

WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION

Magazine

Summer, 2020



LOGO REFRESH

The association's new look

Scanlan Creek | PROGRESS

SAFE BOATING ETIQUETTE

Makers' Corner

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WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION Magazine

SPRING 2020

6 WOLFE LAKE BOAT LAUNCHES ARE OPEN

The municipally owned boat launches (South Frontenac & Rideau Lakes) are open.

7 THE PRESIDENT: A STEADY EXPANSION OF PROJECTS

Brian Manthey describes current projects of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) volunteers

9 SAFE BOATING ETIQUETTE: A NEEDED REMINDER

We all know that responsible boating is green, clean, safe and courteous, but it is time for a refresher on safe boating behaviour.

13 TOWNSHIP MAYORS MESSAGES OF FRIENDSHIP

Wishes of hope and friendship of both Ron Vandewal and Arie Hoogenboom, despite many operational changes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

14 A NEW LOGO FOR THE WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Marti Hansell, who has a cottage at Wolfe Lake and is a professional graphic designer, came up with a logo we can all be proud of.

17 CHECKING IN WITH STACY BLAIR

Meet Stacy Blair, and read her answers to our standard FOUR QUESTIONS.

19 SUPPORTING WOLFE LAKE'S FISHERY

An update on two amazing projects to restore key walleye spawning habitat at Scanlan Creek and in Wolfe Lake.

22 TURTLES IN TROUBLE

FOCUS ON WILDLIFE AROUND OUR LAKE takes a closer look at turtles.

37 NEWS OF THE WESTPORT AREA OUTDOOR ASSOCIATION

Paul Thompson informs us of projects of the Westport Area Outdoor Association.

41 AN A-Z GUIDE TO THE JOYS OF COTTAGE LIFE

At the cottage we start to use a somewhat different vocabulary: your ultimate ABC.

47 LARRY ARSENAULT MAKES GORGEOUS WOOD PIECES

Larry's woodworking hobby became so much more, after settling at Wolfe Lake.

ON THE COVER & ABOVE

Cover: Jumping in Wolfe Lake
Above: Mirror lake. Both pictures (and many more in this Magazine) were graciously shared by Amy and Betty Jo MacDougall.

AND MUCH MORE

- 6 Wolfe Lake in brief
- 8 Working for you
- 11 AGM 2019
- 15 Our community cares
- 18 COVID-19 boat launching
- 21 Reasons to join us
- 25 Splendid fall walk 2019
- 27 Kids' pages
- 30 It's all under water
- 31 Starry nights
- 33 Winners 2019 photo contest
- 34 PICTURE TIME 2020 contest
- 35 Empty nest
- 39 Ice fishing on Wolfe Lake
- 40 Bedford local history
- 44 Veggie garden fever
 - Report suspicious activities
- 45 The Westport Pie bar recipe
- 48 New positions in association
- Your say
- 49 What will be the 'new normal'
- Trend alert
- 50 We all respect 'COVID-19 rules'

Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association

All hands on deck!

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is run by a volunteer executive, voted in at the Annual General Meeting. Our executive team works for you to ensure good governance, to shape and run all our initiatives, while keeping the association's objectives in mind. Our main goals are to maintain and enhance the natural beauty and pristine state of Wolfe Lake and its shoreline, to provide information on the environmental aspects of cottage life and how we could improve our environment and the quality of our lake water. We inform you about water quality, and invasive species, such as the growth of Eurasian water milfoil. We encourage our members to reduce (noise-) pollution and to introduce possible measures to prevent and reduce (noise-)pollution. We strive to offer advice to anglers with tips and tricks to improve fishing and to maintain a healthy habitat. We keep in touch with our members by publishing our annual Wolfe Lake Magazine and by distributing our e-mail News Flash, with brief updates and news to be shared throughout the year. Feel free to get in touch with our 2020 executive team.

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Web sources:

goodstuffnononsense.com; free-icon-rainbow.com; torontolife.com, colourpsychologytoday.com; tc.gc.ca, brucepower.com; watercanada.net and nature.com



WHAT'S INSIDE | JUMP RIGHT IN

Summer of discovery

It is incredibly difficult to think of the right way to open the 2020 version of the Wolfe Lake Magazine. There is a whirlwind of topics around the novel Corona virus that has hit many communities all over Canada. Like you, we have received many updates on what to do and what not to do to flatten the curve and protect the communities we live in during this global pandemic. So, what should we add in our Magazine under these difficult times? Glad you asked.

Parts of the Magazine were already written before the pandemic took off in North America. Are we re-writing our stories? Constantly updating? Would that be our task? Or do we look at our Wolfe Lake Magazine as a fun escape to life at the lake? If so, should we even be mentioning COVID-19? We decided we would, but without trying to catch the most recent revisions, since policies to reduce the spreading of the virus in both South Frontenac and Rideau Lakes are constantly evolving.

By the time you read this, you have noticed you got your copy of Wolfe Lake Magazine hand delivered, as always. This year we added a biodegradable/recyclable wrapping, so all can be sure that nobody has touched our precious Magazine before you opened it. We were lucky our printer, Cielo Print, is in full production mode and delivering the best service possible as they keep their workers safe. And thanks to the generosity of our advertisers, even at these uncertain times, we were able to publish.

Earlier this spring, planning the content for 2020, it was business as usual. We planned to share with you summer fun, joy, a few cool facts about our community, while flipping through the pages. What we did not expect then was that the Corona pandemic would take away some – or even a lot – of this summer's joy. Not all our members can (yet?) travel to their lake retreats, having to travel out of Province or from the United States of America. No matter what, the current health issues did not scare us away from doing what we always do. We have prepared this Magazine for you with lots of dedication, full of neat stories and interesting articles. By now you know what to expect from us, including many familiar departments.

The summer of 2020 is going to be a discovery, a new way of finding out how to vacation and relax at our well-loved life at the cottage, maintaining all kinds of physical and social distancing. It might be full of surprises. The most crucial thing is that we all stay safe. Nothing is more important.



The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association's Team



AGM 2020

Cancelled!

Just before we went to press and after careful consultation, the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association decided to cancel its Annual General Meeting, which had been scheduled for Saturday July 18, 2020 at the Lion's Beach Clubhouse (Sand Lake).

The health and safety of the association's members, speakers and guests is a priority. The Wolfe Lake Team based its decision on the most recent advice and recommendations from both the federal and provincial Ministries of Health, and from Toronto's Medical Officer of Health. Discussions are underway with respect to rescheduling, and further information will be provided via posts on our Facebook page and website. We will inform members as well via a News Flash email.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us any time at:

com-wolfelake@outlook.com

WOLFE LAKE | IN BRIEF



WOLFE LAKE BOAT LAUNCHES ARE OPEN

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve in our region, our two townships are making changes in order to keep us all safe. The good news is that the municipally owned boat launches from both South Frontenac and Rideau Lakes are now open. Please continue to practice physical distancing while utilizing these facilities on Wolfe Lake, and adhere to the provincial order limiting group gatherings to five people or fewer, unless they are from the same household (see also page 18).

VOLUNTEER ANGLERS PARTICIPATE IN WOLFE LAKE FISHERY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The Wolfe Lake Association and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry are assessing the fishery on Wolfe Lake. Participating anglers, which include both residents and cottagers, have been logging catch data from each outing into a fishing diary provided by the MNRF. All catches -- regardless of species or size -- are being recorded, as well as notations when nothing was caught. The program began on May 9th and will conclude on October 12 (Thanksgiving), 2020. At that time, we will collect all the diaries and forward them to Lisa Solomon, a biologist with the MNRF who manages the Wolfe Lake fishery. A report will be generated with the program results and shared with the community. The angling statistics gathered from this assessment will supplement spawning observations and prior netting studies to help us promote a healthy, sustainable fishery and enhance future fishing opportunities on Wolfe Lake. Questions or comments may be directed to our Fishing Director, Margie Manthey, at manthey.margie@gmail.com.

NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

The lake community is not different than any other. And with everybody staying put, we help each other. There are many examples of reaching out to those who need assistance. The Village of Westport is doing the same. From volunteering for Kudrinko's Supermarket, delivering orders to being kind to each other, to offering full cooked meals and pizzas. The Corona crisis is unique in that it impacts everyone and will persist in the months to come, but also unique in the many ways people reach out to each other, finding out what kind of help is needed and then doing what can be done to help or direct your neighbours in need to the right services.

NEW LOGO FOR THE WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION

Now is the time to go forward and come up with a logo we can all be proud of and one which will lead us for the next 15 years or so. Meet Marti Hansell, graphic designer and Wolfe Lake cottager, who made it happen, on page 14.





FROM THE PRESIDENT | Our work goes on

By Brian Manthey

As I write this, I am unable to visit our family cottage, confirm it wintered well, or prepare it for summer visits. Coronavirus restrictions prevent me from crossing the border. Our year-round residents are especially blessed this year to enjoy the beauty of our lake. We're all adjusting to these unprecedented times, and the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association (WLWA) is no exception; our work goes on. Here is what the Wolfe Lake team has been doing since the last AGM in July 2019.

Township Representation: Both South Frontenac and Rideau Lakes offer opportunities for area lake associations to have representatives attend meetings and discuss issues which affect our lakes. Our WLWA participates and weighs in on issues such as garbage collection, launch conditions, township strategic and official plans, septic inspections, litter, Airbnb rentals and other township wide issues which affect all lake associations.

Margie Manthey and Peter Neve attend the Rideau Lakes Lake Association's quarterly meetings, which gives us a voice with the townships and results in real progress. The Township of Rideau Lakes has provided the WLWA a \$1253 grant to use at our discretion. After lobbying from your WLWA representatives, both South Frontenac and Rideau Lakes have committed funds and efforts to improve launches at 10th Concession, Wolfe Lake Road and the south end of the lake. These launches have washed out and silted in over the years and become difficult to utilize, especially in times of low water levels.

Some improvements have been completed but look for more work to be done this fall.

Environmental Projects: Your WLWA has several ongoing efforts, including water quality monitoring, exploring methods to combat invasive species, advocating for more consistent water levels, maintaining fishing line receptacles, and improving fish spawning and wildlife habitats. Those efforts are detailed throughout our communications, including this magazine.

The WLWA team interfaces with area-wide environmental organizations including the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, the Westport Area Outdoor Association and the Ministry of the Environment Lake Partner Project. Through those efforts we gain access to an expansive knowledge base, scientists, testing and project partners.

Communications: A dedicated group of our team volunteers work year-round keeping us all up to date on Wolfe Lake happenings. This magazine (now completely self-funded) is a wonderful maturation of the printed newsletter that has graced our cottage coffee tables for decades.

Our website has been steadily upgraded over the past several years and is a great resource for all things Wolfe Lake. Our Facebook page is a daily reminder of the year-round beauty and activities that endear us to Wolfe Lake. We now have over 500 Facebook followers! News Flash emails are distributed to the lake

community when topics of member interest need to be broadcast quickly. Through these efforts, our communications reach is growing. Cottage Life Magazine may feature (this year?) an article highlighting recent Wolfe Lake Association environmental improvement projects.

Activities: The AGM represents one opportunity for us to come together to meet our lake neighbours, but there are others. Consider participating in the annual PICTURE TIME photo contest, fall walk or volunteering as a board member.

Our lake is surrounded by wonderful people, and it has been a gift to get to know some of them through the association's events. Coming up: The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association applied for and has been offered a grant, administered through the Rideau Valley Conservation

Foundation, from the Alastair & Diana Gillespie Foundation. This \$2,000 gift will go towards projects which benefit the Wolfe Lake environment. Look to our communications to hear about how we are putting this generous financial gift to good use.

Each year sees steady expansion of the opportunities and activities the WLWA participates in. Please reach out to your representatives to see how you can contribute.

Stay well, and let's look forward to the day when we can all make happier memories on the lake!

Brian Manthey



The lake association is at work for you

Get to know the volunteers of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association. Each year we introduce a few of the team. The full listing of our board can be found on page 4 and on our website www.wolfelake.org



ADRIANA GAMBAROTTA

ADRIANA STARTED AS A VOLUNTEER IN 2016 AS ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY. SINCE THEN SHE IS AN ACTIVE TEAM MEMBER AIMING TO HELP FIND SOLUTIONS AND SUPPORT DECISIONS THAT ASSURE THE CONTINUITY OF A PRISTINE LAKE ENVIRONMENT. ADRIANA HAS A BACKGROUND IN THE MEDICAL FIELD WITH A SPECIALTY IN BIOLOGY. SINCE HER RETIREMENT LAST YEAR, SHE HAS BEEN ENJOYING COTTAGE LIFE ON THE SOUTHWEST SHORE OF THE LAKE TO THE FULLEST WITH HER FIVE GRAND-CHILDREN. ON ANOTHER NOTE, COMING FROM ITALY, ADRIANA IS AN AMAZING COOK AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO SHARE YUMMY RECIPES.

Member since 2016



DONNA GARLAND

SINCE THE MID EIGHTIES, DONNA'S FAMILY HAS BEEN ENJOYING SUMMERS

ON WOLFE LAKE. THE COTTAGE HAS BEEN THE FOCAL POINT OF THEIR FAMILY FOR FOUR GENERATIONS. THEIR SHARED PASSION FOR COTTAGE LIFE AND NATURE HAS KEPT THEIR FAMILY CLOSE, AS THEY SAY, 'LIFE ON WOLFE LAKE IS IN OUR DNA.' HER CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDE THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE, WOLFELAKE.ORG. THE WEBSITE IS ONE OF THE IMPORTANT TOOLS THE ASSOCIATION USES TO COMMUNICATE WITH MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES. IT IS DESIGNED TO KEEP ALL OF OUR MEMBERS BOTH INFORMED AND ENTERTAINED.

Member since 2010



BRIAN MANTHEY

HAS VOLUNTEERED WITH THE WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION SINCE

2014, INITIALLY AS ASSISTANT FISHING DIRECTOR, NOW AS PRESIDENT.

HE LIVES IN MARIETTA (NEW YORK), WITH HIS WIFE MARGIE AND SONS TYLER AND SHANE. HOME, WHERE BRIAN IS A PRACTICING ARCHITECT, IS IN THE EASTERN FINGER LAKES ABOUT A 3 HOUR DRIVE FROM THE COTTAGE.

HE HAS BEEN VISITING WOLFE LAKE SINCE 1986 AND BUILT THE FAMILY COTTAGE IN 2006. BRIAN ENJOYS TINKERING AROUND THE HOUSE AND COTTAGE WITH MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS; GOLFING WITH FRIENDS; AND FISHING WITH HIS WIFE AND BOYS.

Member since 2010

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AT OUR ASSOCIATION?

People choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or make a difference to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge. So why not volunteer at our association? We have a team of dedicated association members who give their own time, over and above their day jobs to ensure that our association is staying ahead of various developments and is creating much needed visibility. Of course, there is always room for more volunteers. Step up to the plate and contact us by emailing com-wolfelake@outlook.com.

Looking forward to hearing from you!



RESPONSIBLE BOATING IS GREEN, CLEAN, SAFE AND COURTEOUS

Be informed on safe boating etiquette

By Anna Rijk

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association recognizes the potential impact that boats have on the marine ecosystem and the communities we enjoy. It's up to all of us to understand how we can minimize our impact and practice responsible environmental stewardship. Members of our community have asked for an article on boat etiquette, after they experienced unsafe boating in the recent past. Besides safety, boaters also need to be mindful of the environment and their impact on the wildlife, other boaters and cottagers. Basically, at Wolfe Lake, we all know the rules, and still, it seems we need this reminder.

While boating can be an extraordinary experience, it comes with inherent risk. It doesn't matter what type of boating you enjoy, or if you buy, borrow or rent; it is your responsibility to

website. (see: Sources next page). Transport Canada publishes this resource to make sure that you know the regulations that apply to boating and that you learn more about safe and

WHAT IS ETIQUETTE: Etiquette is the customary code of polite behaviour in society or among members of a particular profession

ensure you are well-trained and informed about how to stay safe on the water. The go-to resource for safety is Transport Canada's Safe Boating Guide, which you can download on their

responsible boating practices. Boating is fun, but unfortunately about 100 people die and many more get seriously injured every year in boating incidents according to

Transport Canada. Most boating deaths and injuries can be avoided. The Canadian Safe Boating guides outlines much of what you'll need to know to stay safe on the water, including the minimum requirements for safety equipment on pleasure craft. For easy reference, we have listed the minimum safety equipment requirements below.

FIVE KEY STEPS TO SAFER BOATING

The Canadian Safe Boating Council notifies five key steps to safer boating:

1. WEAR YOUR LIFEJACKET.
2. DON'T DRINK AND BOAT.
3. TAKE A BOATING COURSE.
4. BE PREPARED.
5. BEWARE OF COLD-WATER RISKS.

Being part of the boating community means knowing and following good etiquette; traditions that, over generations, have become the unwritten rules of the water. Just like being on land, we need to be good neighbours on the water; help others when they need it, tidy up after ourselves and be respectful to the people and environment around us. And this is what the Boater's Code is all about.

THE BOATER'S CODE

① LEND-A-HAND It doesn't matter if you prefer power, sail or paddle - boaters help each other out. It could be as simple as offering to carry something on a dock, offering a seasoned word of advice or something more serious like placing a distress call for someone in trouble; it's your job to look out for your fellow boaters.

② UNDERWAY It goes without saying, you need to know and follow the rules of boating. When overtaking a vessel, allow for as much room as possible and travel at a speed that won't unnecessarily rock their boat. Slow down when being overtaken.

If possible, overtake a vessel under sail well to leeward or pass astern in a crossing situation, so you don't block their wind. Watch your wake; think about the waves you create for nesting loons and shorebirds, people out fishing, kayaking, enjoying time on a moored boat – and even those on shore. Finally, if you see someone in trouble, always stop to help.

③ ANCHORING & MOORING Slow down when entering an anchorage or mooring area. Select your anchorage carefully – giving yourself and your new neighbours ample room. Remember winds change, anchor lines tangle and hulls and dinghy's can easily bang into each other. If you're traveling with a lot of people and plan to be very social, you should anchor a little further away. Be thoughtful at night; don't run your generator around the clock, paddle rather than motor to shore and back and be conscious of your activity and noise levels. Remember, noise travels across water! Music on your boat is louder for those on shore trying to enjoy the natural sounds of the lake.

④ AT THE RAMP Ramps are not a place to linger or socialize – wait your turn, do what you need to do and get out of the way!

⑤ AT ALL TIME Wherever you are: take your garbage home with you!

Be a good lake neighbour, ski and boat with speed safely in the middle of the lake where we can all enjoy your skill and your wake will have dissipated by the time it reaches shore. Run boats either fast enough to be up on plane or dead slow to minimize wake damage to the shorelines.

Sources

www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/marine/documents/TP-511e.pdf; www.boatingontario.ca/cpages/responsible-boating; and www.boatingforbeginners.com/proper-boating-etiquette-the-unspoken-rules-of-the-water.

See also COVID guidelines when using boat launches on page 18, our 'Your Say' on page 48 and ABC starting at page 41.





AGM 2019 | Solid content, great presentations AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Lions Club Beach House (Westport). Vice-President Bill Garland lead the meeting professionally and welcomed over thirty association members. He outlined the work done by the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association this past year. The minutes as well as the slides of the presentations (Power Point) from the 2019 AGM can be found on our website. Read a few updates from the board below.

From our treasurer

The association is financially solid in that the membership of 132 paid subscriptions and the revenue from advertising in our magazine should continue to support the annual lake husbandry activities chosen.

The lake association continues to investigate new activities which are supported by the membership at large. Rideau Lakes regional government supports local lake associations and plans to continue to do so based on the annual membership count from this county. South Frontenac is considering a like program, making our membership count even more important.

This year we have all been affected by the CV-19 virus and our magazine advertisers have been seriously impacted by the forced closures of many business and/or restrictions on their commercial activities. We have seen the impact on our advertising dollars and remain thankful to those still able to support us. We encourage all our members to support our local businesses whenever possible. By the time you read this, we will have published the Wolfe Lake Magazine. Going forward, the continuing support of our members and payment of membership dues are essential to continuing the land and water husbandry efforts.

Peter Neve

From our fishing director

At our AGM last summer, we called for volunteers to help implement our walleye spawning habitat restoration project on Scanlan Creek and received a wonderful response from our lake community. We also enjoyed our guest speaker, Karl Fiander, from the Otter Lake Association. He gave a terrific presentation about a past initiative on Otter Lake to enhance fish and wildlife habitat by sinking wood bundles. Afterwards, our membership voted and approved a similar, small-scale "test" project for Wolfe Lake -- and late last summer, we teamed up with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Camp IAWAH to submerge a handful of tree bundles. Learn more about both of our fisheries projects in this issue of the Wolfe Lake Magazine (see page 19).

Please help keep our lake safe for wildlife and recreation by continuing to discard used and broken fishing line in the monofilament recycling units located at our three public boat launches. AGM attendees were shown the big, tangled pile of line collected last summer by our kind volunteer, Wayne Derbyshire, who monitors and empties the units.



The Township of Rideau Lakes performed some minor improvements to the 10th Concession launch last fall. More significant work is slated for when the water level is lower this fall including re-grading, placing a new cement ramp and the installation of a metal grate extending into the lake. Sadly, the annual Wolf Howl was canceled in February due to ice safety concerns.

As per 2020 MNRF regulations, the slot-size restriction for walleye continues: only fish between 40-50 cm / 15.7-19.7 in may be harvested. The MNRF stated that all fishing regulations remain in effect and will be enforced amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Lastly, please use conservative ethics when considering fish for the table &/or practice catch and release. Remember that the larger fish are most valuable to reproductive success and a strong fishery. Tight lines!

Margie Manthey

From our membership director

The association's membership saw an increase in membership. From 106 in 2018 to 130 members in 2019. I would like to thank **Les Kom** for his efforts and contributions. There are many reasons to become a member and support the association. If you know of anyone who is not a member please let them know the benefits of membership and encourage them to join (see page 21 and 50 for more details.).

Eric Behre

From our communications director

The association's current communication tools work well for our Wolfe Lake members. However, – and I can't emphasize this enough – we DO NEED your feedback! Don't get me wrong, we get great feedback now, usually to let us know that the Facebook page is cherished and that the new full colour magazine is awesome, but we would also like feedback on what needs to be improved or what you would like to see added. So, let us know what worries you, what thoughts you have on our vision, on our way of doing things lately or on the way we broadcast our messages to all of you. Last year the new website was launched by **Donna Garland**, who has put a lot of time and effort to create this fabulous new platform: www.wolfelake.org. Donna's updates to the website are very much appreciated by our members. Our Facebook page is growing. Currently we have close to 500 cherished friends or fans. **Margie Manthey** is – for years already – the manager of the page – and she does a tremendous job. At some point, we would like to start a new Facebook page, where all members can post directly to the main page. The last couple of years we have sent out the email alerts and individually emailed News Flashes, around 10 per year. By doing so, we keep you up to date with relevant news when needed. Whether it is communicating about our activities, low water levels, or asking your help, we find it valuable to be able to communicate with you individually. It is important that we have your current contact info, including your most recent email address. We noticed that quite a few News Flashes are bouncing back to us, meaning that not all members receive these updates. You can also find the News Flashes on our new website.

The association is growing and maturing: 30 years plus! We thought it would be a great opportunity to refresh our logo. **Marti Hansell**, one of our members, took on the task (see page 14 for more details).

Anna Rijk

From our water quality director

Summarizing the results of the Water Quality report over 2019: All measured concentrations are far lower than the standards. The average water clarity continues to decrease as compared to the previous years. The average total phosphorus concentration remains low, just as in the previous years.

Concluding, the overall results are very comparable to the period on record. In general, the water quality of Wolfe Lake remains excellent and the overall E. Coli concentrations were far below the required provincial maximum values.

Water clarity, as expressed by the annual average Secchi Disk depth, has steadily decreased over the past few years with the trend continuing in 2019. A possible cause for this decrease may be the decline in zebra mussel population which has occurred over that time.

Proliferation of invasive bottom vegetation (Eurasian milfoil) along Wolfe Lake shores and in its bays is the major environmental and recreational issue that needs to be addressed. Protecting our waterfronts against the milfoil spread therefore remains a priority.

For readers interested in current general scientific knowledge on aquatic lake environment, there is an excellent publication by Marten Scheffer: https://archive.org/details/springer_10.1007-978-1-4020-3154-0. A highly recommendable article.

All water sampling, whether in conjunction with Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) or with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Environmental Sciences & Standards division/Lake Partner Program, have been suspended due to COVID-19 until such time as the applicable labs can ensure the safety of their employees. We have been informed by the M.O.E. that temporarily suspending the water quality sampling of the many lakes involved will not significantly impact the ability to track long term trends determined by data collected over many years of sampling. Read the full account of the report at www.wolfelake.org.

Gord Moore (and Daniel Spitzer)



GREETINGS | MAYOR RON VANDEWAL

Township of South Frontenac



The residents of South Frontenac have experienced a challenging year thus far in 2020. We saw the rise of a global pandemic that forced each and every one of us to make sacrifices in order to protect our families and community.

Despite many operational changes during the pandemic, Township staff continue to look forward and focus on building South Frontenac's future. In late 2019, Council approved an ambitious new Strategic Plan intended to position South Frontenac as a regional leader and prepare the Township for significant growth and regional collaboration. The focus of this new strategic plan is squarely on the future – we recognize that South Frontenac has the potential for big things, but if we aren't proactive, we may miss out on those opportunities. The Township's focus is clear in its succinct new Vision for the community:

"Natural, vibrant and growing – a progressive rural leader"

The importance of our communities, our environment and our residents' quality of life remain central to this new strategy, but change means we need to do things a bit differently in order to maintain and improve on those things the community values. I encourage you to visit www.southfrontenac.net to learn more about

our new Strategic Plan in its entirety.

Although some projects have been delayed this year, Council and staff aim to complete as many of our scheduled projects as possible, including but not limited to; the completion of the Sunbury Village revitalization, some pavement preservation work on Perth Rd and Road 38, replacement of Buck Bay Bridge and widening of lanes, continued development of a new Official Plan, and the introduction of a Lake Ecosystems Committee and Climate Change Mitigation strategy.

I encourage residents to continue supporting local business and to take advantage of South Frontenac's natural beauty this summer. Keeping up with events, announcements, and the actions of Council is made easy by following the Township of South Frontenac on Facebook or Twitter.

It is my hope that you all get to enjoy a safe and healthy summer on Wolfe Lake. I welcome the opportunity to connect with you and have included my contact information below.

Ron Vandewal

rvandewal@southfrontenac.net | 613 376 3027 ext. 2236

www.southfrontenac.net

GREETINGS | MAYOR ARIE HOOGENBOOM

Township of Rideau Lakes



Congratulations to the Wolfe Lake Association for your continued volunteerism and another successful summer magazine. I write this message as we are in the middle of COVID-19. As of the end of April, our 16 boat launches, 2 harbours and all recreation facilities are closed, as are multiple private marinas and businesses.

Our American cottagers are isolating at home and the World has changed. Yet, I remain optimistic that we will salvage some summer on the lake.

The Township had a great start to 2020 with approval of a new logo and a commitment to market our area for its tourism and business potential. Our new Lake Association Committee is up and running having held 3 meetings to date. Your Association benefited from a small unconditional grant of \$1253.00 in 2019 with more to come annually. Thank you to your two representatives Margie Manthey and Peter Neve for their participation and input. Rideau Lakes has budgeted for 2 to 3 boat launch upgrades in 2020 and the 10th

Concession launch is our priority. There is a new arena funding agreement with Westport and new pickleball courts for Newboro.

The 2020 budget process was a success with no overall tax increase, increased spending on infrastructure, increased reserves, flatlined operating costs and lowered debt. We are well on our way to fiscal stability.

Our Fire Department has taken delivery of a new pumper and the OPP is relocating to Portland to be more central to your area.

Council has also partnered with the Westport Telephone Company to extend better internet services across parts of the Township. Much of these investments are possible because of record building activity the past two years.

Rideau Lakes is seen as a great place to live, work and play. We will need to work hard to recover from this pandemic. I am proud of the efforts of all front-line workers, our Council and our capable staff lead by CAO, Mike Dwyer.

Challenges remain as we grapple with the issues around waste and recycling, particularly around private road services. Issues such as increasing affordable housing and adapting to climate change loom as we work to recover from COVID-19. Despite this, I encourage you to enjoy life on the lake. Be generous with your time and contributions.

Check out our new Township website www.rideaulakes.ca. Your Ward

Councillors Ron Pollard and Bob Lavoie are always available for questions as is your Mayor. Stay Safe. Contact your ward councillors, Bob Lavoie & Ron Pollard, or your mayor.

Arie Hoogenboom

mayor@rideaulakes.ca | 613-323 0901 (M) | www.rideaulakes.ca

AWSOME LOGO REFRESH | Marti Hansell designed it!



Shortly after its formation in 1988 "for the protection of Wolfe Lake" the association started using the 'eagle logo'. It was used for the first time on the cover of the 1992 edition of the newsletter. It had a long history. To start working on this task, it seems important to give a creative mind a clear understanding in which direction we would like to go, with both the designer and the (board of the) association on the same page, or at least an assurance of what it is we are looking for," explains Anna Rijk, the current communication director of the association. "I decided to write a creative brief to describe why the decision was made to evolve, and what the association would need moving forward.

We started to plan a refresh of the general look of the association. As well, the old logo had some disadvantages when using it more often, specifically online, for banners for the website and for our group Facebook page."

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is launching the new logo this summer. "We loved our old logo, and many are still attached to it", explains Anna Rijk, as communications director of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association. "But 33 years down the road there was a need to refresh. Marti Hansell, who has a cottage at Wolfe Lake and is a professional graphic designer, started the challenge. She came up with a solution we can all be proud of and one which we can use for the next ten to fifteen years.

When I started to volunteer for the association a few years ago (2016), members were not really ready to let go of the existing logo.

However, a few years later, the Wolfe Lake team showed an explicit wish to change or update the logo, but felt the bald eagle should be a part of the new design. This coincided more or less with the dramatic change of the association's website by Donna Garland. I found a few volunteer designers who were willing to start working on an update of the logo. Unfortunately, both of them had to cancel their commitment, because of changes in their personal circumstances, and discontinued their efforts. Shortly after that Bill Garland met Marti, and that was the starting point of our new logo."

MARTI HANSELL
WORKS AS A SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER WITH THE PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, LOCATED IN HERSHHEY (PA). SHE WAS IMMEDIATELY ENTHUSIASTIC TO HELP US OUT WITH UPDATING OUR LOGO. MARTI AND HER HUSBAND BRUCE HAVE A COTTAGE ON WOLFE LAKE. THEY ARE MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION.



Marti Hansell: "One of the subjects brought up at last year's association meeting was a possible refresh/update of the Wolfe Lake Association logo. Helping to update the association's logo was a welcome change of pace for me - and a way for me to contribute my skills to the community."

"The creative brief that Anna had composed was very thorough and professional. It provided the background, vision, and objectives of the association."

"I knew a bit about these aspects, having been a member for a few years. It is obvious that association members care deeply about preserving the health of the lake and its inhabitants. I had not been aware of the significance of the eagle in the original logo

design. Knowing the background and development of the original logo was key to arriving at a design that modernized the visual of that concept, rather than replace it."

Marti started by researching many other lake association logos, gathering nearly a hundred photos of eagles and illustrations of eagles, as well as graphic depictions of lakes, water and trees.

She also experimented quite a bit with the words – the font, size and arrangement.

"After several back and forth discussions and modifications, I believe that we have arrived at a solution that keeps the focus and the feel of the original-with an updated look. I hope the rest of our lake community agrees."

INSPIRING MESSAGES | THE WOLFE LAKE COMMUNITY CARES

Colourful stones and 'fences of kindness'

In a time when we are mostly self isolating and keeping our distances from our neighbours, many folks around the lake find ways to reach out to each other, sharing words of encouragement and support. There is the endorsement for health care workers, as well as uplifting messages for each other in the community on stones and various 'kindness fences'. Melanie Spence lives on Wolfe Lake Road. With Macey (9) and Maverick (4) being at home she came up with this fun to do project. "But most importantly, we wanted to bring a smile to the faces of people walking or driving by. We live by the quote "do small things with great love" ~ Mother Teresa. This is an example of that." Melanie, who works as an educational assistant at Rideau Vista Public School, and her small gang love rainbows, music, and peace signs: "They make us smile, so we hope they make others smile too." She encourages the Wolfe Lake/Westport community to stay home, stay safe, stay active, stay connected and stay happy.



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IN J U R Y L A W Y E R S



Whitby • Kingston • Perth • Carleton Place • Ottawa

DISCLAIMER WOLFE LAKE MAGAZINE

While the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this magazine, it cannot accept responsibility for errors and omissions. Readers are urged to obtain professional advice before acting based on the material contained in this edition of Wolfe Lake Magazine.

Great source for events and activities

WHAT'S ON WESTPORT

Recently launched What's on Westport www.whatsonwestport.ca is all about community and local businesses coming together to share and promote the events that happen in the village of



the site to inform you of upcoming events with more to inform you of activities and events in and around the village.

Westport. Recognizing a need to have one central location where residents & visitors alike could find up to date info about what's "On" in Westport, a handful of local businesses, started

WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION Invitation | AGM 2020

COME AND JOIN US AT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY JULY 11, 2020

REGISTRATION 1 PM

AGM 2 PM

BEACH SUBHOUSE

ON SAND LAKE, WESTPORT, ON

VISIT
WOLFELAKE.ORG
AND KEEP AN EYE
ON OUR FACEBOOK
POSTS TO FIND OUT
MORE!

CANCELLED
See Page 5



FOUR QUESTIONS

Checking in with Stacy Blair



Stacy Blair-Murray is another example of someone who makes a difference in the Westport community. Stacy is an avid baker and a wonderful mother. She skates, she bakes, now schools her young kids at home during the COVID-19 crisis, and does her part to serve the community. She is a busy bee and just keeps moving, including organizing her brother's wedding at a time when the village was basically in lockdown earlier this year. Her artisan baking products are appreciated – not only by her husband Scott and her children Olive, Henry and Penny - but all over town. All in all, she is quite the (rising) entrepreneur. Here are her answers to our 'Four Questions.'

1 HOW IS YOUR WORK RELATED TO OUR REGION?

My husband Scott and I were lucky enough to both grow up in the Westport area. For myself, when it was time to go away to school, I knew I had to leave. I looked at engineering programs in universities in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, but I couldn't picture myself living in a world with tall skyscrapers and concrete parks. My decision to leave the area did not come lightly, but when I discovered a university town situated in a small Nova Scotian village, I knew it was the right decision. I eventually fell head-over-heels for a friend from high school, who brought me back home to this wonderful village after I finished my degree. I couldn't be happier with our choice to stay!



When most of our friends were moving away to big cities, my husband saw an opportunity to stay in our quaint little town to start up a construction company – Scott Blair Construction. The city life was just not for us. Scott focused on both new builds and renovations on houses and dream cottages, building his reputation in our small community quite quickly. His very first house to build was a cottage on Wolfe Lake!

While Scott was building the foundation of his business, I continued to commute to Ottawa where I worked as a Heritage Conservation Engineer on Parliament Hill. Over this time, I began falling in love with baking. I started a blog and Instagram account (www.27handolive.com) to document my kitchen trials, and to my surprise I gained a lot of momentum in the food world – which, up

until this point in my life was, was of no interest to me! Eventually blog work started trickling in from well-known food companies and I was gaining a lot of local requests for baked goods. We decided that it was time to take a leave from my engineering career to be home in Westport with our three young children and pursue my food passion. This past year, my baking business, The Pie Bar, really took off, thanks to the new Westport Market and the hundreds of people who came to purchase my pies, sourdough bread, croissants, cookies and more!

2 HOW DO YOU CHILL OUT AT OUR LAKES?

We feel so lucky to live in a place where access to lakes is all around us. Our young family of 5 uses our lakes all year

round! In the spring, we love watching the ice slowly recede from the shoreline and eventually melt away. Rolling waves, singing birds and buds appearing on the trees finally awake the stillness that winter brings. Every spring, we dig out our kayaks and go for a family paddle and a picnic at Foley Mountain beach. It is the one thing that I look forward to after a long winter.

In the summer months we swim almost every day. Our children are becoming quite the little fish, running and jumping off the dock and spending hours at time just relaxing by the shore. Scott has been a water skier from a young age, so on calm nights we often go down to Grandma and Grandpa's and head out on the boat to watch him go through the slalom course (sometimes lasting longer than

FOUR QUESTIONS

highlight friendly folks who are making a difference in the wider Westport community. Each time we ask four questions about our region.

others!) Our oldest daughter, Olive, started learning to ski last summer! Often, we head up to our friend's house, down a long winding road on Wolfe Lake. We spend our afternoons in the summer watching our children swim and fish and jump off the famous Wolfe Lake rocks. Come fall, we tend to spend more of our time in kayaks and boats rather than swimming in the cooling water. We love to spend time hiking trails surrounding our lakes and huddling around a warm bonfire to roast marshmallows. Watching the leaves change around the lake paints a beautiful and calming picture to just sit and watch.

When our lakes freeze for another year, you can find us shoveling a rink to skate or going on long hikes with our snowshoes. Every February we look forward to the Wolf Howl with our Wolfe Lake friends. They always know the best places to go!

3 WHERE ARE YOUR MOST FAVOURITE PLACES IN OUR REGION?

Our region has so many wonderful places and experiences to visit, to taste and to explore.

We enjoy spending a lot of time at Foley Mountain hiking the numerous trails, kayaking to their sandy beach, exploring the children's day camps, and, of course, watching Westport from above at Spy Rock!

We love spending time in the Westport Harbour on Saturday mornings, seeing all the boats moving along the Rideau Canal and feeding the hungry fish. We enjoy eating wood-fired pizza from Scheuermann's Vineyard and Winery, live music at The Cove, and cold beer on tap at the Westport Brewery. Westport is such an inviting and beautiful place to explore.

Further out in our region, there are also many enjoyable places to visit. Growing up in the area, I spent a lot of time hiking to Rock Dunder (before Rock Dunder was well known)! The view from the top overlooks the Rideau Canal and is spectacular in the Fall. Scott and I both worked on the Rideau Canal as students for many, many years. We enjoy visiting many different lock stations (both by car and by boat) between Narrows Locks and Jones Falls. There are many different interpretation centres, historical structures and unique dams along the way. Our list of favourite places seems to grow more and more as the years go by. We recently heard about a unique island in Wolfe Lake. Three islands in a line, in fact. One of those islands

has a lovely sandy beach, with sand resembling soft white glass. I think we will be adding this to our list of adventures this summer!

4

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR YOU WHEN THINKING OF THE FUTURE OF OUR LAKES?

Healthy lakes and their shores not only provide us with a number of environmental benefits, but they influence our quality of life and they strengthen our economy. Lakes can provide us with prime opportunities for recreation, tourism, and cottage or residential living.

They are also respected by many people for their historical and traditional values. When the ecological puzzle pieces of a lake come together and the lake is able to work as it should, the big picture is clear, we all stand to benefit from this important resource.

They are important ecosystems that, when respected and cared for, can sustain a healthy balance of aquatic life, provide us with much enjoyment, and help support our socio-economic needs.

It is our responsibility to continue to practice stewardship in our lakes by keeping them healthy for all, especially those who depend on them. We are trying to do our part by limiting waste and use of plastics, as well as doing road and shoreline garbage pick-ups whenever we can!

Stacy Blair

USING THE BOAT LAUNCHES? | HERE ARE THE GUIDELINES

South Frontenac township did not close their boat launches at all since the Corona crisis hit our regions. Rideau Lakes township did, but opened them in the first week of May.

With all the recent issues regarding COVID-19, many people are wondering if boating is considered a safe social distancing practice. Both townships have signposts with

orders and guidelines to stop the spread of COVID-19. ① If the boat launch is busy wait, stay in your vehicle until the boat ahead of you has left the shore.

② Don't gather, meet friends, tailgate or picnic at the boat launches. ③ Put your boat in the water and move away to an area you can safely isolate.

④ Be careful and safe so these areas can remain open for safe outdoor recreation. ⑤ Please limit the people aboard to those family members you share your home with, period—no guests. ⑥ Better not to raft up with other boats or pull up onto a beach close to another boat, as that could put you in close proximity with the occupants. **Sources:** Townships of Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac and www.discoverboating.com/resources/boating-during-coronavirus-covid-19





SUPPORTING WOLFE LAKE'S FISHERY

An update on Scanlan Creek and Christmas tree projects

By Margie Manthey

SCANLAN CREEK

Back in 2018, the Wolfe Lake Association partnered with the Westport Area Outdoor Association and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to restore key walleye spawning habitat on Scanlan Creek. Our project received a generous grant from the Toronto Dominion Friends of the Environment Foundation, plus financial, material and labour commitments from our partners and the greater lake community. With necessary permits in place, our amazing volunteer team organized and a spot on Tackaberry's calendar confirmed, we were ready to get to work!

August 26th: our team met at the portion of Scanlan Creek that runs through Bill Blaney's property. Bill granted us access to the site and provided valuable insight into the freshet dynamics of the creek. RVCA Biologist Jennifer Lamoureux and her technicians supervised the placement of a silt curtain downstream from where the labour would take place. The curtain prevented sediment from being flushed into the lake (the curtain was removed a couple of days after the project, once the creek ran clear). Next, we learned how to



use large seine nets, and teams of people took turns slowly dragging them through the creek. To lessen the impact on aquatic life, we removed as many inhabitants as possible prior to our work, netting sunfish, yellow perch, bullheads, suckers, mud minnows, dace, giant water beetles, frogs, crayfish, dragonfly larvae and more. They were transferred into water-filled tubs where each was identified, sorted and logged before being released downstream of the silt curtain. Seining was repeated until the nets came up empty. It was an educational day; and later, everyone enjoyed a tasty deli feast prepared by Kudrinkos. Our first day of work was complete!

August 27th: our crew returned to the creek with a few new recruits ready to lend a hand -- and lots of hands would be needed! Tackaberry's impressive CAT operator was already on site, prepping the area for the dump trucks that would make forays between the quarry and the creek with loads of river rock. Next, the giant machine was used to scoop and dump bucket loads of rock into the creek in strategically located areas indicated by Jennifer.



We donned our waders, many of which were provided by the RVCA, and got into the creek to begin the hands-on work. Starting at the rock dump piles, we formed two lines and rocks were handed one by one down to the end of the lines where they were placed on the creek bed and along its banks. Disturbed sediment soon turned the water murky, so we had to use our hands to feel along and check our progress to ensure there were no big gaps. It was hard, tedious work, resulting in sore backs and bruised fingers – but the vibe was upbeat and the positive energy was palpable. Neil Kudrisko brought in his portable BBQ, and we shared a wonderful community lunch break. We wrapped up our work by stabilizing eroded areas of the shoreline with more rock and also selectively placing boulder-sized “lounging rocks” which fish will use to rest behind in stronger currents. Over 73 tonnes of rock was moved for this project and much was by hand! Inarguably, our volunteers were absolute ROCK stars! We thank them and our partners for a job well done.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the WLA and RVCA were unable to monitor the creek during the walleye spawn this spring. Bill Blaney advised that the creek level was markedly lower than in past years and during his own monitoring periods, no walleye activity had yet been noted. Joffre Côté, a Management Biologist with the MNRF, confirmed “it’s been an odd spawning season, given the greatly fluctuating temperatures. Unfortunately, as a result, I don’t think it will translate into much population recruitment given the prolonged egg incubation period (with below average water temps).” Observations at various other spawning locales also showed a relatively low number of fish. It is important to understand that this project will not reap instant rewards. Rather, a higher recruitment of fish is anticipated with each successive year, as walleye exhibit strong spawning site fidelity. We will keep the community apprised.

CHRISTMAS TREE PROJECT

A partnership reprise fueled another environmental project, this time submerging tree bundles to enhance fish and wildlife habitat. The WAOA collected donated Christmas trees after the holidays which were stored at Camp IAWAH, our home base for this initiative. Meeting there on September 5th, we were treated to a delicious breakfast arranged by IAWAH’s Director, Jeff Friesen. We also met five dynamic university-aged youth from the camp that would be helping us. Everyone headed down to the docks where an RVCA technician taught us how to properly bind the tree bundles to cinder blocks. We used Ministry-approved rope generously donated by a lake community member, and the cinder blocks were donated by the RVCA. We loaded the tree bundles onto our fleet: a pontoon and smaller boat provided by Camp IAWAH and two boats offered by WLA members. The wood was sunk in locales previously identified by the RVCA as being advantageous yet safe. Working together was very rewarding. Thank you to all who participated in this project, especially Camp IAWAH! Submerged wood attracts many fish species and their young of the year, as well as turtles, herons, kingfishers, dragonflies and invertebrates. We will be monitoring sites over the next few years using an underwater camera and will share our observations.



FABULOUS FRIENDS | Favourite lake moments

From seasoned cottagers to newcomers at the lake, everyone has great moments to share. Just before we went to print, we asked one of our members about special moments at Wolfe Lake. The lake moments shown below are indeed 'super cool.'



A few years ago, we were able to purchase a cottage by Wolfe Lake. We had spent a number of summer vacations on the Upper Rideau Lake and discovered Wolfe Lake when friends of ours moved there. Wolfe Lake is beautiful in every season of the year, but we have especially enjoyed witnessing the ice cracking and melting at the end of the winter season.

BRUCE & MARTHA HANSELL | WESTPORT ROAD



Why join the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association

Last summer, after the AGM, Eric Behre took over the membership position from Les Kom. "I'm often asked why lake residents should join the association. Let's consider some of the reasons why all cottage owners, permanent residents and even renters should be members. Let me list just a few of the benefits and accomplishments that the association has contributed to the welfare and long-term health of the Lake we all love."

⦿ Have you ever wondered where the shoal markers on Wolfe Lake come from? There is no shoal marker fairy who puts them out and takes them in each year. Every year one of our board members (and his neighbour) puts out the shoal markers that keep us all safe.

⦿ I'm sure elsewhere in this magazine there will be an update on the Scanlan Creek Project that was done last year. This project was extremely labour intensive, but well worth the efforts to improve the spawning grounds for our walleye population. The results are being carefully monitored by the association.

⦿ Several years ago, we conducted tests with weevils to control the Eurasian Milfoil problem. While the experiment proved to be very beneficial, unfortunately the company that sold us the weevils stopped providing them. So now we are exploring other means to control this invasive species.

⦿ Christmas tree sinking. Last summer we identified six sites where we could sink Christmas trees to provide cover for

many types of fish, crustaceans and turtles. Monitoring the effectiveness of this project will continue each summer.

⦿ Water Testing. Each year the association conducts water testing for clarity, purity and ph. levels. The results are posted in this magazine each year.

⦿ Our annual Wolfe Lake Magazine! Perhaps the single most enjoyed benefit for the association. The magazine is delivered each spring to all residents at no charge. Every year this magazine is chock full of interesting articles, interesting anecdotes, pictures and history about Wolfe Lake.

Eric can go on and on with innumerable benefits that our association provides: "Approximately 52 percent of all cottage owners are dues paying members of the Wolfe Lake Association. For 30 dollars a year you get so much! Let's try to get to 75 percent membership this year. Please support our association by joining, paying your dues and maybe even becoming active in the group. I hope to see you at the annual meeting this summer.

In these trying times please be safe!"





FOCUS ON WILDLIFE AROUND OUR LAKE

Turtles in trouble

By Margie Manthey

There are eight native species of turtles living in Canada: the Blanding's, snapping, painted, northern map, common musk, spotted, wood and spiny softshell. According to the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), all eight species are now designated as either endangered, threatened or of special concern.

Around Wolfe Lake, there is both a high density and diversity of turtle species. Being cold blooded, they rely on the environment to help them warm up and are often seen basking in the sun. Between May and September, many turtles are crushed by automobiles as they wander about on land seeking mates, new territory and nesting sites. This threat is second only to habitat loss as the biggest cause for declines in turtle populations.

While both male and female turtles are found in equal numbers along the roadways, their travel patterns differ. Male turtles may wander throughout the entire season. More

females are encountered in June, when nesting activity peaks and they are traveling in search of appropriate places to lay their eggs.

Vulnerable

There are basic biological facts about turtles that make them vulnerable to population declines. For example, most hatchlings and immature turtles will not survive to adulthood. It is believed that as many as 90% of snapping turtle nests are destroyed by predators alone. Furthermore, turtles do not reach reproductive maturity until they are between 8-20 years

old. In a natural environment, adult turtles are very long lived, with a mortality rate of just 1% per year – and as they age, they become more prolific. However, with development and road traffic on the rise, turtles are simply unable to reproduce fast enough to replace those being killed on the roads annually. It takes decades and hundreds of eggs to replace a single adult turtle; thus, even a small rise in mortality rates can threaten the population. So... if the bad news is that removing an adult turtle can threaten the population, here is the good news: saving just one can have a positive impact!

SEVERAL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP SUPPORT TURTLES

- Preserve natural wetlands on your property and avoid removing fallen wood at the waterfront, as it provides great turtle habitat. Volunteer to help clean litter from local turtle habitats.
- Leave nesting turtles and their nest sites alone and keep pets away. Consider using wire mesh boxes to protect turtle nests on your property (check out the dos and don'ts online by

visiting “Turtle Nests and Nest Protection – Ontario Turtle Conservation”).

- Slow down and be extra vigilant while driving between May and September. If you encounter a turtle in the road and it is safe for you to do so, move it to safety off the road in the direction it was going. Snapping turtles can bite – use a stick, shovel or car mat to gently scoot them along.
- Injured turtles should be brought ASAP to an organization that specializes in turtle rescue. Even those with horrific injuries may be helped. At the least, they can be humanely euthanized, as leaving an injured turtle behind almost guarantees it a lingering, painful death. Carefully place the turtle on a damp towel in a closed, ventilated box; resist the urge to keep peeking at it. Keep it in a quiet place while you contact a wildlife rehabilitator or rescue facility for advice.

Organizations such as the Rideau Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Kingston Turtle Conservation, Sandy Pines Wildlife Centre and the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre are dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating injured turtles. The Kingston Animal Hospital has kindly acted as a triage location for injured turtles in the past, but it is best to call ahead to confirm arrangements at (613) 634-5370.



Ontario's Turtles

Snapping Turtle

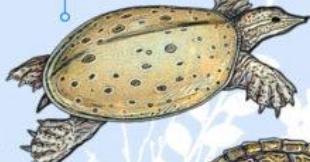
Light brown to black shell with 'dinosaur-like' spikes
20-36 cm long

SPECIAL CONCERN

Spiny Softshell Turtle

Flat, soft, olive/brown shell with long neck
12-43 cm long

THREATENED



Wood Turtle

Brown shell with distinct ringed, wood-like texture
14-20 cm long

THREATENED



Blanding's Turtle

Greyish Brown with yellow flecks, bright yellow chin and throat
12-18 cm long

THREATENED



Spotted Turtle

Black Shell with yellow spots
9-12 cm long

ENDANGERED



Northern Map Turtle

Brown shell with light yellow 'map' markings with a jagged shell rim
9-27 cm long

SPECIAL CONCERN



Painted Turtle

Red markings on edge of shell with yellow stripes on neck and legs, 12-18 cm long

SPECIAL CONCERN



Eastern Musk (Stinkpot) Turtle

Olive high domed shell with 2 stripes on head, 5-12 cm long

THREATENED



BE A TURTLE CROSSING GUARD

You can help protect Ontario's turtle population.



HOW YOU CAN HELP TURTLES THAT ARE PRESENTLY LOOKING TO LAY THEIR EGGS

Did you know there is a World Turtle Day? Turtles are celebrated annually on May 23rd. As we all know, road mortality is a leading threat to our turtle populations. The gravel shoulders are a particularly deadly attraction to female turtles looking for places to lay their eggs, as the gravel seems ideal to them for digging. They usually make their nests between May and mid-July, so now is the time to be most vigilant.

"As turtles come out of the water to breed and lay their eggs, they may move around a lot and cross roadways where the adults are often hit by automobiles," says Margie Manthey of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association. "You can be a turtle crossing guard by escorting a vulnerable wanderer safely across the road in the direction it was heading -- never turn it around, as it knows exactly where it wants to be and will simply try to cross the road again."

If you spot a turtle on the road, obey traffic rules and use good judgement to ensure your safety and that of other drivers before slowing down or stopping for a turtle. When it is safe, you can stop and observe to see if it is moving along well enough on its own; often this is the best approach. If the situation warrants an intervention, you can help it cross the road in the direction it was going. All Ontario turtle species can be safely picked up by firmly grasping either side of the shell behind the back legs -- just tilt the tail to the side to avoid having the turtle urinate on you. If you are wary of picking up a snapping turtle, you can use a car mat, shovel or board to carefully slide underneath it or to gently coax it along, keeping your fingers clear of its legs and mouth. Never drag a turtle or pick it up by the tail, which could cause serious injury to its vertebrae. Lastly, make sure to sanitize your hands well after handling turtles.

Learn more about how you can help the turtle population in Ontario by watching a video (link below) created by the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, with contributions from Bruce Power.

Source: www.brucepower.com



It's time to renew your MEMBERSHIP

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association offers secure online payment through PayPal. Or pay by eTransfers. Visit the website and look for the 'memberships' option.

wolfelake.org

Westport
Home
hardware

4 Church Street
613-273-3142
Automotive, Plumbing, Electrical


L Beauty Bar
RETAIL BEAUTY OUTLET
613-539-8632

Erika Sunstrum Art
Coloured Pencil Art
Nature Prints / Commision Art
www.erikasunstrumart.com
erikasunstrum@hotmail.com





FALL WALK 2019 | MAKING FAST FRIENDS AT ALINKA FARM

Splendid Saturday afternoon stroll

A group of 25 Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association members were curious about the yurt on the top of the hill just off Westport Road on the south side of the lake. Molly Li and Kim Donovan hosted 2019's Fall Walk on October 5th at AlinkA Farm located at 41 Bresee Road. It was a splendid and leisurely afternoon with wonderful fall weather, super nice hosts, spectacular property trails and lots of refreshments.



Following the successful walks through the beautiful pathways on the property of Bruce Maynard and Helene Wach in 2018 and the year before on the grounds of Camp IAWAH guided by camp director Jeff Friesen, in the fall of 2019 we once again strapped on our hiking boots. After a quick word of welcome at the parking lot of the farmhouse by Anna Rijk, who organized the walk, both Molly and Kim took us under their wings and showed off their property.

Kim and Molly started with a visit to the beehives and the chicken coop. After that we all went straight to the highlight of the day, the yurt. What an amazing structure. We couldn't resist taking a group photo of the Wolfe Lake walkers with the sun shining and the yurt in the background. Molly explained a bit of her vision and how to bring



that vision to life in the development of her AlinkA Farm. She envisions the future with a wide variety of groups using the farm, from artsy folks, exchange students to people interested in organic farming, neighbours, the Wolfe Lake Association and much more.

"As we gather round the Hearth, may our appreciation of Heart and Earth overcome any darkness (a.k.a. 'collective confusion') in our world, just as the heavenly light pours in through the cracks in the walls of our heritage barn." **MOLLY LI**

A large part of the group then wandered off the main trail on the property, ending up following a small path in a densely wooded area. A few others opted to explore the recently cut trails leaving lots of time to reconnect, to chat, and to get to know fellow Wolfe Lake neighbours and members of the association.

"I really enjoyed nature walk with everyone, a great way to get to know our lovely neighbours on the lake. We actually had a great time together," said **Joy Bresee**.

Donna and Bill Garland added: "It's been really wonderful that we've gotten to areas around our lake that we didn't really know a lot about.

Helene Wach: "It's easy to stay close to our cottage and walk on our own paths, but today was awesome." She enjoyed exploring the farm areas.

"We live in such a beautiful area with a number of walking paths close to our lake house. We don't often get in our cars and explore a bit more, so this is perfect," said **Cathy Thompson**. "Also, it was easy to respond positively to the association's invitation. It was all prepared and organized for us, we just had to show up and enjoy."

Treats

After the walk Molly and Kim surprised us with tea, coffee and treats (including Dutch 'stroopwafels') nicely laid out on their cozy kitchen farm table. The association brought cold drinks and snacks and Joy Bresee prepared a large tray of freshly baked muffins. What a treat! Both Molly and Kim were happy with the attendance and to have an opportunity to show off their farm, the barns and all that it has to offer. They were in awe of our Magazine and decided right there, that they will be signing up as new members of our Association.

Most of the folks attending in 2019 promised they'll likely will be partaking in next fall's walk. But of course; the more the merrier.

FIVE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT ALINKA FARM

- ① AlinkA Farm is a social enterprise based in Westport and welcomes individuals of all abilities and their families to participate in events, including outdoor recreational opportunities, respite for caregivers and spiritual retreats.
- ② The restored barns offer space for art workshops, theatre, concerts, barn dances, cultural exchange events etc. These spaces are available for use by private groups.
- ③ People keen on organic gardening are welcome at AlinkA. Gardening experiences for children and school groups can be organized. Also, volunteers including students completing their community service hours are welcome.
- ④ Alinka hosts regular community dinners, most Friday evenings. Everybody is welcome. Best to inform Molly and Kim if you are planning to attend, and whether you have any dietary concerns. and please feel free to bring a food contribution if you wish.
- ⑤ AlinkA encourages you to realize your personal or community aspirations and offers help.

The AlinkA Farm is happy to welcome you. Explore how AlinkA may help you by contacting:

Kim Donovan or Molly Li by phone at 613-273-8773 or email at:
alinkagroup@gmail.com.



KIDS' PAGES | Come and play



Hey Wolfe Lake kids, we have put together puzzles and much more. Enjoy!

All answers can be found somewhere in this magazine. Do you have suggestions for next year's Magazine? Give us a shout. We'd love to hear from you.

The Buzz on Bugs

Yes, we hate mosquitoes and their bumpy, itchy bites. But not all bugs are bad guys! Most don't bother us and help to keep the ecosystem healthy, which makes them good guys! There are lots of amazing things to learn about bugs, if we give them a chance. Here are a few kinds you can see around the lake.

Dragonflies

- Over 5,000 species all around the world
- Come in all different sizes and colours
- Spend the first part of their life underwater
- Each of their two big eyes is made up of thousands of tiny eyes
- Can fly forward, backward and hover in place
- Eat lots of pesky bugs, like flies, gnats and mosquitoes!



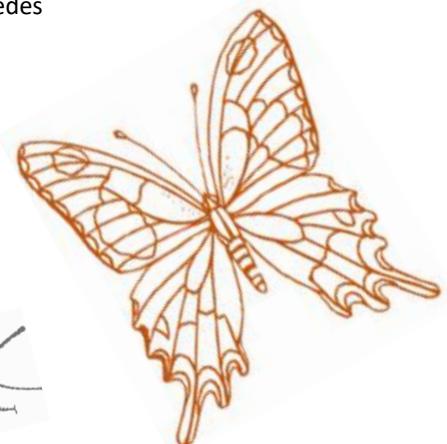
Millipedes

- Have 2 pairs of legs for each body segment, usually around 47 – 197 legs
- Legs can be re-grown if the millipede is injured
- Like to burrow or hide in dark, wet places, like under logs
- Eat decaying things such as roots and plant leaves
- Curl up into a tight ball when they are threatened
- The long red-brown ones creeping along the cottage roads are called worm millipedes



Butterflies

- Have been around for over 56 million years
- Have six legs and three separate body parts: the head, thorax and abdomen
- Life cycle has four different stages: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and butterfly
- Some species, like the monarch, migrate in spring and fall
- Most adults eat flower nectar; some eat pollen, tree sap or rotten fruit
- Help plants to multiply by spreading pollen from flower to flower - "pollination"



Tiger Beetles

- Very colourful, including iridescent green, blue, red and orange
- Have big eyes and excellent vision
- Super speedy and runs down its prey
- Have large, powerful jaws, called mandibles
- The rare Northern barrens tiger beetle lives only in one spot in southern Ontario



Fun Activity: Plan a Bug Safari!

A scientist who studies bugs is called an entomologist. You can learn a lot about bugs by observing them, too. All you need is a grown-up buddy and a magnifying glass!

Head outside to look for bugs in your yard, garden or by the lake. Use your magnifying glass to see them up close. Do you

recognize any? What size and colour are they? Do they fly or crawl? What do you think they're doing?

Try keeping a bug journal to write down your observations and to sketch the cool bugs you discover.

Word search | Cottage Days, Cottage Nights

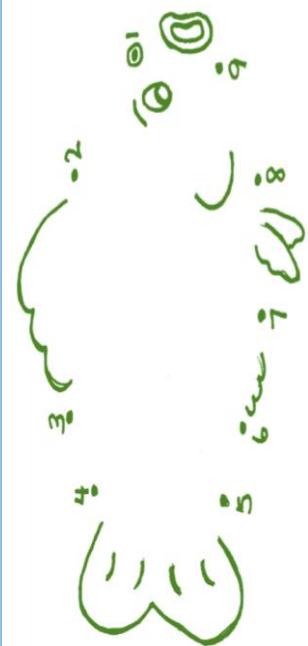
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WORDS

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Bobber
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Campfire
Chipmunk
Crickets
Dock
Family
Games
Hike
Loon
Moon
Owl
Porch
Relax
Snake
Stars
Sunshine
Swimming
Thunder
Tubing
Woods



Finish the Fish



Critter riddles & giggles

- A What is a frog's favourite soda?
- B Where do mice park their boats?
- C What has fangs and webbed feet?
- D What is black, white and red all over?
- E How do you catch a squirrel?
- F What do you call a bear with no teeth?

Ladybug maze



WILD AT WOLFE | Colouring Time!

Need some down time or in need of an activity on a rainy day? Pick up your coloured pencils or crayons! Kids love to colour at the cottage.



Murder Mystery | Alone at the Cottage

The Wolfe Lake area is very safe and cottagers around our lake care about each other and their families. However, some other cottage areas have strange things happening and mysteries to investigate.

Can you solve this mystery?

A wealthy man lives alone in a small cottage on an isolated lake. With the Corona virus raging all over the world, he didn't go out and had everything delivered to his cottage. The local mailman was delivering a letter one Thursday when he noticed that the front door was ajar and the painting that hung beside the entry door was missing. Through the opening he could see the man lying still and silent on the floor. Fearing the worst, he called 911 and waited outside for the police and ambulance to arrive. When a police officer arrived, he surveyed the scene. On the front porch were two bottles of warm milk, Monday's newspaper, a catalog, flyers, and unopened mail. The police officer checks for a pulse but the body shows no signs of life. He immediately suspects it was foul play and puts police tape around the entire cottage. Why does he suspect foul play, who does he suspect and why?

Ode to Skeeters

The sun is setting

Down to the dock

To catch a fish

Or skip a rock

But just when we

Get to the lake

Blood thirsty mosquitoes

Big bites do take

So back we run

Quick as a stitch

Knowing tomorrow

We'll scratch and itch





WEEDS IN LAKES INCREASE METHANE AND CARBON DIOXIDE IN ATMOSPHERE

“It’s all under water, we don’t see it” *

By Anna Rijk

Scientists have warned that lakes have been identified as a potential “ticking time bomb” amid fears that greenhouse gas emissions from lake biomass could double as a result of climate change. We came across an interesting article, written by Mason Boycott-Owen and published in The Telegraph in the United Kingdom. It all sounds a bit scary, and while the UK is far away from us, we realize that the findings of the study conducted by the University of Cambridge (UK) could be an important lesson about many lakes in Ontario. We are sharing parts of the findings. Environmental engineer, Daniel Spitzer, crunches some numbers for methane emissions produced by lakes in Ontario. Also Water Canada mentions research on this topic on their website.

Freshwater lakes in Canada are just some of those which could have more environmental impact than previously thought. The University of Cambridge study found that after adding to the amount of plant matter in the water, a consequence of warmer temperatures, the amount of methane and carbon dioxide increases by an average of 1.5 to 2.7 times. The findings published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS), simulated the effects of climate change on freshwater lakes in Ontario in Canada.

Dr Andrew J. Tanentzap, Head of Ecosystems and Global Change at the University of Cambridge (UK) said that this study demonstrated the “ticking time bomb” of delicate ecosystems found in freshwater lakes. “There is this incredibly diverse and invisible chemical world in

the environment,” he said. “It’s all under the water, we don’t see it. It has only started to be appreciated in the last few years that organic matter, the dead remains of plants and animals are in fact thousands of different chemical compounds. This super-diverse soup is incredibly important in influencing things that we care about, like the environment.” The scientist goes on explaining that “this increase in temperature because of climate change, which changes the vegetation around lakes, could really boost the carbon emissions from lakes.”

“There’s a potential here that has been overlooked. Part of tackling climate change is first understanding of how things work.” Effects of rising global temperatures around lakes would mean that longer growing periods and milder winters for vegetation would result in

more plant matter in lakes. This in turn results in greater diversity as the plants decompose and are digested by microbes in the water, releasing more carbon dioxide and methane into the lakes as part of the process.

The study used next generation DNA sequencing to analyse the microbes present in the water and found a greater level of diversity in chemicals and organic molecules than previously thought. Understanding these connections means we could look at ways to reduce carbon emissions in the future, such as changing land management practices.



Lakes and ponds are the final resting place for many of the earth's plants. Often, rivers collect much of the planet's dead organic matter, transporting it to rest in calmer waters of lakes. But on a microscopic scale, lakes are anything but calm. An invisible metropolis of microbe's feeds on these logs and leaves, producing greenhouse gases as a by-product. As a result, lakes are responsible for carbon and methane emissions in the atmosphere.

For thousands of years all organic matter, including fallen trees and decaying water plants in lakes have produced methane emissions. Methane emission in lakes is based on a complex network of biochemical and physical processes, some of which are still poorly understood.

Researchers are now aware that well oxygenated lake waters are an important, but long overlooked, source of methane emissions to the atmosphere. The latest findings open new avenues for methane research and support a more accurate global assessment of this powerful greenhouse gas.

Water Canada published an article regarding a study of a research team in Swansea (UK) that provided new insights into how methane emissions are produced in the surface layer of lakes.

This study predicted that emissions from surface waters of lakes are likely to increase with the lake size, and could account for over half of surface methane emission for lakes larger than one square kilometer.

If you are interested to learn more, there are currently a great number of remarkable studies and scientific papers on the topic to be found on the internet. Good reads, and some are easily readable, even without a scientific background.

Sources

www.waterrcanada.net/study-examines-methane-emissions-produced-by-lakes
www.theconversation.com/freshwater-lakes-already-emit-a-quarter-of-global-carbon-and-climate-change-could-double-that-127194
www.nature.com and search for methane emissions lakes

Despite this, global estimates of methane and carbon dioxide emissions from fresh water are still uncertain. Current estimates say that between 8-73 million tonnes of methane, a key contributor to global warming, are emitted by freshwater ecosystems on earth.

Other scientists stressed the need for further research into the area so we can combat climate change more effectively. Read the full account, using the link below.

*Source: www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/11/18/lakes-climate-change-ticking-time-bomb-warn-scientists



ONTARIO LAKES REPRESENT ONE-FIFTH OF THE WORLD'S FRESH WATER

Here are Daniel's numbers on methane emissions for Ontario lakes. Ontario represents one fifth of the world's fresh water. The average lake biomass can be up to 2500 g DryWeight m⁻². If 10% of the total Ontario lakes' area is contaminated by dense aquatic vegetation, like in the case of Wolfe Lake, average biomass load within Ontario lakes could be estimated as 300 g DryWeight/m².

The total biomass load of Ontario lakes would be then approximately 5.4 Tg of Dry Weight.

Assuming the total area of Ontario lakes is ice-free for 6 month per year and using an average emission rate of 1 mgCH₄ m⁻² day⁻¹/gDW m⁻², the total amount of aquatic biomass would be responsible for an emission flux of approximately 1 Tg CH₄ /year.

Emission rates of order of magnitude 2 mgCH₄ m⁻² day⁻¹/ugChla L⁻¹ were reported [20] regarding the phytoplankton emissions. In Ontario lakes, average phytoplankton Chlorophyll a concentration (an index for the total phytoplankton concentration) can vary from zero to 10 ug/L. If we assume average Chlorophyll a concentration of 5 ug/L for the 6 months of the ice-free period, the phytoplankton related emission flux is estimated as 0.2 Tg/year.

Apparently, the methane emission fluxes from Ontario lakes are dominated by aquatic vegetation contributions. The total methane emissions from Ontario lakes (1.2 Tg/year) would then represent approximately 20% of the Canada-wide total methane emissions of 4.3 Tg in 2014.

Global lake-methane emissions were estimated as 8 – 48 Tg CH₄/year. Ontario lakes represent one-fifth of the world's fresh water. Hence 3 - 15 % of the total global freshwater methane fluxes would originate from the Ontario lakes.

Recommendations for Wolfe Lake

Proliferation of invasive bottom vegetation (such as Eurasian Milfoil) along Wolfe Lake shores and in its bays is not only the major environmental and recreational issue but it also leads to the increase of methane emission into the atmosphere (see article on the previous page and the pink side bar on this page). It is recommended to be vigilant and to monitor your waterfront frequently. Keep your shores free of any invasive species. Remove any new plants immediately.



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We'd love to hear from you!

PICTURE TIME 2019 | The Winners



Prize Winner ‘WOLFE LAKE’S LITTLE MERMAID, EDEN’ | By Dan Miller

This photo epitomizes kids having fun at the lake in the best way possible: physical activity in the outdoors married with a bright and magical imagination. As a youth, who hasn’t pretended they were a dolphin, a deep-sea diver or pirate (or a mermaid!) — and isn’t there still a part of that kid-like pleasure recaptured when we “play” in the lake today? The photo itself is very dramatic. It captures all the action at its peak, freezing the girl’s powerful leap from the churning water and her fanned out hair. Meanwhile the explosive splash leads the eye up, up and away. A dazzling and exceptional photo! **Congratulations, Dan!**

Second Place | ‘PURE JOY’

By Melanie Romano

Why we love it

An enchanting picture, that captures the timeless fascination of very young children with water and evokes a sense of nostalgia. Most of us experienced the same delight as young children, splashing and giggling as we were introduced to a new sensory experience; and we treasure special memories of our own kids and grandkids playing in the lake. The crystal-clear water, baby Bianca’s curls, the sun on her shoulders, tiny hands clasped in excitement as the water splashes....definitely pure joy!

Congratulations Melanie!





Third Place | 'TUBING TIME!'

By Quinn Wetmore

Why we love it

Colour saturated and action packed, this unique Go Pro image was our very last entry and really caught our eye. It screams "FUN!" and relays an almost tangible sense of motion, sound and excitement. The cool, curved fishbowl perspective is repeated from top to bottom: the horizon, churning waves and even the round, red tube itself. If there was any doubt to the thrill of the ride, just look at the kids' expressions!

Congratulations Quinn! (Submitted by Jennifer Wetmore)

Honourable mention | 'LIKE A LOON & HER CHICK' By Michiel Spitzer

Why we love it

This adorable little boy is getting a lesson in buoyancy with a bit of help from his bright orange floaties and his patient Mama.

The composition invites the eye to naturally follow this sweet scene from the smiling boy to his lovely mom. Her arms, gracefully extended underwater, continue to lead us along as if we, too, are swimming.

A heartwarming photograph!

Thanks for sharing Michiel!

PICTURE TIME CONTEST 2020 | Your favourite outdoor activity

A chance to win a gift card for \$50 from The Pie Bar



Being at the cottage means being outdoors. So, why not share your favourite outdoor activity with us by submitting your best shot to this year's photo contest? Take the plunge! Kayaking, sailing, boogie boarding, and tubing are all fun ways to get out on the water. How about an action photo of your children setting up a tent, or enjoying marshmallows at a campfire? How about sitting on a beach, relaxing with a book under an umbrella, daydreaming on the dock, or the deck, jumping off the dock, maybe even skinny dipping or having a Canada Day party? There are so many places to find inspiration including the many trails around the lake, at South Frontenac Park where the Rideau trail runs through our area, or strap on your hiking boots and visit Foley Mountain? There are so many possibilities, and so many choices so why wait: get out there and bring your camera or smart phone with you.

Enter today, be creative and have fun!

To be eligible you must have to have a strong tie with Wolfe or Green Lakes and be 18 years or older. The winning photo will be awarded a gift certificate with a value of \$50 kindly offered by The Pie Bar, run by Stacy Blair in Westport.

Winning pictures

- First prize winner will be receiving a \$50 gift card from Stacy Blair's Pie Bar.
- The first 3 winning pictures will be published in the 2021 Magazine.
- We are looking forward to receiving your pictures. Please upload your best shots directly on: www.facebook.com/Wolfe-Green-Lakes-Westport-Association or e-mail to: com-wolfelake@outlook.com. The deadline is September 30 (2020). See also: www.wolfelake.org/picture-time



EMPTY NESTERS | Less baby ducks this spring

Sometimes a female mallard builds a nest along a roadside ditch; they like to nest in tall grass and in areas with vegetation near water. Eggs are laid between mid-March and the end of July. The normal clutch is about 12 eggs, laid at one to two-day intervals. After each egg is added, the clutch is covered with grass to protect it from predators. This mallard was certainly not done laying her eggs -- only five. The next day..... nothing.

We confirmed with the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology that ducks don't relocate their eggs, so it appears that the disappearance of these particular eggs is the result of nest predation. Lots of animals love to eat eggs, like foxes, possums, raccoons, hawks, owls, crows and even domestic dogs. Even some snakes eat eggs. When we found the nest empty, there were no eggshells left at all. Foxes generally carry eggs away from nests. They may then eat them, or they will cache (bury) them for consumption later. The whole egg is taken in the mouth, crushed and the contents eaten. Eggshells are left some distance from the nest.

We asked Margie Manthey, our nature buff, to comment: "These look like mallard eggs to me. We can say with some confidence that something predated the eggs before the duck was done laying. Judging by the fact that there's no shells or sign of a scuffle, perhaps a fox discovered the eggs and carried them off. They love eggs. I know we have plenty of foxes around Wolfe Lake and I've seen quite a few on the shoreline where this nest was discovered. I saw a recent photo



of a fox carrying a small rabbit in its mouth along with an egg. I've also watched a fox trotting into the woods with 3-4 voles in its mouth. So, they can load up and also return for more, after feeding their kits back in the den. Too bad we will have less baby ducks this spring; but maybe the female will breed and nest again? It's still early in the season and mallards usually make another effort to nest if the first attempt is unsuccessful."



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WESTPORT MARKET THIS SUMMER | 'Fingers Crossed'

Last summer Tracey Phillips and her husband Paul Thorp started a weekly Saturday Westport Market from May - September (2019) on 38 Concession Street (across from Lockwood Park) to showcase local talents. The idea was pitched at a 'Dream Big' Breakfast with Westport's mayor Robin Jones. Tracey: "The first year was successful. We received lots of positive feedback from both vendors and the public. People were making it part of their

Saturday routine, which was great to see. This spring we were preparing and gearing up for another summer with even more vendors and improvements to the overall experience." Tracey explains that because of COVID-19, they are currently in 'waiting mode'. "Public Health has allowed the opening of Farmers' Markets with a lot of modifications to their operations and we are just hoping to get the go ahead for other types of Markets this season. We have to be responsible, and are proud that Westport has been pretty lucky so far with no COVID-19 cases. It's a big space and we feel confident we can manage the Market while maintaining proper physical distancing and sanitation. Fingers crossed!" Updates on the Westport Market will be published on the Facebook page of the event and on www.whatsonwestport.ca. You may also contact Tracey directly at westportmarket.on@gmail.com.



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WAOA's Kids Fishing Derby, 2019

A PRIMER ON THE WESTPORT AREA OUTDOOR ASSOCIATION

By Paul Thompson

Did you know that the Westport Area Outdoor Association (WAOA) was formed in 1986 by a group of outdoor enthusiasts who were concerned about the possible closure of the Westport Fish Hatchery by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)?

Early members also wished to assist with the reintroduction of native Wild Turkeys in Ontario, the North Leeds area in particular and to help sustain and promote the area's wildlife. The abundance of wild turkeys in our area today speaks to the success of those efforts, as does the continued presence of a functioning fish hatchery at the site that is completely supported and staffed by the volunteers of the WAOA.

Walleye

Since its formation, the WAOA propagated thousands upon thousands of walleye fingerlings which have been released into area lakes. In addition to supporting area tourism and outdoor related businesses, those fish have also provided endless hours of fun and delicious meals for area cottagers and residents alike. To further support the fishery the association

has for many years been involved in stream rehabilitations and other good work.

Recently more than three parties listed partnership between the WAOA volunteers, the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association volunteers and the staff of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Watersheds Canada made improvements to Scanlan Creek and Mary Jane's Creek. These projects were wonderfully supported by significant donations from the TD Bank Friends of the Environment Foundation and Cabela's.

In addition to turkeys, other varieties of feathered friends received a helping hand. Osprey platforms have been built to encourage nesting pairs and wood ducks and bluebirds have benefited from houses, built and installed to provide refuge for them in our area.

They have also made donations to Ducks Unlimited and the Friends of Foley Mountain to assist those organizations with their conservation activities, including outdoor education for children.

You may also be interested to know that the WAOA was a founding member of the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, whose motto "A Forest for Seven Generations" helps it to promote sustainable forest use. Along those lines a fund raising in 1988 allowed the WAOA to purchase 10 acres of tropical rain forest in Costa Rica to protect the wintering habitat of our songbirds.

Fish

Last summer saw the first (and planned to be an annual, although cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic) Kids Fishing Derby. This was well attended by area resident and cottage kids. Each child received a new fishing rod and both children and parents accompanying them enjoyed a free lunch. One lucky participant won a \$50 prize for the largest catch of the day.

Birds

This winter and spring association volunteers have resumed a previously well received fund raising effort, the production of handcrafted bluebird and wren bird houses. Hours spent sawing, sanding, gluing and nailing have resulted in a supply of lovely and easy to maintain bird houses (pictured below) that have been proven effective for nesting birds when properly placed and cared for.

The WAOA welcomes new members. Membership in the Association includes automatic membership in the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. Membership in the OFAH includes: \$5 million in OFAH members' outdoors liability insurance; Lyme Disease coverage & medical & travel expense coverage as well as a subscription to their monthly magazine. Interested persons should contact the WAOA secretary at dlg@kingston.net to learn about the membership fee as well as meeting dates and times.

If you don't live in the area, donations to aid our work are welcome, will be gratefully received and faithfully applied.



BIRDS HOUSES FOR SALE Support the WAOA

These reasonably priced bird houses are certain to go quickly when put out for sale but don't be discouraged if you can't get to one of the sale locations. Additional houses will be made to order:

Simply email waoabirdhouses@gmail.com with your name, phone number and address along with the type and number of houses you would like. You will be contacted to arrange payment and pickup or local delivery.

NOTE Dick Peterson has placed over 3,000 bluebird houses of 6 different designs and arrived at this, the most successful choice of the nesting bluebirds.

ICE FISHING DERBY 2020 CANCELLED WAOA had to make a tough decision last winter



The Westport Area Outdoor Association made a tough decision in February: "Due to questionable ice conditions in some areas of Wolfe Lake the Westport Area Outdoor Association which sponsors the Wolf Howl has decided, out of an abundance of caution, to cancel the event which was due to be held on Saturday, February 15th". President Tom Myatt: "This is not the first time the Wolf Howl was cancelled as safety ALWAYS comes first. The WAOA would like to thank all those participants who donated their entry fee to a 50/50 draw which was won by Wolfe Lake resident Haiden Bresee." The last cancellation was in 2016, again due to poor ice conditions. Unlike this year when the decision to cancel was made at the last minute, at that time we knew well in advance that ice was unsafe and did not incur any upfront costs. Thanks to the generosity of the participants and the 50/50 draw, we were able to offset most of the Wolf Howl costs incurred for this year's event.





ICE FISHING ON WOLFE LAKE

A great way to relax with my dad

By Anna Rijk

Karolina Tworek loves ice fishing. She remembers her dad taking her out on the ice since she was a little girl. “It’s in my DNA”, she explained when we met her fishing on Wolfe Lake on a beautiful, but cold day in March (2020). “My dad gave me the gift of the beauty of ice fishing.” For us, Wolfe Lake folks, it is great to see people using our lake just to do that: camping out on a frozen lake, trying to catch some fish, as long it is safe to do so. (Earlier this winter the Wolf Howl ice fishing derby had to be cancelled because of unsafe ice conditions.)

Anyone who has grown up in Ontario would probably agree that the winters can get a little long. But not the Tworek family from Mississauga. Since Karolina was just a few years old, her dad Robert took her out on the lake, and she liked it from the get-go. Growing up she learned how to set up, how to drill a hole in the ice, and above all, to be patient and to enjoy the atmosphere of ice fishing. “Being on the lake, just us, I relish those moments,” she explained. “There is really something about it. The snow, the cold, the joy when the little bells ring on our ice fishing rods. But I also love the camping part of it. The tent, and a cookout of some sort of lunch, hot cocoa, and coffee or tea. So relaxing! Whether we spend the whole day out on the lake,

or just an evening on a windy pond, it’s always great to talk and laugh while being completely unplugged and to be in the moment. Even if the fish are not biting, ice fishing is still a wonderful way to connect, while enjoying the great outdoors. This is our family get-together, and I would not have it any other way.” Karolina, her father and this time also her brother in law Piotr Balicki, ventured out to Wolfe Lake all the way from Mississauga, because - by word of mouth – they were told this would be a great spot to do so. They rented a cottage just outside of Westport for the weekend of March 6 – 8 (2020). They caught a few fish, and even had one on the dinner table. Not such a bad result at all.



BRIGHT STARRY NIGHTS | Stellar experiences at Wolfe Lake

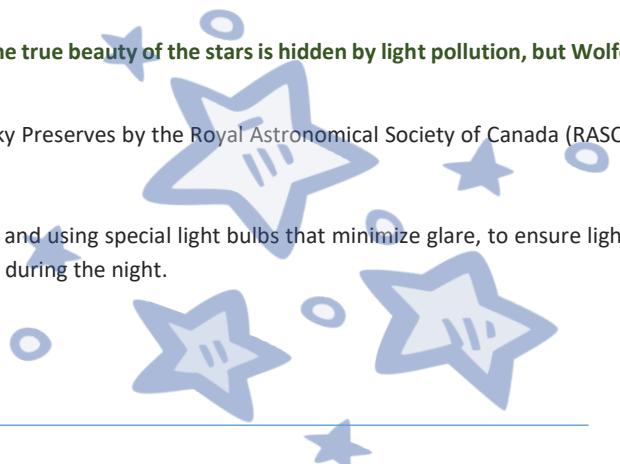
Who hasn't looked up at those awesome clear night skies at the lake? For many the true beauty of the stars is hidden by light pollution, but Wolfe Lake is a great spot to star gaze and discover the true magnificence of a dark sky.

Did you know that Canada is home to 13 places that have been designated Dark-Sky Preserves by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) or Dark Sky Parks by the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA)?

In these parks and preserves, steps have been taken, such as limiting light sources and using special light bulbs that minimize glare, to ensure light pollution doesn't have a negative impact on animals and insects that may be active during the night.

Like to know more? Visit the sites below.

www.rasc.ca/dark-sky-site-designations
www.darksky.org/our-work/conservation/idsp/parks



WOLFE LAKE MEMBERS ARE HISTORY BUFFS

Historical photos at Glendower Hall



Photos and artifacts were displayed on February 22 (2020) by the **Bedford District Historical Research Centre**. Members of our lake association as well as folks from the region dropped in to take a step back in time. All in all, a great opportunity to learn more about the history of our area. In case you would like to know more or share your own local history with these history fans, email Gerald Stinson at stinson@rideau.net

NEWS FLASH ANNOUNCEMENT

The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association will inform you of the next open house in 2021, via a Wolfe Lake News Flash (emailed to all members.)

A BIG THANK YOU TO VOLUNTEERS

Keeping roads around our lake clean

Thank you to all those volunteers who pick up litter along the roads around Wolfe Lake. Your efforts to keep roadsides clean helps to protect our environment by ensuring the litter doesn't wind up in our lakes or hurting wildlife, and contributes to a cleaner, healthier environment for all to enjoy.

Please know that your efforts are being noticed, recognized and appreciated.



SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS

They have products and services we all need. Tell them you saw their ad in your
Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association's Magazine.

An overview of our 2020 advertisers is listed on page 36.

At the lake we use words in their own special way

YOUR ULTIMATE ABC FOR THIS SUMMER

Leaving our home and on our way to the cottage, that special feeling emerges. We start to 'breath' the lake, only by imagining we will be arriving soon. And with going to the cottage and lake front, we start to use a somewhat different vocabulary. So, whether you're new to cottaging, or living year-round at Wolfe Lake, here are all the words which come to mind. Think of it as your own personal Wolfe Lake lexicon. Now, go study up and learn about lake life!

A AWE-INSPIRING



Here's one of our favourite facts for you: Canada has more lakes than all the other countries in the world combined. Wow. We think that's pretty incredible, but it is more than just an impressive bit of trivia. Canada's lakes are integral to the country's iconic landscape and Ontario has many of those pristine bodies of water. We find that Wolfe Lake is an awe-inspiring lake where we love to relax and play in and around its shores.

B BOAT



One of the essentials of living or vacationing at a waterfront is being able to be on the water. A boat, small or large, is the perfect way to explore Wolfe Lake. Fishing, tubing, and jumping off the boat for a refreshing swim in our pristine lake is part of cottage life. Please read the article about boat etiquette on page 9. The safe boating guide can be found on Transport Canada's site at www.tc.gc.ca

C COTTAGE



The cottage is our sanctuary at the lake, our private place to decompress and relax. Unfortunately, this year there are other big 'C' words, Corona

and COVID-19. We will all have to be very cautious as the summer rolls along, and all of us have to do our part. You will find updates of what we can do and what we definitely cannot do on the websites of the townships of South Frontenac and Rideau Lakes.

D DOCK



"(Sittin' on) The Dock of the Bay" ... who doesn't know the famous song by soul singer Otis Redding and guitarist Steve Cropper, recorded for the first time in 1967? Docks are generally an extension of our cottages. For the duration of the summer, we practically spend all our time there. Life is good at the waterfront, and the size of the dock doesn't matter. From sipping coffee in the early morning hours to watching fabulous sunsets, this small stretch of wooden boards is just the place to be.

E ECONOMY



Could cottagers help to save the economy of small towns? Are you (partly) running your business from your cottage? Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) published the study 'Waterfront Property Owners and Rural Economic Development' (2018). It reports that there are opportunities to

improve the vitality and viability of cottage communities by exploiting the talent, experience and wealth of cottagers. However, currently we find ourselves in COVID-19 restrictions, and for the time being cottagers are unable to contribute to local economies. Still interested in reading more about FOCA's efforts to quantify the economic development impact of cottage country property owners? Visit FOCA's website www.foca.on.ca where you can download this report.

F FISH



Young or old, many people are hooked on fishing. At www.angelfire.com the question is asked why do so many men and women of all ages feel the need to flock to the ponds, lakes and coastlines every summer to go fishing? After all, many inexperienced fishermen go home empty handed. It may seem like a huge waste of time, or is it? Even though beginner fishermen may not catch fish, their first trip out does not mean that they have had a bad time. In fact, fishing is one of the most well-liked forms of recreation. Its relaxing, and it is secondary to swimming as the most popular leisure activity in North America. Never done it before? Or in need of more fish tactics? Take a

Google tour or go out on a boat with experienced anglers. Wolfe Lake is respected by many fishermen and our Fishing Director Margie Manthey frequently reports on the health of our fish population. See page 19 for her most recent update.

G GREEN



Green lake is a small but beautiful lake just a bit north of Wolfe. It is lovely — pristine, and quiet. Its cottagers used to belong to our association and that is why our Facebook page, at the time of its creation, was named "Wolfe & Green Lakes (Westport) Association." We hope that our Green Lake neighbours will once again join the association.

H HISTORY



Wolfe Lake has history. Check out www.wolfelake.org/history-of-the-lake, and you'll soon see that Wolfe Lake was mentioned at the start of the 19th century. Over the years the area has changed with people moving in and leaving. Today the Bedford District Historical Research Centre is eager to collect as many stories, artifacts and photos as possible. Once a year the history buffs

organize an open house. See page 40 and find out more.

I ICE CREAM



A stroll on Main Street is only complete after a stop for ice cream from Vanilla Bean's Cafe & Creamery, or Cedar Bridge Ice Cream and Candy. Take some local ice cream home from Kudrisko's and other general stores and supermarkets in the towns around our lake.

Kawartha's is a delicious local treat just waiting for you to taste it. For over 80 years, Kawartha Dairy has been proud to be a 100% Canadian-owned company, still operated by the same family that started it back in the beginning. Although it has grown tremendously from its early days, it remains headquartered in Bobcaygeon, Ontario, where it was founded. In 1937 Jack and Ila Crowe took a leap of faith and bought a small dairy in Bobcaygeon. Jack had learned the trade while working for Oshawa Dairy, but the newlyweds renamed Kawartha Dairy and it didn't bear much resemblance to that larger big city firm. At that time, it consisted of a small, simple three room building, where the cold storage area was cooled with ice cut from the lake.

Some cottagers even bring their ice cream makers from home to make ice cream at the cottage, although we have to say that it is hard to do better than our local ice cream shops in Westport.

J JOURNAL



Without distractions the cottage or even your dock or hammock can be super silent spots to

reflect and to daydream, a place where you are free to absorb your surroundings or to jot down significant details of your work, life or a (holiday) memory in a notebook. It will come in handy one day when you write your memoir. The benefits to your mental health from journaling seems to be proven. Mostly stretching your EQ (emotional quotient), evoking mindfulness, achieving goals and boosting memory and comprehension.

K KEEPSAKE



Cottagers can be a sentimental bunch. Those folks find that their cottage is an excellent place to keep mementos from hunting trophies, old canoe paddles and traditional snowshoes, to shells or driftwood. Some keep beautiful memory boxes, others frame smaller objects, articles and pictures.

Make sure to keep your cottage safe, as fire departments sometimes worry about too much of flammable materials inside and outside our country homes.

L LOCAL



Around the lake, we all like local. Local flavours, local produce, local restaurants and coffeeshops, local ice cream, and local trades people.

We appreciate local businesses in and around Westport supporting the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association by advertising in the Wolfe Lake Magazine and by sponsoring association activities.

We do not take that for granted. Cottagers can also support the local economy when we need maintenance, a painting job,

plumbing and heating, building an extension, professional pest control, cutting grass or even need help stockpiling firewood, call one of our local businesses who have an ad in our magazine.

M MILFOIL



Eurasian milfoil is an exotic invasive submersed perennial. A single piece of fragmented Eurasian milfoil can multiply into 250 million new plants in one year! No wonder we have a hard time getting rid of this invasive water plant. If you want to manually remove it in front of your dock and along your own piece of waterfront, make sure to bring the cut milfoil on to dry land. Please, do not let the cut plants float in the water. Too much plant matter also increases methane and carbon dioxide. See also page 30.

N NEW NORMAL



We all talk about the 'new normal' since the Corona virus global pandemic. Who would have thought that this previously unfamiliar situation would become standard? The 'new normal' keeps on evolving, as the policies to reduce the number of cases is changing. We are all trying to do our best to stay safe and healthy. The Wolfe Lake (Westport) team wishes you courage to stay positive. We are together in this, and there will be a time when the situation around COVID-19 will be better.

O OUTDOORS



We are blessed with our properties around Wolfe Lake, enjoying the great Canadian outdoors to the fullest.

We think of a lazy summer, enjoying the water, but don't forget that spring, fall and winter all have their unique qualities that reward us when we spend time outdoors by the lake. We are so fortunate to be part of the Wolfe Lake community.

P PHOTO CHALLENGE



PICTURE TIME is our way of bringing your best shots ever to the attention of the lake community. Those great moments are published at www.facebook.com/Wolfe-Green-Lakes-Westport-Association, as well as in the Wolfe Lake Magazine. Have a look at this year's winners on page 33. Are you up for a new challenge this summer? Details for the 2020 contest are on page 34. In the fall we will be judging and choosing the winner, who will receive a gift card with a value of \$50 sponsored by 'The Pie Bar.' Previous years we received funding from 'Jake by the Lake|Life is Good - Genuine Neighbourhood Shoppe', from 'The Cove Country Inn' and from the 'Tangled Garden restaurant.

Q QUIET



The power unleashed in a high-performance boat or Jet Ski can provide a burst of adrenaline for their drivers. For some folks, there's a rush that comes with speed, and it brings a sense of freedom. The flip side to this is that powerful engines and thrill driving can create negative impacts for others. (Also, large wakes from repetitive passes, "donut" circles or speeding too close to shore all contribute to erosion and can swamp vulnerable loon nests or their tiny chicks.) Most of us are aware

how sounds are magnified on the water and carry to shore. When the peaceful sounds of nature are blotted out by monotonous roaring engines or loud boat radios, perhaps it's time to consider the lake community as a whole and adjust our habits to help reduce inconsiderate noise pollution. Learn more about safe, responsible boating on page 9.

R

RELAX



If you are lucky enough to be able to travel to your cottage, we would not be surprised that you relax more easily and sleep more soundly at the lake. We do hope that the members of the lake association will be able to use their lake hide-outs to get away from the hustle and bustle of cities and work to relax this summer.

S

SAILING



Every now and then we see sails on Wolfe Lake, just using the power of the wind. Many would agree that sailboats are better for enjoying the journey. Powerboats are great for getting around faster and to tube or water ski. They are both perfect for fishing and above all for enjoying Wolfe Lake.

T

THANKFUL



We feel that in life, there is always something to be thankful for. It's easy to complain about how chaotic the world might seem at certain points in time, but once we are on the shores of our lake, we are thankful for

what we have, and we try to begin each day with a grateful heart.

U

UNPREDICTABILITY



As in life, things at the lake don't always go according to plan. Sometimes those moments will be the most memorable and will generate the best stories. In other times, one needs to act swift e.g. in case of a fire, a health hazard or an accident. Make sure to have the most relevant phone numbers at hand at the cottage. Think of doctors, police and other first responders. Write them down on a list and stick it to a wall where everybody can see it. Also, punch in these important phone numbers in your cell phone.

V

VOLUNTEERS



The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association is solely run by dedicated volunteers. We always need some help - and we'd be happy to have you join the Wolfe Lake team.

Depending on what you'd like to do, we can - most likely - find you a volunteer task that would fit your profile or your skills sets. Learn more

about volunteering on page 48. We would also like to let our volunteers know how much we appreciate everything they do.

W

WALK



Walking around our shores, forest and countryside is another great way to relax. Research has shown that walking at least 30 minutes a day can help reduce your risk of coronary heart disease and stroke, improve your blood pressure, blood sugar levels and much more. There are some folks who decide to walk together on a regular basis. The Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association organizes a fall walk annually. Read the report on the most recent Fall Walk at AlinkA Farm on page 25.

X

XL



Is our lake extra-large? Mmm... we think it is the perfect size to fish, boat, swim, play, and for relaxing. Large enough to spread out while practicing proper boat

safety and courteous etiquette. Read more how to be – and stay – safe on the lake on page 9 and 'Your Say' on page 48.

Y

YEAR-ROUND



Year-round lake living is a dream for some, and a wonderful reality for others. The changing seasons offer many opportunities to enjoy nature's beauty, wildlife, recreation and the constantly unfolding panorama everyday life throughout the year.

Z

ZEN



With all that is going on in the world and around our lake, we hope you will still take in the sights and sounds that will make any day better and more beautiful.

We all have a need to feel comfortable, even in these uncertain times, so we feel (sort of) relaxed. So yeah, try to zen out, and

Zzzzzzz.....



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VEGGIE GARDEN FEVER | Herb Hutchings' labour of love

If shopping is a risk you don't want to take, a vegetable garden can be a lifeline. It can feed you and your loved ones in a temporary crisis. It might be better to veg-pile than to stockpile. Herb Hutchings is a long-time gardener at the lake, feeding his family and friends. He articulates that vegetable gardening is a lot easier now than before, when you always had to start from scratch with seeds.



"You know, we are farmers, so gardening is in our DNA. But nobody needs to be afraid of gardening. It's basically the same as a flower garden. You just buy plants; seeds are not really needed. I think that anyone can grow kale plants, tomato plants, garlic, and rhubarb. And although the weather in our region was cold – too cold – this spring, the sun will come, and it will be a feast to watch things grow."

Herb and his wife Shelva live in Forfar (ON) in the winter. Every spring they move back to their cozy cottage with a giant vegetable garden beside it. Herb's first task in early May was getting ready and preparing the soil. Each year he plants tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, corn, pumpkins, potatoes, Swiss chard, asparagus and much more. As the summer unfolds, his vegetables will be thriving, with so much time and care put into it. Herb: "It's a labour of love, it keeps me sane, and it can be a great hobby. Try it, even by starting small, just planting a few veggies. You'll be rewarded."



FISHING & HUNTING | Report suspicious activities

Sometimes members of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association observe illegal activities on area lakes and in our nearby forests. Fish, game and even turtles can be under threat by poachers. Please report suspected poaching, abuses, or theft of our natural resources quickly and with as many details as possible. Here is when, how and where to report suspicious activities.

When to report

You should report any illegal activity against Ontario's fish and wildlife, species at risk, shore lands, forests, provincial parks and conservation reserves, petroleum, aggregate resources and public lands.

These can include:

- ⌚ The illegal sale of species at risk, wildlife or animal parts
- ⌚ Fishing or hunting out-of-season
- ⌚ Taking more fish or game than allowed
- ⌚ Unlawful night hunting or shooting from a roadway
- ⌚ Dumping waste on Crown land
- ⌚ Illegally removing sand, gravel or wood from public lands
- ⌚ Having fires in restricted fire zones or without a permit
- ⌚ Illegal activities in provincial parks and protected areas

What to report

When you call TIPS-MNR, your call may be recorded and you may be asked to provide:

- ⌚ Your name and contact information
- ⌚ Details about the suspected activity
- ⌚ Vehicle information (e.g. license plate number, make, model and colour)

- ⌚ Date and time of day
- ⌚ Location (road, lake, street address, landmarks)
- ⌚ Description of any people involved in the incident

All calls to 1-877-TIPS-MNR are reviewed by a conservation officer. If your call requires action, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry will follow up appropriately.

KEEP THESE PHONE NUMBERS AT HAND

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY

1-877-TIPS-MNR

1-877-847-7667

CRIME STOPPERS (ANONYMOUS)

1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

Please note that 1-877-TIPS-MNR is not an emergency response number. If your call is about a matter of public safety, please call 911 or the police.

More details can be found on www.oca.ca/report-suspicious-activities, or click the 'report crime' button, once you are on the site.





UNIQUE RECIPE FROM THE WESTPORT PIE BAR

A Cherry Clafoutis

By Stacy Blair



"Would I like to share one of my recipes with the folks around Wolfe Lake? Of course, I would! Here it is. I have chosen a cherry clafoutis, something that is quick and easy to throw together, but still a stunner when you pull it out of the oven!" Clafoutis, sometimes spelled clafouti in Anglophone countries, is a baked French dessert of fruit, traditionally black cherries, arranged in a buttered dish and covered with a thick flan-like batter. The clafoutis is dusted with powdered sugar and served lukewarm, sometimes with cream. Here is how Stacy makes and bakes it.

WHAT YOU NEED

1 1/4 cups whole milk
2/3 cup granulated sugar
3 large eggs
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
3 cups cherries, pitted and cut in half
Powdered sugar, for dusting

WHAT YOU DO

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Butter a 7-8 cup baking dish.
2. In a blender, blend the milk, sugar, eggs, vanilla, salt, and flour until smooth.
3. Pour the batter into the baking dish. Add the cherries to the batter.
Bake for 45 minutes to an hour. The clafouti is done when puffed and brown and a knife plunged in the center comes out clean.
4. Sprinkle with powdered sugar, serve warm.

That is all there is to it. ENJOY!



the absence of Tuesdays and Wednesdays newspaper indicates that the delivery person knew there was no one there to read it.
the painting was not in the cottage. The police officer suspects the newspaper delivery person because searching, the painting was not in the cottage. The police officer suspects the newspaper delivery person because the absence of Tuesdays and Wednesdays newspaper indicates that the delivery person knew there was no one there to read it.
loo with shuburn; E. Climbs up a tree and acts like a nut! F. A gummy bear. **MURDER MYSTERY ANSWER:** After

CRTTERS RIDLES AND GIGGLES: A. Croak-a-cola; B. At the hickory dock; C. Count Duckula; D. A





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MAKERS' Corner

Discovers creative and artsy folks living or working in the Wolfe Lake and Westport community.

INSPIRED BY TREES AROUND WOLFE LAKE

Larry Arsenault makes gorgeous wood pieces

What began as a hobby and a stress reliever when Larry Arsenault was still working full time, has now turned into a small business. He named the business Butternut Ridge Turning since he has butternut trees on his Wolfe Lake property. Larry enjoys the market aspect, meeting people, talking about his craft, and sharing his love for wood with others. Time to meet Larry and to learn more about his impressive woodworking skills.

In his robust wood working shop Larry talks with enthusiasm of his craft: "I consider myself very fortunate to have a hobby that provides me with a creative outlet and then to have what I create appreciated by others."

Magical transition

Born and raised in a small town outside of Sudbury, Ontario, Larry spent his early summers on Manitoulin Island at their family cottage where he developed an appreciation of nature, including the variety of trees and their wood. Larry started woodworking as a hobby when he was 16. "My first projects were cribbage boards made from oak slabs from a local sawmill on Manitoulin. That was my first experience of witnessing the amazing, almost magical transition from a rough piece of bark-covered wood, into a beautiful finished craft with the potential to become a treasured keepsake or even family heirloom."

Fast forward to 2014 when Larry's thoughts turned to retiring from a human resources career in the mining industry and he and his wife Lisa began looking for a lakefront property on which to build their retirement home. "We were living in Burlington, Ontario at the time and good fortune brought us to the Westport area in 2013. We fell in love



with the area - in addition to the physical beauty, the people and the pace of life reminded us a lot of Manitoulin Island. We found our lot in early 2014 and built in the summer of 2018, when I retired."

Larry's initial woodworking hobby was doing 'flatwork' – using dimensioned lumber to make things from crafts to small furniture items. He explains: "In 2014, I bought a small lathe, joined the Golden Horseshoe Woodturner's Guild and began learning the craft of woodturning. I learned the craft from a number of masters at the Guild, as well as from watching numerous You-Tube videos". He was encouraged by winning first and second place in the Novice category for his entries into the Guild's annual Spring competition his first year as a member. And it took off from there: "The woodturning bug bit me hard. My wife used to tell our family and friends that she had become a lathe

widow. In the summer of 2019, I decided to set up a booth at the new Westport Craft Market and was rewarded over the summer with ever increasing sales from week to week. I also participated in the Chaffey's Lock summer market. And hopefully they will run this summer." Last but not least, a mutually beneficial opportunity arises when someone has to cut down a favourite tree on their property. In exchange for some of the wood Larry makes them a keepsake that they can cherish for years to come.

Larry makes beautiful bowls, platters, vases, urns, rolling pins, salt & pepper mills, shakers, clocks, spurtles, pens, wands, candle holders, ring-holders, wine-stoppers, boxes, and much more. Interested in your own wood piece? Contact Larry at: arsenault.larry@gmail.com or visit the Etsy Canada website and search for **ButternutRidgeStudio**. At his Etsy online shop Larry has listed over fourty items.



WOLFE LAKE (WESTPORT) ASSOCIATION

We need you | Nominations Executive Positions

Why not join our team? And help us to ensure that the cottage experience at Wolfe Lake remains safe and enjoyable for everyone. Some positions within the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association team are open for nominations. We really need more hands-on deck. It will be a great experience and you will make new friends in our community. The first step is to contact us by sending an e-mail to com-wolfelake@outlook.com.



ADVERTISEMENT SALES VOLUNTEER

The volunteer positions of our team evolve over time. Members of the current team may wear several hats and we would like to share volunteer hours.

To get an understanding of the 2020 (and beyond) roles and tasks, we are happy to give you a call and explain what the positions entail.

Please, don't forget to include your contact info in your e-mail to:

[com-wolfelake@outlook.com!](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com)



LETTER TO THE EDITOR | YOUR SAY

Dusk to Dawn: Boaters, turn your lights on

Remember that game from childhood which we fondly called. "I see you but you cannot see me." How delightful to see the surprised look on the face of the child when their eyes were uncovered. A happy surprise is always such a happy experience - but not when boating.

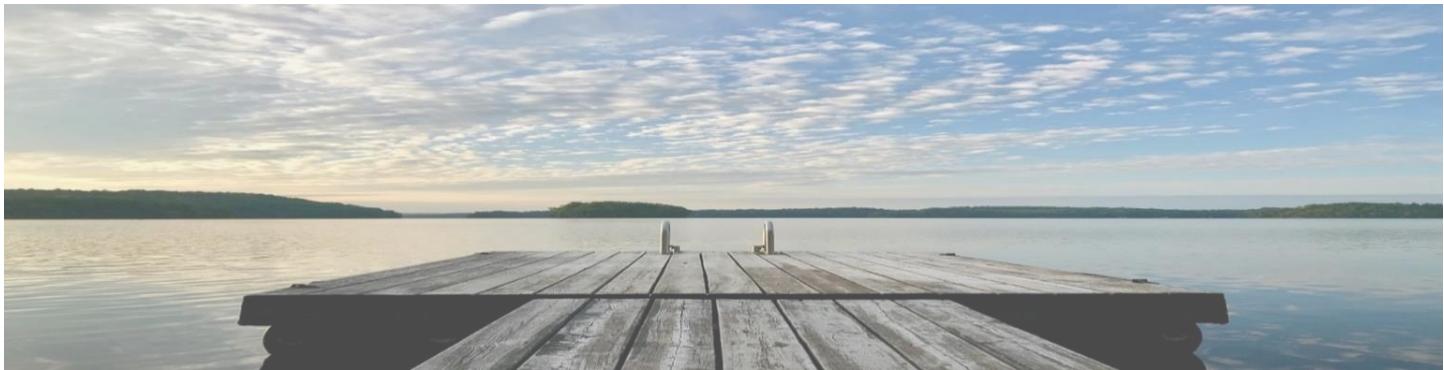
The surprise when a boater almost hits a fishing boat sitting there from dusk to dawn with no lights on is a terrifying experience. Imagine the horror if a boater does not see a fishing boat in time to avoid a crash. As dusk begins, boaters turn your boat lights on! Use them until dawn arrives to begin the new day. The life you save may be your own or that of a loved one. Yours or mine!

Pauline Kane

Member of Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association since 1988! (Yes, you are right, that is the founding year of our association!)



We welcome readers to submit letters to com-wolfelake@outlook.com. Please supply your name, address and daytime telephone number, and inform us of the year you became member. Letters should be fewer than 200 words, and may be edited for space, style and clarity.



WOLFE SUMMER 2020 | What will be the ‘new normal?’

Around Wolfe lake we are all wondering what the (near) future might look like. “We will not go back to what life was like before January of this year,” Canada’s chief public health officer, Theresa Tam, said in the days just before we went to press, releasing updated COVID-19 prognostications. Federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu also summed up our post-pandemic future in a briefing, saying testing is just one layer of the health safety net needed to “arrive at the new normal.” Canada’s health leaders didn’t elaborate on what this “new normal” might look like. Increased biometric surveillance? One-way sidewalks? Medical-grade face shields at the theatre? Virus-proof, sterilizable body suits to permit socializing without distancing? Robot cleaners and servers, immunity-booster consultants, cashless societies, nose swabs and temperature readings at every travel gate? And Premier Doug Ford is struggling with many local mayors to advise cottagers in Ontario. Even our community is divided about cottagers coming back to the lake. As time goes by, we will learn what the future holds. Stay positive, folks :)

Source: <https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/covid19-crisis-new-normal-coronavirus>



TREND ALERT | Local real estate market currently tough



“I am optimistic for the future, as soon as some of the government’s restrictions reducing the spread of COVID-19, are removed. Our phones have been very busy lately, with future clients asking questions about the consequences of the current pandemic.”

Neil Scott and his business partner Monique Vandewint talk about the latest developments in the local real estate market amidst the Corona crisis.

While the Corona virus will be part of our lives for the time being, cottage and homeowners are wondering how the real estate market will be developing as a result of the health crisis. The bigger real estate companies in Canada are predicting home prices to be lower, but at this

point, they do not expect significant dips. They base their views comparing the current situation with the financial crisis in 2008 and with SARS in the Greater Toronto area in 2003.

To bring a perspective closer to home, we asked Neil and Monique how they view local markets. Neil: “Presently real estate transactions have decreased significantly, because of the Corona virus. Having said that, much of the decline is reflected on the lack of ‘product’. Some clients have been hesitant to list their properties in this climate of uncertainty. One client kept a property he was planning to sell, because he wanted to self-isolate there until the end of the pandemic.”

“Many factors will have big impacts.” Neil explains that real estate sales decline when the real estate market experiences a

lack of inventory. “But there is still a demand. Some of our clients indicated they want to buy in the country, specifically because of COVID-19. They felt cooped up and wanted to be somewhere they could get some fresh air, because their home in the city didn’t have a lot of outdoor space. That motivated them to start looking for a cottage. They found something on a small lake with good privacy, which was especially important to them right now. I guess they didn’t want to be close to people, and I can’t really blame them for that.”

Monique thinks the long-term impact of the pandemic will be driving more city people to the country: “It seems a better option than to be in densely populated areas. Also, folks who are thinking about retiring or semi-retiring, and driving back and forth to the city, might want

to make a full-time move to cottage country.”

Neil: “Some buyers understand the changes in the market. They get that so many people are also looking for cottages, prices are up. They’ll pay because they just want to get out of the city. Others think the pandemic has crushed the market, so they try to get a deal. I had one buyer contact me thinking they could get some 20 per cent lower than normal. Instead prices have increased.”

All in all, Neil and Monique stay very optimistic about local effects. “Historically, our ancestors overcame more difficult challenges.”

“We may surface from these troubled times in a very different world. And remember, change is often an improvement. For now, both of us are wishing you all to stay healthy, hearty and happy.”

FOCA NEWS | Be mindful of each other

Cottage owners respect social distancing like everybody else



Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA) understands the directive from Canada's top health officials and they want cottagers to be mindful of their actions. "We realize that everyone's anxious to get out of the city or want to self isolate and that's perfectly natural and understandable," said Terry Rees, the executive director of FOCA.

"It's not a rule and it's not our intention to tell people how, or if, or when they can use their properties that they own, but we do want people to be mindful of the fact that our public officials and Canada's head public health officials are giving us very specific advice about how we should be taking the best steps to keeping our communities and our family safe," he added.

Terry Rees, a cottager himself, has been asked by many media outlets, such as CBC radio Ottawa Morning and TVO's The Agenda, to share his views about Ontario's COVID-19 cottage quandary: Should urban residents visit the cottage this spring and summer? Rees feels it's sad to find out that cottagers, who always thought they belonged to the local communities, are now facing a difficult situation. He encourages all involved to be respectful of each other: "We are a balanced economy between seasonal residents and permanent residents. We need each other. No one can survive without the other." Rees is

certain that seasonal cottagers, like everyone else, will respect the current COVID-19 regulations. Families who go to the cottage are advised not to invite friends and family to join them or visit, to stay on their property, observe social and physical distancing rules and follow rules like everyone else. People should bring their own food with them and not use local medical services, all to flatten the curve and combat the virus. Rees is sad to read some comments on social media platforms and said there might be some bridges to build between locals and cottagers.

Sources:

www.tvo.org/article/the-urban-rural-divide-heats-up-during-covid-19, interview T. Rees at TVO's The Agenda with Steve Paikin, interview T. Rees with CBC's Ottawa Morning Show, www.foca.on.ca/covid-19-update-from-foca and Twitter account Terry Rees



HELP MAINTAIN A STRONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE FUTURE

You can become a member if you live on or near the Wolfe or Green Lakes area. There are many advantages to joining as well as beneficial services our lake association provides, including but not limited to:

- ✓ Water quality testing & environmental monitoring
- ✓ Shoal marking for boater safety
- ✓ Invasive species info & updates
- ✓ Detailed fishing reports
- ✓ Representation to government on topics of concern (i.e. low water levels; Algonquin land claim; etc.)
- ✓ The (annual) Wolfe Lake Magazine distributed to all association's members, packed full of lake news, water quality reports, AGM news, Facts & Folklore, local wildlife tidbits, a kids' activity page and much more.
- ✓ Annual General Meeting (AGM) held every summer, includes a lively agenda where members are asked for their views & votes on relevant issues while discussing lake topics. A great way to have your voice heard and meet your lake neighbours!



Why not consider becoming a Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association member and join those who love Wolfe Lake and desire to protect its natural beauty and environment? Find out more about membership (including Friends) by contacting Eric Behre (see page 4).

DO YOU LIKE THE LARGE SIGNS ON THE ROADS AROUND THE LAKE?



We certainly don't need glasses to read the larger county signs that have been up for a while now in our community. We are sure the County Roads Department of both Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac had their reasons to 'go all out.' However, the community and our members have shared with us that they might be a bit too large and they just like the older signs better, especially the traditional road signs (see insert). To be fair, at least we will know that we have entered a new township and visitors won't miss the road signs!



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