

# THE MIDDLE GROUND

*Daily Life & History of West Bath, Maine*

SPRING 2013 • PUBLISHED BY THE WEST BATH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## A Bite to Eat in Old Brigham's Cove: Brigham's Tavern & Idle Park Shore House

*In a previous issue of The Middle Ground, we gave an overview of some of the many places to stay or get a meal in West Bath in earlier years. One place, in particular, intrigued our archivist, Kerry Nelson, because so little was known about it. She set out to learn its story. We share the results here.*

Brigham's Cove, as it is called today, is located in the southeast section of West Bath that overlooks Winnegance Bay. The first landowner of record appears to be James

Jewell. He sold thirty acres at what was to become Brigham's Cove to Spencer Dingley on April 15, 1824 for the sum of \$25. By the time that Dingley died in 1845, the land was owned by William Lee. He sold to William Alden Perry of Phippsburg in 1859 for \$700. The deed excluded a parcel, 16' long by 15' wide on the northeast corner of the property, which was said to hold the graves of Dingley and his two sons. On May 6, 1861, Perry sold the land to James D. Brigham for \$1000, a huge sum at that time.

James D. Brigham was born in 1806 in Norwich, Vt. He married Nancy M. Raymond in Harpswell, settling there and raising seven children. Nancy died at age 42 in 1845. Brigham then married Maria Grant of Bath in 1850. They had five

### NOTICE

Go to

### IDLE PARK

For a good

### Shore Dinner

I catch my own lobsters, dig my own oysters and serve them fresh from the water every day.  
M. J. Frye, Proprietor

#### Idle Park ad, 1906

children together before the family moved to West Bath, settling in the area now known as Brigham's Cove, in 1861. It is unclear just when Brigham opened his home to the public, but early newspaper articles called Brigham's Tavern a very popular shore resort and "Old Man Brigham" was said to be a "noted landlord" of the Maine coast. Winnegance Bay was considered the best fishing ground in the coastal area and the ride out to Brigham's, whether by water or by horse and buggy, was among the most beautiful local excursions.

In October of 1887, Brigham sold his property to his son, Simeon H. Brigham, for \$500 and other consideration, an arrangement that meant

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Bates-Tibbets Farm, Brigham's Cove, ca. 1927. (J. Minott)

## WBHS ANNUAL MEETING & POT LUCK: JUNE 11

Our regular Annual Meeting will be held at the Old West Bath Meeting House on Berry's Mill Road on Tuesday, June 11. It will include a pot luck supper, a brief business meeting and a special presentation by renowned West Bath artist, Evelyn Dunphy, demonstrating her work, and talking about her famous paintings of Mt. Katadin, a special Maine place that she helped to save.

The meeting is free and open to all in the community, although we encourage everyone to bring a dish – a

casserole, salad or dessert – to share. This year, we are also asking that you come with your own plate and silverware, in order to save on paper waste. We will provide napkins, cups and drinks.

Come and bring your friends! The more, the merrier. We look forward to a great event this year!

– WBHS Board



Evelyn Dunphy

## Old Brigham's Cove

*Continued from page 1*

that Brigham and his wife could continue to live in their home. Maria died in 1889 and Brigham decided to move back to Harpswell to live out his final years. He died in March of 1900 at age 94. James Brigham was known locally “as an honest and upright citizen and a good cook”.

Simeon Brigham held onto the property until September 1892 when he sold the entire thirty acres to Emma Deering of East Liberty, PA for one dollar. Emma and her husband, Albion G. Deering, living in Pittsburg in PA by August of 1894, sold the Brigham's Cove parcel for \$2100 to Thomas W. Lindsay, also of Pittsburg. In January of 1896, Lindsay sold two lots of land, consisting of fifty acres total, and buildings to Annie C. Frye, wife of M. J. Frye of East Wheatfield, PA, for \$3300.

Annie C. Hass and Michael J. Frye were married in 1877 in Pittsburg, PA. (In doing the research for this article, we found Michael sometimes referred to as Mitchell, or as M.J., or as Mike.) One news article called Frye an experienced hotel man, but he appeared better known as a contractor. Regardless, the Fryes purchased the former Brigham's Tavern in 1896, renovated it throughout, and opened to serve shore dinners in May of that year. They named their new establishment the Idle Park Shore House.

Annie was an excellent cook and the couple planned to also offer meals that were popular in Pennsylvania. Frye was catching 100 to 300 lobsters a day right off his own shoreline. One of his newspaper advertisements read, “I catch my own lobsters, dig my own clams and serve them fresh from the water every day”. Meals included fried eels, Annie's own homemade potato chips, and a special meal of “kole (sic) slaw and curd cheese with clams and lobsters”. Of course, fresh-caught fish was always on the menu. Business was good; by December the Fryes



### Idle Park notice, 1904

expanded significantly, and built a new, larger dining room with four bedrooms above it.

Patrons usually arrived at the Idle Park by horse and buggy or by steamboat right to their dock. On Sundays, four times a day, Frye sent a double team of horses to Winnegance, at the south end of Bath near today's causeway. Customers were picked up at the trolley car stop at the end of the line, and made the excursion out to his establishment. By 1903, Frye had his own motor launch, also named the *Idle Park*. On holidays and Sundays the launch picked up patrons from the east side of the New Meadows River just south of the electric railroad bridge (near the original New Meadows Inn). It was also available for fishing parties, or for pleasure trips, for the price of 60 cents an hour.

It wasn't unusual to feed 75 to 100 customers per day. Groups often took advantage of the good food and good service. Young men from Bath were pleased with how Frye cooked the raccoons that they hunted, so coon suppers were popular. In January of 1904, the Sasanoa Tribe of Red Men of Bath, a local men's club of which Frye was a member, enjoyed a sleigh ride to Idle Park. Frye served them a shore dinner and roast. That July, The Red Men gathered for a field day, supper, dancing and fireworks. Nearly 100 members attended. Some arrived by horse team; others took the trolley to Winnegance and then a rode barge out to the beautiful spot.

The Bath Independent, on September 7, 1904, said that a crew of men was hard at work installing a telephone line that would connect



### Dunton cottage from Bates-Tibbett farm, ca. 1925 (J. Minott)

the City of Bath with several homes in the Campbell's Pond area, four cottages at Birch Point, as well as M. J. Frye's place at Brigham's Cove. By 1906, Frye was offering to run a buckboard to the trolley car stop to supply dinner orders that were received by telephone – an interesting form of early takeout.

In 1908, the Frye household included M.J., Annie, their son, Harry, and his wife and daughter, Margaret and Christine. (The Frye's oldest son, Arthur, died in 1899 at age 21, the result of injuries suffered many months earlier during a fall into a pit at the electric light station in Bath.) One cool evening, in late April, Margaret went to their chamber to light a fire to warm the room in preparation for putting Christine to bed. She rejoined the family downstairs until the baby's crying indicated it was bedtime. When she arrived back upstairs the room was full of flames. She called to the rest of the family to come help fight the fire. Although a desperate attempt was made, the flames were quickly spreading. The family had little choice but to leave the house with no time to grab any possessions.

With the nearest neighbor nearly a quarter mile away, all the family could do was watch their house burn. Frye was able to save his horse and wagon before the stable caught fire. A couple of men, arriving from the Winnegance area after seeing

*Continued on the next page*



**Littlefield School**

**OPEN HOUSE(S)  
JULY 6th! SAVE  
THE DATE**

We had such a good turnout at our event two years ago that the WB Historical Society is planning another Open House event during the Bath Heritage Days festivities. We will open both the

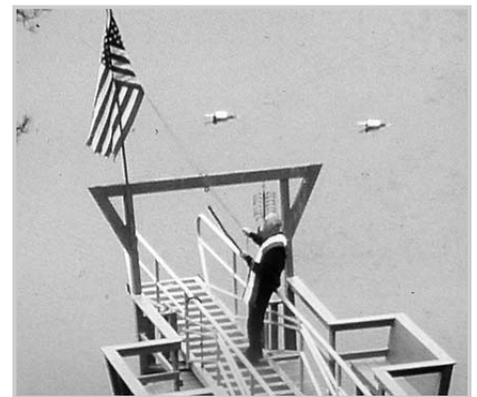


**Old West Bath Meeting House**

Littlefield School and the Old West Bath Meeting House to the public from 10 - 2 pm on Saturday, July 6. We will have docents at each building, and refreshments will be served. To volunteer for docent duty, or to contribute some baked goodies, please contact Cindy Fahay at 443.1253 or [cfahay@gmail.com](mailto:cfahay@gmail.com). Do plan to come and bring your friends and family!

**Boyer on the Mend**

Our very own Board member, Ivon Boyer, underwent serious back surgery this winter and we are happy to report that his long journey to recovery is now well underway. To prove it, Ivon, who is now doing regular intensive physical therapy, managed to make his own way down his steep dock on Brigham's Cove to set the flag for the season. And he had someone take a picture to prove it! Bravo, Ivon. We wish you speedy recovery. ▲



**Old Brigham's Cove**

*Continued from page 2*

the flames, were able to knock down part of the chicken coup to let the hens escape. The family's cat survived, but their dog, Paddy, did not make it out of the house. In a very short time, a strong southerly wind carried the fire from house to shed to barn. It all burned flat. The cause was thought to be a defective chimney. The property was valued at \$3000, but only insured for \$1200.

The Frye family spent the night with neighbor Jesse N. Tibbetts. A news article several days later said that M.J. was considering rebuilding and, if so, planned to cut the timber from his own land. Three weeks later, M. J. and Annie left for their former hometown of Pittsburg, Pa. still unsure of their plans. They returned to Maine later in the year intending to rebuild. But, whether

the task of building proved too great or an offer from someone to purchase the property proved too tempting, the Fries did indeed sell the property. (In 1907, the Fries had sold land on the western side of their property at Brigham's Cove, encompassing part of what is now known as Birch Point, to J. E. and F. E. Drake for \$200.)

On September 23, 1908, Annie C. Frye, for consideration of one dollar, sold the Brigham's Cove land to Adolf Bernard Horne of Havana, Cuba. Horne and his family had spent the summer on Peak's Island and planned to build a summer home on their new land. It wasn't until 1911 that a news article told that Horne had made arrangements for buying lumber to build on the site. He held onto the property until 1926, when he sold what was then known as "Campo-Amor", to Ralph H. Dunton who built a cottage where the Idle Park had stood. Dunton also had the whole point plotted out and

planned a large development called Winnegance Shores.

Annie and M.J. bought a place at Meadowbrook in Phippsburg in 1909. The property, formerly owned by the late Frank E. Southard, was part of the original Levi W. Hutchins estate. The Fries named their new establishment the Meadowbrook Inn and went on to serve shore dinners there for about fifteen years. They continued living in the home until it too was lost to fire sometime in the mid-1920s. M.J. and Annie then moved to 185 Oak St. in Bath. He died, at age 79, in December, 1929. She died, at age 75, in July, 1931.

– Kerry Nelson

*(For those interested, we have more information in our archives. We do not have any images of Brigham's family or tavern, nor the Idle Park Shore House. Please contact archivist Kerry at 443.5118, if you have any pictures to share.)* ▲

# CROSSING THE BAR



**Katherine Mary Jennings**, 51, died July 9, 2012 in Orange Park, Fla. Among her survivors are her husband, Vincent Herzel of Orange Park, and her son, **Benjamin Brown** and his wife **Erin**, and her sister, **Kim Svien** and her husband **Mark**, all of West Bath. Note also, that on the following Oct 26, Kim's mother, **Natalie A. Tanger**, 74, passed away in Mobile, Al.

**Suzanne M. Robshaw**, 46, of West Bath, died Nov 1 at Winship Green surrounded by family and friends after a long illness. She graduated from Morse High in 1963 and resided in West Bath with her husband, **Norman**, whom she married in 2005. She graduated from USM in August as an R.N. In addition to her husband, she leaves her mother and stepfather; her sister, a stepsister, and two stepbrothers, among others.

**Everett W. Waterman**, 77, of West Bath, died Nov 6 at MidCoast Hospital, following a valiant struggle with ALS. He was born (all 1.5 lbs of him!), the son of Fletcher and Ida (Durgin) Waterman. He grew up in West Bath and graduated from Morse High in 1953, and immediately enlisted in the Air Force. In 1955, he married the love of his life, **Donna Sutherland** of Bath and they made their home in Bath for many years. He retired in 1965, after 40 years with BIW.

He loved the outdoors and enjoyed his boat, *Blue Eyes*, and their cottage on the New Meadows River. He also took great pride in maintaining and landscaping his family home on Foster's Point Road in West Bath. Among his many activities, he was a member of the Bath Elks, and more recently, an active member of the Bath Senior Citizens Center where he proved to be a very proficient Bocce player. He was a member of First Parish Church in Brunswick. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his daughter Kristen, and her hus-

band Ara Basil of Armonk, NY and two grandchildren, as well as a special nephew and niece, Stephen and Frances Lyden. He will be missed by his relatives, his many friends and wonderful caring neighbors.

**Mabel H. Blanchard**, 82, died Nov 12. Among her survivors are her daughters **Meridel Cosgrove**, and her husband **Richard**, and **Susan Kimball** and her husband **Walter Sr.**, of West Bath.

**Richard E. Emerson**, 87, of Topsham, died Nov 13 at home. Among his survivors is his daughter, **Leslie Emerson Kalisz** and her husband **Steve** of West Bath.

**Susan B. Matteson**, 71, of Brunswick, died Nov 15 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice in Scarborough. Among her survivors is her former husband and friend **Henry Baecker** of West Bath.

**Thomas E. Elliott**, 72, of West Bath, died Dec 14 at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. He grew up in Portland and attended Cheverus High. He joined the Navy at 16 (saying he was 17 so he could enlist!), and served for 24 years, including two tours of duty in Vietnam, and was awarded the Purple Heart and other medals and commendations. He retired in 1982, and then worked for the Town of Brunswick for 20 years. He volunteered tirelessly for the Disabled American Veterans, volunteering at the VA Hospital and providing transport for vets to and from their medical appointments; he also helped raise fund to purchase a van for this purpose. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, The Vet Affairs Voluntary Service at Togus, the Purple Heart Association, and the VFW, among others. He is survived by his wife, **Karen Furbish Elliott**, of West Bath; five children; two stepchildren, including **Shawn Schutt** of West Bath; two brothers;

two sisters; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, and many close friends and colleagues.

**Daniel D. Holt III**, 78, of Cumberland Center, died Jan 3 at home after a long battle with cancer. Among his survivors is his son **Kevin Holt**, and **Kathy Dial** of West Bath.

**Virginia Mae Mitchell**, 90, formerly of West Bath, died at Midcoast Senior Health Center on Jan 31. She was born in Bath in 1923. She was devoted to her family, friends and church family, formerly "Living Waters Fellowship." In the 70s, she owned and operated an antique shop on Berry's Mill Road with her husband. She also worked at Stinson's Canning and was a housewife for many years. Preceding her in death was her husband, **Alvin**, in 1998. Survivors include her son **Everett Mitchell** and his wife **Cindy**; her daughters, Roxanne Lawley and Patricia Nicholas and her husband, Richard; 7 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

**Jean R. McRae**, 75, died Feb 3 at Mid Coast Hospital. Among her survivors is her stepbrother, **Roger Brown** and his wife **Carmen** of West Bath.

**Margaret N. Clayton**, 73, of Brunswick, died March 13 at Mid Coast Hospital. Her survivors include her daughter **Beth Vigue**, and her children, **Rylee & Morgan Vigue** of West Bath.

**Margaret Ann (Pinky) Cloutier-Karwowski**, 68, of Topsham, passed away on March 5 at MidCoast Hospital, surrounded by her family. A professional nurse, she spent 15 years at Regional Memorial Hospital in Brunswick, where she built many local lifetime friendships. Among her survivors, besides her husband Paul, is her brother, **Christopher Cloutier** and his wife **Lori**, of West Bath.

*Continued on the next page*



**Bill Gilman playing the old pump organ at the Christmas service.**

Sally Graves, drew more than 70 people of all ages to our festive holiday event. Rev. Janet Leighninger presided over



**Rev. Janet Leighninger & Cindy Fahay enjoying the sweets after the service.**

## Christmas Service was a Big Success

Once again, our annual community Christmas service, held on December 10 at the Old West Bath Meeting House, decorated with swaths of holiday greens thanks to

the crowd with wit and thoughtful insights. Various bible passages were read by seven community members, including West Bath's resident Buddhist monk, Tim Buckley, who offered a Buddhist prayer for peace. Carols were sung and the old pump organ, played with gusto by Bill Gilman, provided vintage

accompaniment. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a variety of home-baked holiday sweets and hot cider. It was indeed a very merry evening. ▲

## Crossing the Bar

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**Laurance (Larry) Eugene Wold**, 88, of West Bath, died March 17 peacefully at his home in Brigham's Cove; a house which he built and a place very dear to him. Larry was born in 1925 in Bath, and was a member of the class of '44 at Morse High. He then served in both the Merchant Marines and US Navy before attending UMaine Orono, graduating in 1959 as a mechanical engineer. During his service in the Merchant Marines, he was on several missions during which his convoy was attacked and many ships were lost. He was also off the coast of Normandy on D-Day, and later served in the Navy during the Korean War. In 1951, he married **Judith Ann Sargent**, and enjoyed a long engineering career, including work at Hyde Windlass Co at BIW. He also was employed by a local engineering firm, VAST, Inc., and spent time between its facility in St Croix,

Virgin Islands and the West Bath Marine Water Tower, developing and testing underwater research equipment. [ed. Note: Larry gave us first-hand help with our recent *Middle Ground* story – Fall, 2012 issue – about the Old Radar Tower when it was repurposed as a water research tower!]

He returned to BIW, retiring in 1987. Sailing and the ocean were his passions. During the 40's, he was an avid participant in the sailboat races from Brigham's Cove, and more recently, loved competing on his sailboat *Halcyon* in the annual race from the Cove that still goes on today. His other interests included gardening, furniture refinishing and wood carving. He was also an avid reader of anything historical, scientific or nautical. A skilled hunter and fisherman, his love of these pursuits was even better when he could share them with his son and grandsons.

In addition to his wife, Judy [who was an early and strong supporter of the West Bath Historical Society],

Larry is survived by his two daughters: **Diane Wold Jennings** and her husband, **James**, of West Bath and Boca Raton, Fla., and **Susan Wold**



**Halcyon under sail; Larry at the helm**

**Saunders** of West Bath; his son Leigh Sargent Wold and his wife Caitlin, of Cape Elizabeth, as well as six grandchildren, including **Jamison Archer Saunders** of West Bath. He is also survived by his brother, Just L. Wold of Loudon Tennessee; a great-grandson, as well as many nieces, a nephew and friends – some friendships going back 83 years. A memorial celebration of his life will be held at his home when his carefully cultivated roses are in bloom and the boats are in the water. ▲

## West Bath Historical Society Visits West Bath School & Vice Versa!

In early April, at the request of 2nd grade teacher Lori Sawyer, WBHS president Avery Meyers gave the class a brief history of West Bath, mostly centered around our historic one-room schoolhouse, the Littlefield School (listed on the National Register of Historical Places), and the Old West Bath Meeting House. She showed many wonderful old pictures of both buildings, as well as some historical information on their current school.

After the class, one of the students interviewed her and took a picture, as part of Mrs. Sawyer's Class Project to create a book about their "expedition learning" for this year. The class has already decided they'd like to include a historical chapter about West Bath, and incorporate some of the photographs that Ms. Meyers showed.

On May 10, the class then headed out to Berry's Mill Road to visit the Meeting House and the Littlefield School. They ended their visit to our historic road at the old Witch Spring cemetery, near the head of Old Route 1, which dates back to the early 1800's, and where the kids

were very excited to do grave rubbings of the ancient headstones. WBHS's school chairman, Betty Fitzjarrald, and Sally Gray, who run programs at the Growstown School in Brunswick as well, greeted the kids at the bus in full 1800's clothing, gave the kids a real-life experience of how kids of old would have experienced their school day at the Littlefield School.

The morning started with the ringing of a school bell; then the kids filed obediently into the school, girls first. Once inside, they had lessons on the traditional morning greeting to the teacher – a bow from the boys and a curtsy from the girls. Sally Gray also explained how lessons were given to kids of all ages in the school and showed them a typical lunch pail that each student would have brought to school. And lastly, the kids got a peek at the outhouse which was actually attached to the school in the early 1900s.

"We really appreciate the historical society's support with our



**2nd grade students in Mrs. Sawyer's class enter the Littlefield School as part of their "expedition learning" program.**

expedition," said Ms. Sawyer. "Your work to restore the school has provided a wonderful opportunity for students to step back in time and imagine what it might have been like back then. I hope it will foster some real interest in local history for my students. Who knows? Maybe one of them will be a member of the Historical Society one day!" ▲

The second grade West Bath School class has been involved in an "expedition" within our community. Their work has included creating maps of the town, researching, interviewing, and photographing community helpers, and looking into the town's history and green spaces. All this information will be presented in a book they'll write their adventures and explorations. They are also doing a community service by creating welcome buckets for incoming kindergarten students. According to Mrs Sawyer, "Our Celebration of Learning will be May 29th. We'll be open to the public from 3:00 to 4:30, with displays in our classrooms to explain this year's expeditions."



**WBHS president Avery Meyers with students in Mrs. Sawyer's class.**



## COOK'S KORNER

**I**t's springtime in Maine and what better two local favorites to eat than fiddlehead ferns and rhubarb. Not only are they good for you – full of vitamins – they taste good too. Especially if you cook them right. So here goes ....

**Fiddleheads** are actually young coiled leaves of the ostrich fern, and they sprout in the shape of a bishop's crozier, or the top of a fiddle. They should be cleaned (soak in cold water and pull off any dark brown leafy bits) and then boiled (my preferred method is in chicken stock) for 5 minutes. Then, the A#1 way to eat fiddleheads couldn't be easier: just toss the boiled drained ferns directly into a hot pan with a little olive oil & butter and sauté quickly, with or without a smashed garlic clove. Serve straight from the pan, maybe with a little salt and pepper. The quicker they are eaten, the more delicate their flavor. Some like to cook them up with a bit of bacon, but I think that changes the straight-from-the-ground earthy, tangy fla-

vor of these little wild things. Or boiled fiddleheads can be added to other dishes, flash frozen, or chilled and served as a salad with an onion and vinegar dressing. And they can be pickled.

And now to **rhubarb** – mother nature's super tonic. To winter-weary Mainers, this vigorous plant, with leaves like curly elephant ears and ruby red stalks, is especially appreciated because it's one of the first edibles to appear in the spring garden. Not only are these stalks tasty and versatile when cooked into pies and sauces, but they are also good for you. They contain lots of Vitamin C, calcium, and some fiber. For over 4500 years, rhubarb has been a medicinal and gustatory boon to man. (Even today, there is scientific research indicating that rhubarb helps lower cholesterol, has anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-allergy properties, and may improve liver inflammation in hepatitis sufferers.) Now here's a conundrum: is rhubarb a fruit or a vegetable? You'd think it was the former

because it is mostly used as a sweet pie filling and often mixed with strawberries. In fact, it is sometimes called the "pie plant" or "pie fruit". But guess what? You'd be wrong. Botanically speaking, rhubarb is classified as a vegetable, because it has no seeds, and is a member of the buckwheat family.

And rhubarb is a piece of cake to cook. Just slice up fresh rhubarb stalks (lose the leaves, please! They are wicked poisonous) and simmer gently with a little water and sugar. The more sugar, the sweeter the fruit. I recommend 4 cups of chopped rhubarb to 1 scant cup sugar, i.e., not so sweet. Then they can be eaten plain, warmed or at room temperature, or poured over vanilla ice cream, or baked into a crisp topped with oatmeal and brown and white sugars, a little cinnamon and about a stick of butter cut into the dry ingredients, with a tad of cornstarch to thicken the sauce. And of course, sweetened rhubarb mixed with fresh cut strawberries and sprinkled with a little tapioca, then baked into your favorite double pie shell, is the absolute best. ▲

## CHANNEL BUOYS

### BIRTHS



**Aris Elise Pestino**, born Nov 30, 2012 to Joshua & Pestino and Ashley Greene of Brunswick. Grandparents include **Amiee Pestino** of West Bath.

**Benjamin Leroy Bickford**, born Jan 20 to Alice Evelyn (Wyman) & Jonathan Dwayne Bickford Sr. of West Bath.

**Alayna Nicole Randall**, born Feb 19 to Nicholas & Ashleigh (Tate) Randall of West Bath.

**Colin Edward Desmond**, born March 10 to Erin Susan (Collins) & James Edward Desmond of West Bath.

### SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

West Bath's **Aline Gilley** celebrated her 92nd birthday on December 14, 2012. Flowers to celebrate the occasion were sent as a gift to **Aline** by Hawkes Florist II.

## WEST BATH STUDENT NOTES

**Zachery J. Shaw**, a graduate of Morse High and son of Jason Shaw of Woolwich and **Angela Shaw** of West Bath, was named to the dean's list, College of Engineering at Northeastern University, for the fall 2012 semester.

**Sunny White** was named to the dean's list for the fall, 2012 semester at UMaine, August.

# TOWN CRIER



**A Special Town Meeting will be held on May 23rd at the West Bath School to vote on the budget.**

*Note the following meeting change:*

• **Municipal Election/Annual Town Meeting - Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at West Bath Fire Hall.**

**Inland Fisheries and Wildlife registrations and licenses.** New this year - West Bath residents may now renew boat registrations on-line directly with Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Find them on-line, or click on the link on the town's web site @ [www.westbath.org](http://www.westbath.org).

**West Bath is now On-Line with RAPID RENEWAL.** Vehicle owners

can renew most registrations from their personal computers on-line, paying via a secure and encrypted connection. Log on to <https://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/> to begin your re-registration.

**Sabino Boat Landing Parking Permits** are now required for parking at the Landing and areas designated by signs. One-year \$5 permits are available at the Town Office. Call us, or see the Ordinance on our web site.

The **lien process** for unpaid taxes from 2012 begins in June.

Sign up for **e-mail notification** of any public meeting by submitting your email address to the Town Clerk at [townclerk@westbath.org](mailto:townclerk@westbath.org), or call us at 443.4342.

*- Rob Morris, Town Clerk*

## THE MIDDLE GROUND

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## THE MIDDLE GROUND

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**A recent photo of Brigham's Cove, taken from the air in the fall. Historic images of the area appear in our main story, starting on page 1.**