

August 1, 2015

The Westport Wave

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

It's Barbecue Time!

Lin Taylor, WVFD

It's BARBECUE time again – at the Westport Volunteer Fire Department's Annual BBQ

Fundraiser, which is happening on **Saturday, August 15th!** At this annual summer festival, the Westport Headlands comes alive with live music, dancing, craft booths, kids' games, local microbrews and wines, soft drinks, and a fantastic barbecue with all the trimmings. 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 showcase seven headliner bands from the North Coast. The BBQ features barrel-roasted tri-tip and barrel-smoked chicken prepared by our firefighters, plus a vegetarian entree.

Sides are corn on the cob, freshly made salads, and home-made desserts. Beverages include soft drinks, wine, and local beers. Meal tickets are just \$15 for adults, and \$12 for kids 10 years and under.

Festivities include a raffle featuring a beautiful handmade quilt, craft booths, volleyball, horseshoes, and games for children, including face painting. There will also be a visit by a Cal Fire engine and crew and if all goes well a Cal Fire helicopter landing.

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 this annual

barbecue. Come out for a great day, meet the members of WVFD, enjoy great food, great music, and a beautiful location on the Westport Headlands! See you there, and tell your friends!

A DAY ON THE WESTPORT HEADLANDS
 Lost Johnson Productions & Coast Sound Presents:
LIVE MUSIC
 The Smoke Detectors
 Michael Ward & the Mighty 3 Bones
 Steven Bates Sue Sisk
 The Dunes Boys
 Highway One
 Tommy Brown
*** BARREL ROASTED BBQ ***
*** TRI-TIP * CHICKEN * VEGGIE MEAL AVAILABLE ***
*** CRAFT BOOTHS * VOLLEYBALL * HORSESHOES ***
*** Kid's Games * Face Painting ***
Quilt & Basket Raffles
Many Raffle Prizes
BEER AND WINE * DANCING
 Meal tickets: Adults \$15 Kids < 10 \$12: Donation to WVFD
Saturday, August 15th 12-7 PM
 BBQ served 1:00 till 5:00pm
WESTPORT FIRE RESCUE VOLUNTEER
Sorry No Dogs

We Need YOU at the BBQ!

Lin Taylor, WVFD

There simply would be no local Firefighting and Rescue services here in Westport without volunteers, and that includes the volunteers at our annual BBQ fundraiser! As long as you're coming to the WVFD Barbecue on August 15th, why not spend a little time helping out while you're there? There are lots of jobs to do, like setting up in the morning and serving food and clean-up in the afternoon. There are also plenty of things to help with in the days before the BBQ, and we also need lots of folks to make desserts. If you can spare some time and/or make a dessert, please call me, Lin Taylor, at (707) 357-0808, or e-mail me at lintaylor@wildblue.net. You'll get the satisfaction of being part of the WVFD team – it's one of the best ways to contribute to your community all year long!

Westport Flea Market August 30th

Sarah Mathias

Our first attempt at a Westport Flea Market went really well. Shoppers arrived early and were waiting to shop shortly before 11AM. We're giving it another go on **Sunday, August 30th**, from 11:00AM to 2:00PM on the Westport Headlands, and we'd love to have more vendors. Feel free to invite friends; you don't have to live in Westport to participate. If you or someone you know plans to participate please let Sarah know by calling 962-0181 or dropping a message to westportcafleamarket@gmail.com so that we have an idea of how many vendors we'll have.

Westport Community Mini-Grants

Bobbie Knapp

During the fiscal year of 2014-2015, six Westport Village Society mini-grants were issued. They fell into three different categories: benefit of the community, events, and outreach. The Westport Village Society is continuing the program and is now offering mini-grants for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. To date, one has been issued. The WVS welcomes input about this program. A Grant Application is attached at the end of this newsletter – please see this form for details. We look forward once again to serving the Westport community, and thank you from your WVS Mini-Grant Committee.

Kids' Movie Night August 22nd

This month's feature will be *A Bug's Life*. Doors will open at 6:00PM on Saturday, August 22nd, with the movie starting when the popcorn is ready (usually by 6:20). Bring pillows and blankets/sleeping bags for the kids and a comfy chair for yourself!



Free vegetables for all at the Community Garden!

Community Garden News

Steve Brigham

What a difference a month makes! Just four weeks after planting, we were already harvesting rainbow chard, kale, cilantro, and three kinds of lettuce in July at the **Westport Community Garden!** In August, along with those same crops, we'll have Italian beans, sugar-snap peas, cucumbers, lemon cucumbers, green beans, yellow crookneck squash, zucchini, and tomatoes, all ready for anyone who wants them. There's just no substitute for fresh, organically grown vegetables you pick yourself! Think of all the money you'll save, since it's absolutely free!

Located at the Westport Community Center (near the Church) at the end of Abalone Street, the Westport Community Garden is a community service of the Westport Village Society, which has substantially funded the Garden this year with a very generous Mini-Grant. Anyone can stop by at any time and pick fresh vegetables – just bring a bag and a pair of scissors, and you're all set! Plan on stopping by on a regular basis this summer, so that you can harvest your vegetables at the peak of their perfection!



The Westport Community Church

Westport Church August 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!

The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of each month have a regularly scheduled focus. The 1st Sunday and the rare 5th Sunday have purposefully been left open for community members to suggest other speakers/focus for these days. Please contact Millie Saunders at 964-3030 regarding your suggestions and help.

1st Sunday, August 2nd and 5th Sunday, August 30th
These dates are open for a community member to fill – otherwise, there will be no meetings these days. Please call Millie if you are interested.

2nd Sunday, August 9th, 10:00AM – Rev. Rio Parfrey, Center for Spiritual Living, “A Mirror Shows the Truth: Hercule Poirot and Personal Perspectives”

Our individual viewpoints can be obscured, distorted, expanded and delineated by how we situate ourselves in life. Being aware of this, we can elasticize our

vision so as to deftly zoom in and out or adjust our perspective on the picture life presents to us, and, by extension, stretch the muscles of our hearts in compassion. Interfaith minister Rev. Rio Parfrey will share a few ideas and lead a discussion on this subject and how it affects our own lives and also the life of our planet.

3rd Sunday, August 16th, 10:00AM – Our Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katherine White is helping us to establish an ongoing Quaker Worship Group meeting on the third Sunday of every month. 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.

4th Sunday, August 23rd – *Our regular monthly speaker, Mettika Hoffman, has a prior obligation on this day, so there will be no meeting today. Mettika will return on the 4th Sunday in September!*

All Sunday Services/Meetings at the Westport Community Church begin promptly at 10:00AM. Come join us!

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 964-7073.



Toby Hickman's memorial sculpture evokes Westport's blacksmith past, and also its future.

The Toby Sculpture Bench

Ann Woodhead

If you haven't walked on the Westport Headlands lately, you are in for a surprise. Thanks to the Westport Village Society, several community volunteers, and the California Blacksmiths Association (CBA), this memorial bench/sculpture created and donated by the CBA is now installed near the stairs to the beach. The bench/sculpture is tucked into an area carved out of the blackberries, so it has a lovely view but doesn't dominate the landscape. Only the very top of the sculpture is visible from the road or other areas of the Headlands.

My special thanks to Bill Knapp for coordinating this project over the last year and a half, and to Jeff Mathias, Gary Quinton, and Steve Brigham for helping Bill prepare the site for the installation. I hope that people will enjoy the bench/sculpture, and remember Toby with affection for many years to come. Toby loved Westport and this community, as do I. With Love, Ann (Mrs. Toby Hickman)

WVFD Responding

Bill Knapp, President, WVFD

July was the beginning of the Westport Volunteer Fire Department's fiscal year. Our annual summer BBQ is coming up on August 15th, and our annual Parcel Donation Letter is being sent out now. And so budgets and operational costs are definitely on the minds of the WVFD's Chief and the other Board members these days!

The Westport Volunteer Fire Department is the organization that provides the initial 911 emergency response, 24/7 and year 'round, for structure and wildland fires, vehicle accidents, other trauma-causing incidents and medical emergencies within our response area, which extends from mile marker 72 north to Usal Road and six miles inland from the Pacific Ocean. Last fiscal year, which ended June 30th, marked a lot of changes in planning and execution for WVFD. A significant measure of that effort can be seen in two areas, both measures of the department's training and readiness status:

First is that our ISO rating, which can significantly impact home owner's insurance rates, has improved. The 2011 ISO Audit rating was 7/9. The first number is for structures within 1000 feet of a hydrant in the Village of Westport. The second number is for structures beyond 1000 feet of a hydrant and within 5 miles of a fire station, basically between Milepost 72 and Juan Creek and about 3 miles in on Branscomb Road. Audits occur roughly every four years. The results of our last audit, which went into effect March 1st of this year, was 5/5X. The score range is 1 to 10, 1 being the best. The national rating distribution of 5 or better in 2014 for all fire districts (paid and volunteer) was 35%. Looked at another way, WVFD rated higher than 65% of all country-wide fire districts. This could not have happened without serious effort on the part of the members of WVFD, both responders and non-responding Board Members. They in turn cannot make that effort without the support of the whole community.

The second measure is related to training. WVFD has three newly trained EMTs and one member who completed the Fire Academy sponsored by the Mendocino County Fire Chief's Association. This represents a huge commitment by new members of

your Fire Department. I want to take this opportunity to send out a huge acknowledgement and thanks to all of the members of the Fire Department, their families, and the community as a whole.

But enough of patting ourselves on the back for last year. What are we planning for the upcoming year? The Board made a priority of personnel and equipment readiness while improving WVFD's capability to provide protection for our community.

In the course of doing the recent ISO audit, we learned that we needed to improve two important capabilities that further improve our structure fire suppression ability and consequently our rating. First is Fire Flow, or how much water can we put on a fire, as measured in gallons per minute (gpm). Second is how much water can be delivered to the fire, and how quickly it can be replenished. This allows for sufficient water at the scene, thus maintaining the Fire Flow. The second is especially important because only a small percentage of our response area is serviced by hydrants or a large water supply. Currently, our best pump is on engine 8590, our 2,000 gallon water tender. The same Engine provides Fire Flow and replenishment capability. We need additional equipment providing pump capacity and more water hauling capacity.

Chief Frank Maurice, through networking with other Mendocino County Chiefs, found two vehicles that fit our budget and needs. We just purchased a Type 1 Engine with a 750 gallon water tank and 1,500 gpm pump. We are expecting to obtain, around the 1st of August, a 2,000 gallon tender. Both are older, used, and yet very serviceable pieces of equipment taken out of service by other departments that fit our response profile very well. However, they both need more equipment and some servicing prior to being put into active service.

Another area we need to focus on is training, especially medical training for members who are not EMTs. Medical emergencies and trauma from accidents, including traffic incidents, create close to 80% of our calls. This year we need to certify new members and re-certify veteran members as



Emergency Medical Responders. This takes several weeks of classes and skill training, and requires instructors certified by our County Medical Board. Recertification is required every 2 years.

Vehicles, equipment, and apparatus for vehicles, maintenance for vehicles and the fire station, recruiting and retaining firefighters, firefighter training, firefighter equipment (known as Personal Protective Equipment or PPE) – what do they all have in common? They all cost money. We have a written budget and budgeting process to ensure that the money entrusted to us is spent wisely.

Please think about what you can do to help your local Fire Department. Of course, monetary donations are vitally welcome, but we need other kinds of help as well. The biggest contribution an individual can make is to volunteer as a responder or to serve as a Board Member. We have unlimited openings for responders and one open Board position for a community member who is not a responding firefighter. We always need help with fund raising events and grant writing efforts. Another area community members can help with is building maintenance and remodeling. If any of this sounds interesting to you, please call Chief Frank Maurice (357-1080) or President Bill Knapp (964-7355), or better yet come to our monthly WVFD business meetings at 6 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Fire Station.

We hope to see you at the annual Summer BBQ on August 15th, and please watch for your WVFD Parcel Donation letter in the mail.



Carol Bowen (at left) at her 100th Birthday Party in Shasta Lake.

Carol Bowen Turns 100!

Steve Brigham

Congratulations and all our love to Carol Bowen, who celebrated her 100th Birthday on July 2nd with five generations of her family and friends at the Wintu Cultural Museum and Community Center in Shasta Lake. Known to many of us simply as “Dobbie’s Mom”, Carol is a former resident of Westport who served as a substitute teacher here in the 1950s. Carol is one of the most noteworthy of 20th Century California schoolteachers, especially for her pioneering and tireless lifelong work toward the betterment of Native American education and the preservation of its culture.

Carol Bowen is the eldest member of the Wintu Tribe of Northern California, and is very active in the tribe. She has 10 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, and 16 great-great grandchildren! Carol loves traveling with her family, and is still as famous as ever for being the nicest person you’ll ever meet!

50 Years Ago In Westport

Steve Brigham

A few weeks ago, Bill Brazill loaned me a copy of a very nice lifestyle/art/literature publication called *Mendocino Robin*, dated December 1964. Mendocino

sure looked like a fun place 50 years ago, as some of you remember. In this issue of the *Robin*, there’s a nice 3-page history of Westport, complete with lots of old photos, and then-current photos, too. The Dubois Grocery (now the Westport Community Store), the Cobweb Palace (now the Westport Hotel), and the New Westport School (on Hwy. 1, now extinct) all looked pretty good 50 years ago. Even the “Blue Victorian”

building (next to the Hotel) looked pretty good back then.

Speaking of the Blue Victorian, there is also a nice photo of May Sherwood in front of her home on Pacific Avenue, where she lived from 1914 to 1962 (when she moved to Fort Bragg). May first arrived in Westport with her family in 1903, when her father came here to teach school. She married the town druggist, Homer Sherwood, in 1912. Homer and his brother (the town doctor) both had their businesses in the “Blue Victorian”, which is one of the oldest and most historic buildings in all of Westport. Homer was the Postmaster there for eight years, and after his death May continued in that position for another 20 years. Sadly, the Blue Victorian is now majorly crumbling, but it is for sale at \$429,000 if you’d like to restore it, and I sure wish somebody would!

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 – where you’ll always find the most current issue as well as all of the monthly back-issues back to November 2011, all in living color! Take a look & tell your friends!

El Niño vs. The Blob

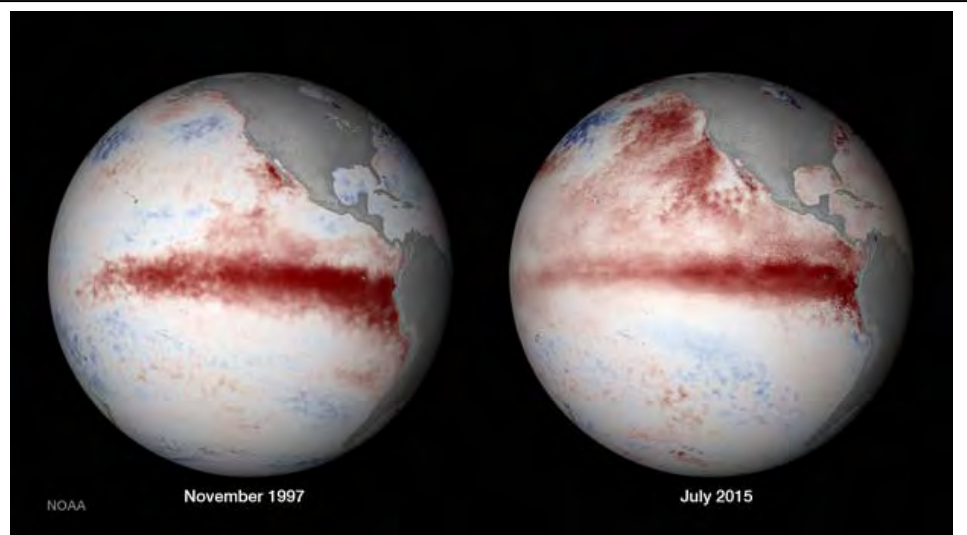
Steve Brigham

What does Westport weather have to do with *lucha libre*? I'll get to that in a minute, but first – perhaps you noticed that in July, EVERY NEWSPAPER AND WEBSITE IN THE WHOLE WORLD was running articles on EL NIÑO. The reason for this was the latest report from our gummint weather service (NOAA) of unusually warm water temperatures persisting and even strengthening in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, accompanied by a fancy picture of two worlds with lots of scary red smudges on them (see above right). Now, lots of folks are saying that it's going to rain like crazy in California this winter. Should we believe them?

Let's do a quick recap of this El Niño thing. In case you've been living under a rock somewhere, El Niño is when the typical equatorial Pacific east-to-west flow starts going backward, and warm Polynesian water goes all the way to Peru. It doesn't happen that often, but historically when it does the (wet) winter Subtropical Jet Stream shifts all the way up to California and we get a lot of rain. Last year at this time, it looked like an El Niño was building, and so our California drought might be over. But the El Niño never quite got up to speed, and the warm water never quite made it to Peru. And California's winter ended up being drier than normal once again.

But throw in a few Kelvin waves, and this year has been different. That old El Niño didn't go away, but instead has strengthened, and now the warm water has finally made it all the way to Peru. Lots of folks are saying that this is going to be a "Super Niño", just like 1997-1998, when Fort Bragg had 75 inches of rain! Whoo-hoo! Our Drought is over!!

Well not so fast, boys and girls, and this is where Mexican wrestling (and Global Warming) come in. Enter THE BLOB, which is that big mess of unusually warm water that's been hanging out off our coast all the way up to Alaska for a few years now.



Unusually warm water (in red) in the Pacific Ocean in November 1997 (left) and July 2015 (right). Big difference this year is "The Blob", off the coast of southern Alaska, western Canada, and the western USA.

This Blob is big, and it is bad – and it's thought to be a child of Global Warming (you can see its big red smudge at the top of the July 2015 world above).

The Blob is the culprit in the "Ridiculously Resilient Ridge" of high pressure that has been the hallmark of our California drought. Over the past few years, storms have continually bounced off this ridge, often heading straight for the eastern USA and leaving us high and dry (if you like rain, this is the kind of high you don't want). So far, the only fight that The Blob has really lost was with a totally crazy Japanese typhoon last fall that got sucked up all the way to Alaska and changed things enough to bring us lots of rain in November and December (after which our weather just dried up again). This coming winter, the big question will be whether our new challenger El Niño will be strong enough to beat The Blob. In the language of Mexican wrestling, if you want it to rain a lot in Westport this winter, El Niño is the *técnico* (good guy) and The Blob is the *rudo* (bad guy). (Doesn't the NOAA illustration above look just a little like two *luchadores* with their masks on?)

So what's really going to happen? It could end up that El Niño doesn't quite beat The Blob, and only Southern California gets a lot of rain. Or, El Niño could totally win, and we'll get a ton of rain in Westport and maybe even all the way up the Oregon Coast (just like 1997-1998). Or maybe something in between. We will see – and I'm rooting for El Niño!

Logan's Corner

"Jealousy"

The claw in the tiger's eye.

The crack in the heart of

the stepping stone.

The darkside of Envy; and

hollow Log of Self-worth.

The disappointment felt from a broken

heartfelt promise –

confusing pain in the brain.

... Do I really wanna' be like you?

-- J. Logan Smith, 5/15, Westport, Ca.



photo by Thad Van Bueren

August 2015 Westport Calendar

August 4th – WMAC Meeting CANCELLED

August 6th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

August 8th – Westport County Water District

Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Firehouse

August 9th – Rev. Rio Parfry, Center For Spiritual

Living, "A Mirror Shows the Truth: Hercule

Poirot and Personal Perspectives", 10:00AM at

the Westport Community Church

August 12th – Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District

Quarterly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport

Community Church

August 12th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department

Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Firehouse

August 14th – New Moon, 7:35AM

August 15th – **Westport Volunteer Fire**

Department Annual Fundraising Barbecue,

Westport Headlands, 12 Noon to 7:00PM

August 16th – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group,

10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

August 20th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

August 22nd – Kids' Movie Night, Westport

Community Recreation Center, 6:00PM

August 23rd – Mettika Hoffman's regular Westport

Community Church meeting CANCELLED (her

regular monthly meeting will resume in

September)

August 23rd – Westport Community Church Board

Meeting, 11:00AM, Westport Community Church

August 29th – Full Moon, 11:35AM

August 30th – Westport Flea Market, 11:00AM to

2:00PM, Westport Community Headlands

September 1st – WMAC Meeting, 7PM, Church

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, to read and download both present and past issues of *The Wave*.** Contributions for our September 1st, 2015 issue are due by August 27th, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@wildblue.net, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.

August 2015

**WESTPORT'S COMMUNITY
RECREATION**
Located behind the church
24900 Abalone Street



Donna paints a fabulous mural for storytime!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	NEW TIME 9:00-10:30 YOGA	3 9:00-10:30 a.m Tai Chi	4 New Time 9:00-10:00 Zumba Toning	5 NEW CLASS!!! R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00	6 New Time 9:00-10:00 Zumba Toning	7 NEW CLASS!!! R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00
8	9 9:00-10:30 YOGA	10 9:00-10:30 a.m Tai Chi	11 NO CLASS TODAY	12 R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00	13 NO CLASS TODAY	14 R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00
15	16 NO CLASS TODAY	17 9:00-10:30 a.m Tai Chi	18 9:00-10:00 Zumba Toning	19 R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00	20 9:00-10:00 Zumba Toning	21 R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00 Family Movie Night A Bugs Life
22	23 9:00-10:30 YOGA	24 9:00-10:30 a.m Tai Chi	25 9:00-10:00 Zumba Toning	26 R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00	27 9:00-10:00 Zumba Toning	28 R.I.P.P.E.D 9:00-10:00
29	30 9:00-10:30 YOGA COMMUNITY FLEA MARKET 11:00-2:00pm	31				

**FAMILY MOVIE
NIGHT** bring a
pillow or chair get
cozy and eat
popcorn

YOGA : quiet the
mind, gently flow
through basic
poses finish with
relaxation focus on
positive affirmations

Tai Chi : Ancient form
of martial art With Scott
Menzies 530-410-3333
<http://www.pctaichi.com>

Zumba Toning uses
light weights and a
variety of world
dance moves to
sculpt your body
COME JOIN THE PARTY

R.I.P.P.E.D NEW CLASS
this class can be
modified for
everyone!!
Cardio+Weights+Music
= FAST Results

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.