

April 1, 2013

The Westport Wave

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Aliens Visit Westport

Helen Weels, Assistant Editor

This is a heckuva story for my first month on the job – but Steve said to just go for it, since we’ve worked together successfully a number of times in the past. Originally, we weren’t going to mention any of this in *The Wave*, for fear that it would cause an uproar. But now that they’re gone (although one never knows that for sure), there’s really no harm in telling about it. Yes, friends – just a few weeks ago, extraterrestrial aliens were sighted right here in Westport. And in this case, I’m not talking about me. In fact, I was one of the ones who saw them! And this time, I’ve got the photos to prove it!

O.K., I know what you’re thinking. But this was well before cocktail hour. In fact, it was the morning of February 13th, 2013 (interestingly enough, right around the time that a big meteorite was hitting Russia) that I looked up from the Westport Headlands and saw a rift in the sky (see my photo at right). Oh, I’ve seen these things before – it’s usually a very localized breach of the Chronosynclastic



A Rift In The Chronosynclastic Infundibulum.

Infundibulum (sort of like an anti-black hole) that sometimes happens when an anti-matter-powered spaceship experiences an energy surge (and hence, a cloaking failure) due to a powerful solar plasma stream. Usually, these things close up pretty quickly, but this one was pretty big. And the phenomenon did in fact continue that night, when bright lights over the ocean in a familiar triangular pattern proved that the rift was still there. My photo at left is actually the energy signature of an extraterrestrial space ship!

Well, it had been a weird week. The Lunar Year of The Snake had begun on Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI announced his retirement on Monday, Tuesday was Mardi Gras and lightning hit St. Peter’s Basilica, and Wednesday was not only Ash Wednesday but 2/13/13. That night, I decided to do some research to see if there were any reports of alien sightings in Westport in the past. Looking through my collection of back issues of *The Westport Wave*, I found it – a front-page article published in the April 1995 issue on



At Night, Close-Up, It Looked Like This!



????? – Photograph Of Westport In The 1920’s.

real aliens visiting Westport from a planet called Erlag (interesting coincidence that the issue had the same April 1st publication date as this one). So then I decided to look back through my collection of very old Westport photographs. Bingo again, with a computer enhancement of a photo from the 1920’s (see above) clearly showing a mysterious glowing object over town. It’s happened here before!

It had been a long day, so I decided to call it a night. But not before I managed to snap the photo below. In my own living room! Presumably some sort of a holographic image, this appeared out of nowhere right



A Holographic Image – In My Own Home.

in the middle of the room, and I could walk around it – and stick my hand right through it! It lasted for almost an hour, and then began to fade away. I will let you, dear readers, decide for yourselves.

Thursday, February 14th, was sunny and warm. At the Westport Community Store that morning, there was a buzz about “a goat skull on the Westport highway sign”. And lo and behold, even though the skull was not there anymore by mid-morning, the esteemed Bob Finnell had been there to get the photo below just in time. (Thanks so much, Bob!)



Bob Finnegan’s Photo of The Goat Skull.

There really are no good explanations when dealing with many kinds of extraterrestrials, since they often exist in a space-time that’s just a little (or a lot) phased from our own. Were they simply marooned here for a short while? Do they actually visit us often, but are (usually) carefully “cloaked”? Could we ever communicate with them? Where does the goat skull fit in? Maybe that’s why the sign still says “POP 299”. There can’t be that many humans in Westport – maybe that’s including the aliens!

Are You Reading This In Color?

If you’re only reading a black-and-white print edition of *The Westport Wave*, you’re missing out on all the great color photographs that accompany the terrific articles like the one you just read! So go to www.westportvillagesociety.org, where you can download current and recent issues of *The Wave* in living color, and even sign up for free e-mail delivery each month! Do it today, and save a tree!

Exercise Fun!

Lin Taylor

If you haven't had a chance to try one of the new local exercise classes at the school, I suggest you get your tennis shoes out and come have fun while getting healthy! Tabitha, Aimee, and Elika are professional, energizing, and motivating sports trainers. This is a wonderful opportunity to get in shape locally without having to drive into Fort Bragg or beyond. See the April Class Schedule at the end of this newsletter, pick a class, and just show up!

Don't see a class you would like to take? Call Tabitha at (707) 367-0010 to give her your input on what kinds of classes you would like to see. Let's keep our exercise local – come Yoga, Ripped, or Zumba with your friends from Westport!

Westport Community Church News

Baile Oakes

Welcome to the new monthly news brief from our Westport Community Church (strong emphasis on "Community"! Just a few things to report now, but I look forward to an ongoing series in the months to come regarding the history of our little church.

We were very happy to host a pancake breakfast recently orchestrated by Tabby that helped raise needed funding for bringing new activities to our village. We would like to continue this old tradition that in the past supplied the church with much needed funding to help make ends meet. What would greatly further our ability to do more activities involving food would be to find a working refrigerator to replace the "poser" that is currently pretending to be a refrigerator and taking up valuable kitchen space.

Later this spring, we will be hosting a workshop to build a wood fired cob oven on the church grounds so that our community can learn more about this wonderful sustainable building technology while enjoying warm, fresh baked goodies whenever anyone wishes to stoke it up and share with all.

At our last Church Board meeting, we also discussed working with parents in the community to start a pre-school program. I have talked with Don Armstrong regarding this matter. The church building is not built to the specific codes needed to allow a school

program. However, there are ways around this regarding a pre-school. Bottom line: any parents wishing to pursue establishing a preschool in town using the church should contact Baile at 964-7721, and plan on attending our next Church Board meeting (time and date to be announced in a future installment of this column). By the time our next meeting is held, we should understand more about the logistics and participation in a preschool program. All we need is love!

Westport Water District News

The staff of the Westport County Water District has been busy lately replacing the last of the old plastic "blue pipe" main-to-meter service lines. Although considered reliable back in the 1970s, it ultimately proved otherwise, and we have spent the last several years replacing all the old lines with modern pipe. Now, finally, that job is done! Thanks to Big River Rock for their able assistance on this project.

In any water system with older metal pipes (including the pipes in your own older home), it's important to monitor for trace amounts of lead and copper, which are a byproduct of types of solder that were once used in plumbing. In Westport, we test the water regularly in all parts of our water system, including kitchen testing at several homes in town, and we treat the water accordingly (if necessary) to neutralize copper and lead. We are happy to report that our testing is now consistently showing very low levels of copper and lead that are way better than minimum safety standards. This means that your District water has very safe levels of these common contaminants.

Would you like to be a Water Board member? We still have only three board members, which means that we have two vacancies on the Board at the present time. Candidate filing for the August 27th Water District election will take place from May 6th to May 31st – see our bulletin board at the Westport Store for more details. The main requirement to be a Water Board member is that you must be registered to vote at an address within the Westport Water District, which is basically the Village of Westport. Please contact Toby Hickman at 357-0065 if you're interested in serving your Community in this easy but vitally important way!

The Time Traveler

Thad Van Bueren

With the arrival of spring, there are many signs of change. I've always been aware of seasonal patterns, but this year I'm paying more attention to natural rhythms and less to the clock. I noticed for example that Calypso orchids and wild ginger flowers arrived as usual in February, while red alder tassles and plum flowers seemed early. Walking regularly on the headlands near Abalone Point and taking the dogs trekking through the local forests has made me reflect on the different ways we experience time and their consequences for our outlook.

Time is a word that covers so much ground we often take it for granted. Dictionaries offer definitions, but our experience of time is so varied that the concept remains fuzzy. This is partly because time has both linear and cyclical aspects. There is also the notable difference between measured time and our own inner emotional pace. For example, our "internal" time may move fast or slow depending on whether we are engaged or bored. Historically, time sensibilities differ from culture to culture.



Oil pastel "Alder Reflections"

Tuning in to cyclical seasonal changes may make us think differently than we do when reckoning time in a linear system measured by clocks. We can get some sense of those differences by comparing our modern linear concept with the temporal awareness of the Coast Yuki who lived here before colonization. Though long term cycles such as aging and succession are common to all cultures, the Coast Yuki placed a particular emphasis on cyclical time. Their lives depended on intimate awareness of seasonal changes in the local environment.

Cyclical time is at once intimate, subjective, and linked to the environment. Rather than measuring time in arbitrary units, it is attuned to natural cycles and how they vary year to year. That tends to foster an appreciation of environmental rhythms and our own place in the connected ecosystem we inhabit—things that are often ignored in the linear way of reckoning. It involves attentiveness, as well as an appreciation for consequences. Noticing may even promote caring attention if we begin to think about how all life forms are interdependent.

In contrast, linear time emphasizes the seemingly irreversible succession of events extending from the past through the present and into the future. Seen that way, time moves steadily forward. It can be divided into nanoseconds or millions of years, but each unfolding moment is unique and never repeated. This linear focus emphasizes the duality/separation of the present from other times (past, future). In doing so, it can reveal or be used to conceal consequences.

It is no coincidence that this linear time paradigm is favored by highly structured societies throughout history. Those societies have in common social classes (inequality), state-level governments, conspicuous consumption, and organized religion, among other attributes. This is also the domain of modern science, which has usefully exposed long term environmental trends that we ignore at our peril.

I just finished an interesting read that deals with noticing seasonal changes called "The Forest Unseen." It was written by a biologist who spent a year visiting the same small piece of Cumberland old growth forest week by week. His explanations of the complexity and interconnections of life forms make fascinating reading. Many others have taken similar journeys.

WVFD Responding

Bill Knapp, President, Westport Volunteer Fire Dept.

Fire Extinguishers

So you got a fire extinguisher (good job!), now how do you take care of it? Awhile back in *The Wave*, I wrote an article on fire extinguishers suitable for home use. To briefly summarize the conclusion of that article, a 10 or 20 pound ABC extinguisher is the minimum recommended if you only have one. Here are some common questions related to the care and feeding of home fire extinguishers:

- Where should it (they) be put?
- How can I tell that a fire extinguisher is ready to use?
- How long do they last? Can it be tested, if so how?
- If I use it, can it be refilled, or should it be disposed of?
- How do I get a fire extinguisher serviced or refilled? How much does it cost?
- What is the best way to dispose of an old or used fire extinguisher?

Location, location, location...

Extinguishers are best located near entrances / exits to rooms with higher probability of a fire. Kitchens and garages come to mind. You should be able to see it readily or at least make sure family members know where it / they are. Do not put the extinguisher directly by a location that is a probable fire location, such as the oven or cook top in the kitchen. You don't want a situation where the fire is between you and the extinguisher.

If you have a fire extinguisher, it should ALWAYS be ready to use. A quick inspection should be done once a month. First check the pressure gage (it needs to be in the green range). No pressure gage? Think about getting a new extinguisher, or try weighing your old one. The weight should be on the label, if not get a new extinguisher. Be aware that it is possible for the pressure to leak out over time, without loss of the dry chemical, so weight alone is not a sure test of readiness. Pressure OK? Make sure there is no corrosion around the valve, no sign of chemical leaking, the hose is intact and straight. You should also make sure the safety pin is in place. There should

not be any signs of mechanical "stress" on any part of the extinguisher. You should also make sure the end of the hose is not obstructed in any way, bugs built a nest, junior stashed his used gum, or someone thought that would be a great place to hide something. If for any reason the extinguisher fails the inspection, it can be tested and serviced.

I think my fire extinguisher is in trouble or maybe too old, what do I do?

Fire extinguishers kept inside for home use have a "shelf life" of 12 years. That means the mechanical elements, particularly the bottle, should last that long. The extinguisher needs to be pressure tested ("hydro'd") 12 years from the date stamped on the bottle at time of manufacture. If it passes, a new date will be stamped. Can't find the date? Get it pressure tested immediately or get a new extinguisher. Some extinguishers can't / shouldn't be tested or refilled. A good rule of thumb is to look at the valve. If the valve is plastic and the extinguisher failed your regular inspection for any reason, replace it. Some extinguishers are disposable – once used or compromised, they are discarded. These will be marked as disposable by the manufacturer. BTW, extinguishers carried in vehicles (private, non-commercial) have a 5-year pressure test requirement.

I used my extinguisher or the pressure is below the green area on the gage, what are my options?

Once used, you should get the extinguisher refilled immediately. If the extinguisher lost pressure while hanging on the wall or was partially used, it should be serviced or filled. Based on the information presented above, you should have a reasonable idea whether the extinguisher is worth having serviced. If the extinguisher is not worth servicing and filling, disposal and replacement are the other option.

OK, I want to get my extinguisher serviced and if necessary filled, how and how much?

For the Westport and Ft Bragg area, fire extinguisher service is provided by Eureka Oxygen through its Ukiah office, Ukiah Oxygen. I talked to their extinguisher serviceman, Scott, and got the following price information:

Pressure Testing ("hydro")(every 12 years for "wall hanger", every 5 years for vehicle mounted) \$12 each

Service (as needed, every few years generally recommended) \$16 for 10 lb., \$17 for 20 lb., less for smaller extinguishers.

Fill (ABC dry chemical) (as needed) \$4/lb., as needed to fill.

Service includes checking for leaks and bringing the pressure gage into the green if it was out. When a fill is required so is the service. Fill cost will vary if the extinguisher is not empty. For example, refilling an empty 10 lb. extinguisher would cost \$56 (\$16 + \$40). If the same extinguisher needed to be pressure tested and it was over 12 years from the date stamp, the total cost would be \$68 if it passed the pressure test. Scott is in Ft. Bragg about twice a month with a mobile service and fill capability. Extinguishers can also be left at Fort Bragg Rent-All for pick up and delivery. Pressure testing needs to be done in Ukiah. Loaner extinguishers can be made available. Scott can be reached at (707) 272-6652. For cost comparison to a new extinguisher, a quick web search yielded: 20 lb. for \$163, 10 lb. for \$89 and 5 lb. for \$59. These are all steel bottles and metal valves with gages and all are refillable.

After all this, you finally decide that your old fire extinguisher just needs to be thrown out...

If you want to throw away an old, unused fire extinguisher, you have to dispose of it properly as Hazardous Waste, since that's what unused fire extinguishers are considered. Disposing of an EMPTY fire extinguisher is easier. Make sure it is empty and has no pressure by squeezing the discharge lever. Make sure the safety pin is removed. Once you are certain there is no pressure, remove the valve assembly. This is a similar procedure to disposing of an empty propane tank. If there is still dry chemical in the extinguisher, put it in a garbage bag and throw in the regular trash. The bottle, valve and hose should all be recyclable metal and plastic. If you can't get the valve off, it should be taken to the hazardous materials collection. Do not throw an extinguisher with the valve still on in the trash or recycle bin.

April at The Westport Hotel

The Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub is open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays for dinner from 5:00PM to 9:00PM, Saturday afternoons from 3:00PM to 5:00PM for tea, and Sundays from

10:00AM to 2:00PM for brunch. Please call us at 964-3688 for more specific information.

2013 Ducky Quilt Raffle Tickets!

During the entire month of April, the 2013 Rubber Ducky Race Raffle Quilt will be on display for all to see at MendoLake Credit Union on Hwy.1 in Fort Bragg. Beginning May 1st until Ducky Sunday, May 12th, it will be on display at The Westport Hotel. Now is the time to buy your raffle tickets for this priceless artwork by Nita Regalia that is entitled "Magic O'Luv". Raffle tickets are being sold NOW at the Westport Store, the Westport Hotel, and the MendoLake Credit Union. Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, 15 for \$10, and 35 for \$20. Buy tickets NOW – the more you buy, the better your chances of winning!

April 2013 Westport Calendar

- April 1st – April Fool's Day ☺
- April 2nd – WMAC Meeting, Church, 7:00PM
- April 4th – Bookmobile, Westport Store, 9-9:30AM
- April 10th – New Moon, 2:36AM
- April 10th – Property Taxes Due ☺
- April 15th – Income Taxes Due ☺
- April 18th – Bookmobile, Westport Store, 9-9:30AM
- April 18th – Westport Village Society Board Meeting, Westport Church, 7:00PM
- April 22nd – Earth Day ☺
- April 25th – Full Moon, 12:58PM
- May 12th – The 23rd Annual Rubber Ducky Race!

You are reading *The Westport Wave*, a free monthly community newsletter published on the first day of every month 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, from the first day of each month on. Join the **Westport Village Society** today and sign up for your free newsletter at www.westportvillagesociety.org, where you can also download back-issues of *The Wave*. Contributions for the May 1, 2013 edition of *The Westport Wave* are due by April 27th, and should be sent to Steve Brigham at westportwave@aol.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.



April DROP-IN and Enrichment CLASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10:30-12:00 AM	9:30-10:30	7:30-8:30 AM	9:30-10:00 AM	10:30-11:30
YOGA WITH JULIA	 WITH AIMEE		 WITH TABBY	Tiny Tots Tumbling AGES 3-5 SESSION 2 STARTS April 22 nd preregistration is required
12:00-1:00 PM		12:00-1:00	1:00-2:00	12:00-1:00 PM
5:30-6:30 PM	4:30 -5:30	6:00-7:30 PM	4:30-5:30 PM	5:30-6:30 PM
		Mixed Level all ages Belly Dance With Erika!		

1. ZUMBA FITNESS Are you ready to party yourself into shape? That's exactly what the Zumba® program is all about. It's an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party™ that's moving millions of people toward joy and health.

2  If you are looking to lose weight, build muscle through strength training, improve cardio vascular performance, feel your energy and strength go through the roof this program is for you.

3. YOGA-mixed level ... 90mins of mind and body connection!

4. Mixed level Belly Dance with the very talented Erika Freeman. Shimmy, Shake and Undulate. Isolations drills and graceful choreography. Hip scarves are helpful and fun to wear

Like us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/WestportCommunityRecCenter>

ONE DAY LEARNING CAPSULES IN APRIL



APRIL 27TH, TONIQ VIVANT presents a afternoon of dance choreography, details to be announced contact toniqvivant@gmail.com for registration and more information. Toniq Vivant is a Dance Troupe that incorporates Traditional World Dance, Tribal Fusion, Hip Hop, and Flow, with burlesque and vaudevillian overtones.



RAWLUCIOUS CUISINE

Sunday April 21st 1:00-3:00 p.m

Learn the benefits and how to incorporate living foods into your everyday diet. Living Light graduate, Associate Raw Food Chef and Raw Food educator, Savannah Regalia will share her talents. Taste and take home recipes. Learn how to make amazing dairy alternatives like Cashew "Kream" and Almond "Mylk". Delectable sweet treats, easy garden wraps, and awe-inspiring appetizers. \$25 fee- To register contact Tabby - tabikat@mcn.org 707367-0010

New Workshop/Class Series at the Westport School Sunday 4/7 1:00-4:30 Using the Enneagram as a Tool for Self-Awareness

Taught by Rebecca Picard*

To register: Please send the form on the next page, along with your check in the amount of \$25.00 to Rebecca Picard, P.O. Box 1205, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. Questions? Call Rebecca at 707-357-4872 or call or email Tabitha Korhummel at 367-0010; tabikat@mcn.org or email Rebecca Picard at rebeccapicard@mediate.com. If you email, please put "Enneagram Class" in the subject line.

