

Landfill Punch Card Pick up for 2026

Landfill Punch Cards will not be mailed out this year instead they will be available for pick up
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:30pm
 at the Municipal office 3250 Highway 130,
 Rosslyn ON P7K 0B1.

Valid ID is required to pick up punch cards as only property owners will be given the punch cards



PUBLIC SKATES AT NORWEST ARENA

JANUARY 2026

Saturday 5:00pm-6:00pm,
 January 3, 10, 24, 31
 Sunday 5:00pm-6:00pm,
 January 4, 18, 25

Hockey sticks and pucks are not permitted.
Chris Bowles, Director of Operations



Interested in Promoting and Growing the Local Agriculture and Horticulture Community?

The Oliver Agricultural Society wants you! The 2025 Ag Fair & Renaissance Faire were a blast! We have plans to continue to build with new ideas. Interested in volunteering and participating in the society? Come find out what it's all about, the society will be having its **Annual General Meeting** and board elections on **January 28th, 2026, 6pm in the Murillo Hall**. Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/ murillofair) or our website (https://oliver-agriculturalsociety.com/).
 Thanks Geoff, OAS Secretary



THE RURAL HERITAGE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRESENTS THEIR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday, January 26, 2026
 60 Plus Centre-Hwy 11/17
 Kakabeka Falls 7PM Membership \$10 due at meeting in order to vote - Mark your Calenders

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MURILLO OUTDOOR RINK

The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is looking for volunteers to help with the operation of the Murillo outdoor rink.
 If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Chris Bowles at 807-624-6809 or via email directorofoperations@oliverpaipoonge.on.ca.

THE BEEF IS ON

A PODCAST WITH JAMES BYRNE AND CHAD MADER, OMAFA BEEF SPECIALISTS

Contact: thebeefison@ontario.ca

KAM RIVER FIGHTING WALLEYE			
JANUARY 2026 SCHEDULE			
DATE		ARENA	TIME
Fri, Jan 9	Kam River Walleye vs Ironwood	Ironwood	8 pm
Sat, Jan 10	Kam River Walleye vs Ironwood	Ironwood	8 pm
Tues, Jan 13	Kam River Walleye vs Fort Frances	NorWest Arena	7 pm
Fri, Jan 16	Kam River Walleye vs Red Lake	Red Lake	8 pm
Sat, Jan 17	Kam River Walleye vs Red Lake	Red Lake	8 pm
Fri, Jan 23	Kam River Walleye vs Fort Frances	Fort Frances	8 pm
Sat, Jan 24	Kam River Walleye vs Fort Frances	Fort Frances	8 pm
Fri, Jan 30	Kam River Walleye vs Sx Lookout	Sioux Lookout	8 pm
Sat, Jan 31	Kam River Walleye vs Sx Lookout	Sioux Lookout	8 pm

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 13 at 5 pm and Wednesday, January 28 at 9 am

The agenda will be posted by the Friday of the week before the week of the meeting. Council's objective is to be open to our residents, hear their concerns, and use our time & your money constructively. Please pre-arrange your presentation with the C.A.O./Clerk or Deputy Clerk (807-935-2613) by the Tuesday prior to our council meetings.

BY-LAWS/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Approving the memorandum of understanding with the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority; Authorizing administration to submit the comments on Bill 60 as presented in the report; Awarding the RFQ 19-2025 for the purchase of 10 Kenwood NX-3200 Radios plus accessories from Spectrum Telecom Group Ltd; Authorizing the CAO/Clerk to spend up to an additional \$25,000.00 to complete the arsenic treatment plant project; To authorize submission of applications to Ontario Infrastructure & Land Corporation for long term financing of the Kakabeka Village Paving and the Fiore Vehicle Replacement; The issuance of a letter to NORTA advising that council cannot provide a funding application support letter because their route through Oliver Paipoonge for the TransCanada Trail has been and still is rejected; The issuance of a RFP(s) to do a structural and a health and safety assessment of the Red Barn located at the Oliver Paipoonge Heritage Park; Engaging Citywide Electric to do a review of the electrical system at the Oliver Paipoonge Heritage Park; The implementation of security measures at the Municipal Office as soon as possible to help to prevent harassment of and violence against employees and others; Calling upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current 5-year term ending in 2026; Support for the resolution advocating for the modernization of Northern Ontario's highway network through a coordinated 2+1 program; Supporting the submission of a Proposal for the Long-Term Capacity Services Project located on the Municipal Project Lands; Adoption of the 2026 regular Council Meeting schedule.

Submitted by Mayor Lucy

RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Conmee Municipal Complex

19 Holland Rd, Kakabeka Falls P0T1W0 807-285-0836

We sincerely thank all those that
continue to support the food bank.

Your donations enable the food bank to remain
open

Next Food Bank

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21, 2026

Registration 9 am to 11 am Drive-Thru Pick-up

RURAL CUPBOARD FOODBANK DROP OFF LOCATIONS

Oliver Paipoonge: Murillo & Rosslyn Libraries (during open hours)
Nolalu: Hoppers Variety
Gillies: Whitefish School (Sept to June)
O'Connor: O'Connor Municipal Office
Neebing: Neebing Municipal Building

Note: Rural Cupboard Foodbank needs recyclable bags.

A BIG THANK YOU to ODENA Foods for hosting our Fill the Cruiser food drive, the OPP officers that attended and assisted us by lifting and filling the cruiser, to the Metropolitan Moose for donating coffee to keep us warm, to Lorna Krieg and Penny Kramer for donating cookies to hand out, to all the volunteers that sat to greet people as they entered, and to all that chose to make a food or monetary donation. We are so grateful for our generous community.

A BIG THANK YOU for the generous donation from ITEC 2000 Equipment.

A BIG THANK YOU to Eleanor Valliant for the beautiful handmade mitts donated for the Christmas hampers.

A BIG THANK YOU to Lorna & Harry Krieg, Allan & Sharon Scott, Penny & Mike Kramer, Murray Scott & Sue Jacobson for donating oranges to put in the Christmas hampers.

A BIG THANK YOU to all our wonderful volunteers that work behind the scenes at the food bank and those quiet donors that make things run smoothly, we wouldn't be able to continue without you.



OFFICE CARETAKER

The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is inviting individuals to apply for the position of **Caretaker Employee**. This is a part-time position. The successful applicant will provide basic maintenance and general upkeep of the Municipal Office.

Duties:

- Cleaning of buildings and washrooms/kitchen.
- Ensure washrooms are stocked and there is an adequate supply of clean linens.
- Perform minor repairs and routine maintenance when necessary.
- Empty garbage cans and other waste containers.
- Some heavy lifting.
- Weekend work, some weekday, evenings.

Minimum Job Requirements:

- Must be able to accept direction.
- Mechanical skills to clean and set-up equipment.
- Work flexible hours
- Must be able to perform the physical requirements of the job (bending, crouching, kneeling, lifting, standing, walking, sitting)
- Must have transportation (Rural location)

Wages and Hours of Work:

This is a non-union position that works 12 hours weekly (24 hours bi-weekly) varied times during the week and weekends, days and evenings at the Municipal Office. Bi-Weekly salary of \$509.23.

A more detailed job description is available on our website:

<https://oliverpaipoonge.ca/municipal-office/employment>

How to Apply and Deadline:

Please forward resume and cover letter directly to the Human Resources Clerk by **4:00 pm on Thursday January 15, 2026** at the address below or by email. If emailing resume/cover letter, please send in **PDF** format only. Be advised that resumes in other formats will not be opened.

Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
3250 Hwy.130

Rosslyn, ON P7K 0B1

Tel: (807) 935-2613, ext. 8675

Email: humanresources@oliverpaipoonge.on.ca

The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is an equal opportunity employer. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request for all parts of the recruitment process.

Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Applicant information is collected in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

A.I. is not used during the selection or recruitment process.



MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

FT- TEMPORARY PLANNING ASSISTANT (12 MONTH CONTRACT)

The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is seeking applications for a Temporary Full Time Planning Assistant. The successful applicant will provide administrative support for the Planning Department. Duties include processing and filing planning applications and building permit documents.

Minimum Job Requirements:

- College degree in administrative/business with two years office experience or equivalent combination of education and experience
- Superior customer service skills and the ability to deal with the public and staff in a courteous and tactful manner
- Ability to work well under pressure and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment with the ability to multi- task.
- Ability to work well in a team environment
- Ability to communicate effectively and concisely, both orally and in writing
- Must have advanced computer skills
- Knowledge of mapping software would be an asset
- A background in municipal planning would be an asset

Wages and Hours of Work

This non-union position works in-office, a compressed biweekly schedule of nine 8-hour days with every 2nd Friday off. Wage is \$33.14 per hour.

A more detailed job description is available upon on our website.

<https://oliverpaipoonge.ca/municipal-office/employment>

How to Apply and Deadline:

Please forward resume and cover letter directly to the Human Resources Clerk by **4:00 pm on Thursday January 29, 2026** at the address below or by email. If emailing resume/cover letter, please send in **PDF** format only. Be advised that resumes in other formats will not be opened.

Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
3250 Hwy.130

Rosslyn, ON P7K 0B1

Tel: (807) 935-2613, ext. 8675

Email: humanresources@oliverpaipoonge.on.ca

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THUNDER BAY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Pancake Breakfast

January 31, 2026

8am - 11am

37 Cooper Rd

Save the date for the Pancake Breakfast.
Come and enjoy pancakes, Finnish pancakes,
sausages, coffee and more.

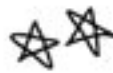
All proceeds go towards the
Grade 8 Toronto Trip.



Please come out and join us
at Pinegrove United Church
100 - Hwy 130
Admission is free
and all are welcome!

January 15 - Christmas
Magic Revisited
December's Cafe lunch has been postponed to January!
Here's hoping for better weather and
Come out and enjoy a turkey lunch
11 AM to 1 PM

Volunteers are also welcome (and needed)
For more information about Cafe del Soul,
please visit www.pinegroveuc.org/cafe-del-soul/



THUNDER BAY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

JK - Grade 8



THUNDER BAY
Christian High

Grade 9 - Grade 12



Registration begins January 2026

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education within a loving environment

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807-939-1209
37 Cooper Rd



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www.tempelman.ca
807-767-9173

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Senior moving to senior housing. Senior rescued
them, housed them in an outdoor shelter and fed and
watered them twice daily. Five cats, 4 have been
neutered/spayed. Last cat dropped off is an unal-
tered male. Cats are litter-trained and can be petted
and get along with each other. They have not been
around other animals. Looking to place in pairs or 3
if possible. Call 807-577-2184.

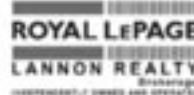
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CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

WWW.LAKEHEADCA.COM
@lakeheadregion



Age Friendly
THUNDER BAY



Age Friendly Thunder Bay supports older
adults to live *actively, socially engaged,*
independent lives, and to feel included
and valued in our community.

What We Offer:

- Age Friendly Handbook
- TV Show that covers a variety of topics
- Cyber Seniors Technology Assistance
- Senior Centeric Events
- Education & Advocacy
- & Many More Resources

CONTACT US TODAY
807.633.7723

EMAIL US AT:
seniors@agefriendlythunderbay.ca
OR FIND OUT MORE
agefriendlythunderbay.ca



2026 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Subject to Change

- Tuesday, January 13, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, January 28, 2026 9:00 AM

- Tuesday, February 10, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, February 25, 2026 9:00 AM

- Tuesday, March 10, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, March 25, 2026 9:00 AM

- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, April 29, 2026 9:00 AM

- Tuesday, May 12, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, May 27, 2026 9:00 AM

- Tuesday, June 9, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, June 24, 2026 9:00 AM

- TBD - July 2026
- TBD - August 2026
- Tuesday, September 8, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 30, 2026 9:00 AM
- Tuesday, October 13, 2026 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, October 28, 2026 9:00 AM
- Tuesday, November 10, 2026 5:00 PM
- November 16, 2026 - Inaugural 5:00 PM
- TBD - December 2026



KAKABEKA FALLS LEGION BRANCH 225

JANUARY EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Saturday, Jan 10th	Executive Meeting	2 pm - 3 pm
Saturday, Jan 10th	General Meeting	3 pm
Sunday, Jan 11th	Breakfast	8:30 - 11 am
Friday, Jan 16th	Dance with Quest	7 pm - 10 pm
Sunday, Jan 25th	Sunday Music	2 - 4 pm
Friday, Jan 30th	Dance with Quest	7 pm - 10 pm

The Legion is still looking for more volunteers - if you can give even 1 hour, that would be so appreciated. Many hands will make the projects much easier to complete. To book an event please call Alice at 807-577-0418

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Your opinion helps shape the future of our services. Please take a moment to fill out this survey.

SCAN HERE 



NorWest Community Health Centres
Centres de santé communautaire NorWest

JAN 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1 Closed for New Year's Day	2
5 Chair Yoga @ O'Connor C.C. 10:00 am	6 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	7	8 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	9
Mobile Clinic - Armstrong 1pm-5pm	Mobile Clinic - Armstrong 8:30am-1:30pm	Walk-In Clinic 4:30pm - 7:30pm	LifeLabs	
12 Chair Yoga @ O'Connor C.C. 10:00 am	13 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	14	15 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	16
Good Food Box Order Deadline		Walk-In Clinic 4:30pm - 7:30pm	LifeLabs	
19 Chair Yoga @ O'Connor C.C. 10:00 am	20 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	21 Good Food Box Pickup at KB Clinic	22 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	23 "NEW Program" Friendship Cafe 1-3pm
		Mobile Clinic - Upsala 4:30pm - 7:30pm	LifeLabs	
26 Chair Yoga @ O'Connor C.C. 10:00 am	27 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	28	29 Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group	30
		Walk-In Clinic 4:30pm - 7:30pm	LifeLabs	



4785 ON-11 Unit B, Kakabeka Falls, ON P0T 1W0 (807) 473-5528

PROGRAM INFO
Call KB Clinic Reception at (807) 473-5528 or email Shaun at spain@norwestchc.org to register for all programs

Fly the C.O.O.P. Walking Group
Meet at the Kakabeka Legion @ 10am or a ride is provided at Evergreen Parking Lot at 9:45am

Chair Yoga in Person & Virtual
Hosted at O'Connor, Kam C. Centre and Rural 60+ at 10am.

Good Food Box Program
Monthly access to a box of affordable fruit and vegetables. For more information visit www.goodfoodbox.org or call 473-5528 for more info

Friendship Cafe @ Rural 60+ Centre.
Come socialize and meet new people, make friends and lifelong connections

Follow us!
NorWest Community Health Centres - Kakabeka Falls Clinic
www.norwestchc.org

LANDFILL WINTER HOURS

The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has two Landfill Sites that are available for use by residents and property owners **only**. Residents and property owners will be required to present their Landfill Punch Card and Landfill Site Access Card along with photo ID (driver's license) to the Landfill Site Attendant upon arrival in order to gain entrance to the Landfill Site. Access cards can be picked up at the Municipal Office during regular business hours.

North Landfill (1 Spence Road)

Winter Hours
(October 1st - March 31st)
Tuesday 12:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm

South Landfill (154 Barrie Drive)

Winter Hours
Wednesday 12:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm

LANDFILL WINTER HOURS START OCTOBER 1, 2025

Rural Family Centre

"Learning Through Play, Exploration & Inquiry"
Connect with other Families!
(for children 0-6 years)

Our Calendar of events can be viewed at:
<https://www.keyon.ca/en/Events/ViewEvents>

* EarlyON Child and Family Centre - Murillo
(Pre-registration on KeyON is required)



Child and Family Centre

For more info. please:
Email: ruralfrc@tbaytel.net or
Private FB message us or
Call: 935-3009

Play, sing, laugh and we will SEE YOU SOON!



- WETT Inspections and Certified Chimney Sweeps
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www.dunrite.com

Murillo Branch
 4569 Oliver Road
 Murillo, ON P0T 2G0
 (807) 935-2729
 Mondays and Wednesdays
 10 AM to 8 PM
 Saturdays 9 AM to Noon



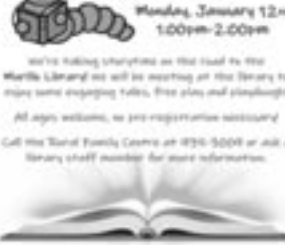
Email: oliverpaipoongelibrary@gmail.com
 Website: <http://oliverpaipoonge.olsn.ca>

Rossllyn Library
 3405 Rossllyn Road
 Rossllyn, ON
 (807) 939-2312
 Tuesdays and Thursdays
 10 AM to 8 PM
 Saturdays 1 – 4 PM



Saturday, January 24
 Meet the new librarian
 Heather Holland
 Rossllyn branch 1:30 – 3:30
 Bring your questions for Heather
 Refreshments will be served
 Scavenger hunt for the children and
 there may even be a chance at a prize
 or two!
 Donations for the Children's Art
 Centre created in honour of
 Maxine's many years of service will
 be accepted as well

An EarlyON Storytime Adventure



Puzzles are always available at both libraries for those long winter nights!

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

tops CLUB INC.

TOPS can help you reach your weight-loss goals by providing you the support, tools, and accountability needed to be successful.
First meeting is FREE.

TUESDAY 5 10:00 AM Regina Community Church Corner Mullock & Oliver Hills, Murillo CONTACT: 807-577-5924	TUESDAY 5 5:30 PM St. Luke Community Hall 77 Blake Hall Road Rossllyn CONTACT: 807-577-5924
WEDNESDAY 5 6:30 PM O'Connor Community Center 344 Hwy 59E, O'Connor CONTACT: 807-577-5924	TUESDAY 5 10:15 AM Hope Christian Reform Church 1215 Crawford Ave., Thunder Bay CONTACT: 807-577-5924

RURAL 60 PLUS!
 5 Pineview Road, Kakabeka Falls 475-5779,
 email rural60@tbaytel.net Website: www.rural60plus.ca

- MONDAY** – Craft Room 10-3
 Carving 10 – 3
 - Disking 1-3
- TUESDAY** – Craft Room 10 -3
 - Weaving – 10 – 3
 - Knitting – 10 – 3
 - Good Company Choir – 1 – 2:30
- WEDNESDAY** – Craft Room 10 -3
 - Beginners Carving – 10 – 3
 - Quilting – 10 – 3
 - Cribbage – 1 – 3
- THURSDAY** – Craft Room 10 – 3
 - Weaving – 10 -3
 - Knitting – 10 – 3
- FRIDAY** - Craft Room open – 10 -3

Good Company Choir starts again Tuesday January 13th
 Thursday Yoga starts again Thursday February 5th for 10 weeks
 Friendship Café Friday January 23rd 1pm to 3pm
 Contact Shaun or Elaine for more information at 807-473-5528.

Free exercise class for all ages and abilities.



Every Tuesday: Bands and Balls } At Rossllyn Hall from
 Every Thursday Weights } 11:30 to 12:00

No Registration necessary.

We still have room for anyone wishing to keep active and join others in fun, laughter and conversation.

These activities are open to anyone interested in getting out of the house and meeting new people.

Call Rossllyn Library for more information 807-939-2312

ZUMBA
 with Susie is Back

Wednesday Evenings 7:00
 Murillo Community Center

Jan 21
 Jan 28 No class
 Feb 4
 Feb 11
 Feb 18
 Feb 25

Drop in \$8
 Punch card \$25

For more information
 Call 472-7980

Zumba (R) with Susie



CRIBBAGE

BEGINNERS WELCOME!
EVERY TUESDAY 1 P.M.
 ROSSLYN COMMUNITY CENTER
 3405 ROSSLYN ROAD



Come and join the fun and friendship!

REASON #0010 – TO HEAT WITH A – **CENTRAL BOILER OUTDOOR FURNACE**

LIMITED TIME OFFER!
\$1000

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*Instant rebate on in-stock Central Boiler Classic Edge outdoor furnace models, available at participating dealers only. See dealer for complete details. For more details visit CentralBoiler.com.

©2024 Central Boiler | 24-1101

BINGO BINGO BINGO

Starting on Wednesday, April 2, 2025
 and continuing weekly on Wednesdays
 At St. Theresa's Parish
 10 Porter Street (in the basement)
 Kakabeka Falls, Ontario
 (NO WHEELCHAIR ACCESS)
MUST BE 18 OR OLDER TO PLAY
CASH ONLY
 Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m.

B I N G O

Proceeds towards St. Theresa and St. Augustine Parishes.

FACE CORD ONLY
\$150

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HIGH-QUALITY BIRCH AND ASH
AFFORDABLE PRICING

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AND TO ARRANGE FOR PICKUP
HWY 61 LOCATION

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TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Rosslyn	Kakabeka Falls
150 King George's Park Drive (807) 939-2007	B-4785 Hwy 11/17 (807) 577-2435
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 10am-2pm	Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 10am-4pm

Your Friendly Neighbourhood Pharmacies! evergreenrx.ca  

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our website!
superioursnacks.com
SHOP NOW!
[@supe-](https://twitter.com/supe)*

*Tired of the
Same-old
Same-old?*

**HACK
YOUR
SNACK!**



2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy New Year. I will continue to work with our local businesses and organizations to unlock new opportunities and deliver results for Thunder Bay - Atikokan.

In a Whole New Year, Anything is Possible!

*Happy New Year Everyone!
Chris Vaclav*

RURAL LIVING HAS ITS **WATER** CHALLENGES.

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Parker's Passion for Fire Safety Shines in Miss Morrill's Grade One Class at Crestview School

In Miss Morrill's Grade One classroom at Crestview School, students were asked to express what safety means to them through art. For Parker, the answer came naturally — a colourful drawing inspired by the lessons he sees at home and in the community.

Parker proudly held up his artwork showing a house, a fire truck, and the important message: "Get low and go." This phrase reflects a crucial fire safety step taught to young children: stay low under smoke and move quickly to safety.

Parker's strong awareness of safety is no surprise to anyone who knows him. His mom serves as a first responder on the medical side with the OPR Fire Department, and Parker has grown up seeing the dedication and care that first responders bring to their community. He often talks about staying safe, helping others, and the importance of knowing what to do in an emergency.

One of Parker's favourite traditions is visiting the OPR Fire Department every Halloween, where firefighters greet families, show the trucks, and help kids learn about safety in a fun way. These experiences have left a big impression on him, and his artwork shows just how much he absorbs and applies what he learns.

Parker's thoughtful drawing is more than a classroom assignment — it's a reminder of how early safety awareness begins, and how the influence of family and community can inspire even the youngest children to think about protecting themselves and others.

Great job, Parker! Your commitment to safety and learning makes your community proud.

by Sabrina Ree






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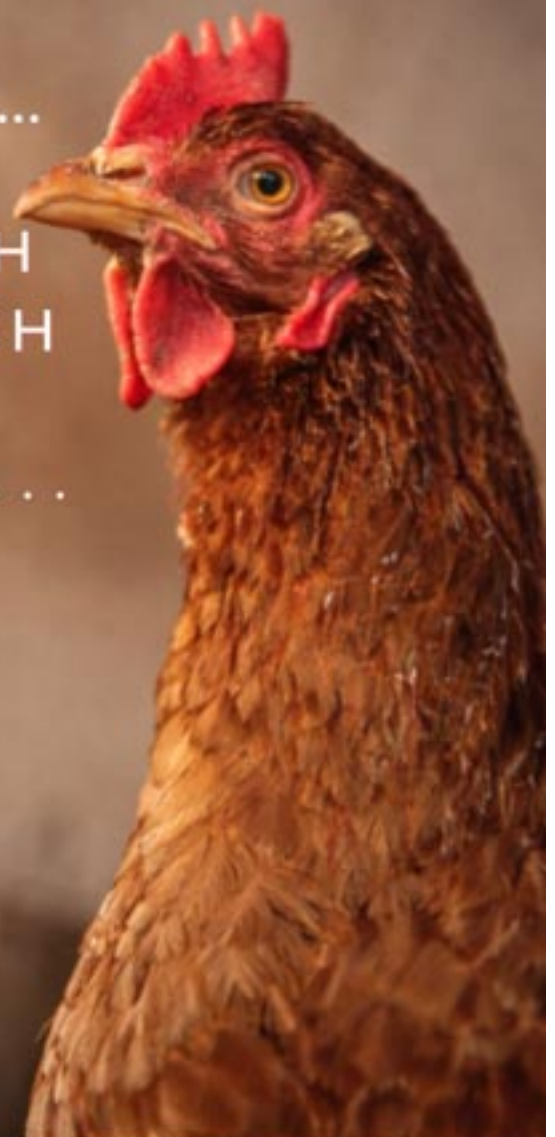
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CHIEF'S CORNER

by Sean Horan, Fire Chief

Happy New Year!

From all of us at the Oliver Paipoonge Fire and Emergency Services team, our wish for everyone is a safe, prosperous, and positive 2026! To start this year, I would like to recognize and thank all the members of the OPFES team, along with their family members. If it wasn't for this amazing group of people, we could not provide the quality emergency response service that we currently provide. We had an amazing Christmas dinner this year with a 1920's Casino themed party. Everybody dressed up in 1920's gangster style costumes and played casino style game after supper. What a fantastic evening! Thank You to Jennifer and Hanna for all the effort in putting this evening together and Thank You Council for supporting this annual event for the OPFES Members. I would also wish to send a huge Thank You to the following businesses that all donated prizes for everybody in attendance:

Valhalla Inn	Wreaths by Bee	Firesteel Contractors
The Werner Family	Valley Fire Protection	Sargent Propane
Maltese	The Horan Family	Councillor Calvert

Woody's Trailer World

As part of our annual super we recognize members of the department that have reached some long service benchmarks. Long service recognition starts at 5 years of service and then at 5 year intervals.

5 Years of Service:

Rachel Werner
Matthew Werner

10 Years of Service:

-James Nicholls

15 Years of Service:

Jamie Freemantle

Thank you, guys, for dedicating your time over the long hall!

Another big deal for Oliver Paipoonge is that OPFES was selected to participate in the Safe Community Project Zero campaign. The Project Zero Campaign, a program through Fire Marshal's Public Safety Council and Enbridge, provides combination smoke/CO alarms for distribution, free of charge, to residents within the Municipality. Oliver Paipoonge was the recipient of 114 Kidde Detect combination smoke/CO alarms. You can pick up your free alarm (while quantities last) at the Municipal Office during regular business hours. You must live within the Municipality and are limited to one per household. These combination smoke/CO alarms are intended to be distributed to those that may need assistance with meeting the legal requirements of working smoke/CO alarms.

The timing is right as the rules around CO alarms have changed effective January 1, 2026. The biggest change is that CO alarms are required on EVERY storey, even those that do not have a sleeping area. For more information on the new CO Alarm requirements please visit www.ontario.ca/files/2025-12/solgen-co-alarm-requirements-homes-en-2025-12-17

Finally, the new year means that all fire permits issued in 2025 are no longer valid. If you plan on burning woody debris this winter, please ensure you get a new permit valid for 2026 and please ensure you follow the requirements outlined in the permit. Applications can be found on the Municipal Website <https://www.oliverpaipoonge.ca/municipal-office/fire-emergency-services/burning-permit>.

Be safe and remember- Prevention is the best way to fight fire!

Sean Horan

Fire Chief

**Deadline for the February 2026 issue of
The Oliver Paipoonge News is January 20!**

(Early submissions are always very welcome!)

Send info to Chris Vaclav at designhouse@tbaytel.net 807-628-7271



Be Prepared

Welcome 2026!

I wish for a safe, prosperous, and emergency free 2026 for everybody. With a little preparedness effort by everybody, my wish will come true. At the very least emergency preparedness will reduce the impact should an emergency occur.

For many of us the new year means a set of goals or resolutions for the upcoming year. This year lets all, once again, Resolve to be Ready!

Here are some preparedness items that you can do to reduce the impact of an emergency. More information can be found at www.ontario.ca/page/be-prepared-emergency

- Sign up for the Municipal Voyent Alert. This notification system can help you stay informed with large scale emergencies that may impact you and your family.
- Ensure you have an Emergency Plan that includes things like contact information, meeting places, evacuation routes etc. The emergency plan should also outline who does what and when. Your Emergency Plan should include a communications plan. Set up emergency text group, including people that are out of town. Text groups can be an effective means of getting information to a group of people that often helps alleviate the stress on our communications systems.
- Ensure you have an Emergency Preparedness Kit that contains critical items that you can grab and go in a very short period of time. For example, you can grab a bag on the way out the door. Essential items in the kit should include, non-perishable food, bottled water, medications, personal care items (such as toiletry items), back-up charging device, first aid kit, important papers, etc.
- Take a current photo of you and your family members, and don't forget your pets. Current pictures can help bringing everybody together in case you get separated during a disaster.
- Get to know your neighbor and invite them to be a part of your emergency plan. Support those that may need a little extra help during an emergency.
- Take a class in CPR and first aid.
- Keep and update emergency supplies; remember to include cash.
- Have back-up power sources available to charge devices in case of a power outage. NEVER run a generator in your house or in a building, and please ensure you have proper transfer switches for your generator. You don't want to back feed power into the grid and put our power workers in harms way.
- Check your insurance for coverage on disasters like floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes.
- Save for a rainy day! Start and grow your emergency fund. Put a small amount into a savings account every month.

Lastly, I want to mention winter safety. Winter has finally arrived and with it our winter related risks. One of the most important things to consider about winter safety is watching the weather so that you are not caught off guard with a weather event.

Are you familiar with the new Weather Alert Colour System? More information on Colour-coded weather alerts please go to www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/severeweather/weather-alerts/colour-coded-alerts

You never know where or when there is going to be an emergency. Being prepared is critical to safely navigate your way through an emergency or disaster.

Stay safe and be prepared!

Sean Horan

Fire Chief/CEMC



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LAKEHEAD REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

The LRCA has launched our brand-new website! Visit www.lakeheadca.com and browse the newly revamped store, look for upcoming events, see our integrated Instagram social media feed, sign up for our newsletter, and more!

The 2026 Explore Card Parking Pass is now on-sale. Explore Card Parking Passes permit day-use/parking at our ten Conservation Areas for one calendar year. Visit as often as you like. Enjoy one calendar year of recreation activities! For the low price of \$40.00 +HST, it's convenient for frequent users! All Explore Card revenue goes directly towards the upkeep and maintenance of our Conservation Areas.

The LRCA has many exciting events and workshops planned for 2026! Be sure to keep an eye on our website and social media channels for more information and for when registration opens, etc. Visit us on Facebook and Instagram @lakehead-region and at www.lakeheadca.com. Sign up for our e-newsletter as well, and we will send you information about upcoming events, job opportunities, and more!

Get out and Explore!

Pennock Village Rural Seniors Development: Looking Back on 2025
The year in which Pennock Village began to take shape has proven to be an incredible journey. Early 2025 saw the completion of rezoning and approval conditions. Property cleanup and stump removal began in February, allowing for the startup of construction in July, which then continued on for the remainder of the year. On-site roads were shaped and defined according to plans. Presently, there are four Garden Homes under construction, which include installed utilities and services.

Here are six important milestones to share that took place during 2025:

- The layout and shaping of roads, establishing base gravel grades along with culvert installations for crossing LRCA (Lakehead Region Conservation Authority) waterways
- The installation of conduit for hydro and fibre communication. HydroOne set up transformers which included primary and secondary wiring to each home, while Enbridge installed gas lines
- The hosting of a Ground Breaking Ceremony which saw over 100+ community members in attendance to support & celebrate of the beginnings of construction
- The hiring of all subtrade contractors; actual construction began in July towards the first four Garden Homes.
- The special privilege to host the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Robert Flack, on-site. A walking tour and discussion took place with the Board, who shared the vision and plans of Pennock Village and what the project meant to this rural community
- The sales of the first four Garden Home units. These Residents are planning their moves for spring 2026

As the year closed, construction continued and the first four Garden Homes took shape, an encouragement to all who have been involved in planning and working towards this first year of infrastructure & development.

There are many details and a significant amount of planning which has taken place behind the scenes to reach this point. It has taken many hands, all playing a role in striving for the long-term success of Pennock Village. It has been a true community project; so many have stepped forward and contributed to where things are today, and helped shape where things will lead into tomorrow! Please continue to spread the word by sharing our e-newsletter & social media postings, asking questions and volunteering.

This past year we have made big steps forward and, by God's grace, we'll continue into this next year and many years to come.

Pennock Village
at the Crossroads

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Notes From the Past
by Marg Schweitzer, OPHP
Watch Geese

One thing I love about the Oliver Paipoonge/Slate River area is the number of farms, both modern ones and historic ones that have been abandoned. In my mind's eye, I see those long silent ones as they once were, bustling with activity and all that comes with it: excitement, heartbreak, contentment, crises. Life is life, no matter where you find yourself along that road.

I grew up on a farm in the Lappe area, and given the speed of today's world, along with endless AI (when you are calling anywhere for information), I'm forever grateful for the "unplugged" nature of my childhood. We didn't have a phone in the house until I was closing in on my teens. If anything serious happened, someone had to go 1/3 mile down the road to our nearest neighbour who was connected. No 9-1-1 service out there, at that time.

Summers meant riding bikes and fishing, swimming and sitting quietly with a book. We kept ourselves busy and somehow managed to exist without the constant fix of social media. Winter meant snowshoeing and skiing, hot chocolate and playing cribbage, and sometimes getting the flu. It was normal to enjoy at least one snow day off school per month.

Back in the day (as I enjoy saying now), life definitely was perceived as being lived at a slower pace, although that's not really true. There were plenty of times when there wasn't a moment to spare. We didn't expect instant communication like there is today, and I don't honestly believe that we suffered because of it. The internet didn't fix everything.

You'd have to check statistics to know for sure, but the crime rate may not have changed that much over the past decades. Criminals are part of society, no matter what era we are in. Security cameras are a great deterrent and always have been. On my childhood farm, my parents had a very effective creature (actually, about eight of them) that kept any and all away from the house. This was our flock of watch geese, made up of both Emden and Toulouse breeds. These birds had attitude and moved in tight formation at all times, so that any visitors were faced with a solid wall of aggressive, loud, pooping birds before they were hardly five feet from their vehicle.

All kinds of salesmen, folks looking for directions, Jehovah's witness members, hydro workers, and anyone else I've forgot to name here were hastily gone when faced with the geese. Mom stayed home during the day and while she wasn't paranoid, she did like having an early warning system of someone entering the yard when she was by herself. When a legitimate visitor arrived (by previous arrangement), Mom herded the birds into a makeshift pen around the corner, so that the person could walk up the steps unmolested (and keeping their footwear clean). The cacophony of noise settled to a conversational babble, until the guest exited the house after the visit and the noise once again rose, a sort of chorale farewell.

The geese were put into the barn overnight, due to the constant hungry eyes of foxes and wolves, coming up the creek bed and through the bush for a tasty meal. I bet those predators got a run for their money if they ever tried anything; think of the times you've been chased by a Canada goose in the park. When it was my turn to get inside the house and didn't pass the all-clear test (by the birds), I used a piece of 2 x 4 to fend them off, although we kids were forbidden to actually strike or injure a bird.

My family kept the watch geese for about ten years. Do any readers still use watch geese for home and farm security?

OPHP RENTAL RATES

The follow rates have been established by the Oliver Paipoonge Heritage Park Board and Staff, and have been passed by Council.

Church (half day).....	\$50.00
Pavilion (half day).....	\$50.00
Photo Shoots (half day, complete site).....	\$100.00
Church, Pavilion, Photo Shoots (half day).....	\$200.00
Wedding Package (same as above) per wedding.....	\$125.00
Video or Movie Sets (half day)	\$250.00
School Tours (Teachers and Chaperones Free)	\$5.00/student
Season Pass (includes any Event)	\$100.00/person
Special Events determined individually by OPHP Board	

Note: picnic tables and bleachers and benches included as needed.

Food Vendors: please contact Jean Mayo, Curator, to apply or for further information.

OPHP is always looking for volunteers to help make this special place one to remember.

For more information on any of the above items, please contact Jean Mayo, Curator at opmuse2@tbaytel.net or 807 632 4628.



OPHP church for rent

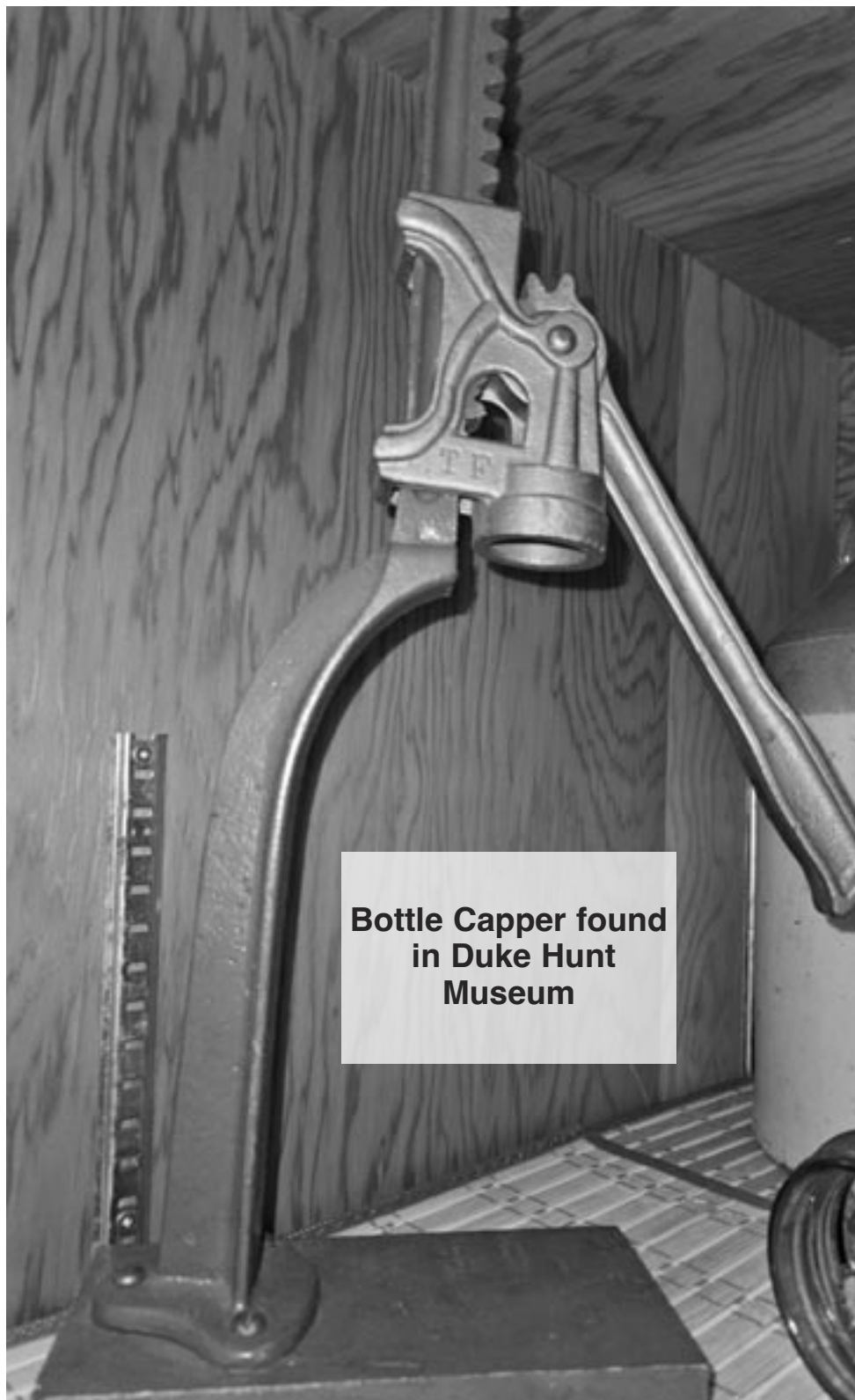
FROM THE CURATOR'S DESK

By Jean Mayo

Happy New Year!

Have you been to the Duke Hunt Museum at Oliver Paipoonge Heritage Park? It has a great showing of interesting items that were mostly donated by early residents or their families. From the kitchen wood burning cook stove to the early Rosslyn Brick Yard collection, sports memorabilia and music instruments; it all takes you back to the early days of country living in our municipality. Most residents preserved their own foods and drinks in those early years, while some businesses, such as the Stanley Mineral Springs Bottling Works, specialized in the bottling of pop and other drinks. The Duke Hunt Museum has on display a hand operated bottle topper. I have included a picture of it for you to view. When you are at the museum next, look for it in the cabinet by the entrance door.

Are you planning a family gathering, small wedding or baptism in 2026? OPHP has its own country church for you to rent at a very reasonable rate. Next to it is our covered Pavilion which makes an excellent gathering place for a tea, shower or family reception area. I hope you will consider our facility for your next celebration, whether it is a family event or a business picnic. Please contact Jean at opheritagepark@gmail.com or 807 632 4628.



Bottle Capper found in Duke Hunt Museum

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Sunday Service & Sunday School at 9:30 am
Facebook "Parish of West Thunder Bay"

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www.murillobaptist.blogspot.com

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holyfamilythunderbay.ca
Priest: Rev. Doug McClure

St Theresa Church: 10 Porter Street, Kakabeka Falls, ON P7K 0H1
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holyfamilythunderbay.ca
For info please contact:
Parish Priest: Rev. Doug McClure
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kershawwell@tbaytel.net
Phone: 807-939-2166

WINDOWS/DOORS

Kam Ridge Manufacturing
Now selling North Star Windows and Doors
New showroom-3933 Highway 11-17
(807) 939-2524 sales@kamridge.ca

WOOD PELLETS

H&H Importers and Sales
Hardwood & Softwood Pellets
3879 Hwy 11/17 939-1152
hhimp@tbaytel.net

COUNCIL & STAFF

Contact Information

Office Located at 3250 Hwy 130, Rosslyn ON P7K 0B1

COUNCIL

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807-620-7777

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807-627-7016

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HALL RENTALS

Call the Municipal Office 807-935-2613

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807-935-2614

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807-935-0258

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807-935-8670

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807-935-3300

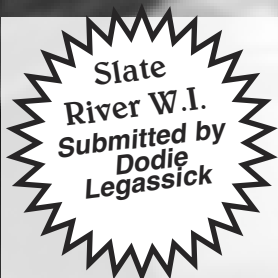
Sean Horan, Fire Chief
fire.chief@oliverpaipoonge.on.ca
807-935-8674 Cell 807-628-4867 Cell 628-4867



REMINDER: Burning permits are required all year. Charges will be laid if you burn without a permit. Daytime burning is allowed from Nov 1 to March 31. Burning Permits available at: both libraries, LULUS, Rosslyn Service, Wildwoode Variety, Valley Store in Murillo and also online at www.oliverpaipoonge.ca.

You are not allowed to dispose of used oil, paint at our landfill site. The Municipality is no longer accepting appliances that contain Freon. In order for these appliances to be accepted at the Landfill Sites, they must have the Freon removed by a Certified Refrigeration Specialist and tagged to indicate that they are Freon-free. Once the Freon is removed and the appliance is tagged, it can then be disposed of in the designated area at either Landfill Site without charge.
You must present both your Landfill Access Card and Photo ID (driver's license) to the Landfill Site Attendant upon arrival effective July 11, 2015....landfill sites are for residents only. Non profit event planners can submit an online request to have their event placed on our municipal calendar located on the website. Go to our website www.oliverpaipoonge.ca and click on the events calendar icon on the home page and from there click on the link "submit an event" for free advertising. Remember to RECYCLE – our sites are filling up with recyclable items. The Municipality is legislated to recycle, so please do your part!! We remind residents that charges can be laid in regards to insecure loads and garbage flying onto the roads. Please ensure your garbage is secured in your vehicle or trailer!
Remember: You must have your pet under your control at all times. DOG TAGS are available at Municipal Office, Wildwoode Variety on Hwy 102

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Comfort Food for Cold Winter Nights!

During January, we often daydream about being away in a warmer climate. Rebecca Johnson is sharing this Jamaican chicken recipe that will help make that daydream a reality on a plate. As always you can play around with the ingredients to keep with Canadian content and use international ingredients to maintain your boycott. You can also bake this in the oven as an alternative to a slow cooker. Just shorten the time. Enjoy!

Jamaica-Me-Crazy Chicken Sweet Potato Dinner

Ingredients

- 2 medium sweet potatoes – peeled and cut into 2-inch pieces
- 1- 8-ounce can of water chestnuts – drained and sliced
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 20-ounce can pineapple tidbits – drain and reserve juice
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 4 tsp Cajun seasoning
- 1/4 cup dried onion flakes
- 3 Tbsp grated fresh ginger
- 2 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 Tbsp lime peel
- 1 tsp cumin

Method

1. Place sweet potatoes in the slow cooker. Add water chestnuts, raisins, and pineapple tidbits. Mix together.
2. Sprinkle chicken with Cajun seasoning. Place chicken over the potato mixture.
3. In a small bowl, combine reserved pineapple juice, onion flakes, ginger, Worcestershire sauce, lime peel, and cumin. Pour over chicken.
4. Cook on low for 7-9 hours or on High for 3-4 hours. Serve with rice.

This is a good time of the year to keep an eye on pork products since this is when ground pork, sausages, chops, and riblets, roasts and large pieces of pork shoulder are sold at reasonable prices. Time to stock up and save a lot of money. Use this pork in pasta meals which are great at this time of the year because pastas are great vehicles for vegetables, cheeses and meat. Here is a favourite of mine.

Pasta Shells with Broccoli and Sausage

- Bag of small or medium sized pasta shells
- Olive oil
- One pound of Italian sausages removed from casings
- OR one pound of ground pork
- 3 minced garlic cloves
- 1 cup broth or stock
- 1 or 2 heads of broccoli cut into florets
- 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes or one seeded chopped chili
- 1/2 cup of freshly grated Parmesan or cheddar or other cheese

First, start by cooking the pasta shells, drain but keep some of the pasta water.

In the meantime fry the sausage meat in some olive oil and then add the garlic and chili flakes.

When I use just ground pork, I cook up a half teaspoon of fennel seeds and half a teaspoon of oregano then add the ground pork, garlic, salt and pepper.

Once meat is fried, add the broccoli, the broth/stock and cook until the broccoli is done.

Add the pasta to the broccoli and pork. Simmer til the whole dish is heated through. Add some pasta water if you need a bit more sauce. Toss well.

Serve in warmed bowls. Top with your choice of grated cheese. Add some nice crusty bread and butter and notice how the meat sits nicely cupped into the shells. Yummy! Pure comfort food.

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