

March 1, 2024

The Westport Wave

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



Come Celebrate The Whales on the Westport Headlands in Westport on Saturday, March 23rd!

COME CELEBRATE THE WESTPORT WHALEFEST On March 23rd!

The 5th Annual Westport Whale Festival will be held this year on Saturday, March 23rd from 11:00AM to 5:00PM on the Westport Headlands! It is sponsored by the nonprofit Westport Village Society and Kyle Siler - owner of the Westport Whale house. The event celebrates the spring migration of Gray Whales from Baja California to Alaska, and scads of fun activities are planned for people of all ages. Come drop in at any time between 11AM and 5PM and join the fun!

The event will feature music by Erin and Riley, Miller Family Band, Queer country, and Latchkey, dancing, and skits all day at the main tent; hearty food and drinks; booths offering event merchandise and locally made goods; and diverse activities for children. Kids will love the Treasure Hunt, face painting, coloring templates featuring whales and ocean themes, music and skits, and a bouncy house. Drinks will include grog fit for a leviathan (beer & wine), hot chocolate to warm your bones, and other non-alcoholic beverages. The hearty food will include clam chowder and potato corn chowder catered by the Westport Hotel, as well as assorted baked goods.

Educational talks and whale watching will occur at various times during the day at the Headlands overlook platform. Whale experts will share their knowledge of whale biology and ecology, as well as their enthusiasm for whale conservation.



Bring Back The Ducks!

Rubber Ducky Races revival meeting!
To be held Saturday, March 9th at 3:00PM at the Westport Hotel. Hosted by Taryn Oakes and Tabitha Korhummel. Anyone who is interested in keeping this wonderful tradition alive please come share your ideas. Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

Westport MAC Meeting

The Westport Municipal Advisory Council will host a meeting Thursday March 7th at 7:00PM at the Westport Community Center that will include several topics of high interest to the Community. Caltrans will present its short and long term plans to repair the slide on Highway south near Blues Beach and respond to questions. Another topic of significant local interest is how we can advocate against the exponential rise in homeowner’s insurance cost for properties in the local area which is a “State Responsibility Area.” We encourage you to attend in person as the best way to ensure full participation. As an alternative you can use this Zoomlink: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89912898039?pwd=yPvohClx47sPuFuMma3nemRk4Vry98.1;ID=89912898039>; Passcode: 094289.

Are You Concerned About Wildfire Risk For Your Property?

Carla Thomas, Westport Fire Safe Council
The Westport Fire Safe Council is meeting Saturday March 2nd at 11:00AM at the Westport Firehouse. Please join us to hear about the Firewise Program. Firewise is a community-based program that can help to keep fire insurance costs down and avoid fire insurance cancelation through fuel reduction and home modifications. We look forward to getting your input during the meeting on wildfire prevention and protection needed for your property.



The Great Westport Easter Egg Hunt 11AM Sunday, March 31st on The Westport Headlands

Sarah Cullar

Hey kids! The Great Westport Easter Egg Hunt is happening once again on Easter Sunday, March 31st at 11:00AM on The Westport Headlands!
We're asking that the adults for each child participating donate a dozen eggs per child, filled or dyed (all donations are welcome, whether you have children participating or not). Donations of eggs can be left at the Westport Store Saturday or dropped by the Headlands to the egg hiders (Sarah and anyone who would like to help out) Sunday morning by 9:00AM. So kids, get your parents (and grandparents) moooving, and see you there! **HAPPY EASTER!**

Community Game Night Sunday, March 10th

Tabby Korhummel

Community game night! At the Community Hall next to the Church. Join us Sunday, March 10th, 5:00PM to 7:00PM for our monthly community game night a.k.a. bingo bake off! We will have baked goods, prizes, and a guest announcer! Come hang out with your neighbors and have some fun!



Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub In March

Tabby Korhummel, General Manager, Hotel and Pub

We are currently open for dinners Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights from 5 PM to 8 PM.

On Sunday, March 17th, we will host a fundraiser for the Westport Volunteer Fire Department. Choose between corned beef and cabbage or vegetarian shepherd’s pie. Your \$25 donation includes your choice of entrée, Irish soda bread, and cake with Irish whiskey ice cream. Drinks will be available for purchase. Dinner will be served 4 to 6 PM.

On Saturday, March 23rd we will have a wonderful evening of music with Chad Swimmer and La Damas playing old Timey, Latin music, and Americana.

On Sunday, March 31st, Easter brunch will be served from 10 AM to 2 PM. Space for brunch is very limited and will sell out quickly. Call ahead to make your reservations. 707-964-3688.

Westport Town Hall Meeting Sunday, March 17th at Noon

The Westport Community Church and Westport Village Society are jointly sponsoring a Town Hall meeting to consider how best to increase the Community’s use and support for the WCC property. The meeting will occur at the Community Center Sunday March 17 from 12:00-2:00 PM. Please attend in person if you can. A Zoom link is provided here for those who cannot be there:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89913127611?pwd=4j9L0XZBrx4E8nFvwFRbZOS5lk6vDf.1>; Meeting ID: 899 1312 7611; Passcode: 295249

The physical assets of the property include the Church, the Community Center, and the Community Garden. Most Westport area residents have attended activities at the property and have an idea of how it can contribute to the civic betterment of the Community. The missions of the sponsoring nonprofits both focus on benefiting the community. The WCC mission is to “facilitate opportunities for spiritual growth and serve the needs of the Westport community” while the mission of WVS is in part to “sponsor, organize, and fund civic improvement projects, which are charitable and educational in nature for the broad cultural, educational, and civic betterment of the Village of Westport and its surrounding areas.”

The challenge and opportunity is to define *Specific Actions* that will ensure the property is best utilized to support our diverse Community. This meeting offers a forum for the Community to interact and connect to openly discuss how the two nonprofits might collaborate in a way that supports greater Community utilization and support for the facilities.

Town Hall meetings are a tradition older than our country. They started with individuals and small groups meeting, discussing and working together to identify and solve problems, improving their general situation. Town Hall meetings have provided platforms for dialog and feedback, leading to positive change with a sense of ownership among participants. A few discussion points are offered here as a place to begin that dialog:

- What are the challenges involved in operating the facility for the Community’s use?
- What activities are desired at the facility by the Community (secular and spiritual)?
- Does the Community want to maintain the facility as-is, or are improvements desirable?
- How will ongoing operation, maintenance, and possible improvements of the property be funded?
- How to move forward and ensure action is taken – future meetings & tasks



The Westport Church

Westport Community Church Update

The WCC recently held a runoff election for two open Board positions due to a three way tie announced in the January 1 Wave newsletter. The winners of the runoff election were Sue Korhummel and Lee Tepper. The WCC encourages the Community to attend the Town Hall Meeting on March 17th at Noon at the Community Center to share ideas about how to increase use and support for the facilities on the property we manage. The next WCC Board Meeting is scheduled for April 18th at 10:00AM at the Church to consider appropriate actions to implement the vision of our diverse community.

Finding a Place in the Other's Heart

Babaji

Sitting here on the banks of the river Ganga in the holy city of Varanasi in India, I can see the fires of the cremation grounds on the other shore.

Life is short. Every day is passing. So often, we go through life spending so much time and energy carrying resentments towards others, towards ourselves, towards the world. How long are we going to hold on to this negativity? We know one day it's all going to end.

Somebody once asked my Guru, "What is the dharma (responsibility) of a human being?" He said in very simple words, "Live in such a way that you find space in another's heart." If we have been able to do that throughout our life, our time on this earth has not been wasted.

There are so many people in our lives - spouses, partners, children, family, friends, co-workers, teachers, students, neighbors, by-standers. What type of effort do we really make to find a space in their hearts? Sometimes disagreements arise and we feel threatened. The immediate reaction is to try to protect ourselves and to justify our way of thinking. We become totally blind to the needs of the other in those moments.

Thich Nhat Hanh Discussion Group Sunday, March 10th, 2:00PM

Baile Oakes

This **Westport Community Church** discussion group is focused upon the teachings of **Thich Nhat Hanh**. We will share his messages, different each month, and discuss how they might or might not influence how we show up for our selves and all Creation. This month, our quote is on love (see below). We request that attendees be vaccinated and we will meet according to Church Covid precautions.

“If our love is only a will to possess, it is not love.”

— Thich Nhat Hanh, [Peace Is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life](#)



Babaji



Babaji's mission is to help people experience fullness in life through simple spiritual practices and meditation. He divides his time between the Sonoma Ashram in Sonoma and Upasana Hilltop Sanctuary here in Westport. He is currently in India at his Ashram in Varanasi to check in on the many social service projects serving impoverished communities nearby. For more information, please visit www.sonomaashram.org or reach out by email at info@sonomaashram.org. We'd love to hear from you!

Free Food For All at the Westport Choice Pantry

Melinda McLaughlin

When we take a step back and shift the focus from defending ourselves towards compassion for the other we save ourselves from so much trouble. All the energy that we spend in arguing and in negativity can be directed in a positive way - towards finding a place in the other's heart. The time that we spend consumed in "me and my story" can be used to make someone else's life a little better. This is living a life of service and living this way brings meaning to our life.

It does require humility and some sacrifice. It requires that we let go of our need to be "right" or our need to be first in line. It requires that we try to put ourselves in the other's shoes and consider what their needs in the moment may be.

When we live in the world with the sentiment of "What can I do for you," we find a place in the hearts of others. Likewise, we expand our own hearts to allow space for the other.

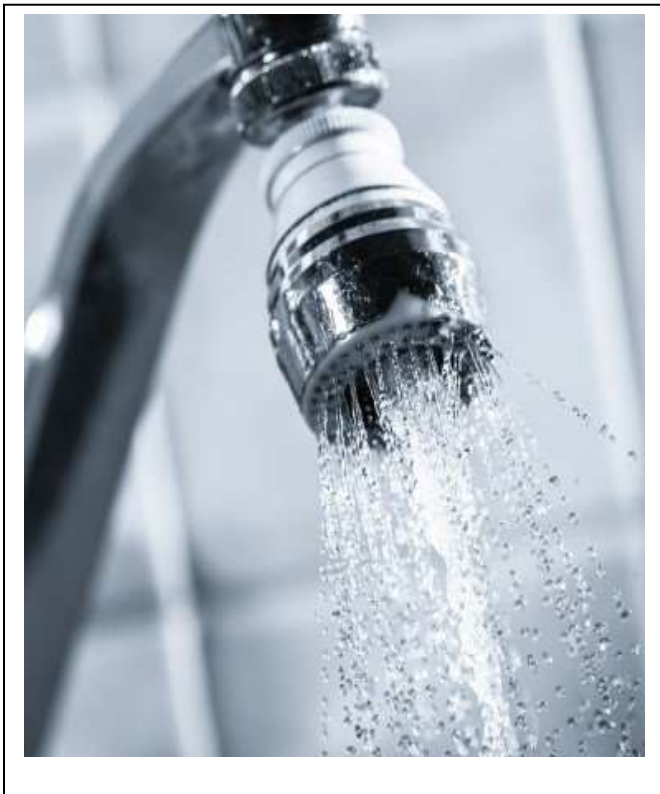
It's not always easy. But it works. It always works.

The Westport Volunteer Fire Department is currently hosting a Food Pantry with food for all community members on the third Wednesdays and Thursdays of the month. Fresh produce, meat, dairy, cereal, canned goods, pasta, and juice are available for pick up. Bags are at the ready! Kids' bags with diapers are available as well.

We are located at the Westport Firehouse, 37551 Shoreline Highway, Westport.

Wednesday hours (this month, March 20th) are 6:00PM to 8:00PM. Thursday hours (this month, March 21st) are 10:00AM to Noon.

In addition, we are considering being open on the third Saturday of the month as well. If you would like to assist in that regard, please call 707.972.3583. Thank you in advance for your support!



Greetings Westport County Water District Consumers!

Kayla Cooper, WCWD

We have an opening for a new Board Member to volunteer to serve on the Westport County Water District (WCWD) Board. This will bring us up to a full-capacity Board of five Directors. We are searching a district volunteer to offer their time and insights in an oversight role for WCWD. This position requires that you have registered to vote within the Westport County Water District. You will need to regularly attend our monthly board meetings which currently take place the second Thursday of every month at 7pm. These meetings are currently mostly being held via Zoom Videoconference. You will also need to be able to complete a Statement of Economic Interest form and a “Form 700”, which states that you do not have a conflict of interest in serving on the Board. Please contact me via email at wcwd55@gmail.com or by phone 707-367-1057 if you would like to inquire about this interesting and valued civic volunteer opportunity and position.

We are also pleased to announce the good news that Robert Finnell, the owner of Contemplation Haven on the Westport Headlands since 2010, has submitted a Statement of Interest with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder’s office to join our Board as our fourth Director. Robert is an active participant in other Westport community organizations (WMAC, WVS) and has been participating as a member of the public in Westport Water District Board meetings and activities for at least the last eight years. Robert operates a boutique fractional general counsel legal practice for early stage technology companies and brings experience and interest in municipal activities and corporate governance and a newly formed interest in preserving and improving our water and sewer standards!

More importantly, the Board expresses its sincere gratitude and thanks to Ryan Grossman, who recently was required to resign his WCWD directorship since he moved to Fort Bragg. He stepped up and joined WCWD Board of Directors three years ago when WCWD most needed his director services. Ryan’s service was reliable, his insights spot-on, and his professionalism valued all the time by WCWD. Best wishes to Ryan in his future professional endeavors!

WCWD now has a strong interest in bringing on one more Director to bring the Board to full capacity and offer their talents to WCWD. Feel free to attend WCWD’s open-to-the-public monthly operational meetings for more information and background and/or check out our nifty website.

Please apply!

Sincerely, from the WCWD Team:

Kayla Cooper – Administrator-Financial Controller

John Morrill – Operations Manager and Chief Plant Operator

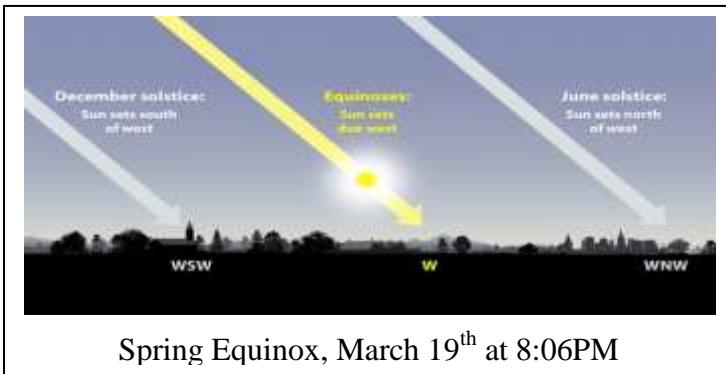
Beck Regalia – Drinking Water Plant Shift Operator and Distribution Operator

David Wilson – Drinking Water Plant and Wastewater Plant Shift Operator

Lee Tepper – Chairman and Director

Carla Thomas – Director

Gary Weiss – Director and Acting Secretary



March 2024 Westport Calendar

Saturday, March 2nd – Westport Fire Safe Council Meeting, 11:00AM, Westport Firehouse (see page 2)

Thursday, March 7th – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Meeting, 7:00PM, Westport Community Center (see page 2)

Saturday, March 9th – Ducky Races Revival Meeting!, 3:00PM, Westport Hotel (see page 2)

Sunday, March 10th – Super New Moon, 1:00AM

Sunday, March 10th – Daylight Saving Time Begins, 2:00AM (Set Clocks AHEAD One Hour)

Sunday, March 10th – Thich Nhat Hanh Discussion Group, 2:00PM, Westport Community Church (see page 4)

Sunday, March 10th – Westport Game Night, 5:00 to 7:00PM, Westport Community Hall (see page 2)

Sunday, March 10th – Ramadan Begins at Sundown

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

Thursday, March 14th – Bookmobile, 9:30AM to 10:00AM, Westport Store

Thursday, March 14th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00PM, Zoom. Call Kayla Cooper at (707)367-1057 for information on attending by Zoom.

Sunday, March 17th – Saint Patrick’s Day

Sunday, March 17th – Westport Town Hall Meeting, 12:00PM to 2:00PM, Westport Community Center (see page 3)

Sunday, March 17th – Saint Patrick’s Day Fundraising Dinner, 4:00PM to 6:00PM, Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub (see page 3 and flyer page 8)

Tuesday, March 19th – Spring Equinox, 8:06PM

Wednesday, March 20th – Westport Food Pantry, 6:00PM to 8:00PM, Westport Firehouse (see page 5)

Thursday, March 21st – Westport Food Pantry, 10:00AM to 12:00PM, Westport Firehouse (see p.5)

Saturday, March 23rd – 5th Annual Westport Whale Festival, 11:00AM to 5:00PM, Westport Headlands (see page 1 and flyer page 9)

Saturday, March 23rd – Purim Begins at Sundown

Sunday, March 24th – Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24th, 9:53PM to Monday, March 25th, 2:32AM – Penumbral (slight darkening) Lunar Eclipse (maximum at 12:12AM)

Monday, March 25th – Micro Full Moon, 12:00AM

Thursday, March 28th – Bookmobile, 9:30AM to 10:00AM, Westport Store

Friday, March 29th – Good Friday

Sunday, March 31st – Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31st – Westport Easter Egg Hunt, 11:00AM, Westport Headlands (see page 2)

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 12 years of monthly back-issues are also on the Newsletter page of our WVS website www.westportvillagesociety.org. **Contributions for our April 1st, 2024 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by March 26th**, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com. Thanks!

*Dine out for the
W.V.F.D
March 17th,
4:00-6:00pm*



*Corned Beef and Cabbage or
Shepherd's Pie (V)
with
Irish Soda breads
and
Whisky Ice Cream and Cake
\$25, served 4:00-6:00pm*



**WESTPORT HOTEL
AND OLD ABALONE PUB
38921 N. HIGHWAY 1 WESTPORT
707-964-3688**

