

August 16, 2021



# THE VILLAGER



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Thank you to Peter Feick for contributing the scenic photograph that appears on the cover of this issue. The Villager welcomes photo contributions for cover consideration as well as articles for editorial consideration. Photo submissions must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to [cking@oronoquevillage.com](mailto:cking@oronoquevillage.com). Villager articles should be emailed as either text attachments or with text pasted into the body of an email. All Villager articles are edited to conform to the standards of The Associated Press Stylebook.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE OVTD PRESIDENT

## REPORT ON THE JULY 27, 2021 OVTD MEETING



Linda Libertino

I want to thank all the residents who contacted me to say congratulations on my second term as president of the Tax District. I value your support. In addition, Tom Aubin was voted to serve as vice president, Jonathan Towle was elected as clerk and Tom Becker was elected treasurer. The three directors elected to serve for a three-year term are Bill Tanski, Tom Becker and Dennis Caffrey.

This is our first in-person Tax District meeting in 18 months. Welcome back to the North Clubhouse! Thanks, Lee, to you and your OVCA team for opening the clubhouses and recreational facilities this year. It has been a very long Covid period.

Our proposed goals for this year will be:

**Increased Communication** – There is a definite need to make residents more aware of the benefits of having a tax district, especially the enormous tax savings. Unlike the condominium association, the tax district is legally exempt from conveyance tax, sales tax, real estate tax and taxes on equipment and vehicles. We intend to have articles on a regular basis in *The Villager* as to how OVTD positively impacts our community.

**Road Committee Feasibility Study** – We will investigate the possibility of completing the paving and repairs of all the necessary remaining roads for next year. This will include driveways, also, and the results will be announced to the Village.

**Oronoque Lane Aesthetic Improvement** – The curb appeal and safety on Oronoque Lane will be ongoing. I will continue to meet with Mayor Laura Hoydick regarding this project, which is important to the Village. Also, Fred and I will continue our dialogue with the country club as to the repair of its fencing, which needs to be done west of their maintenance building.

**“Two Boards – One Village”** – I will continue to meet with Lee to enhance our team effort for all the residents of Oronoque.

During the July 9 Tropical Storm Elsa, the Village received a tremendous amount of rain in a very short period of time. Unfortunately, our 50-year-old underground storm system is not capable of handling this type of a heavy rain event. When the flood survey and Village drainage issues were surveyed two years ago, it was explained by the engineering firm that our current storm water system is rated for a “25 year storm.”

Tropical Storm Elsa was comparable to a 75-100 year rain event, which caused major road flooding especially on the south side. Our underground drainage, culverts and various head walls would need to be expanded or altered to accommodate these types of storms.

I am pleased to report that our unaudited budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, shows a surplus of approximately \$50,000. I want to thank Fred Rodriguez and Mark Rhatigan for their strong leadership and for accomplishing our budget goals. Their office staffs and the maintenance team should be highly complimented for their outstanding performances while the availability of staff has been so difficult to find and hire.

Again, we thank the residents for their patience during this serious labor shortage.

Following are my committee appointments for this year:

I made a motion for the Roads Committee to be chaired by Jonathan Towle and comprised of Bill Tanski, Pete Penny and Tom Aubin.

I made a motion for the Finance Committee to be chaired by Tom Becker and comprised of Ray Vermette, Maria Szalontay, Chas DeSiena and Jonathan Towle.

I made a motion for the Security Committee to be chaired by Dennis Caffrey.

I made a motion for the Tree Committee to be chaired by Dennis Caffrey and comprised of Nancy Blagys and Ann Gallo.

All motions passed unanimously.

Our Executive Director reported on the status of the Oronoque Country Club golf course potential sale by the current owners, CBigg. Fred stated that there are two separate parties who, currently, are showing interested in acquiring the golf course and dialogue is taking place. He hopes to see “some movement” within the next 30 to 60 days.

As a reminder, Ray Vermette has agreed to continue to serve as liaison to the OVCA Insurance Committee and Dennis Caffrey has agreed to serve as liaison to the Maintenance Committee.

I will close with a positive quote: “Two things you are in total control in your life – your attitude and your effort.” I assure you that the Tax District directors are making every effort to manage the district affairs responsibly.

The next Tax District meeting will be held on Oct. 26.

OV



## WANTED: HELPING HANDS TO ASSIST THE GALA COMMITTEE

The 50th anniversary committee is in need of volunteers to assist with the setup and cleanup of the Sept. 19 gala celebration.

If you are able to pitch in an help the small group of committee members with the setting up of the event at 10 a.m. or cleaning up after the gala concludes, please contact Cheryl Dwyer at 203-375-4961.

## COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

### ORNAMENTAL EXCESS

By Kees Adema, Compliance Committee Chairman



Ostensibly harmless, yet offensive to many of us, is the proliferation of ornaments jutting out daringly from all corners and decks of units. The population of garden figures, gnomes, rabbits, etc. also seems to have experienced a substantial increase in numbers, despite the fact that

the material from which they have been manufactured would seem to preclude reproduction. A few areas, common or not, are inhabited by creatures that would make Lewis Carroll proud.

So what are the rules governing these statuary and garden ornaments? They are to be of natural earth tones while "Decoration Rules and Information" states that "Small outdoor displays are permitted if placed in the foundation planting area, on doors, the walls next to doors, including garage doors, or on decks."

A foundation area begins at the base of a unit, extends out four to five feet while common areas are beyond five feet. The area between walkway and deck is considered foundation area.

A small outdoor display is somewhat ambiguous, yet we can all agree that a group of 10 creatures, adorable or not, is excessive. "Small" would seem to limit a display to two, maximum three, items. Did I mention size yet? Surely we can have a consensus that Michelangelo's David would be a smidgeon over the top. Yet, what is acceptable? Although we all know that an individual's taste cannot be argued with, common sense would seem to dictate a reasonable approach, acceptable to others.

Also obvious: Displays may not be put up in the common areas and no decorations that pose a safety hazard, are excessive or are reported as a nuisance are allowed.

Easy to recite, difficult to pin down; reminds me of Supreme Court Justice Douglas, who could not describe obscenity, but said, "I know it when I see it."

Flags are a fertile basis for disagreement as became painfully evident during election season last year. Displays in Oronoque Village are restricted to the American, Connecticut and seasonal flags on a flagpole of maximum 6 feet. Flags/banners may not be draped or displayed on the unit in any manner. This includes political banners of any kind.

Item (D) of Article VII of the By-Laws bars immoral, improper, offensive or unlawful use of the property. The other day Ulla and I came across a statue that might, to some residents, fit the "immoral" category. It appeared to be a stone depiction of Cupid, the Roman god of love in all his naked glory, with a look that clearly expressed "What are you going to do about it?" May we suggest a loincloth for the little rascal to cover up the naughty bits? For the record, it does not offend us. We're from Europe, you know.

As you can see, the subject is a cultural labyrinth and we need the help from all our residents to navigate it by using common sense. Do you really need to display a dozen white figurines of squirrels and rabbits, even if they are prancing about within 6 feet of your foundation?

Please look at your property with a critical eye and see what others see.



OV

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BULLS & BEARS INVITE NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN

By Sanford Lunt

As a resident of Oronoque Village, we would like to offer you the opportunity to join a small discussion group that modestly invests in the stock market. It is called the Bulls & Bears and has been in existence since 1982. This club meets at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month and is limited to just 20 members.

The meetings are enjoyable, enlightening and could give you some profitable insights into investing.

Recently, several members passed and others moved away from the Village, so there are now a few openings for membership. The initial contribution is \$300 with monthly additions of at least \$40 that all becomes your portion of the club's total portfolio.

Membership is open to all; you can be a beginner or an expert in the market, you can inform or learn from the other members and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow Villagers with similar interests.

If this invitation hits home, please contact Sandy Lunt, president, at 203-377-5833, Jonathan Towle, vice president, at 917-701-5819 or Tom Becker, treasurer, at 609-658-7873 for further information.

### INVITATION TO POKER PLAYERS

Looking for a little fun and friendship? New and long-time residents are invited to Gerry's Poker on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. in the SCB card room. Questions? Call Richard Castle at 203-572-0989.

### FUNSEEKERS BOARD VACANCY

Funseekers is seeking someone to fill the secretary position on its board of directors. Responsibilities are as follows: record minutes from monthly board meetings and distribute to members, mail letters to Funseekers in December regarding payment of annual dues and mail letters to new Oronoque residents inviting them to attend Funseek-

### HOUSE AND GARDEN CLUB RESUMES MONTHLY MEETINGS

By Tina Vermette

The OV House and Garden Club begins its new season on Sept. 13 at 1:30 p.m. at the South Clubhouse. The program will feature Stratford Town Historian David Wright. As Stratford, founded in 1639, is one of the oldest towns in Connecticut, there is a wealth of historical information to share.

New residents recently received welcome letters and information about the House and Garden Club. Current members also were notified about renewal of membership and dues for the coming year. However, there are others in the Village who, while not new residents, may now have the time or interest in joining this very worthwhile organization which — over the years — has done much to enhance the look and quality of life in Oronoque Village.

Our raffles and post-meeting teas, served from our beautiful silver service along with delicious desserts, top off a pleasant afternoon.

House and Garden meetings are held eight times a year, four in the fall and four in the spring. Membership for the year is \$20. Membership chairman Deb Aubin (203-605-2636) will answer questions about how to join. We look forward to seeing many new faces at our meeting in September.

ers meetings. If you are interested in applying for this position, please call/text Lucy Clifford, 203-644-7710.

### BINGO IS CANCELED NEXT MONTH

The Bingo event scheduled for Sept. 16 has been canceled due to the occurrence of the Yom Kippur holiday. Games will resume on Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the South Clubhouse.

The Aug. 19 Bingo games will occur as scheduled.

### MAHJONG PLAYERS WANTED

Two experienced mahjong players (one regular and one sub) are sought to participate in a friendly group that plays weekly at the South Clubhouse. Please call Penny Leyden at 203-556-0242.



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*OV Connections*

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account to join OV Connections.

# OVAG TO PRESENT DR. JOYCE SALTMAN DURING SEPTEMBER MEETING

By Barbara Stewart



Next month, The OV Arts Guild (OVAG) will welcome Dr. Joyce Saltman, who will present "Beyond the Pandemic? Welcome Back to Real Life!" Speaking of real life, we hope to see you at the OVAG's annual meeting on Thursday, Sept. 9, at 4 p.m. at SCB. We will begin with a brief business meeting to elect members to our Board of Directors and to welcome all our members, new and old. It's also time to pay your \$15 annual dues. We will collect payment at the door or you can put a check, made out to OVAG, in our mailbox at NCB.

Members attend our meetings free of charge; guests pay \$6 at the door. After our program we will have time to socialize while enjoying wine, appetizers and soft drinks before you head off to dinner.

Our presenter, Dr. Joyce Saltman, is a professor emeritus of special education at Southern Connecticut University and a 2015 recipient of the Doug Fletcher Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for the Applied and Therapeutic Humor. She holds five advanced degrees in the fields of special education, counseling and higher and adult education,

culminating in a doctorate from Columbia University. You may also know her as a friend and fellow OV resident or be familiar with her Villager feature articles, "Re-Joyce with Joyce." Come and enjoy Dr Saltman as she puts the pandemic into perspective using her wit and wisdom.

### Save These Dates for Upcoming OVAG Events

The osummer gallery show, "Water Water Everywhere," concludes Sept. 30. Be sure to vote for your favorite work of art before the exhibit ends. The artists who receive the most votes will win the People's Choice Awards, which will be presented at our next opening reception on Oct. 10 at 4 p.m. in the South Clubhouse.

The theme for the fall show is "Transitions - From Autumn to Winter and Beyond." This could be a seasonal transition showing autumn colors, birds flying south for the winter, the first snowfall of the season or, in a broader sense, a transition in life. Let your imagination run wild. It's all about being creative with the theme.

All mediums and styles will be welcome. Submissions for the show will be collected on Friday, Oct. 1, from 10-11 a.m. at SCB.

Questions? Contact Barbara Stewart at barbsmt@yahoo.com or 203-612-1373.



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## ACTIVITIES

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *To ensure accuracy, information submitted to The Villager must be sent via email, to Carol King at [cking@oronoquevillage.com](mailto: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 Sept. 1 2021, is Aug. 19 at noon. Deadline information for all upcoming issues of The Villager can be found on the home page of the Oronoque Village website, [www.oronoquevillage.com](http://www.oronoquevillage.com)*

### BOCCE

- Bocce is played on Thursdays, weather permitting, at 10 a.m. at NCB.

### CURRENT EVENTS

- The Current Events Discussion Group meets in SCB Card Room 1 at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays Aug. 18, Sept. 8 and Sept. 22.

### DOLLCRAFTERS

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

### DROP-IN BRIDGE

- Drop-in Bridge takes place on Mondays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the NCB Lounge. All levels of bridge players are encouraged to attend; no need to bring a partner. There is no fee to participate. For information, please contact Wendy Swain at 203-386-9125

### LINE DANCING

- Line dancing classes, taught by Sonya DeBiase, are offered on Thursdays (through August) at NCB. Beginner classes are at 9:30 a.m. followed by a class for all levels from 10-11 a.m.

### LOW-IMPACT EXERCISE CLASS

- Low-impact exercise classes, taught by Renee Zinn, are held at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays and Fridays at NCB. Bring weights and water.

### MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

- Healthy Lifestyle Discussion Group meets in the SCB Back Card Room at 10 a.m. on the following Tuesdays: Aug. 31, Sept. 28, Oct. 26 and Nov. 30. Please bring information and be prepared to participate in discussions.

### QUILTING GROUP

- Village quilters meet at the NCB Card Room on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 10 a.m. to noon.

### TENNIS CLUB

- The OV Tennis Club (OVTC) invites all residents to participate in open round robin play on Saturdays at 9 a.m. Questions? Call Eileen Cain at 203-836-4436 or email [OVTennisClub@gmail.com](mailto:OVTennisClub@gmail.com).

### WATER AEROBICS

- Residents are invited to attend water aerobics classes at the heated pool at SCB on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10-11 a.m. through Sept. 3. \$10 gratuity. Questions? Call Merrilees at 203-378-8753.

### WRITER'S 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 commit to attending workshops twice a month in a respectful, supportive and professional environment with hopes of expanding their writing and publishing horizons. Our members include published authors and hobbyists. Our works include essays, memoirs, poems, short stories, treatises, humorous tales, heart-wrenching histories. The group meets on alternate Thursdays at 2 p.m. in the Card Room at SCB. For information about joining, contact Mary W. von Ziegesar at [MvonZ@optonline.net](mailto:MvonZ@optonline.net) or call 203-767-9760.



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# FROM THE COMMUNITY: TRAVEL ESSAYS

Compiled by Bruce Pollock, Communications Committee

If you would like to contribute articles to this section, please contact Bruce at BAP203@yahoo.com or 203-520-3896 or Villager Editor Carol King at 203-377-5313, ext. 3, or cking@oronoquevillage.com



An aerial view of South Dartmouth

## ODE TO THE BEACH HOUSE

By Elisabeth Breslav

It rises almost at the end of a gated, long and winding path through Massachusetts Audubon Society - owned open space. It sits atop sturdy pilings like a dock on dry land and it is accessible via sixteen-step stairs. The climb up is daunting, the reward overwhelming.

The Beach House is built of unpainted wood that, over the years, has weathered to a rustic gray. It faces the beach and Buzzard's Bay in front, and offers a panoramic view of the salt marsh on the sides and in back. Something happens when you are relaxing there, in the shade. At first the marsh appears solid green and still, interspersed only with ponds and pans of shimmering water, often foamy around the edges.

But, after a while, your eyes begin to focus more sharply. You spot movement; the flash of pure white of the great egret or the black of the cormorant, fishing. You discover countless shades of green from almost black to the palest of hues, like a delicately woven tapestry. Then, here and there, you zero in on a touch of color – of sea lavender, marsh pinks, golden rod, or bright red rose hips. You smile at yourself as the idea occurs to you that it must have been a view like this that inspired Pissarro's Pointillism and gave rise to Impressionism.

It is not surprising that the area has attracted numerous, often very talented, artists, and a visit of their studios as part of the annual South Coast Artists' open studio tour is a most rewarding excursion. A sculptured torso of tangerine alabaster takes your breath away. State-of-the-art photographs of sunsets leave you in awe, as do many of the landscape paintings.

Later in the day, back on the deck sipping a glass of wine, your attention shifts from the marsh to the sky above. Accompanied by the sound of the waves, the setting sun and the clouds team up to provide a spectacular show. Banks of fog may lurk at the horizon as the sun sinks lower and lower, peeking through bands of floating fluffy clouds, painting the sky in psychedelic colors. When good luck has it and there are no mosquitos, you enjoy a simple outdoor meal of freshly picked corn and local fish, prepared on the camp stove.

After dark, a game of Scrabble by the light of an old-fashioned oil lamp prepares you for early retirement and a night of heavenly sleep, soothed by a lullaby of rolling waves and whispering winds.

\*\*\*

The Beach House is located in South Dartmouth, between Fall River and New Bedford, within a few miles of the R.I. border. It belongs to my son-in-law's family, and he remembers spending long summers there ever since he was little. The original house, built in the '60s, ended its existence by floating across the salt marsh in a tidal surge due to Hurricane Bob.

My daughter and her husband, together with family members and friends, built the current structure in 2000. It does not have running water or electricity; a contractor provides immaculate weekly cleaning of the private portalet that is discreetly hidden among the pilings.

It was my good fortune recently to spend four days at the house with just my daughter as my loving companion (and watchful guardian as I navigated those stairs...) She and I have a long and very happy history of yearly mother-daughter vacations together, each one seemingly topping all others. This last one will certainly rank very high in our memory book.

OV

## WHY I WENT TO THE DIA DE LOS MUERTOS IN OAXACA

By Janet Clayman

“No! Absolutely not!” said my immigrant parents. “You will not go out for Halloween. It is a ‘goyish’ [in brief, anything that isn’t Jewish] religious holiday.”

I had no idea of what they were talking about, but that was how it was. Much later I found out that one day is All Saints Day and the next is All Souls Day. That is why I was so excited to learn that Road Scholar was sponsoring a trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, to share in the observance of Dia de Los Muertos, the Day of the Dead. I could finally see how it was really celebrated.

Huge marigolds decorated the shrines honoring the dead. There were large shrines in the Zocalo -- the central square. There was always an arch of flowers, usually surrounding a religious picture, above a table displaying fruit and all sorts of produce.

In the cemeteries, many family plots had similar shrines with a picture of the departed in the arch and the person’s favorite foods on the table. We visited cemeteries during the day and at night. I didn’t see it, but we were told that families might spend the night there, drinking mescal to keep away the chill. They might offer drinks to passing strangers. One should accept; it is considered an insult to refuse.

The observation of the Day of the Dead is a curious combination of celebration and mourning. That year, November 1 was All Saints Day, remembering children, and November 2 is All Souls Day, remembering adults. School is out for three days. Whole families stroll around in costume, faces painted white. Even the dogs have costumes.

One night, there was a stage with dancers and performers. The next night, costumed Mariachi bands walked through the streets followed by crowds of dancing people. Of course, there was lots of food, from street vendors to a more formal restaurant from which we watched the passing show. We concluded that celebration topped mourning.



*A scene of the Day of the Dead celebration in Oaxaca, Mexico.*

The tour was sponsored by Road Scholar, whose subtitle is “Adventures in Lifelong Learning.” It certainly was an adventure. In addition to the six lectures on the history of Mexico and Oaxaca, we visited a number of archeological sites, where we learned about the Indian tribes that lived in the areas in successive periods -- before the Maya and Aztec had the bad fortune to meet the Spanish -- the Mixtec,

Zapotec, and Olmec at that area alone.

Visits to different villages showed us the craft in which each village specializes. We watched black pottery being made, ladies doing backstrap weaving, mescal being extracted from agave plants, unreal animals being carved from wood and painted in fanciful patterns, chocolate being made. Add to those a visit to an amazing puppet museum, a bull ring (no fight) and another different restaurant. Each day was a new learning experience.

The Dia de Los Muertos was a lively trip, but I didn’t see anyone trick-or-treating.

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**Rich Patterson,**  
U.S. Marine Corps  
Veteran  
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## WANTED: VOLUNTEER MONITORS AND SUBSTITUTES

Resident volunteers work two-hour shifts to help cover SCB Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for Monday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Friday 1-3 p.m. starting mid-August. Substitute volunteers are also needed to fill-in when a monitors are unable to make it on a scheduled day.

This is a great way to help out while working with a wonderful team of resident volunteers.

Basic tasks include:

Greeting guests and visitors while in the reception office.

Taking a brief walk through the building to ensure that all is secure.

Monitoring camera displays of the building.

If you would like to help keep our community costs down by volunteering once a week or help out as a substitute monitor when needed, please contact Kathy Lukens at [wklukens@comcast.net](mailto:wklukens@comcast.net) or 203-612-6685.



## CALENDAR

**Dates, times and locations of events are subject to change. To update a Calendar listing, please contact Linda Arvers at [larvers@oronoquevillage.com](mailto:larvers@oronoquevillage.com)**

**For the latest on OV news & events, go to [www.oronoquevillage.com](http://www.oronoquevillage.com) or OVTV. OVTV is Channel 591 for those with a cable box and Channel 121-591 for those without a box.**

**RSF= Racquet Sports Facility , (C) = Closed Event**

### MONDAY, AUGUST 16

- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 5:00 p.m. – Tai Chi, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Pickleball Club Meeting, NCB (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. – OVCA Board Meeting, NCB

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

- 10:00 a.m. – Drop-in Sculpture Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Current Events Discussion, SCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Movie Club: *The Good Liar*, SCB

- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

- 9:30 a.m. – Beginner Line Dancing, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Quilting Group, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Bocce, NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Aqua Zumba, SCB
- 11:30 a.m. – Tai Chi, NCB
- 12:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Bingo, SCB

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Karaoke, SCB

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

- 9:30 a.m. – OVTC Open Round Robins, RSF
- 6:00 p.m. – Weekenders, NCB

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

- 4:00 p.m. – SAC Picnic Event, NCB

### MONDAY, AUGUST 23

- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB (O

- 5:00 p.m. – Tai Chi, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 24**

- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25**

- 10:00 a.m. – Drop-in Sculpture Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Hadassah Board Meeting, NCB (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 26**

- 9:30 a.m. – Beginner Line Dancing, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Bocce, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Yoga, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Aqua Zumba, SCB
- 11:30 a.m. – Tai Chi, NCB
- 12:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Writer's Group, SCB

### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 27**

- 10:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB

- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 28**

- 9:30 a.m. – OVTC Open Round Robins, RSF

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 29: No events scheduled**

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 30**

- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 1:00 P.m. – Arts Guild Planning Committee, NCB (C)
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 31**

- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

- 10:00 a.m. – Drop-in Sculpture Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 10:00 a.m. – Water Aerobics, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Current Events, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Book Club, NCB Library

***Did you know that the OV website has a Classified Ad section?***

***Listings include a request for a travel companion; items for sale include a men's Schwinn bicycle and a sofa.***

***To see what is posted, visit [www.oronoquevillage.com](http://www.oronoquevillage.com) and scroll down the under the Announcements heading.***

***For information on posting an ad, contact Carol King at 203-377-5313, ext. 3, or [cking@oronoquevillage.com](mailto:cking@oronoquevillage.com)***

## FEATURE

### RE-JOYCE WITH JOYCE:

#### Shopping With Tony



Dr. Joyce  
Saltman

I love shopping. I love shopping so much that, with the exception of shopping years ago with my Mom or Ronnie, both of whom would tell me exactly what I needed to know when I tried on an outfit, shopping is probably the only activity I enjoy doing alone. I love the quiet of the stores, the textures of the materials, the colors screaming from the racks of latest styles. I love seeing carts filling up with merchandise carefully chosen by a fellow shopper, and love to watch the men so patiently waiting on the chairs in the front of the store, filling the hours by reading newspapers, intentionally saved for this occasion, or watching something on their cell phones. I even love the check-out personnel, generally smiling and seemingly happy to have customers -- and, I suspect, having a job at all!

But, what I love best of all is that I am always accompanied by my friend Tony, not in person, of course, but in spirit. Having heard his lectures for 29 years as part of the Healing, Education, Laughter and Play (HELP) Institute I directed each summer for Southern Connecticut State

University, I clearly remember his statements about how we shop, flipping through racks of items, while talking to ourselves. As we peruse the stock, we are saying, "Not me, not me -- me!"

In truth, I have over 100 tops to wear with slacks or skirts, and they are all brightly colored, similar styles, and often floral or geometric designs. I do not own one that would be considered "quiet" or "subtle" and if I ever made an effort to try a different style, I ended up wearing it, washing it and giving it away; I knew it was "not me"!

And so it was that Tony and I went shopping yesterday in a store that offers 10 percent off every Monday to those who are 55 and over, and I delighted in finding three tops that were totally "me." When I came home to hang them in the closet, I discovered that only one had to be returned. That top was so "me" that I had already purchased the identical blouse two weeks before! **OV**

*Dr. Joyce Saltman, Southern Connecticut State University professor emeritus of special education, is a 2015 recipient of the Doug Fletcher Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for the Applied and Therapeutic Humor (AATH). She holds four graduate degrees in the fields of special education and counseling.*

## HUMOR

### SENIOR TEENAGER

#### Submitted by Ray Drake

I now have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 65 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and I don't have acne.

Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers.

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom the "John" and renamed it the "Jim." I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

When I was a child, I thought "nap time" was a punishment. Now it feels like a small vacation.

The biggest lie I tell myself is: "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

I don't have gray hair; I have "wisdom highlights"! I'm just very wise.

If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would've put them on my knees.

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.

Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

Of course, I talk to myself. Sometimes I need expert advice.

At my age "getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.

I have friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names.

Now, I'm wondering: Did I share this with you, or did you share this with me? **OV**

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## VILLAGE HISTORY: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

### Do you remember the 1970s when:

Dow Jones Industrial Average: 842  
Average Family Income: \$9,800  
Minimum Wage: \$1.60/hour  
Average House Price: \$17,000 / Rent: \$108/month  
Car Price: \$3,100 / Gas/gallon: 36¢  
Common Household Items: Milk-\$1.65/gallon;  
Bread-25¢; Eggs-62¢/per dozen  
Cup of Coffee: 44¢  
Stamps: 6¢  
Harvard Tuition: \$4,070/Year

~

### The innovations in science and technology in the 1970s included:

The development of the integrated circuit and the laser.  
Stephen Hawking developed his theories of black  
holes.

Genetic engineering became commercially viable.

Modern computing was born. The world's first general  
microprocessor (Intel 404) was introduced in 1971.

Personal computers, Apple, Atari games, internet  
working/bulletin board systems and pocket calculators  
were produced.

~

### And here in OV:

The Villager, Volume 1, No. 1 made its debut on Feb. 5,  
1975. The 620 families living here received an 11- by 14-  
inch, 8-page newspaper: The Oronoque Villager. Six staff  
members, seven editors, seven photographers and 21 re-  
porters worked hard. The first issue boasted 17 advertisers,  
and a variety of columns including "Travel Talk," "Bits and  
Pieces" and "Village Vibes."

Who would have thought we'd now be posting news  
and announcements, classified ads, and everything we  
need to know about OV's operations and activities on our  
website!

OV

— Compiled by Tina Vermette, Mary W. von Ziegesar and  
Judy Waldeyer

## WORKS BY THE OV WRITER'S GROUP

### WHEN THE RED, RED ROBIN COMES BOB-BOB BOBBIN' ALONG

By Mary W. von Ziegesar

"When the Red, Red Robin (Comes Bob, Bob, Bobbin'  
Along)" was a popular 1926 song with both  
words and music by Harry Woods and published by Irving  
Berlin. The song became the signature song for singer and  
actress Lillian Roth, and gained in popularity when sung  
by Al Jolson, Bing Crosby and Doris Day." (Source:  
Wikipedia)

*"When the red, red robin comes bob, bob, bobbin'  
along, along, there'll be no more sobbin' when he starts throbbin'  
his old sweet song.*

*"Wake up, wake up you sleepy head. Get up, get out of your  
bed. Cheer up, cheer up the sun is red. Live, love, laugh and be  
happy"*

It was the Saturday Memorial Day, heat-on, fleece jacket, leg-  
gings and socks on, and freshly flowering potted plants on –  
on the living room floor. Nine pots were lined along the glass  
slider with hopes of some light and the guarantee of refuge  
from the 40-degree temperatures and the expected 4 inches  
of rain.

I had a quiet weekend planned, and all that came to my  
house was a robust robin who came bob, bob, bobbin' along.  
Rather, she came knock, knock, knockin' on the glass trying



to get to the plants. I initially thought someone was at my  
front door or at my garage door. After several trips to the  
front door, and up and down the stairs to the garage, I  
saw Ms. Robin fly from the deck up to the railing then  
to a tree and to her likely nest. I waited with patient  
stealth for her return. She did. I knocked on the  
glass and scared her off. She returned again and  
again. This was one brazen robin knock, knock,  
knockin' at my door. And knock, knock, knockin' at  
my sanity.

In the absence of a visiting young grandchild  
with an uncluttered imagination and a clever solu-  
tion, and with what I thought was genuine ingenuity on my  
part, I taped a small wrinkled sheet of aluminum foil to one  
end of a ribbon and I taped the other end of the ribbon to  
the window, at the spot directly above where Ms. Robin's ac-  
cumulated droppings indicated her preferred knockin' spot.  
The wind moved the foil, gently and not so gently. No more  
Ms. Robin. Well done, Granny.

Then I began to think about why she was knockin'. Was  
she hungry? Threatened by her reflection? Threatened by the  
plants? Bored? Had she knocked herself silly? So, as one  
mother to another, I put a handful of seeds on the railing for  
her. Now, I could finish the song, "Cheer up, cheer up the sun  
is red (well, somewhere it is). Live, love, laugh and be happy."  
Be happy, Mrs. Robin, and please, no more knock, knock,  
knockin' at my door!

OV

## QUICK CONTACT LIST

Police, Fire, Medical Emergency .....911

Routine Police Call.....203-385-4100

Maintenance Emergency.....203-377-5502

Gas Leak (So.Ct.GasCo.).....800-513-8898

Elec. Emergency (U.I.).....800-722-5584

Business Office .....203-377-5313

Maintenance Dept.....203-375-8853

South Clubhouse .....203-377-5435

Optimum Cable Service .....203-336-2225



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## WORKS BY THE OV WRITER'S GROUP

### BE "WILD" ERING EXPERIENCES

By Elisabeth Breslav

We built our dream house in the middle of the Easton woods, sharing the habitat of a variety of wildlife that in the course of some forty years would provide the most unexpected and delightful experiences.

There was the parade of the wild turkeys. No, not one or two drab-colored hens, but twenty-two perfectly disciplined birds, slowly crossing the back yard behind their leader. With the sun shining down on their backs, I discovered to my surprise that their feathers are actually a mosaic of colors, varying from deep brown to pure gold.

A family of eight deer, including a mama and her two offspring, chose the edge of the woods behind our yard for their daily siesta one summer.

The adults could be seen lying down resting, but the two fawns preferred the open space of the yard, chasing each other much the way children do. Their mom was lying nearby, keeping a watchful eye on the youngsters. One day, as I gently opened the sliding door onto the deck to take a picture, she heard me. And when I took one step closer to the railing, her ears pointed up as she got off her knees and let out a very loud warning snort. The kids paid no attention, but were soon disciplined. With her lower chin the mother delivered a smart wallop against the flank of one child. It jumped to attention and, with the second one immediately falling in line the three withdrew under the trees.



For several years we had a resident red fox who liked to use the whale-back rock at the end of the lawn for his afternoon nap of about an hour. Waking up, he would stretch one limb at a time, much like a human, and begin a tour around the foundation of the house. He would invariably arrive at a window and get into a boxing match with his reflection. After a series of jabs and undercuts where nobody won, he would eventually leave in a huff only to try again the next day.

But my most "bewildering" experience was my meeting with two coyotes. I was driving up a steep and narrow country lane near our house, going very slowly because this was deer country, when some animal crossed the road right in front of my car. It was too small to be a deer, but mindful of my naturalist son's advice always to expect a buddy to follow a crossing deer, I waited. Sure enough, a second animal ran across and joined the one that had stopped in the ditch right beside my car. Two young coyotes -- close enough so I could almost touch them. I carefully rolled down my window and spoke to them: "Are you guys supposed to be out during daytime? You could be hit by a car here." They looked at me, then sat up to raise and bend their heads backwards, and howled. OOOHOOHOO and they were gone.

Here in Oronoque we also have wild life. Several years ago I gave up trying to grow my favorite Dutch tulips near the front entrance of my unit because the bunnies always nipped off the buds just before they were ready to open. This fall, my dear neighbors surprised me by planting some tulip bulbs where I can see them from my kitchen window. Do I dare hope for another "bewildering" experience and see them bloom? Stay tuned...!

OV

### PICKLEBALL BUCKET

By Peter Geltner

When the facilities opened at Oronoque Village after the worst of the Covid-19 pandemic had passed, I decided that it might be fun to learn how to play pickleball. I joined the club and started to take lessons. The problem was that I had played tennis years ago and was used to playing with a long racket instead of a short paddle, so that in the beginning I kept missing the ball when it came my way. I decided that next on my bucket list was to learn how to be better at playing pickleball.

I finally got used to the fact that the paddle was short, but I still needed a lot of practice in hitting good shots and hitting a serve into the correct spot on the court. Then I attended a session of tennis lessons, and had a problem using a long racket. The instructor told me that I needed to be further away from the ball when I hit it, because the ball kept

hitting the area of the racket near the handle. I guess that I should not be playing both tennis and pickleball.

Eventually I believed that I had reached a 2.5 skill level out of 5 in pickleball, which would place me in the intermediate range as a player. Unfortunately, others did not agree with my interpretation of skill levels and thought that I was only a 2.0, which placed me in the category of low level players.

To be better or not to be better, that is the question. As Decartes would have said, I think that I am better, therefore I am. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the opinions of others or to take control of my arms and prove myself better. That is also the question.

In any case, no matter how good or bad I am at playing pickleball, the best part of the sport is participating in a social event that has very friendly people. One of the first things that I learned while playing was that I was not supposed to say "I'm sorry" after making a bad hit. This is another example of how nice our neighbors are in Oronoque Village.

OV

## OV Karaoke Club



No fees or dues,  
No commitments, Just fun!

Join us for Karaoke on  
Friday, August 20, in the  
South Clubhouse Auditorium  
from 6:30-9pm.

Come sing or just listen to your friends and  
neighbors showing off their talents.

A good time is guaranteed for all.

This is a monthly event ...

BYOB, food, and refreshments!



**No fees, dues, commitment. Just fun!**

**Join us for our Saturday Night Dance  
Party on September 4 at SCB  
from 7-9pm.**

**This monthly dance party is your  
chance to show off your moves while  
getting some great exercise! A vari-  
ety of dance music will be played  
from the '40s to today.**

**BYOB, food and refreshments!**

## BINGO AT SCB AT 6:30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 19



Bingo — presented by the OV Men's Club —  
takes place on the third Thursday of each  
month (excluding September & December).

Games are open to all and refreshments will  
be served.

The cost is \$2.50 per card.

Questions? Call Sandy Lunt at 203-377-5833  
or Jerry Brown at 203-378-7781.

## Call-In Program Is Available To Oronoque Residents

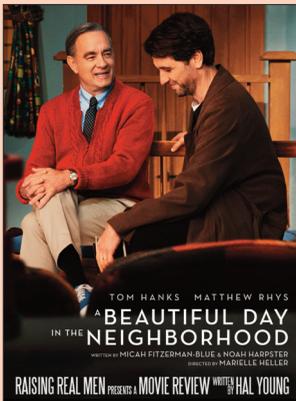
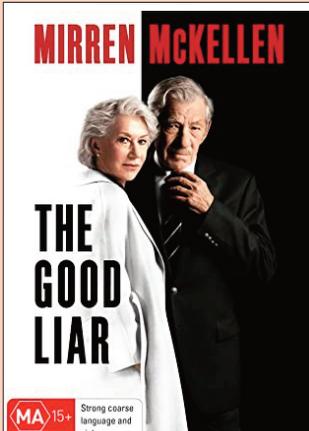


If you live alone, you  
might want to consider  
signing up for the **Call-In  
Program.**

To participate, you need  
to call the South Club-  
house (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  
Lukens at 203-612-6685.



## The Movie Club Presents *The Good Liar*

**Wed., Aug. 18, at 2 p.m. at SCB**  
**\$1 admission includes popcorn**

Career con artist Roy Courtney can hardly believe his luck when he meets well-to-do widow Betty McLeish online. As Betty opens her life and home to him, Roy is surprised to find himself caring about her, turning what should be a cut-and-dry swindle into the most treacherous tightrope walk of his life.

The film for Sept. 10 (7 p.m. at NCB) and Sept. 15 (2 p.m. at SCB) is *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*. A troubled journalist for Esquire (Matthew Rhys) is assigned to profile television icon Fred Rogers (Tom Hanks).

**JOIN US FOR  
"IT'S 5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE"  
ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH  
AT NCB AT 5 P.M.**

**BYOB \* RELAX AND MINGLE**

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**NEXT EVENT IS SEPT. 3**

**SAC PICNIC BASKET GAMES EVENT**  
**NCB – SUNDAY, AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2021 TIME: 4–6 PM**



**COME JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT OF GAMES & PRIZES**  
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**COST 5.00 P.P. - R.S.V.P. BY WED, AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**???** Call Linda Eastwood 203-970-6159 or Mary Ann Weaver 203-530-9962

**Checks Made Out to SAC – Drop-Off Box NCB - 1<sup>ST</sup> COME**  
**TABLES OF 8 PUT EVERYONE ATTENDING WITH MONEY**  
**BEFORE DEPOSITING CHECK**

House & Garden Presents

# Stratford History



**Monday, Sept . 13**  
**1:30 pm - SCB**

**Members: Free -**  
**Guests \$2**

David Wright, editor of the The Stratford Historical Society Newsletter will share with us some interesting stories about Stratford's past!

David, current Manager of Information Technology for the Town of Stratford, has been researching Stratford's rich history for many years and will share some of his "finds" about our city in a delightful afternoon of town history followed by tea, coffee, and dessert. Don't miss this informative House & Garden event!





# FUNSEEKERS PRESENTS



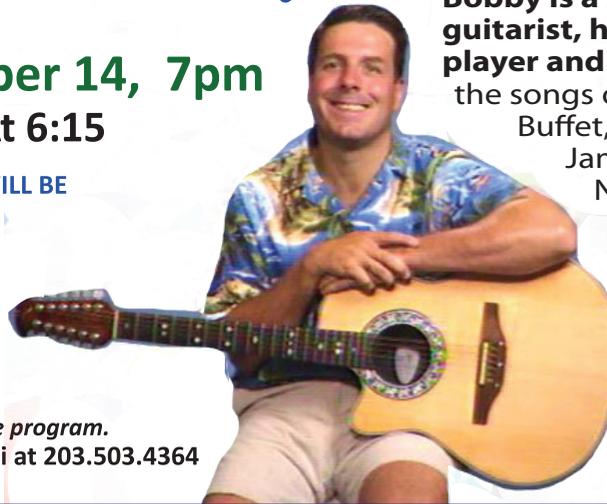
## Bobby Morrill

**Tuesday, September 14, 7pm**  
**SCB • Doors Open At 6:15**

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED AND WILL BE  
ACCEPTED **STARTING August 24!**  
Please put \$4.00 checks pp into  
FUNSEEKERS Box NCB

**RESIDENT MEMBERS ONLY.**  
Not A Member?-Join for \$15

**BYOB, Snacks, Munchies**  
Coffee, tea, and dessert to follow the program.  
Questions? Call John Fratarcangeli at 203.503.4364



**Bobby is a solo acoustic guitarist, harmonica player and singer** playing the songs of Jimmy Buffet, Cat Stevens, James Taylor, Neil Young, Bob Dylan, the Grateful Dead, 50s, 60s & 70s, and other artists, as well as Irish ballad and pub songs.



**The OV Book Club will meet on Wednesday,  
Sept. 1, at 7 p.m. in the NCB Library  
to discuss *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson**

Pulitzer Prize-winning, bestselling author Isabel Wilkerson examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America. In this brilliant book, she gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores — through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people — how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.

Beyond race, class or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people’s lives and behavior and the nation’s fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations.

The book for Oct. 6 is *Bag Man* by Rachel Maddow and Michael Yarvitz, who expand on their podcast to deepen the story of Spiro Agnew’s scandal and its lasting influence on our politics, our media and our life.

For information, email [bahinb@yahoo.com](mailto:bahinb@yahoo.com)

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As licensed Realtors and **Zillow Premier Agents**, you have an advantage because Zillow sends their Stratford callers to us. We are passionate about helping our clients get the best possible deals. We have bought and sold in Oronoque so we are very familiar with the Village and pricing.

**CALL US when you're ready to sell!**



# Exclusive Offer for Oronoque Village Residents

**\$150 off any NEW Stairlift Purchase\***

Call 866-342-4821 (toll free) to redeem this offer.

\*Includes lifetime warranty on motor and drive train. Offer expires April 30, 2022.



CT LIC #425001

## Be Safe. Be Well. Be Home.

The Oronoque community is our sanctuary. It is our home.  
Our friends are here. Our memories are here.

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our family owned and operated caregiving agency can  
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The way it should be. Always.

Proudly owned by an OV resident, our agency has been  
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Call us today for a no-obligation in-home assessment.  
It would be our pleasure to show you how we can  
help with a care plan that meets your individual needs  
while maintaining your sense of dignity and independence.

+ Special discount for OV residents +



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