



FREE MONTHLY PUBLICATION

# TRI-VILLAGE BUZZ

April 2021 ISSUE 238

Visit: [www.wasalake.com/buzzsu](http://www.wasalake.com/buzzsu)

## *RUNNING with the WOLVES*

Okay, maybe not running. But there were a couple of times I had to walk really fast!

“What is she on about?” you may ask.

Well, I was gifted with a most wonderful surprise for my birthday, earlier this month! Barry took me to ‘walk with the wolves’ at Northern Lights Wolf Sanctuary north of Golden. Oh my gosh! what an awesome experience! But before I get into that, let me give you a little background on the facility and why there is a need for such a place.



Casey & Shelley Black are an adventurous animal loving couple. In the late 90’s Casey was part of a team that trained animals for big Hollywood movies. A few years later, in 1998, Casey and Shelley adopted Aspen – a female wolf dog. The initial idea was to have Aspen as a spoiled movie star and ambassador for educating people about wolves. Eventually the movie star dream faded and Northern Lights Wolf was formed and Aspen became the star ambassador. Today the Northern Lights Wolf hosts a full pack of wolves all whom were born in captivity. Let me clarify here: This couple does not deliberately breed wolves; the animals on their property have come from zoos that have closed down, injured animals nursed back to health, etc. Beautiful creatures that, through no fault of their own, have become habituated to humans and so cannot be released into the wild. So they become a learning tool to educate the rest of us. They currently have 7 wolves in their enclosure and are the most amazing animals!

Wolves are much maligned in our society. Perhaps because we do not entirely understand their pivotal role in conserving and preserving our environment. Yellowstone Park is an excellent example of this.

In 1926, the last wolf pack was killed in Yellowstone National Park. The consequences of this proved catastrophic for the park as a whole. The elk pushed the limits of Yellowstone’s carrying capacity, and they didn’t move around much in the winter-browsing heavily on young willow, aspen and cottonwood plants. That was tough for beaver, who need willows to survive in winter.

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# WHEN THE MOON HITS YOUR EYE .....

submitted by Barry Morvai

So here we are, heading into April, waiting for spring weather to arrive. For us in Wasa, I've noticed, spring usually comes early, with a few hiccups along the way.

For the most part, we can blame that on the moon. I believe the solstice and the full moon being close together can determine our early or late springs. I'm pretty sure the old farmers almanac has already figured that out, so I'm just gonna go ahead and give myself a pat on the back for that....you can too, if you wish. 😊



As you all know, the moon is the earth's only natural satellite, and is the fifth largest satellite in our solar system. It orbits the earth at a distance of approximately 384,400 km (238,900 mi). It does not spin on its axis, unlike the earth, therefore we only ever see one side. So if you have your binoculars or telescope focused on any particular craters and you run out of viewing time .... it'll be there next time you look ... unless, of course, that giant asteroid travelling at 450,000 km per second hits it from the backside ... then forget about it ... but that's another story for another issue. 😊

I sense the gardeners are getting excited ... lol ... moving right along ... April skies are going to be a little eventful starting with:

**April 12** - new moon. Great time to get out and see other objects in the night sky.

**April 22/23** - Lyrids Meteor Shower. This is an average shower producing around 20 per hour at its peak. The Lyrids are dust particles left from comet Thatcher, discovered in 1861. The moon will be very bright at this time, making viewing a little difficult, but if you are patient, you'll still see some good ones.

**April 27** - Full Moon! This is one of three super moons for 2021 ... meaning it will appear closer than normal, which in turn, will make it seem larger than normal. Might be a good time for a drive out to the prairies! Always makes for a great photo op.

Happy Easter everyone!

Enjoy the warmer weather coming our way and happy viewing!!

*Like the wolf during a full moon, may your heart have many songs to sing. A. Peerless*

The **Wasa Recreation Society** manages the Wasa Community Hall. The main objective is to have a Community Hall that is viable for events and recreation of the community. Through fund-raising, volunteering and rentals, we are able to have an economical community hall for our community. The Recreation Society meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the basement. The meetings are open for anyone wanting to attend with new ideas or becoming part of the Society committee.

- **Hall Rentals and Information:** Karen Markus 250.422.3514 or Bonnie Meena 250.422.3795
- **Gym:** Sonia Blackwell 250.421.3019 or Rod 250.422.3253
- **TOPS:** Susan 778.524.0012
- **Library:** Judy McPhee 250.422.3766
- **Quilter's Club:** Linda Sungaard 778.524.4456
- In addition, BINGOs are held the 2nd tuesday of the month - 6 months of the year, at the Wasa Hall. See details in the calendar. Early bird starts at 6:30 p.m. & regular at 6:45 p.m.
- TKC coffee is held the 2nd wednesday of each month





## TRI-VILLAGE BUZZ NEWS TEAM

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There were no wolves to keep the herds on the move, and so ease the stress on the habitat. With no beavers, there were no dams to rejuvenate the land and drought happened. Beaver dams have multiple effects on stream hydrology. They even out the seasonal pulses of runoff; store water for recharging the water table; and provide cold, shaded water for fish, while the now robust willow stands provide habitat for songbirds. Yellowstone lost more than the wolves, the beavers left, the ungulates sickened because the weak were no longer weeded out, birds left the area ..... It took years for anyone to make the connection between predator, prey and environment.

In 1995, 31 gray wolves from western Canada were reintroduced to Yellowstone Park. The positive effects of this were seen within a few years. Twenty-five years after gray wolves returned to Yellowstone National Park, the predators that some feared would wipe out elk have instead proved to be more of a stabilizing force. New research shows that by reducing populations and thinning out weak and sick animals, wolves are helping create more resilient elk herds.

Which brings me back to the Northern Light Wolf Sanctuary and the importance of their message in wolf conservation. We need to stop the indiscriminate slaughter of a very important apex predator - our own survival may well depend on it.

We were able to go on a walk with Flora, a lovely 9 yr old and observe the way she took in her environment. She was curious, even affectionate, coming up to us regularly for an ear scratch and to lick our hands. About halfway through the walk we stopped for a 'photo op' where we received our first (and probably only) wolf kisses! Amazing - just an amazing experience.



As humans, we tend to fear what we do not understand. And we really need to understand the role the wolf plays in our culture. Like the vanishing bees, the disappearance of the wolf can and will have a destructive effect on our entire ecosystem.



<https://northernlightswildlife.com/how-can-i-help/>  
<https://www.yellowstonepark.com/things-to-do/wolf-reintroduction-changes-ecosystem>  
<https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/nature/wolf-restoration.htm>  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/yellowstone-wolves-reintroduction-helped-stabilize-ecosystem>



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## EASY BEEF STROGANOFF

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 2 cups egg noodles, uncooked                  | 2 Tbsp. butter                        |
| 1 onion, chopped                              | 1 pkg. (8 oz.) sliced fresh mushrooms |
| 1 lb. extra-lean ground beef                  |                                       |
| 2 Tbsp. LEA & PERRINS Worcestershire Sauce    |                                       |
| 1/2 tsp. pepper                               | 2 Tbsp. flour                         |
| 1 cup beef broth                              | 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley         |
| 1 cup BREAKSTONE'S or KNUDSEN Sour Cream      |                                       |
| 3 Tbsp. KRAFT Grated Parmesan Cheese, divided |                                       |



Heat oven to 375°F.

Cook noodles as directed on package, omitting salt. Meanwhile, melt butter in large deep skillet on medium heat. Add onions; cook and stir 5 min. Add mushrooms; cook and stir 5 min. Add meat to skillet; cook, stirring to break up meat, until no longer pink, about 5 min. Add Worcestershire sauce and pepper; cook 1 min.

Add flour to meat mixture; cook and stir 1 min. Add broth; cook and stir 5 min. Turn off heat; stir in sour cream.

Add noodles and 2 Tbsp. Parmesan to meat mixture; mix well and spoon into 2-qt. round baking dish. Sprinkle with remaining Parmesan. Bake, uncovered, 20 to 25 min. or until heated through. Sprinkle with parsley.

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*and their  
place in our  
hearts ....*

I would like to revive an old favourite!  
Send me pics of your 'fur babies' and a bit of a  
story of how they came to be in your heart.



Sophie is - without a doubt - our water dog! It doesn't matter what kind of water, what season, she will be in it. She is also a rescue, from a young family that ended up with her when their father died, but could not keep her. She is a papered Shepanese (German Shephard x Bernese Mountain Dog), and sometimes we think the dumbest beast we own, lol. Incredibly affectionate, she even loves the cat. And stamina! She can go all day and seem to have the same energy at the end as she did at the beginning. She has been a wonderful addition to our family.

## Wasa Community Church



God makes beautiful things. We don't have to go far to see that. Our families are here. We live in the midst of majestic mountains, a wonderful lake, amazing forests and magnificent animals. Even if other marvels of the world aren't near by, we have access at our fingertips to be able to take them in. This morning, I was reading through the third chapter of Ecclesiastes, and in the eleventh verse, Solomon says of God,

***"He has made everything beautiful in its time."***

There are times where things look grim and ugly. The most important part of Christianity is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is something that should be focused on every day of the year, but at this time of year, we more so tend to direct our focus toward it. Here we see His love on full display, as God in human form, after living such a life of service for others, performs His all-time greatest act of service. Scourged, beaten, mocked and nailed to a cross, the only innocent person died in the place of us sinners. Isaiah 52:14 mentions that ***"... his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind..."*** It was a dreadful scene, but one that, in its time, became something beautiful. Not too long after Jesus' crucifixion, we see His most important miracle: overcoming death itself and rising from the grave. Without that, Christianity has no reason for existence, and no sinner can expect to be granted access to heaven, where perfection is the standard. When speaking to those in the church of Corinth who misunderstand the Gospel, the apostle named Paul says, ***"... if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain"*** (1 Corinthians 15:14). Without the resurrection, Christianity has a horrific end where our loving Saviour is nothing but a failure, dying a meaningless death. Fortunately, the success of the resurrection brings about a beautiful hope for humanity. By putting our faith in Christ and what He's done, we receive His gift of eternal life, paid for by His shed blood, but able to be procured because of His resurrection.

Our lives here on earth can get quite difficult. Every person has hard moments, some even becoming unimaginably extreme. Christ's death and resurrection brings the hope of a new life to look forward to once this life is gone. In Him, though this life here might get ugly, God will make things beautiful in His time. When that time comes, just as Jesus' terrible death led to His glorious resurrection, so the hardships of our lives, ending in death, will lead us to resurrection. As Christ was raised to life, so God will raise us to eternal life, and the beauty we see right now will be nothing compared to that beauty which is to come.

Pastor Jon Malpass, Wasa Community Church, (250) 464-4419

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY**

Are you new to the Community? Recently retired and have time on your hands? Want to meet neighbours? Just love to get involved and give back? We might be able to help with that!

Because our Communities are small, we rely very heavily upon Volunteers. And there are so many areas that would benefit from any skills you have to share. I encourage you to take a look at the list below and call existing members to see where you can help out.

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| *Wasa & District Lions Club                          | *Bingo                  |
| *Wasa Recreational Society                           | *Armchair Traveler      |
| *Tri-Village Buzz Newsletter                         | *Wasa Gym               |
| *Wasa Community Library                              | *Tri-Village Kids Club  |
| *Wasa Lake Land Improvement                          | *Wasa Pancake Breakfast |
| *Wasa & District Historical Association/Garden Group |                         |

are a few of the areas that would welcome new members. Step up, step out, expand your horizons. We would love to see you!

*"Volunteering is a work of heart"*



## Chicken Tales

submitted by Helen Hannah

Backyard chickens are proving to be a positive spin off of the whole COVID deal. Everybody loves fresh farm eggs and many of us enjoy the company of our hens.

One spring I had ordered 100 meat birds, as day old baby chicks. They arrived at Top Crop in fine shape and I rushed them home to Skookumchuck to my warm brooder house, and got them settled with food and water and clean bedding. A few checks throughout the night found them healthy and happy. At about 10:00 a.m. the following morning, the power went out. BC Hydro advised me that a tree was down on the line and it would more than likely be a minimum of six hours before it would be restored..... yikes. They would most certainly not survive that! I carefully packed them back in their cardboard case, divided into four compartments with holes to allow airflow on all sides, and carried them into the house, and settled them on my waterbed, with a light comforter over top. They were warm and cozy, and when the power was restored in a few hours, I opened the covers to hear happy cheeping and moved the little guys back out to the brooder house with not a single casualty!

The good old water bed saved the day!



This time of year many choose to order day old chicks on line or from a local feed store, which are delivered by mail or courier. The cost for a day old chick runs from \$6- \$8.50 on average per chick for straight run, which means a mixture of roosters and pullets, to \$20 and up for fancier breeds. Day old chicks can be ordered from Miller Hatchery or Rochester Hatchery in Westlock, Alberta. They are packed in shipping containers with a minimum order of 25, to ensure they stay warm. They are much tougher than they appear, and with care to provide them with warmth, feed and water as soon as they arrive, most of them will survive to move outside in six weeks. Another option is to buy hatching eggs from a breeder, and put them in an incubator or under a mother hen for 21 days. Hatching eggs start at \$25 per

dozen for regular chickens, and up to \$65 or \$70 for fancy ones. Eggs are packaged and shipped via Canada Post or a courier, with the buyer responsible for shipping costs.

If a person chooses, they can buy ready to lay pullets for \$15 - \$20 and upwards.

The more common breeds for egg production are the old stand by Barred Rock which are Americans favorite barnyard laying hens, or Rhode Island Reds, or crosses between them, Isa Brown, Sexlinks, Miller browns etc ... all prolific layers of nice large brown eggs.

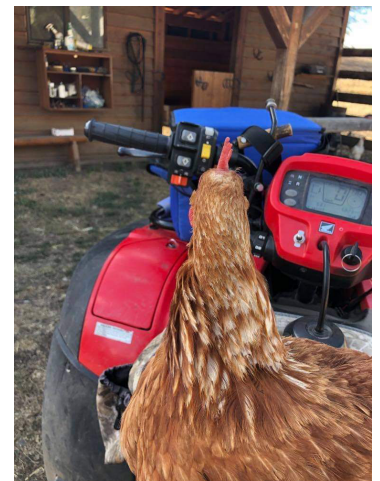
Other backyard chickens that are quite popular are Blue or Red Laced Wyandottes... a bit larger breed that is very pretty and quiet, as well as being good producers. Ameraucanas are good sized, heat and cold tolerant, and produce green and bluish eggs. Buff and Lavender Orpingtons are probably the most friendly of the layers. They are average size and usually either golden or gray coloured.

A newer breed to our area is the Bielfelders. They were created in Germany in the early 1970's and are now available to us. The average cost for them is \$20 per chick, straight run.

Cream Legbars are a heritage breed that originated in England in the early 1900's. They lay light blue or green eggs and are exceptionally good foragers. They are predominantly a cross between white or red leghorns and barred rocks, and tend to run the same price as the bielfelders.

Then there are the fancier ones.... Cochins and silkies and other smaller type chickens. They are fluffy and look much larger than they really are. They come in pretty colours and are known for their exceptional mothering instincts. They lay a smaller egg and are known to live long lives.

Facebook has two good sites for chicken browsing.... East Kootenay Farm and Ranch & BC Poultry Group, for fancy breeds such as bielfelders.



Bettina enjoying a quad ride!



submitted by Tom Braumandl

Happy spring from your local Land Improvement District! By the time you are reading this, the sagebrush buttercups should have been out for a couple of weeks and other wildflowers are bound to be popping up. WLLID will soon be getting back to monitoring the lake levels, as the ice leaves and lake starts to rise.

We have passed our budget for the year and of course its balanced. We have set aside a sum for special projects but haven't identified just where those funds may be used. If you folks have some local lake-related project suggestions, we would love to hear from you, either through our website ([wasalake.ca](http://wasalake.ca)) or via email at [admin@wasalake.ca](mailto:admin@wasalake.ca).

As spring is upon us, thoughts turn to sprucing up the yard and for lakeshore residents that will likely include the foreshore. We wanted to remind lakeshore residents, that the foreshore below the high watermark belongs to all British Columbians and the Water Sustainability Act states that we are not free to alter it without obtaining an approval from the Provincial Government. Removing vegetation from the foreshore, has numerous downsides. Lakeshore vegetation reduces wave erosion through the binding action of roots. Lakeshore vegetation, that becomes shallowly inundated as the lake rises, also provides hiding cover for juvenile fish and food source for a wide variety of organisms that are part of a healthy lake. We are truly fortunate at Wasa to have little in the way of weeds along the foreshore and a diverse flora that even includes some rare at-risk species, such as the wild licorice, pictured below. So please, think of the health of the lake and enjoy the wonders of natural vegetation that is feeding and keeping the lake intact.



Our next board meeting is scheduled 7:00PM April 8 and as always you are welcome to attend, just get in touch (email [admin@wasalake.ca](mailto:admin@wasalake.ca)) beforehand and we can provide an invite to the virtual meeting.

### Safety guidelines and things you need to know:

- Minimum of 2 people in the Gym at all times
- All users must sign in with date and time
- All users must sign a Wasa Recreation Programs User Waiver located at the sign in desk
- All users are required to wear "gym shoes" – no street shoes permitted
- All users must use the safety key on the Walking Machines
- Cost is a loonie or twoonie
- Have fun and be safe!



*We're open to suggestions, give us a call if you know 2 or more people that would like to attend at a time not indicated.*

**For Gym Schedule please contact:**  
**Sonia Blackwell at 250.421.3019 or Rod at 250.422.3253**

**GYM HOURS AND INFO**

Environmental protection doesn't happen in a vacuum. You can't separate the impact on the environment from the impact on our families and communities.

*Jim Clyburn*



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## ***SPECIES AT RISK ACT: SARA***

**What is SARA?** The Species At Risk Act was created in 2002. This federal act was designed to protect species from extinction, as well as to help endangered and threatened species' populations recover.

**COSEWIC?** The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada is an independent scientific community meant to evaluate and propose protection for species they determine as 'at-risk'.

**How does the federal government decide who to protect?** COSEWIC evaluates a species' need for recovery and provides a list of species it deems in need of protection to the Environmental/Fisheries and Oceans Ministers, who then make recommendation to the federal cabinet about needed protections.

**It's not working!** COSEWIC may determine a species is in need of protection, however there is no legal obligation for the federal government to list or protect the species. This leaves many species without critical habitat, and many more without adequate recovery strategies.

**Did you know.....** To date, the federal government has denied the legal listing of 29 species recommended by COSEWIC. This includes the Northwestern Grizzly bear, the Peary caribou, and the Polar bear.

- Federal government protects species through SARA
- But this protection only applies to federal land ..... this includes airports, post offices, national parks, and military bases ... maybe the Mountain Caribou should enroll in the military ....
- Provincial government is responsible for protecting species within each province
- But most province's don't have adequate recovery strategies for an at-risk species
- Federal government is allowed to "step in" when provinces fail to sufficiently protect critical habitat
- But since the implementation of SARA in 2002, the federal government has never stepped in on behalf of provincial governments, leaving many species without proper habitat designation

### **The Big Problem:**

SARA is meant to protect all species at risk, however it actually only immediately protects at-risk migratory birds, at-risk marine wildlife, and at-risk species on federal land. Provincial wildlife recovery plans are meant to protect species outside federal land, however most provinces don't have adequate plans in place to protect at-risk species. This means that although species may be **listed** as "At-Risk", they may not have proper habitat designated, or a recovery plan in place in order for their recovery.

### **What can you do to ensure a more balanced ecosystem?**

Contact your Premier:

Premier John Horgan  
premier@gov.bc.ca  
250.387.1715

Contact the Ministry of Forests,  
Lands & Natural Resources:

John Allan  
FLNR.minister@gov.bc.ca  
250 952-6500

Contact the Minister of Environment

George Heyman  
env.minister@gov.bc.ca  
250.387.1187

### **Do your part:**

Stay informed! Consider the source of your information and what their private agenda may be.

Maintain a safe distance! We all want that amazing photo opportunity. Don't put yourself or your subject in danger to obtain it ..... Don't feed the wildlife. Drive with caution.

Pack it in, pack it out! Don't leave your refuse behind to habituate wild animals to humans.

# Wasa and District Historical Assoc. & Memorial Garden Group

submitted by - Sherry Shields

## EXCITING ADDITION to our GARDEN

Last fall we were approved for a grant to have a sign installed leading up to the garden site. Steve and his crew from the Wasa Building and Hardware will be constructing and installing the sign this spring. The sign will be a welcome addition to the garden and a helpful aid for visitors to locate our community treasure.



Our Community Garden is always looking for volunteers. Spring is just around the corner, we will be looking for volunteers for the Annual Spring 2021 clean up and summer maintenance. If interested in volunteering at the garden or you would like to share a memory relating to the garden call Sherry Shields @ 250-919-7887 © or email slshields27@gmail.com.

## KOOTENAY RIPPLES

There are a few books remaining for sale.

\$50.00/ea

Contact Pat Walkey @ 250 422-3530 or  
pwalkey@shaw.ca.

## 2019 Columbarium Niche & Plaque Costs

### UNIT 1 Columbarium

Upper levels - \$1000.00 + engraving

Bottom Row - \$900.00 + engraving

### UNIT 2 Columbarium (new)

Niche cost - \$1100.00 + engraving

Niche Engraving - \$275.00

Memorial Plaque - \$300.00

(engraving costs are subject to change)

### Contact info:

Pat Walkey @ 250 422-3530 or  
pwalkey@shaw.ca.

*Those we  
love don't  
go away,  
they walk  
beside us  
every day.  
Unseen,  
unheard,  
but always  
near. Still  
loved, still  
missed,  
and very  
dear.*



## Wasa Lions Medical Equipment Loan Cupboard

Have you had a recent injury? or have plans for surgery?

The Lions may be able to assist with a 3-month loan of Medical Equipment. For loan information or equipment donations to the Cupboard, contact: Sharon @

250.417.7654

or Trinda @ 250 793-9491

**HELP STARTS HERE .....**

**HELP STARTS HERE**



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*Local entrepreneurs and businesses LIVE on Facebook March 23 to April 27, 2021  
(Columbia Basin) – Mark your calendars!*

Columbia Basin Trust is partnering with FestivalSeekers to host the #BuyBasin Festival on Facebook this spring, featuring up to 100 businesses across the Columbia Basin will showcase a diverse range of products and services available locally.

“The #BuyBasin Festival is a new initiative for the Trust that will benefit both businesses and consumers,” said Tim O’Doherty, Director, Investments & Economic Development at Columbia Basin Trust. “This Festival will provide businesses with one-on-one training on promoting their business on Facebook and introduce people living in the Basin to the diverse range of products and services available locally.”

Last fall, the Trust supported the communities of Páq am/Cranbrook/Kimberley with a similar initiative (#LiveLocalYXC Festival) that resulted in increased exposure and sales for local businesses. The Trust is now taking the initiative Basin-wide.

“We saw a great increase in our social media following and inquiries to the business. Prior to the festival, we would see maybe three inquiries a week through Facebook and immediately following the event there were probably 100 inquiries in Facebook alone, and new inquiries now coming in daily,” said Kimberley’s Sinclair Catering founder, Patrick Sinclair. “For those considering joining the #BuyBasin Festival, sign up today; I am confident this experience will be another success.”

Local entrepreneurs and businesses will be going LIVE on Facebook during the #BuyBasin Festival this spring with expert tips, giveaways, demos, live music and all kinds of behind-the-scenes fun. This is your chance to virtually explore businesses in communities like Trail, Rossland, Golden, Revelstoke, Valemount, Slokan, Lower Columbia, Nelson, Castlegar, Cranbrook, Kimberley, Elk Valley and more.

Expect a new lineup of LIVE videos every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from March 23 - April 27. Tune in often! You can catch all the LIVE Facebook broadcasts on the @BasinBusinessAdvisors or @FestivalSeekers pages as well as the Facebook event page.

Are you a local entrepreneur or business in the Basin that is interested in participating? Learn more and apply online at [ourtrust.org/buybasin](http://ourtrust.org/buybasin) and be sure to join the Facebook event here.

Columbia Basin Trust supports the ideas and efforts of the people in the Columbia Basin. To learn more about the Trust’s programs and initiatives, and how it helps deliver social, economic and environmental benefits to the Basin, visit [ourtrust.org](http://ourtrust.org).

FestivalSeekers is an online magazine to festivals and yet to be discovered experiences in Western Canada. The multi-award winning media outlet has spent the past 10+ years generating content and using social media marketing tactics to bring together communities while celebrating small business.

*Columbia Basin Trust operates in the unceded traditional territories of the Ktunaxa, Lheidli T’enneh, Secwepemc, Sinixt and Syilx Nations.*



**#BuyBasin  
Festival** **LIVE**  
JOIN THE FUN ON FACEBOOK THIS SPRING

Columbia Basin **trust**

#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

Trevor Kehoe  
Columbia Basin Trust  
1.800.505.8998  
[tkehoe@ourtrust.org](mailto:tkehoe@ourtrust.org)

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# INVASIVE MUSSELS BEING FOUND IN MOSS BALLS!!



Anyone who has a moss ball in their aquarium is being asked to inspect the plant for invasive zebra mussels now that the highly invasive species has been found in a number of locations throughout the province.

During the past weekend, conservation officers conducted more than 600 inspections at retail aquatic pet and plant stores and found zebra mussels in moss balls at multiple locations, including Terrace and the Lower Mainland. People have also reported finding the mussel-infested moss balls in their aquariums across western Canada and several U.S. states.

**Zebra mussels pose a major threat** if released into a B.C. waterway. The tiny mussels can wreak havoc on aquatic ecosystems, salmon populations, hydro power stations and other facilities because they multiply rapidly and are extremely difficult to eradicate.

The Conservation Officer Service (COS) is investigating how widespread the problem of mussel-infested moss balls may be in the province. This includes notifying stores that may potentially have contaminated moss balls and advising them of disposal options. Any contaminated moss balls have been seized.

The moss balls, which are often sold as marimo moss balls, are species of green algae typically purchased for aquariums to improve water quality. Moss balls can also be purchased online.

Anyone who finds zebra mussels can call the Report All Poachers and Polluters hotline at 1 877 952-7277 to report their find. Moss balls can be safely disposed of by:

- **placing them in a sealed plastic bag and putting them in a freezer for at least 24 hours, or**
- **placing them in boiling water for at least one full minute and then let cool.**

After this, place the moss ball and any of its packaging in a sealed plastic bag and dispose in the trash. **Do not** flush moss balls down the toilet or put them in the compost. Once the moss balls have been removed from the aquarium, **do not** dispose of untreated water down the drain or into any residential water system or waterway. More information on how to treat aquarium contents and water is available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/invasive-mussels/moss-balls-disposal>

The COS is working with ministry science experts, Canadian and U.S. counterparts, industry retailers and distributors to help prevent any potential spread of invasive zebra mussels. To date, there has been no reported introduction of live zebra mussels into B.C. lakes or waterways.

For more information about zebra mussels, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/invasive-mussels>

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021ENV0019-000423>

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## **We don't die, we wake up to another dimension!**

Because of the limited human condition, it is often very difficult to understand that life as we know it is not all that exists in the universe. Where there is consciousness, there is immortality and eternity. It is not just a question of being afraid of dying or refusing the cessation of life as we know it; it's more about recognizing that the dimension in which we live is not the only one. Look at the way you transition from waking state to dreaming state and how you shift from dreaming state to a state of apparent non-activity in deep sleep. No matter how seemingly absent or unconscious you've been during the night, you wake up in the morning untroubled about it. How many times have you driven your car from point A to point B without paying attention to your driving because your mind had shifted elsewhere through your thought process? You are often not present in the life you are supposed to be living, yet you don't feel like you're dead or have disappeared.

These concepts of dying, disappearing, ceasing to exist, and being erased from creation seem more like ineptitudes or myths than solid facts.

First of all, one must understand that all that is experienced in this life is only happening in one's consciousness. You experience life because you are here as witness consciousness to experience it. Many things happen that you do not witness, and you could say that since you do not witness them, they do not exist – but they do. It is not because you do not witness other dimensions of existence beyond the one you have the impression of existing in that they don't exist.

Therefore, I tell you: “we don't die... we wake up to another dimension of existence”, and you cannot destroy this assertion, as the best you could say is “I don't know”. But just because you don't know doesn't mean that other dimensions of awakening don't exist during your lifetime. Considering how easily you disappear from this life through the simple process of sleeping every night, it would be in very bad faith to say that you do not continue to exist, without dying or disappearing, on other planes or dimensions while sleeping. Why would it be any different when your body becomes useless and that it cannot sustain your consciousness anymore, a consciousness which continues to exist on a supra-physical dimension? You can witness your body and this physical life because you are a consciousness. This means that the only real value of your true presence is your consciousness, not the body, not even the mind since the mind disintegrates with the body. As a consciousness travelling from one dimension to another, having had many physical lives, do you remember anything of your previous lives? No! That is because you don't have the same brain from one life to another.

The life that you are experiencing right now in the physical world is only a process of projection of your consciousness onto it. It's like when you travel in your car or on a train; the landscapes change all around you, but you don't. For a while you watch the sea and ten minutes later, you are in the mountains. The only thing that is certain is that you are here as a witness consciousness, that's all!

Are you afraid of dying because you are about to fall asleep every eve-

ning? No! Because you know that you are going to wake up as yourself again. Why would it be different when your body becomes so useless that it's unable to function anymore and your consciousness just finds that this body is out of order? You will then wake up automatically in another dimension in which you, as witness consciousness, will continue to exist.

When people die, the most difficult thing for them is accepting that they have left the physical plane and they are still alive, but not in the physical world they have been in for however many years. Naturally, the shape that one has when passing on to the other dimension looks a lot like what he or she is in his or her belief system. One is often surrounded by other beings looking very human, very alive, like known friends or family members who have passed on before him or her, and by helpers who know how surprising it is to wake up “dead” but very alive and in extremely good shape and younger. In the other dimension of this life, your age depends on the mental age in which you experience life beyond the age of your physical body; for example, being 80 yet feeling 20 years old.

So, don't worry too much about death, nor about those who have died, as they continue to exist and are very much alive, just like you will be when your turn comes. The cherished ones who have passed are still alive and can sense your connection through the unlimited Power of the Consciousness.

**With love and my best wishes in the continuation of your evolutionary journey.**

**OM OM OM**

**H.H. Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha  
Adi Vajra Shambhasalem Ashram**

## Garden Facts & Fables

*We have had such a mild winter so far - that I am concerned about moisture - or more accurately the lack of moisture. What will that mean for your garden? Will it change what types of plants you choose to grow?*

Growing tomatoes from seed can open a whole new world of specialty, heirloom, or unusual tomatoes. While your local nursery may only sell a dozen or two tomato varieties as plants, there are literally thousands of tomato varieties available as seeds. I have around 800!

The best time to start tomato plants from seeds is about six to eight weeks before you plan on planting them out into your garden. For areas that get frost, plan on planting out your tomato seedlings two to three weeks after your last frost, so you will start growing tomatoes from seed at four to six weeks before your last frost date.



Tomato seeds can be started in small pots of damp seed starting soil, damp potting soil, or in moistened peat pellets. In each container you will be planting two tomato seeds. This will help ensure that each container will have a tomato seedling, in case some of the tomato seeds do not germinate. The tomato seeds should be planted about three times deeper than the size of the seed. This will be about 1/8 to 1/4 of an inch (3-6 mm.), depending on the tomato variety that you have chosen to grow. After the tomato seeds have been planted, place the seedling containers in a warm place. For fastest germination, temperatures of 70 to 80 degrees F. (21-27 C.) are best. Bottom heat will also help. Many gardeners find that placing the planted tomato seed containers on top of the refrigerator or other appliance that generates heat from running works very well for germination. A heating pad on low covered with a towel will also work.

Once the tomato seeds have germinated, you can take the tomato seedlings off the heat source, but they should still be kept somewhere warm. The tomato seedlings will need bright light and the soil should be kept moist. Watering from below is best, but if this is not possible, water the tomato seedlings so that water does not fall on the new sprouts. A bright south-facing window will work for light, or a fluorescent or grow bulb placed a few inches (8 cm.) above the tomato seedlings will work. Once the tomato seedlings have a set of true leaves you can give them quarter strength water soluble fertilizer. If your tomato seedlings get leggy, this means that they are not getting enough light. Either move your light source closer or increase the amount of light the tomato seedlings are getting. If your tomato seedlings turn purple, they need some fertilizer and you should apply the quarter strength fertilizer again. If your tomato seedlings suddenly fall over, they have damping off.

Read more at Gardening Know How: Planting Tomato Seeds – How To Start Tomato Plants From Seed <https://www.gardeningknow-how.com/edible/vegetables/tomato/growing-tomatoes-from-seed.htm>

### *My Garden of Prayer*

*My garden beautifies my yard and adds fragrance to the air. . .*

*But it is also my cathedral and my quiet place of prayer. . .*

*So little do we realize that "The Glory and The Power"*

*Of He who made the universe lies hidden in a flower*

*~Helen Steiner Rice~*

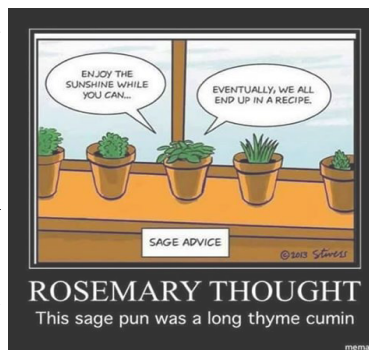
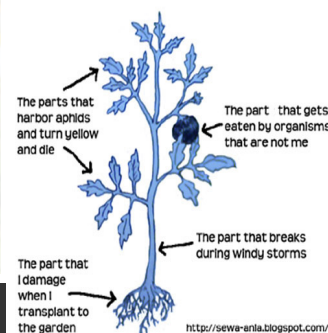
The month of April gets its name from the Latin word *aperio*, meaning "to open [bud]," because plants begin to grow now.

The word pineapple comes from European explorers who thought the fruit combined the look of a pinecone with flesh like that of an apple. Pineapples are the only edible members of the bromeliad family.

The average strawberry has 200 seeds. It's the only fruit that bears its seeds on the outside.

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### The Parts Of The Plant



Plant spinach, peas, onions, lettuce, and radishes

Plant raspberries and strawberries when the soil is warm enough

Start tomato and broccoli seeds indoors



## Facility Operating Tax

The Wasa Recreation Society and the Wasa and Area Lions Club have formed a committee of 3 members from each group, to try to receive approval to create a service tax area. Both of these groups are facing some very large challenges trying to maintain their facilities.

The Wasa and Area Mosquito parcel tax will be \$207.80 this year. I am hoping that we do not see a lot of high water this year.

## Spring Clean-up

Remember to maintain your yards with the Fire Smart guidelines. For example raking up the pine needles, cleaning up the shrubs, removing dead trees. Also while you are doing that, if you have anything holding water maybe dump them so we do not have breeding areas for mosquitoes.

This past year has been very challenging for many of us. With the restrictions on meetings I have felt that I have not been able to solve some of the issues. One of those items is the TaTa Creek concerns with the off road bikes and camping concerns. I am hoping that by this summer we can meet and try to resolve the situation.

If you have any concerns or questions please call me; 250-427-2577 or email me at [s.janewalter@gmail.com](mailto:s.janewalter@gmail.com)

Please Stay Safe and have a good month.

Jane Walter



## WASA VOLUNTEER FIRE PREVENTION & SUPPRESSION

submitted by Kathy McCauley

Spring is here and it's time to prepare for another FireSmart year and get the community water trailer ready to go!

The FireSmart Board has not yet finalized the plans for the annual FireSmart Event, but we have lots of exciting ideas! You will soon see more news on the Community Facebook page, in the Buzz, and on posters around Wasa.

We aim to have the water trailer ready to respond to local fires by April 15. We will have the new Who To Call in Case of Fire List ready for distribution and we will touch base with individuals who are ready and willing to bring their private trailers to a fire site. When you report a fire to one of the names on the Who To Call list, we not only activate the community trailer, but we call others with water trailers to see if they are also available to attend a fire.

Please remember, we are all volunteers and don't have the resources to put out structural fires; our goal is to stop fire from spreading. Also, please note that the water trailer is only available April 15 to October 15, not during freeze-up. For more information, see our website [www.wasafire.weebly.com](http://www.wasafire.weebly.com) or email the secretary at [kathyemccauley@gmail.com](mailto:kathyemccauley@gmail.com)

Last month there was a mistake in the RDEK article. In Jane's summary for Planning applications for Area E, 2020.

**St. Mary's Lake Road** had 2 ALR applications.

**Meadowbrook:** 3 Subdivisions  
2 Development Variance Permits  
2 ALRExclusions  
6 Development Permits  
1 Family in Care Housing



Donate your pop cans & liquor bottles (no dairy please), to the Wasa & District Lions Club to help with their scholarship fund. Please call Val @ 250.422.3499 to make arrangements for drop off at the Lions Grounds.



submitted by Terry Marvel

It's fairly safe to say that spring has sprung in the tri-village area. There are getting to be more and more sightings of spring harbingers. Geese, Swans etc. Even the weather is cooperating. With promises of Covid shots looming, there may be more chances for larger gatherings and closer contacts, but as of yet, we are still relegated to social distancing which makes for more difficult times for the Lion's to move forward toward any fund raising or team work for improvements.

We do have one project that could be undertaken soon, which is the new roofing on the half of the kitchen eating area at the Lion's Grounds. We will be asking for volunteers who aren't afraid of heights to help with this as our membership is getting a little elderly to be racing around on roofs! A call will be put out soon.

Our one chance to raise some funds by way of a gourmet meal for six people in the community is ongoing as we speak. Tickets are on sale now. \$10.00 gets you a chance of a lifetime to experience dining such as you have never had on the shores of Wasa Lake! Bonnie Meena(250-421-0546) has tickets and they are going like hotcakes so don't let it pass you by.

The Lion's still have executive meetings once a month with social distancing protocol.

Until next month, take advantage of the mild weather and enjoy the outdoors!



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*March winds and April showers  
bring forth May flowers .....*

Many of you have a story, adventure or life story about people you know in our area, that happened in years past and you are eager to share, so that the history is not lost. I would like to include them in the "Following the Trails of Yesterday" page. Please phone me if you would like to contribute to the column at 250.422.3766 or email me at -- judymcphee9@gmail.com



**Cranbrook♥Kimberley  
HOSPICE SOCIETY**

127C Kootenay St. N. Cranbrook, B.C.  
V1C 3T5

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Fax: (250) 417.2046

Toll Free: 1.855.417.2019

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Website: [www.ckhospice.com](http://www.ckhospice.com)

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Society needs volunteers to help  
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FARMS**

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yard care

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for more info  
or to make an appt.





*Wasa & District Lions Club*

Wasa Lions Raffle 2021

## *Gourmet Meal for 10 Dollars*

*Winner invites 5 friends to an upscale meal and drinks at a lovely home on Wasa Lake*

DRAW DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2021

(DINNER DATE: AUGUST 15, Subject to COVID)

Tickets: \$10.00 each (only 250 tickets sold)

BC Gaming License # 128036

### Tips & Tricks

**Send yours to: [trivillagebuzz@gmail.com](mailto:trivillagebuzz@gmail.com)**

- Did you know if you plant squash (squash, pumpkin, cucumber, etc.) seeds pointy side down, you will avoid having the seeds rot before germination?
- Did you know a dusting of sulphur when you plant your potatoes will help prevent scabby potatoes?
- Growing lettuce in hanging pots keeps it out of reach of slugs & snails.

**WASA**

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 Winter hours now in effect

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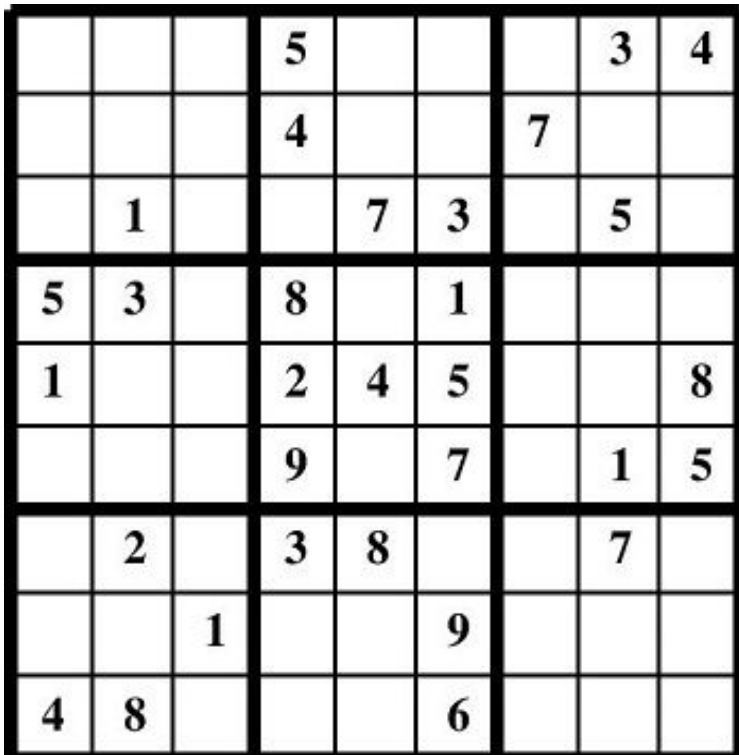
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E	B	E	W	I	L	D	E	R	C	A	P	E	R	W	Q
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A	E	J	N	I	D	O	I	U	T	C	T	G	E	K	L
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BAMBOOZLE  
BEFUDDLE  
BEMUSE  
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CAPER  
DELUDE  
DUMBFOUND  
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FARCE

FIRST  
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HOODWINK  
JEST  
JOKES  
LAUGHTER  
LEVITY  
MALARKY  
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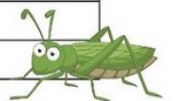
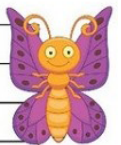
BUSINESS  
PRANK  
PREPOSTEROUS  
SHENANIGANS  
SILLY  
SURPRISE  
TOMFOOLERY  
TRICK  
WACKY



## Insects Word Scramble

All of the scrambled words below are names of insects you have probably heard about. Can you put the letters in the right order to spell the 19 different insect names correctly?

OUTMQISO	
BTLEUYFR	
MTHO	
LEEBET	
CCIDAA	
ELYFSRHO	
PAWS	
ITKSCGBU	
AYGPRNI NMATSI	
EBE	
ALFE	
LNFOAYGRD	
AGDBLYU	
PSESHRAGPOR	
EIRETTM	
COOCHRKAC	
NAT	
RIEKCTC	
YLF	





Do you know where any of these locations are?  
Send in your guess and you could win a gift certificate to a Wasa area advertiser!!



## Wasa Community Library

(call Marg Burrin @  
250-422-3565 or Rose  
Smith @ 250-422-3088

We close for summer and  
Christmas holidays sub-  
mitted by Judy McPhee

During this period of time  
when there is the possibility  
of Covid entering our  
community, the library will  
be open

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Masks will be required by all  
patrons using the library, at  
this time.

PLEASE PHONE Marg Burrin  
for an appointment. 250-  
422-3565

Thank you

## Welcome Neighbours & Visitors

Groceries  
Ice Cream  
Fast Food

Cold Beer  
Wine & Spirits  
Lotto!

## Wasa Lake Gas & Food

250.422.9271

Groceries ~ Ice Cream ~ Fast Food

Cold Beer ~ Wine & Spirits

Recreational Gear

Lotto ~ ATM










Gas & Diesel ~ Propane

Wash Bay

Open Daily

Contact store for hours

# April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Church 10:30 am  <i>Easter Sunday</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Yoga 6pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Church 10:30 am 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Yoga 6pm	<b>15</b>  <b>NATIONAL HIGH FIVE DAY</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Church 10:30 am	<b>19</b>  <b>World Bicycle Day</b>	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b> Yoga 6pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Church 10:30 am	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  <b>National Arbor Day</b>	

## LEGEND

Church Service 10:30 am    Lions 7 pm  
 Rec Society 7 pm    Quilters 10 - 4  
 Library; tuesdays 11 - 1    Bingo 6:30 pm  
 Armchair Traveller 7:30 pm  
 Tops; friday 9 am

**SPECIAL  
EVENTS**

*and Days Down the Road*

- Wednesdays @ 6 pm; Yoga
- March 26th TVKC AGM
- April 8th, WLLID meeting 7 pm

Wildsight Winter Speaker Series

- April 7th - How to Improve Human and Wildlife Coexistence as we Explore our Great Outdoors

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Ashram Meditation & Yoga.....250.422.9327  
 BC Wildfire.....\*5555.....or.....1.800.663.5555  
 Catamount Contracting.....250.422.3694  
 Conservation - Emergency.....1.877.952.7277  
 Cranbrook/Kimberley Hospice.....250.417.2021  
 Econobuilt.....250.421.7813  
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 Lantz Farm (Hay).....250.420.1660  
 Rascal Dock Systems.....250.421.1746  
 TOPS.....778.524.0012.....422.3686  
 Wasa Country Pub & Grill .....250.422.3381  
 Wasa Hall.....250.422.3514.....422.3795  
 Wasa Hardware & Building Ctr.....250.422.3123  
 Wasa Lake Gas & Food.....250.422.9271  
 Wasa Lions Med Eqp...250.417-7654.....793.9491  
 Wasa Lions Trail Donations.....250.417-7654  
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