

THE WINDERMERE GAZETTE

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE?

- **Windermere House** - Lots of things happening at WH. Stop in for a drink or meal at one of their lovely dining options.
 - **Windermere Pub & Patio** - Lunch & Dinner - patio open weather permitting. Reservations on Open Table
 - 12pm - 11pm weekdays, Weekends 12pm - midnight
 - Live music - Fri.&Sat. 7-10pm
 - **The Rosseau**, upscale dining, beautiful setting 7 days/week - 12-9pm.
 - **High Tea** returns June 28th - a timeless tradition
 - **The Trading Post** - Artisanal goods & produce, charcuterie, souvenirs and more.
 - **Spa at Windermere** - Daily 9am - 6pm
- **Windermere Marina** NEW HOURS! - 7 days a week - 9am - 5pm.
- **Windermere Golf Club** - Open to all for lunch and dinner throughout the season at **Iron and Strings Restaurant**. - "**Wing Night**" - every Thursday with live entertainment. **Tuesday night is Euchre Night!**
- **Windermere Garden Centre**
Mon.-Fri. - 8 - 5, Sat - 9 - 5, Sun - CLOSED
- **Taylor Farms** - Mon - Fri, 7am - 6pm. Sat. 9am - 5pm. CLOSED Sunday. Great Cappuccino and Lattes at the cafe!
More details at taylorfarms.ca/market.
Or email strawberries@taylorfarms.ca
- **Lagree by the Lake** - Fitness Studio right in Windermere. Check out lagreebythelake.com for hours and classes.

Windermere Lions Club is offering a bottle drop off for your recyclables - this is part of their fundraising for all the great things they do for the community and beyond. Drop off at Taylor Farms.

- **Christ Church Windermere** - services Sunday at 10:30am. Welcome all.
- **Windermere United Church** - services Sunday at 10:30am. Check out "Upcoming Events" for Taize & meditation schedule.

The History & Evolution of "Windermere Fun Day" A Village Tradition

August 16th, 11am - 4pm @ The Wharf

Founded in 1992 by the Windermere & Area Lions Club, this beloved free community event was built to give back to local families. Originally held, 34 years ago on a quiet Wednesday in late August, the 16th to be exact, just as the seasonal crowds began to thin - the event was later moved to July so everyone, including our "summer people," could join in the fun.

What started as a simple afternoon of races, games, and swimming contests (complete with ribbons, prizes, and support from local businesses) quickly became an annual staple. As the years rolled on, the celebration grew organically. A parade and fireworks were added, alongside a community BBQ. The Women's Institute and local church groups stepped in with bake sales, the Bracebridge Legion Pipes & Drums band traded a performance for a pint at the Windermere Pub, and the local firetruck hose spray-down became an instant hit with the kids.

As the Lions Club members aged, they passed the torch to a dedicated group of active villagers - Susan Kinsella, Pat Ferrier, Liz Beane, Janet Poole, and Lena Dutton, who kept the magic alive under the steady guidance of Lions John Dutton & Irv Cain.

Eventually, Muskoka Chautauqua, who had resurrected its historic 1920s festival roots in Windermere Village, adopted the Fun Day as the official closing-day celebration. This expanded the day's scope to include professional artists, interactive workshops, and high-energy musical events.

The event's history is deeply tied to the **Windermere Wharf** on Lake Rosseau. Historically, the wharf was the lifeblood of the community where grand steamships dropped off travellers and mail to **Windermere House**. Hosting the festival at the wharf pays homage to the village's historic identity as a central gathering point.

The modern itinerary directly reflects decades of blending community service with lake-culture entertainment.

From its humble beginnings to its modern-day format, Windermere Fun Day continues to evolve, ensuring this treasured village celebration stays alive for generations to come. The **Windermere Women's Institute** continues their multi-decade tradition of hosting a massive homemade bake sale alongside the **Lions Club BBQ**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you have a community event to announce, let us know!

Muskoka Arts and Crafts at the Village Hall!

Open 6 days a week for July and August.

August 12th & Sept 16th @ 7:30pm @ Windermere United Church *"Peace and Presence in Taizé Tradition"* -

Sept 10, October 8th @ 7:30pm

Windermere United Church is holding *Mindfulness Meditation in the Zen Buddhism tradition.*

August 21st - Taryn Rose @ WG&CC

August 22nd, from 7-10PM - Taryn Rose @ Windermere House

The Muskoka Chautauqua Festival -

Great line up of evening events continue!

Highlights:

August 12 - Candlelit Taizé

August 13 - The Muskoka Philharmonic Orchestra

August 14 - Beverlie & Friends

August 15th - Northern Lights Steel Orchestra

August 16th - Windermere Family Fun Day

For more information and tickets.

<https://www.muskokachautauqua.com/>

Every Friday all summer long!!

The Windermere and District Lions Club

will be hosting their fabulous BBQ!

On the Wharf - 11:30am - 2:00pm

Submissions, content, or to subscribe

windermeregazette@icloud.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police - Non-Emergency 705-645-2211

Fire Department 705-765-3156

District of Muskoka Office 705-645-2100

By-Law Office Township 705-765-3156

Wharf Master 705-769-3611

Windermere Golf Club 705-769-3381

Windermere Marina 705-769-3661

Windermere House 705-769-3611

Taylor Farms 705-769-2368

Windermere Garden Centre 705-769-3238

Archives windermereandareaarchives@gmail.com

Lions Club - windermereclionsclubmuskoka@gmail.com

Clipping from The Muskokan - 31 years ago!

THE MUSKOKAN, Thursday, June 29, 1995. A15

Fun Day events in Windermere

The Windermere beach is the place to be on Tuesday, July 18 as the Windermere and District Lions Club presents its annual Family Fun Day.

The Fun Day begins with a parade at 1:30 p.m., followed by all sorts of waterfront activities, including face painting, water balloon toss, children's art contest, canoe and tube races and other fun competitions for young children. A clown will be on hand to sing songs and make balloon animals.

The parade, in itself, is a major event, with floats and music and a couple of smartly dressed Scottie dogs (the latter from The Baldwins resort nearby).

Of course, what Lions Fun Day would be complete without sampling the famous Lions Burger, for \$2, at the Lions Food Tent (it opens at 11 a.m.). The women, not to be outdone, have lots of tempting baked goods for sale as well.

At 7 p.m. the Bracebridge Legion Pipe band gives a lively waterfront performance, followed by fireworks at 9 p.m., courtesy of Windermere House.

So come for the fun and the food and have a great family day.

*Don't miss the
"Community
Conversation"*

August 12th @ 4pm
at Windermere House -
Learn about our past -
with a virtual
heritage tour. Be part
of Windermere's
future.

*What's next? Join us
and find out!*

Other "not to miss" Chautauqua events Many are free!!

(For evening events see the *"Upcoming Events"* column)

August 12th - Plein Air painting, Visual Note Taking, Walking Tour, COMMUNITY CONVERSATION.

August 13th - Plein Air Painting, Walking Tour, Ashley Parsons Book sign

August 14th - Botanical Relief clay workshop, Walking Tour, Fay Martin Book Talk

August 15th - Sketching Nature, Walking Tour, Tim Falconer book talk

August 16th - Children and Family Fun Day @ the Wharf - arts, crafts, music, paddle making, beach games, water sports, Canoe Race, BBQ and Bake Sale.

For more details and to reserve tickets, go to:
<https://www.muskokachautauqua.com/>

Windermere Garden Centre is celebrating 50 years!

The Gazette will have more on their history
in next week's publication.

Stay tuned!!