all ages, and will feature traditional Holiday songs led by our perennial *maestra* Goldie Westheimer. Come bring goodies and celebrate a real Westport Christmas with all of your friends, and your friends' kids, and if you're all good, maybe even Santa Claus himself!

Neighbor 2 Neighbor Meeting on December 3rd at the Westport Hotel

The next meeting of the Westport Village Society Community Committee will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:00PM at the Westport Hotel.

Everyone who cares about the town of Westport and also the greater Westport area is encouraged to attend, as we discuss many community topics.

At our first meeting on November 12th, we had 12 people in attendance and discussed many community needs and issues and their potential solutions. One of these is an ambitious program that we now call **Neighbor 2 Neighbor** (or N2N for short), which seeks to bring together folks that need things done with volunteers that can do them. Communication and organization is the key, so bring your ideas to the December 3rd meeting, and we'll see you there!

WVFD Meeting December 4th

The next business meeting of the **Westport Volunteer Fire Department** will be held at **6:00PM** on **Wednesday, December 4th** at the Westport Firehouse. This is an open meeting, and the general public is welcome. It's a great opportunity to meet your firefighters, ask any questions you may have, make suggestions, see how the WVFD runs, get a financial report, and much more.

Ann Woodhead Dance/Theatre Performance December 8th

Westport's own nationally famous producer, director, performer, and instructor Ann Woodhead will present a very special program of dance and theatre pieces on Sunday, December 8th. Entitled "SUNSET", this original program is created and performed by Ann and Friends, and played to rave reviews at its first performance on November 24th. Don't miss your final chance to see this fantastic and one-of-a-kind presentation at **4:00PM on Sunday, December 8th at the Dancing Dog Loft at Eagle's Hall on the corner of Corry and Alder Streets in Fort Bragg**. Tickets are \$5 to \$12 (priced on a sliding scale) and seating is very limited, so call (707) 961-1246 for information and reservations, or you can also e-mail annwoodhead@wildblue.net

Mendocino Theatre Company Presents *All's Well That Ends Well*

Opening on **December 5th** as a limited engagement, the **Mendocino Theatre Company** proudly presents a whimsical production of William Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well*. This enchanting show importantly features a young cast of the Mendocino Coast's most promising and talented new performers, and is definitely a "must see". The production is adapted and directed by favorite local actor, director, and experienced teacher, Dan Kozloff.

When an orphaned doctor's daughter cures the King of France of a fatal disease, he rewards her by allowing her to marry any husband of her choosing. Her choice? The brash, unwilling ward of the King. With great effort, ingenuity and the help of other resourceful women, Shakespeare's Helena lives up to her reputation as one of the strongest and most complex female characters in any of Shakespeare's works. This delightful Shakespearean comedy is characterized by intensely suspenseful scenes that strike a delicate balance between drama and humor, ultimately culminating in one of Shakespeare's most thought provoking and memorable endings.

All's Well That Ends Well comes to the Mendocino Theatre Company for only eight performances, and this will be the first time the Mendocino Theatre Company has produced a piece by Shakespeare in a decade. Don't miss this entertaining and educational theatrical treat for all ages! *All's Well That Ends Well* plays at the Mendocino Theatre Company at 45200 Little Lake St. in Mendocino from December 5th through December 15th on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8:00PM and 2:00PM on Sundays. For tickets or more information, please contact the Mendocino Theatre Company Box Office at (707) 937-4477, or <http://www.mendocinotheatre.org/>

Special New Year's Day Yoga Class

It won't be long before it's New Year's Day, January 1st, 2014! And that morning, you'll have a great chance to start your New Year off right by attending a special yoga class **for all ages** hosted by Yolanda Vasquez from 11:00AM to 12:30PM at the Westport School. Yoga is not just about body health – it's mind health too! You'll feel better in no time!



Last Kibesillah Building Saved!

Steve Brigham

As you likely know, the former town of Kibesillah predated Westport as the largest Caucasian settlement in our area, having been started in the late 1860's in an area just south of our present-day Vista Point. By 1870, the town had around 20 buildings and 113 residents, many of whom would move to Westport as that town was established ten years later. Today, nothing remains of the old town of Kibesillah, except for a small shed and a big house or barn.

For well over a century, this old barn (which is clearly visible as you drive by on the Coast Highway) has stood as a proud relic of days gone by, and it is perhaps the oldest building in our area. But two years ago, a big storm finally collapsed one side of it, and since then it has been on the verge of collapsing altogether. Owner Mike Cutino desperately wanted to preserve this historic structure, but he didn't have the means to do so. There was no way the proud old barn would survive another winter. Would the last relic of Kibesillah collapse and the old town finally be gone forever?

Enter (ta-daa!) the expert Neighbor 2 Neighbor crew, led by Gary Quinton and Picasso Sosa. You've heard of a "barn-raising" – well this was a barn-saving! As if by magic, several telephone poles were donated and holes were dug, and on November 1st (All Saints Day), equipment was brought in to lift and place the

poles, which now securely hold the old barn up. It took several volunteers to install the heavy poles on the outside of the structure and one right in the center. All together there were 8 sets of helping hands. Next, volunteers installed beams to support the roof and walls so the winter winds do not tear it down. This is not a fix, but rather a saving of this very old structure, which allows Mike Cutino the time to fully restore the old structure.

As you might expect, Mike is "ecstatic", amazed, and so thankful to Gary and Picasso and all the volunteers that made his (and Westport's) dream of preserving the Old Kibesillah Barn come true. This is another tremendous story of how Neighbor 2 Neighbor can work, be the project big or small!



Community

Gary Quinton

A "community" may be defined as an "interacting population of various kinds of individuals". In our Westport community, we are a special group of people who all live at the end of the road just before the Lost Coast. Aside from someone committing a criminal act on you or your property and having to

call in the sheriff (who does not live or reside in our community), we just about have to take care of ourselves and our neighbors in dealing with all of life's unintended events. Whether we plan on it or not, medical issues will happen, animals will get loose or run away, storms will topple trees that will block roads, fires will spread out of control, and children will be children (and adults will be adults). For help, we have our immediate family and friends, and then we need our community, which is our neighbors, our Fire Department, the Water District, and the Westport Village Society.

How well this theory of community works is in direct proportion to how much input there is from the community at large. No matter how hard a few single individuals work, the "community" concept will not work without the "interacting population of various kinds of individuals". Right now the Westport Volunteer Fire Department, who answers all of our 911 calls, is asking for our community to assist them with community involvement. The department needs the "community" to play a bigger part in its organization. People who will come to their meetings and provide input. You do not have to be a firefighter and go through all the training to participate in your Fire Department. Right now the Westport Village Society is asking our community to assist them with community involvement. The Society is attempting to organize a system of communication in our community to let people who need assistance know how to contact people who can and will provide assistance. Whether the need is long term or just for a few days, sometimes we all need our community in our lives.

If you like living at "the end of the road", far from big towns and cities, but would like to be a little more secure in knowing you are not alone, get involved in your community! It's great that you send in a check, and attend a BBQ, but the "community" wants and needs more from you and your family. The community wants to KNOW you! Ideas? Call me, Gary Quinton, at 964-7073.



Farewell Trek

Thad Van Bueren

Don't miss your last chance to take a beautiful trek along the northern portion of the Haul Road. If you've never walked it, or it has been a while, it is time to get a move on. This historic coastal trail will soon be history. The Coastal Commission denied an appeal brought by a group of concerned local citizens on November 13th and Mendocino County will thus issue the permit before long. Demolition of the road probably won't start immediately, but the dozers and trucks will likely begin work early in 2014. A public notice must be published in the Advocate News 30 days before the work will begin.

A bunch of us walked and bicycled on the haul road on Saturday, November 23rd. It was a truly stupendous day with lots of sun, mild breezes, and flat water offshore. The experience in the center of the dunes out near the mouth of Inglenook and Fen creeks is truly a world apart. Far from development and the sounds of traffic, we heard the sea lions barking offshore. Many plants have been tricked into flowering because of the recent rainfall.

Editor's Note: Thad's Time Traveler column will return in January.



The Value Of Pie

Steve Brigham

The Annual Fall Pie Contest on November 2nd at the Westport Hotel was well-attended by adults and children alike! But there was no more able pie critic in attendance than local-boy Hunter Mathias (photo above thanks to his parents Sarah and Jeff Mathias), who had both the talent and experience to qualify as the best judge. In young Hunter’s own words, all the pies were “real good!” That pretty much says it all!

Pies are usually circular, and the circle is arguably the most intrinsic yet indefinable form in our world. You may remember from mathematics class that the area of a circle can be determined by its width, but not precisely, since the factor is pie minus the “e” (pi), which is ultimately an indefinite number. So whether you spell it “pi” or “pie”, the wonderful value of both circles and pies are still somewhat of a mystery!

Pies are a Holiday treat, and we all, especially the children among us, look forward to them every year. This is a reminder that the Holidays are so much about children, and we should always remember that. Especially in Westport, where it has always been the case that everything big always happens because of mothers and young children being here in abundance. Now, with more new children like Hunter Mathias (and more new parents like Jeff and Sarah Mathias) our Westport Holidays will be so much richer!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND
HAPPY WESTPORT HOLIDAYS!**

December 2013 Westport Calendar


- December 2nd** – New Moon, 4:23PM
- December 3rd** – Neighbor 2 Neighbor Meeting, 6PM, Westport Hotel
- December 3rd** – WMAC Meeting, Church, 7:00PM
- December 4th** – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Meeting, 6PM, Westport Firehouse
- December 5th** – Last Day of Hanukkah
- December 12th** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
- December 17th** – Full Moon, 1:29AM
- December 21st** – Winter Solstice, 9:11AM
- December 21st** – Westport Christmas Caroling Party, 5:00PM, Westport Hotel
- December 25th** – Christmas Day
- December 26th** – Boxing Day
- December 26th** – Kwanzaa Begins
- December 31st** – New Year’s Eve
- January 1st, 2014** – New Year’s Day – Special Yoga Class, 11:00AM-12:30PM, Westport School



Happy Holidays From Kitty-Cat! *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 free **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 free to all at the Westport Community Store. Visit www.westportvillagesociety.org, where you can also download present and past issues of *The Wave*. Contributions for our January 1st, 2014 issue are due by December 27th, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@aol.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.



DECEMBER DROP-IN & Enrichment CLASS SCHEDULE at the WESTPORT SCHOOL

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
10:30AM-12:00PM	9:30-10:30AM		9:30-10:30AM	10:00-11:45AM
<p><i>YOGA WITH JULIA</i></p> <p>(90 minutes)</p>	<p><i>NEW!</i></p> <p>STEP AEROBICS</p> <p>WITH AIMEE</p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>		 <p>Zumba Toning</p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>	<p>NEW SESSION of Kinder Gym and Tiny Tots Tumbling Starts in January</p>
		5:30-6:30PM	6:15-7:45PM	
		<p>BODY SCULPTING</p> <p>WITH AIMEE</p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>	<p><i>T'ai Chi Ch'uan with Scott Menzies</i></p> <p>(90 minutes)</p>	

***NEW! STEP AEROBICS:** STEP YOURSELF INTO SHAPE! JOIN AIMEE FOR A 60-MINUTE AEROBIC AND BODY SCULPTING CLASS!

*** BODY SCUPLTING:** USES A VARIETY OF WEIGHTS TO GENTLY SCULPT YOUR MUSCLES! ALL LEVELS WELCOME – BRING A WATER BOTTLE AND A SMILE!

*** YOGA FOR ALL LEVELS** – BE PREPARED TO GROW AN INCH!

*** T'AI CHI CH'UAN** – JOIN SCOTT MENZIES, TAIJQUAN/QIGONG INSTRUCTOR AND PROPRIETOR OF FORT BRAGG'S PERFECT CIRCLE TAIJQUAN.

*** ZUMBA TONING** – USE LIGHT WEIGHTS TO GENTLY SCULPT YOUR BODY AS YOU MOVE TO LATIN AND WORLD RHYTHMS!

*** TINY TOTS TUMBLING** – 2-3 and 4-8 YEARS PRE-GYMNASTICS FOR YOUR LITTLE ONES! (NEW 5 WEEK SESSION STARTS IN JANUARY – CALL 367-0010 TO SIGN UP)