

June 1, 2016

# The Westport Wave

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



WE HAVE A WINNER! Finish Line Director Pete Dumars signals that **Mad Dog 3** (owned by Tyson Simmons) is the winner of the featured Classic Race at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Westport Ducky Races on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Just Ducky!

Steve Brigham, Editor

No one paid much attention to the Kentucky Derby this year, being that it was seen primarily as an undercard to the **Great Westport Mother's Day Rubber Ducky Races** held the very next day. And this year's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Dash of the Duckies did not disappoint, with some very exciting racing in the three featured events. This year, our world-famous Wages Creek Racecourse presented the additional challenge of a foot-tall tidal bore which periodically appeared at the end of the course as high tide approached. This made it tricky for any of the ducks to get a major advantage, with a mad sprint to the finish deciding the winners. As usual, the fastest (and luckiest) ducks won! (see page 8 for a list of winners)

And as usual, everyone had a terrific time at this year's event! Great weather, food, music, souvenirs, flowers, an exciting raffle – and great racing at the beach – what more could anyone want! Thank you so much to the Westport Beach Campground for once again hosting this event at their marvelous venue! Because of your support, over \$6000 was raised for the upkeep of our Westport Headlands Community Park, which pays for our annual insurance and maintenance costs. Oceans of thanks go out to all of the many volunteers who made this year's event such a great success – it's hard work but it's worth it!

Westport's unique and treasured identity is made and preserved by important annual community events such as our Ducky Races. Now is the time to plan on being a big part of next year's races in May – you'll love it that you did, and so will everyone else!

## Kids' Movie Night June 18<sup>th</sup>

Sarah Mathias

Movie Night resumes this month at the Westport Community Recreation Center with *The Peanuts Movie*. Doors open at 6:00PM on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, with the movie starting when the popcorn is ready (usually around 6:20PM). Bring pillows and blankets for the kids (jammies OK) and a comfy chair for yourself if you want one. You don't have to have children to come enjoy the movie – everyone is welcome!



The Ducks Are In The Water in the Classic Ducky Race!

## Westport Flea Market Season Begins Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>

Sarah Mathias

Westport Flea Market Season is here, beginning on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00AM to 2:00PM on the Westport Headlands. There will be a Flea Market on the Headlands from 11:00AM to 2:00PM on the last Sunday of each month from June through September. Anyone is welcome to come sell whatever they have – things you create, things you found, things you want to get rid of, plants, food, art, whatever! This year there is still no table fee, just be there and set up by 11AM (and let me know you're coming beforehand – it's nice to know I won't be out there by myself, and I can also have a table for you if you don't have one of your own). For more information, or to let me know you'll be participating, contact me, Sarah Mathias, at 962-0181, or [sarah.e.mathias@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.e.mathias@gmail.com), or via the Westport Markets Facebook page.

## Local Information for Newcomers

A “Welcome to Westport!” information packet has been created for distribution to anyone new to the community. The packet contains information about the WVS, WVFD, Recreation Center, Church, local businesses, and more. If you are interested in receiving a packet, or if you'd like one to be sent to someone, please contact Sarah Mathias at 962-0181 or [sarah@huntersplayground.com](mailto:sarah@huntersplayground.com).

## New Menu at the Old Abalone Pub

Joywolf

Come visit the Old Abalone Pub at the Westport Hotel from 5:00PM to 9:00PM on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays for great food and beverages! Check out our current menu on page 10 of this newsletter – we love our local customers and we welcome your suggestions! We would also like to hang art and hear music of locals and friends on the coast. Come join us for Happy Hour from 5:00PM to 6:00PM, with discounts on appetizers and beer/wine!

## Westport Community Mini-Grants

Bobbie Knapp

Since the inception of the Westport Village Society Community Mini-Grants in October of 2014, 12 grants have been issued. These fall into three different categories: 1) benefit/beautification of the community, 2) events, and 3) outreach. The Westport Village Society is committed to continuing the Mini-Grant program, and funds are still available for this fiscal year (through June 30, 2016) and beyond.

The Westport Village Society welcomes input on our Community Mini-Grant program. Please see page 9 of this newsletter for a copy of our Grant Application, which contains more information. We look forward to serving the Westport Community! Thank you from the WVS Mini-Grant Committee.





The Westport Community Church

## Westport Community Church June 2016 Calendar

Founded in 1880, the **Westport Community Church** is pleased to offer a variety of experiences to help us discover ways to become more in touch with our spiritual heritage. We are doing our best to nurture a tradition of having weekly gatherings at the Church (which is at the end of Abalone Street on the left) to explore various spiritual paths. All suggestions and participants for services are welcome at the Westport Church – and we welcome all denominations to hold services here! Please contact Church President Millie Saunders at 964-3030 to discuss your ideas and see how you can help the Westport Community Church.

*(Please note that Katherine White will be taking the month of June off, so there will be no regular 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Quaker services this month. Quaker meetings will resume in July.)*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM –

Carolyn Cathey, Student Practitioner of the Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, will speak on "Facing Satan". What is Satan? Does it exist? Carolyn will share a Divine Message from her Spiritual Mentor on the truth about Satan, and what it means for you and your life. The answer is an "Aha!" surprise!

## What's Next For The Westport Village Society?

Sarah Mathias

Not every non-profit comes to a point where they can say that they've accomplished the purpose that motivated their founding. However, that is exactly the position that the Westport Village Society is currently in, and it begs the question "What's next?"

The WVS has succeeded in acquiring the Headlands property and now holds it and maintains it for public use. However, our mission statement is much broader than that original motivating goal. The WVS exists "to foster the preservation, enhancement, and interpretation of the natural environment in and around the village of Westport for the benefit of residents and visitors and to support local charitable and educational projects." According to the goals of the WVS this may include (to paraphrase) sponsoring charitable and educational civic improvement projects, holding lands for preservation, recreation, education, or habitat protection, and encouraging conservation practices. This is fairly broad and allows for the WVS to pursue a wide variety of projects, but we need the input and involvement of our members and of our community to first decide that direction, then help make it a reality.

We are looking for folks to be active participants and help with this next phase in our existence. If you are inspired by this topic, we encourage you to join us at our meetings, the next of which will be held on Saturday, July 16 at 9:00AM at the Westport Community Church. Please come share your thoughts and ideas and be part of creating a vision for the future of the Westport Village Society and, in a broader sense, Westport itself.

### 24/7 Westport Wave

Did you know that the easiest way to read *The Westport Wave* is on the Newsletter page of our website [westportvillagesociety.org](http://westportvillagesociety.org) – where you'll always find the most current issue as well as over four years of monthly back-issues, all in living color! Check it out, and tell your friends!



## Usal Trail Opens

**Thad Van Bueren**

The Mendocino Land Trust recently completed the Peter Douglas Trail north of Westport for the Save the Redwoods League. It's a fabulous but rugged 2.3-mile walk that passes through deep redwood and Douglas fir forests and the cliffs far above the rocky shores of the Lost Coast acquired by the SRL for conservation purposes. You'll see old-growth redwoods sculpted into bizarre shapes by salty winds. Some call those trees "candelabras" because they branch out into forms that resemble antlers. There is both magic and mystery present here!

It is an all-day excursion to get to this trail, and it is only open during the dry season. But it's well worth the trip, though it is a rugged adventure and hike. The candelabra trees are just a short distance south and uphill from the campground at Usal beach in the Sinkyone Wilderness State Park. After ascending steeply through those beautiful trees the trail goes uphill at steady grade that eventually crosses Usal Road to follow the coastal verge high above the rocky shore. There are some really great vistas from the south end of the trail, so bring your camera! And elk are a common sight at the Usal campground.

This wild and beautiful section of the California Coastal Trail is dedicated to the memory of Peter Douglas (1942-2012), who was the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission for more than 25 years. He was a strong advocate for California's 1,100-mile-long coastline, battling to preserve its natural beauty and public access to its beaches. He was the main author of California's landmark coastal protection law, the Coastal Act. You can get more information including a map at: <http://trails.mendocinolandtrust.org/trails/northern-coastal-trails/peter-douglas-trail/>

## 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. We can help you with the registration paperwork and compliance/completion documents. If you are interested, please call Gary Quinton at (707) 964-7073.



Candelabra Trees on the Peter Douglas Trail



## Cliff Swallows – Our Aerial Artists Living In Mud Nests

Bob Finnell

We have all seen the flying skills and heard the sounds Westport's Cliff Swallows. These gregarious migratory birds often take to nesting in colonies on our homes, buildings, under bridges, and sometimes even the cliffs! Westportians may have several to many cliff swallow nests up more than 20 feet under our roof eaves. Colonies can number in the hundreds and thousands on cliffs.

Cliff swallows love the proximity to our Westport Community Headlands for all of their aerial foraging of insects. They congregate in large flying groups called crèches. A pair of swallows can even locate their own young in a crèche by voice and sight.

### Nest Building

Their mud nests are legendary. Cliff swallow nests are gourd-shaped, enclosed structures with an entrance tunnel that opens downward. The direct tunnel may be absent from some nests and may be an open platform style. The mud pellets used to build the nest consist of sand and smaller amounts of silt and clay. The nest chamber is lined sparingly with grasses, hair, and feathers. The nest is cemented with mud under the eave or overhang of a building, bridge, or other vertical surface. The first cliff swallow nests on structures are usually located at the highest point possible, with subsequent nests attached below it, forming a dense cluster. Both male and female cliff and barn swallows construct their nests, proceeding slowly to allow the mud to dry and harden.

Depending on mud supply and weather, nest construction may take 1 to 2 weeks. Mud is collected at ponds, puddles, ditches, and other sites up to 1/2 mile away, with many swallows using the same mud source. A typical cliff swallow nest contains 900 to 1400 pellets, each representing one trip to and from the nest!

### Hatching

Both sexes incubate the eggs. Incubation begins before the last egg is laid and ranges from 12 to 16 days for cliff swallows and 13 to 17 days for barn swallows. Most studies report incubation of 14 or 15 days. Whitewash on the ground below the nest or on



the rim of the nest entrance is a sign of newly hatched nestlings inside the nest.

### Fledging and Post-nesting Period

Cliff swallow nestlings fledge 20 to 25 days after hatching. The juvenile swallows appear similar to adults but are dull colored and have less sharply-defined color patterns. The fledglings return to the nest each day for 2 to several days to be fed before leaving it permanently. Within a week, juveniles will join flocks. After leaving the nest, swallows may remain in the general area for several weeks. By late summer there is a general southward movement, principally towards South and Central America where they spend the winter. By the end of September few swallows remain at the nest site.

### Legal Status

In the United States, all swallows are classified as migratory insectivorous birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. Swallows are also protected by state regulations. The California Department of Fish and Game, the enforcement agency, considers February 15<sup>th</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup> to be the swallow nesting season. Completed nests during this breeding season cannot be touched without a permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Outside of these dates, the nests can be removed without a permit. During nesting, a permit authorizing nest removal

will be issued only if it can be justified by strong, compelling reasons. For example, such justification might include a health or safety hazard posed by a nesting colony situated over a doorway/entrance, near a loading area of a warehouse or a food processing facility, or at an airport if aircraft and maintenance safety are impaired.

### **Nest Removal**

In California, old nests or nests under construction may be washed down with water or knocked down with a pole. Swallows are strongly attracted to old nests or to the remnants of deteriorated nests, so all traces of mud should be removed. During nest building, nest removal will require many days because cliff swallows persistently rebuild nests for most of the breeding season. They typically return to the same place the following year, and the whole process must be repeated.

### **Exclusion**

Exclusion refers to any control method that denies physical access to the nest site area. Exclusion represents a relatively permanent, long-term solution to the problem. In California, a permit is not required for this method if it is done before the birds arrive, during nest building when there are no eggs or young in the nest, or after the birds have left for the winter. If swallows have eggs or young in the nest, exclusion may not be used without a permit.



First Prize Beauty Duck Winner Isabella with Bella Duck



HEY, THAT'S NOT A DUCK!



Second Prize Beauty Duck winner Brandi Kitchens with Vini Duck



Third Prize Beauty Duck winner J.D. Streeter with Ga-Ga Duck





## WVFD Saves Dog In Cliff Rescue

Frank Maurice, Chief,  
WVFD

The Westport Volunteer Fire Department responded to a dog over the cliff at Juan Creek on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ten Firefighters responded but were unable to get a visual of the stranded dog due to

the steep, overhanging cliffs. EMT/Rescue swimmers Captain Glenn Jones and Jeff Mathias went into the water carrying a floating rescue board, and sighted the dog alive. They strapped the dog onto the back board and carried her to Juan Creek where Firefighter Kelly Chumley assisted them in carrying the dog up to our rescue truck. We are happy to report that the dog survived her ordeal. She had a dislocated hip but was stable and so was taken home to Idaho by her owners for hip surgery.

## June 2016 Westport Calendar

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** – New Moon, 7:59PM

**June 7<sup>th</sup>** – WMAC Meeting, 7:00PM, Church

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

**June 9<sup>th</sup>** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Firehouse

**June 12<sup>th</sup>** – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, speaks on “Facing Satan”, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

**June 18<sup>th</sup>** – Movie Night, 6:00PM, Westport Community Center

**June 19<sup>th</sup>** – Father’s Day

**June 19<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Community Church Board Meeting, 11:30AM, Westport Community Church

**June 20<sup>th</sup>** – Full Moon, 4:02AM

**June 20<sup>th</sup>** – Summer Solstice, 3:34PM

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

**June 26<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Flea Market, 11:00AM to 2:00PM, 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. **Check out our WVS website [www.westportvillagesociety.org](http://www.westportvillagesociety.org), to read and download both present and past issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 issue are due by June 26<sup>th</sup>, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at [westportwave@gmail.com](mailto:westportwave@gmail.com), or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.



May The Duck Be With You!

# Winning Ducks—2016

## BEAUTY CONTEST

Prize	Duck#	Duck Name	Duck Owner
First:	152	Bella	Isabella
Second:	171	Vini	Brandi Kitchens
Third:	7	Ga-ga Duck	J. D. Streeter



## HANDCRAFTED DUCK RACE

Prize	Duck#	Duck Name	Duck Owner
First:	75	Polly Want a Quacker	Jennifer
Second:	120	Bob	Bella Horne
Third:	49	Blue blue	Rafael & Julian

## KID'S DUCK RACE

Prize	Duck#	Duck Name	Duck Owner
First:	120	Bob	Bella Horne
Second:	113	Baby Duck	Maeve Harris
Third:	66	Black white	Julean

## CLASSIC RUBBER DUCK RACE

Prize	Duck#	Duck Name	Duck Owner
First:	207	Mad Dog 3	Tyson Simmons
Second:	251	Killer	Jaron Schrage
Third:	186	Chester	Sarah Nathe

Total Ducks Registered: 254

Total Race Entries: 275

(some ducks entered multiple races)



July, 2015

WESTPORT VILLAGE SOCIETY

MINI GRANT APPLICATION FOR WESTPORT

Name of project:\_\_\_\_\_

Your full name:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone #\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

Please check appropriate box(es): resident [ ☐ ]; property owner [ ☐ ]; WVS member [ ☐ ]

Name(s) of people involved in project:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for or been awarded a previous “Mini Grant” from WVS?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_\_If so when?\_\_\_\_\_

This “Mini Grant” will range in increments of \$50, from \$50 to \$250 and should be **beneficial to the Westport community**, i.e. paint/repair jobs, adverts for community oriented events (such as classes or farmer's market), dumpster for clean-up, play dates at the school, planting flowers/trees, or painting fire hydrants etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Please explain concisely your planned use of this grant, start date, length of time for completing your project, and specific costs:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(continue on back)*

Mail to WVS, PO Box 446, Westport, CA 95488, Attention Mini Grant Committee.

Submitted by\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** For a timely response, phone 964-7355 10 business days from date of mailing.

# THE OLD ABALONE PUB

AT THE WESTPORT HOTEL

CHEF WILLIAM ALONZO

## APPETIZERS

SOUP DU JOUR: SERVED WITH FRENCH BAGUETTE AND BUTTER  
CUP 6 BOWL 9

CLASSIC CAESAR SALAD

SMALL 8 LARGE 14

ADD GRILLED CHICKEN OR STEAK 18

SEASONAL SALAD

SMALL 8 LARGE 14

HOUSE CUT FRENCH FRIES

SMALL 5 LARGE 8

SUNSET SNACK 6

## ENTREES

BEER BATTERED FISH AND CHIPS 14

SEASONAL FISH SPECIAL OF THE DAY \*MARKET PRICE

STUFFED PORTABELLA: STUFFED WITH SAUTÉED VEGGIES, MASHED  
POTATOES, AND CHOICE OF GOAT CHEESE OR JACK CHEESE MELTED ON TOP  
OR VEGAN OPTION WITH RICE AND WILD RICE 15

COVELO FLAT IRON STEAK: WITH SAUTÉED SEASONAL VEGGIES, CREAMY  
MASHED POTATOES AND SHITAKE MUSHROOM SAUCE 24

ROAST CHICKEN: WITH SAUTÉED SEASONAL VEGGIES, MASHED POTATOES 22

PORK TENDERLOIN: WITH GRILLED VEGETABLES, MASHED POTATOES AND  
SWEET / SOUR ONION RELISH 24

## DESSERTS

CREAMY CHEESECAKE: WITH FRESH FRUIT 7

DESSERT SPECIAL: PLEASE ASK YOUR SERVER 7

FLOATS:

ROOT BEER 5

GUINNESS 7