

July 1, 2024

The Westport Wave

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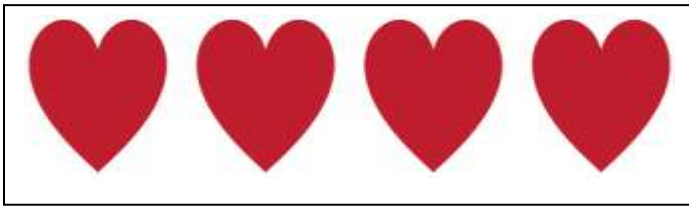
Westport Municipal Advisory Council July 18th Meeting

Bill Knapp, WMAC Vice-Chair

As of June 1st, four of the six members of the Westport Municipal Advisory Council are part of the formation group from December 2007. Two of those members, Thad Van Bueren and Bill Knapp, did not renew when their terms expired, though they continue to serve temporarily until replaced. At the June 6, 2024 meeting Thad resigned from the position of Chair and the duties he had undertaken while serving in that position, I agreed to continue, temporarily, as Vice-Chair but not to take over the Chair’s workload.

The WMAC and the community it serves is at a

critical juncture. Can the organization that has evolved over the last 17 years continue to function? Is it relevant to the community it serves? For there to be an informed meaningful answer to these questions there must be interaction between the WMAC and the people it tries to serve. The traditional monthly WMAC meeting date would fall on the 4th of July this year. Past policy has been to reschedule meetings that fall on national holidays. And so I am rescheduling the **July meeting to Thursday July 18th at 7:00PM.** The meeting agenda will focus on what it means to have and run a Municipal Advisory Council. Discussion about the desirability and benefits of maintaining WMAC will be encouraged. It will require effort from new and existing members to keep WMAC functioning. If you are interested, please attend the meeting or email info@wmac95488.org indicating your interest. There will be a zoom link and more meeting details posted on the WMAC website, www.wmac95488.org.



Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub Summer Hours

Tabby Korhummel, General Manager, Hotel and Pub

The Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub Summer Hours are Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 5:00PM to 9:00PM and Sundays from 5:00PM to 8:30PM. We also serve Saturday Afternoon Tea every 3rd Saturday by reservation from 3:00PM to 5:00PM.

Please call for more information – 707-964-3688. Thanks!

Vendors Needed For The Westport Community Center Flea Market Saturday, July 13th 9AM to 3PM

Sheila Winslow

I hope everybody had a fabulous month of June! In a few weeks on Saturday, July 13, the Westport Community Center will be available for what we hope will be an annual flea market event from 9am-3pm. So far we have 3 people who have indicated that they will be participating. We would like to have at least 5 more participants by July 8th so that we don't have to cancel the event. The community center has eight 6 foot tables available and we are asking for a \$5 donation to help cover utility and maintenance at the center. All your proceeds from sales would be yours to keep. This is also open to anyone who would like to yard sale at their property, (maybe having some big items like furniture). Please let us know if you plan on doing that as we will count you as one of the participants. I am just waiting to see if we can get enough involvement to blast all over Facebook marketplace. Please feel free to reach out to Erin or me if you have any questions! 916-812-3528 text / call or email sheilawinslow@sbcglobal.net

Westport Volunteer Fire Department News Plus August 17th Fundraising Barbecue

Westport Volunteer Fire Department

So far this year, the Westport Volunteer Fire Department has been paged out and responded to 66 separate incidents. This total includes 18 motor vehicle accidents and medical calls, and 5 search and rescue operations. It looks like we are going to have a very busy year in 2024!

Congratulations are due to Savannah Regalia, who passed her National Registry EMT exam and is our newest EMT! Of our 14 active duty members, two are paramedics and five are EMTs.

We had our annual elections meeting on June 12. Here are the results:

- Dan Maxey – Fire Chief, Board member and CEO
- Jeff Mathias – Assistant Fire Chief and Board President
- Ski Saunders – Fire Captain and Training Officer
- John Huff and Steve Goleman – Fire Captains
- John Allison – Board member and Secretary
- Ellie Kelsey – Board member and Treasurer
- Melinda McLaughlin – Board member

It's not too early to save the date! The WVFD Fundraising Barbecue will be held on Saturday, August 17 at the Westport Headlands. The event will feature great live music by eight local bands, delicious meals, beverages and desserts. Please contact Melinda McLaughlin if you'd be willing to help with food service. Debbie Holt and Becca Killion will be in charge of the dessert booth, so dust off your favorite recipes! More detailed information about the Barbecue will be provided in next month's *Westport Wave*. Best wishes to everyone in our community for a happy and safe Fourth of July!



The Westport Church

**Thich Nhat Hanh Discussion
Group Sunday, July 14th, 2:00PM**

Baile Oakes

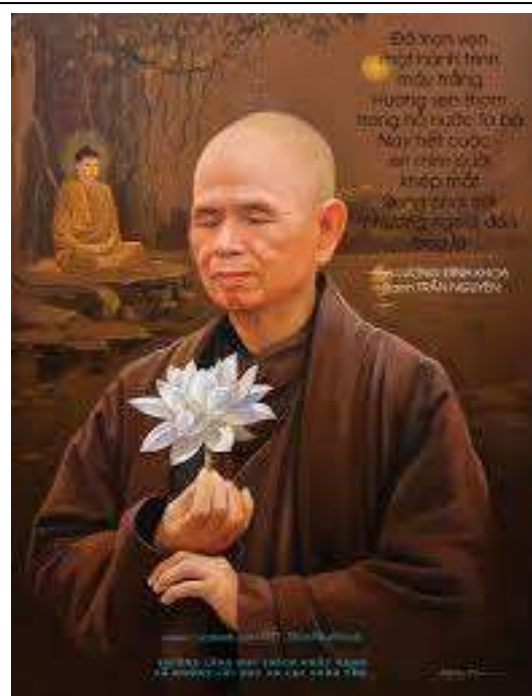
This **Westport Community Church** discussion group is focused upon the teachings of **Thich Nhat Hanh**. We will share his messages, different each month, and discuss how they might or might not influence how we show up for our selves and all Creation. This month, our quote is on Our Path (see box at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

24/7 Westport Wave

The *Westport Wave* is always free to everyone at any time on the Newsletter page of our website www.westportvillagesociety.org – where you’ll find our most current issue as well as over 12 years of monthly back-issues, all in living color, with live links! Check it out, and tell your friends!

“The mind can go in a thousand directions, but on this beautiful path, I walk in peace. With each step, the wind blows. With each step, a flower blooms.”

Thich Nhat Hanh



Thich Nhat Hanh



Babaji

Keep the Key to Your Happiness in Your Own Pocket

Babaji

As the saying goes, “We all have come crying into this world, and we are very blessed if we can leave this world with a smile on our face.” If we have that smile on our face at our last breath, this whole life has been lived well.

That liberation only happens when we are able to detach ourselves from whatever the world is offering to us. I’m not suggesting that you totally walk away from your life and your responsibilities, but do try to find a little time each day to just stop, take a step back, take a deep breath and be in total acceptance of what is.

I have seen people who spend so much of their time in disappointment because they do not have the kind of spouse or partner or child that they had hoped for. We think we are in control of the relationships in our lives. But the truth is, we don’t get to choose. In Sanskrit this is called “*runanubandhan*.” *Runan* means “unfinished business.” *Bandhan* means tied. The belief is that people are in our lives because of something unfulfilled from a previous life.

Imagine two logs floating on the ocean of time. Because of some currents, two logs are pushed together. They stick to each other and bob along together with the current. A bigger wave comes and the logs get separated. Maybe one log floats alone or sticks to another log or maybe the logs get pushed towards the shore. The relationships we have are like this.

We may not have a choice as to who comes into our life, but we do have a choice whether we are happy or unhappy within each relationship we find ourselves in. It’s our perception, our expectations, our need to control things, our need to be appreciated - all of these things impact whether we feel happy or unhappy with the people in our lives. It really has nothing to do with the other person. They have their own journey, their own drama, and their own struggles.

If we want to live a meaningful life, a spiritual life, we need to come to that acceptance that those who are in our lives are there for a reason. Try to see what you can learn from any situation that you find yourself in. We do have a choice to make our lives good for ourselves. It requires taking our attention away from the other person, and bringing it back to ourselves. Keeping the key to our happiness in our own pocket!

Carve out a little time to be with yourself free from your thoughts and expectations of others. Give yourself permission to take that step back and separate yourself from everything that is happening around you. Come home. When we are connected with our true Self, we can get a clearer view of the relationships in our lives and try to make the best of them.

Remember: Each soul has its own journey. Our life is a very blessed life if there is some faith and trust in something higher. That gives us hope.

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. For more information, please visit www.sonomaashram.org or reach out by email at info@sonomaashram.org. We’d love to hear from you!

Westport Fire Safe Council receives \$146,695 for Roadside Fuel Reduction for Summer 2024

Carla Thomas, Westport Fire Safe Council

Does your road look like the photo at right? For your safety, you need the Westport Roadside Fuel Reduction Service, which is FREE to the property owners/renters in our area since it is paid for by grant money. Elk Ridge Tree Service conducts the work of pruning up tree limbs and cutting brush within 10 feet of the road edge on each side of the road. If a landowner doesn't want certain shrubs and tree branches cut, they can specify on the permission form. This is the same company as did the work last year on the pilot project.

Westport Fire Safe Council received \$128,995 in grant funds for Roadside Fuel Reduction on Wages Creek and Westport Beach Subdivision private roads. The funds are provided by grants from Mendocino County Fire Safe Council (MCFSC) Micro Grants (\$9,975) and from MCFSC PG&E Grant (\$99,020) and MCFSC Chipper Days (\$6,750). Additionally, the International Association of Fire Chiefs funded another \$20,000 with Ready Set Go! Funds.

This project is a continuation of the MCFSC 2023 Micro Grant \$7,950 and Chipper Days \$3,000 last year that did roadside clearing for Ponderosa and Howard Creek Roads. The 2023 program was a pilot program that was well received and brought in additional funding from private individuals for additional work in their own property's defensible space and driveways. This helped us get more funding this year. Thank you to our 2023 participants.

The 2024 work started last month. Wages Creek and Sea View (Lincoln Ridge) Service Road along Highway 1 are done, next comes Sea Scape, Pacific Heights, Hilltop and Lincoln Ridge. If you rent or own property along any of these roads, please email or call Carla Thomas, Westport Fire Safe Council, to



receive, fill out and return a permission form in order to participate. There are also permission forms at the Westport Store. The work will be completed during July, so please don't delay getting your permission form in, so we don't skip your property.

For more information or to get signed up for the Westport Roadside Fuel Reduction Program Please contact Carla Thomas Westport Fire Safe Council 1-707-272-1994 carlaSthomas@earthlink.net

Thank you for your help in making our Community more wildfire resilient.

Free Food For All at the Westport Choice Pantry

Melinda McLaughlin

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 July 17th) are 6:00PM to 8:00PM. Thursday hours (this month July 18th) 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!**

LETTER OF RETIREMENT

Beck Regalia

To whom it may concern,

In light of recent events that have occurred with the Westport Volunteer Fire Department, I am no longer willing to be part of or support the organization as it stands. I no longer agree with the ethical trajectory of the administration.

The following events have prompted the decision. The passing of the resolution to pay the current Chief \$1042 a week/ \$50,000 per year for three years. This decision was made without having ever been an agenda item at a business meeting, leaving little opportunity for discussion. Furthermore, the fact that the input from the membership to create a job description with requirements, qualifications, and standards was completely discounted and instead a 'job description' that has none of these things and is completely tailored to an individual was created

without input from the membership.

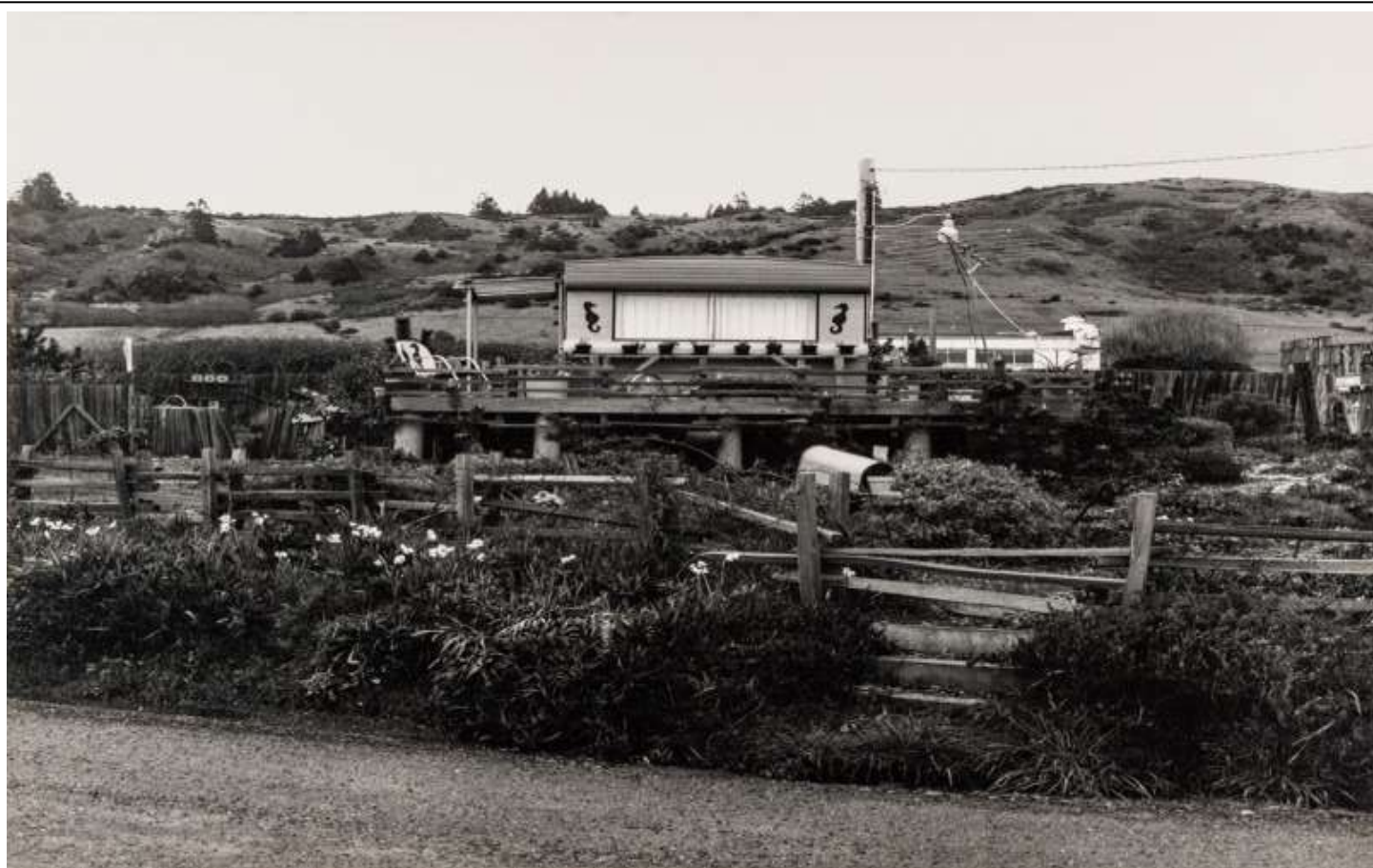
Also, at the June 12th business meeting the Chief stated that he will possibly be moving and responding from outside the response area, which will create a significant delay in response time. This also brings up the fact that half the active duty membership now lives outside the response area and does not meet the minimum requirements set by the bylaws, attendance at $\frac{2}{3}$ of all training and 25% of all calls.

It is not my intention to diminish the Department. Overall the fire department is substantially equipped and has well trained members that are congenial and supportive. I want to see the best interests of the department and the community served.

It has been my honor to serve this community through the WVFD, alongside the other volunteers. It is with reluctance that I make this decision.

Sincerely, 19 year member of WVFD

Beck Regalia



50 Years Ago in Westport – Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tony's place, Omega Drive, February 1973, photo by Bill Brazill.



July 2024 Westport Calendar

Ongoing classes at the Westport Community Center:

Wednesdays at 9:00AM – Tai Chi with Beck.

Thursday, July 4th – Independence Day

Thursday, July 4th – Mendocino 4th of July Parade, 12:00 Noon, Mendocino Village

Friday, July 5th – New Moon, 3:57PM

Saturday, July 6th – Fort Bragg Salmon Barbecue, 11AM-6PM, Noyo Harbor

Saturday, July 6th – Fort Bragg Fireworks, 9:30PM, Noyo Headlands

Wednesday, July 10th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Firehouse

Thursday, July 11th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00PM, Zoom. Call Kayla Cooper at (707)367-1057 for information on attending by Zoom.

Saturday, July 13th – Westport Community Flea Market, 9:00AM to 3:00PM, Westport Community Center (see page 2)

Sunday, July 14th – Thich Nhat Hanh Discussion Group, 2:00PM, Westport Community Church (p.3)

Wednesday, July 17th – Westport Food Pantry, 6:00PM to 8:00PM, Westport Firehouse (see page 5)

Thursday, July 18th – Bookmobile, 9:00AM to 9:30AM, Westport Store

Thursday, July 18th – Westport Community Church Board Meeting, 10:00 AM, Westport Church

Thursday, July 18th – Westport Food Pantry, 10:00AM to 12:00PM, Westport Firehouse (see p.5)

Thursday, July 18th – Westport Municipal Advisory Council Meeting, 7:00PM, Westport Community Center (see page 1 and <https://www.wmac95488.org/> for details)

Sunday, July 21st – Full Moon, 3:17AM

Wednesday, July 24th – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 6:30PM, Westport Community Center

Saturday, August 17th (Save The Date) – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Fundraising Barbecue, Westport Headlands

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 August 1st, 2024 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by July 28th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com. Thanks!