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It's Barbecue Time!

Bill Knapp

It's that time again – the Westport Volunteer Fire Department's 35th Annual BBQ fundraiser will be held this year on Saturday, August 25th! At this annual summer festival, the Westport Headlands come alive from noon to sunset with local bands, craft booths, games, kids games, face-painting, microbrews, local wines, and a barbecue with soft drinks and dessert. All proceeds go to the Westport Volunteer Fire Department to purchase new equipment and supplies.

Our celebration opens at 12 Noon. Food service begins at 1 PM and runs until 5 PM. Musical performances this year will be highlighted by The Mighty T-Bones, The Dunes Boys, Steven Bates, and Lost Johnson. The BBQ features barrel-roasted tri-tip and barrel-smoked chicken prepared by firefighters under the watchful eye of Chef Barrel John. Also available is veggie lasagna, courtesy of The Purple Rose. Sides are corn on the cob, freshly

made salads, and home made desserts. Beverages include soft drinks, wine and local micro-brewed

beers. Freshly made fruit smoothies will also be available. Meal tickets are \$15 for Adults; \$12 for Seniors and Kids.

Festivities include a local handmade quilt raffle, basket raffle, craft and plant booths, volleyball, horseshoes and several games for children including face painting, a helicopter landing and a visit by a Cal Fire engine and crew.

The Westport Volunteer Fire Department is an all-volunteer department of local residents who receive no salaries or stipends. We are run entirely on donations. Major expenses such as vehicles, equipment, and building maintenance and repair are purchased with grants or

proceeds from fundraising events such as the barbeque. Come out for a great day. Meet the members of WVFD, enjoy great food, great music, and a beautiful location on the Westport Headlands!

A DAY ON THE WESTPORT HEADLANDS

The
Mighty T-Bones
The Dunes Boys
Steven Bates * Lost Johnson

LIVE MUSIC

With MORE To Be Added

BBQ *TRI-TIP *CHICKEN* OR* VEGGIE LASAGNA
***CRAFT BOOTHS* VOLLEYBALL * HORSESHOES**
GAMES * FACE PAINTING

Quilt Raffle & Crafts
***MANY OTHER PRIZES* DESSERT *AND**
SMOOTHIE BOOTH* BEER AND WINE* *DANCING*

Meal tickets: Adults \$15 Kids and Seniors \$12
 Donation to WVFD

Saturday, August 25th 12-Sunset
BBQ served 1:00 till 5:00pm

WESTPORT FIRE RESCUE VOLUNTEER

Sorry No Dogs

WVFD Barbecue Desserts Needed!

Carolyn Fox

Would YOU like to help with the Firemen's Barbecue? Well, of course you would – everybody does (or at least they should!) We always need homemade desserts to sell at the smoothie booth, and you can bring your tasty donations to the Barbecue on August 25th. And there's always plenty of work for volunteers serving food and doing many other important jobs! So please call Carolyn Fox TODAY at 357-1345 to learn what you can do to help! Your community will thank you, and we can see that halo over your head already!

Abalone Watch Coming to Westport?

Bruce Leaman

The Mendocino Abalone Watch (MAW) was created in the summer of 2010. This is a volunteer organization whose goal is to stem the excessive abalone poaching along the Mendocino/ Ft. Bragg coastline. For the past three seasons you may have seen out members in yellow jackets along the bluffs of our coast. We spend our time watching the abalone hunters looking for those individuals who take over-limits, undersized abalone, fail to complete their dive cards, or commit other Fish & Game Code violations. According to the Departments of Fish & Game, State Parks, and the Fort Bragg Police Department, our presence has made a difference.

This season two members of the Westport community have joined our ranks. They have patrolled the Westport dive-sites and report being overwhelmed by the number of abalone hunters that come into your community. Unfortunately, the Mendocino Abalone Watch does not have the manpower or the resources to send our members that far north.

We invite any member of the Westport community neighbors in protecting the abalone along your coastline, to join our organization. MAW will provide you who cares about, and has the time to assist your with the training you will need, and put you in contact with the Westport MAW volunteers.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Mendocino Abalone Watch, please call Bruce Leaman at mendoabwatch31@gmail.com.

Haul Road Removal Planned

Thad Van Bueren

The California Department of Parks and Recreation will release a revised Mitigated Negative Declaration around August 1 for a proposed project that includes the removal of 2.7 miles of the old haul road from the Ten Mile River south past Sandhill Lake. The draft MND issued in May included no mitigation for the loss of this valuable historic public coastal access. A public information meeting will be held at the Inglenook Grange Hall on Monday August 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

The General Plan for MacKerricher Park, approved in 1995, designated the northern portion of the park as a natural preserve and established policies that required maintenance of the haul road as a coastal trail. State Parks has not reconciled their proposal to destroy the haul road with its general plan policies. Removal of the haul road will foreclose any future opportunity for a bike and hike trail in the northern portion of MacKerricher State Park. This appears to be a significant impact that has not been addressed.

The project requires a Coastal Development Permit from the County, which is pending. You may want to attend the August 6 meeting and write the County Planning Department to express your views on the issuance of the permit. You can download information about this project at the WMAC web site on the Next Meeting page:

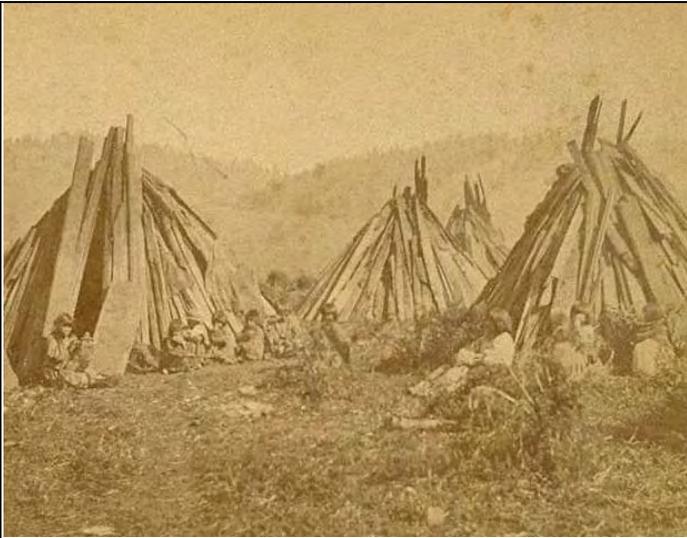
http://www.westportmac.org/next_meeting.jsp.

Oddz 'N Endz

Donna Brigham

Greetings from the Westport Recycle Center! First off, I'd like to clarify an item from last month, when we published that great bear photo, which was sent in by Jim Genereux. The photo was actually taken by Joel Johnson, who got up in the middle of the night to get the shot. Great photo, Joel!

I've also got an important request this month: when you recycle your large plastic drinking water containers, please flatten them and put them in large plastic bags before you come in. Thanks to Cloyse Holland for this idea, which is a great help, since we only have limited storage space at the Recycle Center.



Village near the northern reservation outpost in 1870
(courtesy of The Bancroft Library).

The Time Traveler

Thad Van Bueren

Most of us are curious about what happened before we arrived on the scene. It is story we each piece together for ourselves in an effort to understand the mysteries of life. History contains the root word “story,” and that derivation is significant. Stories embrace events from the past that range from true tales to legends, myths, and even predictions about the future. Prior to written language, people shared knowledge through a rich oral tradition, partly remembered and partly legendary or mythical. For that reason, there is a tendency to categorize stories with fiction, while written histories are often regarded as more factual.

But does written history really live up to that expectation? When you stop to think about it, all sources of information about the past have biases. They have a “slant” that comes from a particular point of view, selective perception, and even purposeful concealment or misrepresentation. Take the federal census for example. Prior to 1880, some ethnic groups were either ignored or not systematically counted. The census also contains inaccurate information that may report age or other data that does not jive with other sources. In other sources, biases reflect the social position of the person who wrote or told the story. Even the archaeological record is slanted because not all materials people left behind survive to be interpreted.

For all of those reasons it is reasonable to approach information about the past with a critical or questioning eye. That is particularly true when exposing stories of disenfranchised groups that are either less visible, or entirely missing in the written record. This summer I have been engaged in a project that involves reconstructing the lives of Native Americans during the period when literate immigrants first arrived in the 1850s and 1860s. It was a time of radical change, conflict, and genocide that included the creation of the Mendocino Reservation between Abalobadiah Creek and Noyo River. If you haven’t seen Robert Winn’s account in the 1986 *Mendocino Historical Review*, it is well worth a read.

My own research has revealed that indigenous people from a huge region encompassing much of the North Coast and extending northeast as far as the Pit River in Modoc County were forcibly interned in the Mendocino Reservation between 1855 and 1866. I found evidence of a hearth containing cow bones and traditional stone tools near the Ten Mile River several years ago. I also learned that a century after the reservation closed, a team of archaeologists from the University of California at Davis investigated several Native Americans camps near the northern reservation outpost at Ten Mile.

Because that 1966 investigation was never written up, I decided to study the material this summer. My plan is to share the resulting story as a slide show when that work is complete. While researching the collection, I made the interesting discovery that the 1870 photograph shown here is the location of one of the camps studied by the UC Davis team. Local rancher Michael McGuire kindly allowed me to visit that site. The McGuires also facilitated the work of the UC Davis team, and one member of the family even participated!

Are You Reading This In Color?

Well, if you’re reading a paper copy that you’ve just picked up from the Westport Store and you’re seeing it in color, you’ve got quite an imagination! We may not have the money to print *The Wave* in color, but if you sign up for the e-mail version of this newsletter on our website www.westportvillagesociety.org (it’s free), you’ll be one of the first folks to get each issue, in glorious, living color (and you can make the photos and print bigger, too!) Sign up today, and save a tree!

Community Garden News

Steve Brigham

DON'T PANIC, IT'S ORGANIC! The new Westport Community Garden is right next to the Westport Church and Westport School at the corner of Abalone and Hillcrest streets. We're just getting started with this project, but already, anyone can visit the Garden and pick your fill of fresh, organically grown vegetables. So bring your scissors or knife for harvesting anytime – just remember to close the gate when you leave so the deer don't get in!

In August, we'll continue to have an assortment of salad greens available, including different kinds of leaf lettuce, "spicy greens", and Russian kale. Also available now are swiss chard, strawberries, sugar-snap peas, zucchini, "dragon's egg" cucumbers, tomatillos, and basil. By the end of the month, we should be harvesting several different kinds of summer squash, plus lemon cucumbers, bell peppers, Italian green beans, and – yes – tomatoes.

Since we got a late start this year, we're still waiting for our tomatoes to ripen, but that just means we'll have a bumper crop in September and October (and hopefully even later), with over 15 varieties to choose



Tomatoes in the new Community Garden.

from. It will be interesting to see how the harvest goes this fall, since we're trying out a number of cool-summer varieties (so far, the old standard 'Early Girl' has been the "earliest"). We're even labeling the tomatoes (and other vegetables) with signs made from 1-inch by 1-inch redwood stakes and paint-stirring

sticks (thanks to Mendo Mill for donating the paint sticks!). These signs are easy and cheap to make at home – and you just write on the paint stick with a large Sharpie marker.

Although we are producing only limited quantities of vegetables in this, our first year, we still seem to be producing more than is being picked. So tell your friends, and stop by often, since we don't want anything to go to waste. If you see a ripe vegetable, don't be shy – GRAB IT! If you don't take it, maybe no one else will – yet another important thing that you can do for your community!

20 Years Ago in *The Westport Wave*

Steve Brigham, Editor

It's August 6th, 1992, and the brand new *Westport Wave* proudly publishes its third monthly issue! Headlining that issue was big news for this little town – the creation of our very own Westport Basketball Court (or at least a half-court, anyway). This magnificent concrete pad and hoop at the Westport Church was a completely community effort, with nearly 20 people all pitching in to make it happen. And it still is ready for use today. As a relative newcomer, I've always assumed that the basketball hoop is low (looks like about 8 feet to me) to make it easier for kids to play. Wouldn't be hard for a normal-sized adult to slam-dunk! Can someone bring a real basketball to the court so we all can play again? Since it's right next to the new Community Garden, you can now eat vegetables and play basketball at the same time! (But don't hang on the rim when you dunk – that hoop is getting mighty rusty!)

Another thrilling article 20 years ago was by a chap who simply signed "eel" (read it backwards and you'll figure out who, since he's still very much in town). This was a story about a close encounter with a mountain lion as he rode his bike on Clay Road in February. It looked to be a female cat, and fortunately she was ahead of the gentleman by about 50 feet (which is MUCH better than having a big cat behind you!) No confrontation ensued, and a good thing too, since that amiable fellow went on to be a very famous Westportian!

Do you have a similar tale, or a tale about anything Westportian, for that matter? A lot of folks (me included) are relative newcomers to town, so how

about some historical tales about the great goings-on from recent decades? I'd love to hear from you and publish your stories in *The Wave*. Write me at P.O. Box 237, or e-mail me at Westport2010@aol.com.

The Wild World of Westport

Steve Brigham

Hi folks! You may have noticed this year that this monthly nature column of mine hasn't appeared in this fine publication in some time. Well, I will admit to being an angel (as we all are, really), but I am certainly not a saint, and I am definitely not a martyr. So since I took over as Editor of this rag last fall, that job has occupied my time instead. But be that as it may, the plants and animals and everything else natural around us still keep going, every month, and someone needs to speak for at least some of it. So here we go, one more time...

Baby birds and mammals are everywhere these days, and there are tons of happy little creatures wherever you look. If your property is a peaceful and friendly environment, these busy animal families are likely a big part of your home life these days. Baby animals are as rambunctious as human children, of course, and often every bit as noisy. This is the time of year when you can greatly expand your animal vocabularies by listening to the communications between parents and youngsters. Many sounds are so quiet that we can barely hear them! If you'd like to say something, but can't quite get the pronunciations right, don't feel bad, since animal talk is quite unlike our language. Most communication in animals is very situational, so even if you imitate a sound, it likely means little coming from a human (but maybe they'll get a good laugh out of it, or at least appreciate that you care). Still great fun, though; and of course, sometimes a meow is just a meow, and a squawk is just a squawk!

As I write this on July 31st, something very weird has been happening with the weather here on the coast. Namely, it's been – sunny! I always thought that it's supposed to be foggy here between the 4th of July and Labor Day, but I guess you never know. One thing our strong sun does is dry out our garden plants at a remarkable rate, so now is the time to give even drought-tolerant plants a mid-summer drink. When you do, please water thoroughly and deeply, since if you only shallowly water really dry soil, you're just

wasting your time. Unless you've got all day, forget about your sprinkler nozzles, and use the full volume of an un-nozzled hose. Light-spray "Benedictions" are for churches, not for watering dry gardens!

Sometimes it's nice in the summer to "get away from it all" for a couple of days. Even if you don't have much time or money, there are many great places to visit relatively nearby. One of our favorites is Prairie



Happy resident of Prairie Creek Redwoods Park.

Creek Redwoods State Park (between Eureka and Crescent City), which is also part of the larger Redwood National Park. There are many exciting adventures there, both near and far from the main roads, with the very best old-growth Coast Redwood groves on the planet. And, there are lots of – Elk!

It's sad indeed that we have so little virgin Nature left, compared to what once was. Just as we only have 5% of our old-growth redwood forests left, the once-majestic Roosevelt Elk population was down to just a handful of individuals by 1925. But now, after years of conservation, they are making a comeback. On a recent trip, Donna and I saw a fine group of male elk up-close-and-personal, right on the side of the road. Fortunately, at this time of year, these guys are fairly placid, but you certainly don't want to get too close to them in the fall, when they can get a bit "testy" (at 800-pounds-plus, you don't want "testy"!).

Even if you only get away "once in a Blue Moon", now's your big chance, since we've got a real "Blue Moon" (the second full moon of the month) coming up this month on August 31st. So go visit Mother Nature – the plants and animals are waiting for you!



Labor-Intensive Art Work

Liza Saenz-Bernard

“Trees are a real bargain. They are all on our side.”

– Francesca Johnson

Colors of Toulouse Lautrec, Tuscany landscapes, dancing pastels, Indian ink of coastal men working by the sea, men climbing latter’s in Mexico, sledge hammers swinging in the air, silhouetted in the white sky, in a black & white photograph – this is a brief description of the current art show WORKING TOGETHER at the Westport Hotel.

Artist Laura L. Pope is showing her paintings of a couple working out a very intense moment in her “City Series”. Her originals and Giclees have vivid and earthy tones that tell a story. The painting “Hats” reminds one of the 50’s when men dressed up to go to work. Pope’s paintings each tell a story, and listening to the viewers at Last Saturday’s opening, I was surprised that each person saw something different.

Bill Brazil’s black & white photograph really corresponded with the theme “working together” (for Labor Day). Half a dozen strong men in white t-shirts working in the sun with sledgehammers. As usual his lighting & composition captures everything and tells it all!

Carol Deetch, College of the Redwoods & Westport’s “Breath of Plein Air” instructor, has water color paintings of our local coast guard in the Noyo Harbor, “Coast Guard Lesson” & “Catch of the Day”.

Tamra Whitney is showing “Arentango,” an original dry pastel. She has been studying the art of Tango now for many years and the feeling of being in Argentina is seen in her work. Makes one want to take a lesson! Go to www.tamrawhitney.com to view more of her work.

Getting stimulated to write and get ideas for a new piece, I pick up a lot of different books. In “LANDSCAPES”, the text by Seymour Slive, Assistant Professor of Fine Arts, discusses Van Gogh, Claude Lorraine and even Oscar

Wilde. Lorraine, a French painter, carried on his walks a “Claude glass,” which was a tinted, convex mirror used to study the reflections of picturesque vistas. He was one of the few 1800’s painters who painted sunsets. “Claude’s principal interest was in the mood evoked by the effects of light in his idealized landscapes and views of seaports. He filled his pictures with cool morning air, the light of the steady noonday sun, or, as in “A Seaport at Sunset”, with the ever-changing effects of a sunset.”

Peter Bruegel’s painting, “The Fall of Icarus”, captures a landscape with headlands over looking a huge bay. On the hillside are shepherders, donkeys and workers plowing the land. The worker has his back turned, symbolizing that he does not care about the myth of Icarus, who has fallen into the sea.

These historic images are rare today. Art depicting workers, laboring in the fields, building skyscrapers, railroads and women in factories can be found in Diego Rivera’s Murals. Go to www.diegorivera.com or www.paulbenton.com for ideas to photograph or paint – there’s still time to submit work for the current show!

The FOOD ART show is coming up before Thanksgiving, right after harvesting the last of the lettuce in all its green glory and the bright red and yellow rainbow chard. Have you ever held up this luscious vibrant red veggie to the morning light? How about making a Claude glass, and doing a plein air of a garden?

The photo ops of bell peppers alone have me looking forward to this upcoming show. I can imagine a huge table full of fresh vegetables from the garden, a huge bird in the middle, and the colors of each plate complimenting the beauty of the food. We've been watching the DVD series of "Treme", where the head chef is giving a presentation of his sauce, on top of a piece of salmon. The colors were rich sienna and a purple herb topping the fish looked like a painting masterpiece. Except, there was not enough food to satisfy a hungry person.

Back to the dining table image. The gravy boat with the steam rising off the creamy hot liquid and the spuds waiting to be covered with this desired sauce is a good visual. I went to my "Joy of Cooking Book" to get some ideas, instead of searching my art books for still life paintings, like Cézanne's famous bowl of fruit. Go to www.joyofcooking.com for some fun reading on the history of hot sauce types.

There are a few empty spaces for artwork in the current show. If you have any questions regarding the different themes, give me a call or email and I'll give you more examples. The FOOD theme for the holidays is going to be very colorful and tasty!

GALLERY THIS! @ THE WESTPORT HOTEL art shows are as follows:

WORKING TOGETHER- July 28th to October 25th

FOOD- Sept. 29th through Nov. 24th

CHANGE. - Dec. 29th through Jan. 26th

Call 962-9234 when you wish to meet at the Westport Hotel to submit your artwork, or email me at saenzphoto@yahoo.com.

August at The Westport Hotel and Old Abalone Pub

Dorine Real

"**Neighborhood Nights**" – Sunday and Monday – have been a success with both locals and visitors. Please note that our open hours have been adjusted to 5:00 to 9:00PM, the same as our other nights. Caitlin Fanning serves up a simplified menu of your favorite pub food, plus a few imaginative specials using lots

of seasonal vegetables. Recent hits include Thai-style stuffed pineapple and linguini with crab.

Our guests have been enjoying greens from the Westport Community Garden, thanks to Steve Brigham and David Brothers. Steve is also helping us to shift our own vegetable garden into higher production. The results should be evident by September.

This Friday night, August 3, we will have a special jazz performance by Mendocino keyboardist Lynn Kiesewetter and our own Katt Newlon on cello. As always, guests can sit up close to the performers or, if they prefer the music to be a background to conversation, choose seating in the parlor. Sean Hathorn continues to play flamenco guitar most Friday evenings – in August, performances are on the 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st. Be there!

The art showing "Working Together" has opened and is growing. This show honors Labor Day by portraying work and cooperation. Its midshow Last Saturday falls on WVFD Barbecue night, so come over during or after the barbecue and check it out! Work is still being accepted – call Liza at 303-6376.

Story night on Sunday, August 19th (starting at 7PM) will also have a work theme. Who was your most memorable coworker? Do you have a dramatic "I quit" story? There will be a Mark Twain story about a gold mining partnership. Weather permitting, we will meet on the deck and walk across the street to discuss the work that took place on the Headlands in Westport's shipping days.

Dismantle the Haul Road?

Dorine Real

California State Parks will hold a public meeting on Monday, August 6th, to explain and take public input on their plan to remove the old Haul Road (see Thad's article on page 2 of this newsletter). The meeting will be at the Inglenook Grange from 6:30 to 8:30PM. This proposal has stirred a lot of resistance because the Haul Road is much used for recreation and because it is a major and seemingly irreplaceable section of the gradually developing Coastal Trail. This will probably be the only public input on the project, so please plan on attending if you're interested in this important resource!

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. Members of the WVS receive their free copies on or before the first day of every month by e-mail (or postal mail, if requested – please allow a few days extra for postal 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. WVS member dues pay for this newsletter production – which is a good reason in itself to join our Society – join the **Westport Village Society** today, and sign up for your free monthly newsletter at www.westportvillagesociety.org. Contributions for the September 1, 2012 edition of *The Westport Wave* are due by **August 29th**, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@aol.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.

August 2012 Westport Calendar

August 1st – Full Moon, 8:27PM

August 6th – Ten Mile Dune Project / Haul Road Removal Meeting, 6:30PM, Inglenook Grange Hall

August 7th – Westport MAC meeting, 7:00PM at the Westport Community Church

August 9th – Bookmobile, Westport Store, 9-9:30AM

August 12th – Closing Ceremony, London Olympics

August 17th – New Moon, 8:54PM

August 19th – Story Night at Westport Hotel, 7PM

August 23rd – Bookmobile, Westport Store, 9-9:30AM

August 25th – **WVFD Annual Summer Barbecue!** (Noon to Sunset on the Westport Headlands – see p.1)

August 25th – Last Saturday Art Show Reception, Westport Hotel, 5:30PM to 8:00PM (come by during or after the WVFD Barbecue!)

August 31st – Full “Blue” Moon, 6:58AM