

December 15, 2023



# THE VILLAGER





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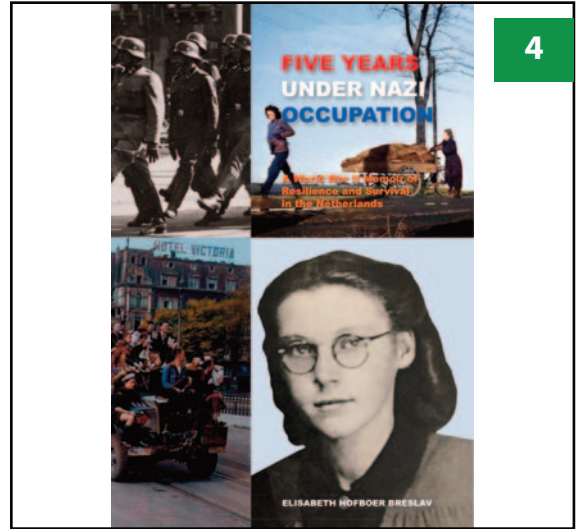
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On the cover: Thanks to Karen and Nick Harding for submitting photos of their festive gingerbread village, titled "Ski Resort," which is on display at the South Clubhouse foyer. This is the third year that the Hardings have shared their gingerbread creations with OV residents. Please see additional photos and a short article on page 8.

The Villager welcomes photo submissions, which must be emailed as high-resolution jpeg images to Villager Editor Carol King at [cking@oronoquevillage.com](mailto:cking@oronoquevillage.com).



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ELISABETH BRESLAV'S MEMOIR DETAILS LIFE UNDER NAZI OCCUPATION



Elisabeth Breslav

**"F**ive Years Under Nazi Occupation -- A World War II Memoir of Resilience and Survival in the Netherlands" by OV resident Elisabeth Hofboer Breslav was recently released by Nedvision Publishing.

While there are numerous personal accounts of the horrendous military battles and the abomination of the Holocaust, there is a dearth of English-language writings about the Nazi occupation of Europe from the perspective of ordinary citizens who suffered through it.

Among the fast-dwindling group of teens who survived the 1940-1945 Nazi occupation of Holland, Elisabeth was 12 years old when Hitler's troops marched into the Netherlands and 17 when the country was finally liberated. She describes how, for five endless-seeming years, she spent many nights hiding under the stairs during bombardments, as her father prayed and artillery shells rained on the flat roof of her house.

With her school taken over to shelter soldiers, she tells how her class met in the unheated concrete basement of a mental institution where German scientists performed the most unspeakable experiments on the residents. And, always hungry and cold, how she spent her free time hustling to gather firewood and food while often having to dodge drunken German soldiers looking for some entertainment.

Elisabeth shares how she suffered the loss of her best girlfriend and many other Jewish classmates, who were deported and died in Hitler's infamous camps. When the Nazis began rounding up men for work in Germany, her family hid her older brother in a damp cellar under the kitchen floor. When, at last, the Canadian tanks rolled into Amsterdam on May 8, 1945, she sat fearfully at her mother's bedside in the hospital, watching her ever-so-slowly recover from emergency surgery that had been performed by candlelight during one of the last bombings.

For 95-year-old Elisabeth, the publication of this memoir is a dream come true. In the early 1990s, she started writing a series of short stories about her experience as a teen during

World War II Holland. When one of these was selected for publication in an anthology, titled "That Mad Game -- Growing up in a Warzone -- an Anthology of Essays from Around the World" (Cinco Punto Press) in 2012, she decided to edit and compile them into a book. "It has been a long wait, but very much worth it," she says. Her other writings include essays in the Hearst newspapers and The Villager.

In her book, Elisabeth depicts the day-to-day struggle for survival and the determination to live. This is a tale of one solitary teenager who speaks for millions of her contemporaries.

The book is distributed by Ingram and is available at Barnes & Noble, Amazon and many independent bookstores. All net proceeds of the sale of the book will be donated to the International Red Cross.

The Amazon and Barnes & Noble websites provide an opportunity for readers to post a commentary about the book, which influences their promotion of the publication.

**About Elisabeth Breslav**  
Born in Amsterdam, Elisabeth left Holland in 1947 to start a career as a translator/interpreter by working as an au pair, first in London and then in Paris. When her command of English and French reached the near native level, she struck out on her own and worked for several American companies in Paris.

In 1956 she met Walter Breslav, an American GI, came to the U.S. and was married the following year. Now widowed, she has lived at Oronoque Village since 2003. She began submitting articles and essays to The Villager in 2004. In 2005 she started a regular column, "The Village Round Table", later followed by many years of "You Meet Such Interesting People."

She also organized several arts and crafts shows and was a member and past coordinator of the OV Book Club. She is among the founders of the OV Writer's Group and still a member. In addition to her writing, she continues to be active in the OV community. Despite profound hearing loss, she organized the Pletman Concerts series from 2010 to 2022.

In 2024, the same publisher will release the Dutch version of her memoir.



ELISABETH HOFBOER BRESLAV



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OVCA BOARD VOTE: BIRD FEEDER RULES REMAIN UNCHANGED

During the November 2023 OVCA Board meeting, a motion to modify the rules and regulations related to bird feeders did not pass. The motion requested changing the dates of when seed feeders are permitted from Oct. 15 through May 15 to Dec. 1 through March 31.

The vote count was as follows:

9 "No" votes: D2, D3, D4, D5, D7, D8, D9, D11, Secretary .

4 "Yes" votes: D1, D6, D10, Treasurer



## NOTICE: CHANGE OF DISTRIBUTION FOR JAN. 15 & FEB. 15 VILLAGERS

During the October OVCA Board Meeting, a motion was passed to allow a pilot program/test of The Villager's printing frequency. The test will occur for the Jan. 15, 2024, and the Feb. 15, 2024, issues.

These issues will not be printed in the usual quantity, nor will they be distributed in the Black Boxes.

For those Villagers who want a printed copy, the Business Office will have printed copies available. The issues will be posted on [oronoquevillage.com](http://oronoquevillage.com), as usual. They may be accessed at: [www.oronoquevillage.com/communications/villager/Villager issues](http://www.oronoquevillage.com/communications/villager/Villager%20issues).

If you need help with delivery, please call N2N for assistance: 203-479-0107, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

## BALLROOM DANCING LESSONS

If you've ever thought about taking ballroom dance lessons, but never got around to it, now is your chance. Classes will be held at 7 p.m. at the North Clubhouse on Thursdays, Jan. 4, 11, 25 and Feb. 1. The cost for four lessons are \$25 per person. Limited spots available. Contact Sue at [suesapia@outlook.com](mailto:suesapia@outlook.com) if interested.

## OVTV IS TEMPORARILY DISABLED

OVTV (Channel 591 with a cable box and Channel 121-591 without a cable box) is temporarily unavailable for viewing.

## CALL FOR ART: JANUARY 3, 2024



The OV Arts Guild will install a new Galerie OV show at SCB on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 10 to 11 a.m. This show, titled "Artist's Choice," features photography, fiber art and crafts, such as pottery or other three-dimensional works, which will be displayed on pedestals. Paintings, drawings or sculptures will not be accepted. Bring one to three pieces for this show.

All hanging art must be securely wired across the back to

hang on our system (no alligator hooks, loops, etc.). Entries must be your own original art.

Each submission requires two informational forms: one on the art (back of hanging art) and one to provide to the committee. An artist waiver also is required. To obtain forms in advance, contact Barbara Stewart at [barbsmt@yahoo.com](mailto:barbsmt@yahoo.com) or 203-612-1373. The opening reception for this show is Sunday, Jan. 14, at 4 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served after the artists' presentations.

## SKETCHING/JOURNALING CLASS

A six-week artist sketching and journaling class, led by Kathy Toombs, will meet at the SCB art room from 2-4 p.m. on Tuesdays, beginning Jan. 9. There is no cost to attend.

Materials needed are an 8- by 10-inch multimedia sketchbook and sketching materials, such as pencils, pens, markers, pastel oil based water crayons, watercolors etc. Please no oil, acrylic paints or soft pastels (no mess). There will be a short lesson. Please bring your own references.

Limited to 15. RSVP by Dec. 20. Email your name, phone number and address to [KathyT1014@aol.com](mailto:KathyT1014@aol.com).

## HOLIDAY DECORATION REMOVAL AT NORTH AND SOUTH CLUBHOUSES

The House & Garden Club will remove all holiday decorations at SCB on Jan. 4 at 9:30 a.m. and at NCB on Jan. 5 at 9:30 a.m. Those who are available to help are welcome to join the group and pitch in. If you have questions, please call Debbie Grosso at 203-380-2468.

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

The OVA Board will next meet on Jan. 16, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the North Clubhouse.

The OVTD Board will meet on Jan. 23, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the North Clubhouse

Residents are encouraged to attend the meetings and are invited to ask questions or share comments during the opening and closing forums.





## BRASS QUINTET RINGS IN THE HOLIDAYS DURING PLETMAN CONCERT

Story by Amy Plapp and Tom Ward  
 Photo by Arline Walton

What better way to announce the arrival of the holidays than with a brass quintet? The Amplitudo Brass Quintet did not disappoint! On the sunny Sunday afternoon of Nov. 19, this talented cohort of musicians from New York journeyed to Oronoque Village to present a spectacular program.

They began with several renaissance and baroque selections, common fare for brass instruments, then progressed to two selections from the 19th century: Verdi’s “Triumphal March from Aida” and Sousa’s march “The Liberty Bell.” Popular selections from the modern day filled the remainder of the program, including “New York, New York” and “Maria,” from “West Side Story,” followed by “Sleigh Ride” and “Chanukah, Oh Chanukah,” signaling the festive season quickly approaching.

The quintet closed their program with the powerful “Throne Room Theme” from “Star Wars Episode IV”. Follow-

ing the concert, all five of the musicians joined members of the audience for refreshments and sprightly conversation. All in all, it was a fitting finale to the 2023 Pletman series.

Violinist Jory Lane will open the 2024 Pletman Concert season on March 17 with an exciting performance from the classical repertoire. Originally from Colorado Springs, Jory earned a bachelor’s degree from the Eastman School of Music and is currently enrolled in a master’s program at Juilliard. Jory is a true showman, and we think you’ll enjoy every note!

The season will continue on April 21 and May 19; negotiations are underway with musicians to fill those dates.

We are so grateful to our audiences for their continued commitment to and enthusiasm for the Pletman Concerts and to the many volunteers who help make each event a success.

We look forward to enjoying more music with you in 2024!



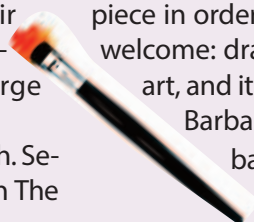
### WANTED: ARTISTS OF THE MONTH

The 2024 Artist of the Month program at NCB is seeking participants. All resident artists who have hanging art can participate. Artists show their work for one month in the front and back hallways. These spaces will accommodate one large piece or two smaller pieces of artwork

Artists can change the work as often as they wish. Selected artists will be the focus of a feature article in The

Villager during the month of their exhibit. This is your chance to shine!

The artwork must be wired across the back of the piece in order to hang on our system. All mediums are welcome: drawings, paintings, photography and fiber art, and it must be your own original work. Contract Barbara Stewart at 203-612-1373 or email to [barbsmt@yahoo.com](mailto:barbsmt@yahoo.com).



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## 'SWEET' HOLIDAY DISPLAY AT THE SOUTH CLUBHOUSE

A festive gingerbread village, titled "Ski Resort," is on display at the South Clubhouse foyer. The village was created by OV residents Karen and Nick Harding and their daughter, Annie McHugh. This year their grandson participated and enjoyed working on the Hot Cocoa building.

The family has been creating gingerbread villages and love to share their work. This is the third year the Hardings have displayed their gingerbread creations at SCB. OV





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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, on Jan, 2, 2024, is Dec. 18 at noon.*

### CORNHOLE

- Cornhole is played on Thursdays, 10 a.m., 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 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 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](mailto:dinabob7@comcast.net) / 203-231-4753 or Maddy Lapidès: [mslapid@gmail.com](mailto: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@optonline.net](mailto:MvonZ@optonline.net) or call 203-767-9760.

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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](mailto:csmith@oronoquevillage.com). For the latest on OV news & events, visit [www.oronoquevillage.com](http://www.oronoquevillage.com)

**Bold-faced listings = OVCA / OVTD events / (C)=Closed event**

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

### **Business & Maintenance Offices Close at noon**

- 9:00 a.m. – Strategic Planning Committee, NCB B/R
- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB

- 1:30 p.m. – HR Committee, NCB B/R
- 6:00 p.m. – Pickleball Club event, NCB (C)

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 3:00 p.m. – Private Party, SCB (C)

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 11:00 a.m. – Private Party, SCB (C)
- 6:00 p.m. – Private Party, NCB (C)

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Bylaws Committee, NCB
- 3:00 p.m. – OVCA Finance Committee, NCB
- 6:30 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 9:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 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. – Castle Poker, SCB

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Village Quilters, NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Ladies Mahjongg & Cards, NCB (C)
- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Table Tennis, SCB

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

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

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**3 BE CAUTIOUS OF TRAFFIC**  
Be aware of traffic around you. Face oncoming traffic to see approaching headlights.

**4 BRING A FRIEND**  
Drivers are more likely to see two walkers than one. Walking with a friend is also more enjoyable.

**5 LAYER UP**  
Stay warm and layer up. You can wrap jackets around your waist if you get warm. Mittens and hats can fit into pockets.

**Have fun and stay safe!**



# BULLS & BEARS CLUB SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

By Jonathan Towle

As the president of Bulls & Bears, our Oronoque investment club, I would like to offer interested Village residents the opportunity to join us.

The club runs a portfolio of our own money that we invest in individual stocks that we chose at our monthly meetings. The club has been in existence since 1982, and meets on the first Monday of every month. We are limited to 20 members.

New members invest an initial \$300 in the portfolio, and the required subsequent investment

is \$40 a month, or the equivalent on a quarterly or yearly basis.

Our total portfolio with 14 members is currently about \$50,000. The club is structured to accommodate both novices and experienced investors.

Prospective members can attend a meeting or two as guests to get a feel for what the club is about. Our discussions cover a range of investing, economics, and political topics, and the our members present a variety of approaches to investing.

If this appeals to you, please contact me,

Jonathan Towle, at 203-612-7082.



## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 1:00 p.m. – Private Party, NCB (C)

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 12:00 p.m. – Private Party, SCB (C)

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

***Business & Maintenance Offices Closed, Buildings Closed***

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 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
- 7:00 p.m. – Men's Cards, Brosowsky, SCB

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

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

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. – Table Tennis, SCB

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

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

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 12:30 p.m. – Private Party, NCB (C)

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

- 12:00 p.m. – Private Party, NCB (C)

## MONDAY, JANUARY 1

***Business & Maintenance Offices Closed, Buildings Closed***

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

- 9:00 a.m. – Table Tennis, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Dollcrafters, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 4:00 p.m. – Funseekers Board Meeting, SCB (C)



## OV WINE CLUB'S HOLIDAY TASTING

Story by Bill Tanski ~ Photo by Dorothy Tanski

The OV Wine Club held its annual holiday tasting event on the evening of Nov. 30 at NCB. This event was a true holiday experience, because there were wrappings and unwrappings awaiting us. I will soon explain.

Leading our excursion was, again, our wine specialist Michelle DeWyngaert. If nothing else, I like writing these articles because I can re-tell that Michelle has this great last name when translated to French: "of the vineyard." How cool is that?

A guest to the Wine Club is always treated with a smile and a welcome, this time accompanied by a glass of sparkling rose pinot noir from the Burgundy region of France, called "Victorine De Chastenay." Complementing the wine were shrimp dabbled in a cocktail sauce. As the wine tasting began, guests found their tables laden with many other appetizers for the balance of the evening.

The theme of our tasting was a "wine terroir" experience. Terroir is a French word noting a "sense of place." It explains the differences between wines of the same grape. These differences are impacted by fundamentals such as: climate, soil, topography and terrain. A chardonnay from the Willamette Valley in Oregon will not taste the same as one from the St. Veran region of France. Likewise, a pinot noir from Santa Barbara, Calif., will differ from one from Burgundy in France.

While we knew the grapes of the wines being tasted (chardonnay and pinot noir), we didn't know their origins. The bottles were wrapped during the tasting. We'd sip and then discuss the differences. And, like any tasting of anything, each person may have a different bent on what's really good, and not so good. It makes life and wine-tasting appealing and fun.



The unwrapping came at the conclusion of each wine group tasting. Michelle commented on the uniqueness of each wine's area, which explains the differences of taste and smell. For example, a "St. Innocent" chardonnay from Oregon has a coastal climate and volcanic soil. Those ingredients create a totally different chardonnay versus one from France. Likewise, with a pinot noir (or any grape). It's all about: location, location, location. Wine is truly a passport to the world.

With all our OV wine-tasting events, the evening doesn't end with the final tasting. As is our tradition, Dorothy Tanski's cookies are brought out as we nibble, sip and converse in a true community spirit, ... even more prevalent during the holiday season.

Until our next wine-tasting event in the spring, remember that the perfect blend of wine is drinking it with good friends.

OV

## 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.



## MAINTENANCE MATTERS

### WARNING:

### FROZEN PIPES CAN CAUSE COLLATERAL DAMAGE

By **Ryan Hankey, Director of Maintenance**

As the temperatures drop, we see an increase in the number of damages caused by frozen pipes.

When frozen pipes burst, water spreads from the burst pipe and saturates everything in its path, causing damages to walls, ceilings, floors and irreplaceable personal items such as photographs, journals, yearbooks and other paper-based mementos.

Ultimately, these damages will be the cause of a higher cost for insurance premiums.

With proper precautions, frozen pipes—and the resulting damages—are avoidable.

Please take the following measures to keep your pipes from freezing:

- ✓ Make sure your lower level thermostat is set at a minimum of 65 degrees.
- ✓ Make sure all outside faucets are turned off and your hoses have been stored.
- ✓ Please be reminded that, in preparation for the winter weather, you should turn off the water feeding your out-

door spigot. This process will help prevent freezing and pipe bursts. It is a good idea to first turn off the water from inside your unit and then open your outside spigot to allow excess water to escape from your water line.

✓ Trickle water through your faucets that are against outside walls. Let cold water drip overnight.

✓ Keep your thermostat set at the same temperature during both day and night. You might be in the habit of turning down the heat when you're asleep, but further drops in the temperature may freeze your pipes.

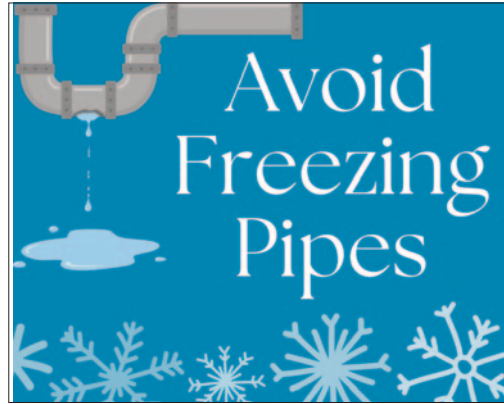
✓ Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to un-insulated pipes under sinks

and appliances near exterior walls.

✓ Remove ceiling tiles in the lower level to allow warm air to ventilate pipes.

**ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS:** It is essential that you share this information with the people responsible for watching your units while you are away. New England winters can bring bitterly cold weather with temperatures that drop significantly during the night.

OV



## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FROM THE STRATFORD FIRE MARSHAL

▪ Don't put your live Christmas tree up too early or leave it up for longer than 2 weeks.

▪ Place trees away from heat sources, including fireplaces and heat vents. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.

▪ Keep the live tree stand filled with water at all times.

▪ Use only nonflammable decorations.

▪ Don't link more than three light strands, unless the di-

rections indicate its safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into an outlet.

▪ Avoid using lit candles; consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles.

▪ Ensure that Christmas trees and other holiday decorations don't block an exit way.

OV





## LINE DANCING CLASSES ARE IN FULL SWING

Story and photo by Sonya DeBiase

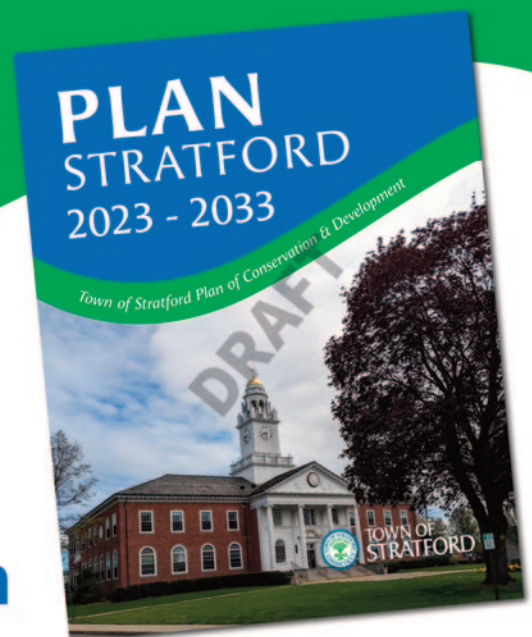
Everyone in the class agrees that line dancing is a great exercise and lots of fun. We dance to an assortment of over 50 songs. Some of the favorites are "Boot Scootin Boogie," "Candida" and "The Cupid Shuffle," which are popular at dance parties. No dance experience is necessary to participate in the classes and there is no expectation for perfection. A Beginners Class is held Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the North Clubhouse and a class for all levels follows at 10 a.m. The classes are free.

Anyone interested can come and watch or give it a try. For more information call Sonya DeBiase: 203-377-1515.

The 2023 - 2033 Stratford  
Plan of Conservation &  
Development is available  
for public review!

View it online at:

[www.PlanStratford.com](http://www.PlanStratford.com)





## ENTER THE VILLAGER'S CAPTION CONTEST!



A 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](mailto:office@oronoquevillage.com) or delivering submissions, in writing, to the Business Office at NCB.

Deadline for entries is Jan. 1, 2024.

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.



## WEBSITE INSIGHTS

A new look! Recently appointed Communications Committee member and graphic artist, Joe MacKenna, is working on updating banners for our messages – online, in The Villager and via email – and creating a more consistent look. Let us know what you think!

~

If you haven't yet looked at the results of our September Survey, 2023, you may find them of interest! Visit [www.oronoquevillage.com/Documents & Forms/General/Survey of Residents September 2023](http://www.oronoquevillage.com/Documents & Forms/General/Survey of Residents September 2023).

~

If you haven't yet read the recently completed Capital Reserve Study, you may find that also of interest. Find it and become informed: [oronoquevillage.com/Home Page/Condo News & Notifications](http://oronoquevillage.com/Home Page/Condo News & Notifications).

—Submitted by Mary von Ziegesar

## NOV. 15 CAPTION CONTEST WINNER



"Ahh, little Bobby, I see by your hands you ate all the powdered donuts" – **Bob Krakovich**

### QUICK CONTACT LIST

Police, Fire, Medical Emergency .....	911
Routine Police Call.....	203-385-4100
OV Security .....	203-377-5502
Maintenance Emergency .....	203-377-5502
Gas Leak (So.Ct.GasCo.) .....	800-513-8898
Elec. Emergency (U.I.) .....	800-722-5584
Business Office.....	203-377-5313
Maintenance Dept .....	203-375-8853
South Clubhouse .....	203-377-5435
Optimum Cablevision Service.....	203-336-2225

**TO ADVERTISE  
IN THE VILLAGER,  
AND REACH A TARGET  
AUDIENCE OF NEARLY  
2,000 ACTIVE ADULTS,  
CONTACT:**

**EDITOR CAROL KING  
203-377-5313, EXT. 3  
CKING@ORONOQUEVILLAGE.COM**

## OV SNAPSHOTS: SPECTACULAR SUNSETS



Kerry Spearman took this photo from Oronoque Lane, looking across the golf course.

Bernie Pasierb's photo was taken at the 13th fairway.



Karen Zimmerman captured this scene near the golf course's third hole.





GUYS & DOLLS PRESENT

# SUPER BOWL PARTY!

COME JOIN US AND INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY!

SUPER BOWL LVIII ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11  
SOUTH CLUB HOUSE



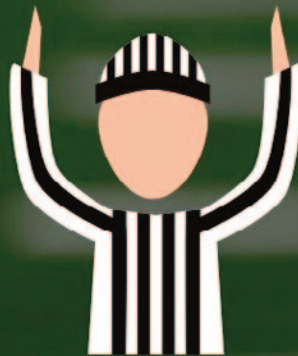
TWO BIG SCREEN TVS  
TO WATCH THE GAME

WEAR YOUR GAME JERSEY

PHOTO BOOTH  
(TAKE A PHOTO IN THE STADIUM  
WITH YOUR FRIENDS)

SUPERBOWL SQUARE  
\$ 10 A SQUARE

GAME TABLE SET UP - RESERVE  
YOUR TABLE WITH FRIENDS AND  
BRING YOUR GAME OF CHOICE



**MENU**

WINGS \* COCKTAIL  
MEATBALLS & FRANKS  
CHEESE & CRACKERS  
ANTIPASTI  
SAUSAGE & PEPPERS  
KIELBASI  
SHRIMP  
CHILI MEAT & BEANS  
CHIPS \* DESSERTS  
ICE \* SODA \* WATER  
B.Y.O.B

EVENT TO BEGINS AT 5:30PM

**\$15 P.P. EARLY BIRD**

(NON-REFUNDABLE)

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL VALID TILL 12/31/2023

Make your check payable to: **Guys & Dolls** and drop it off with the form in the **Guys & Dolls mailbox** in the North Clubhouse **no later than Tuesday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Attendee Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a game table reserved.

# of attendee x \$ 15 P.P. – Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Early Bird Valid till 12/31/2023

After 12/31 - \$ 20 per person.

Any questions, please call Lucy Andrade at 203-258-4519



## 2024 Employee Holidays

*The Business and Maintenance Offices will be closed on the following dates during the upcoming year:*

New Year's Day, Monday, Jan. 1 (Clubhouses closed)  
President's Day, Monday, Feb. 19  
Good Friday, March 29  
Memorial Day, Monday, May 27  
Independence Day, Thursday, July 4  
Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 2  
Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 14  
Thanksgiving: Thursday, Nov. 28 (Clubhouses closed)  
& Friday, Nov. 29  
Christmas, Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Clubhouses closed)

### 2024 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](http://www.oroquoquevillage.com).*

*All submissions must be received by noon on the deadline date*

Jan. 2 has a deadline of Dec. 18, 2023

Jan. 15 has a deadline of Jan. 3

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. 18

March 15 Villager has a deadline of March 4

April 1 Villager has a deadline of March 19

May 1 Villager has a deadline of April 18

May 15 Villager has a deadline of May 2

June 3 Villager has a deadline of May 21

June 17 Villager has a deadline of June 4

July 1 Villager has a deadline of June 18

July 15 Villager has a deadline of July 2

Aug. 1 Villager has a deadline of July 19

Aug. 15 Villager has a deadline of Aug. 2

Sept. 3 Villager has a deadline of Aug. 19

Sept. 16 Villager has a deadline of Sept. 4

Oct. 1 Villager has a deadline of Sept. 17

Oct. 15 Villager has a deadline of Oct. 2

Nov. 1 Villager has a deadline of Oct. 20

Nov. 15 Villager has a deadline of Nov. 4

Dec. 2 Villager has a deadline of Nov. 18

Dec. 16 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](mailto:cking@oroquoquevillage.com)**



**GOOD TIMES CLUB: JOIN US SATURDAY, JAN 13TH  
IN WELCOMING IN 2024  
FEATURING LISA ARANCI, VOCALIST AND DJ**



**TIME:** 6:00 -10:00 PM \* **LOCATION:** NORTH CLUBHOUSE \* **COST:** \$45 pp

**Appetizers:** Coconut Shrimp, Stuffed Mushrooms, Sweet & Sour Meatballs, Spring Rolls

**Buffet:** Chicken Piccata, Salmon, Eggplant, Pasta & Salad

Dessert, Coffee & Tea - Soda & Setups Provided - BYOB

**50/50 RAFFLE & BASKET DOOR PRIZES**

*Seating preference: Include all names with checks payable to "Good Times" & drop off with form in Good Times box at NCB before Jan. 6.*

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

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions? Contact Mary Ann Weaver: 203-530-9962**



**ORONOQUE VILLAGE**

**International & Independent**



**Film Festival Season 3  
2024**

**Sundays 3pm • SCB TV lounge** *No Checks Accepted Before Saturday January 6TH!!!!*

*Please include this form & a check for \$35 or \$40 made out to OVAG and drop into the Arts Guild Mailbox NCB*

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(perferred contact:  Phone?  email?)

**Questions? Call Barbara Stewart 203.612.1373**

- 6 Films For \$35 (Arts Guild members) - \$40 non members
- **6 Film Package Purchase Required**
- Limited to first 40 film lovers to sign up
- Light food & drink relating to the film will be served prior to the viewing in The Festival Lounge
- Discussion of the film after each event

**List of Films To Be Shown**

January 21st	
<b>Prelude To A Kiss</b>	USA
January 28th	
<b>Lost In Translation</b>	USA
February 4th	
<b>Signs Of Life</b>	Germany
February 25th	
<b>The Anchoress</b>	Great Britain
March 3rd	
<b>Summer With Monika</b>	Sweden
March 10th	
<b>Il Postino</b>	Italy

**Chris Orrell, Film Festival organizer will introduce each film giving relevant information**



## The Movie Club Presents *Love Again*



**Friday, January 12, 7 p.m. at NCB  
Wed., January 17, at 2 p.m. at SCB  
\$1 admission includes popcorn**

*Love Again* is a 2023 American romantic comedy-drama film written and directed by James C. Strouse. It is an English-language remake of the 2016 German film *SMS für Dich*, itself based on a novel by Sofie Cramer. The film stars Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Sam Heughan, and Celine Dion, in her first feature film, portraying a fictionalized version of herself.

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

**BYOB \* Relax and Mingle \*  
Drop By With An  
Appetizer to Share**

***Hosted by SAC***

**We hope to see you on January 5**





# It's Party Time!

*Holiday Karaoke & Dance Party at SCB*

*Friday, Dec.22,6:30 p.m.*

*Bring your dancing shoes, beverages of choice and snacks!*

*No fee to attend.*



**Presents Our New Art Show**

## Artists CHOICE

Opening  
Reception  
Sunday,  
January 14,  
2024  
4 pm SCB

Photography Fiber Arts & Crafts



Refreshments To Follow

## 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 +

Nobody knows the Village...



...like another Villager!



**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 Oronoque 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.



**COLDWELL BANKER | REALTY**