



BELLINGHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION, PUBLISHER



# CRIMPVILLE COMMENTS

ESTABLISHED 1973

ISSUE #232, SPRING 2024

## BELLINGHAM'S EARLY SETTLERS AND FOUNDING FAMILIES

*This issue will focus on Bellingham's early settlers and founding families. In addition, we will outline the genealogy resources that are available online and at the museum.*

*These short biographies are summaries from previously published Bellingham history records, including: **The History of Bellingham Massachusetts 1719-1919** by George F Partridge; past issues of the **Crimpville Comments**; and Bruce Lord's online document called **History of Bellingham**: <https://www.bellinghamma.org/historical-commission/pages/history-town-bellingham>*

### **Jacob Bartlett**

Jacob Bartlett, a Quaker, purchased the first lot of land in Bellingham (then part of Dedham) in 1696. Exactly where his home was located is not known, it may have been in current day Woonsocket, when a northeast corner of that city was once part of Bellingham.

No records have been found of the birth of his children. It is known he had a son, Joseph, to whom he deeded his homestead in 1738. A second son, Abner, is shown to have married Abigail Arnold in 1734. A third son, Jacob, Jr. bought a part of his father's farm.

Jacob sought religious freedom. However, even in the wilderness that was Bellingham at the time, he found intolerance and was imprisoned in Boston for failure to pay taxes for ministerial services to the Puritan Church, the established religion in the Massachusetts Bay Colony at the time.

### **Nicolas Cook, 1660-1730**

In 1705, Nicolas Cook received an apportionment of about 40 acres of land in what was then part of the town of Dedham. The land was "east of the Great River (Blackstone) and on both sides of the Peters River". He is considered the second pioneer of Bellingham, preceded only by Jacob Bartlett.

Nicolas too did not practice the established religion; he was a Baptist. Nicolas was not wealthy; records show he asked for relief from town taxes for two years and the relief was granted.

He was active in the formation of the town of Bellingham and is buried in the Scott Cemetery on Center Street.

### **Corbet Family**

Dr. John Corbet and his brother Daniel were two of the most influential signers of the petition for the new town of Bellingham. Their land was on "the oldest road in Bellingham" Hartford Turnpike (now Avenue), as it is described as leading from Mendon to Medfield. John was the first educated doctor in this region. His son, also a doctor, lived on the family estate for 90 years. The second Dr. Corbet was the Town Treasurer for three terms in 1739, 1741 and 1764.

### **Wight Family**

Joseph Wight moved to Bellingham in 1729. He married Mrs. Martha Thayer of Bellingham in 1725. They had a son named Elnathan. Joseph and Elnathan's names appear on a list of the first members of the Baptist Church.

In colonial times, for a town to be formed, the town had to have a church or establish one within 3 years. These churches were of the Congregational denomination and the ministers were supported by taxes levied by the citizens.



Joseph sold land to Elnathan that was deeded for the formation of the first building of the Baptist Church in 1744 on High Street. This site in front of 7 High Street was marked with a boulder and an inscription in November of 1912, on the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the Baptist Church. The inscription states:  
*"Site of the First Baptist Meeting House, Bellingham..."*

# BELLINGHAM'S EARLY SETTLERS AND FOUNDING FAMILIES (CONTINUED)

In 1727, four Bellingham residents who were jailed in Boston for not paying the tax, petitioned the General Court for release because "their consciences do not allow them to pay the town tax for the support of the minister." The next year a law was passed that Anabaptists and Quakers should not be taxed to support the minister if they attended their own church and lived within 5 miles of it.

At a time when most churches had traveling preachers, Elnathan studied for several years to become Bellingham's first settled pastor. His gravestone in the North Bellingham Cemetery has this inscription:

*While you are standing here to read  
Prepare for death with care and speed  
For sure it is that you must die  
And hasten to eternity  
Prepare for death he often said  
Who in this silent grave is laid.*

## The Darling & Cook Families

In the early 1700s Samuel Darling built and lived in the house at Bellingham Four Corners (corner of South Maple and Mechanic Streets, current location of the Charles River Bank branch). Cornelius Darling III built and lived in a house on the corner of Lake & Cross Streets. Ahimmas Darling lived on the east side of Lake Street just past Railroad Street. This house featured two immense chimneys built of field stones. Fifteen members of the Darling family were born in town before 1750, and one hundred and fifteen (115) by 1850.

Cornelius and Samuel signed the petition for Bellingham to become a town. Other family members, Dennis, Eben and Joshua are listed as having fought in the Revolutionary War.

In 1790, the first US Census, there were 121 families living in Bellingham. Eight of these families were Darling families.

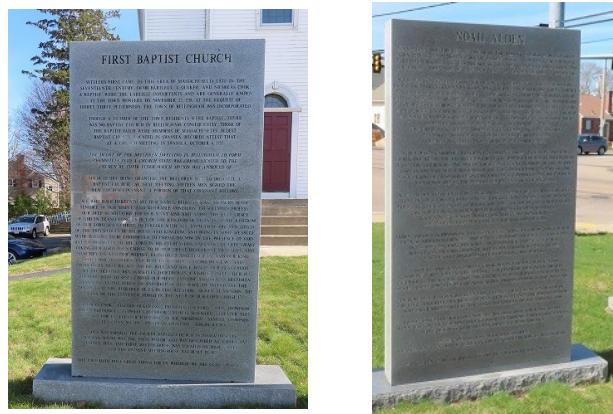
## Eleazer Partridge, 1693-1776

In 1720, for 260 pounds he bought 102 acres "of wild land" in Rawson's Farm. He was the third Town Clerk of the town, and his great, great, great grandson George F. wrote the book, the *History of the Town of Bellingham Massachusetts 1719-1919*.

## Noah Alden

In 1766, Noah Alden became Bellingham Baptist Church's second minister. He served in the Revolutionary War and aided his cousin, Deborah Sampson to enlist as a soldier in the war.

In 2009, he was honored when a granite marker inscribed with the history of the First Baptist Church on one side, and the life of Reverend Noah Alden on the other.



## The Scott Family

No one named Scott lived in Bellingham in 1719 when it became a town. Shortly after, Joseph and Sylvanus Scott, third generation Rhode Islanders, came to Bellingham and purchased large areas of land.

Joseph Scott, bought a portion of the Bloomery Iron Works in Mendon. When he died in 1742 he had the largest estate in town. His brother Sylvanus left two sons named David and John. One of the largest stones in the Scott cemetery is inscribed: "These two died with small pox. In Memory of Mr. Silvanus Scott who Died April 17 1777 in ye 76th year of his age. In Memory of Mrs Joanna wife of Mr. Silvanus Scott. She died April 20 1777."

Joseph's grandsons Samuel and Saul occupied his land at Scott Hill. Members of the Scott family lived in this area until the mid-twentieth century. The area is still referred to as Scott Hill. South Main Street was once Scott Hill Road.

## Pelatiah Smith, 1658-1727

Pelatiah Smith was the first and only Bellingham settler to be called "Gentleman". He bought his "mansion house" on Rawson's Farm, including one-fourth of a sawmill on Stall Brook. He was Bellingham's first town clerk. His son kept a tavern where stagecoaches stopped on their way from Boston to Hartford.

## The Thayer Family

Isaac and Ebenezer Thayer's grandfather, Ferdinando was one of the founders of Mendon. Isaac was born in 1695 and Ebenezer in 1697. In 1717 Ebenezer bought 52 acres at the "Dedham Tree" with eight cow commons and two sheep commons.

The home of Elias Thayer (1741-1706), Ebenezer's son, was the site of a town meeting on July 4, 1776. On that day the voters of Bellingham went to a town meeting that was called by the following warrant:

*"Suffolk ss to the Constables of Bellingham Greeting. You are hereby required forthwith to warn & give Notice to all the freeholders and other inhabitants of said town that are qualified by law to vote in town affairs that they assemble & meet at the now dwelling house of Elias Thayer in said town on Thursday the fourth instant at one o clock in the afternoon to act on the following articals (viz)*

- *First to chuse a moderator for said meeting*
- *2 to see if said Inhabitants will vote any matter or thing that they may think proper relating to the colony being declared Independent of Great Briton*
- *3 to see what sum or sums of money the Inhabitants will Grant to pay men ordered to be raised in said town or to act any mater or thing relating thereto that they may think proper and make due return of this warrant with your doing herein. Given under our hand & seal of said town this second day of July A D 1776.*

This warrant was signed by Aaron Holbrook, Jonathan Draper, Elias Thayer, Ellija Alden, and Stephen Metcalf on July 3, 1779

**Left:** Postcard of the Thayer Store from a circa 1906 postcard series photographed by Nathan Wales. This postcard shows the trolley tracks on South Main Street, looking north at the corner of Mechanic Street. The Thayer store is on the left (current location of Gateway Liquors, the building beyond it is the current location of the Rockland Trust Bank..

The notes of that meeting, state:

*"Bellingham July 4, 1776 being Publick town meeting*

*Legally warned & assembled & regulated by the selectmen and the town made choice of Stephen Metcalf Esq moderator for said meeting."*

*"Voted that in case the Honble Continental Congress should think it necessary for the Safety of the united colonies to declare them independent on Great Britian, the Inhabitants of this town with their Lives & fortunes will cheerfully support them in the measure."*

*"Voted to ad three pounds to the seven pound, which the Colonie gives to Each man that will inlist to go in to the Continental army. Then the meeting was*

*adjurned for half an hour to this place. Then met according to adjurnment & the above Vote for granting three Pounds as a bounty for those that will inlist into the Continental army is reconsidered by a vote of town."*

*"The meet is Dismissed."*

While today July 4 has immense significance, at the time of this meeting, the meeting of the Continental Congress and its progress toward the Declaration of Independence was not known. It would be many days before word would get to Boston of the action in Philadelphia and several more before the actual Declaration of Independence reached the area. The action of the Bellingham Town Meeting on July 4 was likely typical of meetings being held in towns across the colony. It clearly shows the inhabitants of the small outlying towns had a clear understanding of what was going on and supported the Continental Congress. The Thayer family operated the general store in Bellingham Center until the 1960s. In the early 1900s the store was also the home of Bellingham's Post Office. The store was located in the building that is now home to Gateway Liquors.



## BELLINGHAM'S EARLY SETTLERS AND FOUNDING FAMILIES (CONTINUED)

### Thompson Family

Five signers of Bellingham's petition had this name, John, his sons (John, Joseph and Samuel) and Ebenezer.

In 1756 the General Court received a petition from Bellingham asking to be freed from it's fine for not sending a representative (which it had never done yet) because the town had so few inhabitants and that many of their may were "going on the expedition to Crown Point (NY)." At the time the British were mounting various expeditions to take control of Crown Point. In 1759 they were successful. Elnathan Wight's diary had an entry that stated: "September 30, 1755 Lieutenant Peter Thomson died returning from the army from Crown Point by Lake George."

There are letters that Peter wrote to his brother Joseph from Schenectady, NY. Later, letters were written by Daniel from Fort Cumberland. The Bellingham Historical Commission is in possession of many of these letters in our collection and a copy of a letter from Fort Cumberland is on display in the museum. To the left is a transcription of this letter.

FORT CUMBERLAND DECEMBER YE 29, 1759

These lines to you hoping you are well and the rest of my friends. I am not hardy though not sick. Here I am obliged to stay sick or well nothing strange at present. Here is a great number of French come in and a great many more come in and a number of rangers expected soon. It is a very cold part of the world I am in. Hope to be home in the Spring through uncertain. I would not have you best to come to any part of the world as you can go to. I would not have none of my friends come here. I am not much uneasy for I intend to be at home next May. Our living is hard. We have half a cord of wood for a week at one fireplace and about eighteen men and pretty short for provisions.

Letter written from Daniel Thompson to a letter in Bellingham, Donated by Fran Donovan Inv#91-103

## Genealogy Resources

The Historical Commission is working in partnership with the Bellingham Public Library to provide resources to the members of the community that would like to do genealogy research.

At the museum we have yearbooks, town reports, some family histories and many more gems of information that can help research people with roots in Bellingham. For a wider reach there are resources available on the web from FamilySearch.org and Findagrave.com. In addition the library has access to the following resources for members of the Bellingham Community:

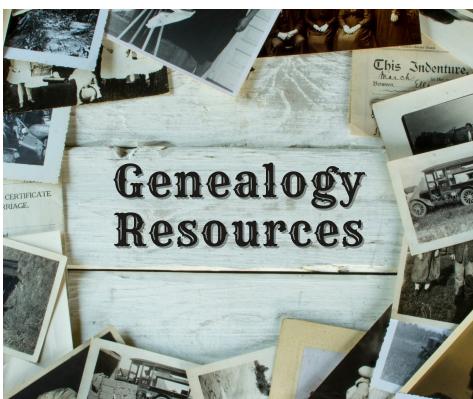
Ancestry.com Library Edition - in library use only

Fold 3 Military Records - in library use only

Heritage Quest - available to anyone located in Massachusetts

You can find the growing list of resources at the genealogy pages on the Bellingham Library website:

<https://www.bellinghamma.org/library/online-resources/pages/>



## IN MEMORIUM

Bellingham residents, employees and volunteers who passed away in 2021. Our deepest sympathy to their loved ones. The names in bold are community members who were employed or elected or appointed officials of the town, with their affiliations.

### 2021

Adam, Michael J.  
 Aiello, Daniel R.  
 Aleksandrowicz,  
     Alexandra M.  
 Alkemper, Jens  
 Altomonte, Joseph L.  
**Arcand, Roland**  
     **Superintendent,**  
     **Parks & Recreation**



Ayer, John Tracy  
 Ayotte, Gail Ann  
 Barrette, William P.  
 Bauer, David L.  
**Becker, Beatrice M.**  
     **Poll Worker /**  
     **Town Meeting Teller**  
 Belanger, Normand R.  
 Bell, Ryan T.  
 Bilodeau III, Robert  
 Blais, Michael D.  
 Bourre, Richard A.  
 Brennan, Daniel F.  
 Briggs, Ruth M.  
 Bristow, Charles  
     Peter Jason  
 Brown, Mary A.  
 Brown, Todd Robert  
 Brunelle, Mark H.  
 Burns, Gail Kathleen  
 Buskirk, Timothy  
     George  
 Butler, Jerrald M.  
 Callery, Richard J.  
**Cartier, Claire R.**  
     **First Female Police**  
     **Officer Badge #1**



Cintolo, Jr. Patrick T.  
 Conrad, Barbara A.  
 Conrardy, Alan W.  
 Costanzo, Bobbie Jo  
 Cook, Amy B.  
 Cook, Margaret Robina  
 Cook, Phyllis A.  
 Courtney, Bernice P.  
 DaSilva, Aline F.  
 Della Penna, Delfina C.  
 DeMarco, Margaret F.  
 Derobertis, Robert B.  
 Desrosiers, Raymond L  
**DeTore, Catherine J.**  
     **Council on Aging**  
**Donahue, Robert Paul**  
     **Historical**  
     **Commission**



Dresser II, Sumner  
 Edwardsen, Donna A.  
**Erickson, Todd**  
     **DPW Mechanic**  
 Falter, Caarole H.  
 Fernandez, Armando S.  
 Finnell, Patrick M.  
 Fino, Ruth F.  
 Ford, Norma D.  
 Forrestall Jr., Daniel R.  
 Frasca, Stephen Joseph  
 Frederick, Glen C.  
 Gagne, Richard E.  
 Ganci, Todd S.  
 Gaudet, Ryan Michael  
 Giardini, Jenna Louise  
 Gloss, Meghan  
     Elizabeth  
 Godbout, Rita M.  
 Goneau, Jean Marie  
 Goodman, William J.  
 Gregoire, Guy J.  
 Groves, Timothy C.  
 Hamm, Stephen J.  
 Haynes, Peter

**Holmes, George C.**  
     **Conservation**  
     **Commission**  
 Iacovelli, Anna M.  
 Jankowski, Leonard  
     James  
 Kagan, Annette G.  
 Kane, Angela E.  
 Kaufman, Bernard  
     Philip  
 Kazijian, James Daniel  
 Keller, Sylvia G.  
 Kelley, William Francis  
 Kilroy, William Francis  
**Kirby, Edwina M.**  
     **Dept. Public Works**  
**Kogut, Bertha**  
     **Council on Aging**  
 Ladeau, Jason William  
**Ladouceur, Mark**  
     **Raymond**  
     **Housing Authority**  
**Lamoureux,**  
     **Barbara A.**  
     **Fire Department**  
     **Ladies Auxiliary**  
 Lariviere, Muriel  
     Therese  
 Lemire, Marc R.  
 Lubertowicz, Paul  
 MacDougall,  
     Virginia H.  
 Marrier Sr., Arthur E.  
 McCulley, William M.  
 McKenna, Patrick E.  
 McTomney, Steven  
     Gerard  
 Meears, Katlyn Joanne  
 Michaud, Richard J.  
 Milligan, Jason  
     Laurence  
 Moll, William G.  
 Monkman, Gerald Lee  
**Moody, Glenn**  
     **Edward**  
     **Cultural Council**  
 Moretti, Jeannette H.  
 Motroni, Roberta G.  
 Nadon, Jean F.  
 Nellingan, Cheryl M.  
 Nellingan, David M.  
 O'Reilly, Francis James

Patel, Sunny  
**Patrick, Carlton L.**  
     **Volunteer Fireman**  
     **Historical**  
     **Commission**  


Peck, Beth L.  
 Peck, Scott D.  
**Picariello, Toni**  
     **Finance Committee /**  
     **Community Activist**



Polk, Noelle Ramos  
**Provost, Robert A.**  
     **Fire Department**  
 Rawlingson,  
     Georgette M.  
 Reeve, Jean M.  
 Rice, David Alan  
**Rigney, Lawrence A.**  
     **President, BHS**  
     **Football Booster**  
     **Club**

Rivera, Ana L.  
 Roe, Mary Ellen  
 Roman, Rose D.  
 Sawyer, Paul E.  
 Scott, Kimberley A.  
 Semenuk, John M.  
 Shaughnessy, Mary  
     Teresa H.  
 Short, Terence S.  
 Silva, Carlos Eduardo  
**Simonson, William D.**  
     **Finance Committee**  
 Simpson, Janice Marie

**Singleton, Richard**  
     **Wyllie**  
     **Town Moderator**  
 Smith, Sandra Ann  
 Sullivan Jr., James J.  
 Taufman, Johnathan  
     Charles  
 Thibault, Peter David  
**Trudel, Jean Paul**  
     **Superintendent**  
     **Water & Sewer Dept.**  
 VanWie, James Paul  
 VanWie, Richard  
     Raymond  
 Varnum, Heather  
     Elizabeth  
 Vasquez-Cruz, Jesus  
     Manuel  
 Walsh Jr., Gordon A.  
 Walton, Donald W.  
 Ward, Mildred A.  
 Weker, Deborah E.  
 Werner, Sheryl F.  
**Whiting, Kathryn**  
     **Elizabeth**  
     **Historical**  
     **Commission**



**Whitten, Glen**  
     **Senior Sergeant**  
     **Police Dept.**



Willett, Sonja Marie  
 Woodman,  
     Edward E. Jr.

## IN MEMORIUM

Bellingham residents, employees and volunteers who passed away in 2022 deepest sympathy to their loved ones. The names in bold are community members who were employed or elected or appointed officials of the town, with their affiliations.

2022

Albee, Edward Alfred  
 Alexander Jr., Paul H.  
 Armour, Hibberd E.  
 Barbour, Therman Wayne  
 Bardell, Cynthia Ann  
 Beal, Marjorie A.  
 Bertone, Patricia Ann  
 Besterfield, Barbara A.  
 Bibbo, Richard J.  
 Blumenthal, Gerald P.  
 Bourgery, Josephine M.  
 Boyce, Joann D.  
 Brennan, Zelia Maria  
 Briggs, Martin Coburn  
 Brouillette, Gracia M.  
 Brown, Paula Marie  
 Byam, Susan Kathleen  
 Carchedi, Paul  
 Carey, Thomas Michael  
 Castellini, Michael  
     Andrew  
 Champeau, Robert R.  
 Clinton, Eileen A.  
 Clopeck, Maryellen  
 Cobban, Deborah A.  
 Collins, Patricia  
 Corsi, James Bernard  
 Cote, Marie L.  
     (Camelli)  
 Crea, David A.  
 Crockett, Cameron  
     Lake  
 Crowson, Maria  
     Themistocles  
 Curran, Christine M.  
 Curran, Patrick J.  
 Dastoli, Carl  
 DePaula, Marta  
 Defazio, Assunta  
**Degre, Roger Gerard**  
*Personnel & Planning  
 Board  
 School Committee*



Delin, Ina  
 Derick Jr., Earl F.  
 Derosiers, Dennis  
 Donaldson,  
     Catherine J.  
 Dumont, Robert  
     Lawrence  
 Durand, Susan  
 Dutremble, Nancy S.  
 Farrell, John G.  
 Feola, Donna L.  
 Fournier, Blanche M.  
 Fournier, Thomas A.  
 Fowler, John F.  
 Frazer, Rodney A.  
 Gaffney, Arlene Martha  
 Galvin, Anibal D.  
 Gaudreau, Thomas F.  
 Gauthier, Marcel A.  
 Gentile Jr., Gary A.  
 Ghioni, Debra S.  
 Gorman, Clarice A.  
 Gravel, Anne C.  
 Gruttner, Francis  
 Guillet, Margaret Marie  
 Hadges, Nicholas  
 Hallfelder, Jean Marie  
 Hamelin Jr., Raymond  
     Joseph  
 Harkins, Marie Alice  
 Harrison, Charles F.  
 Hemmer, Robert H.  
 Hemstedt Jr., William  
     Paul  
 Hill, David Lawrence  
 Hill, Robert Paul  
 Hogan Jr., John  
     Richard  
 Holder, Cheryl Lynn  
 Hughes, Kristopher  
     Richard  
 Jenckes, Gloria M.  
 Jenkins, Harry L.  
 Jones, Kathleen M.  
 Judkins, Joyceanne  
 Keefe, Evan Scott  
 Knott, Lois M.  
 Lamoureux, Roland R.  
 Lapio, Geraldine L.  
 Larney Jr., John P.  
 Larson, Jacqueline  
     Denise

LeClair, Ruth Barbara  
 Lewis, Jeffrey M.  
 Loulache, Fouad Boulos  
 Lovejoy, Rita G.  
 Lowry Sr., James W.  
 Luise, Lois Anne  
 Madigan, Nancy Jean  
 Marcet, Albert Robert  
**Markey, Mary R.**  
*Recipient of Boston Post Cane in 2019*  
  
May Markey, 2019-2020 custodian of the Boston Post Cane  
 Marlborough, Thomas  
     Leo  
 Marley, Scott S.  
 Mattson, Dennis P.  
 McQuade, Cecilia F.  
 Meehan, Diane A.  
 Middleton, Jane Ellen  
**Morey, Wayne S.**  
*Volunteer, Adult Supportive Day Program, Youth Services Center*  


Post, Keith R.  
**Prescott, Cynthia Joan**  
*Early Childhood Program Teacher's Aide*



Rabidou, Lorraine R.  
**Raider, Edward H.**  
*Volunteer Shine Counselor, Senior Center*



Remillard, Muriel J.  
 Richard, Robert  
**Robidoux, Jeannine T.**  
*Housing Authority*



Rosenberg, Jeffrey  
 Rudolph, Lawrence E.  
 Sculos, Margaret M.  
 Shumaker, Ian Robert  
 Silven, Kirsten Leigh  
 Smith, Alexander Lucas  
 Smith, Mary K.  
 Soter, Carol S.  
 Stathakis, Dimitrios A.  
 Sullivan Jr., Joseph D.  
 Sweet Jr. Gregory  
     Owen

**Szamreta, Elaine E.**  
*Treasurer Collector's Office*



Tagliaferri, Phyllis  
     Marie  
 Taylor, Frances Zaikis  
 Taylor, Jay E.  
 Thiebault, Thomas O.  
 Thompson, Anne C.  
 Tota, Eva W.  
**Trudeau, Gilbert L.**  
*Teacher, Vice Principal, Principal*



Tustin, Helen Trainor  
 VanWie, Marion  
 Vichi, Elizabeth  
 Ward, Annette  
 Ward, John J. Jr.  
 Warren, Cynthia J.  
**Willey, Elizabeth A.**  
*Council on Aging Poll Worker*



Woodman, Mildred L.  
 Yannino, Nancy

## CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF GEORGE WHITING!



*George Whiting (third from the right), is joined by members of the Historical Commission, Jeff Prescott, Bernadette Rivard (Secretary) and Rick Marcoux, Chair at the presentation of the Commission's Appreciation award acknowledging George as a 100 Year Bellingham Resident!*

On Sunday, April 14th, friends and family of lifetime resident George Whiting gathered in the upper Town Hall to celebrate his 100th birthday.

George often says, "I sleep in the bed I was born in." George has lived his entire life in Bellingham and that is a fact worth celebrating!

At the 100th birthday party, the Bellingham Historical Commission presented George with an award in appreciation of his long time priority to preserve Bellingham's History.

At the event Secretary Rivard, made the following remarks at the presentation.

Good afternoon,

My name is Bernadette Rivard and I am the Secretary of the Bellingham Historical Commission, as well as the Library Director here in town.

A bit more than a month ago, Helen stopped by to visit me at the library to let me know that George was turning 100 and the family was planning a party, and wanted to learn more about "the cane".

In 1909, even before George was born, the Boston Post Newspaper gave an ebony wood, gold capped cane to each city and town in New England, asking them to present it to their oldest resident. Bellingham's replica of the cane is currently in the possession of Rolande Dubois, who is 102 years old. The original cane is on display in the museum.

However, although George might not be Bellingham's oldest resident, he is the oldest who has lived here his entire life, and that is worthy of the town celebrating!

In the few years I have been on the Historical Commission, George has donated his time and many of his family's historical items to the museum. He spent hours at the library in the fall of 2022 at our Mass Memories Road Show event talking about Bellingham. His memories of the 1938 hurricane in Bellingham are recorded and are on the Mass Memories Road Show website to all to watch, listen and learn from. One of my favorite things that George donated to the museum was his father Warren's "Bellingham Farmers" baseball uniform. In the 1930s, the Bellingham Farmers played against the Woonsocket Call in South Bellingham. And all the evidence we have said the team was not very good and often lost to the Woonsocket team.

So George, in appreciation for all you do to help preserve Bellingham history, the Bellingham Historical Commission would like to present you with this Appreciation Award, acknowledging you as a 100 year resident of Bellingham. Congratulations and Happy Birthday!

To learn more about the Whiting family and their contribution to Bellingham history, we recommend the following:

*Bellingham Now & Then: Celebrating the 300th Anniversary of Bellingham, MA*, 2020, Town of Bellingham. Copies of this book are available to borrow at the Bellingham Public Library, for sale at the museum and available for purchase online.

George's memories of the 1938 Hurricane were recorded on video at the Bellingham Library's Mass. Memories Road Show event and can be viewed online at:

[https://openarchives.umb.edu/  
digital/collection/p15774coll6/  
id/13940/rec/8](https://openarchives.umb.edu/digital/collection/p15774coll6/id/13940/rec/8)



## CRIMPVILLE COMMENTS

Bellingham Historical Commission

3 Common Street

Bellingham MA 02019

Check [website](#) for current hours

Also open by appointment

Telephone: 508-966-5838

Email: [history@bellinghamma.org](mailto:history@bellinghamma.org)

[www.bellinghamma.org/historical-commission](http://www.bellinghamma.org/historical-commission)



[www.facebook.com/  
BellinghamHistoricalCommissionMA/](http://www.facebook.com/BellinghamHistoricalCommissionMA)



*Home of the  
Ernest A. Taft Jr. Historical Museum*

***The Crimpville Comments*** is mailed free to long time subscribers and is available electronically on the Commission's website, [www.bellinghamma.org/historical-commission](http://www.bellinghamma.org/historical-commission)

You can subscribe to the Commission's electronic newsletter which will link to the Crimpville Comments here:  
<https://bit.ly/3dwc5sf>  
or return the form to the right with your email address.

New subscribers to the print edition are encouraged to make a suggested \$20 annual donation to help defray the printing and mailing costs.

The Commission also has a gift fund that can accept donations from the community. As we move forward, we would appreciate your support!

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes I would like to subscribe to the print edition. Enclosed is my donation (suggested amount \$20.00). Make the check payable to ***The Crimpville Comments***.

Yes, I would like to subscribe to the electronic newsletter and my email address is above.

Yes, I would like to make a donation to the Bellingham Historical Commission. Make the check payable to the ***Bellingham Historical Commission Gift Fund***.

All correspondence should be mailed to:

**Bellingham Historical Commission**

**3 Common Street**

**Bellingham MA 02019**

If you wish to donate items or artifacts to the museum please complete and return an **Artifact/Material Donation Application Form**. Download the form here: <https://bit.ly/3trxJal> or scan this QR Code.

