

Orchard View
BY THE MISSISSIPPI
ALMONTE

The Monthly Review

December 2022



219 Paterson Street

Almonte, Ontario. K0A 1A0

613-963-5000

www.orchardviewmississippi.ca –



/orchardviewmississippi

Resident of the Month: Donna Sander

Written by: Sophia Reimer

Donna was born in the small prairie town of Unity, Saskatchewan in 1946. Her parents both grew up there as well. There were no phones or TVs until Donna was a teenager. She lived right across from the school; the same school and principal as when her parents went there. During this time, many of the country schools were being closed and some of the old school-houses were transported to this school as portables. Nobody had a car at that time in Unity, so there was a barn in the school yard because many of the kids came on horseback.

Donna and her younger brother were both quite involved in town with church, curling, hockey, baseball and more. Her father worked at the power plant until it closed when Donna was 15. This closure meant they had to move to Saskatoon for her father to find work. This was a big change as Saskatoon was one of the largest cities in Canada at that point. They got a telephone and TV and Donna began going to a new small school where she didn't know anyone. She went from living in a small town where everyone knew everything about her to a big city where she knew no one.

She met her future husband, Dan, when she was in high school and he was studying engineering at university. When he graduated, they got married in 1966 and immediately took the train to Toronto, picked up a car and drove to Montreal to look for a place to live. They lived there for a year. Donna said how interesting and exciting a time it was to live in Montreal because of Expo 67. She took some classes at a university (now known as Concordia).

Later that year, Dan changed jobs so they moved to Ottawa. An interesting side note is that Donna's mother had worked in Ottawa during World War II in an office censoring prisoner of war mail that came into Canada. Donna took more classes at Carleton University while she was pregnant. In 1968, they had their daughter, Richenda. That fall they packed up their cat and four-month-old daughter and moved back to Saskatoon for Dan to get his masters at University of Saskatchewan.

They lived there until 1970 when they moved back to Ottawa for Dan to work for the National Research Council. They had their son, Mark, two years later. In 1979, Dan got a job in Coquitlam, British Columbia so they moved across the country, fitting two children, a dog and a cat into two cars. It was a difficult move and was tough to find a place to live, but they managed and stayed there for just a year before moving back to Ottawa.

Donna was a stay-at-home mom until Mark was 16 and then she began working part-time in retail. She volunteered at the kids' schools all the way through their primary and secondary education.

They stayed in Ottawa from 1980 in the same house in Beacon Hill, Ottawa for 40 years. In 2019, Dan was diagnosed with dementia and then COVID-19 hit. Donna's mobility decreased and they began looking for a place to live that had memory care. Their daughter had moved to Middleville, Ontario in 2020 and they found Orchard View online and moved into one of the townhomes. It was a difficult move but Donna knows it was the right decision. Dan got sick shortly after and was hospitalized. He sadly passed away a little under a year ago. They had been married for 55 years.

Donna and Dan had travelled quite a bit together. As you have just read, they lived in multiple different provinces. They always loved the openness of the prairies. They had the chance to visit friends in Singapore for three weeks and also went to Bangkok. They went all over the United States as well and even crewed on a 44-foot sailboat for some friends who wanted to sail it from Florida to the British Virgin Islands. It took them six weeks and she said it was the most amazing yet terrifying experience.

Both Donna and Dan loved working with their hands. Dan could fix just about anything and was always tinkering. He continually fixed the same dryer for decades and decades. Donna did Japanese embroidery, sewed, knit, made kids' clothes, upholstered, gardened and also enjoyed aquafit at least three times a week up until the pandemic.

Donna's kids both live nearby. Richenda and her husband had their house built in Middleville and are working towards living off the grid. Mark lives in Ottawa and works for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in emergency preparedness. Donna spoke of her pride and gratitude for her family's support and her love for her children and grandchildren.





**We honoured our Veterans
with a Remembrance Day
Service both with residents
and the Almonte Legion.**





Employee of the Month - David McKay

Congratulations to David for being selected as the December employee of the month! David has been a supporting pillar in the Kitchen for many years now. When you walk in you are always greeted with a smile and a good humoured David. He is hard working and extremely dedicated to the OVM team. A big thank you to David for all his hard work over the years and we hope many years to come!

Testimonial - The Douglas Family

Thanks to Orchard View for providing a pleasant home for my husband. I am sure the smile that I see on his face each day reflects the excellent care and attention that he receives. As soon as we walk through the front door of Orchard View, there is a warm and inviting atmosphere from the front reception to care workers, activity coordinators and management. It feels like a family.

Looking to Volunteer?

We are looking for Family or Community Volunteers to help within the Recreation Dept.

Ideals of interest; read to others, small walking group, Hymn sing, baking, arts and crafts, playing cards, helping in the resident gardens and so much more.

If this or something else is of interest to you please contact Michael at

ovmrecreation@ovlc.com or call at 613-963-5000



Laugh out Loud with Orchard View

Sometimes you meet someone and you know from that first moment that you want to spend your whole life without them.

I wish I could drop my body off at the gym and pick it back up when it's ready.

Eggs are fantastic for a fitness diet. If you don't like the taste just add cocoa, flour, sugar, butter, baking powder and cook at 180 for 30 minutes

Remember when you were little you could rip off your diaper and run around naked and everyone thought it was so cute and funny?

Anyway I need bail money.

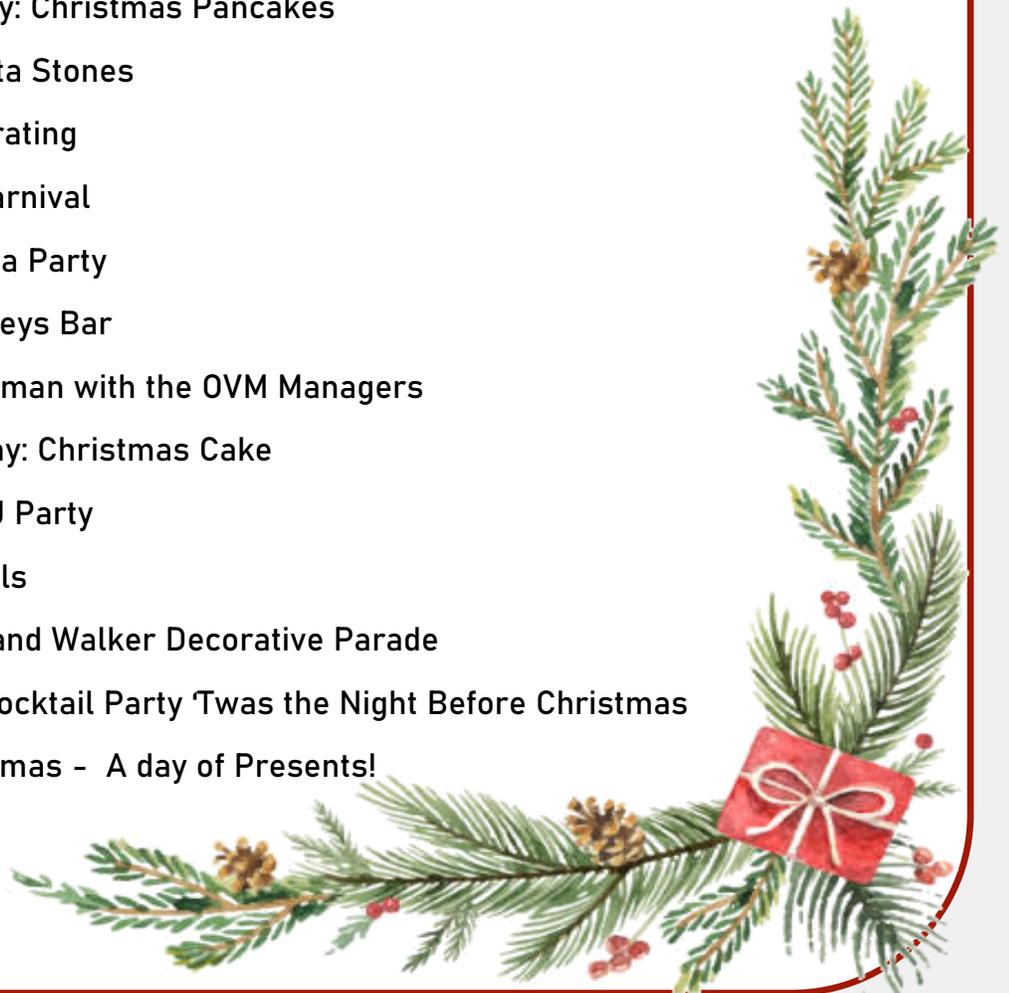
Open Activities

- ~ Bistro ~ Puzzle Tables ~ Joe on Piano ever Wednesday
- ~ Wellness Centre Bike and Walking Bars
- ~ Joe on the Piano ~ Adult Colouring
- ~ Social Distanced Bingo with Joanna and Friends
- ~ Massage Chairs (Wellness Centre/3rd Floor Lounge)
- ~ Library ~ Tuck Shop ~ Scrabble
- ~ Church Services / Rosary Prayers
- ~ Fitness classes on Main & 3rd with Almonte Physio
- ~ Door to Door Mind Work Games
- ~ Bistro Activities ~ Musical Entertainment

LOTS MORE!

25 Days of Christmas

- December 1. Tree Lighting Ceremony with Entertainment by David H.
- December 2. Snowball Fight with Santa and his Elf Easton
- December 3. Christmas Village - Open House
- December 4. Eggnog Social
- December 5. Making Christmas Fascinators & Tchaikovsky - The Nutcracker Ballet
- December 6. Tasty Tuesday: Christmas Bark
- December 7. Wesley Clover Lights Drive (Outing)
- December 8. Winter Wonderland Wine & Cheese
- December 9. Candy Cane Games
- December 10. Snowflake Craft
- December 11. Hot Chocolate Bar
- December 12. Treats from Around the World
- December 13. Tasty Tuesday: Christmas Pancakes
- December 14. Painting Santa Stones
- December 15. Cookie Decorating
- December 16. Christmas Carnival
- December 17. Christmas Tea Party
- December 18. Coffee & Baileys Bar
- December 19. Build a Snowman with the OVM Managers
- December 20. Tasty Tuesday: Christmas Cake
- December 21. Christmas PJ Party
- December 22. Deck the Halls
- December 23. Wheelchair and Walker Decorative Parade
- December 24. Christmas Cocktail Party 'Twas the Night Before Christmas
- December 25. Merry Christmas - A day of Presents!



Orchard View
BY THE MISSISSIPPI
ALMONTE

Christmas Village & Craft Sale

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3RD

MASKS REQUIRED

**HANDMADE GIFTS, BAKED
GOODS, ORNAMENTS,
JEWELRY, WREATHS &
MUCH MORE!**

**SLEIGH RIDES, VISIT WITH
SANTA, GAMES, & A PHOTO
BOOTH**

219 Paterson St. Almonte ON

TO RSVP CALL: 613-963-5000 OR :
FACEBOOK.COM/ORCHARDVIEWMISSISSIPPI/EVENTS
INTERESTED VENDORS CALL STELLA @ 613-256-7343