

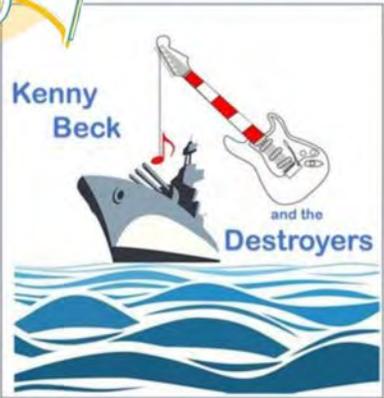


October Events

Westport Island Community Association

WCA PRESENTS

Enjoy a free outside concert at Wright Landing, Westport Island



Featuring:
John Henry

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH
1 PM TO 3 PM

Please bring a nonperishable food item to donate to Helping Hands.

Join us for a FREE concert
Kenny Beck & the Destroyers
Featuring John Henry
October 9th
at Wright Landing
1 pm to 3 pm
Please bring a chair or blanket
to enjoy the concert.
And a nonperishable food item
to donate to Helping Hands.

Folk Notes



THE WESTPORT ISLAND
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021

Westport Community Association
6 Fowles Point Road,
Westport Island, ME 04578

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Original Artwork by Aurise Randall



Trunk or Treat
Saturday, October 30
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
at the Old Town Hall

Contact Debbie Lorenson
If you would like to
dress in costume and decorate
your car.

WCA will donate the
Halloween candy.
Debbie: dclorenson@aol.com



The Westport Island Horticulture Committee (aka The Ferry Garden Committee)

The Westport Island Horticulture Committee has been in existence since 2014, taking over the responsibility from Art Ballard who almost single-handedly was trying to create gardens in a space that had never been developed previously. Kudos to Art for trying to create something of beauty on over 3,000 square feet in an area we call the Ferry Gardens (this space does not include the Wright house or its yard). Even today, with about ten volunteers, it is a challenge to maintain the expanse, especially considering we've begun working on another estimated 450 square feet of crescent space near the woods.

In early 2014, Art Ballard and Ruth Nelson called together a group that became the original committee: Brad and Emily Adler, Liz Lee, Ruth Nelson, Gretchen McNamara, Sam Soule, and Donna Curry. Slowly, the committee tackled one area at a time. Bit by bit, we brought plants from our own gardens to fill in and create color. Early on, we asked the Town to buy three miniature lilac plants and an azalea. Other than those plants, all other plants at the gardens have been donated by committee members. For example, all of the plants in the middle section of the parking lot were donated by Debbie Williams and were specifically chosen because of the full-sun-surrounded-by-concrete location.

In 2016, while we were still in the process of creating the gardens, the Town presented our committee with the Spirit of America Award, an annual award established in Maine to encourage volunteerism. Emily Adler, Liz Lee, and Ruth Nelson proudly accepted the award for the committee at the annual awards celebration in Wiscasset. We were surprised and pleased to be recognized for our efforts but a bit puzzled at being recognized since we never promoted the work that we were doing. However, we later discovered that one of the selectmen had shared pictures of the gardens each year in the annual report submitted to the state regarding the work at the Ferry Landing. (The Town received a state grant to make the Ferry Landing a publicly accessible spot for all to enjoy.)



Almost always when we are working in the gardens, clambers and wormers from away comment on what they see. It is rare to NOT hear a positive comment from one of them as they launch or haul their boats. One of the most recent comments was this: "It is a treat to come here and see this." While these comments are much appreciated, we felt it was troublesome that the people enjoying the gardens the most were from 'away', not Westport Islanders. We pondered this dilemma for a couple of years. (Continued to page 3)

MY ISLAND HOME

*The Recollections of
Verlie May Colby Greenleaf
of Westport Island, Maine
(1891-1992)*

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CURRENTLY ON EXHIBIT AT THE
WESTPORT ISLAND HISTORY CENTER
38 FERRY ROAD

SUNDAYS 11 AM TO 1 PM
BY APPOINTMENT, CONTACT
FOWIH19@GMAIL.COM

The Westport Island Horticulture Committee (aka The Ferry Garden Committee)

In the summer of 2021, while supporting the Westport Island Community Association at a plant sale at the Ferry Landing, we heard this comment: "I haven't been down here in ten years. I didn't realize all the work that had been done. It's beautiful." This was the spark that finally prompted us to recognize that there are many Westport Islanders who have not visited the Ferry Landing and we had not done enough to encourage it. Not only are the gardens worth seeing, but so is the History Center and its extensive Westport Island archives. There are benches and picnic tables (and nicely mowed areas, thanks to Craig Hudson, a Wright Landing Committee member) for all to enjoy. We decided to actively promote the gardens in order to bring Westport Islanders down to the Ferry Landing. To that end, we offered a talk on fall gardening, presented by one of our master gardener volunteers, Debbie Williams. Even with short notice, we had about 20 participants, which we considered a successful event.



We feel that we now have mature gardens surrounding the Ferry Landing. Our present committee members - Debbie Williams, Emily Adler, Gretchen McNamara, Donna Curry, Debbie Lorensen, Marty Landorf, Judy Pagon, Bailey Bartlett, Janet Hudson, Amy Moses, and Mary Ellen Barnes - are now working to maintain the gardens and to continually relocate and thin plants from all of the gardens. We would love to have you join us as a committee member - or try us out as a guest gardener. We are a friendly group who never take for granted the lovely view of the Back River that we are able to enjoy while getting our hands dirty. Contact Donna Curry at donnac@gwi.net or text (207-350-3355) if you're even remotely interested. No previous gardening experience necessary. Come out and meet new friends and get a little exercise at the same time.

Photo Credit Donna Curry



Newsletter Submissions

If you have an interest in contributing to the Westport Island Community Newsletter, please contact **Rose** at westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com or 215-7039. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month. I would love to hear from you! I am looking for events, art, short stories, poems, notes of interest, birthday wishes, and anything else that is upbeat and island-note-worthy.

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