

April 1, 1971

The Westport Wave

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Postcard From Westport

Steve Brigham

Weary of our grueling class schedule in this wicked winter semester of our junior year at Bellarmine, my friend Cyrus and I managed a “great escape” a few weeks ago, when we hitchhiked up to the Mendocino Coast for a long weekend. Albion was a nice place, especially since we had friends there, but the big surprise of the trip came when we decided to venture just a little further north, and came upon a cute little town right on the ocean called Westport. This is a really small town, with just one community store that also doubles as a post office (see photo above). It’s a nice store though, although we thought 40 cents a

gallon was a little steep for gas. We were told by some locals that Westport didn’t even have electricity until the 1950’s, and that only recently has there been some talk of putting in a water and sewer system. We did meet a nice young couple from the Bay Area when we were there (their names were Lee and Dorine), who had just finished a breakfast of fresh eggs across the street from the store at a place owned by a family named Korhummel (evidently, there are a lot of Korhummels in Westport). Westport is very small and very picturesque – it’s what I had hoped Mendocino would be (that town proved way too big and “touristy” for my taste). If I ever get a car, I just might drive back to Westport on my own soon and check this place out a little more. I think it’s got great potential as a nice place to live!

Back To The Future...

Steve Brigham, Editor

Yes, we often do an offbeat cover story for our April Fools edition, and this year there are indeed some phony facts on page 1. First of all, it's not 1971 any more (even though a lot of us probably wouldn't mind going back, 1971 was 43 years ago). Second, I only made it as far as Albion that spring (I didn't visit Westport for the first time for another 28 years). And third, Lee and Dorine first visited here in 1970, not 1971 (but they did have breakfast at the Korhummels' place). Everything else in the cover story is true (or at least plausible), including the photo of the Du Bois Westport Store that was actually taken in 1971 by my friend Bob Smauss (thanks, Bob!) (Bob's family once owned the property where the Westport Landship is now.)

Fortunately, our little town of Westport hasn't changed all that much since 1971. And for those of us who are old enough to remember, in our hearts neither have we. In April 1971, we had the magic of Al Shepard and Apollo 14, and TV shows such as *Laugh-In* and *Hawaii Five-O* (plus two brand new shows, *All In The Family* and *Masterpiece Theater*). And for \$1.50, you could go to the theater and see the award-winning movies *Love Story* and *M*A*S*H**.

But now, Back To The Future, with the real April 2014 issue of *The Westport Wave* – it's all true from here on out, we promise!

Rainfall Report

Things looked pretty grim for Westport in late January, when we'd had only 4 inches of rain since last July 1st. But as of March 30th, we've gotten over 20 inches of rain in the past two months here on Pacific Avenue, and you folks up in the hills have gotten much more. Conventional wisdom says we need at least 38 inches of rain every year here to recharge our aquifers, so now we've still got 14 inches to go. Keep doing those rain dances, folks!



Wild Plants Nurturance and Foraging Workshop May 3rd & 4th

Baile Oakes

Wow! Our Westport community is going to be blessed with two truly remarkable women who are coming to our village to share with us their knowledge of wild plants recognition and harvest times as well as all the incredibly manners with which these plants can benefit us. I first met Judy and Corine at the "Not So Simple Living Fair" that is held each summer in Boonville. "The Not So Simple Living Fair" is a wonderful event, and I highly recommend your attendance and participation if you have a homesteading/community service skill that you wish to share. Corine Pearce's family has been in this area for thousands of years and she is a walking storehouse of ancient wisdom. The fact that she is one of the nicest people I have ever met is a wonderful bonus. Corine has a healing arts school in Redwood Valley and travels nationally and internationally to share her wisdom.

Julie Drucker, like most of us in our county, has a little bit less family heritage in our county. At the same time, her heart's calling is to understand and share the nurturance and bounty of our local environment, primarily sea vegetables. She lives in Ukiah and has the Yemaya Seaweed Company. She will be leading sea vegetable harvesting forays on our

local beaches. She will have a good many dried samples with her and will lead a workshop on different ways that sea vegetables can be used. (Fukushima Note: I have a friend who has been sending in samples of sea vegetables to a lab in the Bay Area to determine whether there has been any radiation contamination of our local food source. To date, no isotopes have been detected.)

The suggested donation for the Wild Plants Workshop is \$20 to \$40, but if you can't afford that, it's free! If you are interested in attending this workshop and/or need more information please call me, Baile Oakes, at 964-7721 (email: BaileOakes@gmail.com).

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/weed cutting, painting, handyman work, and more.

Please call us and tell us about your work skills, and let's see if we can match your skills to work that needs to be done. That match-up will be a benefit to you and your Westport Community at the same time, and your work can be confidential and non-judgmental. We can also help you with the registration paperwork and compliance/completion documents. If you are interested, please call Gary Quinton at 964-7073.



Dan Maxey, Frank Maurice, Bill Knapp, and #8560 represent the WVFD.

WVFD Represents Westport At Memorial For Ricky Del Fiorentino

Frank Maurice

Westport Volunteer Fire Department Assistant Chief Daniel Maxey, President Bill Knapp, and Captain Frank Maurice drove Engine 8560 ("The Big Green Wildland Rig") in the huge memorial procession to Cotton Auditorium in Fort Bragg on the morning of Wednesday, March 26th. Our Engine 8560 was part of approximately 1,000 emergency vehicles honoring Sheriff Deputy Ricky Del Fiorentino on that day.

Westport Fire Chaplain Lin Taylor, serving also as a Law Enforcement Chaplain of Mendocino County, assisted law enforcement personnel from Mendocino, Sonoma, and Humboldt with Critical Incident Stress Management.

WVFD Participates in Training with Cal Star and MVFD

Frank Maurice

Westport Volunteer Fire Department Emergency Medical Technicians Frank Maurice and Lin Taylor, along with Firefighter Bill Knapp, recently trained with other emergency staff from Mendocino, Comptche, Albion, and Little River, along with other zone 4 Fire Departments and Cal Star Flight Nurses,

with very expensive training dummies. The mannequins have many changing vital signs that include blood pressures, respirations, pulses, heart and lung sounds, and also “speak” their symptoms and complaints to the first responders. This all-day training gave emergency responders excellent hands-on simulations and continuing education units.

St. Patrick’s Day at Westport Hotel

Frank Maurice

The St. Patrick’s Day dinner and fundraiser for the Westport Volunteer Fire Department was a big success this year! The food and music were excellent, and the drinks and desserts were delicious, too. The Westport Hotel venue was provided by Lee Tepper and Dorine Real, and was packed with many local people having fun!

Thanks to Cate for organizing and running this fun event along with her great crew: Carter, Kiri, Pen, Paul, Elika, Mike, Aimee, and Katie. The WVFD annual St. Patrick’s Day Dinner Celebration served 72 meals and netted approximately \$1767.00, which will be used to buy new WVFD equipment.

April Community Meetings

Westport Volunteer Fire Department –
Wednesday, April 2nd, 6PM at the Westport Firehouse.

Neighbor 2 Neighbor Community Meeting –
Tuesday, April 8th, 6PM at the Westport Hotel.

Westport Village Society quarterly Board Meeting –
Wednesday, April 23rd, 5PM at the Westport Church.

Westport Village Society Meeting Invitation

Thad Van Bueren, President, WVS

Last month’s newsletter was full of information about meetings, programs, classes, and community projects. There sure is a lot going on in our village lately! That social engagement gives me a stronger sense of community. It is a good feeling to join neighbors for social and recreational activities, conversation, and projects that benefit the community.

For a small community, we have a lot of organizations, and many of them work together for mutual aid. They are a great place to meet people, share ideas, contribute your energy and expertise, and get others excited about a creative idea you are hatching for a community event, program, or project. When I attended my first Westport Village Society meeting in the late 1990s, it was out of curiosity and a desire to become a part of the community. Was this some kind of social club? I had no idea.

The mission of the Westport Village Society is not obvious from its name. Since I joined the WVS, the organization has supported a truly diverse array of projects. I’d like to mention some of them by way of encouraging you to participate. We all have things to contribute, and the nonprofit status of the WVS makes it possible to pursue things like grant funding that can be used to accomplish things that we as individuals could not do alone.

Over more than two decades, WVS has supported a wide array of projects that aim to improve life in the community. To name just a few, WVS acquired the Headlands and built access improvements there; provided funding and other help to the Church, School, Fire Department, and Recreation Program; supported programs about community history; pursued the notion of a community center; developed a community garden next to the school; and has produced this newsletter to keep the community informed. We’ve also explored many other possibilities like running Westport-Union Landing State Park when it was threatened with closure and trying to acquire the Fee Mansion property for use as a community center.

I mention this to invite you to attend the WVS Meeting coming up April 23 at 5 PM at the Church. We are always open to suggestions for programs and projects that may benefit the community and hope you will come to join the conversation. Some of the topics we will consider may interest you. We plan to discuss the energetic Neighbor 2 Neighbor program, the future of the School building as a community resource, whether it would be appropriate to allow temporary installation of sculptures on the Westport Headlands property, and the possibility of supporting a grant application to build pedestrian and bike lane improvements north of the village.

Walkable Village Proposal

Thad Van Bueren

If you have read my contributions to this newsletter or know me personally, I'm sure you've gathered that I am a strong advocate for pedestrian and bicycling paths along the coast. I am passionate about this topic for several reasons. Perhaps the most important reason to create walking and biking paths is to ensure there is a viable way to get around that does not depend on motorized transportation. It is also great exercise, and traveling by your own power can lead to encounters on the path of life that do not happen as we whiz by each other at 55 mph in motor vehicles.

I also take the long view because I think we must if we hope to survive. It is what Chief Seattle characterized as "thinking about the next seven generations". What does that have to do with walking and biking paths? The unavoidable truth is that motorized transportation is an unsustainable path forward for humans and the planet. We really must start planning other ways to get around and build sustainable communities with localized economies (especially for food). We have grown dependent on a global system that is based on using up resources. That dependence puts us at risk and perpetuates the paradigm of ongoing consumption.

The bottom line is that there is no free ride. There is no miraculous technology that will make it possible to keep consuming and moving ourselves and our commodities around the globe in the present manner. Energy is neither created nor destroyed. It can only change form (such as by burning fossil fuels). No perpetual motion machine is possible. Even photovoltaics require huge investments of resources and energy that last a finite period of time. The real solution is not a techno-fix, but curbing consumption, reducing population, and using smart and truly sustainable energy and transportation like walking and biking.

I am playing the provocateur of course. Even if you don't agree with my rationale for improving walking and bicycling opportunities from Westport to the Westport Cemetery, I hope you share my perspective that it would be worthwhile to pursue funding for that project. Westport is well positioned to apply for a special pot of transportation funding for walking and

bicycling projects. Those funds can be used to design, permit, and construct such a project. I've talked to many of you about this, and I also recently spoke with Caltrans, MCOG, and Supervisor Dan Gjerde. The map shown here defines the limits of a project I believe has the best chance of getting funded. If you have input, please feel free to call me at 964-7272 or attend the April 23rd Westport Village Society meeting to talk in person.



Proposed Walk and Bike Project Limits.

The Ducky Races Are Coming!

Lois Senger

The 24th Annual Westport Mother's Day Rubber Ducky Races and Barbeque will be held on May 11th at the Wages Creek Campground and Beach, from 11AM to 4PM. (Yes, it's actually our 24th Annual, if you count the very first Ducky Race in 1991, which was organized by Marie Fostiak and staged further up Wages Creek.) So here's a report on this year's preparations and festivities:



Fantastic Ducky Races Raffle Quilt by Aimee Maxey, now on display at Racine's in Fort Bragg!

The photo above is of Aimee Maxey's fantastic, hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind queen-sized quilt that she has made and donated for our Raffle on Ducky Sunday. This beautiful dragonfly-decorated quilt features bright hues of purple, rose, teal, and ocean blue that give it a radiance of excitement, awe, and an "I really want to have you on my bed!" feeling! Aimee did an outstanding job making it a one-of-a-kind keepsake, and we all owe her an ocean of gratitude for her many hours of volunteer work! Raffle tickets are for sale at the Westport Store, Racine's in FB, and possibly Otto's in Westport and the Westport Hotel as well. (Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, and 30 for \$20, and you do not need to be present on Ducky Sunday to win.) If you want to see this priceless quilt hanging in all her glory, then go to **Racine's** in Fort Bragg, where it will be on display during April and early May.

Susan, the owner of both these stores, is again helping us out with the Ducky Fundraiser. She donates gift

certificates, lets us put up a display window about the Ducky Event, and this year has agreed to hang the quilt for us. Please be sure to visit and support her stores and thank her for her help! A big thanks also to Dorine Real, who is arranging for the ticket sales at each location, and for Barbara Anderson who is getting the quilt hung and doing the display window.

This year, due to popular request, we are planning a "Decorate Your Duck" event the week before the race, on Saturday, May 3rd from 2 to 4PM at either the Westport Church or Westport School, depending on availability. We will have refreshments, ducks, and decorative materials for all who attend. If you have decorative materials that you want to bring and share, we welcome all ideas, and hope to have a lot of fun! Donna Traycik has feathers, sequins, etc that she is willing to bring. Dorine is looking for a few young people in Westport that may want to make Ducky shaped sugar cookies for refreshments. Perhaps we should also decorate these as well? We will supply small rubber duckys to decorate, and if you want some other material, feel free to bring anything that you think is beautiful or unique! Save the day for lots of creative fun!

We will have live music at the Ducky event and are lucky to have the Anatadaelatexus Sundry Musicians, who love to play music for us (*anatadaelatexus* means "rubber ducky" in Latin). So save the date, Sunday May 11th, for this year's edition of the Westport Rubber Ducky Races and Barbeque! Make sure you have asked your mother to come, since there will be a free blooming pot of mother's day flowers for each mother who comes. There is also a gift for every child who enters the Kid's race, and of course a delicious dinner lovingly prepared that you can purchase for your Mom. You get to race duckys, get gifts, eat a great meal, and there is also a huge variety of tempting baked items for sale. Plus, you get to spend a day at the beach, relaxing and having fun with your neighbors and friends! Remember there are prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each ducky race. All proceeds are used to manage the Westport Community Headlands for public use and to fund other Westport community projects.



Cemetery Appreciation Day

Steve Brigham

Small towns all across America share one very unique and wonderful type of museum, and it's called the Town Cemetery. Unlike other types of museums, these often-historical cemeteries are not just a bunch of stuff that you look at – they are real places that you can visit. And stand on the ground. And be there.

Most of my life, I've worked with botanical gardens, so that's my perspective. Botanical gardens are likewise real places that you can visit, and if done right, a botanical garden can magically transport you to another place far away by realistically presenting you with the same vegetation and the same view that you would see somewhere faraway across the world.

Just as a good botanical garden can “cheat” temporal space by making you feel that you are actually somewhere else, a good cemetery can “cheat” time itself. And the amazing thing is that it does so whether you want it to or not. Go visit our very historical and very authentic local Westport Cemetery. Open the gate, and walk in a few steps. Immediately, you somehow feel that time has stood still! And well it has, since it does look amazingly like it did 100 years ago. No one lives forever, but seeing the memorials to our friends that have gone before us does keep them “alive” in our memories and minds. It could be 1914, not 2014! And in a way, we are all “cheating” Father Time, in our minds. To say that a cemetery is a “living museum” would be clumsy, and perhaps rude. But it is alive – with the honor and the memories of lives just like our own.

Small towns all across America not only love but care for their historical cemeteries. Many of these towns have a Cemetery Appreciation Day once or twice a year, where the townsfolk help “spruce up” the cemetery grounds and honor those that have gone before us. This year, on **Saturday, June 14th** (which is Flag Day), we'll be having our own Westport Cemetery Appreciation Day, where you can not only help beautify our historical cemetery, but also learn more about its history and the people who are memorialized there. Save the date – we'll have more about the program for this Special Volunteer Day in next month's *Westport Wave*, so stay tuned!

April 2014 Westport Calendar


- April 1st** – No WMAC Meeting (no foolin'!)
- April 2nd** – **Westport Volunteer Fire Department Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse**
- April 3rd** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
- April 8th** – **Neighbor 2 Neighbor Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Hotel**
- April 14th** – Passover Begins at Sundown
- April 15th** – Full Moon, 12:43AM
- April 17th** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
- April 18th** – Good Friday
- April 20th** – Easter Sunday
- April 22nd** – Earth Day
- April 23rd** – **Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 5PM, Westport Church**
- April 25th** – National Arbor Day
- April 29th** – New Moon, 11:15PM
- May 1st** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
- May 11th** – **Westport Rubber Ducky Races, Wages Creek Campground and Beach, 11AM to 4PM**

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 **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 at the Westport Store. Visit www.westportvillagesociety.org, where you can sign up to receive *The Wave* by e-mail and download many issues of *The Wave*. Contributions for our May 1, 2014 issue are due by April 27, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@aol.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.



APRIL 2014 SELF-ENRICHMENT WESTPORT SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULE

(attend classes every week or just “drop in”, at the corner of Abalone and Hillcrest streets in Westport)

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WED.	THURSDAYS	FRI.	SATURDAYS
10:30AM-12:00PM	9:30-10:30AM		9:30-10:30AM		9:00-10:00AM
<p><i>YOGA WITH JULIA</i></p> <p>(90 minutes)</p>	<p><i>NEW!</i></p> <p>CORE ‘N MORE!</p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>	<p>YOUR CLASS HERE?</p>	 <p>Zumba Toning</p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>	<p>YOUR CLASS HERE?</p>	<p>BODY SCULPTING</p> <p>WITH AIMEE</p> <p>(NEW TIME!)</p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>
	10:30-11:30AM		6:15-7:45PM		
	<p><i>Kinder Gym and Tiny Tots Tumbling</i></p> <p>(60 minutes)</p>		<p><i>T'ai Chi Ch'uan with Scott Menzies</i></p> <p>(90 minutes)</p>		

***NEW!! CORE ‘N MORE!** – USE YOUR BODY WEIGHT TO STRENGTHEN YOUR CORE! ESSENTIAL FOR BACK HEALTH AND EVERYDAY LIFE, GREAT FOR ALL AGES AND FITNESS LEVELS! FINISH WITH A REWARDING 15 MIN. DEEP STRETCH!

*** BODY SCUPLTING** – START YOUR WEEKEND OFF THE HEALTHY WAY, AS YOU GET IN SHAPE FOR SUMMER! THIS CLASS IS FOR ALL AGES, AND USES A VARIETY OF EASY WEIGHTS TO GENTLY SCULPT YOUR MUSCLES. ALL LEVELS WELCOME – BRING A WATER BOTTLE AND A SMILE! YOU’LL LEAVE EACH CLASS FEELING RELAXED AND OH-SO HAPPY AND HEALTHY!

*** 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! THEY ALL LOVE IT!