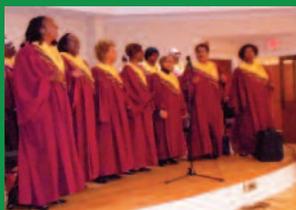




THE VILLAGE



5 Pletman Performance



10 Beyond the Village



13 The Passion of Baseball



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On the cover: Maintenance Department Supervisor John Gierula (left) and Maintenance Director Mark Rhatigan deliver Holiday Toy Drive donations to Amanda Meeson, executive director of Sterling House Community Center in Stratford. Eight large bags of toys, donated by residents, were delivered to the community center and will be distributed to low- to moderate-income families in time for the holidays.

The Villager welcomes photo submissions for cover consideration. Submissions must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to cking@oronoquevillage.com



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2017 DATES TO REMEMBER

2017 EMPLOYEE HOLIDAYS

The Business and Maintenance Offices will be closed on the following dates:

New Year's Day, Monday Jan. 2, 2017
President's Day, Monday, Feb. 20
Good Friday, April 14
Memorial Day, Monday, May 29
Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4
Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4
Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 9
Thanksgiving, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24
Christmas, Monday, Dec. 25

WINTERS BROTHERS'

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR 2017

Below is a list of the holidays observed by Winter Brothers Waste Systems and details on how these holidays will impact trash & recycling pick up during the coming year.

New Year's Day, Monday, Jan. 2 will delay pick up to Thursday, Jan. 5

Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, will delay pickup till Thursday, June 1

Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4, will delay pickup till Thursday, July 6

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4, will delay pickup to Thursday, Sept. 7

Thanksgiving, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24. No change in pickup schedule

Christmas, Monday, Dec. 25, will delay pickup till Thursday, Dec. 28



THE VILLAGER

A PUBLICATION OF ORONOQUE VILLAGE
STRATFORD, CT

WWW.OROQUEVILLAGE.COM

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Please direct all questions regarding The Villager publication, and submit any proposed notices and event listings, to Carol King. Unsolicited manuscripts, which we invite from all residents, should be discussed first with Carol King. We also welcome unsolicited photographs of Oronoque scenes and events, which should be submitted to Marcia Klein.

The VILLAGER is published by the Communications Committee of The Oronoque Village Condominium Association. Disclaimer: All advertisers are paid submissions and The VILLAGER makes no representation of their credibility. Neither OVCA nor OVRTD discriminate in the use of facilities by resident groups.

BOARD MEETINGS

OVRTD Meeting Date Change: The OVRTD Board will meet next on Jan. 10, 2017, at 7 p.m. at NCB. The OVRTD Board meets quarterly during the calendar year.

OVCA Meetings: The OVCA Board will meet on Jan. 17, 2017, at 7 p.m. at NCB. The Board meets on the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings are not held in February and December.

VILLAGER DATES

The Villager is published twice monthly, on the 1st and 15th when possible. The next issue will be distributed on Jan. 3, 2017. The deadline is Dec. 20.

The deadline for the upcoming issue appears on the Activities page of each magazine. For a complete list of 2017 *Villager* issue and deadline dates, please contact Carol King at cking@oronoquevillage.com or call 203-377-5313.

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FEATURE

PLETMAN CONCERT FALL SERIES ENDS ON A HIGH NOTE

By Elisabeth Breslav ~ Photo by Marcia Klein

Some 30 members of the Messiah Baptist Church Mass Choir filled the North Clubhouse stage on Nov. 20 and, for more than an hour, enchanted the large audience with a selection of hymns, anthems and spirituals.

Regardless of one's religion or personal philosophy, it was impossible not to be moved by this carefully selected program that, in the words of the choir's Music Director, Dr. Jonathan Q. Berryman, "was designed to remind us that life has its peaks and valleys and that true faith must be challenged in order to be strengthened."

Dressed in maroon robes with gold stoles, the group included several soloists, who would "act out" a song with the choir providing answers or affirmations to questions it raised. Beautiful examples of this technique were *Amazing Grace* by the composer Isaac Watts and *Precious Lord* by Thomas Dorsey.

More than one member of the audience confessed to having shed a tear, especially during the old Negro Spiritual *Go Down Moses* with its plea to the pharaoh of Egypt to



"Let my People Go." One can't help but think of the many people on our earth today who are still asking for that same freedom.

A lively reception followed the performance, with the singers and their director staying for more than an hour to mingle with the audience exchanging ideas and answering questions. This was the choir's third performance in Oronoque Village; judging by the large attendance and enthusiastic comments, a fourth appearance might well seem to be a good idea.

OV

MAINTENANCE MATTERS: FIREPLACE SAFETY

Your fireplace is primarily decorative and should not be used for heat or cooking. Used conscientiously, your fireplace will provide a wonderful ambience on a cold winter's day.

Wood-Burning Fireplaces

Always be sure that the damper is open before you start your fire, while it is burning and until all embers are extinguished.

Never leave your unit while a fire is burning. Keep a fully charged fire extinguisher nearby.

Be sure to have a screen or glass doors to prevent sparks from flying into the room. Be sure nothing flammable is near the fireplace.

Never burn scraps of wood or lumber, charcoal, magazines, garbage or plastics.

Make small fires: use only one artificial log or one or two wood logs. Build your fire toward the back of the fire-box.

Make sure that the fire is out -- completely extinguished and cool -- and that ashes and residue are cool to the touch before attempting to clean out the fireplace. Use metal containers to hold anything you remove from the fireplace; bring that container outside, at least three feet from any building or bush, to store it. Never place fireplace residue in bags or boxes or non-metallic con-

tainers and never place removed material on a deck or porch or inside a garage or unit while awaiting final disposal.

If you burn wood once per week, have your fireplace professionally cleaned every other year.

If you burn wood more than once per week, the fireplace should be professionally cleaned once each year.

Gas Fireplaces and Heaters

Direct vent gas fireplaces and heaters must be from an approved manufacturer, must meet Oronoque Village's and other codes, and must be installed by a licensed contractor.

Through-the-wall gas fireplaces and heaters must be approved by the Architectural Committee and must meet Oronoque Village's codes, and must be installed by a licensed contractor. Thru-the-roof venting is not allowed.

Provide adequate protection and or alarms from oxygen depletion and carbon-monoxide poisoning. Purchase a unit that will disconnect the gas flow when the pilot light is not lit. Fireplace shut-offs must be easily accessible from the unit.

IMPORTANT: Never leave a fire unattended.

OV

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREEZER INSTALLED AT NCB FOR EVENT USE

OVCA has acquired a new freezer for food storage to be used by residents who hold events in the North Clubhouse. The freezer is located in the utility room directly behind the kitchen area. Please feel free to use this freezer for your private parties and club activities.

As always, we ask those who use the freezer to remove their food items and clean up the area once their events conclude.

Thank you,
The OVCA House Committee

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR OV OFFICES & TRASH PICKUP

The Business and Maintenance Offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 26, and Monday, Jan. 2, 2017.

Winters Brothers will observe the following holidays: Christmas on Dec. 26 (which will delay garbage and recycling pickup by one day; pickup will occur on Thursday, Dec. 29) and New Year's Day on Jan. 2, 2017 (which will delay trash and recycling pickup till Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017).

RING IN 2017 ... AT 10 P.M. AND MIDNIGHT!

New Year's Eve Glitz and Glam x2 Party, presented by Oronoque Village SAC, will be held at the Oronoque Country Club on Dec. 31. Cost is \$70 per person and includes a cocktail hour from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. Dinner (choose one of the three entrees) will be served promptly at 8 p.m. Price includes two complimentary drinks per person, two champagne toasts, dancing and more. Also, a cash bar is available.

Reservations are a must. For more information, contact Sonya at 203-377-1515.

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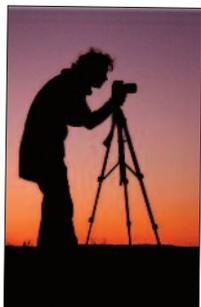
INVITATIONS TO OV LADIES FROM BOWLING LEAGUE & RED HATTERS

Ladies who are looking for some fun ways to wile away the dreary winter days and make some new friends are invited to join the Red Hatters of Oronoque Village and the Women's Bowling League.

The Red Hatters meet for lunch on the last Tuesday of each month at neighboring restaurants. The group members' goals are to create fellowship, make new friends and enjoy a nice lunch. If you are interested or have questions, contact Marcia at 203-380-6886.

The bowling group meets on Wednesday mornings, September through April, at AMF Lanes in Milford. If you are a former bowler or want to learn to bowl, this is your opportunity to sharpen your skills or to learn a new one. It is also good exercise as well as fun. If you do not want to commit every week, substitutes are always needed, especially during the winter months. If you have questions, please call Dee at 203-375-3724 or Joanna 203-381-9664.

CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS FOR WINTER SHOW AT GALERIE OV



"Artistic Photography and Student Sculpture" is the theme of the Winter Galerie OV show beginning Jan. 1, 2017. Photographers who wish to participate are asked to bring one or two photographs to SCB on Dec. 30 at 10 a.m. Students from Wendy Swain's sculpture classes are invited to bring one sculpture on the same day.

Minimum size of prints is 8 by 10 inches. Photos should be matted, framed and wired for hanging. The exhibit will run through the end of March. Artists participating in the present show should pick up their artwork on Dec. 29, from 3-5 p.m. at SCB.

ACTIVITIES

EDITOR'S NOTE: *To ensure accuracy, information must be submitted, via email, to Carol King at cking@oronoquevillage.com. (Submissions must be typed, in upper and lower case.) The deadline to be included in the next issue of The Villager, on Jan. 3, is Dec. 20 at noon.*

DOLLCRAFTERS

• Dollcrafters meets at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays at NCB.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

• All resident women are welcome to attend a Bible study group on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 9 a.m. in the auditorium at SCB. The next meeting will be on Jan. 14. The group will study session 8 of *The Bible That Jesus Read* by Philip Yancey. Questions? Contact Helen Harper at 203-355-0007 or Carolyn Charnin at 203-683-7235.

LINE DANCING

• Line dancing classes take place at NCB on Wednesdays. A beginner class is held at 9:30 a.m. followed by a class for all levels at 10 a.m.

TEA, TALK & CRAFTS

• Tea, Talk and Crafts meets on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. in Card Room 2 at SCB. Bring your own projects or mending, etc. Refreshments will be served. Dues are \$6. Each member is required to supply a dessert twice. For information, call Cynthia Harms at 203-402-9083. (Meetings will not take place on Dec. 22 and Dec. 29.)

OV ARTS GUILD TO MEET JAN. 11

The Oronoque Village Arts Guild will meet Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 4 p.m. in the South Clubhouse.

The program, titled "Sculpture and Spirituality," will be presented by Wendy Swain. In addition to the program, there will be a short business meeting. Appetizers will be served.

Admission is free to members, \$5 for guests. Yearly dues are \$15. For more details, call Barbara Stewart at 203-612-1373.

HOLIDAY DECORATION REMOVAL

The Decoration Committee will remove all decorations at 3:30 p.m. at SCB on Jan. 3 and at 3:30 p.m. at NCB on Jan. 4. Those who are available to help are welcome to join the group and pitch in.

If you have questions, please call Debbie Grosso at 203-380-2468.

OPENING RECEPTION FOR PHOTOGRAPHY/SCULPTURE SHOW

An opening reception for the Winter Art Show at SCB will take place on Sunday, Jan. 15, from 4-5 p.m.



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CALENDAR

For the latest on OV news and events, go to www.oronoquevillage.com or OVTV. OVTV is Channel 591 for those with a cable box and Channel 121-591 for those without a box.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 1:00 p.m. – Dominoes, SCB, C/R2 (C)
- 1:30 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB (O)
- 2:00 p.m. – Rummikub, SCB, Lounge (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Mahjongg, SCB, C/R (C)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17: No events scheduled

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18: No events scheduled

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – Bridge, NCB, C/R (O)
- 7:30 p.m. – Carp Poker Game, SCB, C/R (C)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 9:00 a.m. – Yoga for Seniors, SCB, C/R2 (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba Gold, NCB, Aud (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library
- 2:00 p.m. – Rummikub, SCB, Lounge (C)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 12:30 p.m. – Body Sculpting, SCB, Aud (O)
- 2:00 p.m. – Blood Screening, SCB, Aud (O)
- 5:00 p.m. – Poker, NCB, C/R (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 1:00 p.m. – Dominoes, SCB, C/R2 (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB (O)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24: No events scheduled

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

North and South Clubhouses will be closed.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Business and Maintenance Offices are closed. North and South Clubhouses are closed.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

- 9:00 a.m. – Yoga for Seniors, SCB, C/R2 (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba Gold, NCB, Aud (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library
- 2:00 p.m. – Rummikub, SCB, Lounge (C)

Reminder:

John Staley's retirement party is Sunday, Jan. 8, from 3-5 p.m. at NCB.

Please fill out the form in the Dec. 1 issue of *The Villager* to reserve your place.

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CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing , Beginners, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing, NCB (O)
- 12:30 p.m. – Body Sculpting, SCB, Aud (O)
- 5:00 p.m. – Poker, NCB, C/R (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry’s Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 1:00 p.m. – Dominoes, SCB, C/R2 (C)
- 2:00 p.m. – Rummikub, SCB, Lounge (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry’s Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB (O)
-

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

- 7:00 p.m. – SAC New Year’s Party at OCC (C)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1: *North and South Clubhouses will be closed.*

MONDAY, JANUARY 2: *Business and Maintenance Offices are closed. North and South Clubhouses are closed.*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

- 9:00 a.m. – Yoga for Seniors, SCB, C/R2 (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba Gold, NCB, Aud (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library
- 2:00 p.m. – Rummikub, SCB, Lounge (C)
- 7:00 p.m. – Funseekers Board Mtg, SCB, C/R (C)



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BEYOND THE VILLAGE: HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS



Road E. in Westport. Tickets, priced \$35 for adults and \$30 for seniors, will be sold at the door. There is no fee for children ages 10 and younger.

Coogan will perform his original Christmas and holiday music, including the world premier of the jazz composition *Geometry of a Snowflake*, as well as a fresh take on much-loved holiday music, including Vince Guaraldi's *Charlie Brown Christmas*. Singer Michele Grace will make a guest appearance.

A portion of the ticket proceeds will benefit the Saugatuck Congregational Church's local missions. In addition, Staples High School students will have a bake sale after the concert to benefit Hope for Haiti

Jazz musician and vocalist Chris Coogan will celebrate the holiday season with the seasonal favorite, "A Chris Coogan Christmas Concert," on Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at Saugatuck Congregational Church, 245 Post

limited. The show is recommended for ages 5 and up.

In the show, while Santa's helpers are putting the final touches on presents, a young bird finds himself lost at the North Pole. As the bird makes his way home, he meets dancing poinsettias, Nutcracker soldiers and other festive characters. The production features timeless holiday hit tunes by Nat King Cole, Mariah Carey, Tchaikovsky and others.

Pre-show activities will begin one hour prior to each performance, at noon and 3 p.m.

In conjunction with the Family Festivities Series, the Playhouse will host a book collection for Read to Grow, Inc., a statewide nonprofit organization that helps parents take an active role in their children's literacy development by providing free children's books to families with limited access and to community resources that serve them. At each Family Festivities performance, bins will be located in the Playhouse lobby for donations of gently used and new children's books which will be given to families and programs in the greater Fairfield County area

Tickets are \$20. Running time is approximately one hour. For more information or tickets, call the box office at 203-227-4177 or toll-free at 1-888-927-7529.

Westport Country Playhouse's Family Festivities Series will present Lightwire Theater's "A Very Electric Christmas," on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 1 p.m., and 4 p.m. Ticket availability is

Fantasy of Lights at New Haven's Lighthouse Point Park has more than 100,000 bulbs that light up the night sky. Fantasy of Lights features over 60 animated light displays, including LED bulb displays for extra vibrant attractions. 3D glasses to enhance your viewing experience are available. Enjoy a scenic drive through a winter wonderland, complete with a special radio broadcast.

All proceeds support the programs of Easter Seals Goodwill Industries, which help people with disabilities and other challenges to become more self-sufficient, giving them a sense of fulfillment and pride.

Hours are Sunday-Thursday, 5-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 5-10 p.m. The cost is \$10 per car. The event concludes on Jan. 1. Call (203) 777-2000, ext. 228, for more details.



VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE WORK OF ART AT THE SCB GALLERY SHOW

The Fall Oronoque Art Show, which has the theme of "Still Life," is on view through Dec. 29.

Please stop by and vote for your favorite piece of artwork.

The person who gets the most votes will receive a People's Choice Award.

Starcatchers Synchronized Skating Team will perform at the SportsCenter of Connecticut's Annual Holiday Exhibition on Dec. 18 from 3-4:30 p.m. The SportsCenter is located at 784 River Rd. (Rt. 110) in Shelton.

Admission to the event is the donation of a nonperishable food item to support Spooner House of Stratford.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH: NANCY GLOH-ROSENTHAL

By Elisabeth Breslav – Photo by Carol King

Editor's Note: This article originally was published in the June 2009 issue of *The Villager*.

She was born in Chicago, moved 18 times, lived in eight different states and in Germany, and arrived in Oronoque just in time for the September 2008 arts and craft show. But wherever she went, and as long as she can remember, Nancy Gloh-Rosenthal always knew that she wanted to paint. With a grandfather who was a professor of art at the Art Institute of Chicago, and a mother who was a fashion artist, painting is in her genes.

Never mind the calendar. It's forever summer in Nancy's studio, where sunny balcony scenes and lush gardens explode in riotous colors. Not surprisingly, her favorite painters are Matisse, Bonnard and Dufy, whose interest in color, light and atmosphere she shares. Additionally, the push/pull effect of negative and positive spaces intrigues this artist. "The negatives create the positives," she says, "so they are just as important." To illustrate the concept, she points to a small picture in which a rowboat almost literally "jumped out" after she had first painted its reflection on the surface of a pond.

With a degree in painting from the University of Illinois, and after graduate work at Kansas State College, Nancy pursued independent study at Silvermine Guild and the Vermont Studio. At age 20, she received a commission from a ballet studio to do a series of poses that were favorably received. Except for about six years as a runway model for the Powers Agency, she has been self-employed all her life, and her work is carried by galleries and shops throughout the country. She has been in numerous group shows at such farflung venues as the New Orleans Art Museum, Brandywine Artists in Pennsylvania and the Indiana State Fair. Equally diverse is a listing of one-person shows and commissions received, including Stamford Hospital and the permanent collection of the Ridgefield Library, to name just two of many.

Trained originally to work in oils, Nancy switched to other media, especially after the birth of her two children. "Oils are messy," she says, "and they take a long time to clean up. You can't just leave them when your child needs you."

Forever curious to explore new modes of expression, her work now includes silkscreen, pen and ink, etching and opaque water color, in addition to the acrylics. Once, when her doctor advised against painting in any media because of severe allergies, she began using food. "You should see what I turned out in chocolate syrup and diluted raw eggs," she says with a big grin.



What inspires her? "My paintings are mainly reactions to places I have visited, things I have seen. I never go anywhere without a sketchbook." Her subjects vary, and apart from landscapes and gardens, include birds and every imaginable animal in the zoo. She recalls an amusing incident when she first became interested in painting animals. She received a commission for a circus scene and asked how old the child in the family was. It turned out that there was no child, and the painting was going to decorate the dining room wall.

But, of course, children do love Nancy's happy, colorful animals, and it led her to create her famous "©Nanimals," a collection of whimsical, hand-painted animal pictures in different color palettes that dotting grandparents love to give as a birthday or holiday present to their grandchildren. Equally in demand is a set of small florals. About the size of a postcard, they are exquisite in detail and color.

How does she manage to create such a large and varied body of work? "By painting every day, mornings and afternoons," is Nancy's simple answer. She always works on several projects at the same time and never allows herself to stay with the same one all day long. "If I do that," she says, "I become too attached, and unable to make necessary revisions. Painting is a contest between the private and the public persona, the interior and the exterior. When starting on a new work, an artist comes face to face with these opposites and must solve the problem through the creative process. Revisions are an indispensable part of that process." OV

**Adult Coloring will not meet until
Friday, Feb. 3, 2 to 4 p.m., at SCB.**

MAINTENANCE MATTERS: SNOW PLOWING PROCEDURES

Photo by Marcia Klein

The plowing operation at Oronoque Village is as follows:

- 1) Primary Roads - Plow and treat main roads
- 2) Secondary Roads - Plow and treat secondary roads
- 3) Clubhouse Parking Lots - Plowed to encourage resident auto parking
- 4) Driveways
- 5) Extra Parking Areas
- 6) Sidewalks

The clubhouse parking lots are cleared to allow extra parking areas for those unit owners who cannot reach their own parking area due to heavy snow.

Also, parking your extra auto in the community building parking lots will enable your driveway to be cleared more efficiently.

A group of sidewalks in District 1 are cleared early, as this is the only means of access to garages. Roads and driveways will be cleared as quickly as possible, even if it requires some overtime. All driveways are done, section by section. Extra parking spaces and walkways will be cleaned last, without overtime.

Please do not call the office to have your driveway or walk cleared out of sequence. This is not only unfair, but also time- and cost-consuming. However, if an emergency exists, you may call and we will provide the neces-



sary service. Please understand that having to get to work is not considered an emergency.

Sidewalk Snow Removal Plan: The following is the plan for removal of sidewalk snow for this season:

6-Inch Storm or Less: Residents' walkways are shoveled within five workdays of storm. If additional storm (6 inches or less) occurs within the five-day period, crews will begin sidewalk snow removal where they left off following the previous storm. Completion of all sidewalks will take place within five work days.

More Than 6-Inch Storm: The Maintenance Department has outside contractors to supplement the sidewalk snow removal process of all sidewalks. This additional backup allocation can be used for four storms with accumulations of more than 6 inches.

The Maintenance staff will continue to remove snow from all sidewalks as quickly as possible.

Helpful Reminder to Residents

- 1) When a plow is at your driveway, opening your garage door will enable the plow to back blade and make a clear pass.
- 2) If possible, move any parked vehicles to assist the driver in doing a thorough plowing job.
- 3) Please do not ask the plow driver to do any extras. Their task is to open roads and drives. We do fine-tuning the day after plowing is completed.
- 4) Ice melt for resident use is available at both community buildings. Please take a small amount.

We will have the bins available to you throughout the winter months, so there is no need to take more than you can use.



MONITOR PROGRAM SEEKS A VOLUNTEER

The Oronoque Village Monitor Program needs a volunteer on Mondays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Responsibilities are few and simple: greet visitors entering the building and check-out movies for the Movie Club Home Loan, as needed. During each two-hour shift, monitors should patrol the building once.

Feel free to bring a book, knitting, needlepoint or any other hobby with you to pass the time. There is a television in the office if you'd like to watch.

This is an easy and pleasant way to volunteer your time and help with the safety and security of our Village. Also, it is an opportunity to meet fellow residents.

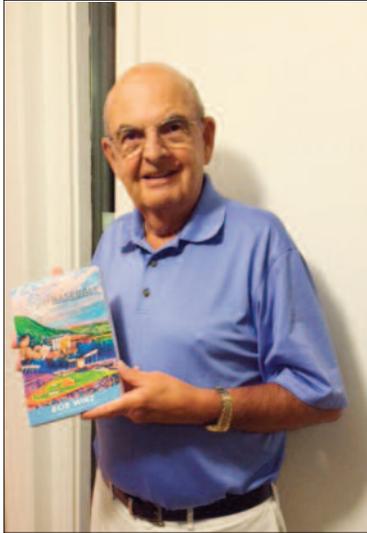
If you are interested, please contact David Schoennagel at 203-870 6354 (home) or 203-814-8351 (cell) or schoennagel@optonline.net



BOOK EXCERPT

A FREE RIDE WITH THE YANKEES AFTER BUCKY DENT'S HISTORIC HOMER

The following is an excerpt that may charm longtime New York Yankees fans. It comes from the recently published book, The Passion of Baseball, written by longtime Oronoque Village resident Bob Wirz (www.WirzandAssociates.com). It is one of the many behind-the-scenes stories about baseball's cherished personalities and events contained in the 350 pages of the paperback from Ravenswood Publishing.)



Baseball's most-celebrated moment of the entire year (1978) was the one-game playoff between the Yankees and Red Sox at Fenway Park to determine which of these fabled franchises would win the American League's Eastern Division title and move on little more than 24 hours later to take on Western Division champion Kansas City in the League Championship Series.

I had to get to Kansas City to be ready in the event

the Royals advanced to the World Series for the first time so that all of the advance planning for the media would be in place. But first, I was on call to accompany the (baseball) commissioner (and my boss, Bowie Kuhn) to Boston for the afternoon playoff game. It was not exactly an unpleasant experience, especially since our office was not facing any major issues at that precise time.

I watched most of the game with Kuhn from one of the press-level boxes high atop Fenway, which allowed a very nice view of such memorable plays as when old friend (Lou) Piniella battled the early-autumn sun for a staggering catch in right field to save the day for the Yankees and set the stage for Bucky Dent's dramatic, three-run, division-clinching home run — still one of the most unforgettable round-trippers in the game's storied history.

I faced a dilemma on how to get from Boston to Kansas City in a reasonable manner, a problem solved when the Yankees offered me a seat on their charter flight. While reluctant to accept since they would be in such a celebratory state, it was easily the best of my options.

I told Bill Kane, the traveling secretary, and publicist Mickey Morabito to put me in a back-row seat where I could be virtually anonymous. Not too many of the players knew me anyway, but I did not want anyone noticing this thankful passenger.

Everything was going according to plan for what I estimate to be the first half of the flight. Then I was summoned up front because Lem (Yankees manager Bob Lemon) had learned I was aboard. It was a strange setting because (Cedric) Tallis, who had given me my opportunity in Kansas City, was by this time the Yankees' general manager. Lem, fired only weeks earlier by Chicago White Sox Owner (Bill) Veeck, had become manager in late July when a tearful Billy Martin resigned, with New York still barely in the divisional race after once trailing Boston by an unreal 14½ games.

With his low-key approach, Lem had guided the Yankees back into the race, including an early-September four-game sweep at Fenway, when the New Yorkers annihilated the Bosox by a 42-9 total score.

Anyway, I got to Lem's first-class seat and he insisted I join him. I do not believe I ever knew who I displaced. If ever there was what I would call an awkward thrill, this was it. Here I was on this historic night, sitting with the manager of the New York Yankees. Those who did not know me — and probably others who were not exactly fond of Kuhn — must have watched in more disbelief than my own.

How totally ironic. The Royals' former PR director sitting with the former Kansas City manager as the Yankees headed out to give the Royals their third in back-to-back spankings to advance to one more World Series and prevent the KC hopefuls from reaching their first.

Lem, who by the time I slithered down into the aisle seat next to him had taken in more than a little iced tea (wink, wink), insisted I stay for the remainder of the flight.

How could I ever forget that trip?

OV

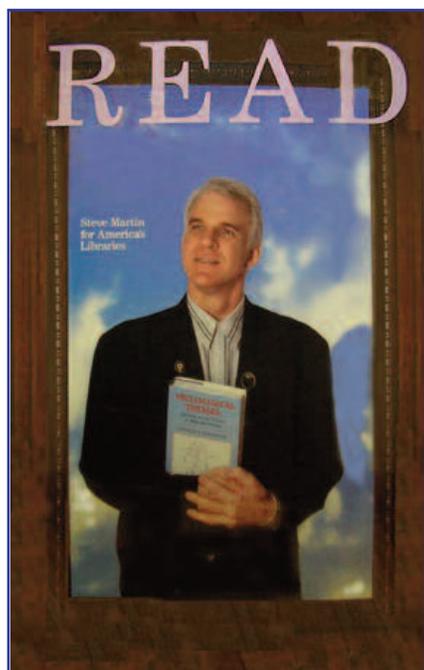
**Happy Holidays from the
Business Office and Maintenance Department.**





**MEN'S CLUB TRIP TO MOHEGAN SUN
MONDAY, JANUARY 15
DEPARTING REAR OF SCB AT 1 P.M.
LEAVING CASINO AT 8:30 P.M.
COST PER PERSON: \$25**

A check made out to Oronoque Village Men's Club is your reservation. Please place check in the Men's Club box in the North Clubhouse. Questions? Call Sandy Lunt: 203 377- 5833 or Jerry Brown: 203 378-7781



**The Oronoque Village Book Club meets at 7 p.m.
on the first Wednesday of every month at NCB.
All Villagers are welcome.**

Need a ride or information? Call Barbara at 203-612-1373

The book for **Jan. 4** is *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman. A tale of a forbidden love story set on a tropical island about the extraordinary woman who gave birth the painter Camille Pissarro, the Father of Impressionism.

Growing up on idyllic St. Thomas in the early 1800s in a small refugee community of Jews who escaped the inquisition, Rachel dreams of life in far-away Paris. But Rachel's life is not her own. She is married off to a widower with three children to save her fathers's business. When her older husband dies suddenly, and his handsome nephew Frederick arrives from France to settle the estate, Rachel seizes her own life story. She begins a defiant love affair that sparks a scandal that affects all of her family, including her favorite son, who will become one of the greatest artists of France.

On Feb. 1, 2017, the group will have a party in the NCB lounge beginning at 6 p.m. There will be no book discussion. Books for 2017 will be selected at that time.

The Stratford Health Department and the Oronoque Village Men's Club
are offering a FREE Blood Screening Program to 30 Villagers

Date: Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Time: 2-4 pm

Place: South Clubhouse

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

Five areas will be covered:

Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, Blood Sugar,

Body Mass Index and Waist Size

(This is just a finger prick.)



Reservations are a **MUST**. First-Come First-Served. Fill out form below.

???? Call: Sandy Lunt (203) 377-5833

Name: _____ Phone # _____
(Put in Men's Club Box at NCB)



Happy Holidays from the Funseekers Board

We extend our warmest wishes for a joyous holiday season to all Villagers. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all Funseekers members and guests who made 2016 such an incredible year.

No meeting will be held during the month of January. We look forward to seeing you at our first event on February 14th, 2017, which will feature of a speaker of local historical interest.

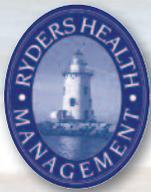
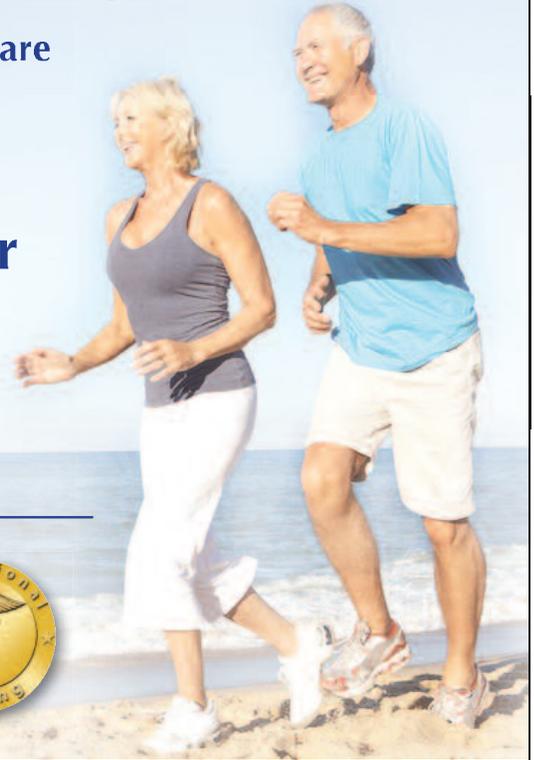
Your 2017 annual dues of \$10 per person are now due. Please place it in the Funseekers mailbox in the NCB.

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