



Our Onaping Falls Peewee Huskies enjoyed a very successful trip to Ottawa in November, bringing home GOLD at the Cumberland Dukes House League Showdown.

The boys were one of 16 teams to take part in the tournament and won six straight games en route to the Championship!

The Huskies started the tournament by winning against the Nobleking Knights 5-1 on Friday. On Saturday our team began with a 2-0 win over Lakeshore and then on to victory against the host team Cumberland Dukes by a score of 6-1 to close out the round robin with a 3-0 record.

Quarterfinals kicked off bright and early Sunday morning, with the Huskies facing off against the Knights for a second time.

Winning with the same score from Friday night 5-1.

Our Huskies cruised into the semi-final, taking on the Gatineau Titans. The team pulled through with a 3-2 win sending them to the finals against the Barrie Blue Devils. Victory was ours for the Championship with a score of 2-1 against the Devils.

Not only did our team bring home the Championship many took home MVP medals for their great work on the ice.

CONGRATULATIONS to the entire Onaping Falls Minor Hockey Association. You are doing a fine job of raising some stellar athletes in our community! A schedule of the Huskies Home games for December are listed within the OFN.

Let's Go Huskies Let's Go

What's inside????

- **Healthy Living with Danika**
- **Great Christmas Gift Certificate Ideas**
- **Kids Korner by Arianna**
- **Community Heart & Soul**
- **Things to do in December**
- **Holiday Wishes**
- **Turkey Raffle Winners**
- **White Tag Christmas Trees**
- **44th Annual Carolfest**
- **School News**
- **A Moment with Melinda**
- **Library Fun**



Sunday, December 8th, 2019

Onaping Community Centre

10:00am to 12:30pm

Face Painting and Holiday Crafts for kids



EVERYONE - ALL AGES WELCOME





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from 9am to 5pm
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at the
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No rainchecks. No online orders. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

- SAVE 50%** LED Bulb A19, B19, Assorted colours. 3052-992/993/994/995. Was \$9.99. **4.97** Each.
- SAVE 40%** Antibacterial Dish Detergent Original scent. 532 mL. 4310-823. Was \$2.99. **1.77**
- SAVE 51%** Dry Roasted Peanuts Seasoned. 700 g. 5850-459. Was \$4.99. **2.44**
- SAVE 50%** Heavy Duty Work Gloves Winter lined. Assorted colours. L or XL. 5525-194/195. Was \$10.99. **5.44** Pair.
- SAVE 58%** 50 LED MS Light Set Pure white, warm white or multi. 5640-007/008/009. Was \$12.99. **6.47** Set.

EXTRA BIG SAVINGS HURRY IN! WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

No rainchecks. No online orders. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

- SAVE 75%** T-Fal Frypan. Was \$59.99. **14.97**
- SAVE 62%** 35" Snow Brush with Scraper. 8676-442. Was \$12.99. **4.88**
- SAVE 34%** GLAD Cling Wrap. 90'. Was \$9.29. **3.47**
- SAVE 52%** Digital Pocket Kitchen Scale. Was \$16.99. **8.97**
- SAVE 32%** Turtles Original Chocolate. 350 g. 3620-016. Was \$12.99. **9.47**

SAVE 45% Carbon Monoxide Alarm. Direct plug-in. 145V/120V battery. Battery back-up. 3644-637.

SAVE 60% 48" T8 Fluorescent Tubes Daylight. 3646-893. **PACK OF 2**. Was \$16.49. **5.77**

SAVE 35% Black Oil Sunflower Seeds. 40lb bag. Was \$34.99. **22.67**

SAVE 50% Powerball Dishwasher Detergent Tabs. 25 tabs. 4310-899. Was \$10.99. **5.24**

SAVE 50% Fast Acting Drain Opener. Septic safe. 1 L. 4620-012. Was \$12.99. **5.97**



Marc Serré

M.P. / Député

Nickel Belt

2945 Hwy. route 69N

Suite/Bureau 203

Val Caron, Ontario P3N 1N3

Tel: 705-897-2222

Email:

marc.serre.parl.gc.ca

marcserre.ca

Facebook @ [marcserreMP](https://www.facebook.com/marcserreMP)

Wishing my Nickel Belt friends

and families a very

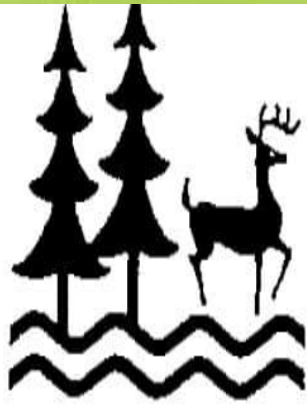
Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year!

Marc





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every Friday night from
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Levack Arena
(also known as the
I.J. Coady Memorial Arena)



Fun for the whole family!
Program runs until March 13th, 2020
Cancelled date January 17th, 2020

Sponsored by the Greater City of Sudbury

FEEL FREE

FREE Public Swimming
Every Saturday from
1pm to 2:55pm
at the **Onaping Pool**



Everyone welcome!

Program runs from September 7th to December 21st, 2019
and then January 11th to April 25th, 2020

Sponsored by the Greater City of Sudbury



*"Wishing you all a very
Merry Christmas and the
very best in the New Year"*

Gerry Montpellier
City of Greater Sudbury
Councillor ~ Ward 3

Phone : 705-698-2759

Email ~ gerry.montpellier@greatersudbury.ca

Facebook @ Gerry Montpellier



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Christmas '
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Offering classes at the Golden Age Club
Monday at 6pm ~ EVERYONE WELCOME
\$5 for non members 705-923-1774

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Master
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yvoncarriere@hotmail.com

**Kim Depatie is a
Registered Practical Nurse.**

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Kind Hearts Home Care
offers non-medical and medical
services to residents of
Onaping Falls and throughout
Greater Sudbury.

For more information or to book a
FREE consultation call
705-920-1861

Shop Local

Levack I.D.A. Pharmacy
Mickey Brunelle - Owner/Manager

705-966-3612
2 First Avenue North



**Onaping Falls
Golden Age Club**
109 Service Road, Onaping



**Christmastime
Open Music Jam**
Friday December 20th
Starts at 1:00 pm



The Monthly Music Jam is on the 3rd Friday each month at 1:00 pm ~ it's FREE to join in, and Open to the Public to enjoy the music and the company. Call Jim 705-966-0137 for more information.

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someone you don't know what to buy for!**

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STREET LIGHT BURNT OUT??

If you see a utility pole light out the first thing you need to do is get the number from the pole and be sure to know the street it is located on. You will need to leave your name and phone number if routed to an answering service. You don't always get to speak with a live person so be prepared to leave a message with the items required above. It takes up to 2 weeks to repair so be sure to write down the date you called and follow up in 2 weeks if it is not repaired.

**Then you will call GREATER SUDBURY UTILITIES at
705-675-7536 Ext.2206**

Be a responsible resident and take the time to report things like this so that our community is taken care of on a regular basis.

A little help to our City and utility companies never hurts a community!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from your



Community Action Networks

Be sure to join us in the New Year.

We are always looking for community volunteers.
2020 brings us community gardens and a few other projects that
you may want to be a part of!

Our next meeting will be in January 2020.
Follow our page on Facebook for the scheduled date.

Things to do with your kids in December

- FREE Breakfast with SANTA at the Lions Club in Dowling on December 2nd
 - FREE Breakfast with SANTA at the Onaping Community Centre on December 8th
 - FREE Swimming at the Onaping Pool every Saturday at 1pm until Dec 21st.
 - FREE Skating at the Levack Arena every Friday night at 7pm
 - FREE Christmas Dinner at the Dowling Leisure Centre December 15th 4-7pm
Bussing provided
 - FREE STORYTIME at the Onaping and Dowling libraries
 - FREE *Melodies of Christmas Concert* at Levack Public School ~ Dec.18th at 6pm
 - 44th Annual CAROLFEST on Dec. 8th at 7pm at St. Johns United Church
- Last day of school is December 20th ~ Back to school January 6th, 2020**

Kids Korner by Arianna Thibodeau

Help JoJo the elf find the missing Christmas present

What is a librarians favourite Christmas song?

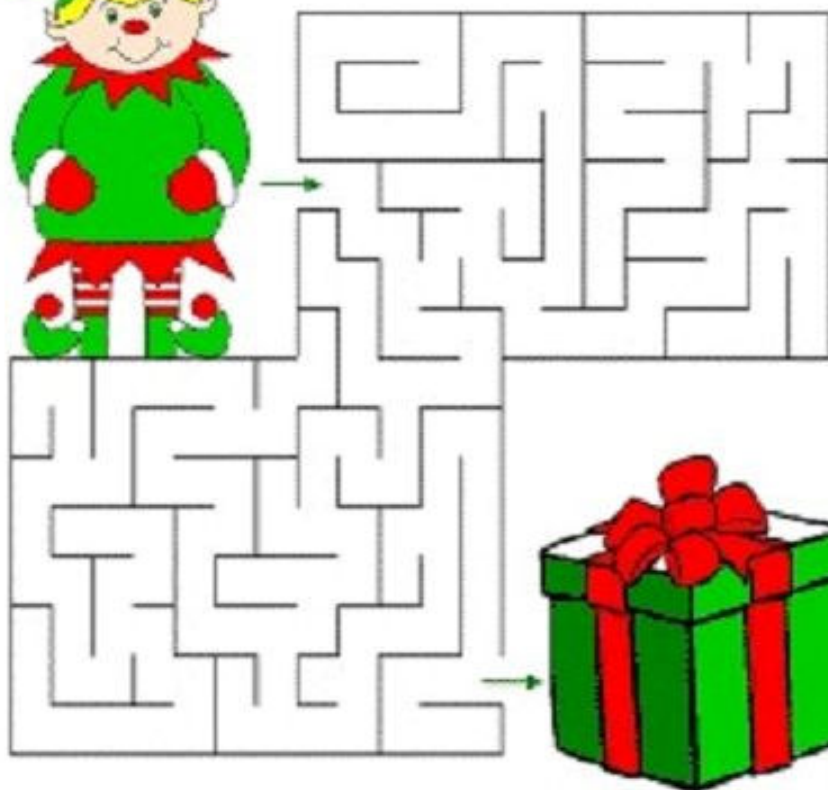


Silent night!

Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?



Because they always drop their needles!





France Gélinas

La députée provinciale / MPP
Nickel Belt

705-969-3621

fgelinas-co@ndp.on.ca



Merry Christmas * Joyeux Noël



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1 hour exercise



2 liters of water



3 cups of tea



4 colours on the plate



5 minutes of meditation



6 songs that motivate you



7 minutes of laughter



8 hours of sleep



9 pages of a book



10 reasons to be thankful



FERGIE'S PIZZERIA & GRILL

★
We
Wish
★ you a ★
Merry
Christmas
★ and a ★
Happy New Year
★

From the staff at
Fergie's Pizzeria and Grill

Check out our Pizza Deals

Or warm up with one of our lunch Specials!!

705-595-3004

*(the restaurant will be closed
December 24th and 25th)*



Onaping Falls Minor Hockey Association O.F.M.H.A.



Come out and watch the Onaping Falls Huskies play!



Home Games at the *I.J. Coady Memorial Arena* in Levack

December 5th at 4:30pm ~ Pee wee
December 8th at 12pm ~ Bantam
December 14th at 1:30pm ~ Novice
Pee wee at 2:30pm
December 21st at 2:30 ~ Pee wee
December 22nd at 12pm ~ Novice
December 28th at 1:30pm ~ Novice
Pee wee at 2:30pm
Bantam at 4:00pm
December 29th at 1pm ~ Bantam
Pee wee at 2:30pm

*Thank
you*

A HUGE HUSKIE THANK YOU goes to the **Onaping Falls Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 503** for their donation to OFMHA of \$2505 from the **3 Sport Event** (40% of the bar sales) as well as all the empty returns of \$186.60.

Also, to the **Onaping Golf and Beach Club** for donating the green fees collected from the **3 sport event = \$3276.**

HEALTHY LIVING with Danika Lavoie~Rochette

It's that time of year again! The Holiday Season is upon us once more and along with it comes a few difficult decisions: what to get for the loved ones in your life? We may be tempted to go the convenient route of making online purchases or buying from big, popular retail stores. Shopping local, however, is beneficial in more ways than one. Supporting your communities' businesses will help the economy grow in your area and you never know what treasures you will find in a smaller shop!

Embarking on a local shopping trip reduces our carbon footprint during this busy season and can save you from the dangers of travelling our wintery highways. Often, these regional businesses tend to acquire their resources from other local retailers. This creates a continuous cycle of investing within our communities and growing our own economy. Another advantage is the opportunity to make genuine connections with our business owners which may encourage them to support local organizations and charities.

Ultimately, this also helps strengthen our communal ties.

The best part about shopping within our own neighbourhoods ensures that you will find unique gifts for your loved ones, rather than items that are mass produced and found in a variety of stores across the world. Finally, as we are buying from our friends and neighbours, we obtain a more personalized service experience than those of their big chain counterparts. Help our communities grow this Holiday Season and shop local!

Happy Holidays everyone! Danika



Thank You

The Knights of Columbus Council #11565 would like to thank everyone who sold and purchased early bird tickets, volunteered, donated or participated in our 5th Annual Turkey Raffle. It was our most successful and well-attended raffle to date!

Special thanks to the following people and community groups:

Catholic Parishes of Onaping Falls & Cartier Church Bulletin

Catholic Parishes of Onaping Falls & Cartier Social Planning Committee

Cartier Community News

Joey Campbell, Robbie Campbell, Walter Sarazin

Onaping Falls Golden Age Club

Onaping Falls News

Roger's Valu-Mart

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 503

Our success would not have been possible without your continued support. We look forward to the next one!



2019 Turkey Raffle Early Bird Ticket Winners

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Tim Burton | KoC 11565 | Dan Langlois |
| Beau Besserer | Brenda Hickey | Brandon Aelick |
| Gerry Gravelle | Taran Hepworth | Carla Deslauriers |
| Sue Loranger | Angie MacNeil | Elise Charron |
| Amanda Holmes | Christa Charlebois | Jon Cole |
| John McKinnon | Ken Rogerson | Freda Aelick |
| Stephen Chisholm | Norm Grillanda | Everett Dawson |
| Jon Anderson | Barbara Olive | Kim Barrett |
| Sharon Campbell | Nathan Farrow | Braeden Farrow |
| Stephen Chisholm | Mike Maisonneuve | Mark Mooney |
| Rob Demers | Roger Luttrell | Kasey Serpell |
| Laura Hynes | Ethel Maisonneuve | Braeden Farrow |
| Dave Havryluk | KoC 11565 | Kasey Serpell |
| Lois Leroux | Mike Maisonneuve | K.J. Rogerson |
| Jeff Allair | Jean-Guy Quesnel | Daniel Messier |
| Mike Chudzik | Deise St. Germain | Joe Tessier |
| Natalie Dominic | Mark Taylor | Jack Vaz |
| Linda Demers | Stella Thibault | Burton Family |
| Lise Leblanc | Jean-Guy Quesnel | (Mary Martel) |
| Karen Burton | Stew Chezzl | |
| Joe MacDonald | Carl Aelick | |

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info@tenpointarchery.ca

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Community Christmas Spirit

The **White Tag Christmas Tree and Stockings** will be up at the Catholic Churches in Levack, Dowling and Cartier the weekend of November 23rd. Stockings will also be available at other local churches, businesses and financial institutions. This project helps provide Christmas Stockings for area children in need.

If you would like to help make a child's Christmas a little brighter, please pick up a tag and stocking at any of the above locations. Please return filled stockings or unwrapped gifts to the same location before December 13, 2019. *****Do not wrap items in stocking*****
A list of 'Stocking Stuffer Ideas' will be up at each location.

Onaping Falls Pastoral Charge

Larchwood Memorial, Dowling & St. John's, Levack

Schedule of Advent-Christmas Services

December 1 st <i>Advent I</i>	St. John's	9:30 a.m.
	Larchwood Memorial	11:00 a.m.
December 8 th <i>Advent II</i>	St. John's	9:30 a.m.
	Larchwood Memorial	11:00 a.m.
December 15 th <i>Advent III</i>	St. John's	9:30 a.m.
	Larchwood Memorial	11:00 a.m.
December 22 nd <i>Advent IV</i>	St. John's	9:30 a.m.
	Larchwood Memorial	11:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE December 24th Larchwood Memorial 7:00 p.m.
St. John's, Levack 9:00 p.m.

No services at either Church on December 29th

Coming soon to Larchwood United Church

On Dec. 14, Larchwood will host the second annual **CHILDREN'S SHOPPING "FREE" DAY**. It's an opportunity for all children in **Onaping Falls & Cartier** to come to the church and "shop" for Christmas gifts for their family members at no charge. We are asking for donations of small, "gently used" items (or purchased items approximately \$5 value) for children to choose from (items for children of various ages, as well as for men and women).

If you have items to donate, please set them aside, and bring them to the church when you are able. If you require pick-up of items, please call:

Mary at [705-855-9564](tel:705-855-9564) or **Lynda** at [705-855-9525](tel:705-855-9525).

THE 44TH ANNUAL CAROL FEST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th, 2019
at St. John's United Church
7:00 p.m.

FEATURING: Special Guests
and our own
Community Choirs!

Silent Offering
with proceeds to
the Mission & Service Fund

ALL ARE WELCOME!



The Kindness Ninjas are back! The Ninjas will be at the Dowling Valu-Mart on Wednesday, December 4th in the morning alongside players from the Sudbury Wolves handing out Kindness Bracelets!! Stop by and say 'Hello'



Christmas Turkey Feast
for Students
Friday, December 13th
at Noon

SCHOOL NEWS



C.P.S. Christmas Concert
in the gym on
December 19th

Christmas
Feast
December 18th
in the
CVDCS gym

Our friends from
Public School will
be joining us!

Happy Holidays

Onaping Falls Youth Choir
Presents

Melodies of Christmas

Wednesday, December 18th

6:00 PM

Levack Public School Gym



Special Guests:

Nickel City Sound
Levack Public School Choir

Admission: Donation to Falls Food Bank
Penny Sale & Bake Sale



Levack
Knights of Columbus
Fr. Don McLellan
Council 11565

Catholic Gentlemen dedicated to:
Church Family Community Country



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705-560-5650



Catholic Parishes of Onaping Falls & Cartier

Messes pendant les Fêtes / Masses during the Holidays 2019

Services pénitentiels / Penitential Services

St. Bartholomew Levack, Wednesday, Dec. 11th at 5pm

Cartier: Before Sunday mass during Advent

24 décembre / Dec. 24th

Levack 5:00 p.m.
Cartier 7:00 p.m.
Dowling 9:00 p.m.
Levack 10:30 p.m.

31 décembre / Dec. 31st

Levack 7:00 p.m.

25 décembre / Dec. 25th

Cartier 8:30 a.m.
Levack 9:45 a.m.
Dowling 11:00 a.m.

1 janvier / Jan. 1st

Cartier 8:30 a.m.
Levack 9:45 a.m.
Dowling 11:00 a.m.

Merry Christmas

*WISHING you a Christmas
filled with
magic and sparkle.*

*One that brings
a smile to your face and
comfort to your heart.*

*Thanks for letting us be a
part of your community.*

**Ron, Mary and the staff
of the Levack Mini Mart**

St. Bartholomew's Cantata Choir

Presents

A Community Christmas Concert

Joy Has Dawned with The Song of Bethlehem

Introduced by

St. Bartholomew's Children and Youth Choir

Directed by Janice Farrow

Date and time to be announced

St. Bartholomew's Church, Levack, ON

(705) 966-3762

Free Admission

Donations Accepted

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Celina Martel
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Sue Whealon
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shovel for you?
Call or Text Zach!**



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**ONAPING
FALLS
NORDICS
SKI CLUB**

**Registration is open for the
JACKRABBIT youth program.**

You can register at
www.onapingfallsnordics2019-2020seasonzone4.ca

**There is an early start to ski season!
You can purchase day passes at the
Windy lake Motel and Restaurant.**

Follow the ski club on Facebook !!

**Can you name all of SANTA's reindeer
including the MOST FAMOUS reindeer??**

Season's Greetings

&

**Best Wishes for a Happy New Year
from the staff at the**



ONAPING

KWIK-WAY



Check out our Christmas Gift & Stocking Stuffer ideas!

705-966-2066



Moments That Matter

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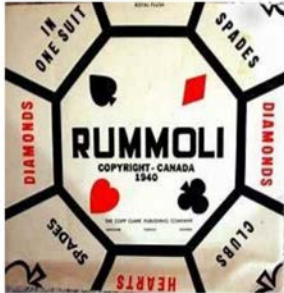
Onaping Falls Golden Age Club

109 Service Road, Onaping

CHRISTMAS GAME NIGHT

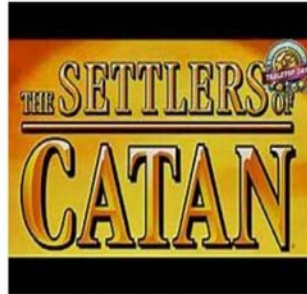


Saturday December 14th ~ 6:30pm



Rummoli
Always FUN!
Starts at 6:30

For Rummoli: Contact Sharon LeBlanc
705-677-4585



And new this month
The Settlers of Catan
A Board Game for those wanting to give
it a try!

For Settlers: Contact Mike Armstrong
705-929-1547



***A moment
with
Melinda***

‘May this day
be the day that
leads us to peace,
to happiness
and to joy.’



Onaping Falls Golden Age Club

109 Service Road, Onaping

NEW
Special Monthly Bingo
program is the
1st Tuesday of every month.

Each month the GAC selects
a local charity to donate the
proceeds from Bingo night.

ALL proceeds
from our bingo games will go
to support local Charities.

For Info Contact
Sharon LeBlanc
705-677-4585



GAC Christmas Bingo Tuesday December 3rd

Play starts at 7:00 pm

~ Regular Games and Prizes

~ Draws for Gifts
(provided by Meadowbrook!)

~ Pot Luck Treats at Break Time



ALL proceeds will support
our local
**COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Christmas Drinking Game

- Lay out your wrapping paper,
scissors, tape, tags, etc.

- Pour yourself a drink

- Begin wrapping



- Each time you lose the
scissors or tape or a pet gets in
the way, take a drink

I'm on Santa's naughty list!



**EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIPS ON SALE NOW FOR THE
2020 SEASON!**

\$565.00 TAX INCLUDED!

DEAL ENDS DECEMBER 31, 2019

CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

**PRE-ORDER YOUR GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR YOUR
LOVED ONES!**



**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES AND COURSE
INFORMATION!**

**BOOK EVENTS EARLY TO SAVE YOUR DATE - SPACE IS
FILLING UP!**

**WINTER CONTACT:
CINDY CORNETT 705-626-8355**

WE WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!

SEE YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!



when
you
CHOOSE
joy

You feel good
& when you feel
good, YOU do good
& when YOU do good
it Reminds others
of what joy feels like
& it just
might inspire
them to do
the same.

Warm
Holiday
Wishes,
Love, Melinda



Sssshhhhhh!
**I have the perfect gift
idea for Christmas!**

**Spoil your loved one
with a pampering
Gift Certificate
from the
Splendid Beauty Lounge**

705-662-9095

Gift Certificate and
Gift Baskets available!



**I ♥ my
Library**

Onaping Library

in the Onaping Community Centre

Holiday Storytime

Thursday December 5th 6:30 ~7:30pm

Storytime

Monday December 9th from 10:30am to 11am

Holiday hours ~ **Closed** Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

OPEN Christmas Eve and New Years Eve from 10am to 2pm

Onaping Falls Youth Choir

Christmas Carol-Gram

Each recipient will receive a "Christmas Carol-Gram"
Sunday, December 22nd or Monday, December 23rd
by members of the Onaping Falls Youth Choir.

\$ 5.00 per Carol-Gram for Onaping Falls & Cartier delivery

Onaping Falls Youth Choir

Christmas Carol-Gram

Ordered by: _____ Phone #: _____

Name of Recipient: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Please indicate a preferred date of delivery: _____

(Sunday, December 22nd or Monday, December 23rd)

Choose 1 song from the selections below:

___ Angels We Have Heard On High

___ Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer

___ Away In A Manger

___ Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town

___ Jingle Bells

___ Silent Night

___ What Child Is This

End with:

___ Feliz Navidad or ___ We Wish You A Merry Christmas



Onaping Falls Branch 503
1 St James, Onaping, ON
705-966-2387
Email: Branch503@eastlink.ca



**ANNUAL 2020
BRANCH 503 LEGION
CURLING BONSPIEL
AT THE ONAPING CURLING CLUB**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020
TEAMS OF 4 - \$35.00 PER PERSON
CALL TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM
705-966-2387
OR
SIGN UP BY JANUARY 21ST
IN THE CLUB ROOM



*Happy
Holidays*

from your
Onaping Falls Legion,
Branch 503 Executive

John, Kathy, Sharon,
Jeff, Joanne, Karen,
Melanie, Joce, Wayne
and Martha



CHRISTMAS PORQUETTA BINGO

Saturday December 14, 2019

3:00 pm

At Branch 503 ~ in the Club Room

1 St James in Onaping

(Limited seating so come early!)

Enjoy colouring our FROZEN friends !
Can you name all of these characters?
Who is your favourite ?





Onaping Falls Lions Club

27 Sturgeon Street, Dowling, Ontario
705-855-1765



ONAPING FALLS
LIONS CHARITY



PRESENTS
TURKEY

BINGO

MONDAY NOVEMBER 25th

AND

MONDAYS DECEMBER 2nd, 9th & 16th

6:30pm Warm-ups

7pm Regular Bingo

Dowling Lion Den

27 Sturgeon St

A total of 20 turkeys
to be won!

Must be 18yrs of age to play



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Onaping Falls
Lion's Club is hosting a
pancake breakfast
with Santa

SUNDAY

DECEMBER 1st 2019

10am - 1pm

Dowling Lion's Den

27 Sturgeon St

Come out and enjoy a free breakfast with Santa.

Goodie Bags for all the kids!

Everyone Welcome!



Christmas Community Dinner

When: Sunday Dec 15th 2019

Time: 4pm to 7pm

Where: Dowling Leisure Centre

Cost: FREE

Lets bring the communities of Dowling,
Onaping, Levack and Cartier together
all under one roof to celebrate a
traditional Christmas Dinner with all the
trimmings!

Crafts for the kids, Prizes, a visit from
Santa and most important good food,
fun and friendship!

FREE BUS service for the residents of Onaping and Levack

Bus schedule and pick-up locations will be posted when finalized



Community Heart & Soul

A little bit about.....Christine Allen

By Jana Niemi-Lahnalampi

St John's- 48 years, Church councillor- 20 years, OFCAN- 8 years, Library committee- 9 years Pastoral Charge Official Board-20 years Falls Food- 5 years, TOPS Weight Loss group-16 years. Secretary, teacher, superintendent, weight recorder, executive committee member, chairperson, general member and volunteer. She is truly the "poster child" of community involvement.

Chris Allen has selflessly dedicated herself to the betterment of our community. Onaping Falls was blessed when Christine Poole met Jim Allen and chose to put down roots here, in 1967.

Previously, Chris called a variety of other communities home, from her birth place in Shropshire, England to Toronto, Hamilton, Nakina and finally Onaping. She successfully navigated her education across continents and the province of Ontario; attending a total of nine schools. Some as large as Central Hamilton High with an enrollment of thousands to the small school in Nakina which housed 4 grades per classroom! Upon completing her education at CVDCS, she worked at Canadian Bank of Commerce and later TD Bank.

While staying at home with her children, Chris provided child care for parents working outside the home. Allen looks upon her years of volunteering with fond memories; some of her favourite memories: "Came from St. John's Sunday School, when the mines were booming and we had close to 100 children; we did many fund raising, fun projects to support an overseas foster child. When our Library committee was active, we held bake sales, raffles etc to support families and buy gifts for needy children at Christmas, when there was no food bank in the community. St John's Senior Choir has also created great memories for me." When asked why she volunteered she said simply "Because I can?"

Further explaining, "I didn't expect when I was younger, to be as able as I am physically, at this stage of my life and I see that as a great blessing; with blessings come responsibilities and both of these bring great rewards. I have met (and continue to meet) wonderful people in every group, event etc in which I'm involved, from little children to folks in their nineties (even one over 100)!" Perhaps there is a secret elixir to life- and it is called volunteering? Chris wishes people realized how "Rewarding volunteering can be, most of the time. As with any undertaking, sometimes overload can occur and it's a good idea to learn when to take a step back and reestablish your priorities." Indeed, learning to say no has been something Chris has struggled with. "There are just not enough hours, days, weeks or money to help with all that needs to be done and I've never really mastered that balance." Chris names a number of people who have inspired her generosity:



Chris names a number of people who have inspired her generosity: "My dear friend Melinda (Niemi) Mott and she still inspires me today. My husband is a great cheerleader and has always been the one to 'hold down the fort' at home, when activities seemed to be piling up outside the home. Another great model for me was Rev. Fred Sorenson, he was just so generous, warmhearted and practical with a strong Spiritual nature and a hard worker at whatever he undertook."

To the spouses of those who contribute to our community and often go unnoticed -you know who you are- we thank you!

In Chris' down time she enjoys reading, knitting and walking; she and Jim maintain beautiful gardens. Their three children Matt, Karen and Val have made them proud grandparents of seven grandchildren!

Personally, Chris' gifts to our community have influenced me to get involved in whichever small way I can; observing her helping hand improve our community is an inspiration.

