



The French Castle during "Castle by Candlelight." (Submitted photo)

## Old Fort Niagara presents 'THE CASTLE AT CANDLELIGHT'

Old Fort Niagara assumes a particularly festive air during the holiday season. Special activities kick off on Saturdays, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 9 and 16, as OFN presents "The Castle by Candlelight."

Take a tour of the Great Lakes' oldest building illuminated entirely by candles. Throughout the castle, visitors will encounter members of OFN's 18th century garrison demonstrating everything from quill pens to fur trading to traditional games of skill.

Twice each evening, the garri-

son turns out to perform a grand feu de joie (firing of joy), a rolling fire of muskets and cannons. Cooks demonstrate 18th century holiday recipes, musicians play popular songs of the era, and a Recollet priest reads the Christmas story in Latin in the fort's 297-year-old chapel. Visitors to the event can make a holiday ornament and a bird feeder, and enjoy Native American songs and stories.

In the fort's log cabin, visitors can warm up and enjoy hot refreshments, which will be avail-

able for purchase. Menu items include bread pudding, soup, hot chocolate, coffee and tea.

Admission to the event is \$25 per person in advance or \$30 at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased through Old Fort Niagara's website, [www.oldfortniagara.org](http://www.oldfortniagara.org). All proceeds benefit Old Fort Niagara's educational programs, which served 12,000 school students in 2023.

For more information, call the fort at 716-745-7611 or visit [www.oldfortniagara.org](http://www.oldfortniagara.org).

## Wheatfield Garden Club prepares for Christmas party



The Wheatfield Garden Club has an annual tradition of decorating the Community Center's Christmas tree in anticipation of the annual Christmas party put on by the town's Recreation Department. This year's event will be held from 5:45-8 p.m. Dec. 2.

Pictured are Garden Club members Bev Deer, Janet McCormick and Terri Cochran in a photo taken by Melinda Cebulski, chairman of the Community Center Christmas tree decorating committee. (Submitted by Wheatfield Garden Club Corresponding Secretary Rita Kontak)

## Niagara Gospel Mission hands out 1,500-plus meals to people in need in Niagara Falls

The Niagara Gospel Mission had a busy Thanksgiving eve and day, preparing and handing out more than 1,500 prepackaged Thanksgiving Meals to people in need in the City of Niagara Falls.

Around 300 volunteers showed up and were assigned different roles for the "Feed the Falls" event. On Wednesday night, volunteers cut pies and packaged rolls, while children colored the bags where the food would be packaged for families. On Thanksgiving morning, more volunteers came in (starting at 7 a.m.) to warm up the turkeys, corn, gravy, stuffing and mashed potatoes. After the meals were prepared, another group of volunteers came in to drive the meals to families who had called ahead and asked for a meal.

The Niagara Gospel Mission handed out over 1,500 meals to those in need in the surrounding community. Volunteers also packaged individual meals for the Niagara Falls Police Department and Fire Department, along with security forces at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. Each unit had people on duty, away from their families on Thanksgiving, keeping the community safe.

"It was such an encouragement to see all the volunteers that came out Wednesday night and Thanksgiving morning to help share the



Volunteers in action. (Submitted photo)

love of Christ and a hot meal with their neighbors in need," Executive Director Tom McLaughlin said.

Incoming Executive Director John Cooper Jr. added, "For all the negative things in our world today, it is good to see that there is still hope. When you get to share the love of Christ by providing 1,500 meals to people in need, and have 300 people sacrifice time for their fellow neighbor, it

gets me pretty excited and filled with hope."

Niagara Gospel Mission is located at 1317 Portage Road, Niagara Falls. It is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit providing services to the homeless and poor. Visit [niagaragospmission.org](http://niagaragospmission.org) to learn more about current services and plans to develop services for homeless women.

Where do you go to find the **BEST WINGS, BEST PIZZA and BEST PLACE TO WATCH THE GAME?**  
**TELL US & WIN!**



### Vote for your favorite

Niagara Frontier Publications is expanding its fall food contest this year. Now through the end of the football season, we want your input in naming the area's best chicken wings, pizza, and place to watch a game. It could be a bar, a restaurant or a social club – the only requirement is that the nominee(s) be Western New York-based. Find complete rules online at [www.wnypapers.com/2023-chicken-wing-contest](http://www.wnypapers.com/2023-chicken-wing-contest).

Name (Full): \_\_\_\_\_

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Best Place for Chicken Wings: \_\_\_\_\_

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