

A very special 80th
Birthday to Davies Allan,
July 13th, and Sarah
Griffiths, also July 13th.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Denise Malone turns 59 on August 23rd.

Denise loves birthday cards, It would make her birthday so special to receive cards in the mail. Please mail your cards to **Denise Malone, 51 Bridge Road, Westport Island 04578**. If you ask Denise what she'd like for her birthday she will tell you cat toys, canned food, scratch pads. She always thinks of her cat first. Her Birthday is bigger than Christmas in her eyes!



Photo provided by Nancy Malone Appleton

Friends of Westport Island History

The Friends of Westport Island History is a 501(c)3 member-based organization that works with the History Committee in promoting the island's history. It's mission is to educate, communicate, and conduct fundraising to further the collection, preservation, and showcasing of Westport Island's history. Membership in the Friends is an opportunity for more people to get involved than is possible with a town committee.

The Friends will be having their annual meeting **Sunday, August 16, 2-4 PM**, at the Town Hall. We'll have a presentation highlighting the town's history collection, followed by a business meeting where we'll elect officers and discuss the move to the new History Center at Wright Landing. Seating will be set up to comply with social distancing rules, and attendees must wear masks. Send an email to FOWIH19@gmail.com to get more information and to register to attend. Or call Mary Ellen Barnes at 207-380-5926 or Jeff Tarbox at 207-776-2015.



THE WESTPORT ISLAND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020

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

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Hello, Westport Island

Welcome to our first Issue of the Westport Island Community Newsletter. We are very excited to launch this newsletter which will provide you on a monthly basis with the information to Westport Island town events, resources, and town organizations without commercial, political, or negative information and opinions. The Westport Community Association (WCA) is funding the mailing as a public resource to all Westport Island residents. The Community Newsletter is assembled and designed by volunteers of the WCA. Anyone in town wishing to publish articles and meeting dates should contact Rose Bodmer at lulusbarnshop@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month. Submission guidelines are located at westportcommunityassociation.org



Looking down river by Ferry Landing. Photo by Diane Langley

Fold Here

History Committee

Interested in Westport Island's history? The town's History Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM, and meetings are open to all who are interested. In August the Committee plans to meet at the Town Hall, **Tuesday August 4**, probably outside, with masks and social distancing to minimize risks. The Committee is currently in need of a Treasurer. We're looking for someone who is interested in the island's history, but also has familiarity with book-keeping and keeping track of funds. Contact Jeff Tarbox, jhtarbox@gwi.net, if you're interested. Current major projects include preparing the main floor of the Wright Landing House to be a History Center for Westport. Look for the announcement of the opening celebration in late Summer or early Fall about installing 11 historical displays at sites around the island, including Clough Point on the north end, 3 tidal mill sites off the West Shore and East Shore roads, the site of the former ferry landing, and three of the four buildings on the National Register of Historic Structures: the Town Hall, Community Church, and Squire Tarbox Inn. These displays, with major funding from the Maine 200 Bicentennial Commission, will help tell the story of Westport Island from early settlement to the Westport Community Association.

Westport Community Association

Please join our vibrant group! We welcome you to become a member of the WCA and to join our Board of Directors. The Board meets once a month and board members are the lucky folks who get to plan the upcoming monthly events each year. Contact Debbie Lorenson, Co-Chair, at dclorenson@aol.com for more information.

Westport Volunteer Fire Department

New members are welcome. Stop by our Station any Wednesday after 6:30 p.m. to talk with us during our weekly drill and meeting nights. Feel free to email us at slhutchff@gmail.com for more information about how you can become a volunteer firefighter.

Broadband and Cable Committee Activities

On July 1st the Committee took another step towards its goal of complete island broadband availability by hosting the second Westport Community Broadband Forum. The purpose of this forum is to discuss Westport's future broadband options, receive community inputs, and gauge support for potential courses of action. The briefings used during this forum (as well as the briefings for the first forum) are available for review on the Town's website. While the community turnout and participation at this meeting were excellent, one of the lessons learned indicated the need to conduct a survey of all Westport property owners to determine the current extent of broadband coverage, the service providers involved, and the extent of community support for the Committee's options. The Comprehensive Plan survey, conducted two years ago, identified a strong degree of interest in expanding broadband coverage on Westport and the new survey is intended to help the Committee choose the right way to make that happen. The survey is currently in development and will be available to all residents to respond to either online or on paper in September.

Friends of Westport Island History

We have been putting together parts of a new website that will share the Island's history. We are working with a website consultant. A few volunteers (Mary Ellen Barnes, Jeff Tarbox and others) have stories, info, and images to contribute. Our team needs a volunteer with website experience -- organizing, writing for the web, identifying other history resources for links, testing pages, assisting with some technical details -- though not responsible for final design and launch. Can you share your website skills and time to bring the past alive? Please text or call Mary Ellen at 380-5926 or 882-6055. Let's talk!

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For everything else Westport Island go to the Westport Island Facebook page.