

April 1, 2023

The Westport Wave

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The Great Westport Easter Egg Hunt 11AM Sunday, April 9th on The Westport Headlands

Sarah Cullar

Hey kids! The Great Westport Easter Egg Hunt is happening once again on Easter Sunday, April 9th, at 11AM on The Westport Headlands!

We're asking that the adults for each child participating donate a dozen eggs per child,

filled or dyed (all donations are welcome, whether you have children participating or not). Donations of eggs can be left at the Westport Store Saturday or dropped by the Headlands to the egg hidiers



(Sarah and anyone who would like to help out) Sunday morning by 9:00AM. So kids, get your parents (and grandparents) moooving, and see you there! **HAPPY EASTER!**

Move / Breathe / Connect

Ann Woodhead

Westport resident Ann Woodhead is starting new movement classes at the Mendocino Dance Project Studio, newly established at 305A Redwood Street in Fort Bragg. With many years of study, movement experience, and teaching, Ann has developed an effective and non-threatening approach to enhancing awareness, flexibility, strength, balance, safety, and satisfaction of moving for virtually anyone at any time of life.

Ann taught Functional Movement at her own studio, Dancing Dog Loft, in Eagles Hall, for about 14 years. Since Eagles was sold last year, forcing the closure of the studio, Ann has been considering how to approach new classes. *Move / Breathe / Connect* classes will include awareness, stretching, and strengthening work/play, with more exploration of the many ways that our breathing affects our sensations and movement. Classes are designed to help us

MOVE more freely,

BREATHE more fully,

and **CONNECT** more deeply with ourselves and others

Schedule of MBC classes, beginning April 3:

MBC for women: Mondays 10:30-11:45 am

MBC for men: Thursdays 3:30-4:45 pm

No previous formal movement experience necessary. All are welcome. Class fees: \$15 for a single class, \$44 for four classes (sliding scale possible) First class is free.

Please call Ann at (707) 961-1246 (a land line—no text) for more information.

24/7 Westport Wave

The Westport Wave is always free to everyone at any time on the Newsletter page of our website www.westportvillagesociety.org – where you'll find our most current issue as well as over 11 years of monthly back-issues, all in living color, with live links! Check it out, and tell your friends!



THE WESTPORT HOTEL AND OLD ABALONE PUB CALENDAR

4/1 Mad Hatter themed tea 3-5pm

(By reservation only)

4/9 Easter Brunch 10-1:00pm

(Call for reservations)

4/16 Back Ground Boys,

Joel Jordon & Mark Hammond, Mellow rock

4/22 Chad Swimmer, Latin & American

4/28 Paul Farley, acoustic guitar

5/14 Mother's Day Ducky Brunch 10-1pm

(Call for reservations)

**SERVING DINNER 5:00PM TO 8:30PM
THURSDAYS THRU SATURDAYS
(707)964-3688**



The Westport Church

“Without suffering, you cannot grow. Without suffering, you cannot get the peace and joy you deserve. Please don’t run away from your suffering .”

Thich Nhat Hahn

Thich Nhat Hahn Discussion Group – Sunday, April 16th, 2:00PM
Baile Oakes

This **Westport Community Church** discussion group is focused upon the teachings of **Thich Nhat Hahn**. We will share his messages, different each month, and discuss how they might or might not influence how we show up for our selves and all Creation. This month, our quote is on suffering (see above) We request that attendees be vaccinated and we will meet according to Church Covid precautions. Please note that for this month only this discussion group will meet on the 3rd Sunday rather than the 2nd Sunday as we usually do.

Encountering the Mystery

Babaji

Life is a mystery. Beauty lies in the mystery. Sacredness lies in the mystery. Love lies in the mystery. Poetry lies in the mystery.

We look at a beautiful flower. We appreciate its color, its fragrance, the arrangement of the petals. Sweetness comes to our heart through the experience. Then our mind jumps in. We name it, we dissect it, we compare it, we think of what we can do with it. The moment we put the flower in a box that is familiar – the mystery is gone, beauty is gone, sacredness is gone. We may feel satisfied by identifying it, but we really lose so much in that process.

This happens in our relationships too. When we first meet someone and start to fall in love – there is mystery, there is imagination. As we spend more time together and become familiar with the person, it’s easy to lose that sense of mystery. We drag our past in, we start to analyze and dissect the relationship, and in that process, we waste time that could be spent in appreciation.

The nature of the mind is to flow towards what is familiar. We seek comfort in what is familiar. As we sit down to meditate, the mind’s tendency is to go to the to-do list, to the agenda, to the conversation we had. And we start dissecting again. When we stop, take a step back and take a deep breath, we can reconnect with the mystery that is within us. The whole universe is within us. There is so much mystery to explore.

When we are always seeing things through what is familiar, we limit ourselves. We limit our relationships with others. We limit the world around us. The day our mind begins to flow towards the mystery and finds joy in mystery, our heart opens and life becomes filled with wonder and appreciation.

Babaji’s mission is to help people experience fullness in life through simple spiritual practices and meditation. He currently divides his time between the Sonoma Ashram in Sonoma and Upasana Hilltop Sanctuary here in Westport. For more information, please visit www.sonomaashram.org or reach out by email at info@sonomaashram.org.

WFSC Opportunities for Private Residence Fuel Reduction

Carla Thomas

The next meeting of Westport's Fire Safe Council is Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 10:00AM at the WVFD Firehouse. We welcome all district residents. This council hopes to help residents protect their homes, our community, and our rural environment from catastrophic wildfire.

At our March meeting we discussed several projects to conduct fuel reduction along the roadsides for ingress/egress. Projects would greatly improve fire vehicle ability to get to the fire location (ingress), ability for residents to depart from fires (egress), as well as pull-outs to allow egress/ingress passing.

If the WFSC is able to collect permission forms from 15 landowners in our district by the end of April, the roadside fuel reduction will be done this spring or early summer at no cost to Landowners.

Crews do the roadside clearing and chipping. Each participating landowner signs a form to allow the non-profit crew to come on the land to do the work for a day or two as a requirement to participate. Please contact Dan Maxey westportfire1@gmail.com or Carla Thomas carlasthomas@earthlink.net if interested to get a form. Signatures due by late April.

Mendocino County Fire Safe Council (MCFSC) is available to our residents to schedule teaching workshops on ways to make your home more likely to survive a fire. Several residents have offered their property as examples for the tour in Westport. All community members are welcome to attend, date TBD. Let Dan or Carla Thomas know if interested in hosting or attending this educational workshop.

Both groups, the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council and the Westport Fire Safe Council are meeting April 11th at 7:00PM with the Westport Municipal Advisory Council (WMAC) at the Westport Community Center (24900 Abalone Street) to discuss fuel reduction and safer ingress/egress from Westport private roads for Westport area private and public roads as one of several agenda topics.

Please also remember to join us at our next Westport Fire Safe Council meeting on Saturday May 6th at 10:00AM at the Westport Firehouse!

Information About Permitted Burns On Your Property



Westport Volunteer Fire Department

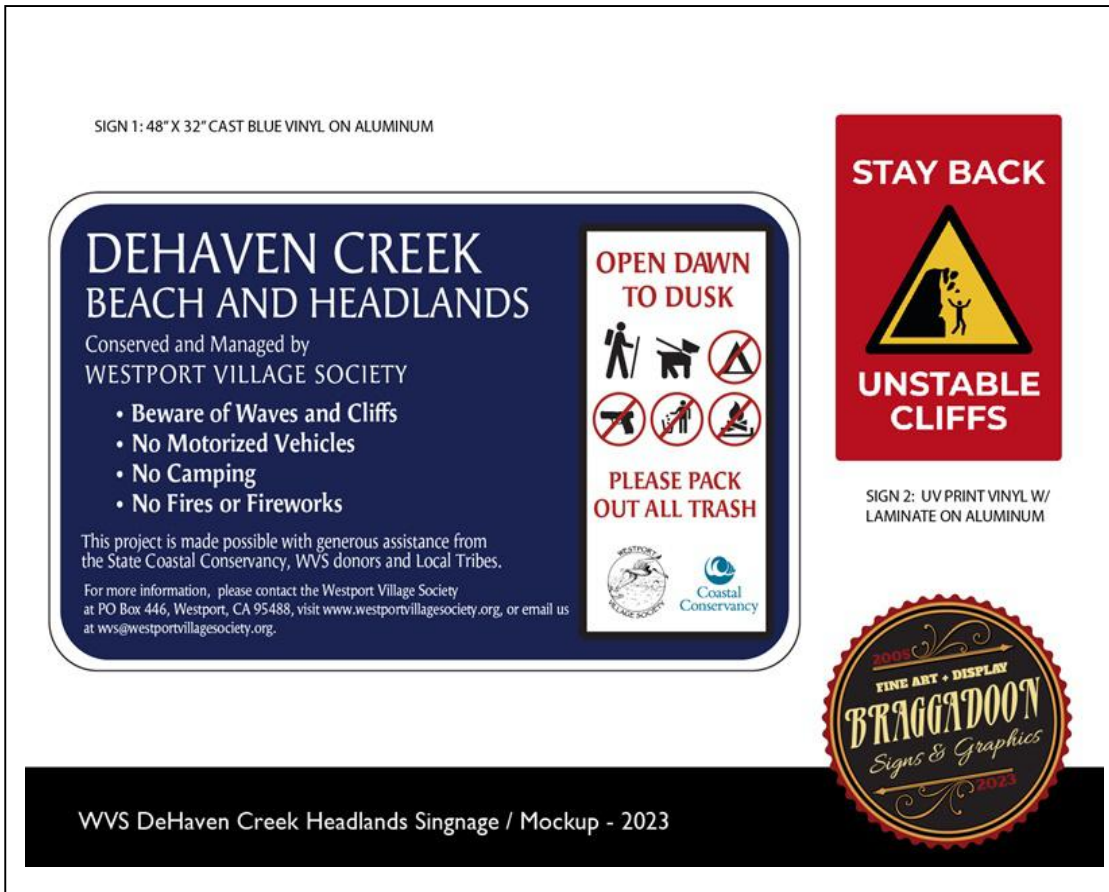
Outdoor burning of vegetative material on your property requires a burn permit. Burn permits are only issued for permissive burn days. They are not issued when burn bans are in effect

Given the amount of rain we have had during the past several weeks, there is a good chance that most days in April will be permissive burn days. Information about a specific day can be obtained by calling the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District at (707) 463-4391.

Burn permits can be obtained online from CalFire at burnpermit.fire.ca.gov. That website also has information about the requirements for permitted burns. One of the requirements specifies the maximum size of a burn pile. Another requirement is to have an adequate water supply present where the burn pile is located.

If you do not have an adequate water supply where it is safe to locate a burn pile, the Westport Volunteer Fire Department can help. We can provide a fire engine with an adequate water supply and two firefighters for your permitted burn, for a modest donation to WVFD of \$50.00 per hour. Obtaining a burn permit, as well as conducting and monitoring the permitted burn, will remain your responsibility.

If you are interested in arranging for the Fire Department to provide you with a water supply for your permitted burn, please call Chief Dan Maxey at (707) 357-4353 as far in advance as possible to schedule.



Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District News

Ann Woodhead

The Board of Directors of the Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District welcomes a new member, Ann Woodhead of Westport. Ann served as Secretary of the Board of the Westport County Water District for several years, and will be serving the Cemetery Board in the same capacity. The

Cemetery Board now has four members: Gary Quinton, President; Melinda McLaughlin, Treasurer; Ann Woodhead, Secretary; and Bill Knapp. The Board is seeking at least one new member, preferably from the Cleone/Inglenook area.

The Cemetery District is responsible for the management and maintenance of the Westport, Inglenook, and Newport Ranch cemeteries. Board positions are unpaid, and Board members are appointed by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. The Board meets just four times a year, and meetings are open to the public. Our local cemeteries are of great historic significance, and they are precious to our communities. Serving on the Cemetery Board is a way to contribute to keeping these important places, relevant and beautiful.

The Cemetery District is currently developing a website which will be available soon. In the meantime, if you have questions about the cemeteries or about joining the Board of Directors, please contact Gary Quinton at (707) 357-1040.

DeHaven Signs

Westport Village Society

In March, signs (see above) were designed and produced by Braggadoon for the main entries at the DeHaven Creek Beach and Headlands, a property acquired in 2022 with generous contributions from the State Coastal Conservancy and WVS donors. Those signs will be installed in April by local WVS volunteers. If you'd like to lend a hand installing the signs please contact Thad at 964-7272 or wvs@westportvillagesociety.org.

WVS appreciates your strong support for the conservation of the DeHaven property. As we work this year to develop a sound Management Plan we welcome your input. We also rely on your help managing that property for the common good. If you notice activities that are at odds with wise conservation of the land, please take the time to engage positively with other visitors. And take the time to reach out to us about problems that may merit attention. Thanks!



Successful Westport WhaleFest on March 25th!

Thar She Blows!

Westport Village Society

A crisp and sunny day enticed about 300 people to visit the Westport Whale Festival on Saturday March 25th at the Westport Headlands Park and Westport Whale roadside attraction. The event was sponsored by the nonprofit Westport Village Society and Kyle Siler, owner of the fanciful roadside attraction. It was a great day to celebrate the spring migration of Gray Whales from Baja California to Alaska with lots of fun activities for people of all ages.

Out near the bluff edge whale watching was hosted all day by experts from the Noyo Marine Science Center in Fort Bragg and the WVS. Visitors got a chance to see Gray Whales spouting offshore and talk to marine biologists about our local leviathan neighbors. A jawbone and baleen from a 70 foot fin whale and the bones of many other sea mammals were arrayed for visitors to examine.

The family-oriented event offered many fun activities for children and adults. A treasure hunt organized by Elika Freeman featured Derek DiOrio's treasure maps and clues hidden around the Headlands. Several lucky kids found four fabulous glass treasure orbs donated by talented local glassblower Amelia Rose. Kids of all ages

also got their faces painted, enjoyed music and skits, and dived into a bouncy house. Local craftspeople provided opportunities to browse and purchase locally made goods.

Local Emcee Erin Brazill hosted a variety of talented local musicians who livened up the celebration throughout the day. Several costumed undersea creatures animated by the fun-loving energy of Kyle Siler and friends got people smiling and dancing. The crowd really enjoyed the music and dancing.

Hearty soups prepared by Caroline Carpenter, Derek DiOrio, Melinda McLaughlin and others offered sustenance at a WVS booth where event merchandise

and non-alcoholic beverages were also sold to raise funds for WVS nature education. Many thanks to both the Pacific Star Winery and the Overtime Brewery of Fort Bragg for their generous donation of wine and beer.

The Westport Village Society is grateful to its many dedicated volunteers, partner organizations, and local businesses who supported this event. Special thanks to Derek DiOrio who brought us all together and to Kyle Siler, the WVFD, and Noyo Center for Marine Science who cosponsored this year's whale festival. The Westport Village Society thanks its many volunteers who generously contributed their time and energy to make the day memorable.



April Classes at the Westport Community Center

Various classes and meetings are planned at the Westport Community Center in April. If you would like to host an event at the Community Center (24900 Abalone Street), please sign up and put your phone number on the calendar in the Westport Store or contact Erin Detrick at erind.3500@gmail.com to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts. Event hosts are asked to follow simple rules posted in the two meeting halls. Masking is suggested but not required. A sliding scale donation of \$5-\$10 per person per session is suggested for ongoing classes:

- **Mondays and Wednesdays at 5:00PM** – RIPPED exercise program with Kayla. This combines resistance, speed, force, endurance, and core exercises to promote fitness.

Wednesdays at 9:00AM – Tai Chi with Beck.

April 2023 Westport Calendar

(Please see also the Westport Community Center activities and classes above)

Sunday, April 2nd – Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 5th – Passover Begins at Sundown

Wednesday, April 5th – Full Moon, 9:34PM

Friday, April 7th – Good Friday

Saturday, April 8th – Westport Community Garden Volunteer Work Day, 10:30AM, Westport Community Garden

Sunday, April 9th – Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9th – Great Westport Easter Egg Hunt, 11:00AM, Westport Community Headlands (see page 1)

Tuesday, April 11th – Westport Municipal Advisory Council meeting, 7:00PM, Westport Community Center. Contact WMAC95488@gmail.com for info.

Wednesday, April 12th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM (call Chief Dan Maxey at (707) 357-4353 to attend remotely)

Thursday, April 13th – Bookmobile, 9:00AM to 9:30AM, Westport Store (masks encouraged)

Thursday, April 13th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00PM (call Kayla Cooper at (707)367-1057 for information on attending by Zoom)

Thursday, April 13th – Passover Ends at Sunset

Sunday, April 16th – Thich Nhat Han Discussion Group, 2:00PM, Westport Church (see page 3)

Wednesday, April 19th – New Moon, 9:12PM

Thursday, April 20th – Westport Community Church Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Community Church

Friday, April 21st – Eid al-Fitr Begins At Sundown

Saturday, April 22nd – Earth Day

Saturday, April 22nd – Noyo Food Forest Earth Day Celebration, 12:00PM to 5:00PM at The Learning Garden, Fort Bragg High School, FB

Wednesday, April 26th – Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 6:30PM, Westport Community Center (contact wvs@westportvillagesociety.org for details)

Thursday, April 27th – Bookmobile, 9:00AM to 9:30AM, Westport Store (masks encouraged)

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. Both the current *Westport Wave* and over 11 years of monthly back-issues are also on the Newsletter page of our WVS website www.westportvillagesociety.org.

Contributions for our May 1st, 2023 issue of *The Westport Wave* are due by April 26th, and should be sent to Editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com. Thanks!