



THE VILLAGER



FEATURE

5 "Thank You" from the Staff



FEATURE

8 Pickleball Club Party



FEATURE

9 Monitors Recognized





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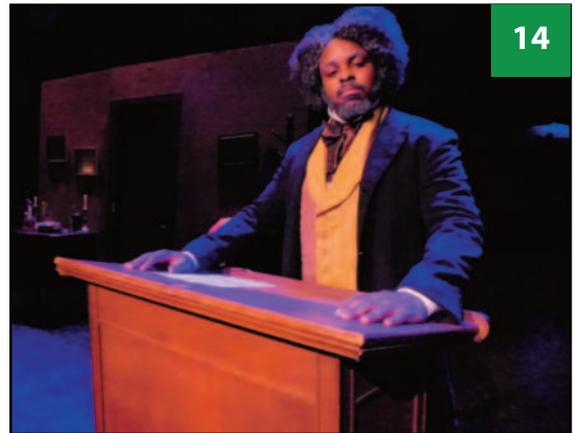
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Thank you to Peter Feick, who submitted the cover photos, which were taken during the New Year's Eve Party at Oronoque Country Club, hosted by the Oronoque Village New Year's Eve Committee. A story and more photos appear on page 4. *The Villager* welcomes submissions for cover consideration. Submissions must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to cking@oronoquevillage.com



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NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY 2019

Story by Dee Varholak ~ Photos by Sonya DeBiase



THE VILLAGER

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Please direct all questions regarding *The Villager* to Editor Carol King. Resident submissions of 500 words or less are welcome and will be considered for publication. Articles will be published as space allows. Submissions pertaining to OVCA-, OVTD- and resident-related matters are given priority. Villager articles are edited to conform to the standards of the Associated Press Stylebook.

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 OVTD discriminate in the use of facilities by resident groups.

When the early rays of sunlight greeted the Village on the last morning of Year 2019, it was the perfect happening for the 100-plus revelers attending the New Year's Eve Party at the Oronoque Country Club. No snow, sleet or icy roads!

By nightfall, the country club and landscape was glittering and sparkling and looked like a fairyland on the hill. As the elegantly dressed and smiling and happy guests arrived to the sound of music playing, Sonya DeBiase and Mary Ann Weaver checked them in and then were greeted by Dee Varholak and Carolyn and Bill Novotny.

Had you come a few hours earlier, you might have witnessed the above-named committee members decorating and checking batteries as well as tying gold satin ribbons and bows on the backs of over 100 dining room chairs while I was steaming the wrinkles out of the bows.

The ballroom absolutely glittered with strands of bright white lights wrapped on the ceiling beams and a spinning crystal chandelier with colored lights over the dance floor.

The round tables were resplendent with tall glass hurricane lamps filled with bright lights and gold satin. A separate table was set up for the gold party hats, noisemakers, silver and gold beads and favors.

There was a table for donated gift baskets filled with wines, cheeses, glasses and lots of goodies. Each guest received two free raffle tickets to win a gift of their choice.

The DJ, Rich DiPalma played music throughout the cocktail hour and evening and took requests for music, in-

'THANK YOU' TO OUR RESIDENTS FROM THE OV STAFF



Members of the Oronoque Village Maintenance and Business Office staffs were presented with checks on behalf of the Employee Appreciation Fund during a holiday breakfast on Dec. 20 at NCB. (Photos by Liza DiSisto).

The OV Maintenance crews and the staff members in the Business and Maintenance offices extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the residents who generously contributed to the annual Employee Appreciation Fund.

Checks were distributed to staff members during a celebratory breakfast on Dec. 20 at NCB. Checks were pre-

sent to staff members by OVCA President Bob Grosso, OVTD President Bill Tanski and Executive Director Fred Rodriguez.

The staff members are extremely appreciative of the generosity, kindness and recognition extended by resident contributors.



cluding line dancing, Latin, popular songs from every decade and style and even rock and roll. Plus, he added his amazing voice to some songs that became a singalong.

Rich did a great job and we were so lucky to have found him. He is a keeper. He never let the dance floor have a rest!

The catering director, Stefany Lanzara, saw to it that every detail was to our satisfaction and Tommy Miller, the new club manager, went around to all the tables introducing himself and shaking hands. He opened a second bar to avoid a long line for those getting mixed drinks.

We were fortunate to have our own resident, Peter Feick, as guest and photographer, snapping away to capture the moments that become loving memories.

The hors d'oeuvres were tasty and plentiful and the wait staff was polite, professional, helpful and pleasant.

The food was exceptional and the chef was complimented and when the dessert table was set up, there were many "oohs" and "ahs" heard around the table! Who could ask for anything more?

Rich counted down the minutes "six, five, four, three, two, one ... Happy New Year!" There were champagne toasts, hugs and kisses.

Welcome 2020. A happy, healthy new year to you and yours. Count your blessings! See you next year?



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUNSEEKERS' WEARIN' O' THE GREEN

As March approaches so does Funseekers annual St. Paddy's Week musical event. Mark your calendars with a big green circle on Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. in the SCB as The Raggle Taggle Gypsy O's Trio from Brooklyn, N.Y. perform. Jordan (vocalist on guitar and accordion) will be accompanied by a female vocalist on fiddle, along with a vocalist on banjo.

The Raggle Taggle Gypsy O's Trio will provide a mix of traditional Irish fiddle tunes, along with Celtic ballads, pub songs, folk songs and popular Irish music from back in your Mamó' (grandma's) and Daideo (grandpa's) days through today. You'll be "green with envy" if you miss out on this event.

BRAVO PLAYERS MEETING

Oronoque Village has its own theater group: The BRAVO Players. This acronym stands for the "Best Readers-Actors in the Village of Oronoque." Following a one-year hiatus, The BRAVO Players will hold a planning meeting at SCB on Feb. 12 at 4:30 p.m to discuss its June 6 production.

The players will return to a song-and skit-based production. All residents who sing or would like to perform in a skit are encouraged to attend this meeting. Rehearsals will be held weekly from mid-March through the end of May.

Contact Bob Krakovich at 203-752-6105 with questions.

FUNSEEKERS INCREASES DUES AND EVENT FEES

A motion for a vote, calling for an increase in the annual dues and monthly event fee, was made during Funseekers' December 2019 event. After discussion, the motion was passed by more than the required two-thirds vote.

Effective as of Jan. 1, 2020, Funseekers annual dues is \$15 per person for the calendar year. The monthly event fee increases to \$4 for Funseeker members and to \$7 for all other Villagers and guests.

Payment for membership dues for 2020 should be dropped off in the Funseekers mailbox at the NCB. Call John Fratarcangeli at 203-503-4364 with questions.

TWO JEWELRY-MAKING CLASSES

On Jan. 16, OV resident Ivy Tencer will teach two separate jewelry-making classes, sponsored by the OV Arts Guild.

From 10 a.m.-noon, in the back cardroom at SCB, she will present "Everything Old Is New Again." Bring your old or broken beaded jewelry and learn how to restring it or take the beads and make something new and different. If beads are lost, not to worry, there are plenty to add. Students also may make new jewelry from scratch.

KUDOS TO OUR DOLLCRAFTERS!



Thanks to the dedication and time volunteered during 2019, the women of Oronoque Village Dollcrafters donated 210 dolls that went to children in need.

From 7-9 p.m. in the Arts & Crafts Room at SCB, jewelry-making will be taught. Have fun while creating one-of-a-kind pieces of jewelry for yourself or as a gift. Wine and snacks will be served while students learn the essentials of memory-wire bracelets or necklaces.

Each session costs \$25 and includes supplies. Checks should be made payable to Ivy Tencer and placed in the OV Arts Guild mailbox in the NCB.

Questions? Call Ivy at 732-995-2840.

WINTER DRAWING CLASS OFFERED

If you're wondering what to do during the winter months, why not try a drawing class? The OV Arts Guild is pleased to announce a new six-week session with instructor Jill Nichols, beginning on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. in the SCB Arts and Crafts Room. The class ends on March 3.

Lessons will explore the elements of drawing and students will work with pencil and sketchpad. Jill will give demonstrations, offer still-life setups, and have a live model. Class size is limited to around 10 students and each student will receive individualized attention.

Jill teaches at the University of New Haven and at the Derby Senior Center. Her work is exhibited internationally in museums and galleries and is sold to many private collectors.

If you are interested, contact Barbara Stewart at barb_smt@yahoo.com or by phone at 203-612-1373. Once you are admitted to the class, you can secure your spot by making out your check for \$110 to Jill Nichols and placing it in the Arts Guild Box at NCB.

CHESS PLAYERS SOUGHT

OV resident who is new to this community would like to connect with people who enjoy playing chess.

If interested, please call Barry at 203-331-7611 or email bhammons@hammonsllc.com.

**CASINO NIGHT
AT OCC**

Need a break from the winter blues? Come out and play! Oronoque Country Club is hosting a Casino Night on Friday, Feb. 7, 6-10 p.m. The cost is \$30 per person payable upon sign-up to OCC.

Blackjack tables, roulette, poker, Texas hold'em, LCR.

Appetizers included! Cash bar for high rollers! Call 203-375-4293 or e-mail slanzara@oronoquecc.com for more details.

Make checks payable to OCC and deliver to the golf club by Jan. 31

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OV SNAPSHOT



And the winner was ... Nancy Gloh Rosenthal! Nancy's name was drawn from returns of the recent survey conducted by the Communications Committee. The survey asked residents to name their favorite restaurants and share other preferences. Wendy Swain, chair of the Communications Committee, awarded Nancy with a check for \$50.

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Nancy Blagys, Dan Libertino and Karen Hahn.



Bob Romatzick, Marilyn Coffey and Barbara Stewart.



Carole DiGiovanni, Peter Feick, Charlie Di Giovanni, Carole Plotnick and Ron Ciecko.

PICKLEBALL CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY

Story by Carole Plotnick ~ Photos by Gery Cuccaro

The Pickleball Club ended its season with a cocktail party on Dec. 19. More than 70 members and guests attended to toast the holidays and enjoy a social evening hosted by the social activities committee, which is headed by Joanne Sutphen.

Regina Archazki, Lori Hedman, Gery Cuccaro and other helpers are to be applauded for the planning, shopping, and preparation of an extensive assortment of hors

d'oeuvres. Thanks, also, to Dorothy Tanski, who provided her homemade cookies.

A complimentary raffle was held with many hostess gifts to choose from.

The Pickleball Club's food drive for the pantry at Sterling House Community Center was a success and exceeded all expectations.

We look forward to the start of a new season in April. The Pickleball Club is a special group of competitors and friends -- on and off the court.

If you would like information on the Pickleball Club, contact Regina Archazki at 203-915-0781 or Gery Cuccaro at 203-556-3251.



FEATURE

OV MONITORS RECOGNIZED

Story by Kathy Lykens ~ Photos by Marcia Klein

During a celebration held in November 2019, recognition was given to the SCB monitors and substitute monitors, Call-In Program volunteers and library volunteers.

During the event, Fred Rodriguez, executive director, and Bob Grosso, OVCA president, thanked the team members who have made this program possible.

The volunteers were very pleased to be honored by the Village management.

We hope to have another wonderful year in 2020.



Monitors



Substitute Monitors



Call-In Program Volunteers



Library Volunteers



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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 Feb. 3 edition of The Villager, is Jan. 21 at noon.*

CORNHOLE

• Cornhole is played at 10 a.m. at SCB. All are welcome. Questions? Call Sue or Ralph Trapasso at 203-916-7156.

CURRENT EVENTS

• The Current Events Discussion Group meets in SCB Card Room 1 at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 22., Feb. 5 and Feb. 19.

DOLLCRAFTERS

• Dollcrafters meets at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays in the NCB Library.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

• The Ladies Bible study group meets at 10:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Fridays of each month in the NCB Library. All ladies are welcome. We will be studying the Book of Genesis. Questions? Call Angie McKelvey (227-3222) or Tina Vermette (375-0291).

LINE DANCING

• Classes take place Wednesdays at NCB. A beginner class is held at 9:30 a.m., followed by a class for all levels at 10 a.m. Call Sonya at 203-377-1515 for more information.

MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

• Healthy Lifestyle Discussion Group meets in the SCB Back Card Room at 10 a.m. on the last Tuesday of each month. Upcoming meetings will take place Jan. 28, Feb. 25 and March 31. For information, call Lucy Clifford, 203-644-7710.

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MEN'S BOWLING CLUB

• Games are played at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays at Nutmeg Bowling Center in Fairfield. Questions? Call Paul at 203-339-1111.

WOMEN'S BOWLING CLUB

• Games are played at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays at Bowlero Bowling, 1717 Boston Post Road, Milford. Everyone is welcome ... bowlers or nonbowlers, permanent or substitutes. Questions? Call Kathy at 203-371-7543.

POOL SOCIAL GROUP

• Anyone who enjoys socializing in and around the pools during the summer is invited to attend a get-together from 4-6 p.m. at SCB on the second Thursday of each month. Come with your favorite appetizer and or beverage (or nothing) for reunions and conversations. Call Sonya at 203-375-1515 for more information.

TEA, TALK & CRAFTS

• Tea, Talk, and Craft meets Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. next to the kitchen at SCB. Questions? Call Cynthia Harms at 203-402-9083.

WRITERS GROUP

• The Oronoque Village Writer's Group (OVWG) is a group of writers who enjoy the challenges of writing and of sharing their work in a trusted environment. Members include published authors and hobbyists committed to attending workshops twice a month in a respectful, supportive and professional environment. If interested, please email or call Mary von Ziegesar (MvonZ@optonline.net – 203-767-9760)

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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. O=Open / C=Closed / RSF=Racquet Sports Facility / RR=Round Robin

Upcoming Off-Site Event:

Jan. 20: Men's Club Casino Trip

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

- 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing, beginners, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Free Blood Pressure Screening, NCB (O)
- 10:30 a.m. – Men's Bowling, Fairfield Lanes (O)
- 2:00 p.m. – Movie: *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, SCB (O)
- 5:00 p.m. – Poker, NCB, C/R (O)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)
- 6:30 p.m. – Men's Poker, SCB, C/R (O)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Jewelry Class, SCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Beginner Oil Painting, SCB, A/C Rm (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Quilting Group, NCB, C/R (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Tai Chi With Jonathan, NCB, Aud (O)
- 12:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, SCB, A/C Rm (O)
- 1:30 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB (O)
- 2:00 p.m. – Writers' Group, NCB, C/R (O)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – Men's Club Bingo, SCB (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – Jewelry Class, SCB (O)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB (O)
- 1:00 p.m. – Arts Guild Painting Workshop, SCB (O)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

- 11:00 a.m. – Private Party, SCB (C)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

- 11:00 a.m. – Private Party, NCB (C)

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Chair Yoga, NCB, Aud (O)

- 5:15 p.m. – Tai Chi with Jonathan, NCB, Aud (O)
- 6:45 p.m. – Open Bridge, NCB, Lounge (O)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

- 9:00 a.m. – Yoga for Seniors, SCB, C/R2 (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – Kundalini Yoga, NCB, C/R (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – OVCA Board Meeting, NCB (O)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

- 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing, beginners, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Current Events, SCB, C/R (O)
- 10:30 a.m. – Men's Bowling, Fairfield Lanes (O)
- 5:00 p.m. – Poker, NCB, C/R (O)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)
- 6:30 p.m. – Men's Poker, SCB, C/R (O)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Beginner Oil Painting, SCB, A/C Rm (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Tai Chi With Jonathan, NCB, Aud (O)
- 12:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, SCB, A/C Rm (O)
- 1:30 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB (O)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB (O)
- 10:30 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study, NCB, C/R (O)
- 6:30 p.m. – Karaoke, SCB (O)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

- 11:00 a.m. – Private Party, SCB (C)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26: No events scheduled

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Chair Yoga, NCB, Aud (O)
- 5:15 p.m. – Tai Chi With Jonathan, NCB (O)
- 6:45 p.m. – Open Bridge, NCB, Lounge (O)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

- 9:00 a.m. – Yoga for Seniors, SCB, C/R2 (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle, SCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 1:00 p.m. – Drawing Class, SCB, A/C Rm (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – Kundalini Yoga, NCB, C/R (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – OVTD Board Meeting, NCB (O)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing, beginners, NCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing, NCB (O)
- 10:30 a.m. – Men's Bowling, Fairfield Lanes (O)
- 5:00 p.m. – Poker, NCB, C/R (O)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)
- 6:30 p.m. – Men's Poker, SCB, C/R (O)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB (O)
- 10:00 a.m. – Beginner Oil Painting, SCB, A/C Rm (O)

- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Tai Chi With Jonathan, NCB, Aud (O)
- 12:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, SCB, A/C Rm (O)
- 1:30 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB (O)
- 2:00 p.m. – Writers' Group, NCB, C/R (O)
- 6:00 p.m. – Jerry's Poker, SCB, C/R1 (O)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 11:00 a.m. – Private Party, NCB (C)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 5:00 p.m. – Men's Club Super Bowl Party, NCB (O)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- 9:00 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O)
- 11:00 a.m. – Chair Yoga, NCB, Aud (O)
- 5:15 p.m. – Tai Chi with Jonathan, NCB, Aud (O)
- 6:45 p.m. – Open Bridge, NCB, Lounge (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – SAC Meeting, NCB, B/R (O)
- 7:00 p.m. – Bulls & Bears, SCB (O)

SAVE THE DATES

Feb. 24 ... The OV Arts Guild presents Ulla Adema, who will give a presentation on how to make a lampshade from scratch. Using a pattern design to cut, paint and decorate art-quality paper, she will demonstrate the process in easy-to-follow steps. The event will begin at 3 p.m. in the Arts & Crafts Room at SCB.

March 19 ... The OV Arts Guild presents Michael Coppola and Maria Tiscia at NCB at 7 p.m in a return jazz concert. Cost: Free for Arts Guild members, \$5 for guests.

April 14 ... Stratford's own Shalynn Sedgwick (mother of Sedgwick Sisters fame) and her British sidekick, Jeff, will entertain Funseekers with a performance of top hits from the 1920s-1960s.

ABOUT DOG OWNING IN OV

By Lee Schlafer

This article is for all the dog owners in Oronoque Village, written by a former dog owner who misses her dog every day. There are a lot of dogs in our Village, which is not surprising. Dogs bring comfort, companionship and purpose to the lives of many seniors. There is an irresistible appeal provided by a furry pet who willingly gives us loyalty, responsiveness and devotion, especially if we find ourselves alone or a distance from family. As with most things in life, there is responsibility that is attached to all the pleasure that owning a dog brings. That responsibility is different when one lives in a condominium community rather than a private home. These responsibilities are spelled out in the Association's Rules and Regulations Handbook.

Most of us are familiar with the rules. Keep your pet leashed. Pick up pet waste. Ensure that your dog is under

control. Don't walk through foundation planting areas or other planted gardens. If an expandable leash is used, be sure that your dog does not lunge at oncoming cars or walkers. These aren't difficult rules to follow and there are good reasons for all of them: We want to keep our property sanitary and we don't want residents or our Maintenance employees to have to walk through or deal with dog poop.

Some of these rules are as much for the safety of your pet as they are for residents, such as the leash requirement and the concern about expandable leashes. It is certainly easy to understand the reason for stating that dogs should not walk through gardens and other planted areas. No dog owner should be indifferent to the work, investment and appreciation their fellow residents have put into their gardens and foundation planting areas.

Most of the dog owners in our community follow the rules willingly every day. Please do not choose to be the exception and ignore the rules. That is behavior that is damaging to the good reputation that the vast majority of dog owners and dogs in our Village deserve. OV

BEYOND THE VILLAGE

On Sunday, Jan. 19, First Congregational Church of Stratford (FCC) will inaugurate its 2020 Rose Window Concert Series with "Michael and Friends" in concert at 3 p.m. The concert will feature vocalist Michael Jovovich singing timeless, popular songs from the "Great American Songbook" and other jazz tunes. Dr. Joe Utterback, director of music at FCC, will lead the musical team playing piano, with several of Michael's musician friends joining in. A free will offering will be collected to benefit the church's music fund. FCC is located at 2301 Main St. All are welcome. For more information, call 203-378-2644.

~

Rick Daskam will demonstrate oil painting at 1 p.m. on Jan. 27 at the Shelton Community Center, 41 Church St. In 1998, after a career in illustration, Rick followed his passion of plein air and painted landscapes and farms. His works, which have received numerous awards, have been shown in art galleries and juried exhibitions throughout the Connecticut and New York areas.

Sponsored by the Shelton Art League, there will be a general meeting at noon. All are welcome. Visit <http://www.sheltonartleague.org> for more details.

~

Quick Center for the Arts, in Fairfield, presents "The Met: Live in HD Porgy and Bess (The Gershwins)" on Feb. 1 at 1 p.m. (live) and 6 p.m. (encore). This musical classic tells the story of disabled beggar Porgy, sung by Eric Owens, and his love for the drug-addicted Bess, portrayed

by Angel Blue. David Robertson conducts a stellar cast that also includes Donovan Singletary as fisherman Jake, Golda Schultz as his wife, Clara; Latonia Moore as the bereaved widow Serena, Frederick Ballentine as drug dealer Sportin' Life, Alfred Walker as the brutal stevedore Crown and Denyce Graves as Maria, town matriarch and operator of the local cook-shop.

Infused with the timeless melodies of the much-loved classics "Summertime," "It Ain't Necessarily So," "Bess, You Is My Woman Now," "I Got Plenty o' Nuttin'," and "My Man's Gone Now," the new co-production with English National Opera and Dutch National Opera was hailed as a triumph at its premiere in London earlier this year.

For tickets, email boxoffice@quickcenter.com or call 203-254-4010.

~

The Klein in Bridgeport presents "Frederick Douglas" on Feb. 6 at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Written by Daniel Campaigna, directed by Maureen Hamill and starring Bridgeport native Tenisi Davis, this well-received one-man play has been performed in venues across the country, including at the Douglass home in Maryland, and made its Klein debut on Feb. 11, 2019. Celebrate Black History Month and discover the world of one of the prominent leaders of the abolitionist movement.

This 60-minute show is not recommended for children under 10. For information, email jeanette@theklein.org or call 800-424-0160. OV



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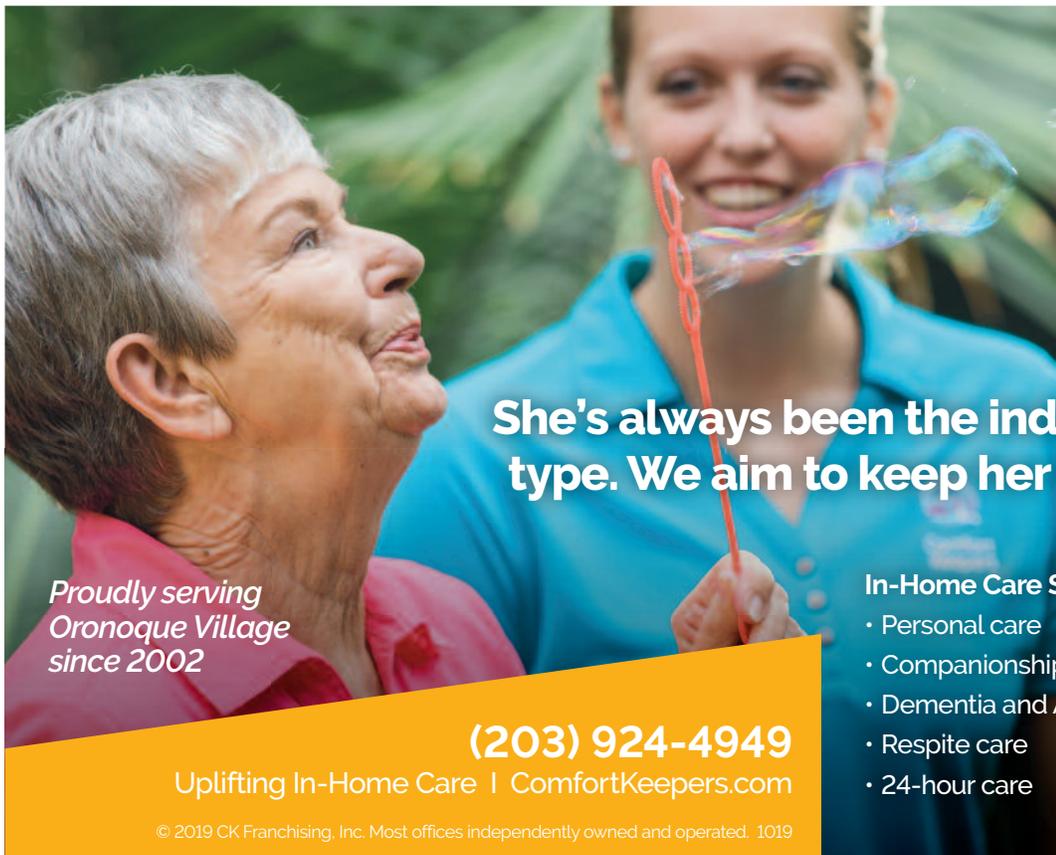
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NEW ID RULES AT AIRPORTS ARE SLATED FOR OCTOBER 2020

Beginning Oct. 1, the U.S. Federal Government will require anyone boarding an airplane for domestic travel or entering certain federal buildings to have a "verified" driver's license or state-issued ID card or be required to show additional proof of identification, such as a passport.

Verification is indicated on your license or ID card by a gold star in the top right corner. This federal law is commonly referred to as "Real ID." To apply for a Real ID, you can visit any Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) office or partner office like DMV Express.

You need a Real ID if:

- You do not have a valid U.S. passport or passport card and use airplanes as a mode of domestic transportation or if you visit military bases or secure federal facilities.

You do not need a Real ID if:

- You have a valid U.S. passport or passport card, you do not use airplanes as a mode of domestic transportation and/or you do not visit military bases or secure federal facilities.

Check Your License or ID Card: A gold star on your license or ID card indicates you already have a verified ID. A verification process is a one-time check, therefore if you have the gold star you are all set and meet federal standards.

In October 2011, the Connecticut DMV started offering this identity verification check for customers renewing their license or ID card and for new, first-time applicants. There-



fore, many Connecticut residents already have a Real ID-compliant license or ID card.

You Can Also Use Your Passport: If you already have a Connecticut license or ID card, getting your identity verified through DMV is optional. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) also will accept other identity documents at the airport, such as a passport. (For more information visit the TSA website at <https://www.tsa.gov/travel>).

Customers applying for a license or ID for the first time in Connecticut (for example new drivers or people moving here) are required to apply for a Real ID (if they qualify) at a full-service DMV office.

How to Get Your Real ID Verified License/ID Card

Step 1: Check Eligibility - Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible for a verified license/ID card. Customers with a Drive-Only license are not eligible for a Real ID license.

Step 2: Check the List - Check the official list of required documents by visiting <https://portal.ct.gov/DMV/Licenses/Licenses/Applying-for-a-License/Acceptable-Forms-of-Identification>

In most cases, you simply need your U.S. Passport or U.S. birth certificate, Social Security card and two pieces of mail (from two different sources dated within 90 days) to prove you live in Connecticut.

Step 3: Get your Real ID - Visit any DMV office or partner office like DMV Express. If you are not due for renewal, you can convert your license or ID for a \$30 duplicate fee.

Source: State of Connecticut Dept. of Motor Vehicles website (<https://portal.ct.gov/DMV/Select-CT-ID/Select-CT-ID/Real-ID-Overview>)



Thank you to JoAnn Rizza for the article suggestion.

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WORKS BY THE OV WRITERS GROUP

FIFTH WHEEL

By Anthony Cartisano

I grew up during the Depression and World War II. My playground was seven miles of woods that extended from across the street from my house to White Plains, N.Y. Most of my time was spent there, with my friends, swimming and fishing in the summer, ice skating and sledding in the winter. I was very shy with girls, and was very uncomfortable around them. So, when I was graduating from high school, there was this problem: "Prom Night." I was terrified, to say the least. I didn't have a date, and I wasn't about to ask a girl out. I wouldn't know how to start.

Then one night, I was at a friend's house, and we were talking about the prom, and I told him I didn't have a date and I wasn't going to ask anybody. Well, his mother, a very nice lady, overheard us talking and joined us. She said, "What do you mean you are not going to your prom? Don't be ridiculous, of course you're going." She was in my face, and I'm backpedaling saying, "I'm not asking anybody, besides, I don't know how to dance."

She wasn't taking no for an answer. "I'll get you a date and teach you to dance," she said. My friend, her son, didn't dance either and she was going to teach him. Her daughter was in my classes and she knew most of my classmates. I felt trapped. I was out of excuses. I was so far out of my element. I felt like a fish out of water, flopping around, waiting to die.

Then the prom was cancelled. First time ever, something to do with the war. I thought I was off the hook. But no, everyone was going to New York City to the Copacabana nightclub, and staying out till early morning. Ugh, no way out. So, I resigned myself to a night of terror.

The week of Prom Night, I went to my friend's house to learn how to dance, with my two left feet. After a couple nights of this torture, the mother said we were ready.

Terror of terrors, "Prom Night" is here. I bought the corsage for my date, dressed up in my monkey suit, and went to pick up Fidela Petracelli, my blind date. She really wasn't a blind date, because she was in my classes. I knew her, but just to say "hello" when we passed in the hallways.

Don't get me wrong, she was my blind date, but she was drop-dead gorgeous. I could never say more than hello to her, because she took my breath away. Now I was going to spend the whole day with her. What do I say after hello?

She answered the door and looked beautiful in a gown. My heart was bursting. I told her she looked nice and she told me the same. We drove to my friend's house and from there we were four couples. We took two cars to the railroad station and went to New York City.

I slowly calmed down because I was with my friends and the conversation was mixed. We took a cab to the Copa, settled at a table and had a nice dinner. Fidela was easy to talk to, we got along fine, then someone said, "Let's dance," and we all got up to dance. I put my arm around Fidela's tiny waist and she snuggled against me, her cheek touched mine, and I could smell her perfume. We were dancing. I felt that the whole place was watching me, but I was in heaven with this dream-girl in my arms.

We stayed up most of the night, and had breakfast back in our hometown, then I took Fidela home. I told her I had a good time and left. I didn't even have the nerve to kiss her.

She probably still talks about the "fifth wheel" she dated for her prom, but I'll never forget my dance with Fidela Petracelli.

OV

THE FIFTH WHEEL

By Kees Adema

'Twas a conference of families united in crime
Five Big Wheel Dons who all had done time
Each in control of a large swath of territory
Acquired by actions ruthless and predatory
Their authority not questioned, nor any of their wishes
Doubters were dealt with and sleep with the fishes.

But now a conflict like never before
There was no room for five Dons only for four
Who would be ranked the least of the five?
Which clan would be conquered, which Don take the dive?
When Tony The Chin came back from the john
He promptly detected what was going on.

After he'd stepped away a vote had been taken
Tony turned pale, his swagger now shaken
While he had momentarily been unaware
The others had sawn off the legs from under his chair
He knew the conclusion, quickly fled to his car
That's where he was shot, teeth still clenched his cigar.

The T-Men could have provided him with protection
Move him to Maine to avoid detection
The Chin would never threaten nor jut out again
His wheel had stopped turning and so 'Amen'
The Feds had smelled blood, detecting the rift
But late Big Wheel Tony had taken the fifth. **OV**



Bingo:

Presented by the Men's Club

Thursdays, Jan. 16 & Feb. 20
at 7:00 pm at SCB

Come and bring your friends.
Cost: \$2.50/card

Refreshments will be served
Open to all



**SCB GALLERY
WINTER SHOW**

The Winter Oronoque Art Show,
titled "From Toddler to Teen,"
is on view at SCB.

Join the Contest!
Match the teen/toddler picture with
the current photo of the resident.

Prize awarded for the
most correct matches



The Oronoque Village Book
Club meets at 7 p.m. on the
first Wednesday of the month
at NCB. All Villagers are
welcome. Need a ride or in-
formation? Call Hinda at
203-385-3855.

The book for Feb. 5 is *The Only Woman in
the Room* by Marie Benedict.

The book shines a literary spotlight on a his-
torical figure whose talents and achieve-
ments have been overlooked, with sparkling
results. *The Only Woman in the Room* is
page-turning tapestry of intrigue and glam-
our about a woman who refuses to be taken
for granted. Spell-binding and timely.

OV Karaoke Club

No fees or dues

No commitments

Just fun!



Join us for our next
event on Friday, Jan.
24, in the South Clubhouse
Auditorium from 6:30-9pm.

(We usually go a bit longer than 9pm for
your singing and dancing pleasure.)

Come sing or just listen to your friends and
neighbors showing off their talents. No
need to RSVP...just come on over, grab a
seat, and either watch or join the fun by
putting in a song or two!

BYOB, food and refreshments!

"Matinee" ... Songs & Jest...at its best!

Funseekers kickoff event for 2020 will feature "Matinee," a 4-part female Barbershop octet. This will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 11th, 7 PM, at SCB. Doors will open at 6:15 PM.

These eight entertaining ladies came together 21 years ago and they haven't stopped singing (or talking, for that matter) since. Known for their witty repartee and talent of weaving songs and stories together, you are sure to have an enjoyable evening. Songs range from old standards to parody to pop.

Admission is \$4 members (\$15 annual dues), \$7 guests. BYOB/wine/food with snacks provided. Coffee/tea/beverages and desserts will follow the event. No reservations required.

Call John Fratarcangeli at (203) 503-4364 with questions.



OV Arts Guild Presents: Paul Cezanne "Mastering the Masters" Workshop Friday, Jan. 17, 1-4 p.m. at SCB

OV Arts Guild is sponsoring its second "Mastering the Masters" artists workshop, this time learning about the style and art of Paul Cezanne. It begins with a video about Cezanne's style and painting techniques. Participants will then spend the afternoon creating art either by copying a painting by the artist or creating their own work in the style of Cezanne.

Instructor Christine Goldbach is a longtime faculty member at the Silvermine Art Center in New Canaan, and has taught at Sacred Heart University. Her work is included in numerous private collections in the U.S. and abroad.

Students must bring their own equipment and materials. The cost is \$30. To reserve a space, call or email Barbara Stewart at 203-612-1373 or barbsmt@yahoo.com.

Once accepted, secure your reservation by placing your check for \$30, payable to Christine Goldbach, in the OV Arts Guild box in the North Clubhouse.



★SUPER BOWL★

OV MEN'S CLUB SUPER BOWL PARTY

**Open to all Villagers
(Men and Women)**

Reservations a MUST!!

(Your check is your reservation.)

NO admittance at the door!

Food: Hot buffet, beverages, desserts.

Date: Sunday, February 2, 2020

Place: North Clubhouse

Time: 5:00 pm

Cost: \$15 per person

Join your friends and enjoy a great game!

???? Call Sandy Lunt (203) 377-5833 or Jerry Brown (203) 378-7781

PLEASE RETURN WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO OVMC (NOTE SUPER BOWL)

NAME _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____ / **PHONE NUMBER** _____

The Movie Club Presents: *Downton Abbey*

Friday, February 14, at 7 p.m. at NCB
Wednesday, February 19, at 2 p.m. at SCB
\$1 admission includes popcorn



Excitement is high at Downton Abbey when the Crawley family learns that King George V and Queen Mary are coming to visit. But trouble soon arises when Mrs. Patmore, Daisy and the rest of the servants learn that the king and queen travel with their own chefs and attendants -- setting the stage for an impromptu scheme and other shenanigans.

The Movie Club was founded by Len Learner and is sponsored by Marcia Klein, Dee Tuozzoli and innumerable volunteers.



SAC Presents....

Mohegan Sun Casino Trip, Wednesday, Feb. 5
(Snow Date: Wednesday, Feb. 19)

Arrive at SCB by 8:45 a.m. Bus leaves at 9 a.m.
Returns at 6 p.m.

Cost: \$25 per person includes \$15 meal voucher and
\$15 for gambling and a raffle on the bus.

To RSVP, please place checks in the SAC Mailbox
at NCB no later than Wednesday, Jan. 29.



MEN'S CLUB TRIP TO MOHEGAN SUN
MONDAY, JANUARY 20
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

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Call-In Program Is Available To Oronoque Residents

If you live alone, you might want to consider signing up for the **Call-In Program**. To participate, you need to call the South Clubhouse (203-377-5435) every morning between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.

A Volunteer Monitor on duty will check on you. That's all there is to it!

If you are interested in learning more about this program, please call Kathy Lykens at 203-612-6685.



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I feel confident in the care given and now go out and run errands without worry.

*Thank you,
J.H. (A Village Resident)*