

## Colleen's Contemplations – October 2010

For me, October means birthdays. I have 8 birthdays to celebrate in various ways depending on the relationship. I enjoy spoiling people, so October gets pretty expensive, pretty fast.

I've purchased a lot of interesting things in honor of birthdays, but there are things it would never occur to me to buy; toilet paper, dish soap, shaving cream, laundry soap just to name a few.

At the WNC store we have a bin of gifts to choose from for the birthdays of all the clients and their families. The two toughest categories and the most neglected are teenage boys, and adult men. This is where the odd requests come in. Often we'll have someone say "instead of anything in there, could I have toilet paper for my birthday gift?" Yes, people ask for it. One woman took a big bottle of dish soap, and was very excited about it. Mom's picking stuff out for teenage boys would rather choose shaving cream than some of the pointless or chinsy items in the bin. This is not to say we don't get good stuff, it's just a different perspective. New underwear, socks, tools, kitchen utensils, and sports related items are quickly claimed.

So my request this month; whether you purchase an item or just have an idea for boys over 14, please drop it by the store or post it on our face book page ([www.facebook.com/waunakeeneighborhoodconnection](http://www.facebook.com/waunakeeneighborhoodconnection) ).

Let's give everyone a Happy Birthday!

Colleen Woerner  
WNC Store Manager