

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 - June - Sun.** - Thurs. 12pm - 11pm. Fri. & Sat. 12pm - midnight. **July** - 7 days a week - 12pm - midnight
 - **The Rosseau** - upscale dining in a beautiful setting. Until June 20th - Sat & Sun 12 - 9pm, Mon - Fri - 5-9pm. After June 20th Open 7 days/week - 12 to 9pm
 - **Smokehouse BBQ Packages** - launching June, pre-order for pick up at WH or the Marina.
 - **Trading Post!** Artisanal goods & produce, charcuterie, souvenirs & more.
 - **The New Spa at Windermere House** spa@windermerehouse.com
- **Windermere Marina** -spring hours
Thur. Fri. Sat. Sun. - 9am - 5pm
- **Windermere Golf Club** -open to the public until June 26th, private golf club from June 27th - Labour Day. Open to all for lunch and dinner throughout the season.
 - "**Wing Night**" - 5pm Thurs - live entertainment
 - "**Bridge Night**" - Mondays
 - "**Euchre Night**" every Tuesday @ 5:45pm
\$25 includes dinner.
 - "**Brunch**" - every Sun. 10am -1pm- open to all
- **Windermere Garden Centre**
Mon.-Fri. - 8 - 5, Sat - 9 - 5, Sun 10 - 4
Fully stocked for the season. Stay tuned for upcoming events!
- **Taylor Farms** - Mon - Fri, 7am - 6pm. Sat. 9am - 5pm. Closed Sun. Great Cappuccino and Lattes at the cafe!!
Pick your own strawberries early to mid June.
 - **Farm to Table Summer Produce Box** Sign up for one week or all summer - 7-10 items - fruit and veggies - local Ontario. -Small or Large Box. Order by 6pm on a Sunday. Pick up at Taylor Farms on Thursdays, Crossfit in Port Carling on Thursday. or Bracebridge or Huntsville on Wednesday-**More details at taylorfarms.ca/market**. Or email strawberries@taylorfarms.ca
- **Christ Church Windermere** -services
Sunday at 10:30am
- **Windermere United Church** -services
Sunday at 10:30am. Monthly summer meditative Candlelight Taize Music of Unity and Peace - starting June 18th.

The Windermere Gazette! (Season two)

A weekly newsletter for the Windermere Community -
A little news - A little history

In March of 2021, the Muskoka branch of the Architecture Conservancy of Ontario was invited to partake in the University of Guelph's '**Rural Romp**', coordinated by the Department of Rural Planning and Development. The theme was **Rural Heritage**. Barb Dutton, long time Windermere resident, from the Archives of the Windermere Women's Institute, and Karen Lang, ACO Muskoka, spoke about

The Windermere History Project

The Windermere History Project came into being in the summer of 2018, under the guidance of Catherine Nasmith, Architect. It was a model for rural heritage preservation.

The idea for it was, in reality, a "push back" to development challenges that were increasing exponentially as real estate values in Muskoka skyrocketed. The group behind it all were an eclectic group of individuals committed to the preservation of the village of Windermere, a rural community of original land grant families, farmers, small business owners, year-round and seasonal residents. Our group represented the collective voice of those who share a vision for rural heritage, a belief in celebrating its history, and motivation to shape a sustainable future.

Our backgrounds were varied, including architecture, farming, business, historians, healthcare, and the arts, but together we bring purposeful and strategic focus to our goals for rural heritage preservation.

We all know development is inevitable but how do we ensure it is responsible and thoughtful.....respectful of the rural environment that brought the first settlers here, along with the heritage of the visitors and cottagers that followed?

When one pauses to reflect on the village of Windermere, one can begin to realize how special this small community is. Its history, its heritage, it's people, and the fact that it has remained relatively untouched by a developer's hand, is quite remarkable.

How do we help preserve what is here?

It is difficult in many ways to impact change on a 'grand scheme', but sometimes change can start very effectively on a grass roots level. As it gains traction, it influences and directs from the bottom up. With awareness, community engagement and participation, we all become stakeholders in this pro-active preservation and recognition of small community and rural heritage.

UPCOMING EVENTS

-Thursdays starting June 5th

Wing night @ WGCC. 5 -9pm

-Fridays starting June 27th -

Butcher Block Chef's Choice @ WGCC

-**July 4th - 5pm** - @ WGCC - Live entertainment with Taryn Rose

-Fridays and Saturdays @

Windermere House - Live music from 7-10pm

-Tuesdays @ 5:45pm starting

July 8 - Euchre Night @ WGCC - \$25 - includes dinner

-**Every Friday for the summer**, a lunchtime BBQ at the Windermere Wharf - in support of the Windermere and District Lions Club.

-The Chautauqua Festival

August 1st - August 10th - stay tuned for details and events.

-**August 6th - Community Conversation @4pm** - Windermere House

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

windermereandareaarchive@gmail.com

- Lions Club

windermere@ar2lions.ca

There were 3 resources gave the Windermere History Project its vision for community and heritage preservation as well as public engagement.

1 - ACO-Muskoka – support and direction for building an inventory of buildings and cultural landmarks for the village.

2 - The Archives of the Windermere Women's Institute – They have been instrumental in the gathering, organizing and archiving of important community history and records that are the heart of the community heritage of Windermere, and are the only remaining Women's Institute in the Muskoka District.

3 - Muskoka Chautauqua – The first Canadian branch of the arts and education movement had its roots in Muskoka in Windermere in 1916. They now run a variety of creative arts based programming educational activities in the Muskoka area, and the Chautauqua Festival held in Windermere each summer.

Our goals were and are concurrent – a reminder that one is not without the other.

The history and heritage facts, collected and archived, are the framework for the project, but the anecdotal stories and community engagement are critical for the 'build out' and strength of the structure, and the preservation of the community as a whole. The data and historical facts meld with memories, stories and community involvement to make up the 'whole' of the **Windermere History Project**.

It also serves to remind us that, as a community, if we recognize and celebrate this history and heritage, we have strength and purpose. We can decide what is good for Windermere going forward. We can work together to preserve the heritage of this community for the next generations.

Children's Playground coming this year to Windermere!! Details can be found on the township website here:

Windermere Playground

Stay tuned for finalized design. We will be posting in the Gazette.

And please consider a **DONATION** to our playground. It will be a wonderful addition to the village and a gathering place around the historic Village Hall.

The Chautauqua Festival is looking for local residents and cottagers to consider billeting artists and support staff between August 1st - 10th. If you might have an extra bedroom or small cabin to house one or more people for one or more nights, please contact toriwines@gmail.com

Special access to events as way of compensation.