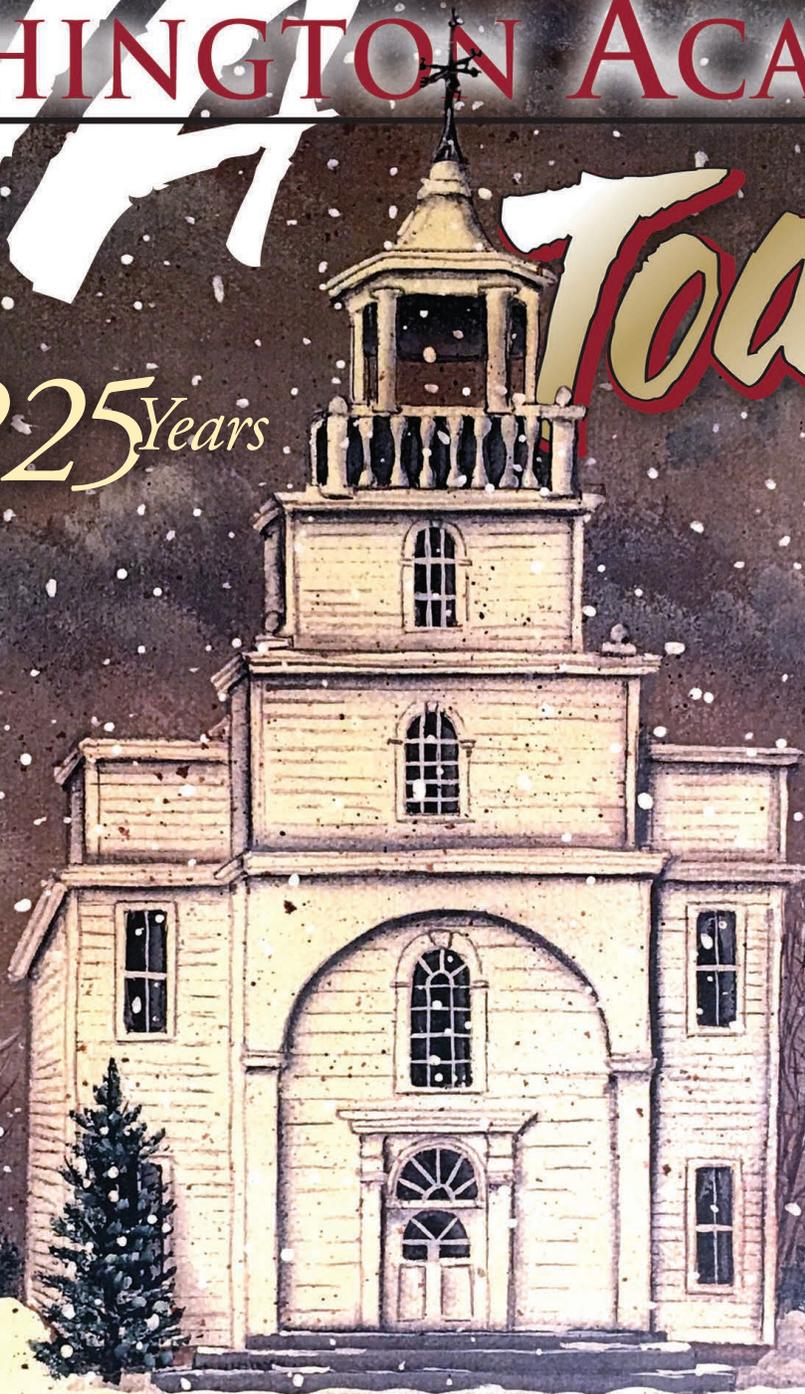


WASHINGTON ACADEMY

WAA

Today

Celebrating 225 Years



Washington Academy
Est. 1792

Pam Britton
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Bill Kitchen
Hannah Sprague
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Preserving the Past, Preparing for the Future

As we begin 2017 and reflect on our historic two hundred and twenty five years of existence, we realize that the vision of WA has remained timeless. In 1792, John Hancock signed the charter that appointed a board of twelve trustees and established a new school named Washington Academy. This special commemorative issue of WA Today celebrates our rich educational heritage, centuries of student successes and a legacy of multi generational WA families.



It is only fitting that the cover of our celebratory issue features the iconic Old Academy. The name and image of this building is synonymous with being the first multi-classroom structure on campus, a place of fond alumni memories, and a hallmark for WA educational excellence. At the Alumni Reunion this summer I heard many conversations about all of the fun that occurred under that roof throughout the years. Including a story about an alum that used to frequently sneak up and ring the bell in the steeple. Today, the OA is still an integral part of campus.

As you travel through our historical timeline you will see our campus transform with the addition of many new buildings and athletic fields, including the most recent Machias Savings Bank Community Athletic Field. The WA campus is larger, our student body of over four hundred students represent twenty five Washington County towns, twenty countries, and we no longer teach classes in one building. However, our educational mission is consistent with the first WA course catalog; that is to provide young people with an environment that fosters big picture development and skills.

The next two hundred and twenty five years at Washington Academy will be influenced by the ever-changing world of technology. We will continue to enhance our timeless vision with cutting edge classroom use of three-dimensional printers, robot/computer application creation, and development of entrepreneurial skills. Freshman Rachel St. Louis ends our magazine timeline and represents the future of WA well. Perhaps before her 2020 graduation year she will be flying her very own self-made and self-financed airplane.

Please join me in celebrating two hundred and twenty five years of excellence in education.

Judson McBride
Head of School

20 Years and Counting



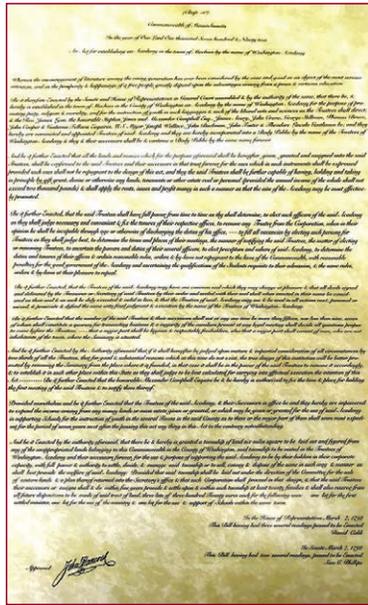
Congratulations to Mr. Judson McBride, for serving as Washington Academy's head of school for twenty years. Mr. McBride started as headmaster in 1997, making him the longest serving head of school in Washington Academy history. Over the past twenty years, his vision for Washington Academy and it's students has brought about many positive changes. Washington Academy has grown and developed in ways that many of us could never have imagined. The international program, which was started by Mr. McBride, has brought together students from all over the world to learn and develop as individuals as they prepare for their futures. The campus has expanded as new buildings have been constructed and purchased, and athletic courts and fields have been added. Many new classes and programs are offered to our students. We look forward to seeing what the future holds here at Washington Academy with the outstanding leadership that Mr. McBride has provided, and will continue to provide in the future. Thank you, Mr. McBride, for all that you do for Washington Academy and this community.

Our WA Today historical information has been compiled from what we have found in our archives. Much of it is a first hand account or story that may have changed along the way. If there is a story that we should publish in future editions of the WA Today please contact us at development@washingttonacademy.org



Cover artwork by Pamela Britton

A limited number of reprints of the original cover artwork are available for purchase. Please contact us at development@washingttonacademy.org

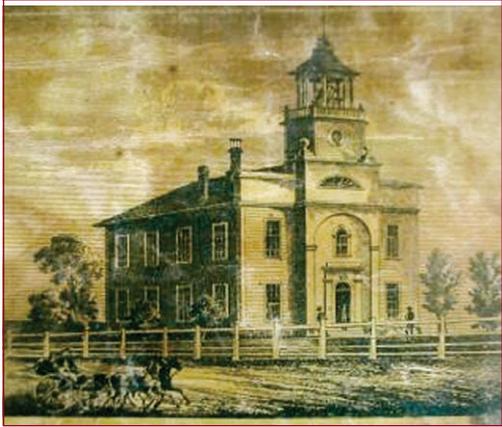


**WA'S CHARTER IS SIGNED
March 7th, 1792**

**1792-1823 CLASSES ARE TAUGHT IN
THE BURNHAM TAVERN IN MACHIAS**



1823 OLD ACADEMY WAS BUILT



1868: Typewriter is invented

1860: Abraham Lincoln becomes president

1865: Abraham Lincoln is Killed

1861: Civil War Breaks Out

March 15, 1820: The state of Maine was admitted to the Union. Massachusetts's 14th congressional district was abolished.

1817: Harvard Law School is Started

1799: George Washington Dies

1776: The United States of America becomes a country

1770 1780 1790 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860 1870

1822-1827: First Headmaster - Soloman Adams

HEADMASTERS

- 1827-1834:** Stephen D. Ward
- 1834-1835:** Samuel Harris
- 1835-1836:** Charles Soule
- 1836-1837:** Samuel Shepley
- 1837-1838:** Richard T. Searle
- 1838-1841:** Samuel Harris
- 1841-1845:** Samuel Johnson
- 1845:** Ezra Abbott
- 1845-1846:** Daniel H. Temple
- 1846-1847:** Charles E. Swan
- 1847-1852:** Joseph Dow
- 1852:** Cyrus Pierce
- 1853:** W.J. Corthell
- 1854:** Wm. H. Baldwin
- 1854-1855:** J. F. Baldwin
- 1855-1861:** John C. Caldwell (see story)
- 1862 - 1866:** Alfred Laws
- 1866 - 1871:** Charles Fish
- 1871-1872:** E. S. Stackpole
- 1873-1876:** H. M. Heath
- 1876-1879:** H. K. White
- 1879-1880:** F. C. Heath



1855-1861: GENERAL JOHN CURTIS CALDWELL

John Curtis Caldwell became "Preceptor" of Washington Academy in 1855 at just twenty-two years of age. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the teacher/principal exchanged the duties of the classroom for the duty of serving his country. Caldwell was mustered into federal service as Colonel of the newly formed 11th Maine Volunteer Infantry. Colonel Caldwell quickly gained a reputation for leading with distinction. As a tribute to General Caldwell, he was chosen to represent the United States Volunteers on the guard of honor for the assassinated President Lincoln,escorting his body on the long journey from Washington back home to Springfield, Illinois.

According to alumni records, thirty-three men from Washington Academy served their country in the Civil War. Eleven of these men served with their former teacher and principal General John Curtis Caldwell. General Caldwell passed away in July of 1912.

1901 OLD ACADEMY BUILDING



1901 AD FOR SCHOOL AND BOARDING AT WA

Washington Academy

This Academy, incorporated in 1792, is located in East Machias at the head of tide water on the East Machias River. In the diversity and beauty of its scenery, its islands, lakes, and hills, and in healthfulness of location, East Machias is not surpassed by any section in Eastern Maine.

The Academy Offers Superior Advantages to
Those Desiring A Classical or Scientific Education.

New Laboratories!
New Apparatus!
New Class Rooms!
New Gymnasium!

Especial Attention is paid to the English Branches. Composition and Theme Work required during the whole course. One year of Elocution without extra cost.

Tuition, \$5.00 per term.
Board, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per week.
Books rented, if desired, at 25 cents per copy, per term.

For additional information, address,
A. S. HARRIMAN, Principal.

1926 TRACK WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



1899 1ST ATHLETIC FIELD PURCHASED FOR \$75

1929: Great Depression Begins

1918: WW1 ends

1908: Ford Model T is produced

1914: WW1 Breaks out

1920: Women get the right to vote

1880 1890 1900 1910 1920

HEADMASTERS

- 1880-1881:** W. A. Robinson
- 1881-1884:** H. K. White
- 1884-1886:** Charles A. Black
- 1886-1888:** A. W. Donnel
- 1888-1895:** I. H. Robinson
- 1895-1896:** George E. Simpson
- 1896-1899:** Fred O. Small

1899-1905:
A. Sherman
Harriman

1905-1907:
George W.
Thomas

1907-1921:
R. S. Smoth

1926 WA HAS VARSITY PING PONG TEAM

1905-06 OLD ACADEMY BUILDING



1927 DRAMA CLUB



1932 BOYS BASKETBALL WINS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

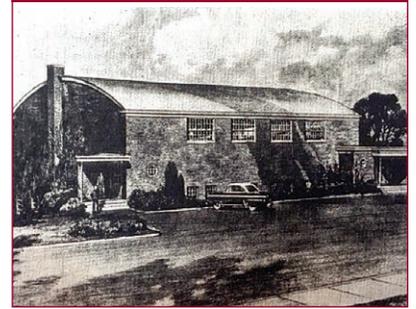


1940 WA BAND

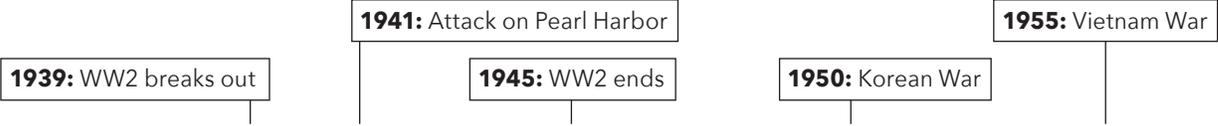


In 1940, under the leadership of Mr. Hovey Wiswell, the Washington Academy Band of twenty-three members was reorganized. Mr. Wiswell, also the director of the Machias Band, led the Academy's band for the next three years. During these years, a new bandstand went up in East Machias, the band received uniforms, summer concerts were held at the new bandstand, and the band played at a variety of events, including alumni basketball games and functions in Cutler and Machias for boys entering the army.

1959 ALUMNI BUILDING CONSTRUCTED



1945 WA HAS 268 STUDENTS WHO SERVED IN WW2



1930

1921-1931:
Percy F. Crane

HEADMASTERS

- 1931-1934:** John C. Merrill
- 1934-1935:** Ernest K. Gattcomb
- 1935-1936:** John C. Merrill
- 1936-1937:** Ernest Gattcomb
- 1937-1939:** Harold T. Payson
- 1939-1952:** Gardner Pope

1933 BASEBALL WINS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

1950

1952-1954: Winfred A. Kenoyer
1954-1960: Harold Grant



W.A.K. on right



GARDNER POPE

Gardner Pope was born on June 22, 1912 in East Machias, the son of John and Alina (Gardner) Pope. Basketball player and runner, he graduated from WA as salutatorian of the Class of 1930. A dean's list student and member of the college band at Bowdoin, he graduated in 1934, having played four sports and lettered all four years as a pole vaulter. In 1934, as a recent Bowdoin graduate he accepted a teaching position at the Academy. A scant month later he was made coach and groomed some of the finest basketball players at that time in Washington County. He turned out championship basketball teams in 1937 and 1938. Pope was an instrument of change almost from the beginning of

his working years at WA. Principal from 1939-1952, he started the school band in 1940 with Hovey Wiswell as band director. He very quietly built a good and lasting foundation, whether the goal at hand was a chemistry project, the National Honor Society or the drive to build the bandstand. He taught by example, showing young people that volunteerism and community participation are vital components to living a meaningful life. Gardner Pope at 87 said, "I've got things to do. I'm not done yet. I'm still kicking." That was certainly true. Gardner Pope left us on November 26, 2006. But not really. His lasting influence indelibly touched too many young lives for that to ever happen.

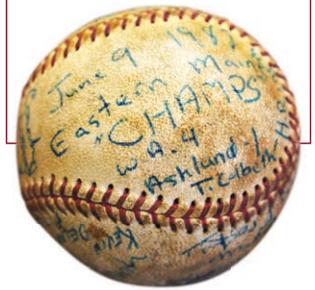
1960 1ST YEAR THAT WA EVER HAD A HOME **BASKETBALL COURT** TO PLAY ON

1964 HOW THE **ALBEE RICHARDSON BUILDING** GOT IT'S NAME

No doubt there are students at Washington Academy, and many people in and around East Machias for that matter, who do not know the story behind the names on the Albee-Richardson Building. Who are these two people, Albee and Richardson, and what did they do to achieve such tribute? Even though it happened many years ago and probably isn't talked about much anymore, it will always remain a significant event in the history of WA and of the town. On November 15, 1964, when I was a 14 year old freshman at WA, my brother, Stephen Richardson, and my cousin, Ronald Albee, lost their lives in a drowning accident on Hadley's Lake. Both were 18 year old seniors who were due to graduate the following June 1965. So, who were they, Stephen and Ronnie? You will find their pictures in the 1965 WA yearbook. They were two wonderful, handsome, well-liked, and intelligent boys who were full of life and plans for their future. They were worshipped by their families and girlfriends, and loved and respected by their teachers and their many friends. Their deaths changed the lives of all of us, and of East Machias itself.



1982 BASEBALL WINS **EASTERN MAINE CHAMPIONSHIP**



1987 1ST BASEBALL **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

1969: U.S. Lands on the Moon

1968: MLK is killed

1975: 1st laptop computer

1983 **MARINE TRADES BUILDING** IS BUILT

1960

1970

1980



1960-1977:
Arthur Gardner

1977-1982:
Bruce Johnson

1982-1983:
Mike Mossler

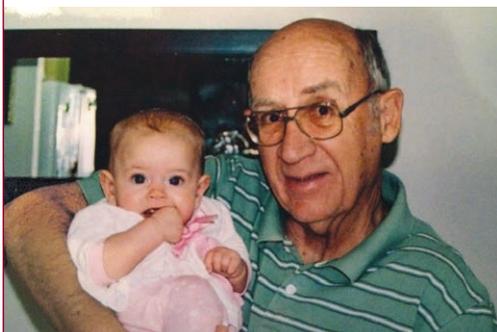
1983-1993:
Roger Lachance



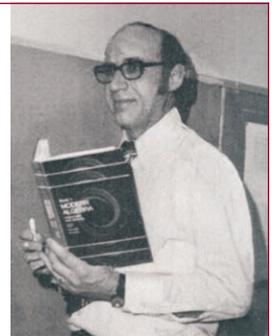
1981 SOFTBALL WINS **DAC CHAMPIONSHIP**

1961 STANDOUT MATH TEACHER ALSO **DROVE FIRST BUS TO WA**

For Harlan Dobbins, pioneering was not limited to the classroom. Not only was Dobbins a standout math teacher but, many former students recall his old Chevy paneled van, which Dobbins painted yellow and labeled "School Bus." Making daily trips from Machiasport to East Machias, it would become the first such vehicle to transport students to WA. "I grew up in Bucks Harbor, where he lived," laughs Donnie Smith '71. "Us kids from Bucks Harbor paid \$6.00 a week, and Barbara Beattie rode too. It was cold, there was no heat in it, and it could barely make Trafton's Hill. Once when he shifted, Judy Kingsley hit the door, I hit Judy, and she fell out. Of course, we were only going about two miles an hour." Popularly know as the Banana Wagon, it lived on long after its demise.



"It was duplicated in the annual WA Jamboree. Ironically, we had chairs and Judy's got moved, and she fell on the floor," remembers Smith, "and I got blamed again. She thought I'd pushed her, and I truly had not." Dobbins was consistently revered by his fellow teachers. "I will always remember what Bill Vasquez said about him," recalls Dick Gardner, fellow teacher and WA board member. "And that is, if all the teachers could get out of the students what Harley Dobbins and Mrs. Phinney did, we'd have an absolutely unbeatable educational system."



1990 CHEER WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2001 WA HAS FIRST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

In the fall of 2001, Washington Academy enrolled ten international students. Having hosted a number of exchange students in the eighties and nineties, the Academy was well aware of the benefits of diversity and cross-cultural experiences. These students came with the intention of improving their English skills, experiencing the American culture, and making friendships along the way. The international students were placed in host homes throughout the local area.

2002 FIRST TRIP TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

Headmaster Judson McBrine and Director of Admissions Charlene Cates travelled to Tokyo, Japan; Seoul, Korea; and Taipei, Taiwan, seeking students for the Academy's growing international student program. The trip helped to develop contacts which brought three students from Taiwan to the Academy and set the stage for more applications to follow in the coming years.



2003 WA HAS FIRST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO GRADUATE

1997: Google is Launched

2001: War in Afghanistan

2004: Red Sox win the World Series and break the curse!

1990: Gulf War

1999: Y2K

2001: War in Iraq

2004: Facebook was created

1990

2000

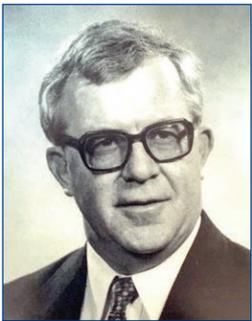
2001

2002

2003

2004

1993-1997: James Steenstra



1997-Present: Judson McBrine



2017 marks 20 years as headmaster, which is the longest duration that anyone has served as headmaster at Washington Academy.

2002 PRESIDENT BUSH HONORS ALUMNI AND TEACHER



Front: Kenneth (Bucket) Davis, First Selectman; Bunny Gaddis, Town Clerk; Christine Small, East Machias Historical Society (deceased)
Back: Dwayne Shaw, Executive Director Downeast Salmon Federation; Dale Richardson, Second Selectman; Don Sprangers, DSF Board Member; President George W. Bush, POTUS

The East Machias Dam Removal Team was honored in Washington, DC for their efforts in the historical East Machias River Dam Removal Project. They attended a special luncheon ceremony and afterward, the participants met personally with President Bush and members of the Coastal America Partnership. Attending were three WA alumni, Kenneth Davis, Dale Richardson, and Christine Small as well as Academy science teacher Don Sprangers. Also attending the event were Town Deputy Clerk, Bunny Wright and Downeast Salmon Federation Program Coordinator, Dwayne Shaw.

1994 GARDNER GYMNASIUM IS CONSTRUCTED



2006 SILVER QUILL WINS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

WA's literary magazine, Silver Quill 2006, received national recognition for its excellence in writing and presentation by the National Council of Teachers of English. The Silver Quill was one of only two student literary magazines in Maine to receive this national recognition.

2007 1ST ANNUAL HOMECOMING CELEBRATION



2008 MATH TEAM PLACES 2ND AT STATE MEET

The Team attended the State Math Meet on April 15 and placed second in Division C, 26 points behind the Division C winner John Bapst. WA's score of 539 was the highest ever for the school.

2008 BOYS SOCCER WINS CLASS C STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2007 WA PLAYERS PLACE FIRST AT REGIONAL COMPETITION

Competing in a field of four, Washington Academy's production of Booby Trap took home first prize, as well as three all-cast awards, the most awarded to any one school at the Regional Drama Festival.

2007: Apple releases 1st iPhone

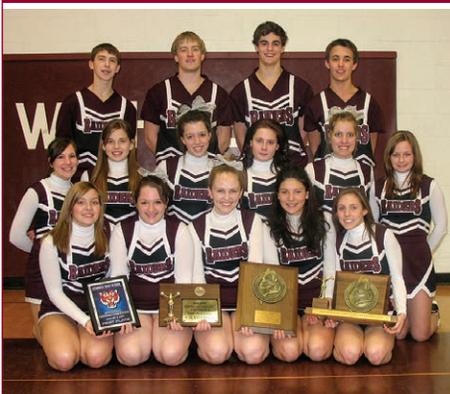
2005

2006

2007

2008

2007 CHEER WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2007 THE TALBOT DORM FOR BOYS IS OPENED

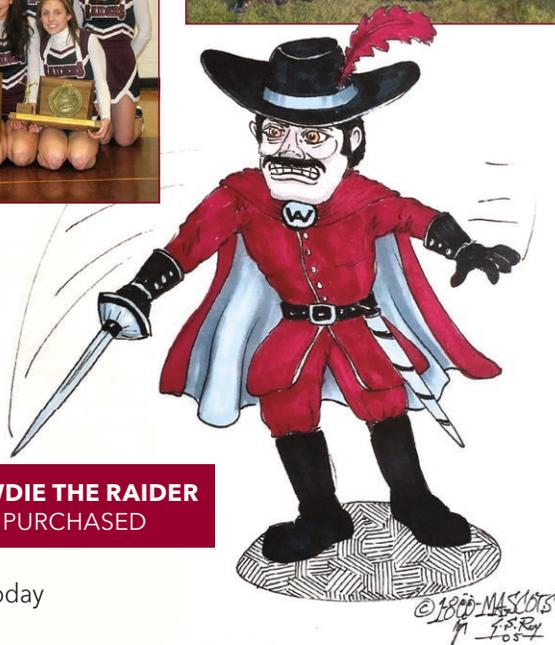


2008 STEPHEN CATES IS INDUCTED INTO THE MAINE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME



Stephen Cates was inducted into the Maine Baseball Hall of Fame on August 17, 2008 in Portland. He pitched four years for the Washington Academy Raiders, went on to pitch while studying at the University of Maine-Machias, and continued in the semi-pro Quoddy Leagues, playing for the Cutler Cardinals, with many others from the Downeast area.

2006 ROWDIE THE RAIDERS COSTUME IS PURCHASED



2009 CHIANTI MRAZIK WINS 1ST WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2010 VOLLEYBALL WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2011 FINE ARTS BUILDING IS COMPLETE



2010 BOYS BASKETBALL WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2010 GIRLS BASKETBALL WINS EASTERN MAINE CHAMPS



2012 VOLLEYBALL WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2009 PAULA MAKER RETIRES

After 33 years as Washington Academy's librarian, Paula Maker retired in 2009. Paula graduated from Washington Academy in 1964 as salutatorian. She attended the University of Maine at Machias and received a B.S. in Elementary Education and received her Master's in Library Science from the Clarion University of Clarion, Pennsylvania. In 1977, Paula started as the librarian at Washington Academy. She served as the Art Department Chair and helped with many projects at WA, including the Silver Quill literary magazine.



2013 THE "OTHER RED SOX"

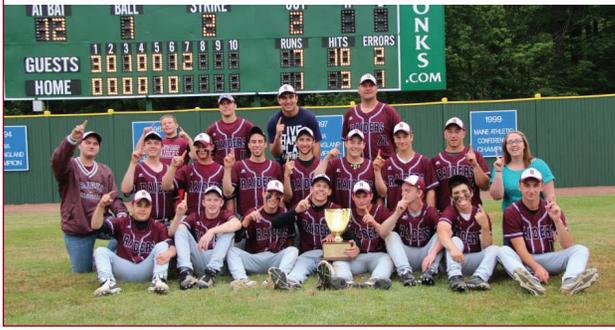
What do old guys do when they want to relive their youth? Well, that depends on which "old guys," but for four Washington Academy alumni, the choice this past September was to play baseball in Cooperstown, New York, the birthplace of baseball in America.



Left to Right: Stephen Cates '68, Jason Barber, Mike Look '71, Bill Corbett '63, and Butch Hall '75

Mike Look '71, Butch Hall '75, Stephen Cates '68, and Bill Corbett '63 all banded together to form the core of a team led by Butch. Their team name was the Red Sox (of course!). The event is called "The Legends of Baseball" and the group played as part of a 10 team tournament on September 8-12, 2013. Players have to be 30 years old or more. However, Bill's nephew, Jason Barber, age 22, was allowed to join us as uncle-nephew allowances are made (as are father-son exceptions). Jason is the son of another WA graduate, Joani (Corbett) Barber '79, so that is five players with a "WA connection."

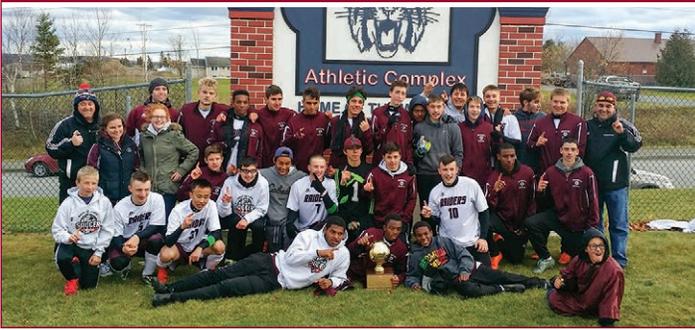
2014 BASEBALL WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



2015 VOLLEYBALL WINS STATE CHAMPS



2015 BOYS SOCCER WINS STATE CHAMPS



2016 BOYS SOCCER WINS STATE CHAMPS



2014

2015

2016

2016 RESIDENTIAL LIFE PROGRAM IS 15 YEARS OLD WITH OVER 100 STUDENTS



2016 NEW ATHLETIC FIELDS



2016 SCOTLAND TRIP



A group of our students travelled all the way to Scotland to help with the wild salmon restoration efforts there with the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Schools Network. The students who went on the trip were Oona Molyneaux, River Hodgdon, Sara Johnson, Zoie Zanoni, Kaylyn Brown, and Hayley Murphy. They were accompanied by Mr. Don Sprangers. On the trip the students were able to learn more about salmon, conservation efforts, and life in Scotland.

LEGACY OF SERVICE THROUGH THE PAST AND INTO THE FUTURE



One of WA's oldest alumna, Linnie Crane ('37) will celebrate her ninety seventh birthday in 2017. Every school has alumni that volunteer, but Washington Academy has a very unique

volunteer in Linnie. She has attended, worked, and volunteered for eighty two consecutive years. Linnie's commitment and love for WA has set an example for alumni and students throughout her many years of service and into the future.



2017

2018

2019

2020

2017 SOARING TOWARDS 2020



Freshman Rachel St. Louis will soon be soaring towards her 2020 graduation date in her very own plane. This industrious freshman is already hard at work preparing for her future and following her dreams. In addition to a rigorous new high school schedule, running her own successful jewelry business, Rachel is busy logging flight time and pursuing her passion of flying.

This young flyer takes her entrepreneurial talents to new heights by funding her SkyReach Bush Cat LSA project with the profits from her self owned jewelry business. She recently purchased the kit for her plane at the EAA AirVenture 2016. The EAA Airventure is a fly-in convention in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, which attracts more than 500,000 people and 10,000 airplanes each July.

Rachel attended the show with her travelling jewelry showroom. In addition to selling her jewelry, she was one of the show's three guest speakers. Her speech focused on her dreams of flying, the efforts of her business and it's role in the completion of her airplane.

Rachel's love for flying comes naturally. Her current 150 hours



of flight time have been logged while flying her dad's Cessna 172. Her ambition and success is now nationally known as she has recently been featured in the November 7th, 2016 edition of General Aviation News. Looking to the future, the sky is the limit for Rachel St. Louis ('20).



Picking Up **The Raider Torch**

It's not known for certain whether General Benjamin Lincoln's son ever put a shovel to the earth in the groundbreaking of Washington Academy. It is a fact, however, that he wielded a weighty pen as one of the original petitioners, board members, and signers of the Academy Charter in 1792.

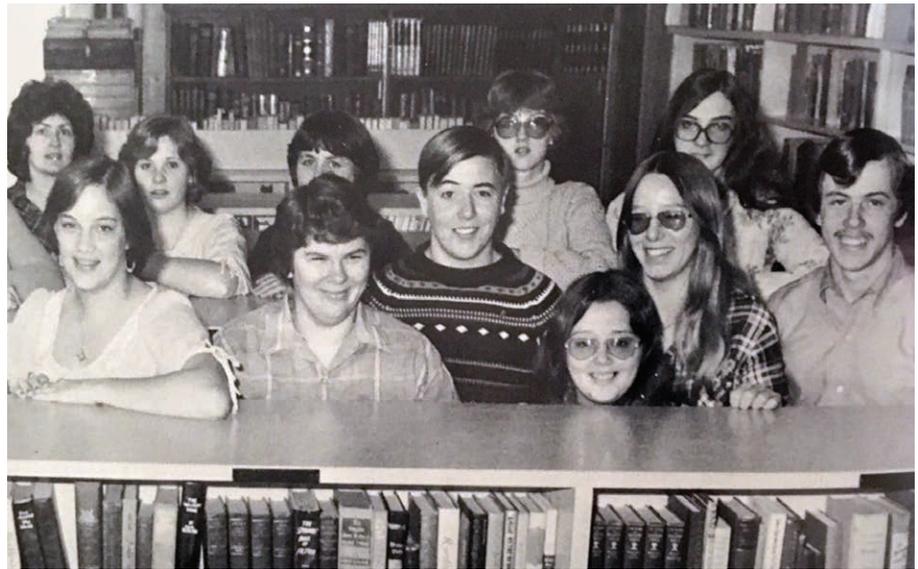
They say history repeats itself. Now, 225 years and some ten generations later, 1979 WA graduate Dennis Mahar also wields a weighty pen. Mahar is the current President and Chair of the Board of Trustees. Dennis Mahar

is not the first in his family to serve Washington Academy. He is, as fate would have it, General Benjamin Lincoln's direct descendant.

Both Mahar's mother's family, the Clarks, and his father's family have been in this region for hundreds of years and are considered two of its founding families. Arriving after the French and Indian War and settling in Washington County and on Campobello Island, generations of his forbearers and relatives attended WA until shortly after the Civil War, when the town of Pembroke, where

Mahar grew up, got its own high school. "Pembroke was actually very progressive," he explains. "They started one of the first public high schools in the state."

Mahar's grandparents and his parents went to Pembroke High. His father, Ralph, went on to become its principal, serving there until it closed in 1973, just a few short years before Dennis was to enroll. As a result, Dennis would attend WA, and in doing so, become the first in generations to pick up the ever-burning Raider family torch.



"For those of us who came from a small primary school, heading off to WA was pretty scary," Dennis recalls. "You didn't know anyone outside your little circle. Social media consisted of knocking on your neighbor's door. Heck, we weren't even allowed to dial outside our telephone exchange," he chuckles. "You come in thinking that all 350 of these kids are going to be smarter, stronger, and faster than you. But then you figure out that's not the case. It was Washington Academy that really gave me the opportunity to spread my wings."

Mahar went off to Bowdoin College, and then on to the University of Maine School of Law. "If you had told me then that I'd ever come back to Washington County I would've said you're certifiably crazy," he emphasizes. He barely came back for holidays, breaks, or summers. But after his first year of law school he took a summer internship with a firm in Calais, just this side of the Canadian border. Today he owns half of it.

Over the ensuing years Mahar found himself back at WA frequently. His father served on the board despite never having attended, his younger sister and brother graduated WA, and he was an active alumnus. One day when out on a ladder painting his house, his former-wife, Carol,

calls up that Bill Talbot, longtime board president, is on the phone. "I figured it was work related and I asked to call him back," Dennis recalls. "Carol comes back and says

"We have proven over and over that we can adapt, remain relevant, and continue to graduate successful kids. I fully expect we'll be here for at least another 100 years."

'Nope. He wants you now'. Turns out Talbot's calling from the annual trustee meeting - in progress - to invite me onto the board. That was almost 25 years ago."

Mahar, who served for ten years as Board Chair of Calais Hospital and is a past president of the Maine State Bar Association continues to share, "Much has changed, even in my tenure: campus growth, student diversity, technology, teaching. And quite simply, the pace of change has changed. Long-term strategic planning is really five years out now. But WA has stood the test of time," Mahar continues. "We have proven over and over that we can adapt, remain relevant, and continue to graduate successful kids. I fully expect we'll be here for at least another 100 years."

Lincoln would be proud. ■





Hundred Thousands, Ten Thousands, Thousands, Hundreds, Tens, Ones, Tenths, Hundredths, Thousandths, Ten Thousandths, Hundred Thousandths

Counting The Days



...and The Hendersons...and the Reynolds...and The Taylors...and the...

Downeast Maine is a funny place. Steeped in a roiling, cast-iron cauldron of dirt, water, and wood, its richly flavored history is strung together with chain-linked stories of pioneering and perseverance; its sentences punctuated by the shared experience of myriad births, marriages, deaths, and yes, even graduations.

While it's difficult for an outlier to make sense of the Henderson, Day,

Reynolds, Taylor, and Sansing family schematic, they don't seem to have any problem. Assembled in a classroom in the original Washington Academy schoolhouse, flanking a smart board that used to be a white board that used to be a chalkboard, they traded anecdotes like kids trade notes, laughing, boasting, and reminiscing... as if they all went to school here. At the same time. Together.

They railed and raved, all talking comfortably at once, recalling rivalries and rituals, pitfalls and pratfalls, trials and triumphs, goals and baskets, awards and achievements, and of course the requisite rantings of "Ol' Man So and So". Yes, there were a few shared teachers among them.

"The Hendersons," Charles Henderson offers, all of them suddenly realizing that someone else besides family is

in the room, "started here in Cutler, back in the 1840's." Charles's father, a retired army officer, moved his family back to Cutler in 1957, allowing Chuck to attend WA, and graduate in 1962. "Margaret Gardner was in my class," he adds proudly. "Tart" Gardner was his Headmaster.

Chuck went into the army, followed service with a forestry degree from UMaine, and after a five year stint working in northern Maine, Chuck, his bride, and their three children returned to the Bold Coast with unimagined spirit. They would take up residence at Cutler's Little River Lighthouse. In fact, they would be the last family to ever live there, the easternmost island lighthouse in the US.

They moved to the mainland in time for daughter MaryEllen and her siblings, Chip and Michelle, to attend WA. MaryEllen would graduate 1987 Valedictorian, 25 years after her dad. "I was in the top 20 of my class," he boasts. "There were about twenty of us," he adds chuckling. "But I married smart."

MaryEllen would marry her high school sweetheart, Billy Day, also class of '87, and go on to dedicate her professional life to WA. After getting a degree from UMM, she



taught mathematics from '94 through 2000, served on the Board of Trustees from 2007-2012, and continues as Assistant Head of School. Billy, who played on the school's first state championship baseball team, would build a career with the Downeast Correctional Facility in Bucks Harbor. MaryEllen and Billy had three children, Jillian, Emily and Lydia, all of whom would join the Raider family with a deep sense of pride, and privilege. "We all grew up knowing we would be going here, either by contract or by choice," MaryEllen shares. "Our blood runs maroon," one of the others pipes in. "Oh and her..." Jillian adds, pointing to her pregnant belly, "Fifteen years from now she'll be going here too!"

Jillian has not strayed far from her mother's path. Graduating 4th in her class in 2013, she was President of the National Honor Society and Student Government, while simultaneously on varsity soccer and captain of varsity softball, among other highlights. She married Casey Taylor, and worked briefly for Machias Savings Bank before returning to WA, where she currently directs all digital media initiatives and attends the University of Maine, Machias.

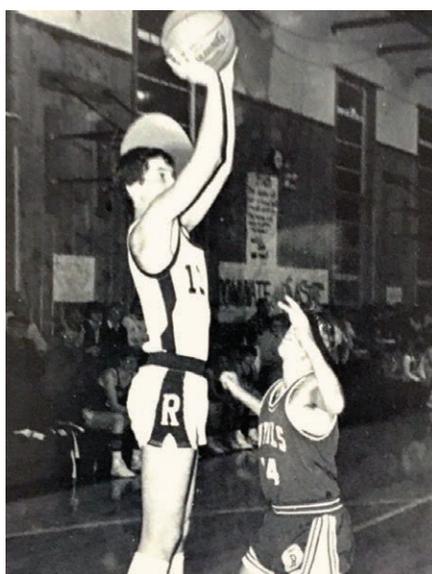
Emily was hot on Jillian's heels, graduating 3rd in her class of 2014. "And it was a bigger class," she says, appropriately upping her sister with a smile. Emily would go on to marry

her high school sweetheart as well, Drew Sansing, also a WA graduate, in 2016. She is currently enrolled in UMaine at Augusta, studying to be a dental hygienist. Completing the Day hat trick is Lydia, who will graduate WA this year and is leaning toward UMaine dental school as well.

Of course, there are numerous other offshoots and familial tributaries that bob and weave through WA's headland heritage, even within this small stand of family trees. Chuck's two siblings, Barbie Henderson and Jean McMann Henderson, both graduated WA. Chuck's son Chip, along with daughter Michelle and her daughters Jordan and Alex Reynolds are also Raider-raised. All of Billy Day's brothers and sisters, Larry, Wade, Brian and Vicki Day Maker did too, along with countless cousins.

Washington Academy is blessed. Blessed with a stalwart pedigree and an army of alumni, a dynamic staff and student body, and a rich, on-deck circle of shedders, waiting in the wings. Pioneers of the past and forgers of the future, WA instills an unwavering commitment to the ongoing evolution of this institution, and the community that is its heart. So you invest in it each and every day. Because you plan on staying here. And you plan on your kids staying here.

For many Days to come. ■





When The Future Starts In The Pasture

In this light-speed era of one-world trade, global mobility, universal communication, and more changes faster than at any other time in history, it's increasingly unusual to find four consecutive generations, strung together over some 80 years and counting, settling, staying, and continuing to build their futures in one place.

It is rarer still that members of this unbroken thread of passed down genes would attend the same educational institution.

Flora Purington began that charge in 1939, quite literally, as she would go on to write the still celebrated and sung Washington Academy Fight Song, "Here's To WA, Boys", before she would graduate in 1943. Born in South Addison, Maine in 1924, Flo, as she was known, moved to Connecticut after graduation to work, only to return here, marry Herbert Hanscom Jr., and start a family as well as a few legendary businesses.

Flo Hanscom was a recognized entrepreneur, starting and running

operations that leveraged the challenging but bountiful land on which she lived, and focusing on blueberries and balsam. Perhaps best known for running Flo's Wreaths for over 50 years, she was also a dedicated civic activist long before that was commonplace for a woman, playing a grand role in shaping this region's development through everything from Girl Scouts to the Chamber of Commerce.



Flo's daughter Debbie went on to marry Lyle Guptill, who as it turns out, graduated WA in 1970. Also a tested entrepreneur who makes his living from the land, Lyle started Guptill's Logging almost forty years ago, which today remains an ongoing and successful enterprise. A man of few words, when asked why he stayed in Washington County, Lyle simply said, "It's my home".

Lyle and Debbie had Jessika, their second oldest child of four, and raised them in East Machias. All four would graduate WA. "Being third generation, I definitely felt a little bit of pressure to live up to the family name," Jessika, Class of '96 recalls. "And I was following my older sister who was just a year ahead and was also a high achiever. But I felt very connected to the school, and proud just stepping in the door."

"Some of the teachers I had taught my father," she adds with a chuckle.

"And some who taught me are now teaching my kids. It's pretty neat." Most teachers will tell you it's a mixed milestone that certainly gives cause for pause, a sigh, and a smile.

"Don Sprangers," award-winning educator and WA science teacher, "loves to tell my kids about the fetal pig I refused to dissect in class some 25 years ago," Jessika laughs. "That's just so ironic given the fact that I went on to become a pig farmer!"

"When I realize that one of my students is the son or daughter of a past student, I first think, oh, I must be getting old," Sprangers shares. "And then I reflect back to the time when I had their parent in my classroom so many years ago. The reality quickly sets in that this person did not move away and is making a living in Downeast Maine, as a forester, lobsterman, contractor, hair dresser, teacher, nurse, food service provider, small business owner....and more.... and a true sense of community sets in."

Immediately after graduation, Jessika and "her boyfriend soon-to-be husband" Dante packed up and headed west, settling in Idaho. Two kids and six years later they returned home to build their life around family. Landing in Lubec, Jess too, turned out to be an entrepreneur, building a business and a legacy off the land, starting Olde Sow Creamery. Initially a 100-plus pig farm, she now raises 24 sheep, ten dairy cows (three of which are pregnant), two horses, countless chickens, six cats, two dogs, and... seven kids.

"I was thrilled when I found out my kids would be going to WA," she beams. "It's amazing how this school fosters independence and learning, and offers exposure to so many worldly things in our little corner of the planet. It's very special to me that my family's been rooted in this area for generations, and so has this school."

"And not everybody is in business for themselves," she adds. "But here



we have three generations that successfully have. And all of them are WA graduates. That really says something. Maybe my kids will want to do their own thing too."

Jessika's oldest, Zoie Zaroni, is currently a WA senior who was home-schooled through sixth grade and then went on to Lubec Elementary. "I spent a lot of my time in the pasture," she says fondly. "Farm chores. Being with the animals. It was my escape." She speaks with a quiet and calming confidence that usually comes from spending a lot of time in the company of adults. "I grew up knowing WA was the family school. I wanted to go here. And yes, I think coming in as a WA kid is a little different," she says. "Sure there's a little pressure, but everybody knows you. It's just extremely welcoming." It doesn't hurt that she can occasionally text her mother phone-shots from her glory days of cheerleading, or an old, mildly compromising class picture.

Zoie plans to stay in Maine for college, having decided to study environmental science, something she has been focused on throughout her tenure at WA. As for having a farm some day? "Not on the scale my mother does," she answers. "I'd like to have some cows though. Cows are just so smart. Most people don't know that." And further into the future? "I'd definitely see my kids going here."

Zoie's younger brother Jude, WA '19, echoes her assessment. "Growing up I heard a ton about WA and how great it was. My expectations were through the roof, actually. But after a year and a half I've got to say it's everything I hoped for. It's maybe even a little easier because I already have a sister going here." And a mother, a grandfather, and a great grandmother.

It's easy to spot the physical heirlooms and artifacts passed down from generation to generation. The tract of land, the treasured chest, the storied locket. Far less latent are the intangible assets of familial experience, opportunity, wisdom and example. Names may change but life stories unfold and characters build, all made stronger by the shared challenge and experience of a common pillar; an enduring educational foundation. "WA is like a long thread," Jessika muses. "It's like a root in our family tree. It helps hold us together. It gives us a shared sense of place. And our history."

And while this generationally contiguous chain is probably not a record, there most certainly is one in the making. With five more kids spaced just exactly right, Jessika is poised to serve as a non-stop WA mom for 18 consecutive years! Luca, now two years old, already knows his way around the pasture. His future? Graduating from Washington Academy in 2032. ■

Class Notes

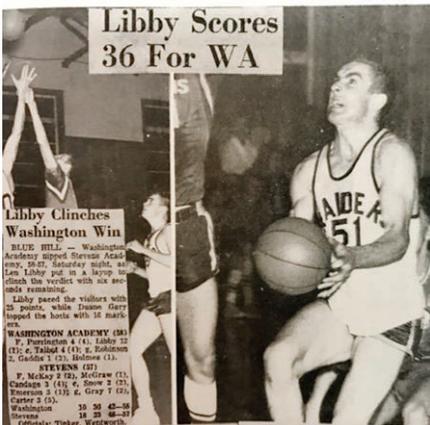
1949

Lois (Ingalls) Sprague is expecting her fourth great grandchild, very soon! Lois and her husband of 65 years, Vernon Sprague, live in Starboard Maine. Together they have 4 children and 8 grandchildren.



1964

Wendall Libby was one of the best basketball players to walk the halls of WA, and was the first basketball player to score 1000 points during a high school basketball career here at Washington Academy. Wendall is now retired after working for the US postal Service for 31 years, and serving as postmaster from 1986-2003. He also served in the Air Force from 1968-1971. He and his wife have been married for 48 years and together have 2 sons and 5 grandchildren.



1980 & 2007

Scott and Arlene Porter became grandparents. Their granddaughter, Abigail Jordan Porter, was born to parents **Josiah** (2007), and Kelsey Porter.



1996



William Tuell is now representing downeast Maine by serving on the Marine Resource Committee. He has been working in several areas including fishing and education. Last year one of his successes was the passing of his bill to cut the price of clamming licenses in half for kids. Will has a heart for the people of downeast Maine, and we are proud to have him representing us.

1999

Dean McGuire, a Washington Academy trustee, married Theresa Libby on October 8th, 2016. Dean has been a long time volunteer for Washington Academy, and has been a huge part of WA since he began

school here as a freshman. We wish them both many years of happiness.



2005

After graduating from WA, **Lorenzo Birch**, attended the Universal Technical Institute, where he became an automotive technician. He went on to work for Bermuda Motors, and now works at S.A.L. Lorenzo was one of the top dirt bike riders in his country, and travelled around the world to represent them.



2006 & 2010

Ashley Varney and **Whitney Stevens**, both WA Alumni, welcomed their second child, Kiana James Stevens to the world on November 8th, 2016.



2012

Carolina Palacios Nieto travelled to the Dominican Republic with the Battery Rehab Project (BRP) as a leader of the construction and design team. While there the team built houses for those who really needed them. Carolina is currently living in Savannah Georgia, finishing her degree in architecture and electronic design at Savannah College of Art and Design.



2012 & 2014

Drew Sansing, and **Emily Day** were married last summer on French's Point, in Stockton Springs, Maine. They now live in Bangor. Emily is in her third year of school to be a dental hygienist, and Drew is now the manager at the Ellsworth Walmart, after graduating from the University of Maine at Orono, last spring with a degree in Business Management.



2013

Ben Connors and **Gabrielle Colbeth Connors** welcomed their first child into the world on June 24th, 2016. Their son, Blair Connors, was 7.3 lbs. Gabrielle is currently working at

Helen's in Ellsworth, while her husband works at First National Bank.



2011 & 2013

Ethan Davis and **Kara Gram**, both graduates from Washington Academy were married on September 10th. Kara is currently a senior at Husson University. She will be graduating with her degree in nursing in the spring. Ethan is currently going through a discipleship program at Machias Christian Fellowship, and also does seasonal work and woodworking.



2011 & 2014

Thomas Moody and **Hailey Cates-Wright** were married on October 16th at their home in Cutler.



Photo by Lida Rolfe

2014 & 2016

Washington Academy is well represented at Maine Maritime Academy! Shown in the picture from left to right is **Alex Finley**, **John Curry**, **Micah McBrine**, and **Patrick Finn**, all Washington Academy graduates, and all teammates from Washington Academy. They all played football together at WA. Alex Finley, John Curry, and Patrick Finn are all freshman at Maine Maritime Academy, while Micah McBrine is a senior after only three years of college. He will be graduating a full year early with a degree in Marine Engineering Operations.



In Memoriam

Inez (Look) Ackley '38	7/12/16
Jonathan Popham '06	7/16/16
Aaron D. Huffman '12	8/05/16
Maylon Ellis Dennison '52	10/20/16
Everett Farnsworth '52	10/22/16
George E. Goriss '82	11/02/16
Clementine Pond Teacher	12/23/16
Deidre Cline '08	12/23/16
Kevin S. McCurdy '82	12/26/16



Alumni/Development Office
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East Machias, ME 04630

Change Service Requested



The more we
look back on
our past, the
more we look
forward to
our future.

Braeden Barker '25 and Finn Barker '30
Children of Larry Barker and Terri Barker '90