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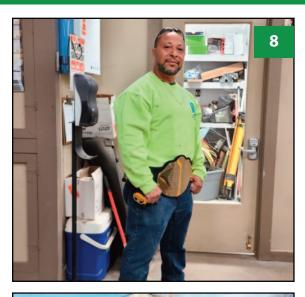
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Thank you to Duane Anderson for providing the cover photo. The Villager welcomes photo submissions, which must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to Villager Editor Carol King at *cking@oronoquevillage.com*. Villager article submissions should be emailed to *cking@oronoquevillage.com* 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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#### A MESSAGE FROM THE OVTD PRESIDENT



Sabine Curry

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am pleased to announce that all appointments to the committees for the Tax District have been finalized. After appealing to our residents to serve on our committees, we were overwhelmed by the wealth of talent that came forward.

The committees are as follows:

**ROADS:** Chair is Director Jonathan Towle

and Officers Ron Ciecko and Tom Becker and Resident Patrick Hurley.

**ENERGY:** Chair is Resident Nick Harding, Officer Janice Nachbar and Residents Tom Aubin and Minna Barrett.

**SECURITY:** Chair is Officer Janice Nachbar and Residents Shelley Shapiro, Bob Sabo and Manny Campisi.

**FINANCE:** Chair is Officer Tom Becker, Officer Ron Ciecko and Directors Dan Kanner, Jonathan Towle and Barbara Davis.

TREES: Chair is Officer Dennis Caffrey

On Sept. 7, all the committees, directors and officers met for the first time during the OVTD Town Hall Roundtable. We wanted to try a new format... to receive, discuss and exchange ideas.

It was very well-received by the approximately 80 residents who attended. A roundtable was set up for each of the committees, with two committee members at each table. For 25 minutes, the discussions at the tables were marked by the free exchange of ideas and opinions. Then, time's up... on to the next table. Almost all the residents visited each of the five tables. Refreshments were served and conversations flowed easily.

On the Security/Safety table, manned by Janice Nachbar and Bob Sabo, the most oft-voiced concern was traffic and road safety. Comments ranged from: a) the roads not being safe to walk on, b) walkers not being visible at night, c) speeding drivers and d)not stopping at roads leading into North or South Trail.

Two of the residents attending were retired Stratford Police Department officers. They agreed to meet with the Secu-

rity/Safety Committee on how to improve our street safety. Issues about the key fobs were minimal. Some residents wanted to explore other ways to utilize the access system.

Jonathan Towle and Ron Ciecko manned the Roads table. Most of the questions concerned the timeline for the completion of the roads project. Many residents brought up specific problems on their roads. Jonathon Towle submitted a "Roads Update" article in the Sept. 15 issue of The Villager. Please check that for detailed information.

The roundtable provided an opportunity for Tom Aubin and Nick Harding to expertly explain in greater detail the intent of the Energy Solutions Committee. While there was strong interest in renewables and how they would apply, there was also a strong interest in energy solutions for the individual units (e.g. heat pumps, geothermal). Tom received several calls from owners following the meeting. Finding the right consultant to develop a path for energy efficiency for individual units might be a good step one on this front. No need to have every unit owner try to figure out this puzzle and there is strength in numbers.

Nick is in the process of an ongoing audit for the NCB solar project and also talked about trying to realize cost savings at the OVCA/OVTD level in terms of energy demand and usage.

The goal of Tom Becker and Dan Kanner at the Finance Committee table was not to merely recite official financial statements. Rather, they increased the general awareness of the Tax District and what we do. The most commonly mentioned issues/concerns were: a) Funding of the remaining road repaving, b) scarcity of reserves in our budget and the Modus Operandi agreement – that was unfamiliar to most residents. Questions were forthcoming on returns or savings of the solar program on the NCB. Several residents expressed interest in volunteering on our committees in the future.

All in all, it was an interesting evening for all concerned. We look forward to seeing you at the next OVTD Roundtable. It should be even better!

#### **SOUTH CLUBHOUSE MONITORS & SUBSTITUTES WANTED**

Volunteers are needed to help cover SCB Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

There are substitute monitors for any time that you cannot make it in on your scheduled day.

#### **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, please contact Kathy Lukens at 203-612-6685 / wklukens@ comcast.net

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNIT OWNERS: SEPT. 19, 2023**



Mark Rhatigan

Good evening and welcome to the annual meeting of Oronoque Village unit owners. I'm delighted to stand before you today as the Executive Director to provide an update on the past several months since I assumed this role. It's been a privilege to serve this community, and I'm grateful for the trust you have all placed in me.

First, let me extend my appreciation to our former Executive Director, Fred Rodriguez, for his invaluable mentorship and sharing his wisdom over the time we worked together. I am profoundly grateful for his support during the transition, making it possible for me to serve the community to the best of my ability.

In these past few years, our community has faced an evolving staffing crisis that has tested the resilience and determination of our exceptional team. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to all the staff members who have risen to the occasion, showing unwavering dedication and commitment to ensuring that this community continues to run smoothly. Their hard work, flexibility and steadfast commitment have been nothing short of exceptional. And lastly, I want to thank you, the residents and all of our volunteers — whether you serve as an officer or director on a board, or on a standing committee or simply your engagement with an OV club — your support in maintaining this community and its values over the years and the dedication and commitment of our unit owners have helped us build and maintain a wonderful place for all residents to enjoy.

Now, let's dive into some highlights over the past several months, particularly focusing on our ongoing preventative maintenance program, which is nearing its 10-year cycle. This program has been instrumental in preserving the value and aesthetics of the property. It's a significant milestone that we will reach in 2025 when we have the opportunity to make some crucial decisions regarding its future.

Our current program involves refurbishing and painting a certain number of units each year to ensure the exterior remains in optimal condition. As we approach the 10-year mark, we have two major options on the table for consideration:

- One option is to increase the number of units that get painted each year. This would help us accelerate the maintenance cycle, preventing any undue wear and tear on the exterior.
- Another option is to consider newer siding materials that may require less frequent maintenance, providing long-term cost savings and reducing the burden on unit owners.

Your input and feedback on these options are crucial as we move forward. The strategic planning teams will have the opportunity to review and make recommendations. We will need to initiate community meetings to gauge unit owners' preferences and make informed decisions once we have gathered all the necessary data.

We are currently undergoing a reserve study, which is a comprehensive assessment of our financial reserves and the state of our infrastructure. This study will have a strong focus on our roof replacement program and the associated roof reserves. The condition of our roofs is paramount to the integrity of all building structures, and it's essential that we plan and budget accordingly.

The reserve study will provide us with valuable insights into the state of our reserves, ensuring we are adequately prepared for any necessary replacements or repairs in the coming years. We will share the results of this study with you in due course, and your feedback and input will be instrumental in shaping our future decisions regarding the roof maintenance and reserve planning.

As you all know by now, the new owners of the Blackhawk Country Club have been actively investing in upgrades and are making incredible enhancements to their operation. One noteworthy improvement is the introduction robotic mowers to maintain the fairways. These state-of-the-art mowers are designed to ensure precision and efficiency in their course maintenance efforts while reducing both noise and carbon-monoxide pollution. However, we understand that the placement of the solar powered charging stations for these mowers might raise concerns on their aesthetic impact. Rest assured: Blackhawk is committed to preserving the natural beauty of our surroundings. To address this, they have pledged to disguise any charging stations with carefully chosen shrubbery, ensuring that they blend seamlessly into the landscape.

In addition to these upgrades and our newly founded operational relationship — Blackhawk has agreed to become co-applicants for an engineering study focused on the mitigation of Freeman Brook. As many of you are aware, this initiative is crucial in preventing further erosion during heavy storm events, specifically, safeguarding units located along Algonquin Lane. Their willingness to collaborate on this study highlights their commitment to the long-term sustainability of both the Village and golf course.

As Bob mentioned – our PEO - third-party human resources - Insperity, went live on Aug. 1. As we are still transitioning a multitude of the HR responsibilities over to Insperity, we are already seeing the benefits with the service. It is streamlining payroll processing and PTO tracking, giving the end user, or employee, an easy-to-use application eliminating

Continued on page14



## <u>Don't Forget to Contribute to</u> <u>The Employee Appreciation Fund!</u>



#### **Dear Residents:**

Before the change of season becomes too hectic (or before you head to warmer climates for the winter months), please consider recognizing our dedicated staff members with a contribution to the Employee Appreciation Fund.



The contributions reflect how much we value the hard work and the ongoing commitment of our staff members. Each day, our employees tend to the multiple needs of a vast and diverse community.

Whether it is landscaping in the summer, plowing in the winter, leaf collection in the fall or planting in the spring, the staff works year-round to make Oronoque Village a pristine place to live. Please, let's show them their hard work is appreciated!

Remember, there is a "no tipping" policy at Oronoque Village. The Employee Appreciation Fund is a *once-a-year opportunity* to provide our staff members with financial rewards for their excellent service.

In past years, the fund has benefitted from contributions by 50% of our residents ... We are hopeful that, this year, we will have 100% participation.

Money accrued by the fund is dispensed during the annual employee holiday party in December. Let's wish them "Season's Greetings" and say, "We thank you for jobs well done!"

To make a contribution, please make checks out to OVCA Employee Appreciation Fund and drop off at the Business Office, 600 North Trail.

Thank you for your consideration!









#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a nonpartisan organization (of women and men) that encourages informed and active participation in government. Residents are invited to attend an informational meeting presented by the LWV Oronoque Study Group on Thursday, Oct. 26, from 4-5 p.m. in the NCB front card room. For details, contact Marge Heffel, Oronoque resident and LWVCT treasurer, at 203-913-5695 or mcheffel@gmail.com.

# FUNSEEKERS NEEDS AN ENTERTAINMENT COORDINATOR

Funseekers has an opening on its Board of Directors for an entertainment coordinator. Responsibilities include recruiting entertainment; negotiating price and signing contracts, ensuring stage/sound requirements are identified and implemented; overseeing entertainers' needs are met for a trouble-free performance; working with the Board to provide annual budget input and placing advertisements in the bimonthly Villager.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Lucy Clifford at 203-644-7710 or lmclifford@yahoo.com.

#### **FEATURE**

#### LONTE RAMALHO HAS BEEN NAMED 'EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER'

Oronoque Village's carpentry foreman, Lonte Ramalho, has been named employee of the quarter. Lonte — who is always ready to assist residents with a smile — has been a fixture at Oronoque Village since arriving here in 2007.

"I like working here," he says. "The Maintenance Department has a great staff and I enjoy interacting with the residents."

He joined the Maintenance staff doing siding work as part of the Preventive Maintenance program. He later took on the additional tasks of a full-time carpenter. When Al Velosa retired last year, it was Lonte who was selected to assume his responsibilities.

The transition has occurred without a hiccup, states Director of Maintenance Ryan Hankey. "Lonte has stepped into the roll seamlessly," says Ryan. "He is an all-around great asset to the Maintenance Department and he continues to take on more responsibilities while still doing a fantastic job in all aspects of his position. He is extremely knowledgeable and a great problem-solver for our field carpenters."

Lonte came to OV with extensive training. His stepfather operated an independent contracting operation and his uncle owned a power tool and party supply rental company. Under their watchful eyes, he became well-acquainted with tool use, home improvement projects and contracting techniques. He later attended Bullard-Havens Technical High School in Bridgeport and, after graduating in 1992, he went to work in the construction field.

Later, he was hired as the environmental services manager for Healthcare Services Group, where he performed



carpentry and maintenance work at nursing homes throughout Fairfield and New Haven Counties.

At Oronoque Village, his work includes performing inspections and installing windows, doors and sliders.

A native of Bridgeport, Lonte is married and the father of a 25-year-old son and a 23-year-old daughter and the grandfather of a 1-year-old boy.

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#### **ACTIVITIES**

EDITOR'S NOTE: To ensure accuracy, information submitted to The Villager must be sent <u>via email</u>, 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, on Nov. 1, 2023, is Oct. 17 at noon.

#### **BOCCE**

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

#### **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 the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

#### **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.

#### **LADIES BIBLE STUDY**

• The Ladies Bible Study welcomes all resident women. 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 levels at 10 a.m. 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.

#### **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 first Wednesday of each month while the pools are closed. 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.

#### RACQUET SPORTS

• OV's Racquet Sports Facility is comprised of three tennis courts and five pickleball courts. Both sports have clubs that offer court play times as well as a social memberships for off-court gatherings. For information on joining, contact Peter Feick for tennis at 203-856-0246 or Bill Tanski for pickleball at 609-876-3520.

#### **TABLE TENNIS GROUP**

• Table Tennis 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 Lapides: mslapid@gmail.com / 203-927-8577. Play is scheduled via the TeamReach app.

#### **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.

#### **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@opton line.net or call 203-767-9760.

Don't miss the OV Vendor List - Fall/Winter 2023 that is inserted in this issue!

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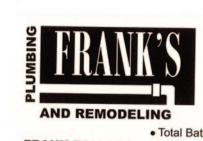
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#### **CALENDAR**

Dates, times and locations of events are subject to change. To update a Calendar listing, please contact Chrissy Smith at csmith@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 / (C)=Closed event

#### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 16**

- 10:30 a.m. Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi, SCB
- 3:00 p.m. OVCA Finance Committee NCB, B/R
- 5:00 p.m. BRAVO rehearsal, SCB
- 6:30 p.m. Drop-in Bridge, NCB
- 7:00 p.m. Tennis Club Members Event (C)

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17**

- 9:00 a.m. Table Tennis, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. Zumba, NCB
- 2:00 p.m. Writer's Group, SCB
- 3:00 p.m. Declaration Proposal Q&A, NCB Board Room
- 7:00 p.m. OVCA Board Meeting, NCB

# The Stratford Health Department & The Baldwin Center Present ART OF AGING SENIOR HEALTHY LIVING EXPO FRIDAY OCTOBER 20, 2023 10AM - 12PM BALDWIN SENIOR CENTER GIVEAWAYS, HEALTHY SNACKS, REIKI, CHAIR MASSAGES, COOKING DEMO, AROMATHERAPY, MEDITATION, CPR DEMO. More information: Baldwin Center: 203-385-4050 Stratford Health Department: 203-385-4090

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18**

- 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
- 2:00 p.m. Movie: About My Father, SCB
- 5:00 p.m. Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. Castle Poker, SCB

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19**

- 10:00 a.m. Bocce, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. Zumba, 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
- 5:00 p.m. BRAVO rehearsal, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. Table Tennis, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. Bingo, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. Declaration Proposal Q& A, NCB Board Room

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

- 10:30 a.m. Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 4:00 p.m. Pickleball Club Event, NCB (C)

#### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**

- 8:30 a.m. Guys & Dolls Club Pancake Breakfast, SCB (walk-ins welcome)
- 7:00 p.m. Weekenders Doo-Wop event, NCB

#### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22**

- 11:00 a.m. Private Party, SCB (C)
- 3:00 p.m. Pletman Concert, NCB

#### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 23**

- 10:30 a.m. Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi, SCB
- 3:00 p.m. Bylaws Committee Meeting, NCB
- 5:00 p.m. BRAVO rehearsal, SCB
- 6:30 p.m. Drop-in Bridge, NCB

#### **SAVE THE DATES**

#### **Guys & Dolls Pancake Breakast is Oct. 21**

Residents and guests are welcome to the Guy & Dolls Club Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the North Clubhouse.

The menu includes pancakes (traditional and glutenfree), sausage, fresh fruit, orange juice, apple juice, coffee, and tea.

The cost is \$10 per person. There is no charge for children under age 5. Walk-ins are welcome.

#### Districts 3 & 4 Holiday Party on Dec. 6

A combined holiday party will be held for Districts 3 and 4 on Wednesday, Dec. 6, from 6-9 p.m. at SCB.

A buffet dinner, from David Grant Caterers, will be served from 6-7:30 p.m., followed by dance music provided by Oronoque DJ Chris Albino, 7:30 until 9 p.m.

Information by district will be forthcoming.

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24**

- 9:00 a.m. Table Tennis, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. Zumba, NCB
- 3:00 p.m. Declaration Proposal Q&A, NCB Board Room
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Cards, Brosowsky, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. OVTD Board Meeting, NCB

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25**

- 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, A/C Rm
- 5:00 p.m. Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. Castle Poker, SCB

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26**

- 10:00 a.m. Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. Zumba, 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. Ladies Mahjong/Cards, NCB C/R (C)
- 5:00 p.m. BRAVO rehearsal, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. Table Tennis, SCB
  - 7:00 p.m. Declaration Proposal Q& A, NCB Board Room

#### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28**

3:00 p.m. – BRAVO dress rehearsal, SCB

#### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29**

• 6:30 p.m. – BRAVO production, SCB

#### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 30**

- 10:30 a.m. Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi, SCB
- 6:30 p.m. Drop-in Bridge, NCB

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31**

- 9:00 a.m. Table Tennis, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. Zumba, NCB
- 2:00 p.m. Writer's Group, SCB
- 3:00 p.m. Declaration Proposal Q&A, NCB Board Room

#### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

- 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
- 10:30 a.m. Hadassah Board Mtg, NCB (C)
- 4:00 p.m. Pool Social Group, SCB
- 5:00 p.m. Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. Castle Poker, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. Book Club, NCB Library

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

- 10:30 a.m. Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 10:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study, NCB B/R
- 6:30 p.m. Halloween Karaoke/Dance Party, SCB



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

any uncertainty the staff may have with their pay, vacation requests, their health benefits, employee services or assistance programs. Come January 2024, Insperity will assume all 401k plans, giving our employees more support with investment options and retirement planning tools. Prior to next budget season, we will complete an analysis on the cost savings for both the employee benefits and the labor hours with the administrative staff.

Some operational highlights: in the next 2-3 weeks we will begin to see some movement with our road replacement project, specifically drainage improvements for Dakota Lane and address any storm water system repairs prior to the repaving. The seven roads slated for repaving will commence mid-October.

The Maintenance Department is currently in the process of reseeding, there is quite back log of work orders, so we ask that residents please be patient. Keeping in mind it is first in, first out method. Stump grinding has begun; approximately 30 stumps are scheduled for removal. Tree replacement program will begin in the next 2-3 weeks and quickly approaching is one of our most monumental tasks here at OV: our leaf removal clean-up program, which will commence in late October. Ryan Hankey will be releasing the leaf removal maps come mid-October and we will make sure they are sent electronically and available on the OV website.

Speaking of the website and work orders – the Maintenance Office has been in discussions with our work order management platform, eWorkOrders, to incorporate a resident work order portal, where unit owners will have the ability to submit work orders, track work order submissions, statuses, and the assigned staffing. This has been a goal for quite some time ... to integrate our work order system with the OV website. We are finally seeing the possibility of a modernized experience for our residents and another enhancement in communication. There will be some front-end customization that will need to take place prior to going live, but we are hoping by working with both the communications committee and our website provider we can have a seamless roll-out in the coming months.

The implementation of the access control system is proving to be a significant benefit to not only management but some residents who have voiced their satisfaction knowing there is an additional layer of security when utilizing the clubhouses. With the recent integration of the video surveillance and comprehensive software for monitoring and managing

access, has shown to reduce unauthorized entry to the club-houses. We are aware that is not completely foolproof; particularly when residents give guests their personal access device to enter the pool areas. This will be addressed next pool season by either adding attendants or incorporating an additional level of entry. But, all in all, from our perspective here in the clubhouse, it is doing the job it was intended to do.

Lastly, I just want to make a quick statement. The Executive Director, also the Community Association Manager, plays a crucial role in the efficient management of the association. It is essential to understand that the Association Manager serves as a neutral entity, entrusted with the responsibility of providing recommendations on various aspects of community management. These aspects may include maintenance or operational decisions, financial matters, amenity use policies, and even the possibility of amending governing documents.

Any recommendations I give are driven by a commitment to the best interest of Oronoque Village as a whole. These recommendations are not intended to be of a political nature but are aimed at ensuring the well-being, sustainability and prosperity of the Village. They are made with careful consideration of the community's long-term goals and in compliance with our governing documents and my Code of Ethics as a CMCA.

We are fortunate to have a community that cares deeply about its well-being and future. Constructive debate and discussion are encouraged and welcomed as they contribute to a better understanding of various perspectives and ultimately lead to informed decisions. Open dialogue allows us to consider all viewpoints and ensures that the choices we make are well-informed and fair.

While we encourage debate and diversity of opinions, we also want to stress the importance of conducting these discussions in a respectful and considerate manner. I believe that respectful debate enhances transparency and community involvement. However, we should always strive to maintain our community's positive reputation, which is built upon unity, cooperation, and respect for one another.

I encourage all members to engage in discussions, express their opinions and contribute to the betterment of the Village. By doing so in a respectful and constructive manner, we can ensure that this community continues to thrive and remains a place you all should be proud to call home.

#### HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT N2N: NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR CLUB?

We are neighbors offering a helping hand to fellow residents who would like assistance with daily tasks and/or would benefit from increased social interaction with fellow Villagers.

Call or text us at 203-479-0107, Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m, or leave a message.

#### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OFFERS VOTER REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

#### By Marge Heffel

I o one can vote until they become registered. To be registered, you must be a U.S. citizen and age 18 or older on Election Day (Nov. 7 this year). Wait! Why is this important to Oronogue? Most of us have been voting for half a century!

We all have a new neighbor, right? Are you that new neighbor? Did you remember that you must register or reregister when you move to a new town within Connecticut.

You should also fill out a new voter registration form if you change your name, change your party affiliation, or move within your town, because a change of address may affect your voting location.

You can obtain a voter registration form at Town Hall, the public library, the DMV and other state agency offices. To obtain a voter registration form by mail, call the Stratford Registrar of Voters at 203-385-4048 or the Town Clerk at 203-385-4020 and request a form be sent to you. Once you complete the form, it can be mailed (or delivered) to the registrar of voters or the town clerk, both of whom are located at Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main St.

If you use the printed form, you can mail it or hand it in

to the Stratford registrar of voters. Alternatively, if you have a driver's license, you can register online via the state of Connecticut's website https://voterregistration.ct.gov/ OLVR/welcome.do or via the voter education page at the League of Women Voters of CT website https://my.lwv.org / connecti-

#### What are the deadlines?

For any primary, your mailed-in application must be postmarked or received by the registrar of voters or by a voter registration agency or electronically submitted by the fifth day before the primary, or you may apply in-person to your registrar until noon on the last business day before the primary (Nov. 6 in 2023).

For a general election, if you register in-person, mail in your registration form or e-file your application, it must be postmarked or received by your town's registrar by the seventh day before an election (in 2023, that's Oct. 31). If you miss the deadline, you can register and vote in-person at your polling place between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Questions? Contact Marge Heffel, treasurer of the LWV of Connecticut, at mcheffel@gmail.com or 203-913-5695.

#### Senior Life Service is Our Calling Formerly Jewish Senior Services



#### A Senior Care **Expert for** Over 50 Years

#### **Mozaic Home Care**

Our focus is on healing, independence and overall wellness when support and professional care is required after a hospital stay, illness, or for managing a chronic health condition.

- Skilled Nursing
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Medical Social Work
- Nutritional Counseling
- Home Health Aides

#### Mozaic Companions & Homemakers

We provide supervised caregivers of the highest quality who have completed rigorous employee screenings, including background check, physical, drug screening, and references.

- Meal Preparation, Housekeeping, Laundry, and Errands
- Transportation to Appointments,
- Assistance with Personal Care and **Activities of Daily Living**
- Medication Reminders
- Flexible Scheduling 4 24 hours
- Staff Electronic Visit Verification

#### **Mozaic Hospice**

We deliver compassionate care for people facing a life-limiting illness.

- Medical Care and Oversight of Pain Management
- Specialized Registered Nurses, Therapists, Home Health Aides and Social Workers
- **Emotional Support and Guidance**
- Caregiver Education and Support
- Grief and Loss Counseling
- Hospice Volunteers
- Pet and Music Therapy

For more information on these services, please contact us at 203-396-1136, homecare@mozaicsl.org or hospice@mozaicsl.org

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus ■ 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604 ■ 203-365-6400 ■ mozaicsl.org For information about all Mozaic Senior Life services, please call 1-833-MSL-LINK (675-5465)



#### ENTER THE VILLAGER'S CAPTION CONTEST!

monthly Villager caption contest appears in the second issue of each month. Residents are invited to view the image at left and submit one-line captions by emailing office@oronoquevillage.com or delivering submissions, in writing, to the Business Office at NCB.

Deadline for entries is Nov. 3.

Judging is conducted by members of the Communications Committee. No political or negative content will be considered.

There is no limit to the number of captions residents may submit.

Questions? Call Mary von Ziegesar at 203-767-9760.

#### SEPT. 15 CAPTION CONTEST WINNERS



"No, your other left" -John Carpenter; Marie O'Connell and Bob Gebo "The next troubling evolution of Google Maps" – Alex Rodriguez

"Go right to turn left" – Stephanie Fians

#### **WEBSITE INSIGHTS**

**C** ummer may be winding down, but we have a lot of events going on in Oronoque Village this time of year. Where do you find the latest information about upcoming events? Go to the private

side of oronoguevillage. com's HOME PAGE, click on CALENDAR & EVENTS. then click on CALENDAR for all scheduled events or on EVENTS for the details of specific events.

SURVEY RESPONSE EXTENSION: Your input is important! We want your opinions. With hopes of increasing the number of responses from residents, we have extended the survey deadline to Friday, Oct. 20. Please deliver your completed survey to the outside dropbox at the North Clubhouse entry.

If you need another copy of the survey, you may get one from the Business Office.

#### **OVTV Program Schedule** (As of October 5)

The following is a schedule of programs that run daily on OVTV (Channel 591 for those with a cable box and Channel 121-591 for those without a box).

#### For more information on OVTV programming, contact Bruce Pollock at bap203@yahoo.com

4:00 a.m. - Relaxing Music 7:30 a.m. - Morning Stretch

8:00 a.m. - Yoga 8:45 a.m. - Tai Chi

9: 00 a.m.: Mindfulness Lecture

10:00 a.m. - Defibrillator Use Instructions

10:30 a.m. - Zumba

11:00 a.m. Pickleball Tips

12:00 p.m. - Donna Martire-Miller Lecture on Happiness

1:00 p.m. - Doll Crafting

2:00 p.m. - E-Bike Tips

2:15 p.m. - Driving Tips

2:40 p.m. - Scooter Tips

3:00 p.m. - '50s & '60s rock 'n' roll

6:00 p.m. - Dog Parade

8:00 p.m. - "An Evening with Frank Mastrone and Friends - Highlights from the OV 50th Anniversary Gala" Gala

8:30 p.m. - Poli & Majestic Theater History

9:00 p.m. - "Empire of Pain" author interview

(Patrick Radden Keefe)

10:00 p.m. - Donna Martire-Miller Lecture on Happiness

11:00 p.m. - Mindfulness

1200 - Gardening Tips

12: 15 a.m. - Doll Crafting

1:00 a.m. - E-Bike Tips

1:15 a.m. - Driving Tips

1:35 a.m. - E-Scooter Tips

2:00 a.m. - "Empire of Pain" author interview

(Patrick Radden Keefe)





House & Garden presents:

# all Lunchgon Card Party

Thursday, October 19, 2023



### BUFFET LUNCH | \$35 pp

**Crudites-Cheese and Crackers** 

Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks Included



Cash Bar

- Served Fall Salad
- Rolls & Butter
- Salmon/Mango Salsa
- Balsamic Beef Tenderloin
- Chicken Picata/ lemon sauce & capers
- Pasta Primavera
- Roasted Fall Vegetables
- Cheesecake with blueberry compote

Doors open 11:15 a.m Lunch served 12:00 p.m



Along with this form deposit all checks in the H & G box. Deposit all checks together if you want to reserve a table of 8.

Singles Welcome

Your name\_ and phone number:

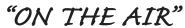
Number of people: Number of Card Tables needed:

Names Players

Checks payable to OV H&G Club by October 16, 2023 Questions: Call Irene Keating 203.377.3980

# ((BRAVO Presents )))

# The Oronogue Live Radio Show! Become a part of our live audience as we entertain



Join our talented Oronoque players (and your very own neighbors)

For a fun night of singing & laughing!

Sunday, October 29, 2023 SCB

6:30-8:30 Pm Doors open at 6

Reception To Follow







RSVP now ... Seating is limited!

The legendary Diamonds will perform their greatest hits and memorable holiday tunes.

A delicious lunch will be served: garden salad, pasta, chicken parmagiana, stuffed scrod, vegetable, potato, rolls, dessert and beverage.

Bus departs from the South Clubhouse at 10:15 a.m. Estimated return time is 4:30 p.m.

Cost for the day — meal, entertainment and gratuities — is \$120. Reservations are required by November 1.

Please place checks made out to Good Times in the box at NCB.

Questions? Call Mary Ann Weaver at 203-530-9962



Bu Donna

Miller





All are encouraged to dress up and wear a Halloween costume/outfit. (Not mandatory, but the more the better.)

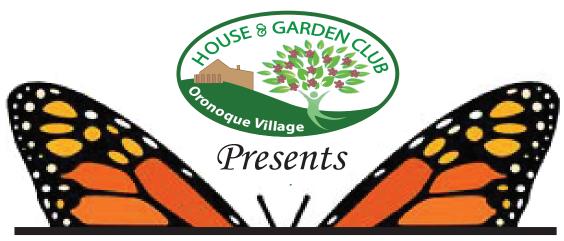
There will be a prize for best outfit as judged by the audience!

The Karaoke/Dance Party on Fri., Oct. 27, at 6:30 p.m. at SCB will be a Halloween theme.

This is your Halloween party here at OV, so, please, spread the word!



No fees or dues are required to attend.



# How To Create A Haven For Monarch Butterflies



"Monarchs, the once plentiful beauties of yard and field, have suffered habitat loss so great that their numbers in recent years have dwindled to 10% of their peak population".





how to attract a bevy of Monarchs to your garden! Learn how to create the perfect environment through special plantings like Milkweed and create a haven for this beautiful

endangered species.

Monday, November 13, 2023 1:00 pm SCB

> Coffee, Tea & Treats served following the program

Members: Free - Guests \$5

# OUR FABULOUS MONTHLY... BINGO

PRESENTED BY THE GUYS & DOLLS CLUB

OCTOBER 19, 7 P.M. AT SCB



\$2.50 A CARD

RAFFLE PRIZES (INCLUDING A BIG 50/50)

**SWEET TREATS** 



# The OV Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the NCB Library

The book for the Nov. 6 meeting is "The Women" by T.C. Boyle.

T.C. Boyle turns his fictional sights on a more colorful and outlandish character this time: Frank Lloyd Wright. Boyle's incomparable account of Wright's life is told through the experiences of the four women who loved him. There's the Montenegrin beauty Olgivanna Milanoff, the passionate Southern belle Maude Miriam Noel, the tragic Mamah Cheney, and his young first wife, Kitty Tobin.

Blazing with his trademark wit and inventiveness, Boyle deftly captures these very different women and the creative life in all its complexity. Love, not architecture, is the focus here. . . . A mesmerizing story of women who invest everything, at great risk, in that mysterious "bank of feeling' named Frank Lloyd Wright. The father of the Prairie style of architecture and creator of Fallingwater (1939) and New York's Guggenheim Museum (1959). His signal flaw, we're told, is a weakness for strong-willed women.





#### Wed., Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. at SCB \$1 admission includes popcorn

A man's fiancée encourages him and his father to spend the weekend with her wealthy and exceedingly eccentric family. The gathering soon develops into a cultural clash, allowing father and son to discover the true meaning of family,

Starring Sebastian Maniscalco, Robert De Niro, Leslie Bibb, Anders Holm, David Rasche, Brett Dier and Kim Cattral.



Adelita Chirino, our presenter has been helping people connect to their dream lives for over forty years. She says "We all dream. Even if we don't remember our dreams, it's

something we can learn to do. Why should we?" She states that for many people growing up, dreams were dismissed as inconsequential, just a dream. The truth is dreams are multi-faceted experiences that have much to offer us in our lives. They can hold a mirror up to our behaviors, alert us to possible future events, and take us places that are as real as any physical location in waking life!

"Oreams Give You The Courage To Live From The Heart"

Adelita Chirino

You won't want to miss this enlightening program presentation which will enhance your life in unexpected ways.





Saturday, November 11, 2023 SCB Doors Open 6:15

Robert Black's authentic portrayal and exciting interpretation of Elvis Presley has made him one of the country's most sought after and popular tribute performers. A true professional, Robert's crowd pleasing style and spot-on mannerisms mixed with his unique blend of vocal

talent, charisma and elaborate costuming make him a favorite of fans worldwide. Robert has the ability to reach people and touch their hearts through his performances. You won't want to miss this!

Advance reservations required and payment will be accepted from Octobe 17th through November 7th unless maximum capacity is reached. Open to resident Funseekers' members and one non-resident guest per single resident until October 24th. Starting on October 25th, if there is space availability, member residents may sign up any number of non-resident guests. Please put \$6.00 check per person into FUNSEEKERS mailbox, NCB. (\$10.00 non-resident guest)
Not a 2023 member? Join for \$15 per person. Membership will carry over into 2024. Questions? Call Lynn Collins 203-260-4644.

COFFEE, TEA, SOFT DRINKS & SPECIAL VETERANS DAY DESSERT TO BE SERVED! BYOB AND SNACKS!

PRESENTS

# The Restaurant at Blackhawk Country Club

Join us in our newly renovated restaurant & banquet facilities.

Our venue is suited to host up to 250 guests.







385 Oronoque Lane, Stratford, CT

Chabot Hospitality Group 475-273-4121

blackhawkct.com

Hours: Wed.-Sat. 11 AM - 9 PM

Sun. 10 AM - 8 PM • Brunch 10 AM - 2PM

Conveniently located between NYC and Boston.



Lunch • Dinner

Let us host your next party!





#### Be Safe. Be Well. Be Home.

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

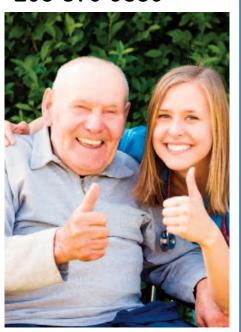
As the world around us changes and challenges us. Caregiver's Home Solutions can bring you peace of mind.

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.

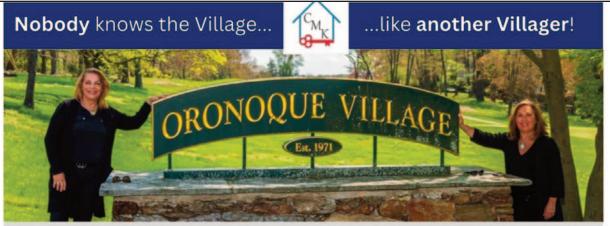
Proudly owned by an OV resident, our agency has been honored to serve the Oronogue community for over 14 years.

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.

203-870-9850



+ Special discount for OV residents +



#### Mary Kelleher

Mary.Kelleher@cbrealty.com 203.496.1399

#### Christine Mahoney

Christine.Mahoney@cbrealty.com 203.258.7415

#### When it comes to Real Estate, we cover every angle Specializing in Oronogue Village

- · Complimentary home price evaluation
- Professional FREE photography of your home
- · In-house mortgage broker & insurance agent
- · Working with buyers, sellers and Midland Development & Contracting getting CASH offers, quick closings with NO inspections.

