

Duckymania XXVIII A Big Duck-sess!

Thad Van Bueren, WVS President

The most uniquely Westport thing of all is our **Annual Mother's Day Rubber Ducky Races**. Many places around the world have such events these days, but we were among the first town to ever do so, and our 28th Dash of the Duckies on May 13th was one of the best of all time!

The Westport Rubber Ducky Races is the major annual fundraiser for the **Westport Village Society**, a 501(c)(3) formed in 1992. The mission of the WVS is local land conservation and community-benefit projects. That includes the acquisition of the 9-acre headlands park in the center of Westport, building public access improvements in that park, sponsoring local events with mini-grants, and supporting community programs such as recreation, classes, lectures, and the production of a book on local history.

The Westport Rubber Ducky Races this year were once again graciously hosted by the Westport and Caspar Beach Campgrounds, who have been our generous sponsors for many years. This family event featured three ducky races consisting of the Handcrafted, Kids', and Classic races. There were also food and baked goods booths, a merchandise booth, a boutique, a drink booth, a raffle, and a coloring station for kids to make cards for their Moms. Potted flowers were given to all mothers attending the event as gifts.



Paul Snowdy (left) and long-time Ducky Race Captain Pete Dumars (right) start them off in the Kids' Race at the **28th Westport Rubber Ducky Races** on May 13th! (photo by Thad Van Bueren)

The May 13th Races were well attended, with about 500 people visiting between 11:30AM and 3:30PM. A total of 349 ducks registered in the races and Decorated Duck Beauty Contest. Congratulations to winners **Gene Simmons** (Handcrafted Race, Grace Warner owner), **Zoom** (Kids' Race, Ruby Heister owner), **Cry Baby** (Classic Race, Tracy Athey owner), and **Dancing Queen** (Most Beautiful Duck, Heather Beard owner).

The WVS thanks all the people who came to enjoy our annual Mother's Day event, as well as all of our generous sponsors and many dedicated volunteers. A very special thanks to **Elika Freeman** who has taken over the organizing of the event for the WVS over the past two years – **well done Elika!**



Community Center Pride!

Steve Brigham, Editor

This spring, the Westport Community Church purchased the Fort Bragg Unified School District building that has served our community on the Church grounds for 20 years. Now, our Community Center (at the end of Abalone St. on the left) is owned by us, the citizens of Westport. Now is the time for all of us to stop by the Community Center grounds and feel your ownership! Now is the time for all of us to feel proud of it and care for it like our own!

This is precisely what’s already happening, so let’s keep it going! A huge thank you to Goldie Westheimer for much-needed bathroom repairs, and Don Nengle for meticulously mowing the grounds (which is a huge job!). Thanks also to Bob Finnell for attacking the weeds in the Community Garden, which we will be setting up once again in June (there will be more about how you can help with the Garden this summer in the July *Westport Wave*). Thanks to each and all of you who have done anything big or small to make our community grounds and buildings look their best! The more we work at it, the more pride of ownership and sharing we will feel!

Now is the time to attend the monthly Church Board meetings, which are held on the first Sunday of every month at 11:00AM (the June meeting is Sunday, June 3rd). There are Community Center items on the agenda that will inform you on what’s going on, what needs doing, and how you can help. Running a community center takes a lot of volunteers and donors all working together as a team. The reward is a community-owned facility for all of us to enjoy in so many ways, both now and in the future!

Inglenook Dance Concert and Potluck Dinner Benefit for the Westport Community Center on June 16th

On **Saturday, June 16th at 6:00PM**, the Westport Community is thrilled to present the 20-piece **Boonville Big Band**, led by the inimitable Maestro **Bob**

Ayres, making their historic return to the Inglenook Community Guild (formerly Grange) Hall, just north of Cleone. This evening of spirited swing dance and classic big band revelry will include a gala Community Potluck Dinner. The Guild will host a bar, featuring beer, wine & spirits.

The **Potluck Dinner starts at 6:00PM** – bring something yummy to share – and the **Dance Concert is from 7:00PM to 9:00PM**. Admission proceeds (\$15, sliding scale) benefit the Westport Community Center, and proceeds from the Bar benefit the Fort Bragg Guild.

The Westport Community Church recently purchased the Fort Bragg Unified School District building that has served our community for 20 years. This benefit will enable The Westport community to use this building to manifest a Community Center to serve our area of the coast. Please join us for an extraordinary evening of FUN! Dance, dine, and celebrate this exciting community collaboration as we launch this amazing Community Center project! Need more information? Call: (707) 964-7721

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

Erin Brazill at the Westport Hotel

Erin Brazill

I am going to be playing at the Westport Hotel every 3rd and 4th Saturday for the next three months. I will be playing solo guitar, but I might bring some surprise guests. My style is sort of jazzy, noir, dark folk-at times, with some oldies covers that are so fun to sing along to. For example I have a whole set of music I wrote as an ode to Alfred Hitchcock songs...but also some fun, lyric driven lighter stuff. I am also going to be learning and writing new songs to add to my set, that are chosen with special consideration to the beautiful atmosphere, feeling and mood of the Westport Hotel. I am definitely hoping to add some more sea shanties. :) There is never any cover charge (free), just buy a drink or some fries and come relax, listen, and be a part of the community!

June at the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub!

Tabby Korhummel, General Manager

There will be lots of fun things going on at the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub in June and throughout the summer months! Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/abalonepub/>

We will be open starting at 3:00PM on Saturdays with our full menu ready to serve by 3:30PM, and of course Tea in the parlor served from 3:00PM to 5:00PM. Reservations are required for full tea. And we are now open on Sundays for dinners from 3:00PM to 9:00PM.

For the summer months, Erin Brazill will play music on the 3rd & 4th Saturdays, with the exception of June 30th. Alejandro Yanez will continue to play flamenco guitar on Friday nights. In June, we will display nature photography by Sarah Flaim.

Beginning in June, the Fireman's BBQ Raffle Quilt "Millie's Garden", made by Aimee Maxey with fabrics from Millie Saunders' fabric collection will be on display in The Pub, with raffle tickets for the August 18th WVFD BBQ Raffle available for purchase.

Sarah Flaim and Lucky Otis at the Old Abalone Pub June 16th

Tabby Korhummel

On **Saturday, June 16th**, the Old Abalone Pub will host a fantastic evening of live music starting with Sarah Flaim warming up for Lucky Otis, grandson of the legendary Johnny Otis. There will be a cover charge for this show and pre-sale tickets will be available for purchase at the Westport Hotel desk and in the Old Abalone Pub.

Sarah Wagner Flaim has enjoyed living and working on the north coast for almost 12 years. You may have caught her set at the Westport Whale festival Playing Ukulele and singing her original music and covers of pop songs like "somewhere over the rainbow and a hilarious hip-hop mashup including Baby's Got Back and Push it. Sarah has performed in local theatre and opera, and in her last musical she took on the lead role of Diana in Next to Normal to sold-out shows. She volunteers for the Marine Mammal Center's (Sausalito) marine mammal rescue and with State Parks. Environmental and conservation issues are very important to Sarah: she has recently finished an album of lullabies, "Butterfly Kisses", for which a majority of the proceeds will go toward forest and marine mammal conservation. The Noyo Center for Marine Science and The Matt Coleman Fund will each receive a portion of the proceeds from your purchase of this album. Look for this album on www.cdbaby.com

Sarah will be opening up for the talented & versatile vocalist & multi-instrumentalist Lucky Otis, grandson of the late great R&B legend Johnny Otis ("Willy & the Hand Jive", "Every Beat of My Heart", "So Fine", "Harlem Nocturne" and radio personality, talent scout, producer and manager to many). Lucky, in the spirit of his grandfather Johnny Otis, is carrying the Otis Legacy forward.

This tour is kicking off with three screenings of "Every Beat of My Heart: The Johnny Otis Story" at the Leonard Moore Annex in Mendocino on June 3rd, followed by a live performance at Dick's Place in Mendocino that evening. The work-in-progress 90-minute documentary was produced by Bruce

Schmiechen who also produced "Sweet Blues: A Film About Mike Bloomfield". It was shown at the SF Independent Film Festival in 2008, at the Sebastopol Film Festival and in LA at Timewarp Records in 2017. Typically, a screening is followed by Q&A and a live performance paying homage to Lucky's late grandfather Johnny Otis. Lucky will also have a documentary crew following his shows throughout the month on this tour. One of the goals is to gain interest in completing the documentary. Fun Fact: Johnny Otis gave Etta James and many others a start in their music careers as a talent scout/manager and he also managed Redd Foxx, Slappy White, Lawanda Page (Aunt Esther) and other upcoming comedians of that day.

WVFD Volunteer News

Lois Senger

A big thank you to those of you who showed up at the **Westport Volunteer Fire Department** Firehouse for Cleanup Day in April. We had the usual WVFD members, and some in the community who stepped up and showed up – thanks so much to Dawn Tornell, Leslie Langslet, Baile Oakes, Melinda McLaughlin, Pam Brown, Peter Dumars, Hannah Macormic, and Lois Senger. The extra help for the WVFD members meant fewer hours of total work for them, and instead of them spending 8 hours by themselves, the job was done in 5 hours. This meant that they could have some relaxing time and/or time with their families. A great help!

Now listen up: for those of you who missed this Cleanup opportunity to help your WVFD members (who protect our homes and our lives), we have **more** volunteer opportunities we can use help in the coming weeks/months as we prepare for the **Annual WVFD BBQ**, which will be held on **Saturday, August 18th**:

Pre-BBQ Help: 1. Calling merchants (a list is provided) to ask for donated raffle prizes(end of june). 2. Individuals willing to pick up raffle prized from the merchants, 3. Addressing and stuffing envelops for the WVFD annual letter for donations (mid-June), 4. Distribute posters advertising the August BBQ (end of July)

BBQ Help: one or two individuals each for Coordinator of the Bake Booth and 4 servers,

and Coordinator(2) of Kids games and “players” with the kids (4-6). Most of these are 2 hour shifts (as long as enough people help) These are the FUN areas, so sign up early to reserve a spot for yourself! The volunteer Coordinators will have a draft plan to follow and an advisor to guide and assist as needed. Easy and rewarding.

Food: Pam and Melinda have offered to coordinate the Food Booth and will need volunteers to prepare food(6) the day before the BBQ (shuck and jive), and help to set up the serving line(2) the day of the BBQ, and volunteers(4)to help clean up (probably around 6pm) after feeding the crowds! Of course they will need the usual array of servers(10) from noon to 6 on the serving line. There is a late nite Band and Light Show, so some of our younger members may want to be on the clean-up shift and just hang out to watch this show. Lots of action this year!

Raffle/Registration Table: Ask a person you would like to spend 2 hours working closely with promoting Raffle tickets , food tickets, and Quilt tickets. This can be a lot of fun, especially if you select your partner wisely! A spouse, a partner, a spouse-partner, a wannabe partner, a fun friend, or any combination you think of. The only requirements are the ability to be upbeat, be able to count money, and to sell lots of tickets in your two hour shift (or longer, if you have the stamina!) I’ve seen Bill and Bobbie do some amazingly long shifts, but they could use some backup/replacement! Maybe we should have a contest for who can sell the most tickets in their shift!? Come and join us, seriously. Thanks.

Another big task is the set-up of the BBQ venue the day before and of course the take down the day after. 10 people to help the WVFD members would shorten their shift. What happens if they get an emergency call during the BBQ event? Without our help they could be up to midnight and then up at dawn the next day to set up/take down. Let’s show them we appreciate all they do for us and help them raise the money they need to run our WVFD to protect us. We can do this! Please email me at loispete@mcn.org or call at 707-961-0178 (land with message) and let me know your preference of area you want to help. Please call/write soon so I can begin organizing, and avoid begging you when I see you on the streets. I’m trying to help them, will you join me?



The Westport Community Church

Westport Community Church June 2018 Calendar

Founded in 1880, the **Westport Community Church** is a multi-denominational church which serves the Westport community and its many spiritual paths. It is also the prime meeting hall for the Westport community and its activities. In addition to being a community meeting hall, we are also doing our best to nurture our tradition of having weekly spiritual gatherings at the Church (which is at the end of Abalone Street on the left), with all religious and spiritual denominations both welcome and encouraged to hold both regular and special services here. Please contact baileoakes@gmail.com for use of the Westport Community Church for community meetings, activities, or religious services, and also to see how you can help keep our Westport Community Church organization improving and our Westport Community Center buildings and grounds maintained and improved.

Our May Church Board meeting will be held on Sunday, June 3rd at 11:00AM at the Church – all are welcome to attend!

1st Sunday, June 3rd, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katharine White leads our regular 1st Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is a simple, quiet meditation for 45 minutes followed by Katharine 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.

2nd Sunday, June 10th, 10:00AM – Carolyn Cathey, “Embodying Light in a Challenging World”

What is the meaning of embodying light? Sometimes being the light is wonderful and freeing. Sometimes heaviness weighs us down within the nitty-gritty of life where we struggle with relationships, finances, health, and careers. What is the solution to being the light in all circumstances? In our mini-workshop discussion, we’ll explore what being the light means to each of us, and listen to our own inner voice for God-guided answers.

Carolyn Cathey’s new book, “Divine Messages from Jesus for a magnificent life” is now available in paperback and Kindle versions. For more information, please see

<https://carolynecathey.com/divine-messages-from-jesus/>

3rd Sunday, June 17th, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katharine White leads our regular 3rd Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is just like our 1st Sunday Service.

“Ripe are the consistent of heart; they shall see Sacred Unity everywhere”

—a reading of Matthew 5:8 from the Aramaic



“My friends and I got Cry Baby in the Classic, and I wanna watch”

summer. As I said, we are a non-profit, and we rely on donations. So we have a GoFundMe account to raise the money for our Fawn Rehabilitation Center. Here is the link: <https://www.gofundme.com/WildMendo> If you come upon a bird or any wild animal, first and foremost do not treat it like it is your pet. Don't pet it, don't feed it, and don't even talk to it in a soothing voice. Because you are a human and they are afraid of humans, no matter how calm you sound, it is afraid of you. The best thing you

Pelican Attends Ducky Races!

Steve Brigham, Lois Senger, and Kendra Holmes

At this year's Ducky Races, we had a special guest who was also a pelican. The pelican seemed quite delighted with the festivities, although perhaps it was also asking for some human help. You see, sometimes baby pelicans, for whatever reason, become too weak to keep up with their flock, and are left behind. Some of these birds have the good sense to ask humans for help, and help does exist via the Mendocino Wildlife Association. In this case, this pelican (see photo) was particularly fortunate, since also in attendance at the Ducky Races that day was Kendra Holmes, an experienced bird rescue volunteer for the MWA.

We asked Kendra for a little more information about what she does, and here it is: “My name is Kendra Holmes. I am a volunteer with the Mendocino Wildlife Association. We are a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that rescues wildlife and gets them to rehabilitation centers across Northern California. Our motto is “Rescue, Rehabilitate, and Release” (back into the wild). Right now we are building a Fawn Rehabilitation Center in Willits. We're hoping it will be done by the end of the

can do at that point is to keep an eye on the animal and call our hotline at (707) 984-6363. We at that point will determine the best way to go about the situation. Sometimes the person who found the animal is able to contain the animal themselves, and we're able to come and pick it up and transport it to a rehab facility. Other times a volunteer will come out who is trained to handle wild animals and rescue them. It just depends on the situation and the animal. You can find us on Facebook, or our website <https://www.facebook.com/MendoWildlife/>”

So far this year, four young pelicans have been rescued from our Mendocino Coast. The Wildlife Rescue Center states that the babies are struggling this year due to the winds coming later in the season when the young are supposed to be flying with their mothers to their feeding grounds. They are unable to keep up, and get further malnourished on their own, and the mother has to abandon them. Those rescued are rehabilitated, fed fish, and released. The rehabilitation Wildlife Center is in the Bay Area, and was built from some of the fines levied on Exxon, from the Valdez Oil spill in 1989, when many wildlife animals died off the California coast, including numerous shore birds.



Our Japanese guests had a very special day!

But there's more to this story than just the baby pelican. Also in attendance at our Ducky Races this year were some happy kids visiting our coast on an exchange program from our Fort Bragg sister city, Otsuchi, Japan. This year, we all marked the tremendous disaster which seven years ago wiped out their beautiful town directly across the Pacific Ocean from Westport. Needless to say, these kids were ecstatic when they saw the baby pelican! It was a special moment in local history, where the lives of humans from both sides of our ocean who help one another intersected the life of one baby pelican, who needed help. Ladies and gentlemen, Life On Earth does not ever get much better than that!

Please support the Mendocino Wildlife Association, as they provide an invaluable service. It was fortunate

for the pelican and the Ducky Race organizers that Kendra Holmes came to the Races and was there to know how to help our baby pelican. And so the happy ending to our story is that our special pelican guest at this year's Ducky Races will soon be back out safely in the wild, where it can live its unique pelican life as its own mother would want. Now that story is a real Mother's Day gift for us all!

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.

WVS Mini-Grants

The Westport Village Society Mini-Grant Program awards grants in three different community service categories: 1) benefit/beautification of the community, 2) events, and 3) outreach. Funds are available again this fiscal year, through June 30th, 2018. Please see the Mini-Grant Application Form on our WVS website www.westportvillagesociety.org



Big Crowds watching the Ducky Races! (photo by Bill Knapp)

June 2018
Westport Calendar

Sunday, June 3rd – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Church

Sunday, June 3rd – Westport Community Church Monthly Board Meeting, 11:00AM, Westport Community Church

Tuesday, June 5th – Election Day (VOTE!)

Tuesday, June 5th – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Monthly Meeting CANCELLED

Thursday, June 7th – Bookmobile, 9-9:30AM, Westport Community Store

Saturday, June 9th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Firehouse

Sunday, June 10th – **Carolyn Cathey, “Embodying Light in a Challenging World”, 10:00AM, Westport Community Church**

Wednesday, June 13th – New Moon, 12:43PM

Wednesday, June 13th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

Saturday, June 16th – Westport Community Center Fundraiser Potluck Dinner and Dance Concert with Bob Ayres and the Boonville Big Band, 6:00PM at the Inglenook Guild Hall (see page 2 for more information)

Saturday, June 16th – Sarah Flaim and Lucky Otis at the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub (see page 3)

Sunday, June 17th – Father’s Day

Sunday, June 17th – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM, Westport Church

Thursday, June 21st – Summer Solstice, 3:07AM

Thursday, June 21st – Bookmobile, 9-9:30AM, Westport Community Store

Wednesday, June 27th – Full

Moon, 9:53PM

Sunday, July 1st – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Church

Sunday, July 1st – Westport Community Church Monthly Board Meeting, 11:00AM, Westport Community Church

Tuesday, July 3rd – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Monthly Meeting, 7:00PM, Westport Community Church (check <http://www.westportmac.org/> for possible cancellation or agenda)

Wednesday, July 4th – Independence Day

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. **Check out our website www.westportvillagesociety.org, to read and download both our current issue and over six years of past issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our July 1st, 2018 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by June 26th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488. Thank You!