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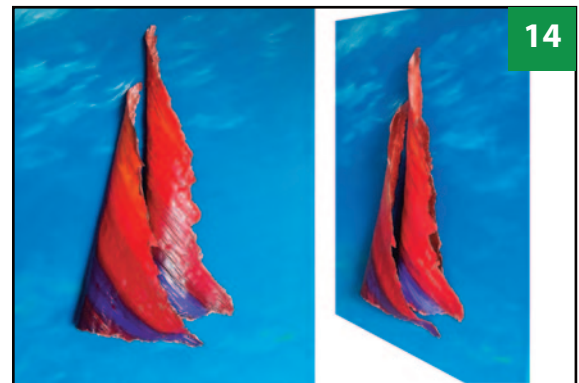
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On the cover: Photos taken during Cleanup Day on May 21, during which a shredding truck was parked at NCB and dumpsters were placed at SCB. Members of the Maintenance Department were on-site to assist residents. Simultaneously, a Service Fair was held in the auditorium of the South Clubhouse.

The Villager welcomes submissions for cover consideration. Photos must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to Villager Editor Carol King at [cking@oronoquevillage.com](mailto:cking@oronoquevillage.com). Villager editorial submissions 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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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 17, 2022



Lee Shlafer

Good evening: I will mention briefly, because a full report will be forthcoming later, that the 50th Anniversary Gala was held last weekend and was an outstanding success. It was a beautiful event, expertly planned and executed and a complete pleasure to attend. The entire Gala Committee is to be complimented for a job that was not just well done, it was wonderful.

As most residents are aware, the OVCA budget has been adopted and will become effective July 1, the start of the new fiscal year. Please understand that the Tax District budget follows a different process. Next week, May 24, the Tax District will have its Annual Meeting to elect officers and directors and to approve the Tax District budget. That meeting will be via Zoom. Taxpayers of the Village over the age of 18 as opposed to a single unit owner are eligible to vote for the budget. The budget passes if a majority of those present at the meeting and legally eligible to vote, vote affirmatively for the budget. Fred will explain a little more about how that process works on a Zoom meeting.

Clearly there was a high level of resident interest in this OVCA budget. An increase that is greater than the norm will have that consequence. Amid all of the discussion generated by this budget, I think there was a very valuable take away, communicate better. This is something that can be readily done. The full budget schedule, even if some of it might be subject to change, can be shared with residents well in advance of the rejection vote date. An explanation of any significant budget increases or decreases can accompany the distribution of the proposed budget to unit owners. I would also urge residents to not just pay attention when the percentage increase is significant. The development of the budget is an extremely important and challenging task. The goal of the effort is to insure that our operations and reserves are properly financed while being conscious of the contribution required from unit owners. None of us should be indifferent to this financial plan. We owe it to ourselves to understand a 2 percent increase as well as we understand an 8 percent increase. The information is available to us as are people willing to answer our questions. If the attention this budget garnered encourages more resident budget awareness, that will be one positive outcome from this experience.

In the course of the budget discussion, there was some commentary on the subject of the taxes the Association pays on our clubhouses, pools etc. Questions are being raised about the benefit of moving the amenities from OVCA to OVTD. I mention this because I want to emphasize

that this is not a new conversation. It is a complicated matter that has been looked at before. There are issues involving how condominiums are organized, how loans are handled as viewed by banks and the government, how tax assessors determine value and the restrictions that may be imposed on municipalities. That is not meant to be a complete list of issues. This is a conversation worth revisiting, but due to its complexity, it requires expertise to fully understand the pros and cons. It is in the hands of our Executive Director and when some recommendations are ready to be offered, they will be shared with the community.

As we begin this summer season, please be safe, have some fun and enjoy our beautiful Village. Please remember this as well. This year, Memorial Day has, I believe, an even greater significance. It is a day of remembrance and appreciation for the sacrifices others have made on our behalf. As we watch the events in Europe unfold, the reality of sacrifice is sharply brought into focus. Others are experiencing its pain as we speak so we must never forget how much we owe and that we can never really adequately express our appreciation.

The Board passed three motions with respect to new rules. The first rule established a maximum length for dog leashes of 7 feet. The second rule provides that clubs and their members can file complaints with the Compliance Committee if club rules are violated. The third rule establishes new hours for the pools at the South Clubhouse from 8:30 a.m. until 8:30p.m.

Three new rules were discussed and will be sent to unit owners for their comments. The first rule bans open flame heaters of any type in the Village. The second rule bans charcoal grills in the Village. The third rule allows three guests to use the racquet sports facilities during non-club member hours if they are accompanied by a resident.

The Board also passed a motion to return the By Law and Declaration revisions to the By Law Committee for some revision. Additionally, the committee is requested to develop a new By Law on the matter of restricting compensation for any work performed by board, standing or ad hoc committee members or district officers and return all revisions and new material to the Board for the June meeting.

Concluding the meeting, the following remarks were made:

I would like to make a brief closing statement. I want to thank this board for their diligence, patience and support to their districts. I would like to thank Ken Colman for his efforts as Treasurer, Bob Romatzick for coping with the rules, by laws and declaration revisions, Myrna Albino for her reasoned approach and forward-thinking ideas, the Compliance Committee for its quiet and effective work and Mary von Ziegesar for her incredible efforts to improve, for



residents, The Villager, the TV station, website and portal as well as new resident meetings and information.

With that said, effective with the adjournment of tonight's meeting, I am resigning as President. I can no longer function in this role as necessary given the culture that surrounds me and the absence of support that is available to me. I do not make this decision lightly and I do not choose to engage in a public recitation of the many many details that have led me to resign.

I had decided this past January as a result of activities going on at that time not to seek re-election. I had every expectation of completing my term, however circumstances are such that continuing in this position has become untenable. I am filled with dismay, disillusionment and disappointment. There are many to whom I am exceedingly appreciative and there are those who simply confound me.

OV

## OV 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALAS WERE 'SPECTACULAR!'

Story by Mary von Ziegesar ~ Photo by Len Nachbar

The Oronoque Village 50th Anniversary Galas, held on May 14 and 15, were spirited events that brought our community to its feet!

From the opening remarks by Cheryl Dwyer to the closing song, "What a Wonderful World," the events were spectacular celebrations. The innovative decorations made the setting sparkle with elegance. The background music by vocalist Elisabeth Ashkins set a perfect stage. The signature "Jubilee Drink," the pasta and antipasto bars, followed by an elaborate buffet and dessert from Fitzgerald's Fine Dining, added magic to the air.

The evening became even more memorable with a cabaret concert performed by Frank Mastrone and friends. Frank, who has performed nationally and abroad, sang with special guest, Jessie Janet Richards McGarty. The duo have performed together on Broadway. They were accompanied by two musicians: an amazing violinist and pianist. Not only were attendees on their feet at the end of the performances, their hearts were warmed by this very special tribute to where we live.

The Gala Committee worked for two years to plan the celebrations. Cheryl Dwyer headed the core committee including Debbie Grosso, Barbara Minoff, Bonnie Usinger and Dee Varholak. Additional resident volunteers shared their expertise and devoted long hours toward making



From left, Arline Walton, Debbie Grosso, Barbara Minoff, Linda Eastwood, Dee Varholak, Cheryl Comen, Bonnie Usinger and Betty Mulholland. Missing: Mary von Ziegesar and Judy Waldeyer.

this event a success, including Cheryl Comen, Linda Eastwood, Betty Mulholland, Mary von Ziegesar, Judy Waldeyer and Arline Walton, along with numerous others whose help was greatly appreciated. Also a thank you to the OV staff members, particularly Christan Davin, for his superb work on the sound system.

Cheers to all of those involved and, most of all, cheers to Oronoque Village and to the next 50 years!

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OVTV: PARDON OUR APPEARANCE

By Bruce Pollock

In case you've seen this message flashing across your Channel 591 TV screen (and I fervently hope you have) there's a reboot underway in Oronoque TV-land. We're just beginning the experimental phase of the operation, like in the wild West days of public access on cable in the '70s.

Don't expect Hollywood hunks in slick suits and spokesmodels in string bikinis blandly reading cue cards or reciting the weather report in high-def 3-D. It'll be more like two fuzzy and, maybe, out-of-focus guys in baseball caps discussing the life and times of Dion and playing his music (that would be me and Wayne Cotter), someone from the Book Club reading the opening page of next month's book, preceding an interview with the author or a trailer of next month's movie. The Village is home to dozens of musicians, artists, writers and sculptors. Some will want to show their wares to the rest of the community every evening, three hours at a time for a week.



The details of our programming schedule are still being worked out, dependent on supply and demand, if anybody's watching, what they want to see and when.

You might see our own Joyce Saltman performing her favorite stories and jokes or 15 minutes of fame devoted to your pet. A sneak peek at what the Funseekers have in store for us this summer. A teaser from the Lords of Karaoke.

Watch for the Sports Page with up-to-the minute schedules, standings, highlights, injury reports and quotable quotes from the Tennis, Ping Pong and Pickleball Clubs as well as those who play bocce, golf or cornhole. Stay tuned for a grand-prize giveaway to get things rolling, with the winner to receive a brand new car (ton of chocolate covered raisins) or the equivalent in pennies. You've heard the phrase, "If you build it, they will come." Let's put it to the test, friends and neighbors! Please email me at [bap203@yahoo.com](mailto:bap203@yahoo.com) with questions or suggestions.

OV

## BRAVO PLANNING MEETING ON FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 6 P.M. AT SCB

The upswing of COVID cases in January forced BRAVO (Best Reader Actors in the Village of Oronoque) to temporarily postpone its planned summer production of "Burlesque – Oronoque Style". However, "the show must go on" and that is what we plan on doing.

Providing we have enough Villagers to put on the show, consisting of vaudeville-type songs, skits and slapstick comedy from yesteryear, it will be held on Saturday, Oct. 8, 6 p.m. at SCB. Rehearsals would be held once a week for July and August (songs one week, skits the next), then twice weekly (combined songs/skits) for September through the date of the performance.

Interested in joining our troupe of performers? Then come to the planning meeting on June 17 at 6 p.m. at SCB. We are seeking talented (and some not-so-talented) Villagers. Have you ever secretly wanted to be part of a theatrical production and have fun doing it? Now's your chance. Call Bob Krakovich, BRAVO director, at 203-752-6105 with questions.

## CALL FOR ART: 'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'

The theme for the OV Arts Guild's summer art show is "Food for Thought," which can be all about food (such as a still life or a scene that has to do with food, i.e. picnic) or a

food sculpture. But, also, consider the broader meaning of "food for thought" as something that warrants serious consideration or is worthy of contemplation. What is meaningful to you, what do you care about, what makes you joyful?



All mediums are welcome. The opening reception for this show is on Sunday, July 10, at 4 p.m., SCB Lounge.

The artwork will be collected on July 1 from 10 to 11 a.m. at SCB. Hanging artwork must be wired across the back of the piece; three-dimensional work can be displayed on a pedestal. If you need assistance or special arrangements, please contact Barbara Stewart at 203-612-1373 or [barb\\_smt@yahoo.com](mailto:barb_smt@yahoo.com).

**Note:** If your is art depicting food, please do not submit snapshots of the latest amazing meal at your favorite restaurant!

## TAI CHI BEGINS ON JUNE 20

The second session of Tai Chi begins on Monday, June 20, and ends on July 25. There will be no class on July 4. Classes will take place 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the SCB auditorium. Jonathan Davis will emphasize work on increasing strength and energy with focus on the heart and mind. Cost is \$60 for six sessions.

To join, call Lucy Clifford at 203-644-7710 or email [lmclifford@yahoo.com](mailto:lmclifford@yahoo.com).





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## OV WINE CLUB: 'AN EVENING IN TUSCANY'

By Bill Tanski

Speak of Tuscany and you conjure up images of rolling hills with Tuscan villas, the birth of the Renaissance in Florence...or Diane Lane in "Under the Tuscan Sun." No matter your image, the reality of Tuscany is that it is one of the most famous and prolific wine regions of Italy, if not all of Europe.

The OV Wine Club met on April 29 at NCB for the purpose of sampling and experiencing the wines of Tuscany. Like all our events, it's the wine, coupled with our friendships, that makes for perfect evenings. And, wine improves with age ... as the older we get, the more we like it!

As usual, we are led by our faithful wine tutor, Len Gulino, assisted, this time, by Michelle DeWyngaert. They guided through the various wines of the region and the sampling techniques to gauge each of them.

We sampled a total of seven wines, which includes an "Entrance Wine." What's important about the Entrance Wine is that it introduces you to the region, but also to the event. You're greeted as in a fine restaurant with a glass to sample along with an appetizer. For this occasion the appetizer was a sunflower biscuit. Sunflowers are ubiquitous to Tuscany and the countryside is filled with fields of them.

However, the sunflower has now taken on new interpretations with the Russian invasion of Ukraine. One of our co-hosts, Cheryl Dwyer, mentioned the following in her opening toast: "The flower has taken on new layers of meaning emerging as a global symbol of resistance, unity and hope. The flower has historically represented peace. Let us take a moment to raise our glasses in honor of the



Ukrainian people and the hope of peace."

Tuscan wines are dominated by two grapes, sangiovese and vernaccia. The former is for reds and the latter is for whites. We sampled three of each. Sangiovese grapes are famous for Chianti while vernaccia is noted for Vernaccia di San Gimignano. In all our sampling we do the 5 S's: see the color, then swirl, sniff, sip and savor. And for our Tuscan experience, we complemented the wines with an assortment of cheeses, crackers, meat and fruit at each table.

As become our tradition, after the last sampling, Dorothy Tanski brings out homemade cookies, we approach the bar and mingle over another glass. As they say: "A real friend reaches for your hand, and puts a glass of wine in it."

The next OV Wine Club event will be in July. The theme? Stay tuned!



### CELEBRATION AT BOOTHE PARK

Friends of Boothe Park will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its award-winning rose garden on Saturday, June 11, from 5-7 p.m.

Light appetizers and wine will be served. The Stratford Community Band will be performing.

Tickets, which cost \$15 per person or \$25 per couple, can be purchased online at <https://boothememorialpark.com/index.html>

Guests are encouraged to dress in Kentucky Derby-style attire.

For more information contact [friendsofboothepk@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofboothepk@gmail.com)

Boothe Park is located at 5800 Main St. in Stratford.





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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 June 15, is June 2 at noon.*

## BOCCE

Bocce is played on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon, at NCB.

## CURRENT EVENTS

• The Current Events Discussion Group meets in SCB Card Room 1 at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays June 8 and 22 and July 6 and 20.

## 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. Proof of vaccination required.

## LADIES BIBLE STUDY

• The Ladies Bible Study welcomes all resident women. Proof of vaccination is not required, but nonvaccinated ladies must wear masks. There are no fees to join. Purchasing study materials is optional. Meetings are on the second and fourth Fridays in the NCB Board Room from 10:30 a.m. to noon (excluding July and August.) Questions? Call Angie McKelvey (203-227-3222) or Tina Vermette (203-375-0291).



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## LINE DANCING

• Line dancing classes are held on Wednesdays at NCB. Beginner classes are held at 9:30 a.m., followed by a class for all levels at 10 a.m. No masking is required for anyone who has received the booster or third shot. All others must wear masks. (Line dancing will take a summer break following the June 8 class. Sessions resume on Sept. 14.) Call Sonya DeBiase at 202-377-1515 for information.

## 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. Proof of vaccination is required. Those without proof of booster shots must wear masks.

## PING PONG GROUP

• Players of all levels are invited to join this group on the second floor of the South Clubhouse Fridays at 9 a.m. and Mondays at 6 p.m. For information, email Wayne Cotter at [wcotter999@gmail.com](mailto:wcotter999@gmail.com). Proof of vaccination required. (Meetings are on hold following June 3 meeting through September.)

## 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.

## TEA, TALK & CRAFTS

• Tea, Talk, and Crafts meets at 1 p.m. on Thursdays next to the kitchen at SCB. Annual dues are \$10. Questions? Call Irene Sanzone at 203-378-2010. Vaccinated members only. Please show proof.

## 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 Tuesdays at 2 p.m. in the Card Room at SCB. For information about joining, contact Mary von Ziegesar at [MvonZ@optonline.net](mailto:MvonZ@optonline.net) or call 203-767-9760. Proof of vaccination required.





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# UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 3 PLANS A JUNE PICNIC

District 3 will meet on Thursday, June 23, at 6 p.m. at the grill area in back of the SCB to enjoy appetizers with our neighbors. (This part of the gathering is BYOB). Mike Hill will do the honors at the grill and cook hamburgers and hot dogs. Seating for the meal will be outdoors or, if preferred, attendees are welcome to sit inside at the tables.

**Reminder:** June is the month when we elect officers for our district. Be prepared to nominate a neighbor or yourself for a position as all spots are open. Watch for the flyer in your black box.

## DISTRICT 4 SUMMER GATHERING

All Villagers are invited to attend the District 4 Summer Neighborhood Gathering on Wednesday, June 29, 6 p.m. at SCB. District Rep Bob Krakovich will open the meeting, followed by summary reports from District Executive Board members.

Guest speaker Bill O'Brien will provide insights from the recently opened Stratford Veteran's Museum. The mission statement is to recognize Stratford's veterans who have served our country honorably and to act as a repository for their stories. Bill also represents Oronoque North on the Stratford Town Council.

Fresh croissants filled with egg, tuna or ham salads, in addition to a tossed salad and beverages, will be served. Lastly, you will also be tempted with homemade desserts. BYOB if you wish.

Cost: \$5 per person if District 4 dues are current, all others \$10 per person. Submit your cash/check payable to District 4, listing attendees name(s) and place it in the District 4 mailbox located in the SCB lobby across from the OV gallery. Deadline is Sunday, June 26. Call Bob Krakovich at 203-752-6105 with questions.

## DISTRICT 8 TO MEET

District 8 will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, at NCB.

# 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.**

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### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

- 8:30 a.m. – Communications Meeting, B/R, NCB
- 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing (beginners), NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing (all levels), NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Sculpture Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 1:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB, C/R
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

### THURSDAY, JUNE 2

- 10:00 a.m. – Bocce, NCB

- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Village Quilters, NCB, C/R
- 10:00 a.m. – House Committee, NCB, B/R
- 10:30 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, SCB, A/C Rm
- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB

### FRIDAY, JUNE 3

- 9:00 a.m. – Ping Pong Club, SCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 5:00 p.m. – It's 5 O'clock Somewhere, NCB

### SATURDAY, JUNE 4

- 9:00 a.m. – House & Garden Tag Sale, SCB

### SUNDAY, JUNE 5: No events scheduled

### MONDAY, JUNE 6

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



- 5:00 p.m. – SAC Committee Meeting, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Bulls & Bears, SCB

## TUESDAY, JUNE 7

- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

- 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing (beginners), NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Line Dancing (all levels), NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Sculpture Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 10:00 a.m. – Current Events, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB, C/R
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

## THURSDAY, JUNE 9

- 10:00 a.m. – Bocce, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, NCB,
- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
- 5:00 p.m. – Ping Pong Club, SCB

## FRIDAY, JUNE 10

- 10:30 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study, NCB, B/R
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Movie Club: *Marry Me*, NCB

## SATURDAY, JUNE 11: No events scheduled

## SUNDAY, JUNE 12: No events scheduled

## MONDAY, JUNE 13

- 10:00 a.m. – Jewelry-Making Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 4:00 p.m. – Maintenance Committee Mtg, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-In Bridge, NCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Jewelry-Making Class, SCB, A/C Rm

## TUESDAY, JUNE 14

- 9:30 a.m. – Architectural Committee Mtg, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB, Library
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 11:30 a.m. – House & Garden Club Luncheon, SCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Writer's Group, SCB, C/R

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

- 10:00 a.m. – Sculpture Class, SCB, A/C Rm
- 1:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Movie Club: *Marry Me*, SCB
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB, C/R
- 6:00 p.m. – District 8 Meeting, NCB

## MONITORS NEEDED

The OV Monitor Program needs volunteers as monitors and substitutes. Two shifts need to be filled: Wednesday, 9-11 a.m., and Friday, 9-11 a.m.



Monitors maintain a presence at the South Clubhouse, spending 2 hours a week in the office. Responsibilities include checking visitors in and out, participating in the Call-In Program and assisting with the Movie Club Home Loan Program.

If you are interested in learning more, contact Katly Lukens at [wkluken@comcast.net](mailto:wkluken@comcast.net) / 203-612-6685.

## WATER AEROBICS BEGINS JUNE 27



Water aerobics sessions will take place in the heated South pool beginning June 27. Classes will take place Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10-11 a.m., through Sept 2.

Sign up for the season begins June 27 at 9 a.m. (session to follow). There is a \$10 gratuity,

Questions? Call Merrilees at 203-378-8753 or Loretta at Loretta at 203-387-9994.

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH: FRED BRIDSCHGE



Visitors to NCB this month will be treated to an eclectic array of artwork created by Fred Brideschge. Fred works in digital media and well as in acrylics, oils and pastels. While some of his paintings capture real-life scenes, other works are a product of his imagination -- merging paintings and photos that are enhanced via Photoshop techniques.

Fred -- whose favorite painter is realist John Singer Sargent -- has been interested in and inspired by art since an early age. Taking art class in grammar school was not only fun but a jumpstart to recognizing his creative talent. One of his first drawings was a typical stick figure, featuring people and houses, green grass, blue sky and bright ball of sun in the corner. "But I did not draw the sky as one thick line across the top of the paper, like the others," he says. "I knew sky is all around us and filled in every blank space with blue! My sun was still yellow but it was radiating outwards into that blue sky."

Fred drew a lot as a child and took a few art classes in high school. "I learned a lot from the book "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain" by Betty Edwards," he says. "One of the lessons was to turn a portrait upside down. This helped me differentiate shapes. Instead of drawing the usual heart-shaped lips, for instance, I learned to see the contrasts of lightness and darkness of the shapes that formed into the lip. This helped me evolve from stick figures to more realistic renderings of people."

While serving in the U.S. Air Force, Fred took in art museums and galleries while based in Texas, California, Arkansas and Alaska. "Also, I met a lot of talented people while I was in the service," he says. "They made drawing look easy and effortless, even though I knew how difficult it is to create realistic drawings."

After his discharge, when he was in his 30s, Fred attended Southern Connecticut State University, studying graphic design and art. "I took all the art classes offered from drawing to painting, art history, and sculpture to photography. Many times I had to copy from the classic Masters of painting to study their process."

He credits the talents of his professors, who taught him about using light and shadow in drawings and paintings. "The light and shadows affect each other so that the end result of a two-dimensional piece has a three-dimensional look," he says.

While attending college, Fred enjoyed photography and



*Examples of Fred's 3-D paintings are shown above and below.*

tried to produce prints that challenge the imagination. He started with taking black-and-white photos, then scrambling to be first in line to develop film in the darkroom, where he would use the tools of dodging and burning in his creative process.

Digital photography was in its beginning stages at that time and Fred became enamored with the technique. Over the years he has become more than proficient at this craft.

Also, the darkroom became a thing of the past as Photoshop became more available. "Instead of hours in the darkroom with expensive paper and chemicals, I found that I could produce the same effects on the computer without the mess or the wait," he says. "Learning and growing with the digital process has enabled me to be even more creative." For example, he has created a print that incorporates a daytime photo of the Brooklyn bridge into a dramatic nighttime image.

Recently, Fred has been working with a new technique in which he combines sculpture with painting.

"I like the idea of using paint as a base for a sculpted figure or object. So, I add modeling paste to white paint and then paint shapes onto my palette. When they are dried they become a sort of 'skin,' which I scrape off the palette and formed into various shapes to create an object."

He adds, "I then paint it using different colors. I adhere this new object to the canvas so it turns into a 3-D painting that can be viewed from various sides and angles, which help to capture the light and the imagination."

However, Fred doesn't like to be pigeonholed to a particular style or form of art. He enjoys working with many artistic mediums from pencils to pastels and oils to digital processing. He continues to be excited by the many possibilities of art and will always be inspired by artists ... old and new.

OV



# VILLAGE PEOPLE

## MARIE HEADY, A LIFE WELL-LIVED

By Jeanette Caron

Here we are, celebrating 50 years of comfortable living at a complex designed for folks over 55.

It wasn't always like this. When Marie Heady decided to live here, OV was just being built. She was 35 (give or take a year or two), an accomplished athlete and enjoying a career as a physical education coach at Roger Ludlowe High School in Fairfield, where – for more than 20 years – she was affectionally known to hundreds of students as “Coach Heady.”

Born in 1937, Marie lived at Candlewood Lake and, having a sports-minded family, she was encouraged to excel at swimming, boating, tennis and softball ... and she did, with softball becoming a favorite. She enjoyed three successful seasons with the Brakettes, an award-winning softball team sponsored by a Stratford-based manufacturing company. (The Connecticut Brakettes is a women's fast-pitch softball team based in Stratford. The team has won many state, regional, national and international tournaments, 28 as of 2009). At the age of 15, she took her first plane ride when the Brakettes traveled to California to play in the National Softball League Competition.

Being a well-rounded student, Marie took up the alto

sax and wound up playing with the Stratford Community Band at Carnegie Hall! Also, she was fortunate to have summer vacations to travel. A trip to Europe in 1989 gave her the opportunity to witness the Berlin Wall coming down. She spent three weeks sailing on the Connecticut River as a crew member and enjoyed fly fishing in Wyoming and Montana with the Connecticut Anglers, a sport fishing group.




Marie Heady

Over the years Marie has forged casual friendships with “Broadway” Joe Namath and Pittsburgh Steeler quarterback Ben Rauschenberger.

When she was ready for her own home, Marie discovered Oronoque Village as the ideal haven and dove right into the activities she had always loved: tennis, golf, swimming in our pristine pools and endless social events. Now, into her 80s, she finds that bocce is just about right!

When you visit Marie, you see a mini “Hall of Fame” of awards and trophies. Her walls are covered with congratulatory letters, newspaper articles and memorabilia about her accomplishments in teaching, music and sports.

With all of this and her fabulous past, she said recently, “The best thing here is the people.” A life well-lived. 

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## CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA

*A celebration marking Cinco de Mayo took place amongst neighbors on Commanche Lane. From left, Steve and Carole Sanetti and Dave and Sherry Bearse. Thanks to Peter Feick for submitting this photo.*

## FUNDRAISER FOURSOME



*Marge Heffel, Renee Zinn, Bahin Samimy and Wendy Swain represented Oronoque Village at Stratford Library's Charity Gala held April 30 at Vazzano's Four Seasons.*

## MOON OVER OV



*Thanks to Jeanette Caron for taking this celestial photo on May 15. (A lunar eclipse occurred later that evening.)*



## CHERRY BLOSSOMS ON CHEROKEE

*Thanks to Colleen Hurley for submitting this colorful photo taken on Cherokee Lane.*



**The Pickleball Club Presents the OV Alzheimer's Mini Walk at SCB  
Saturday, June 25, Registration - 9:00AM \* Walk -10:00AM around South Trail**



***Suggested donation of \$10 per walker. Additional donations are welcome!***

***There are 3 Ways to Donate:***

- ***Put your donation check (made out to Alzheimer's Association CT) in the Pickleball Club mailbox at NCB***
- ***Use this OV Team link to donate online: <http://act.alz.org/goto/OronoqueVillage>***
- ***Bring your check to SCB on June 25***

Please bring friends & family and help us raise funds to fight this disease and/or ask friends and family to sponsor you by donating to help us raise funds.

The funds we raise will be used within Fairfield County to provide research and services for people with Alzheimer's disease, which affects more than 6 million people, with 800,000 people in Connecticut.

**The end of Alzheimer's starts with YOU!**

***For further information, please contact Barbara: 203-386-0533 or Pat: 203-375-1788***



Members attend this event at no charge, *guests pay \$8 at the door.* Proof of vaccination is required to attend. Refreshments will be served after the performance.

Vaccination cards required

**OV Arts Guild presents:  
Square One Theatre  
Thursday June 30th, 7pm. SCB**

**Join us for an exciting *Play Reading***

**"Chapatti", A Lovely Comic  
Drama By Christian O'reilly.**



The actors perform a play using minimal sets and holding the script in hand.

*Welcome Back Square One!*

We Are Back!



# Giant TAG & BAKE Sale

**SATURDAY, June 4, 2022 9-2 SCB**

**RESERVE A TABLE -\$22 Per Table (OV residents only)**

Fill out form below to reserve your table



## We Need Your Donations!

*Proceeds help beautify the village*

If you don't have enough items to reserve a table, PLEASE consider donating your goods to the HOUSE & GARDEN CLUB tag sale area by the stage. Your items may be dropped off at the SCB Stage on **June 3rd at 3pm**

\*Silver, pottery, china, crystal, boutique accessories: (jewelry, purses, scarves, perfume, etc) housewares, small appliances, small furniture, paintings, lamps etc.

*Please bring small and multiple items in a box*



➔ \*NO computers, clothing, odds and ends glassware, chipped or damaged items, books, CDs, DVD's or videos.

➔ **We need volunteers to help with the tag and bake sale areas**

**Call Irene Keating 203-377-3980**

*Please make sure all used donated appliances are cleaned, such as toaster ovens etc*

**BAKE SALE:** Donations of baked goods are needed. Please drop off on **June 3rd & 4th**



**Doors Open At 7:30 A.M On June 4th To Set Up Your Table. ALL Unsold Items Must Be Taken With You When You Leave!**

Fill out form and drop in House & Garden Box

Reservations and Questions:  
Merriless Leemhuis  
203-378-8753

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Tables ( per table) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check out to House & Garden Club

**Table reservation cut off is noon-June 1**

**Vaccination card required**





The Movie Club is run by Edie Briner with the support of the Social Activities Committee.

**The Movie Club Presents**  
**"Marry Me"**  
**Friday, June 10, 7 pm - NCB**  
**Wednesday, June 15, 2 pm - SCB**

Pop superstar Kat Valdez (Jennifer Lopez) is about to get married before an audience of her loyal fans. However, seconds before the ceremony, she learns about her fiancé's cheating ways and has a meltdown on stage.

In a moment of inspired insanity, Kat locks eyes with a total stranger in the crowd (Owen Wilson) and marries him on the spot. As forces conspire to separate the unlikely newlyweds, they must soon decide if two people from such different worlds can find true love together.

**\$1 admission includes popcorn -  
 proof of vaccine required**



**Together - Under one roof ....  
 at the same place, at the same time!**

**June 24, 6:30 p.m., at SCB**



Come join D.J. Chris Albino for Karaoke and Dancing on Friday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m. at SCB. Hear and dance to your favorite songs Both Karaoke and Dance Party are being combined into one show each month, so this is your chance to get up and get moving again! Never a charge or dues to pay.

**Proof of vaccination is required to attend. BYOB, food and snacks.  
 Upcoming events are scheduled for July 29, August 26 & September 23.**

**BINGO IS AT SCB AT 7 P.M.  
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 16**



presented by the  
**OV Men's Club** — is held at SCB  
on the third Thursday of each month  
(excluding December).

**Note new start time:  
Games now begin at 7 p.m.**

**The cost is \$2.50 per card.**

**Questions?  
Call Sandy Lunt at 203-377-5833**



**The OV Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of  
each month at 7 p.m. in the NCB Library.  
(There is not a book discussion in June)**

The title of the book for the July 6 meeting is *Chances Are* by Richard Russo. This is the story of three old college friends, reunited in their 60s at a beach house where they reflect on their youth and what happened to a woman they all knew and loved.

None of them seem to know what happened to her, which is the mystery that drives the novel. The chapters alternate between the members of the group, each telling a bit of their past and present story, and how they knew The woman and slowly the truth is revealed.

*Chances Are* introduces a new level of suspense and menace that will quicken the listener's heartbeat throughout this absorbing saga.



# FUNSEEKERS PRESENTS



"Steve says-  
be prepared for a few  
"cheesy dad jokes" mixed  
into the evening!!!

## OVER-EASY POP-ROCK TRIO

**Tuesday, June 14 SCB • Doors Open At 6:15**

**OVER EASY is a pop-rock trio founded by our own OV resident, Steve Cinque.** The band features bass guitar, harmonica, guitar, keyboard, drums and vocals. Enjoy songs by the Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, America, Bill Withers, Monkees, Lovin' Spoonful, Brooks & Dunn, Paul Anka, Frank Sinatra, Herman's Hermits and many many more. **These guys have 350 songs in their repertoire!** Over EASY is truly a talented FUN band! Come join us for a lively performance of your favorite tunes!

*Reservations required and payments will be accepted from May 17th until date of event unless maximum capacity is reached. Open to Funseekers members and one non-resident guest per single resident (OVCA Rules and Regulations, Article II) Please put \$4.00 check per person into FUNSEEKERS mailbox, NCB (\$7.00 for guest). Not a 2022 member? - Join for \$15 per person.*

**Questions? Call Lucy Clifford 203-644-7710** Vaccination cards required.

**COFFEE, TEA, SOFT DRINKS & DESSERT TO BE SERVED**

**BYOB AND SNACKS!**





## Weekenders Presents Jazz Vocalist Richard (Cookie) Thomas On June 18 at 6 p.m. at NCB

Cookie is a treasure who began his career in Philadelphia in 1960 when, at 14 years old, he opened for BB King. His voice is especially suited to well-known classic standards; he draws his inspiration from the likes of Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra and Johnny Hartman.

He has performed in many casinos, jazz festivals and other venues throughout the tri-state area. He continues to sing at area restaurants and clubs.

**To enjoy this event and a delicious Italian dinner, make your checks out to Weekenders for \$25 per person and deposit them into the Weekenders box at the North Clubhouse no later than June 11.**

*If you have a table of friends that you prefer to sit with,  
please send all the names and checks in at the same time.*

An Italian dinner with salads, soda, dessert and coffee will be served.  
Questions? Call Carol Tepper at 203-375-2101.

1ST FRIDAY OF EACH  
MONTH AT NCB

BYOB & A SNACK  
TO SHARE

RELAX AND MINGLE

SEE YOU JUNE 3RD!



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**House & Garden**  
**Luncheon & Card Party**  
**Tuesday, June 14, 2022**  
 OV SOUTH CLUB BLDG  
 11:30 am

**Fabulous Hot Buffet Lunch**

- Lemon Chicken Picatta w/ mushrooms and capers
- Eggplant Parmigiana
- Cold Orzo Salad
- Green Bean Almondine
- Baby Green Salad w/ Walnuts, Strawberries & Gorgonzola
- Rolls & Butter
- Dessert

Really Nice  
**Raffle Prizes**

**COFFEE -TEA**  
**SOFT DRINKS**  
**DESSERT**

**\$28.00 pp**  
**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY Tuesday JUNE 7th**

Bring Your Own Wine

**Tables of 8**  
 All attendees wanting to sit together at one table must put all 8 of these forms and checks together in one envelope in the House & Garden Club mailbox NCB.

Vaccination card required

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

# of people: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Card Tables needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Game Played \_\_\_\_\_

**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions?** \_\_\_\_\_

Irene Keating  
 203 377-3980

Amount enclosed



Enjoy a lovely meal, play your game of choice, maybe win a wonderful raffle prize and and mingle with friends.





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