



FREE MONTHLY PUBLICATION

# TRI-VILLAGE BUZZ

October 2024 ISSUE 275

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### THE CHIMNEY FIRE - By Ailsa Hebert

Now chimney fires can be dangerous,  
I tell you, and I ought to know,  
I neglected to clean out my chimney  
And I got one at 40 below.

The sparks from that chimney fire spewed out  
All over the fresh fallen snow  
And they landed all over my woodpile  
Where those embers continued to grow.

I jumped out of bed in a panic  
My woodpile ablaze as I woke  
And I stood in dismay as I watched it  
Go up in flames and in smoke.

Oh no!! 'Twas too late in the winter  
To get more wood in deep snow  
And I couldn't control all the shivering,  
As I said, it was 40 below.

The gout in my feet started hurting,  
Arthritis crept into my knee  
And warmth was all that I wanted  
But that cold kept assaulting me.

So, what was I to do??

Well, I chopped up the bed that I'd slept in  
It kept me warm for a bit.

And because I'd stopped all that shivering  
It didn't matter a whit.

When that fire died down I was ready  
With the table I'd chopped up real small  
I threw in the legs and the oilcloth  
The top, the hardware and all.

Then the curtains, the cupboards, the shelving  
My extra long underwear  
When I threw in my coveted shotgun  
It was just about all I could bear.

Now the stove is as cold as an iceberg  
Depression has set over all  
'Cause I've burned everything in my cabin  
Where the walls stood.....there's nothing at all!



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# The Lions Den Lions Roar

Wasa & District Lions Club – Serving Wasa & Area since 1976

submitted by Terry Marvel

It's the spooky month and further to that, the Lion's are announcing their annual Trunk or Treat in cooperation with the Wasa Rec Society. It will take place October 27th at the Lion's Grounds at 4:00 PM. Participants are reminded to bring their treats to be distributed out of their vehicles trunks. There will also be a pumpkin carving contest for the best already-carved pumpkin. The judges will be the kids themselves and there will be prizes awarded. Hopefully hot chocolate and hot dogs will be available as well. Come out for a great night of Halloween spookiness!

The Lion's are having three new toilets installed in the Lions washrooms that will be more efficient. The grant is still pending for renovations to the garage and kitchen buildings for new siding and windows etc.

Again, and as always, the Lion's are profoundly appreciative of all the donations to our recycle program. The money we receive from this effort goes toward our scholarship program and the upkeep of the grounds. Drop your empty recyclables at the pole building next to the Firesmart's overhead door. Please no garbage because that is gross for our sorters.

I know it seems a little early but, it's time to start thinking about our Christmas Dinner and Dance. It will be held on December 7th this year. Tickets will go on sale November 16th at the Wasa Hall at 10:00AM. Don't forget the date as tickets sell out quickly. Price to be announced. A Food Bank donation gets you a free ticket for a prize as well. The raffle for donated prizes will be held as usual with lots of very great merchandise. The dance will commence at approximately 9:00. Mark the date on your calendar for an evening not to be missed!

We are contemplating a 50-50 draw and maybe meal-type evening to coincide with Valentine's Day. More on that later.

We hope everyone has had a great summer and that the fall will be as beautiful as it usually is here. May everyone have bountiful harvests!



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The Wasa Lake Land Improvement District (WLLID) monitors the quantity and quality of water. A volunteer Board has been doing this work since the early 1970s.

The organization is composed of a five-person Board of Trustees who oversee activities in support of the mandate. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held each Fall in order to present residents with a review of the past year's activities, along with results from water measuring and testing.

This year's AGM will be 30 Oct 2024, 7pm at the Community Hall.

Nominations are now open for three Trustee positions on the Board. The term is 3 years. To qualify, a person must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, a BC resident over the age of 18 and be listed on the land title of a property within the WLLID jurisdiction.

Being a WLLID Trustee requires attending once a month meetings (1.5 hours on the 2nd Wednesday) where the business of the organization is conducted. A Trustee is encouraged to get involved with water testing and measurement activities during spring and summer.

This year's AGM presentation includes not only water testing results, but a report on a comprehensive test of the chemical composition of the water here at Wasa.

Being a WLLID Trustee is a great way to get involved in the community and support activities to help maintain the health of the lake, which is the reason we live and recreate here.

If you would like additional information on being a Trustee, please email [admin@wasalake.ca](mailto:admin@wasalake.ca).

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The Wasa Recreation Society manages the Wasa Community Hall. The main objective is to have a Community Hall that is viable for events & recreation of the community. Thru fund-raising, volunteering & rentals, we're 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 & Information:**  
Karen Markus 250.422.3514
- **Gym:**  
Sonia Blackwell 250.421.3019  
or Rod 250.422.3253
- **TOPS:**  
Nicky Popowich 250.422.9248
- **Library:**
- **Quilter's Club:**  
Gayle Andrews 250-422-3095

## Hunt Clean Go – Protecting Our Wild Spaces

As the crisp autumn air signals the start of hunting season, it's essential to remember that we all share a common responsibility to safeguard the natural beauty and biodiversity of our wild spaces. Hunters, who deeply value the plants and animals that make up our ecosystems, play a crucial role in this effort. This hunting season, let's embrace the "Hunt Clean Go" initiative to ensure we protect our game and the habitats they rely on.

### Understanding Invasive Species

Invasive species are non-native plants, animals, or pathogens that spread aggressively in new environments, often displacing native species and disrupting ecosystems. By September, many invasive plants have gone to seed, making them particularly easy to spot and manage.

Here are some examples in our region too look out for:



**Spotted knapweed**  
*Centaurea stoebe*  
Is a prolific seed producer, with individual plants producing up to 140,000 seeds per m<sup>2</sup>. They are also able to spread over large areas because of a secret weapon — an ability to release a chemical that kills surrounding plants. They choke out desirable forage for livestock and wildlife and increase soil erosion.



**Hound's tongue**  
*Cynoglossum officinale*  
Form dense stands that alter habitat structure. Each plant can produce 2,000–4,000 barbed seeds per year that cling to clothing, livestock, and wildlife. This plant is poisonous to wildlife and livestock if ingested.



**Hoary alyssum**  
*Berteroa incana*  
Spreads quickly through a long season of seed production. Seeds are dispersed by vehicles, equipment, footwear, wildlife, and birds. It can also contaminate hay. Hoary alyssum is toxic to horses too.



**Leafy spurge**  
*Euphorbia esula*  
It spreads rapidly by its huge root system, which can grow to 4.5m horizontally and 9m vertically. This plant has a secret weapon that helps it spread — it produces a chemical that stops other plants growing nearby. It is toxic to humans, livestock and wildlife when consumed, or when it's latex (sap) contacts skin.

### ***Negative Impacts on Hunting and Recreation***

The presence of invasive species can have significant repercussions for hunting and recreational activities:

1. ***Habitat Degradation:*** Invasive plants can alter the structure of habitats, reducing the availability of food and shelter for wildlife. This impacts hunting success and overall enjoyment of outdoor activities.
2. ***Ecosystem Disruption:*** Invasive species can disrupt food chains and nutrient cycles, affecting the health and behavior of game species. This can lead to fewer opportunities for hunters and a decline in overall wildlife populations.
3. ***Spread of Pests and Diseases:*** Some invasive species act as vectors for diseases that can affect both wildlife and humans. This can have far-reaching consequences for public health and safety.
4. ***Economic Costs:*** Managing invasive species and restoring affected habitats can be costly, impacting local economies and conservation budgets.

### ***Prevention Measures***

To prevent the spread of invasive species and protect our wild spaces, follow these key practices:

***Arrive Clean, Leave Clean:*** Before heading into the backcountry, ensure your gear, boots, and vehicles are free of seeds, mud, and plant material. After your adventure, inspect and clean your equipment to avoid transporting

invasive species to new areas.

Stay on Designated Trails: By sticking to established paths, you minimize the risk of inadvertently spreading invasive species into pristine areas.

Report Sightings: If you encounter invasive species, report them! Early detection is crucial for effective management.

Educate and Advocate: Share information about invasive species with fellow hunters and outdoor enthusiasts. Awareness is a powerful tool in preventing the spread of these harmful invaders.

By adhering to these practices, hunters can contribute significantly to preserving the health and integrity of our natural landscapes. Let's work together to ensure that our hunting seasons are not only successful but also environmentally responsible.

Embrace the "Hunt Clean Go" ethos this year, and help protect the wild spaces we cherish. Together, we can make a lasting impact on our environment and ensure that future generations enjoy the same natural beauty and abundant wildlife that we do today.

<https://ekisc.com/so/9eP4eYe-U?languageTag=en&cid=03de197d-c839-417b-ac33-4d69b247ebe4>

# RDEK NEWS

RDEK NEWS



## **Aquifer Study**

Last month I asked a question about doing an aquifer study for Wasa. At this point I have only heard from one person.

As I stated then that I would need to hear that there was a group of people willing to work on a committee to gauge whether the community would support an alternative petition to fund the study. If you are interested please email me at [s.janewalter@gmail.com](mailto:s.janewalter@gmail.com)

## **Pancake Breakfast**

I want to thank the organizers of the Wasa Pancake breakfast for 2024. Members of the Wasa Rec. Society ordered the supplies, bought the groceries, put up the signs etc.

I also want to thank everyone who volunteered to work at the breakfasts. I was able to work at some of the breakfasts. I always have fun while helping.

The funding that is made from these breakfast's helps to support many groups from within the area.

## **Firesmart Properties**

Please remember to firesmart your property year round because fires can start all year round.

I hope everyone has a great month. If you have any questions or concerns phone 250-427-2577 or [s.janewalter@gmail.com](mailto:s.janewalter@gmail.com)

Jane Walter



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## **An Attitude of Gratitude**

*A grateful heart sees each day as a gift.*

Thankful people focus less on what they lack and more on the privileges they have. I attended a banquet recently in which a wounded soldier was presented with the gift of a free house. He nearly fell over with gratitude. He bounded onto the stage with his one good leg and threw both arms around the presenter. "Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!" He hugged the guitar player in the band and the big woman on the front row. He thanked the waiter, the other soldiers, and then the presenter again. Before the night was over, he thanked me! And I didn't do anything.

Shouldn't we be equally grateful? Jesus is building a house for us (John 14:2). Our deed of ownership is every bit as certain as that of the soldier. What's more, Jesus cured our leprosy. Sin cankered our souls and benumbed our senses. Yet the Man on the path told us we were healed, and, lo and behold, we were!

The grateful heart is like a magnet sweeping over the day, collecting reasons for gratitude. A zillion diamonds sparkle against the velvet of your sky every night. Thank you, God. A miracle of muscles enables your eyes to read these words and your brain to process them. Thank you, God. Your lungs inhale and exhale eleven thousand liters of air every day. Your heart will beat about three billion times in your lifetime. Your brain is a veritable electric generator of power. Thank you, God.

For the jam on our toast and the milk on our cereal. For the blanket that calms us and the joke that delights us and the warm sun that reminds us of God's love. For the thousands of planes that did not crash today. For the men who didn't cheat on their wives, and the wives who didn't turn from their men, and the kids who, in spite of unspeakable pressure to dishonor their parents, decided not to do so. Thank you, Lord.

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God's accomplishments. To rehearse God's accomplishments is to discover his heart. To discover his heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver. Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist. It burns it up.

Join the ranks of the 10 percent who give God a standing ovation. "giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ," Ephesians 5:20 (NKJV).

Max Lucado

[https://thoughts-about-god.com/blog/max-lucado\\_attitude-gratitude/](https://thoughts-about-god.com/blog/max-lucado_attitude-gratitude/)

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For more information contact: Jan Barbeau, mobile (250) 201 4226, email [jarbeau60@gmail.com](mailto:jarbeau60@gmail.com)

# Wasa and District Historical Assoc. & Memorial Garden Group

submitted by - Kate Kelly

As the days of September disappear and we turn our calendars to October, we're thankful for the hard work put in by our dedicated volunteers this season to make the garden look so ahhh-mazing! It was said that this summer stands to be the prettiest the Memorial Garden has ever looked!!! Thank you to our talented Volunteers, our community is very lucky to have you!



Our Wasa District Historical Assoc. & Memorial Garden AGM was held on 12 Sept and was well attended. It was suggested that we have an early October fall "clean-up"; weather permitting. Please watch for an announcement on the Wasa Community Facebook page or contact Sherry Shields for details if you're inter-



ested in lending a hand. The garden bell, which was originally donated by Norm & Jane Walters, has a new mounting plate which was graciously donated by Doug & Dawn Bryant in Memory of Dawn's parents, Ray & Shirley Johnson – thank you! We also continue to look for new members. Did you know that it's only \$5/per person for a lifetime membership? Having a large 'membership' helps us apply for government grant monies which keep our garden looking great. We kindly ask that Wasa residents (both recreational & permanent) to consider a \$5/per person lifetime membership. Please contact Judy Reimer at [mjlreimer@shaw.ca](mailto:mjlreimer@shaw.ca) or by phone 250-422-3343 to join. Thank you for your consideration!

If you enjoy gardening & have been looking for a way to connect with neighbors in the community volunteering in the Memorial Garden is a great place to start! Please contact Sherry Shields via email at: [slshields27@gmail.com](mailto:slshields27@gmail.com)

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## 2024 Columbarium Niche & Plaque Costs

### UNIT 1 Columbarium

Upper levels - \$1,000 + engraving  
Bottom Row - \$900 + engraving

### UNIT 2 Columbarium (new)

Niche cost - \$1,100 + engraving  
Niche Engraving - \$290  
Memorial Plaque - \$350  
(Engraving costs are subject to change)

### Contact info:

Pat Walkey @ 250.422.3530 or  
[pwalkey@shaw.ca](mailto:pwalkey@shaw.ca)

## FIREWOOD COLLECTION SEASON IS UPON US!!

Please check the regulations for harvesting firewood for personal and commercial use: get your firewood permit - it is free

Cutting firewood on Crown land without this permit may result in confiscation of the wood and charges. It is up to the permit holder to determine whether they are cutting on "vacant Crown land" and not private land or First Nations reserves.



Only dead or downed trees may be cut for firewood

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/natural-resource-use/natural-resource-permits/firewood-permits>





## TOPS SPOT

submitted by - Nicky Popowich

Hallowe'en is just around the corner. The stores are bulging at the seams with snack size candy bars and potato chips packets which, if candies or salty snacks are a weakness of yours, will also make you bulge at the seams.

Are you someone who only buys candy you dislike so you aren't tempted to eat it? Do you only buy candy that can be used in other recipes (like M&Ms for cookie baking)? Perhaps you are a candy buyer who immediately gives any remaining treats to the neighbours to get it out of your house. My personal favourite is hiding the candy from myself. If I can't see it I won't eat it. These are all known strategies and there is nothing wrong with any of them. I think over the years I've tried them all.

On the Tops program there are no good or bad foods. If one of those Halloween treats is shouting your name, go ahead and buy it. The trick is to know how to work it into your program. We can help you with that. If you have promised yourself that this is the year you are going to make changes to your health but it's hard to do it alone, come and join us. We would love to welcome you and support you to succeed.

\*\*\*\*\*

On a different note entirely, my counters are weighed down with tomatoes in various stages of ripening. We had a very prolific garden this year but it was late. Last year I stumbled upon a wonderful roasted tomato and garlic soup that freezes very well. If you are looking for a delicious change from the usual tomato recipes give this one a try.

### **Roasted Tomato Garlic and Basil Soup**

On a parchment paper lined sheet pan place a single layer of ripe tomatoes cut into quarters. No need to peel them. Drizzle them lightly with olive oil. Add a little salt, pepper and 6 or so cloves of garlic. Roast until quite caramelized in a 300 degree oven for about an hour.

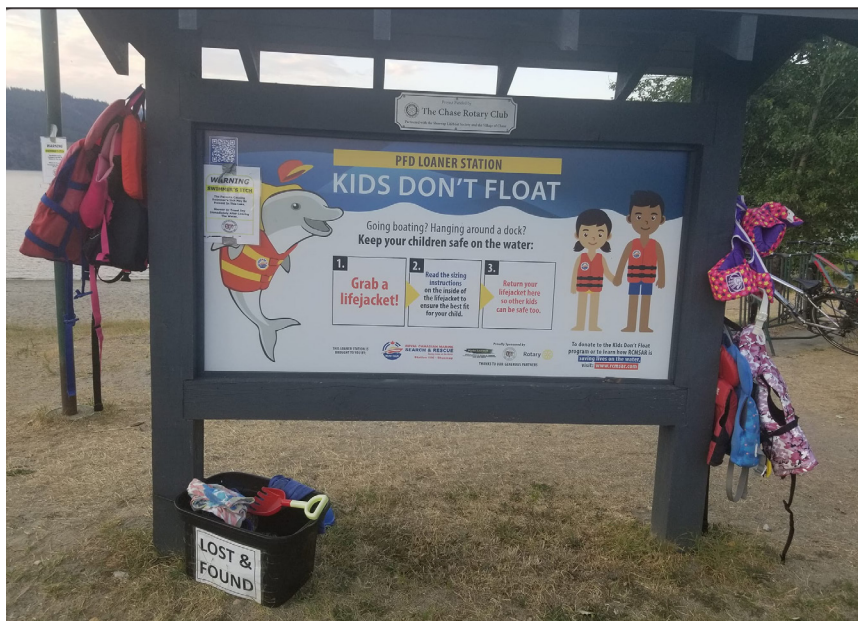
While the tomatoes are roasting:

Chop an onion and fry in a little butter until golden brown.

-1 - 2 litres of vegetable or chicken stock (depending on how many tomatoes you cooked and how thick you like your soup)

-Fresh basil

When the tomatoes and garlic are nicely caramelized and the juices are evaporated add them to a blender. Add a litre of chicken stock and the fresh basil (reserve a couple of leaves for garnish). Blend until smooth. Pour into a large pot and warm through. Add more stock at this time if you require it. Serve hot. Garnish with some torn up basil leaves and some grated parmesan cheese. Croutons are also a nice accompaniment.



### **Hello Tri-Village Community!!**

A subscriber brought this to my attention and I would like your thoughts.

Is this something that would work at Wasa Lake? Knowing it will need to be continually restocked. Is there anyone? any group? that would like to take on this project, perhaps in partnership with the Parks, so it can be offered next season?

Email me with your thoughts, suggestions, etc.

[trivillagebuzz@gmail.com](mailto:trivillagebuzz@gmail.com)



# Vendors Wanted

We are excited  
to invite you to our  
**Christmas Arts & Craft Sale**

Saturday November 30, 2024  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Wasa Community Church  
Box 69 - 6734 Hwy 93 Wasa BC V0B 2K0

Space limited

Confirm table rental by mailing \$20.00 to the address  
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## GREAT NEWS - WASA LAKE IS BACK ON THE MAP!!

The Community Connector Bus Will Now Pick Up Wasa Residents bound for Cranbrook Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 at Gas Station - Return from Cranbrook Hospital, 3 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays stopping at the Gas station 3:30. This bus continues up to Golden if you need. **Price is \$2.50 each way.** Medical patients have first priority. If there is room, others can ride this bus. phone 250.427.7400 to book your ride.

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**Want to learn to Quilt?**

Looking to advance your skills or learn a new one? Join the Wasa Country Quilters Group and learn with a talented group of quilters! We meet every Tuesday from 10-4 in our own space in the basement of the hall. Drop in any Tuesday! We'd be more than happy to show you the endless possibilities in this creative atmosphere! No previous experience required.

Call Gayle Andrews  
250-422-3095 for more info



Note our new name and logo!

The Wasa Volunteer Fire Society, formerly Wasa Volunteer Fire Prevention and Suppression, had another busy year in 2024.

Hot, dry, and windy conditions in July had everyone wary of wildfire and although no local fires occurred at that time, several were not too far away. Island Pond, Top of the World Provincial Park, Lost Dog, and Kikomun Park were some of the wildfires of note. A province-wide campfire ban was declared July 12 until cooler, wetter weather warranted its removal on August 26. The fireworks ban is still on until further notice.

Besides organizing the May 11 Community Wildfire Preparedness event and the grand opening of the new Firesmart Demonstration Site, the Fire Society had three calls to action local fires. On the morning of July 14, we were called to a hay trailer fire on the highway at Skookumchuck Prairie, and on August 11, we received a call to attend a hay field fire in TaTa Creek. Our third call on Sept 10 was to a metal pile fire at the Regional District Dump. Although we investigated, we did not action that fire because the RDEK had been notified and sent their own staff and equipment. Many THANKS to the people who reported these fires, and to all the other volunteers who dropped whatever they were doing and rushed to help.

As wildfire season winds down, we're preparing to drain the community water trailer and put it away for the winter months. The trailer is operational only from April 15 to October 15 of each year. If you are one of our pro-active residents who prepared for the fire season by filling a residential water cube and setting up an emergency pumping system, you will need to get it all put away before freeze-up (just like us!).

In the meantime, fall is an excellent time to trim and thin brush and trees, and cleanup flammable materials around your home. If you missed both chipper days in 2024, there will likely be more opportunities next year and you can start getting ready now. Download the Firesmart Begins At Home Manual from our website [www.wasafire.weebly.com](http://www.wasafire.weebly.com) under the PREVENTION tab.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone! We'll be back in the spring when we'll announce the date of our very first Annual General Meeting. If you would like more information, contact [kathyemccauley@gmail.com](mailto:kathyemccauley@gmail.com)

Kathy McCauley

### **VOLUNTEER 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. Take a look at the list below and call existing members to see where you can help out.

Wasa & District Lions Club, Wasa Recreational Society, Tri-Village Buzz Newsletter, Wasa Gym, 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."*

The logo for Kootenay Monument Installations features the letters "KMI" in a stylized font inside a green square with a white border. Below the square, the text "KOOTENAY MONUMENT INSTALLATIONS" is written in a green, sans-serif font.

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Gravesite Restorations,  
Sales & Installations

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1.800.477.9996

[info@kootenaymonument.ca](mailto:info@kootenaymonument.ca)

## BEAR FACTS - BEAR SAFETY

### *Hyperphagia to Hibernation*

It's that time of year when bears enter a feeding frenzy, known as hyperphagia. During the fall, usually September and October, bears are eating and drinking almost all the time... up to 22 hours each day! They can eat up to 20,000 calories - that's about 10 times more than the average human - each day, and they can gain up to five pounds a day. Bears do this to get their body ready for winter hibernation. The extra weight, mostly fat, is all the energy their body needs to stay alive while they hibernate.



During hyperphagia, their increased drive to find high-calorie food can sometimes cause them to be closer to humans and can result in more conflicts. Trash, pet food, stored grain, bee hives, dirty BBQ grills, bird feeders, fruit that has fallen off the tree and other readily available human food sources are a quick and easy meal for bears.

During hyperphagia bears can be more aggressive and protective of food sources. This means that it is important to store anything that might smell like a tasty snack to a bear safely away where they can't get to it. When you are out recreating, it is important

to watch for bear sign (tracks, scat, etc.) and possible food sources, like berry and plum patches or even animal carcasses.

Remember, it is easier to avoid a bear encounter than it is to deal with a bear conflict.

Did you know that bears can go months without eating or drinking? This is why hyperphagia is so important. During the winter, black bears are in their dens hibernating, and during this time they typically do not eat or drink anything.

Bears can hibernate from two to eight months! In areas with colder temperatures, bears hibernate for longer than bears that live in warmer temperatures. In our area, bears generally hibernate from November to March each year.

During this time their bodies do some pretty amazing things! Their body temperatures lower by 8-12 degrees. They break down body fat for energy so they don't need to eat or drink, and they recycle their metabolic waste so they don't have to urinate or defecate. Bears' kidney tissues are actually damaged during hibernation, but then regenerate in the spring and summer. Scientists are trying to better understand how this works so they can help treat human kidney diseases!

During hibernation, pregnant females will give birth to cubs, too! Bears usually mate in the summer, but the embryos do not begin to develop until the female bear is in her winter den. She will give birth to tiny, helpless cubs in January/February, usually having one to three cubs. At birth the cubs are about half a pound, hairless, and their eyes are closed. By the time Mom is ready to leave the den in the spring, they are about five pounds. They typically stay with their mother for three years, when they are mature enough to reproduce themselves.



*Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks*



**PSA: DO NOT bleach your pumpkins to make them last longer!** Please remember pumpkins are food, especially to lots of the wildlife. Deer, squirrels, raccoons, mice, rats, chipmunks, birds, and even bugs. We deliberately stick them outside somewhere where wildlife can access them and we DO NOT want our wildlife eating bleached pumpkins.



**COME TREAT THE GHOSTS AND GOBLINS  
AT THE WASA LIONS' GROUNDS  
October 27 from 4-5:30 pm**

**Hosted by**

**Wasa Lions and Wasa Recreational Society  
Enjoy Hot chocolate and Treats  
Bring your carved pumpkin & enter the contest**

## AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Wasa Lions is a fun way to give back to your community.

### It's About Fundraising

- Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance/Raffle
- Yard Sale/ Pancake Breakfasts
- Bottle Recycling
- Gran Fondo/ Triathlon
- Lions Grounds Rental



### It's About Giving

- Wasa Lions Path/Skating Rink
- Tennis & Basketball Courts
- Pickleball Courts
- Ball Diamond
- Scholarships
- We Care We Serve community funding
- Medical Loan Cupboard
- Eyeglass & Hearing Aid Recycling



### It's About Fun & Socializing

A Great Reason to become a Lion!  
For Information call 250 422-3210

# Let bats hang out!



Photo by Dawn Marks

#### Bats are on the move.

Sometimes they end up sleeping in odd spots like exposed walls on a building, breezeways, or above an entryway.

Leave them alone!  
Do not touch them!

Give them a break and let them hang out. They will fly off at night to hunt for insects. They need to fatten up before the winter comes!

Keep pets inside and teach kids to never touch a bat.



*"Autumn went out walking, And with a brush in hand  
She draped the trees in red and gold, And dressed the changing land  
She painted leaf and garden, And made the cold winds blow  
Till all the world lay steeped within, Her bright October glow."*

Laura Jaworski



## ***The Absolute Importance of "Pack It In - Pack It Out"***

In early September 2024, a visitor accidentally dropped a bag of Cheetos inside Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico, which sparked unexpected consequences for the cave's delicate ecosystem. The Cheetos, softened by the cave's humidity, created an ideal environment for microbial and fungal growth. This prompted a temporary food web involving cave crickets, mites, spiders, and flies, disrupting the cave's fragile balance.

Such disruptions are especially impactful because caves are sensitive environments where organisms have adapted to survive with minimal nutrients, and introducing foreign elements can cause significant ecological shifts. Even minor human actions can have substantial effects on these ecosystems, making the impact of the Cheetos far greater than it might seem.

Park rangers spent 20 minutes meticulously removing the Cheetos and molds from the cave surfaces, highlighting the importance of following park rules, which prohibit consuming anything but plain water in the caverns. This incident underscores the broader message of "Leave No Trace," encouraging visitors to minimize their impact on natural environments.



## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING - What's the Motivation?

If you've been reading the Buzz, following the Wasa Community facebook page, or even just talking to your neighbours - you know a great deal of discussion has gone on regarding our community's need for volunteers. In every community organization. We have been very fortunate to have the dedicated individuals we do have, holding down the fort in various areas. But that resource is thinning - and new volunteers are definitely needed!

What has kept these trusted few so faithful? What motivates them? Is it the occasional free breakfast? Unlimited access to new donations to the Library? The satisfying social interaction? And how can we trigger that motivation in new community members? Younger residents?

A few motivations are:

1. Civic mindedness - they believe its the 'right thing to do' for their community. The organizational goals align with their personal values.
2. Because I have to - they feel pressured by someone or something in their lives. It's either a requirement of their religion, or community service, perhaps a way to earn school credits.
3. They find volunteering fun and entertaining. They have an opportunity to socialize with others that have similar goals. Sometimes these opportunities involve international travel and are often a one-time and done situation. Unfortunately online socializing seems to have taken the place of the undeniable richness of face-to-face group socializing. Somehow we have to communicate the importance of getting back to the physical face-to-face interaction.
4. Visibility and recognition - a need to have others acknowledge their selflessness, or special set of skills. "Look at me!"

**And the absolute WORST reason to volunteer;  
and one I hope we can avoid at all costs in our community:**

5. Personal benefit over community concerns. Individuals who chose a position in an organization to further their own personal agenda. This can take the form in theft of funds, sabotaging information required to run the organization efficiently, or even bullying other members to push an agenda that benefits them personally. These individuals are toxic and will end up tearing apart a community rather than unite and build it.

We need volunteers in a community as small as ours; individuals who have a heart for the community's interests over their own. Individuals who are willing to sacrifice a few hours a month of their personal time to support the success of a community endeavour. Consistently.

Are you up for the challenge?



**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 & 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!

**GYM HOURS AND INFO**

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

Let's get the most out of our gym. If a group of at least 3 people are interested in using the gym other than Mon-Wed-Fri 8-9 am, when a group already goes, or evenings, & willing to commit for at least 3 months, contact Sonia with the time & she will arrange a key & let others know the time for more to be able to go too.

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# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

WASA COMMUNITY HALL

&

## Call for Trustee Nominations

### Purpose of Annual General Meeting

The purpose of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to provide an opportunity for the board to present audited financial statements and report on the activities of the past year, and for landowners to discuss activities and ask questions. There will be an election of three (3) trustees for available positions, if warranted (i.e. If more nominations are received than there are positions available).

### Voter and Trustee Eligibility Requirements

- Canadian citizen over the age of 18
- Property owner within the Improvement District boundary (your name must be on the property title)
- BC resident for the past 6 months

You will be asked to present your driver's license or health care card for identification when you register to vote.

### NOMINATIONS FOR TRUSTEE

Please note: Nominations and notice of acceptance for trustee positions must be submitted in writing by email to [admin@wasalake.ca](mailto:admin@wasalake.ca) or Box 133 Wasa BC by midnight October 15 (2 weeks before the AGM). People who are eligible to vote are also eligible to run for trustee or to nominate someone for trustee.

The agenda and financial statements will be available at [www.wasalake.ca](http://www.wasalake.ca) prior to the meeting. For more information, please contact [admin@wasalake.ca](mailto:admin@wasalake.ca)





## The History of Thanksgiving in Canada

### *Where did the tradition come from?*

Written by Alison Nagy



Believe it or not, Thanksgiving in Canada, or at least the land that would become Canada, has its own history, separate from our American counterparts.

Traditions of giving thanks long predate the arrival of European settlers in North America. First Nations across Turtle Island have traditions of thanksgiving for surviving winter and for receiving crops and game as a reward for their hard work. These traditions may include feasting, prayer, dance, potlatch,

and other ceremonies, depending on the peoples giving thanks.

As the story goes, in 1578, English explorer Martin Frobisher and his crew gave thanks and communion was observed, either on land at Frobisher Bay, in present day Nunavut, or on-board a ship anchored there. The explorers dined on salt beef, biscuits, and mushy peas and gave thanks through Communion for their safe arrival in then Newfoundland. This is now accepted as the first “Canadian” Thanksgiving, forty-three years before the first “American” Thanksgiving.

Forty-eight years later on November 14, 1606, inhabitants of New France under Samuel de Champlain held huge feasts of thanksgiving between local Mi’kmaq and the French. Though not known at the time by the settlers, cranberries, rich in vitamin C, are credited with helping avoid scurvy. The neighbouring Mi’kmaq likely introduced the French to cranberries, or as they called them, *petites pommes rouges* (little red apples).

Champlain’s feasts were more than an annual affair. To prevent the scurvy epidemic that had decimated the settlement at Île Sainte-Croix in past winters, the *Ordre de Bon Temps* (Order of Good Cheer) was founded, offering festive meals every few weeks. Medical treatises recommended better nutrition (more food) and entertainment to combat scurvy.

However, despite this history of uniquely Canadian thanksgivings, our modern concepts of Thanksgiving were influenced by our American neighbours. Foods that are associated with a “traditional” Thanksgiving, such as North American turkey, squash, and pumpkin, were introduced to Nova Scotians in the 1750s. After the American War of Independence, the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists ensured the continuation of spreading this “traditional” fare to other parts of the country.

Today Canadian Thanksgiving is held on the second Monday of October every year, or at least it has been since Canadian Parliament declared it so on January 31, 1957. Before this, Thanksgiving in Canada had been held sporadically, often coinciding with other major events and anniversaries.

In 1879, Thanksgiving was officially declared a national holiday to be held on November 6th. The most recent date change to the second Monday in October was largely a result of the first and second world wars, which we officially remember each year on November 11, Remembrance Day. This was so that the two holidays would not fall on the same weekend.

As Thanksgiving in Canada has historically been celebrated on several different dates, it is fitting that, even though it is observed on Monday, families are equally as likely to celebrate on Saturday or Sunday.

Most Canadians embraced the change of date to October, since that period better coincides with the actual completion of harvest in much of the country.

Parliament officially declares Thanksgiving as “a day of general thanksgiving to almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed.” While this mandate for Thanksgiving may not be observed by all Canadians in its entirety, the ideas of being thankful, of spending time with family, and sharing a delicious meal still remain.

<https://www.canadashistory.ca/explore/arts-culture-society/the-history-of-thanksgiving-in-canada>



**Be more generous  
in thought, word and deed  
for the Good of all Beings and  
to avoid serious karmic backlash.**

Generosity is a universal virtue that transcends cultures, beliefs and ages. Being generous is not limited to giving material goods, but also extends to the way we think, speak and act toward others. From a spiritual perspective, and particularly in view of the Law of Karma, our thoughts, words and actions have profound repercussions on our lives and our spiritual evolution. By practicing generosity in these three dimensions, we not only contribute positively to the well-being of others, but also protect ourselves from the terrible karmic backlash that can result from selfish, malicious or destructive behavior.

**Generosity of thought** is the very origin of positive energy. Thoughts are the roots of our actions. They form the basis of our inner state and influence not only our behavior, but also the vibrations we emit into the world. A generous thought is one of openness, benevolence and compassion toward others. It can take the form of sincere wishes for the well-being of others, or a positive disposition that doesn't constantly judge or criticize others. When we harbor negative thoughts such as jealousy, hatred or resentment, we create a toxic energy within ourselves that affects our state of mind and attracts negative circumstances into our lives. These thoughts act as psychic or subtle seeds which, in time, will always bear fruit in reality. The Law of Karma, which states that every cause begets an effect, reminds us that these negative seeds will come back to us in the form of unfavorable situations. On the other hand, by cultivating generous and benevolent thoughts, we transform our inner self into a fertile field for peace, serenity and prosperity. Our positive thoughts create an atmosphere of harmony that attracts positive blessings and opportunities. So, by being generous in our thinking, we ensure that the evolutionary returns in our

lives will be beneficial and enriching. **Generosity in speech** is an act of creation. Words are so powerful. Every word we speak has an impact on those who hear it and on the atmosphere that surrounds us. Speech is a direct way of manifesting our thoughts and intentions in the physical world. That's why it's essential to exercise generosity in the way we speak. Generous speech is speech that supports, encourages and uplifts others. This means avoiding gratuitous criticism, slander, or hurtful words, and focusing instead on words of encouragement, support and love. When we speak kindly, we spread positive energy around us, which can have a calming effect on others and on our own consciousness. Conversely, harsh, critical or hateful words generate negative energy that not only hurts others, but comes back to us in the form of conflict, misunderstanding and suffering. The Law of Karma teaches us that every word we speak has an effect, and that this effect will inevitably come back to us, sometimes amplified. Practicing generosity in speech does not mean avoiding criticism or confrontation. Rather, it means being discerning and speaking with intention and wisdom. By choosing our words with care and expressing our thoughts with kindness, we cultivate an environment of respect and positivity, which promotes positive karmic returns.

**Generosity in action** is the manifestation of altruism. Our actions are the concrete manifestations of our thoughts and words. They have a direct impact on the world around us and on those who share our existence. Generosity in action can take many forms, from material charity to acts of kindness and support for others. When we act generously, whether by helping someone in need, offering our time or showing compassion, we create waves of positive energy that spread beyond our own lives. Every act of generosity, no matter how small, contributes to the up-

liftment of the collective and creates an environment of benevolence. On the other hand, selfish, malicious or harmful actions leave negative karmic traces that come back to us in the form of suffering, loss or hardship.

**The impact of karmic returns**

The Law of Karma works like a mirror: what we send out into the world eventually comes back to us. So, by being generous in our actions, we sow seeds of prosperity and harmony for our own future.

The Law of Karma teaches that every action, thought or word has consequences. If we choose to act generously, we attract positive returns. On the other hand, if we are selfish, malicious or destructive, we suffer the consequences of our actions. These karmic returns are not always immediate, but they are inevitable. Being generous in thought, word and deed creates a virtuous cycle where the energy we put into the world comes back to us in the form of peace, happiness and prosperity. By cultivating this generosity, we protect ourselves from negative karmic backlash that might otherwise generate unnecessary suffering.

Generosity in thought, word and deed is a key to living a more harmonious and fulfilled life. Not only does it contribute to the well-being of others, but it also protects us from the serious karmic backlash that results from negative, selfish behavior. By being more generous, we create a virtuous cycle that raises our consciousness and brings us closer to the Divine. The Law of Karma is inescapable, but **by choosing the Path of Generosity**, we can ensure that our returns will be blessings and not hardships.

May generosity be with you always, for it protects you from much unnecessary suffering!

Love to everyone who reads this article.

OM OM OM

H.H. Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha  
Adi Vajra Shambhasalem Ashram



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Full page.....\$49.50

For more information or to place an ad, please contact

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Tri-Village Buzz Newsletter

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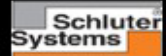


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Winter hours: 8:30-5 M-F; 9-5 Sat

Authorized Dealer for:



How do you compliment a pumpkin in October?

"You look gourd-geous."

Why do truckers like October 4th the most?

Because it is 10/4, good buddy.

### October's Party

*October gave a party;  
The leaves by hundreds came—  
The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples,  
And leaves of every name.  
The Sunshine spread a carpet,  
And everything was grand,  
Miss Weather led the dancing,  
Professor Wind the band.  
The Chestnuts came in yellow,  
The Oaks in crimson dressed;  
The lovely Misses Maple  
In scarlet looked their best;  
All balanced to their partners,  
And gaily fluttered by;  
The sight was like a rainbow  
New fallen from the sky.  
Then, in the rustic hollow,  
At hide-and-seek they played,  
The party closed at sundown,  
And everybody stayed.  
Professor Wind played louder;  
They flew along the ground;  
And then the party ended  
In jolly "hands around."*

by George Cooper

### What does October literally mean?

October is a compound word combining the Latin word Octo meaning eight (where it falls in the Roman calendar, although in the Gregorian calendar it falls in the tenth position), and the English word ember denoting a smoldering fire. Therefore, the literal meaning of the name October is Born in October

## Welcome Neighbours & Visitors

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Contact store for Weekend/Holiday/Winter hours

# October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>  Wasa Lion's Mtg 7 pm	<b>2</b>  <small>On this day in history, Charles Schultz's "Peanuts" was first published. October 2, 1950</small>	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Church 10:30 am	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  <small>WORLD OCTOPUS DAY</small>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Church 10:30 am	<b>14</b>  <small>Thanksgiving Day</small>	<b>15</b>  Wasa Lion's Mtg 7 pm	<b>16</b>  WLLID Board Mtg 7 pm	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Church 10:30 am	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <small>WORLD PASTA DAY</small>	<b>26</b> 
<b>27</b> Church 10:30 am	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  WLLID AGM Mtg 7 pm	<b>31</b>  <small>WORLD SAVINGS DAY</small>		

**LEGEND**

Church Service 10:30 a.m.    Lions 7 p.m.  
 Quilters 10 - 4                      Tops; friday 9 a.m.  
 Lion's meetings 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month



SPECIAL EVENTS

## and Days Down the Road

- TOPS every Friday morning at the Wasa Hall. Weigh in at 9 - 9:30 AM - mtg 9:30 to 10:30
- Pickleball - every Monday & Wednesday 9 - 12, in the Community Hall
- WLLID Board Mtg. Oct 16 @ 7 pm
- WLLID AGM October 30 @ 7 pm
- BINGO December 10th



**NUMBERS AT A GLANCE**

Ashram Meditation & Yoga.....	250.422.9327
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Conservation - Emergency.....	1.877.952.7277
Cranbrook/Kimberley Hospice.....	250.417.2024
Econobuilt.....	250.421.7813
<b>EMERGENCY.....</b>	<b>1.800.663.5555 (*5555)</b>
Hi Heat Insulating.....	250.422.3457
HD Railings.....	250.422.3457
Kootenay Kwik Print.....	250.489.4213
Kootenay Monument Installations.....	422.3414
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