

July 1, 2016

# The Westport Wave

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## Summer In Westport

Steve Brigham, Editor

It was a beautiful clear morning, and even fairly warm down here at the ocean at 6:00AM. But then there it was on the horizon, and it kept getting closer and closer. Now it's 8:00AM, and we've been overcome by freezing fog. It's probably 90 degrees inland already.

Will it be a foggy summer here on the coast? Well, we haven't had a real foggy summer for a while now. But then again, we hadn't had a real wet winter for a while either until this past one (our July 2015 through June 2016 rainfall total here on the Headlands ended up at 52.04 inches, which is nearly 10 inches above normal, but still short of what I was hoping for in an El Niño year). Any kind of summer fog is better than 100 degrees. But it would be nice if it were a high, warm fog and not a windy cold one.

Speaking of fog, there's a gripping story from 1927 Westport on page 5 of this issue of *The Wave*, courtesy of Bill Brazill. Automobiles were still a relatively new thing back then. Plus, we've got a great article by former *Wave* editor Harvey Hoechstetter on bears on page 7, and our favorite *Wave* reporter Marty Anderson visits the Community Garden this month (on page 6). All this and much much more in this issue of *The Wave* – Have a happy (and safe) summer!



Young Hunter Mathias at his first firefighting training session in June, helped by his father Captain Jeff Mathias. Mark your calendar for **Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>** for the annual Westport Volunteer Fire Department Barbecue on the Westport Headlands!

## Summer at the Old Abalone Pub

Joywolf

Hello from all of the Staff at Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub to locals and travelers alike – we love serving you!

**We are so happy to be OPEN and want to announce that for the summertime we will be open 5 nights a week, Thursday through Monday, from 5:00PM to 9:00PM.** We are always open for Afternoon Tea on Saturdays from 3:00PM to 5:00PM, and we have Happy Hour specials 5:00 to 6:00PM every night the Pub is open.

Our theme this summer is going to be **BBQ American Picnic Style**. Come out and see what wonderful food William is cooking up on the barbie! And Carolyn is making amazing summer mocktails in

the Pub that are refreshing and perfect for the heat wave that's been happening inland.

Look for **casual breakfast** for locals in the next few weeks from 8:30 to 10:00AM on Saturdays and Sundays only.....cup of coffee or our special breakfast of the day we hope you enjoy the Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub! You'll see us putting out the OPEN SIGN sandwich board on the highway...just don't run us over!!

Our current menu at the Old Abalone Pub is posted on our Facebook page every Thursday afternoon. We really want to encourage artists and musicians to share their work here, so tell your friends!

## Westport Village Society Board Meeting July 16<sup>th</sup>

The next Quarterly Board Meeting of the Westport Village Society will be held on **Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM at the Westport Community Church**. All are invited to attend – there are sure to be topics of interest to you, so come see what you can do to help your town!

## Westport Flea Market July 31<sup>st</sup>

Sarah Mathias

The next Westport Flea Market will be held on **Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 11:00AM to 2:00PM** on the Westport Headlands. There will also be a Flea Market on the Headlands from 11:00AM to 2:00PM on the last Sundays of August and 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 at 962-0181, or sarah.e.mathias@gmail.com, or via the Westport Markets Facebook page.

## Ann Woodhead Becomes Dr. Ruth!

Steve Brigham

Breaking News! Celebrated Westport actress, performer, director, and professor Ann Woodhead will be appearing as Dr. Ruth Westheimer ("The Sex Doctor") in a one-woman play called BECOMING DR. RUTH, at the **Mendocino Theatre Company from July 29<sup>th</sup> thru August 28<sup>th</sup>**. This is the chance of a lifetime to see a remarkable fusion of two very famous and talented women! Don't miss it!

### BECOMING DR. RUTH

by Mark St. Germain

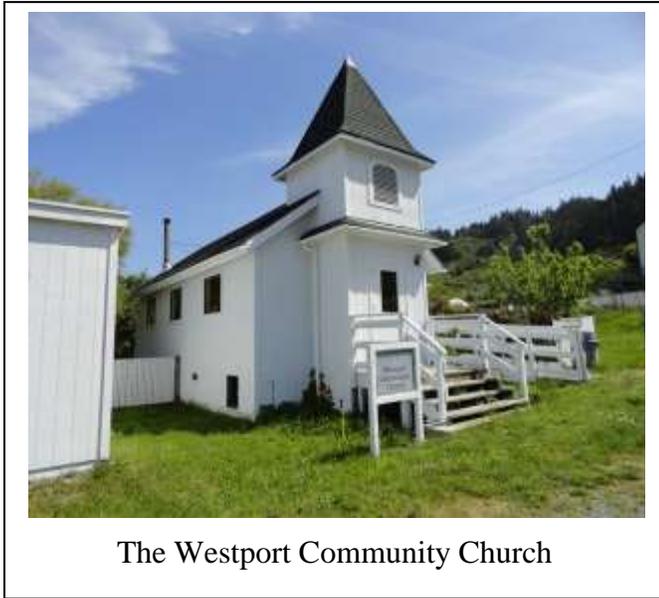
directed by Elizabeth Craven

starring **Ann Woodhead as Dr. Ruth**

Ruth Westheimer has an incredible story to tell: how she escaped from the Nazis as a child, trained as a sniper for the Haganah in Jerusalem, studied psychology at the Sorbonne, and struggled as a single mother in the United States before finally making her name as a radio and television personality. This fascinating bioplay celebrates the resilience, humor and spirit of the woman who became everyone's favorite sex therapist.

Following are Ann's performance dates. Reserve your seats now by calling the **Mendocino Theatre Company** at (707) 937-4477 or visiting their website at mendocinotheatre.org.

Friday July 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00PM  
Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2:00PM  
Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00PM  
Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM  
Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2:00PM



The Westport Community Church

## Westport Community Church July 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!

**We are pleased to announce that our popular Quaker Worship Group will now be meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month in addition to their regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday meetings.** We still have the 4<sup>th</sup> and occasional 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays open for community members to suggest other speakers and topics for these days. Please contact Church President Millie Saunders at 964-3030 to discuss your ideas and see how you can help the Westport Community Church.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group**

Katherine White leads our regular 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is a simple, quiet meditation for 45 minutes followed by Katherine reading Quaker passages and a shared discussion of

our experience including sharing of any of our thoughts or readings that one is inspired to bring to the group. This has been and will continue to be a very peace-filled and nurturing experience.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Carolyne Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, on “Free Will”.**

**Carolyne Cathey**, Student Practitioner of the Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, will present **“Free Will Is Power – Don’t Give It Away”**. Carolyne will delve into the Divine Quote: "Free will is your gift from the Creator. Your power lies in your freedom to choose. No one can take that power from you unless you allow it, which is also a choice. Choose well. Choose from your unlimited supply of options and answers provided by the Divine, for you." And yet, do you unwittingly surrender your freedom to others? Let's explore how you might be blocking your Free Will, and how to reclaim your power to choose, because your choices determine your life.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group**

Katherine White leads our regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Quaker Worship Group meeting. The format is a simple, quiet meditation for 45 minutes followed by Katherine reading Quaker passages and a shared discussion of our experience including sharing of any of our thoughts or readings that one is inspired to bring to the group. This has been and will continue to be a very peace-filled and nurturing experience.

## 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).

## A Museum For The Ages

Steve Brigham

For over 140 years, local residents and their family members have been buried at the Westport Cemetery. Our cemetery is still very much in current operation, and we still have the space to serve our local area for centuries to come. Whichever century you choose to visit in, that's a lot of history! The Westport Cemetery is one of the most scenic historic cemeteries in the USA, and it is also a real museum commemorating our friends and family who have gone before us, including so many of our founding fathers and mothers. It is even a tourist destination in its own right. The Westport Cemetery is "A Museum for the Ages" – our one-of-a-kind local museum of people and people's lives.

Any museum must be kept in good shape in order to look its best. At the Westport Cemetery, mowing is a never-ending task, and we must be very careful to not disturb our monuments. Two years ago, Thad Van Bueren completed a digital GPS mapping study of all of the monuments in the cemetery, so that what exists right now will never be forgotten. And we will keep updating that survey in future years. Our seashore climate is particularly hard on wood, and so in the past few years, your Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District Board has been hard at work restoring all of our rotting fences at the cemetery, and we also have a newly restored front sign. (If you hadn't noticed some of these improvements, that means that we've done our job well, since our goal is to keep all of our historic look even as we make sure that that historic look will be soundly preserved for decades to come.) This summer, we are building a marble monument at the Westport Cemetery to honor all of the people who are buried here but many years ago lost their wooden grave markers due to weathering and vandalism, and so whose precise grave location today is unknown.

It might surprise you to know that nearly all of the maintenance and improvements at the Westport



Our new cemetery sign is made to look old but will last for 50 years.

Cemetery are done with volunteer labor and donated money, plus the dedicated commitment of your volunteer Cemetery Board members Nedra Lancaster, Jane Vartanian, Gary Quinton, John Allison, and Steve Brigham. We can certainly use lots of help at any time to keep up with our mowing and fence repairs, and every dollar you donate to the Westport Cemetery will go directly to our cemetery improvements. In the future, we will need more volunteers to carefully restore some of our older and most historic monuments at the Cemetery, continue our historical research, and also create our own website that will provide historical data in fine museum fashion, both for our local community and for our many visitors and interested cemetery historians around the world.

If you love history and preserving the memories of those who have served Westport before us, or even would like to see your own memory preserved "For the Ages", please consider being a Westport Cemetery Volunteer and also donating money to this great museum. An additional way to help preserve our history is to set up your bequest which would help fund the Westport Cemetery for centuries to come. If you are interested in volunteering your services to the Westport Cemetery, donating money to the Cemetery in any way, or perhaps even purchasing a cemetery plot for yourself or a loved one, please call Gary Quinton, Westport Cemetery Operations Manager, at (707) 964-7073.



This sharp curve on the cliff south of Chadbourne Gulch has seen many tragedies over the years.

## 89 Years Ago In Westport

Bill Brazill

*(Editor's Note: Bill Brazill sent me this report taken from the August 6, 1927 Mendocino Dispatch & Democrat about an accident just south of Westport on July 31, 1927 that killed his great uncle Hubert and nearly killed the man who would years later sell Bill's Westport House to him. Bill's great uncle William was a first-responder in the rescue. Please be careful when driving here, everyone, especially in the fog!)*

### Plunge Over Grade Caused Deaths

“Two young men lost their lives as the result of a particularly distressing auto accident early Sunday morning on the Westport Grade. Hubert Standley was instantly killed and Homer DeVilbiss was so badly injured that he passed away at the Redwood Coast hospital after an operation in an attempt to save his life. These two young men with Fritz Kruger had left the DeVilbiss Ranch north of Rockport Saturday evening and drove to Fort Bragg and then back to Juan Creek to attend a dance in progress there. At about 11 o'clock they decided to drive to Fort Bragg again, which they did, and after a brief stop they started to return to the DeVilbiss Ranch. The trip was uneventful until the Westport Grade was reached. Kruger, the only one of the party to be conscious after the accident, stated in his deposition which was taken at the hospital Monday afternoon that he was driving at the time, and that it was difficult to see any length

ahead owing to the dense fog. Just before the car left the road, he caught himself going to sleep for an instant and this with the thick fog was responsible apparently for the car getting off the thoroughfare. The accident occurred on the south side of Chadbourne [sic] gulch and near the danger turn. At this point the bluff sloped considerably and the car went bounding down this incline at a terrific rate of speed, turning over one more time in its course. The occupants of another auto on the other side of the gulch saw the lights of the machine and noted their hurtling course down the declivity. Realizing that a serious accident had occurred, they hastened to Westport for help. The three young men were thrown from the auto about halfway down the bluff when the machine struck a shelf of rock, and leaving them there in battered helplessness careened on down the balance of the declivity to land on the beach right side up and not badly wrecked considering it had made a descent of 500 feet. This happens to be about the only point on the Westport grade where the bluff does not descend precipitously to the water's edge. Kruger, after temporarily recovering from the severe shock of landing on the rocky shelf, when he broke his leg and was otherwise badly battered, attempted to crawl up the bluff. He managed to go quite a ways and then struck a bad place and losing his hold on some vines slipped backward and rolled down to his started point again. In about an hour's time, assistance arrived from Westport, William Standley, a brother of one of the victims of the accident, being one of the first to reach them. Young Hubert Standley was found to have been killed instantly, apparently never having moved from the position his body took when it was thrown from the car. DeVilbiss was unconscious suffering from serious injuries to his head and chest. He and Kruger were hurried to the hospital, where an examination revealed a basal fracture of the brain and a badly crushed chest in the case of the former. Monday afternoon, as a last resort, an operation was performed but it failed to give the desired relief and the young man died about two hours thereafter. Both young men were residents of the north coast and members of well-known families of that locality.

Hubert Standley's body was buried in the Westport Cemetery on August 2 and Homer DeVilbiss' body was buried in the family plot at Rose Memorial Park on August 3.”

## My Day at the Community Garden

Marty Anderson

Summer is here, and that means that it's time once again for the Westport Community Garden! Located at the Westport Community Center, right next to the Westport Church and School (just look for the greenhouse), this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year that Steve Brigham has planted vegetables for all of us to enjoy absolutely free.

I was talking to Steve the other day, and I asked him if there was anything I could do to help out at the Garden. "Well," he said, "what we try to do with volunteers is to match their skill sets with the jobs that need doing. I've got a lot of giant weeds here. Can you run a weed-eater?" I replied politely that since I am a dog, I cannot run a weed-eater. "OK", he said, "We could really use a new gate, and also those planter boxes in front of the school building badly need rebuilding. Can you do carpentry?" Again, I had to tell him that since I am a dog, I cannot do carpentry.

Then I got an idea. I said to Steve, "I've seen you plant before, and I know you dig a hole first. I can dig holes like nobody's business. You got any plants that need planting?" "Why yes I do.", Steve said, "Just go over to the Garden – there's a bean plant there that Marie just donated that needs to be planted. You can dig the hole."

Well, I got to the Garden today before Steve did, but I did find the bean plant (I actually like eating beans). Then I realized that I had absolutely no idea how big a hole to dig for a bean plant! But then I remembered what Steve always says about planting trees (I also like trees), and that is to "dig a \$50 hole for a \$10



**Did I dig a big enough hole?**

tree" (I don't think he's checked the prices of trees at nurseries for a while). Trees, beans, whatever – so I dug a **big** hole. Do you think the hole is too big? Now I'm still waiting for Steve to get here, and the bean plant is wilting, and I don't know what to do next! Jeez, I never expected that this could be so complicated, but now I do appreciate gardening a little more. I could use some hands right about now!

*Editor's Note: I did finally get over to the Garden that morning, and because I have hands, I was able to help Marty finish planting her bean plant. I appreciate her kind help, and she is now looking forward to eating her green beans this month. We'll have fresh, organically grown vegetables ready for your harvest anytime all summer and fall and always absolutely free at the Westport Community Garden, so check it out! We're pretty well set for planting now, but we still could use some help with those weeds, so any of you dear readers (unless you're a dog) please feel free to weed-whip and mow at the Community Center at any time! (If you need direction or have any questions, please drop me an email at [westportwave@gmail.com](mailto:westportwave@gmail.com).)*

## Black Bear Predation On Redwood Trees

Harvey Hoechstetter

*Editor's Note: With the voter approval of Mendocino County Measure V in June, "hack and squirt" forest management in our county will now stop. If you're a bear, you probably voted "Yes", and here's why:*

Thanks to Forester Tom Kisliuk for his excellent report, "Black Bear Predation Redwood Trees," which appeared in the Winter Issue of *California Tree Farm News*. My wife and I own forest property located on the Mendocino Coast within the area mentioned by Forester Kisliuk. I am writing to support Forester Kisliuk's findings and to state that as a landowner in the geographical area mentioned, we have seen a steady increase in damage to our and our neighbor's property during the past year.

The damage is not confined to 2 or 3 months a year. We are seeing fresh damage beginning early in winter and continuing even now, late June. The bear are still now destroying trees even as their alternative source of food, black berries, are ripening.



The bear damage on firs is often done from the ground. It is the same with small redwoods. Our property has had many small redwoods killed this way. The black bears are also successful in killing

very large second growth redwoods. When the bark on the larger trees is too difficult to remove, the bears climb the tree 100 feet or higher to a place about 60 inches in circumference where they can reach around the tree and peel the bark, much like we humans peel a banana. Once at this height, the bear circles the tree completely exposing the cambium layer. The bear scrapes its teeth down the cambium layer (the photo at left shows teeth marks on the section of peeled bark on redwood trees; the photo below shows bear scat with the undigested wood the bear swallows along with the sugars). Trees attacked in this way by the bear soon show signs of distress and then begin to die.



Currently timber companies in Mendocino County have been trying to regain permission from the county to use an herbicide Imazapyr on tan oak trees. The herbicide is commonly used as part of a widespread modern forestry practiced called "hack-and-squirt," which involves making a series of downward cuts in a tree, leaving the chips, and immediately applying herbicide into the cuts. The undesirable tree quickly dies, is left standing, and eventually rots back into the earth. We tree farmers should support the folks who are opposing the timber companies efforts to use hack and squirt herbicides to kill the tan oak trees. Tan oak trees, which often serve as starter trees in a newly cut forest, drops thousands of acorns yearly, an important source of winter and springtime food for the growing population of black bears in Mendocino County.

The black bear population is at an all time high in Mendocino County. In January 2013 the state banned using hounds to hunt bears and bobcats for sport. We forest owners need to make an effort politically to reverse this ban or at the very least pass a bill that would allow individual counties to decide whether to ban the use of dogs for hunting those animals.

## Westport Volunteer Fire Department News

Frank Maurice, Fire Chief, WVFD

Hi Westport area residents! Westport Fire wishes everyone a safe and happy 4th of July weekend. WVFD will be at full staffing this weekend as all of our volunteers have agreed to be on call for this busy time. During the parade time we will have some members stay in Westport as many want to watch the parade in Mendocino and 2 Westport engines with Captains driving them will be there in it as well.

The annual Fire Dept. fundraising BBQ will be on **Saturday the 20th of August**. (3rd Saturday in August). Please come and enjoy yourselves, listen to the great music bands arranged by Logan Smith, taste the great tri-tip and chicken cooked in Mesquite charcoal by world-famous Barrel John and the vege-vegan dish prepared by local folks. Many micro-beers, locally made wine and soft drinks will in abundance for you to enjoy also. This year we have a target goal for the fundraiser to purchase new SCBA "self contained breathing apparatus" bottles. The cost is about \$1000 each, and we need 16, so it will be about \$16,000 that we need to raise. Most of our existing bottles are out of date or approaching expiration soon.

WVFD applied for and received a 50/50 matching grant in the last year giving us approx \$8500 to match with \$8500 of our own funds. We used this money to buy new fire hose, new brass and nozzles and a small amount of protective turnout gear along with a couple of needed pagers and radios for new recruits.

Thanks to your donations and purchases at our BBQ, the WVFD is doing well and improving our training, equipment and protective gear to keep us all as safe as possible while we voluntarily serve this great community.

Our annual August BBQ takes a village to run, and we can sure use your help, as always! For food prep and serving please contact Pam Brown [707-964-1016](tel:707-964-1016). For craft booths and kids games please contact Sarah Mathias [707-962-0108](tel:707-962-0108). For set up and take down of tables, stage and food booth please call Frank [707-357-1866](tel:707-357-1866). For raffle prize help please call Bill and Bobbie Knapp [707-964-7355](tel:707-964-7355).



## Claire Kisliuk Awarded For Volunteer Work

Tom Kisliuk

Wages Creek denizen Ms. Claire Kisliuk (pictured above with Bigfoot) received a special award this spring from the Soroptomist Ladies of Fort Bragg. Claire received the Violet Richardson Award in recognition of her volunteer efforts. The Soroptomists were kind to many young ladies at their award event, and their organization is appreciated.

### 24/7 Westport Wave

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

# 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.



WHAT A RIDE! This **1955 Lincoln Futura** is the first in a continuing series of photos of 1950s "concept cars" submitted by Jim Genereux. These works of art never went into mass production, but they did define "modern", some 60 years ago!

## July 2016 Westport Calendar

- July 3<sup>rd</sup>** – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church
- July 4<sup>th</sup>** – Independence Day
- July 4<sup>th</sup>** – New Moon, 4:00AM
- July 5<sup>th</sup>** – WMAC Meeting CANCELLED
- July 7<sup>th</sup>** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
- July 9<sup>th</sup>** – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Firehouse
- July 10<sup>th</sup>** – Carolyne Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, speaks on "Free Will", 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church
- July 13<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

- July 16<sup>th</sup>** – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 9:00AM, Westport Community Church
- July 17<sup>th</sup>** – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church
- July 19<sup>th</sup>** – Full Moon, 3:56PM
- July 21<sup>st</sup>** – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM
- July 31<sup>st</sup>** – Westport Flea Market, 11:00AM to 2:00PM, Westport Headlands
- August 20<sup>th</sup>** (save the date!) – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Annual Fundraising Barbecue, 12PM to 6PM, Westport Community 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 August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 issue are due by July 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.