

November 15, 2022



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURES:

- 4 A Message From the OVTD President
- 5 Audited Financial Statements Available
- 6 Sterling House Toy Drive Underway
- 7 District Holiday Events
- 8 Artist of the Month: Wolfgang Novotny
- 9 Pletman Concert Recap: Yale Slavic Chorus
- 12 OV Snapshot
- 13 Arts Guild Exhibit Can Be Seen Virtually
- 14 Resident Poetry / Writer's Group Submission
- 16 Maintenance Matters: Seasonal Safety Tips
- 17 Hadassah Updates
- 17 Beyond the Village
- 18 Employee Appreciation Fund Info
- 19 Club & Group Events



NEWS DEPARTMENTS:

- 6 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 10 ACTIVITIES
- 12 CALENDAR

Thank you to Ellen Guion for submitting the cover photo, which was taken on Algonquin Lane. The Villager welcomes photo submissions, which must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to cking@oronoquevillage.com.

Villager article 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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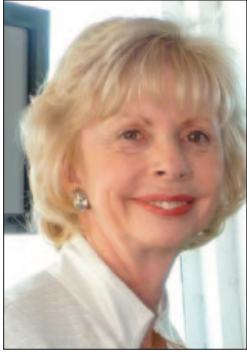
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A MESSAGE FROM THE OVTD PRESIDENT

OCTOBER 25, 2022



Linda Libertino

I want to wish the newly elected OVCA officers and district representatives all the best in their upcoming terms. The Tax District will continue to work with OVCA for the benefit of the Village.

I hope residents are experiencing a healthy autumn season. Due to some recent cases of Covid in the Village, we were hoping to offer a Zoom dial-in for the resi-

dents to hear the audio portion of our meeting in their homes, but we need to purchase additional equipment that will allow the audio to be more understandable.

As always, I want to thank Fred Rodriguez and Mark Rhatigan for their guidance and professionalism in working with the Tax District directors. In addition, we thank their entire staffs for their ongoing high standard of work.

After multiple discussions with the Stratford Refuse Director and Chris Tymniak, chief of staff, Mark Rhatigan was successful in the Town agreeing to not renew with Oak Ridge Waste and Recycling. Oronoque is now being serviced by County Disposal for both trash and recycling, which has been servicing our recycling collection since 2019. Their performance has been reliable and has shown greater care to the needs of Oronoque Village. Mark met with the owners of County Disposal, who assured him that they will do everything possible to improve trash collection.

The Roads Committee, chaired by Jonathan Towle, gave a full report on the accelerated road replacement work that started on Oct. 24.

Falcon Engineering identified the roads to be paved. Four roads in the North Village, eight roads in the South

Village and two cul-de-sacs in the South Village will be included in Phase 1.

When the fall paving program is completed, the Roads Committee will begin to plan the paving program for the fall of 2023.

No further water main or sewer breaks have occurred since our last Tax District meeting in July. As you know from the new 2022-2023 budget, we substantially increased the budget line item for repairing these breaks since the prior year the Village had numerous issues.

The Access Control System is on target. Based on the House Committee's recommendations, we are focusing on the South Clubhouse first. Our employees are now working on the wiring and cabling at SCB as a precursor to installation. In addition, we have been in close contact with our vendor, Kastle, on the implementation logistics. As initially planned, the first live installation will be the Fitness Center and it will be completed no later than Dec. 15. This will eliminate the metal key method for off-hour entry. After installation, an off-hour entry will require a smartphone, card or fob. The Business Office will notify all residents on how to activate their devices for keyless entry or how to obtain a card or fob for keyless entry.

Implementing the Access Control System will make our buildings even safer. In addition to wiring for the keyless entry, the enhanced wiring will have smoke detection, and any forced entries will trigger a combination of door closings (for fire) and automated notices to the fire and police departments.

The Tree Committee presented a detailed report this month since it is our annual planting season for various shrubs and ornamental trees throughout the Village. The areas identified for installation are replacements for a pre-existing tree that was in need of removal per resident requests. There were approximately 25 trees and 24 shrubs purchased and installed. In addition to the new plantings, the Maintenance Department has procured a boom-lift rental in October. This will save the Tax District funds by reducing the need for an outside pruning contractor. The boom allowed us to complete the backlog of tree pruning work orders and remove lower hanging limbs over roads scheduled for replacement.

Tom Aubin, TD vice president, has agreed to serve as chairperson on the Alternate Energy Committee to investigate potential solutions for energy. He organized a conference call on Oct. 25 with the United Illuminating Company (UI). Fred Rodriguez, Mark Rhatigan and I attended this meeting. The UI officers that led the discussion with us were Marissa Westbrook, manager program and product development, and Erik Robie, director of

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customer programs and products, plus two additional UI representatives.

This initial meeting was to understand a path forward to study potential solutions for energy as well as develop a request for proposal. We will investigate solar potential and a possible microgrid project. All alternate energy solutions will be considered. The Tax District feels it is in the best interests of the community to be proactive in this technology for the Village. There is a plan to identify solar developers who we might work with to study this potential.

Under new business, Bill Tanski made the following motion: "I move that the Proposed Ordinance, 2022.10 – Nominations for Board of Directors, be adopted by the Board to supersede all previous ordinances related to recommending qualified candidates to the voters for the election of Directors and Officers to the OVTD Board. This process is to be carried out by an appointed Ad Hoc Nominating committee rather than by Nominators elected in each of the eleven OVCA Districts." Tom Aubin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Tax District directors will continue to plan carefully to protect your tax dollars with any recommended projects.



NOTICE

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Mr. Fred Rodriguez
Executive Director
Oronoque Village Tax District
600 North Trail
Stratford, CT 06614

We have filed the Oronoque Village Tax District audited financials and copy of the OPM Municipal Audit Questionnaire with OPM by mail and in their electronic system as required. A copy of the MAQ sent to OPM is attached.

By this letter I am also informing you that within one week of receiving the audit report you are required (in accordance with Section 7-394 of the General Statutes of CT) to publish a legal notice in a newspaper having substantial circulation in the District that the report is on file in your administrative office for the public to view.

Sincerely,

Glenn J. Nanavaty, CPA

Glenn J. Nanavaty, CPA

Enclosures

Cc: Diane Roche

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STERLING HOUSE TOY DRIVE UNDERWAY

Oronoque Village residents are invited to support the Sterling House Community Center 2022 Toy Drive. The drive is on behalf of families in the low- to moderate-income bracket.

A collection box is located in the front foyer of the North Clubhouse. Toys will be collected through Dec. 7 at 5 p.m.

Gift cards and monetary donations are welcome. The most requested toy items are as follows:

- Disney Toys & Games
- All Age Board Games
- All Age Arts & Crafts
- Books and Puzzles
- Baby Dolls and Barbies
- Bluetooth Speaker
- Headphones
- Hats & Gloves
- Play Food
- Karaoke Microphone
- Bluey/Baby Shark Toys
- Musical Toys
- Magna-tiles
- Kinetic Sand
- Vtech Go Go Wheels
- Legos
- Rainbow Loom
- Action Figures

For information on adopting a family, call 203-378-2606, ext. 250, or email toydrive@sterlinghousecc.org



THANKS TO ED & NAN GENGA FOR THE OV VETERANS TRIBUTE

Thank you to Nan Genga and her husband, Ed Genga, who is a U.S. Navy veteran, for initiating and organizing the 2022 Veterans Day Honor Roll published in the Nov. 1 edition of The Villager.

Nan Genga reports that Oronoque Village currently has 67 veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.

HOLIDAY DECORATING SCHEDULED FOR NORTH & SOUTH CLUBHOUSES

All are invited to join the OV House & Garden Club during the annual decorating of the clubhouses for Christmas and Hanukkah. On Thursday, Nov. 17, the club will need help shaping the trees at SCB from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and at NCB from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please bring gloves.

On Friday, Nov. 18, trees will be decorated at both clubhouses. Decorating will take place at SCB from 1:30-3 p.m. and at NCB from 3-4:30 p.m. Refreshments at NCB will follow.

MAHJONG LESSONS

Mahjong lessons are offered at 4 p.m. on Mondays at NCB beginning Nov 21. Attendance is limited to 12 people. To reserve a space, email Carol Plotnick at cplotnick@optimum.net.

BRAVO'S RECENT PRODUCTION CAN BE VIEWED ON YOUTUBE

For those Oronoque residents who were unable to attend BRAVO's production of "Burlesque - Oronoque Style," you are in luck! Thanks to resident and performer Letitia Laberee, a complete video of the show is available on YouTube for viewing.

You can find it by one of these following methods:

1. Do an Internet search for: BRAVO presents Burlesque Oronoque Style - YouTube
2. Type in the following link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=MF6ISf8e3E4

POKER PLAYERS WANTED

Resident pokers players are invited to join a weekly group that meets Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m., at the South Clubhouse. For details, call Ken Block at 203-870-9561.

DISTRICT HOLIDAY EVENTS

DISTRICT 4 HOLIDAY PARTY

District 4 will hold its annual holiday party on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at SCB from 6-8:30 p.m. All Oronoque residents are invited to attend.

A buffet dinner with three hot entrees will be served, followed by dancing with music provided by DJ Chris Albino.

Cost is \$15 for District 4 residents who have paid dues, \$25 for all others. Put checks (payable to District 4) in the District 4 mailbox by Saturday, Dec. 3.

Questions? Call Bob Krakovich at 203-752-6105.

DISTRICT 7 HOLIDAY GATHERING

District 7 will host its holiday gathering on Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m. at NCB. District residents should be on the lookout for a flyer outlining details in their black box, which will be delivered on or around Nov. 14.



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ARTIST OF THE MONTH: WOLFGANG NOVOTNY



The Artist of the Month for November is Wolfgang Novotny. His vibrant watercolors, acrylic and oil paintings are on view in a rotating exhibit at NCB.

Born in Vienna, Austria, Wolfgang emigrated to New York City in 1962 with his mother. Although he only recently began to show his work publicly, his fascination --

and skill -- in painting dates back to his childhood.

"My mother's side of the family is incredibly talented and creative," he explains. "My maternal grandfather, Hugo Henschl, was an acclaimed professional artist and university teacher. He was renowned for his copper-plate etchings and oil paintings of Austrian landscapes and people. His work inspired me to paint at an early age.

"Although, I never met my grandfather, I grew up surrounded by his work and developed a great appreciation for his skills," he adds. "My admiration of his artwork has only grown with time. My dream is to, one day, curate an exhibit that features my grandfather's paintings."

Wolfgang's mother also was a creative force. "She was a high-fashion hat designer," he notes. "Her creations were Hollywood-style, intricate with veils and pins. She had a hat design featured on the cover of Vogue magazine."

Despite his creative background, Wolfgang took a pragmatic approach to his college studies. "I didn't want to be pigeon-holed with an art degree" he says. "I attended Hunter College in New York to earn a psychology degree. "My 'art major' friends urged me to abandon my psychology studies and pursue an art degree," he continues. "I did not heed their advice, but there was a period where — as

part of a psychology class assignment — I chose to paint imagery inspired by my dreams. This made for a powerful connection!"

After graduating from Hunter, he earned a master's degree in education from Columbia University, specializing in counseling psychology and rehabilitation. After happily working in the field for about five years, Wolfgang re-entered academia to obtain an M.B.A. degree in finance from NYU. "I was able to work for various international banks, utilizing my strong bilingual skills," he says. In subsequent years, he earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation and continued his focus on financial risk management.

Over the years, he held analytical positions with Moody's Investors Service and international financial institutions. However, from time to time, the canvas would call to him. "I would paint in spurts," he says. "I work in a variety of media, but I truly enjoy the sensuous colors and smoothness of painting in oils." However, during the pandemic shutdown, Wolfgang renewed his interest in working with watercolors.

Now retired, Wolfgang enjoys taking painting classes and pursuing his artistic passions. Also, he and his wife, Katie, enjoy the opportunities that life at Oronoque Village provides. "We moved here six years ago," he reports. "As soon as we saw the community, we fell in love with it. The community is well-maintained and there is much to do. We enjoy the views, pools, the facilities and the amenities. This is a very friendly and well-maintained community."

As a member of the OV Arts Guild, in 2019 he held a six-week exhibition as part of a two-person featured artist show at Galerie OV



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OCTOBER 12 PLETMAN CONCERT: 'HAUNTING AND COLORFUL'

By Elisabeth Breslav

"Hauntingly beautiful music and beautiful young women. A wonderful afternoon that went by too fast."

"I really enjoyed the concert yesterday. You would think they'd been performing for years from the sound of their beautiful harmonization."

These were just two of the comments received from members of the audience at Pletman Concert's program of music from the Balkans, Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East and Crimea, performed in colorful costumes by the Yale Slavic Chorus.

Members of the chorus took turns in introducing each song with a brief translation of the old folk songs about love, men working in the fields, women at the spinning wheel and life in the village. A small percussion instrument, called a "doubek," accompanied two songs from Bulgaria — one about a boy and a girl meeting in a field and another one about women in the village gossiping about an old man who decides he wants to go to the dance, so he dresses up as a young man, but all the young girls run away.

"The Slavs," as the chorus is popularly called, start all their performances with "Shto me e milo," a song from Macedonia: "How happy I am to live in the village of Struga, where I have



a little shop, and I can sit in the window and watch the women go down to the well, with their many-colored pitchers, to laugh and talk with their friends."

They end all performances with "Prevrkhna Ptichka," a wedding song from Thrace/Bulgaria that is also their alumni song: "The bird flies over the courtyard, over the white rose, lightly fluttering, quietly calling: "I am coming, young bride, to bring you great joy. The fields are flat and full of grain, the black-headed ewes have all given birth to twins, the bees have formed new hives and all the little children are lively and healthy."

It was a charming ending that came all too soon.

NOTE: Eden Chen, whose piano recital wowed the audience at the September concert, very thoughtfully sent me his video of the performance and allowed me to share the link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1A0m4EEmqdphXvhKEn8z3jNLYT-_7VFAP/view?usp=sharing

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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. (Submissions must be typed, in upper and lower case.) The deadline to be included in the next issue of The Villager, on Dec. 1, 2022, is Nov. 18 at noon.*

CORNHOLE

- Cornhole is played on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon, at SCB.

DOLLCRAFTERS

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

CURRENT EVENTS

- The Current Events Discussion Group meets in SCB Card Room 1 at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays Nov. 16 and Dec. 14.

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).

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 lev-

els at 10 a.m. No masking is required for anyone who has received the booster or third shot. All others must wear masks. 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

- Ping Pong is played at SCB on Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m., and Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. For information, contact Dina Glantz: dinabob7@comcast.net / 203-231-4753 or Maddy Lapidés: mslapid@gmail.com / 203-927-8577. Play is scheduled via the TeamReach app.

POOL SOCIAL GROUP

- Anyone who enjoys socializing in and around the pools during the summer is invited to attend a get-together from 4-6 p.m. at SCB on the second Monday of each month. Come with your favorite appetizer and or beverage (or nothing) for reunions and conversations. Call Sonya at 203-377-1515 for more information.

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 or call 203-767-9760. Proof of vaccination required.



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OV SNAPSHOT



The October 27 Zumba Class got into the spirit of the Halloween season by attending the session in costumes.

CALENDAR

Dates, times and locations of events are subject to change. To update a Calendar listing, please contact Linda Arvers at larvers@oronoquevillage.com. For the latest on OV news & events, visit www.oronoquevillage.com or OVTV (Channel 591 for those with a cable box and Channel 121-591 for those without a box).

Bold-faced listings = OVCA / OVTD events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 9:00 a.m. – Ping Pong, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Writer's Group, SCB
- **7:00 p.m. – OVCA Board Meeting, NCB**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 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
- 2:00 p.m. – Movie Club: *Top Gun: Maverick*, NCB
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Quilting Group, NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – House & Garden Tree Shaping, SCB
- 2:30 p.m. – House & Garden Tree Shaping, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Ping Pong, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Men's Club Bingo, SCB

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Business & Maintenance Offices Close at 3 p.m.


- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study, NCB, B/R
- 1:00 p.m. – House & Garden Club Decorating, SCB
- 3:00 p.m. – House & Garden Club Decorating, NCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Wine Club, NCB (Sold Out)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19: No events scheduled

GALERIE OV ART SHOW CAN BE SEEN ON OVTV & YOUTUBE

The OV Arts Guild fall exhibit can be seen twice-daily, at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., on OVTV. Titled "See Beauty in the Ordinary," the exhibit focuses on recognizing the beauty of things we see every day and, perhaps, take for granted. The OVTV program was prepared by Ray Vermette and features photos taken by Peter Feick.

OVTV is on Channel 591 for those with a cable box and Channel 121-591 for those without a box.

The show also can be viewed in-person at Galerie OV, located in the South Clubhouse, and via YouTube.com at this address: <https://youtu.be/6uGyIBXZOc> 



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 3:00 p.m. – SAC Reception for New Residents, NCB

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 4:00 p.m. – Mahjong Lessons, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 9:00 a.m. – Ping Pong, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Healthy Lifestyles, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Men's Cards / Brosowsky, SCB
-

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Business & Maintenance Offices Closed / Clubhouses Closed

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Business & Maintenance Offices Closed

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26: No events scheduled

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27: No events scheduled

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 4:00 p.m. – Mahjong Lessons, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 9:00 a.m. – Ping Pong, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 2:00 p.m. – Writer's Group, SCB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

- **10:00 a.m. – House Committee, NCB**
- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Quilting Group, NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Gerry's Poker, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Ping Pong, SCB
-

RESIDENT POETRY

GRATITUDE

By Dawn Spitzer

Have you blessed the earth today?
Did you thank the sun?
Our mother and our father,
Of whom we all are one.
Did you stop to kiss a rosebud,
Or to thank a passing bee?
Did you catch some falling raindrops?
Did you think to hug a tree?
And was your spirit joyous
For the miracle of spring,

For the fragrance of a lilac,
And the song a robin sings?
Were you mindful of the sunset,
Or the brilliance of a star?
And did you thank the universe
For the wonder that you are?
Did you have a prayerful attitude
For creatures great and small?
And do you know that gratitude
Is the greatest prayer of all?
Have you blessed the earth today?
Did you thank the sun?
Our mother and our father,
Of whom we all are one.

WORK BY THE OV WRITER'S GROUP

WEARING A MASK

By Peter Geltner

I was given a mask to wear for Halloween. I had some doubts about it because I did not want to scare anybody.

To wear the mask, or not to wear the mask, that is the question.

Whether 'tis nobler toward others to avoid their suffering
The stings and arrows of horrendous faces
Or to take arms against their other troubles
And by opposing them, end their anxiety.

No more, and by a sleep, to say I help end
The heartache, and the thousand shocks
Brought about by the torturous forged impressions
That flesh is heir to. 'Tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To sleep in peace.

Aye, there's the rub.

For in that sleep, what dreams may come of gruesome-
ness,

When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,
It must give us pause. There's the hope of willingness

To oppose the horrors that make calamity of so long life.
For who would bear the sneers and groans of time.

The oppressor is wrong, the proud person's contumely,
The insolence of politics, and the scums
That patient merit of untrustworthy tales.
When I myself might my quietus make
With a sharp bodkin. What bundles would I bear.

To grunt and sweat under an uncomfortable mask
Like the dread of something approaching death.
The undiscovered nation, from whose clouds
Few travelers return, puzzles the will,
And makes us bear those ills we have.

Thus conscience does make fools of us all,
And thus the native hue of decisions
Is sickened over, with the pale cast of thought,
And oppressors of great pitch and moment,
With this regard their morals turn awry.

And so I say, no mask for me.
It's better that I think of thee.
For you are the future of this world,
And many others will give birth,
And help preserve our wondrous earth.

**FOR INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING
IN THE BIMONTHLY VILLAGER MAGAZINE,
CONTACT CAROL KING AT**

CKING@ORONOVILLAGE.COM / 203-377-5313, EXT. 3

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FIREPLACE SAFETY

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

When using your fireplace, we urge you to keep in mind the following safety tips:

Wood-Burning Fireplaces

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

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

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

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

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

Make sure that the fire is out -- completely extinguished and cool -- and that ashes and residue are cool to the touch before attempting to clean out the fireplace.

Use metal containers to hold anything you remove from the fireplace; bring that container outside, at least three feet from any building or bush, to store it.



Never place fireplace residue in bags or boxes or nonmetallic containers and never place removed material on a deck or porch or inside a garage or unit while awaiting final disposal.

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

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

Gas Fireplaces and Heaters

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

Through-the-wall gas fireplaces and heaters must be approved by the Architectural Committee and must meet

Oronoque Village's codes, and must be installed by a licensed contractor. Through-the-roof venting is not allowed.

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

Important: Never leave a fire burning when you are not at home.



HOLIDAY DECORATING TIPS

By Mark Rhatigan

Seasonal decorations -- including lights, trees and wreaths -- can help put your household in the holiday spirit. However, when not used properly, decorations (particularly lights) can create safety hazards or cause fires.

Keep your home safe during the holidays by following these best practices to ensure your holiday lights and decorations are installed correctly:

- Double check lights for frayed wires or cracks, and be sure there is a bulb in each socket. Discard and replace damaged strands.
- Lights should be approved by Underwriters Laboratory. "UL" will be clearly displayed on the tag, signifying the product has been inspected for potential safety hazards. Red UL marks indicate the lights are safe for indoor/outdoor use, and



green UL marks indicate the lights are only safe for indoor use.

- Do not hammer tacks or nails into the electrical cord when hanging lights. Instead, use clips to safely attach lights to the house.
- Use heavy-duty extension cords, and only use cords outdoors if they are designated for outdoor use. Avoid overloading extension cords by using no more than three sets of standard lights per cord.
- Use a timer or turn off lights before going to bed, or if you will be away from home.
- For special ornaments that plug into a bulb receptacle, use no more than two per strand or check the manufacturer's directions.
- Indoor lights should not touch drapes, furniture or carpeting. Keep lit candles away from flammable items, too.
- Prevent tripping by placing cords and decorations in low-traffic areas where they won't be walked on. Avoid twisting,

kinking or crushing cords.

Following, are a few safety tips provided by the Stratford Fire Department:

- Smoke alarms should be placed on each level of a unit. Batteries should be changed twice yearly; it is advised to change the batteries at the same times that you change the clocks.
- Carbon-monoxide detection should be located near the sleeping areas.
- Christmas trees, if natural, should have a fresh cut at the base and maintained by being submerged in fresh water. Fresh cut trees can drink up to a gallon of water a day.
- Never use real candles on or near a Christmas tree.

- If there is a need to use portable-type heaters, they should be placed on a level and nonflammable surface and kept away from any loose hanging materials, especially bedding and drapes.

- Never use cooking appliances, such as the kitchen stove, for the purpose of heating an occupied space.

By taking the proper precautions both inside and outside of your home, you can prevent hazards and focus on friends and family during the holidays.

Don't forget to periodically check lights and decorations throughout the season to ensure they continue to operate safely.

Happy holidays.

OV

FEATURE

HADASSAH UPDATES

Story by Barbara Brown ~ Photo by Nan Schwartz

Hadassah extends a "thank you" to all who attended our recent functions.

We hosted a Luncheon and Card Party in September, which was held at Oronoque Country Club. The food was very good and there were beautiful mum plants that were given away as raffle prizes.

In October, we presented a movie, "Come From Away," a filmed version of the award-winning Broadway musical that tells the story of 7,000 people stranded in town of Gander, Newfoundland, after all flights into the U.S. are grounded on Sept. 11, 2001. More than 60 people were in attendance. We served a light supper, which was enjoyed by all.

Thanks to Nan Schwartz, who devoted many hours to

make this happen.

A Hanukkah party, open to all, will be held next month.

If you have questions about Hadassah events, please call Carol Tepper at 203-375-2101 or Barbara Brown at 203-378-7781.

OV

Barbara Brown is shown with her raffle prize during the Hadassah Luncheon and Card Party.



BEYOND THE VILLAGE

The Shelton Art League presents a demonstration on Nov. 21 at the Shelton Community Center, 41 Church St. Lorraine Skelskey Chapin will paint a still life in oil at 1 p.m. in the lower level multipurpose room. The league's general meeting starts at 11:45 a.m. Guests are always welcome. Visit <http://www.sheltonartleague.org> for more details.

~

Norwalk Community Chorale, now in its 61st year, will present "Still is the Night", a free Christmas concert, on Saturday, Dec. 10, at Norwalk Concert Hall, 125 East Ave., Norwalk. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. Choral selections include multi-traditional holiday songs, the spiritual "Go Tell It on the Mountain", a medley of classic English carols, and the theme piece "Still is the Night." Visit www.norwalkcommunitychorale.org or call 203-853-9842 for more details.

Center Stage Theater in Shelton presents "Glitz: The Little Miss Christmas Pageant Musical," Dec. 2-4 and Dec. 7-11. There will be 2 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays as well as 7:30 p.m. performances on Fridays, Saturdays, Wednesday and Thursday.

In the true spirit of Christmas, get a behind-the-scenes look at the backstabbing mothers and fiercely competitive daughters in the "Little Miss Christmas Pageant," an annual competition where 10 girls (and their outrageous stage moms) compete for the coveted Christmas crown. Sequins, shiny shoes and a can of hairspray aren't all it takes to win this battle. These diva daughters and pushy moms are armed with sheer grit and a thirst for victory. However, when the value of truth, honesty and love is learned, Christmas spirit becomes the true winner in this heart-warming new holiday classic.

The theater is located at 54 Grove St. Visit www.centerstageshelton.org or call 203-335-6079.

OV

Calling ALL OV Residents, Districts and Clubs:

**The deadline for
Employee Appreciation Fund Contributions
is Dec. 16!**

**NOW is the time ... This is the PLACE
Please CONTRIBUTE to the
EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION FUND
It's not too late!**

**Your contribution is very much appreciated.
This is the only Holiday bonus that our
dedicated Employees receive.**

Let's give them a joyous HOLIDAY!

**Checks payable to OVCA, with
Appreciation Fund written in the memo line,
should be delivered to the Business Office.**

2023 VILLAGER DEADLINE DATES FOR EDITORIAL CONTENT*

The Villager is published twice-monthly, on the 1st and the 15th, when possible.

**The dates below are subject to change. Deadline dates are updated on the website, www.oroquoquevillage.com*

Jan. 3 Villager has a deadline of Dec. 16
Jan. 16 Villager has a deadline of Jan. 4
Feb. 1 Villager has a deadline of Jan. 19
Feb. 15 Villager has a deadline of Feb. 2
March 1 Villager has a deadline of Feb. 16
March 15 Villager has a deadline of March 2
April 3 Villager has a deadline of March 21
April 17 Villager has a deadline of April 4
May 1 Villager has a deadline of April 18
May 15 Villager has a deadline of May 2
June 1 Villager has a deadline of May 18
June 15 Villager has a deadline of June 2
July 3 Villager has a deadline of June 18
July 17 Villager has a deadline of July 3
Aug. 1 Villager has a deadline of July 19



Aug. 15 Villager has a deadline of Aug. 2
Sept. 1 Villager has a deadline of Aug. 18
Sept. 15 Villager has a deadline of Sept. 4
Oct. 2 Villager has a deadline of Sept. 17
Oct. 16 Villager has a deadline of Oct. 3
Nov. 1 Villager has a deadline of Oct. 17
Nov. 15 Villager Nov. 2
Dec. 1 Villager has a deadline of Nov. 16
Dec. 15 Villager has a deadline of Dec. 3

**For information on The Villager, please contact Editor Carol King
at 203-377-5313, ext. 3/ cking@oroquoquevillage.com**



HADASSAH HANUKKAH PARTY!!
DECEMBER 7, 12:30 P.M., NCB
\$10 PER PERSON

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Speaker to be announced

Potato pancakes (latkes), sour cream, applesauce, salad and dessert will be served.

Please put your reservation for this program in the Hadassah box at the North Clubhouse by December 2.

Questions? Call Arlene Block at 203-870-9561 or Lillian Schlager at 203-380-8387



The Movie Club Presents

Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris

Dec. 9, 7 p.m., NCB

Dec. 14, 2 p.m., SCB

In 1957 London, Mrs. Ada Harris (Lesley Manville), a widowed cleaning lady, becomes obsessed with one client's haute couture Dior dress; it inspires her to buy her own Dior dress.

After suddenly receiving a war-widow's pension, she travels to Paris to do so. She stumbles into a showing of Dior's 10th anniversary collection and is befriended by André, the Dior accountant, and Natasha, a Dior model. However, the Dior director, Claudine, resents Ada's intrusion into the exclusive world of haute couture.

\$1 admission includes popcorn - proof of vaccine required

**BINGO IS AT SCB AT 7 P.M.
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17**



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

Games 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.**

The book for Dec. 7 is *The Sweetness of Water* by Nathan Harris. This book is a towering achievement of imagination about the unlikely bond between two freedmen who are brothers and the Georgia farmer whose alliance will alter their lives, and his, forever

Parallel to their story runs a forbidden romance between two Confederate officers, which results in chaos, including a murder, and unleashes convulsive repercussions on the entire community.

With candor and sympathy, debut novelist Nathan Harris creates an unforgettable cast of characters, depicting Georgia in the violent crucible of Reconstruction. Equal parts beauty and terror, as gripping as it is moving, *The Sweetness of Water* is an epic whose grandeur locates humanity and love amid the most harrowing circumstances.

Baldwin Breakfast Club!

1000 West Broad Street, Stratford



Monday - Friday @ 9:00 am



The Baldwin Center is now serving breakfast **EVERY WEEKDAY MORNING**
in The Baldwin Center Cafe!!!

Must be at least 60 years of age to register. Registration and Reservations are required.
Please call (203) 385-4050 to learn more about the program, or call (203) 377-4991
directly to make a reservation!

See you for breakfast!!!

Donations of \$3 are welcome, but no one will be turned away if unable to donate.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED BY THE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE TO ATTEND, AS OUR GUEST, "THE NEW RESIDENTS COCKTAIL PARTY" SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022 FROM 3:00-5:00 P.M. AT THE NORTH CLUBHOUSE.

NO COST TO NEW RESIDENTS WHO HAVE MOVED INTO THE VILLAGE BETWEEN NOVEMBER 2021-NOVEMBER 2022



Come mingle and meet the new residents to welcome them to Oronoque Village. Wine, beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be served. This will be a great opportunity to get to know one another.

Contact Elaine Ficarra with questions at 203-913-2716

Please R.S.V.P. You can drop checks and this form in the SAC mailbox at the NCB by November 15, 2022

Name attending: _____

Phone number: _____

Cost for residents is \$10 per person. Amount enclosed \$ _____



Holiday Concert

Presents: Suzanne Sheridan & Bob Cooper

Monday, December 12, 2022

1:00 pm SCB Members - Free

Others \$5 at the door

Suzanne

Suzanne is a singer-songwriter, guitarist, professional portrait photographer and long-time resident of Westport, CT. Her first jingle as a singer was "Join the Pepsi People" for Pepsi Cola Company, which won the coveted Clio Award. She also sang on many jingles for companies such as Hasbro Toys' "Weebles," Hardees, and Texaco.

Bob

Bob played with many different bands including The Basics, Blues Food, Groove Authority, Soul Casters, Hipsocket, Southern Revelation, Slo' Burn, and the Boston Soul Revue 'Urban Renewal.' He played 10 years for all concerts with the Doo Wop Hall of Fame of America and has backed up many famous musicians.



Happy Holidays

All Ladies & Gentlemen are Welcome



Dessert, Coffee & Tea will be served following the program



FUNSEEKERS PRESENTS

Back By Popular Demand!

Johnny Paolillo one Man Band

COME JOIN THE FUN!

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 -7pm

SCB • Doors Open At 6:15

Special Holiday Dessert After The Show

Advance reservations required and payments will be accepted from **November 16th through December 8th** unless maximum capacity is reached. Open to resident Funseekers' members and one guest per single resident until November 26th. Starting on November 27th, if there is space availability, member residents may sign up non-resident guests. Please put \$4.00 check per person into FUNSEEKERS mailbox, NCB (\$7.00 non-resident guest). Wish to pay your dues for 2023? Drop your dues check of \$15 anytime in the Funseekers mailbox.

Questions? Call Lynn Collins **203.260.4644**



We welcome back Johnny Paolillo, a one-man band, for an evening of great music and fun! Johnny utilizes back tracking to sound like a 4-5 piece band. Motown, standards, beach, oldies, jazz and blues are just some of the genres that he performs.

He is a fabulous guitarist and an amazing singer!

★ Johnny is a 5 star performer; you won't want to miss this event!

COFFEE, SOFT DRINKS & DESSERT TO BE SERVED

BYOB AND MUNCHIES!



The Oronoque Village Monitor program needs volunteers as monitors and substitutes. The monitors maintain a presence at the South Clubhouse, spending two hours a week in the office.

Special duties are:

1. Check visitors in and out.
2. Patrol the building, checking thermostats and locked doors.
3. Participate in the Call-In Program, which enables residents who live alone to check in daily or have monitors check up on them.

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

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

To learn more, contact Kathy Lukens at wklukens@comcast.net / 203-612-6685.

Be Safe. Be Well. Be Home.

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

As the world around us changes and challenges us,
Caregiver's Home Solutions can bring you peace of mind.

When illness, injury or age make home life more difficult,
our family owned and operated caregiving agency can
help keep you safe and independent in your own home.
The way it should be. Always.

Proudly owned by an OV resident, our agency has been
honored to serve the Oronoque community for over 14 years.

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 +



Creating purpose & joy.

Benchmark creates connections and meaningful experiences for individuals with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. We cultivate a sense of community and deliver personalized care with passion.



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DELIVERING PERSONALIZED CARE**



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TO ENGAGE MIND AND BODY**



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