

Birds and Blooms

Steve Brigham, Editor

Well at long last, our long-awaited 2016 “Godzilla” El Niño finally got going in March. For a whole 2 weeks! But during those first two weeks of March, we picked up 10.62” of rain here on the Westport Headlands. Our total rainfall for March ended up at 12.31”, bringing our

Headlands season total since last July 1st to 47.64 inches of rain, most all of which fell in December, January, and those first two weeks in March. Now that’s not quite a “Godzilla” total, but we’ll take it – mainly since that means we’re already almost 5 inches over our seasonal average rainfall with still three months to go!

Sunny weather in the second half of March here in Westport has really brought out the wildflowers all over town in our fields and along our roadsides. While most of these flowers (such as Bermuda buttercup, daffodil, and calla lily) are naturalized species from other parts of the world, our blue native iris is just that, and it is also quite spectacular. In April, our wildflower bloom will kick in with many more kinds of flowers, and it should be a good one with all the rain we’ve had. Our gardens, too, are coming alive with exceptional bloom now due to the rains. Here on the Headlands, where garden plants must be able to survive punishing salt winds from any direction at any time of year, there are nevertheless



Protea ‘Pink Ice’ is one of the most spectacular flowers we can grow in Westport.

many seacoast plants from other parts of the world that can take that punishment and still produce spectacular flowers. One of my favorites is *Protea* ‘Pink Ice’, which is pictured above. When established, this 5 to 6-foot evergreen shrub needs no irrigation here, and yet produces striking 6-inch feathery flowers all year long that are great for long-lasting flower arrangements either fresh or dried.

April is also the month that many of our migratory birds return to Westport for the summer. Watch for new arrivals of swallows, hummingbirds, cowbirds, and goldfinches in the beginning of April, and Swainson’s thrushes by the end of April. Now is the time to get your bird feeders ready to welcome back all of our feathered friends. Hummingbird feeders are important for the hummers, of course, and thistle socks are essential for attracting goldfinches. If you can get their attention right when they get to town, and keep feeding them, lots of birds will be around your yard all spring and summer long!

New Times For Spring Classes At The Westport Recreation Center

Tabby Korhummel

Come get your mind and body fit with our continuing morning classes at the Westport Community Recreation Center! Weekly Spring classes are as follows: **Gentle Flow Yoga – Mondays 9:30AM to 11:00AM, Tai Chi with Scott Menzies -- Tuesdays 9:00AM to 10:30AM, and Zumba Toning -- Wednesdays 9:30AM to 10:30AM.** 60-minute classes are \$8 each drop-in, or \$6 with a frequent flyer card, and 90-minute classes are \$12 each or \$10 with a card. For more information call Tabby at (707) 367-0010.

Jewelry-Making Class April 16th

Tabby Korhummel

On **Saturday, April 16th from 12:00 Noon to 3:00PM**, the Westport Community Recreation Center welcomes local artist Sandee Lee Zaffarno of SANDEE'S Bead Creations, who will teach a jewelry-making class. Cost for the class is \$30 plus a \$10 materials fee. Everything you need to complete a beautiful pair of fresh water pearl and seed bead earrings will be included in the \$40 fee. **CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO 5 PARTICIPANTS, SO SAVE YOUR SPACE NOW!** Please call Tabby at (707) 367-0010 to register!

Kids' Movie Night April 23rd

Sarah Mathias

Our April Movie Night feature will be the *The Penguins of Madagascar: The Movie*, on **Saturday, April 23rd**. Doors at the Westport Community Recreation Center will open at 6:00PM, with the movie starting when the popcorn is ready (usually by 6:20PM). Bring pillows and blankets/sleeping bags for the kids and a comfy chair for yourself. All are welcome to come enjoy the movie!

Save the Date: Westport Yard Sale

Sarah Mathias

This year's Westport Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 28th. Bring your items, new or used, to sell on the Westport Headlands from 9:00AM to 3:00PM. More information will be published in the May *Westport Wave*.

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.

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.

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 four years of monthly back-issues, all in living color!



The Westport Community Church

Westport Community Church April 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!

For April, we are pleased to announce that our popular Quaker Worship Group will now be meeting on the 1st Sunday of each month in addition to their regular 3rd Sunday meetings. We still have the 4th and occasional 5th 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.

1st Sunday, April 3rd, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Today, our Quaker Worship Group led by Katherine White begins meeting on the first Sunday of each month in addition to each third Sunday. 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.

2nd Sunday, April 10th, 10:00AM – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living

Carolyn Cathey, Student Practitioner of the Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, will speak on “**Evolution, Expansion, and Free Will**”. Evolution and expansion is Creation – always evolving, always expanding, always reaching toward new vibrational energy levels. As part of Creation, you are also evolving and expanding. Free will means you may choose to move toward the highest energy level of Truth/Love, or the lowest energy level of Illusion/Fear. What kinds of triggers move you into negative energy instead of positive? How can you handle the unexpected so that, despite the situation, you continue moving toward the highest energy vibration, Pure Love?

3rd Sunday, April 17th, 10:00AM – Our Bi-Monthly Quaker Worship Group

Katherine White leads our regular 3rd 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.

Although the Westport Church Board has very little money, we do have a good-sized list of maintenance and improvement projects for our community buildings. Besides the Church and Community Storage buildings, we also oversee the other facilities on our property, which include the Community Recreation Center building and the Community Garden. Wouldn't you like to help with these important community projects? Please call Millie Saunders at 964-3030 if you would like to help – let's all help maintain our important community meeting and storage facilities!

It's (Almost) Rubber Ducky Time!

Lois Senger

Next month, on **May 8th**, it will be time once again for our annual **Westport Mother's Day Rubber Ducky Races!** So here are some reminders for those already committed to help, and A CALL FOR

MANY MORE TO VOLUNTEER! This is the year that we are looking for some individuals willing to take on lead positions for next year. The current leaders of the event need new folks willing to take over if we want to see our 25+ year annual Ducky event continue in the future. Without your help, please do not be surprised if 2017 finds us without a Ducky Race. Come and get trained, and come participate and be a significant part of the event that so many say "defines" Westport. We simply cannot let it die, especially for lack of leaders willing to see it continue. So if any and I mean any of you love the Ducky Races, this is your chance to be a part of its continuance!

My sincere thanks go out to all of you who have once again stepped up to take a lead position for 2016: Once again, Homer, Pete, Paul, and Peter are ready to design an awesome Race Course with a little help from some winter rains. (YAY!) Thad, Donna, and their family contingent are ready to register the ducks, create a beautiful Duck contest complete with prizes, the WVFD has agreed (informally) to direct traffic, parking, and provide EMT emergency services if needed, Beck and his assorted strongmen will set up the tables and return them again to their campground space, and Steve is ready to decorate the tables with Beautiful Mother's Day Flowers and provide Raffle Potted Floral Arrangements to go along with the Quilt Raffle for the beautiful handmade quilt that Bobbie has so graciously volunteered (again!) to make for the event. Kay has stated that she would update last



year's Mother's Day poster so Lee can sell it at his Merchandise Booth. Lee is planning some awesome surprises that are bound to be big sellers at the Merchandise Booth (this is a creative booth so volunteer your ideas to help Lee!). Sarah has offered to work with Bill Knapp to update the poster that is used for advertising. This will be emailed to the Wages Beach Campground on April 1st, and they post it on their website and help us advertise the event for all their campers. It encourages folks to bring Mom camping, knowing there will be a fun event for all the family, and a delicious meal. (Yes!) We are so fortunate that Pam and Steve Brown will be here in Westport and have volunteered to lead the BBQ to another tasty and successful meal! It was tough without them last year and the substitute crew did a great job, however were unwilling to undertake the task again without more support. So please help with the preparations. Learn from a great chef so their steady leadership will carry on! You can do it!

Speaking of steady leadership, Xavier, (again!) says he will lead the cleanup crew. He needs help! This is not hard work, the view is great, and it can be fun when working as a team. Please plan to donate an hour of your time helping them, even a half-hour means that a few folks don't have to do it all, and Never See A Race! Erin Brazill has offered to lead some or all of her band to provide some music to get you dancing. Just imagine: Dancing Ducks going down the Racecourse! Wow! What fun!

Our Ducky Event would not be complete without Sweet Desserts. Barb has again offered to serve, and hopefully Fiona will help another year. I'm looking for a person to lead the Dessert and Beverage Booth – coordinate set up of booth, get plates, napkins, silverware, cups, arrange for pickup of Thanksgiving Coffee and its preparation at the event, order drinks, pick up and bring with ice to event.. How about some new ideas for the Booth? I really need a lead person. I do the best I can setting it up and arranging for all the supplies to be there; however, coordinating the whole event plus the details of the Dessert Booth are getting too be too much for my aging mind/body! **Please call me if you are willing to be delegated some tasks! Please! Lois Senger -- 961-0178.**

April 2016 Westport Calendar

April 1st – All Fools Day

April 3rd – First Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

April 5th – WMAC Meeting, 7:00PM, Church

April 7th – Super New Moon, 4:23AM

April 9th – Westport County Water District Monthly Board Meeting, 10:00AM, Westport Firehouse

April 10th – Carolyn Cathey, Mendocino Center for Spiritual Living, “Evolution, Expansion, and Free Will”, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

April 13th – Westport Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Meeting, 6:00PM, Westport Firehouse

April 14th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

April 16th – **Westport Village Society Quarterly Board Meeting, 9:00AM, Westport Church**

April 16th – Jewelry-Making Class by Sandee Lee Zaffarno of SANDEE’S Bead Creations, 12:00PM to 3:00PM, Westport Community Recreation Center (see page 2 for details)

April 17th – Third Sunday Quaker Worship Group, 10:00AM at the Westport Community Church

April 17th – Westport Community Church Board Meeting, 11:30AM, Westport Church

April 21st – Micro Full Moon, 10:23PM

April 22nd – Earth Day

April 22nd – Passover begins at Sundown

April 23rd – Kids’ Movie Night, Westport Community Recreation Center, 6:00PM

April 28th – Bookmobile, Store, 9-9:30AM

May 8th (Save the Date!) – Annual Westport Mother’s Day Rubber Ducky Races and BBQ, Wages Creek Campground



Getting ready for the 2016 Westport Easter Egg Hunt on March 27th (photo by Sarah Mathias)



Kylie Whitmire examining her loot!
(photo by Sarah Mathias)

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 May 1st, 2016 issue are due by April 25th, and should be sent to editor Steve Brigham at westportwave@gmail.com, or P.O. Box 237, Westport, CA 95488.

Saturday April 16th 12-3:00 p.m

Westport Community Rec Center Welcomes Local Artist

Sandee Lee Zaffarno of SANDEE's Bead Creations.

She is well known on the coast for her Beautiful bead work , hair clips, hand made purses and baby booties. Her art will also be available for purchase at the class.



class size is limited to 5 Participants

Save your space now!!

Cost for class \$30 plus a \$10 materials fee

Everything you need to complete a beautiful

pair of fresh water Pearl and seed bead

earrings will be included in \$40 fee

24900 Abalone Street. Behind the Westport

Community Church. Call 707-367-0010 to

register