

## Have you heard of "ZIP ODES"?

The starting place is taking your area zip code and writing a 5 line poem using the number of words each number in the zip code suggests. Zero is a "wild card" of sorts and the poet could choose any number of words when zero appears.

Example 04578.

- 0 any # of words: Flowers are for sharing  
4 with family and friends  
5 they bring joy and comfort  
7 and no words need to be said  
8 flowers are a blessing, show someone you care  
by Bertha Gardner

Submit your ZIP ODES to [westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com](mailto:westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com).

We will select and share one per issue.

### THE Friends OF WESTPORT ISLAND HISTORY

THE FRIENDS OF WESTPORT ISLAND HISTORY PRESENTS:

## Squam Creek History—Alive!

The Squam Creek Settlement and Early Families of Westport Island



Cocktails & Presentation  
at Squam Creek Farm

August 21, 2021 / 5-7 pm

THE Friends OF WESTPORT ISLAND HISTORY

Save the Date! Watch for More Info!

### Newsletter Submissions

If you have an interest in contributing to the Westport Island Community Newsletter, please contact Rose at [westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com](mailto: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 art, short stories, poems, notes of interest, birthday wishes, and anything else that is upbeat and island-note-worthy.



## THE WESTPORT ISLAND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

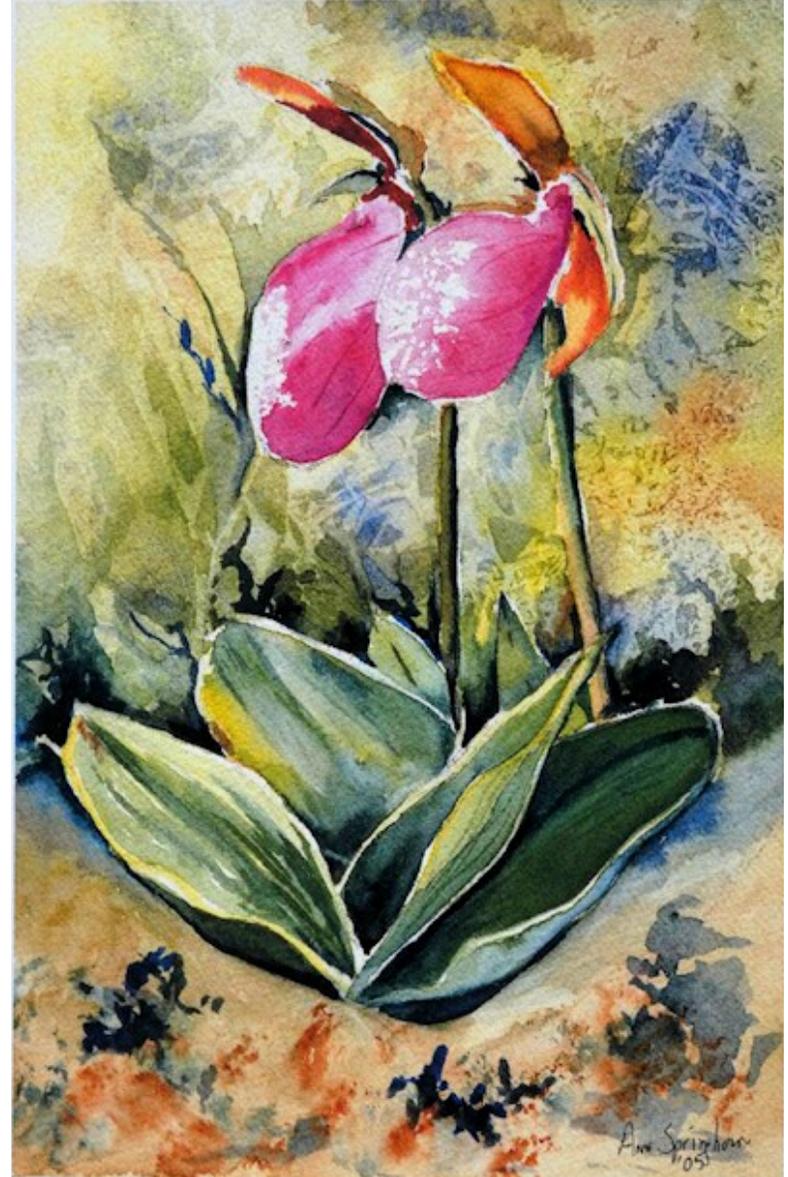
JULY 2021

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

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### "Lady Slippers" original artwork by Ann Springhorn



Fall  
Notes

## The Great Fire of 1918

### Fire at Westport Sweeps the Island - 32 Buildings Lost

Extracted from *The Bath Independent*, Saturday, May 11, 1918

Thirty-two buildings were destroyed by the forest fire that raged over the island town of Westport Wednesday afternoon and night and all day Thursday. The loss is estimated at about \$125,000. Most of the buildings were summer homes but three were occupied dwellings, those of Waldron Pierce and Mrs. Philens Kahail burned Wednesday and the home of George Clancy was destroyed Thursday.

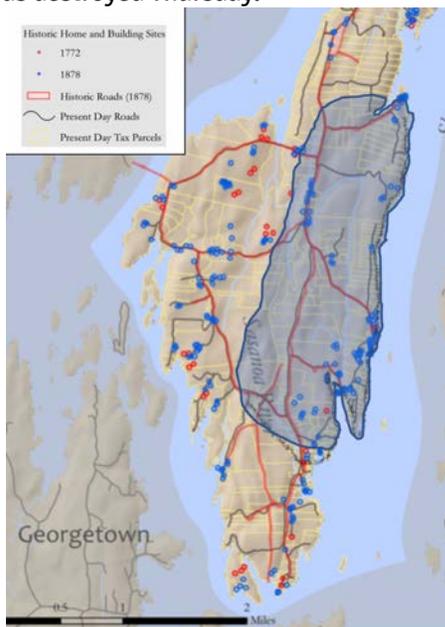
The island is without firefighting apparatus of any sort and help was summoned from Bath, Boothbay Harbor, Wiscasset, Five Islands, Southport, Robinhood, Woolwich and all adjacent communities.

In addition to the houses burned were Hilton's mills and the South school house, built several years ago at a healthy expense. This will be quite a loss to the people in that part of the town as it served a double purpose as a place of meeting and social gatherings.

The fire is said to have broken out near where Morse's portable saw mill men were setting up a mill on the Pike lot about half a mile above Westport Junction on the west side of the island about four o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

The timber on this tract had been cut and was ready to be sawed. It was surrounded by more or less slash and deep undergrowth both of which were exceptionally dry and furnished hot fuel for the flames fanned by a strong northwest gale. Before the fire could be stamped out on the spot where it began, the flames were spreading in all directions and traveling eastward at a rapid pace. The entire town was notified but the fire was beyond the power of human hands to check with no firefighting apparatus at hand. Bucket brigades were formed and, in some cases, they succeeded in saving property but the high wind caused the flames to spread with such rapidity that little could be done to check them.

There are about 125 houses of various types and descriptions on the island and about 300 inhabitants. Every person was called to fight the fire demon and most were busy all night. During Thursday afternoon the flames spread in the area and it was soon seen that the fire was beyond the efforts of the local people to check it.



Estimated fire burn area shown in gray where 32 building were lost in the 1918 fire

## Westport Island Community Association

WESTPORT ISLAND  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ISLAND-WIDE YARD SALE

**WESTPORT ISLAND  
YARD SALE**

Don't miss out on great items!  
29 families participating.

JULY 17 | 8:00AM TO 1:00PM

Stop at the WISCASSET/WESTPORT  
bridge on Route 144 for a map of participating properties.  
Email: westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com

The Westport Island Yard Sale will be on **July 17th from 8 am - 1 pm**. We have 29 families that have signed up to participate; mark your calendars for this grand event. A map to all participating addresses will be given out at the Wiscasset/ Westport Island bridge turnaround on the day of the Island yard sale. Contact Debbie Lorensen with questions at [dclorenson@aol.com](mailto:dclorenson@aol.com).

**The Westport Island Community Association Needs You!** Are you new to the island and looking for a good way to meet people? The WCA is accepting new members who would like to join the committee to help promote projects or ideas in the best interest of residents of Westport Island and to bring together a sense of community. If this sounds interesting to you, contact Debbie Lorensen at [dclorenson@aol.com](mailto:dclorenson@aol.com). Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

If you **already signed up** with Debbie Lorensen to participate in the Island-wide yard sale please email her at [westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com](mailto:westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com) so that she has your email, address, and phone number.

### The 16th Annual Westport Island Shore Run 10K Road Race will be on August 15, 2021!

The race benefits the Westport Island Volunteer Fire Department.

You may register online at [www.westportisland.org](http://www.westportisland.org) for the \*10K Road Race: \$25.00 (includes post-race refreshments) or, \*Fun Walk \$20.00 (includes post-race refreshments).

You may register in person the day of the race at the Westport Island Old Town Hall, beginning at 7:30 a.m. PLEASE NOTE ONLY CASH AND CHECKS ARE ACCEPTED FOR RACE DAY REGISTRATION. \*10K Road Race: \$30.00 (includes post-race refreshments).

\*Fun Walk: \$25.00 (includes post-race refreshments).

For more information about the race, contact Rob Whitney at [rob@westportisland.org](mailto:rob@westportisland.org) or 617-335-1380.