

February 15, 2024



# THE VILLAGER







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Thank you to Kathy Wells for contributing 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](mailto:cking@oronoquevillage.com).

Villager article submissions should be emailed to [cking@oronoquevillage.com](mailto: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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## OVTD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – JANUARY 23, 2024

By Sabine Curry



Good evening, all! I hope everyone had a smooth and happy transition into 2024!

First off, I would like to thank, on behalf of all of us In the Village, our fantastic Maintenance staff. This winter, so far, has been a weird mix of rain, snow, and ice. The Maintenance crews have always been on top of it, supplying us with salted paths, stairs, roads and driveways. All with our safety in mind. Thank you.

Another shout-out to our Maintenance crews: During the last phase of the road project, there were issues with the drainage on Dakota Lane. By using our labor with the assistance of Burns Construction, we saved approximately \$40,000 in labor/repair costs by repairing -- instead of replacing -- the drainage system.

The OV Strategic Planning Teams have been working diligently behind the scenes. On Feb. 6 at NCB there was a presentation of each team's recommendations to the Strategic Management Team – made up of both OVTD and OVCA Officers. This plan will be a guide designed to carry us into the future with plans that benefit all of us.

Back by popular demand: the OVTD Roundtable! This year the roundtable event will be held on March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at NCB. We invite all residents to attend. All of our committees will have a designated table/tables that can be joined by residents for updates and one-on-one questions to specific committee members. Every 25-30 minutes, residents will switch to another table of their choice. This is a chance to have your voice heard. Refreshments will be served. Jonathan Towle, chair of the Roads Committee, will give you more detailed information. However, I'm happy to announce that we have been diligently working on a short- and long-term plan for our roads that will cover the next 20 years. Our immediate goal in this is to complete what the current project did not: the last 10 roads in the Village.

A preliminary 20-year plan should be completed by the March 7 roundtable event. More about this later, but we will be forming an Alternative Funding Committee. This will basically be a Grant Committee encompassing the work which Bill Alletzhauser and Debbie Gunzelman have begun. Oronoque Village is now registered with the Federal Government which, in turn, will link us to appropriate grants available. Should anyone be interested in this committee, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a safe, happy, and warm winter!

OV

## DISTRICT 2 DISCUSSES 'THE YEAR AHEAD' DURING ITS WINTER MEETING



Story by Frank Spodnick ~ Photo by Letitia Laberee

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, District 2 held its first Business Meeting of the year. More than two dozen residents braved the cold and dark to share each other's company. The theme for the evening was "The Year Ahead in the Village." Lucy Clifford and Joann Mahoney gave brief updates, and Letitia Laberee informed us of some upcoming events and activities in the Village.

We were fortunate to have OV Executive Director Mark Rhatigan as our speaker. Mark shared his thoughts on various aspects of Village life over the past months, and some of the challenges we'll face in the months ahead. While straightforward in discussing those challenges, his general view was decidedly positive and optimistic. Mark took time to answer quite a few questions from our residents.

We shared a wonderful light supper, checked-in on one another, then sallied forth back into the night.

Dates for District 2's upcoming meetings will be announced shortly.

OV



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SAVE THE DATE: DISTRICT 4 EVENT

On Wednesday, March 27, District 4 will hold its Spring Neighborhood Gathering at SCB beginning at 6 p.m. Following the business meeting, a guest speaker will provide a presentation of local interest to Villagers. Dinner/beverages will then be served to end the evening.

District 4 welcomes any and all Villagers to attend its event. Questions? Contact District 4 Rep Bob Krakovich at 203-752-6105.

## ELISABETH BRESLAV TO SPEAK AT SEVERAL AREA LIBRARIES

Oronoque Village resident Elisabeth Breslav, who recently published her memoir, titled "Five Years Under Nazi Occupation — A World War II Memoir of Resilience and Survival in The Netherlands," has commitments to speak at several area libraries.

She will discuss the gripping story of her life from ages 12 to 17 during the 1940-1945 Nazi occupation on the following dates.

March 3 at 2 p.m. at the Stratford Library.

April 6 at 2 p.m. at the Milford Library.

On April 27, she will be among 10 to 15 authors who speak at the Hagaman Memorial Library in East Haven in a program that begins at 11 a.m.

On March 15, she will speak at Oronoque Village. Please see page 18 for more information.

## DANCE LESSONS OFFERED

Interested in getting out and meeting new people, getting some exercise and learning some of the popular social dances all at the same time? Session 3 of Oronoque dance lessons will begin on April 25 in the North Clubhouse. 7-8 p.m.

The remaining dates are May 2, 23 and 30. Cost is a

## A REQUEST FOR TAG SALE ITEMS FROM THE HOUSE & GARDEN CLUB

Last year, the club donated \$5,000 to the Village for the beautification of designated landscape project areas. This was largely due to the success of our annual estate/tag sale, which is held every April, and all of the donations that were made by our residents.

If you have donations of household items, framed pictures, small appliances or small furniture, and women's accessories, etc., we will gladly accept them.

It's not too early to start cleaning cabinets, closets and other parts of your homes. This is the perfect time of the year to tackle these projects.

If you need help packing up or picking up, please call Debbie Grosso at 203-380-2468 or Wendy Steinfeld at 203-610-3395.

Thanks for your continued support.

nonrefundable \$25 per person for all four lessons. Our teacher, Irene Romaniello, was initially trained as an Arthur Murray dance instructor. She is currently an instructor at Dance in Rhythm in Branford.

The classes are limited to 20 people. The dance we will focus on has yet to be decided (we are working on that). This is the last of the dance series, which we are planning on continuing this fall.

Email [suesapia@outlook.com](mailto:suesapia@outlook.com) for more information.



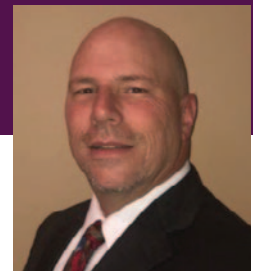
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## GOOD TIMES CLUB CELEBRATES 2024

**Story by Mary Ann Weaver ~ Photos by Peter Feick**

A big "thank you" to all the residents, guests and volunteers for making the Good Times event on Jan. 13 such a success.

The food from Lasse's Caters was delicious, as always. Our D.J. Lisa Aranci and Peter Z were fantastic. They entertained us with their talented singing during dinner, followed by their musical selections from the '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s. There was also line dancing, salsa, hustle and, of course, dedications.

There were door prizes and a 50/50 raffle, which gave everyone a chance to win something. It was a night with lots of enjoyment, laughter, dancing and fun for all.

We look forward to more fun during our upcoming events. Bus trips are scheduled as follows: "Neil Diamond – The Tribute from Las Vegas" on Tuesday, May 14, and "Shadows of the '60s – A Holiday Tribute to Motown" on Tuesday, Dec. 3. Please book early as these events fill up fast. Look for details in the The Villager.

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## BEYOND THE VILLAGE

"Chester Bailey" by Joseph Dougherty will hold its Connecticut premier March 7-24, at Square One Theater, located at Stratford Academy, 719 Birdseye St.

In a stateside hospital at the close of World War II, a young man recovers from catastrophic injuries. Or so the doctors have told him. But Chester Bailey denies what's happened to him has actually happened, which is how he comes under the care of Dr. Philip Cotton. Older, wounded in his own ways, Cotton is charged with leading Chester back to reality. The journey is not what either man expected.

The 90-minute production, directed by Tom Holehan and starring Alexander Kulcsar and Kiel Stango, will be performed Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m., Fridays, March 8, 15 and 22 at 7 p.m., Saturdays March 9, 16 and 23 at 4 p.m, Saturdays March 9, 16 and 23 at 7 p.m. and Sundays March 10, 17 and 24 at 2 p.m.

For information, visit [www.squareonetheatre.com](http://www.squareonetheatre.com) or call 203-375-8778.

"An Evening With Judy Collins" takes place at the Westport Country Playhouse on April 12. Collins has inspired audiences with sublime vocals, boldly vulnerable songwriting, personal life triumphs and a firm commitment to social activism. In the 1960s, she evoked both the idealism and steely determination of a generation united against social and environmental injustices. Five decades later, her luminescent presence shines brightly as new generations bask in the glow of her iconic 50-album body of work, and heed inspiration from her spiritual discipline to thrive in the music industry for half a century.

Her stunning rendition of Joni Mitchell's "Both Sides Now" from her landmark 1967 album, "Wildflowers," has been entered into the Grammy Hall of Fame. Judy's dreamy and sweetly intimate version of "Send in the Clowns," a ballad written by Stephen Sondheim for the Broadway musical "A Little Night Music," won "Song of the Year" at the 1975 Grammy Awards. She's garnered several top-10 hits and gold- and platinum-selling albums.

For information, visit [www.westportplayhouse.org](http://www.westportplayhouse.org) or call 203-227-4177.

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**GUYS & DOLLS CLUB LAUNCHES ‘SAVE A LIFE’ SERIES**

**By Nick Harding**

On Jan. 30, 27 Villagers turned out to attend the first session of the Guys and Dolls’ "Save a Life" series, part of the quarterly speakers program.

A team from Stratford Emergency Medical Services gave a lecture and hands-on training on CPR and the use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) units that are located in both the North and South Clubhouses at Oronoque Village and also can be found in many other lo-

cations, all of them marked by the AED sign.

Important tips that were shared were, if at home and you need to administer CPR, follow these steps: (1) call 911 and stay on the line; (2) unlock your door so the EMS team can get in; (3) remove the victim’s shirt; and (4) administer hands-on CPR until the EMS team arrives.

Jack Rodican and his team will be back for the second offering in the Guys and Dolls’ Save a Life Series, titled "Stop the Bleeding!" Watch for an announcement in The Villager. OV



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# MAINTENANCE MATTERS

## TIPS FOR AVOIDING — AND ADDRESSING — SEWER BACKUPS

By Ryan Hankey, Director of Maintenance

There are several causes for wastewater to back up in your home's plumbing system. This includes tree root systems that have invaded sewer lines, blocked drains, rips or tears in pipes or extreme weather events such as torrential rain.

Sewage backups can also be caused by something as simple as someone flushing the wrong thing down the toilet. (Just because a certain item can make it through the toilet and into the sewer main doesn't mean it's capable of breaking down once inside the sewer lateral.) Items such as baby or adult wipes, cotton balls, or feminine products can lead to backups if flushed down the toilet. Please, avoid flushing anything other than human waste and toilet paper down your toilet.

How do you know if you're suffering from a sewage backup? Here are some signs to look out for.

### Smells and Odors:

The first and most common sign that there is a sewage backup somewhere in your house or business is the smell. As wastewater backs up into the home, you will likely notice an overpowering foul odor emanating from your toilets, sinks, tubs and other drains.

**Sinks and Toilets Overflowing:** Another common sign of a sewage backup is when your sinks and toilets start to overflow. If the sewage has risen high enough, it will seep out of your drains and into your home.

Before long, you could find yourself dealing with wastewater spilling over from the sink or tub and across the floor of the bathroom. In some cases, this may even result in sewage backing up through your toilet and allowing for raw

sewage to spill out onto the floor.

**Gurgling Noises:** Some sewage backups won't produce foul odors and will instead cause strange gurgling noises to come from your plumbing.

When wastewater is backing up into the home, there may be air pockets in the sewer lines that will cause strange and unusual noises to come from the drain.

**Slow Drains:** Another sign of sewage backup is slow drains. As the sewage level rises in the pipes, it will begin to slow down your water flow and can even cause some drains to become completely clogged and unusable.

Before long, you could find that you're unable to flush

your toilet or drain water from bathtubs and sinks at all. If this happens, don't try to clear the clog yourself with chemicals as this may make the problem worse.

**Puddles and Pooling Water:** As a sewage backup becomes more severe, it may begin pooling water in your yard or other parts of your prop-

erty. If the wastewater is pooling near the foundation of your home, it could seep into crawlspaces and basements.

Ultimately, the wastewater may soak into the ground and require extensive restoration efforts to clean up. You should not attempt to mop or otherwise clean up this type of standing water on your own.

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**If you suspect you have a sewer backup, please contact the OV Maintenance Department at 203-375-8853 immediately.**

**The OV Maintenance Department works closely with licensed professionals who investigate and clear sewer backups.**

**Staff members will assess your issue and then advise you on what to do next.**





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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 March 1, 2024, is Feb. 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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## NOTICE: THE OV STAFF HAS NEW EXTENSION NUMBERS

### BUSINESS OFFICE:

- Mark Rhatigan, Executive Director, 203-377-5313, ext. 1
- Diane Roche, CPA – Accountant, 203-377-5313, ext. 3
- Liz Choma, Accounting/Collections, 203-377-5313, ext. 3
- Chrissy Smith, Admin, 203-377-5313, ext. 1
- Carol King, Communications, 203-377-5313, ext. 5
- Kathy Stevens, Social Activities Mgr., 203-377-5313, ext. 4

### MAINTENANCE OFFICE:

- Ryan Hankey, Director of Maintenance  
203-375-8853, ext. 3
- Harris Bonfiglio, Maintenance Operations Coordinator  
203-375-8853, ext. 2
- Liza Disisto, Office Manager  
203-375-8853, ext. 3

## 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**

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
  - 10:00 a.m. – Village Quilters, NCB
  - 10:00 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
  - 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
  - 1:00 p.m. – Bridge, NCB **(C)**
  - 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
  - 4:00 p.m. – League of Women Voters, NCB
  - 6:00 p.m. – Table Tennis, SCB
  - 7:00 p.m. – Bingo, SCB

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Bridge Group, NCB **(C)**
- 4:00 p.m. – Arts Guild Presentation, SCB

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 4:00 p.m. – Private Party, NCB **(C)**

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 3:00 p.m. – Private Party, NCB **(C)**

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

#### **Business & Maintenance Offices Closed**

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

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 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

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 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 **(C)**
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Castle Poker, SCB

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Bridge Group, NCB **(C)**





**SAVE THE DATE :**  
**JULY 15**  
**OV GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**BLACKHAWK COUNTRY CLUB**

- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Table Tennis, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Dance Lessons, NCB
- 

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 10:30 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study, NCB
- 11:30 a.m. – Monitors' Luncheon, SCB (C)
- 1:00 p.m. – Bridge Group, NCB (C)
- 6:30 p.m. – Karaoke & Dance Party, SCB
- 

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

- 11:00 a.m. – Private Party, SCB (C)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

- 3:00 p.m. – Arts Guild Film Festival, SCB (C)
- 

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Bridge Group, NCB (C)
- 1:00 p.m. – Mahjong, SCB (C)
- **3:30 p.m. – Bylaws Committee Meeting, NCB**
- 6:00 p.m. – Drop-in Bridge, NCB

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

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

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

- 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 (C)
- 5:00 p.m. – Sebastian's Poker, NCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Castle Poker, SCB
- 

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29**

- 10:00 a.m. – Cornhole, SCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Zumba, NCB
- 10:00 a.m. – Yoga, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Informal Artists Group, A/C Rm, SCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Bridge Group, NCB (C)
- 1:00 p.m. – Tea, Talk & Crafts, SCB
- 6:00 p.m. – Table Tennis, SCB
- 7:00 p.m. – Dance Lessons, NCB
- 

**FRIDAY, MARCH 1**

- 10:30 a.m. – Low-Impact Exercise (Bring Weights), NCB
- 1:00 p.m. – Bridge Group, NCB (C)
- 5:00 p.m. – 5 O'clock Somewhere, NCB



## HUMOR

You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake. — Bob Hope

I haven't got the slightest idea how to change people, but still I keep a long list of prospective candidates just in case I should ever figure it out. — David Sedaris

My timing is so precise, a heckler would have to make an appointment just to get a word in. — Phyllis Diller

Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with slow Internet to see who they really are. — Will Ferrell

I like an escalator, man. Because an escalator cannot break. It just becomes stairs — Mitch Hedberg

Some people have a way with words, and other people ... oh, uh, not have way — Steve Martin

Money can't buy you happiness, but it helps you look for it in a lot more places — Milton Berle

I hate housework. You make the beds, you do the dishes ... and six months later, you have to start all over again. — Joan Rivers

Nice to be here? At my age it's nice to be anywhere. — George Burns

Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do "practice"? — George Carlin

Why do dogs always race to the door when the doorbell rings? It's almost never for them. — Norm Macdonald

My grandmother is over 80 and still doesn't need glasses. Drinks right out of the bottle. — Henny Youngman

I once dated an apostrophe. Too possessive. — Aparna Nancherla

I've never been married, but I tell people I'm divorced so they won't think something is wrong with me. — Elayne Boosler

When it comes to raising children, I believe in give and take. I give orders and they take 'em. — Bernie Mac

I never feel more alone than when I'm trying to put sunscreen on my back. — Jimmy Kimmel

For fast-acting relief, try slowing down. — Lily Tomlin

Don't wear fur. Did you know that a single fur coat takes 14 trees just for the protest signs? — Emo Philips

I have a lot of growing up to do. I realized that the other day inside my fort. — Zach Galifianakis

Before you judge a man, walk a mile in his shoes. After that, who cares? ... He's a mile away and you've got his shoes! — Billy Connolly

I wish airport security also ran the lottery because then I'd have a better chance of "randomly" winning. — Trevor Noah

When my kids grow up, I'm gonna invite myself to dinner at their houses, demand mac 'n' cheese, then tell them it's gross. — Ana Gasteyer

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.



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**

**MOZAIC Senior Life**  
Formerly Jewish Senior Services Service is Our Calling



**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](mailto:homecare@mozaicsl.org) or [hospice@mozaicsl.org](mailto:hospice@mozaicsl.org)

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



**The Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services'  
State Unit on Aging (SUA) wants to hear from you!**

The State Unit on Aging (SUA) is writing an updated strategic plan around services for aging people in Connecticut, with an emphasis on supports funded by the Older Americans Act. To ensure the plan includes priorities important to residents in the state, the SUA is holding a series of community conversations across Connecticut.

Join us to hear about the plan and to provide your input about supports and services that can improve and ensure the quality of life for Residents in our state.

The sixth conversation will be held at:

**the Baldwin Center located at  
1000 West Broad Street, Stratford, CT 06615  
on Friday, February 16, 2024  
from 1:00 to 3:00PM**

Registration requested but not mandatory by emailing [agingstateplan@ct.gov](mailto:agingstateplan@ct.gov) or by calling 860.424.5111 and speaking with a State Unit Staff member. If you are requesting reasonable accommodation, please do so as soon as possible by emailing or calling us.

Light refreshments will be provided.





## 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 Feb. 28.

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

**THE DECLARATIONS CHANGE** - Vote tally on [OronoqueVillage.com](http://OronoqueVillage.com)'s Home Page/Condo News & Notifications. Read the OVCA President's Message, the OVTD President's Message and the Executive Manager's Message to learn facts and become informed about our Village. Also, look forward to learning what your "yes" vote has achieved; the amount of funds accumulating via the Community Contribution Fee will be reported on [www.oronoquevillage.com](http://www.oronoquevillage.com), so check upcoming financial statements: Go to the Home Page's Navigation tab - Gov't Organization/OVCA/Financials : a new tab "Community Contribution Fee."

**VILLAGER ONLINE FEB. 15, 2024, TEST** - The Feb. 15, 2024, issue of The Villager is posted on our website (Home /Communications/ Villager/Villager Issues) but printed in a very small quantity as the second test of this delivery system. A printed issue may be picked up at the Business Office or by calling a Neighbor-to-Neighbor volunteer at 203-479-0107. Questions about the The Villager's printing? Call Mary von Ziegesar at 203-767-9760 or email [MvonZ@optonline.net](mailto:MvonZ@optonline.net)

**CALLING VOLUNTEERS!** We value your experience. We need your input and your help. We invite you to join a focus group for one to two meetings to offer your opinions on the following projects : 1) the OVTV station – Channel 591 and 2) Realtors and others interested in marketing materials promoting Oronoque Village. Please call/email: Mary W. von Ziegesar (203-767-9760/[MvonZ@optonline.net](mailto:MvonZ@optonline.net)) or Tom Fuchs (203-500-6646/[Tofu28469@gmail.com](mailto:Tofu28469@gmail.com)).



—Submitted by Mary von Ziegesar

### JAN. 15 CAPTION CONTEST WINNERS



**Tied for First Place:**

"Now you're just as pretty as Mommy" – Ellen Guion

"My Daddy told me that he loves, loves, loves my surprises" – Adrienne Morrow

**Second Place:**

"Annie showed an early aptitude as a later, highly unsuccessful, TikTok tattoo influencer." – Alex Rodriguez

### 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



ORONOQUE VILLAGE WRITERS GROUP

You are invited to a reading by and a celebration of the author and Oronoque Village resident, Elisabeth Breslav. Elisabeth's recently published book, **FIVE YEARS UNDER NAZI OCCUPATION**, a **WORLD WAR II MEMOIR of RESILIENCE and SURVIVAL in THE NETHERLANDS** is the gripping story of her life from 12 – 17 years old during the 1940 - 1945 Nazi occupation.

Fellow OV resident, author, and also from the Netherlands, Kees Adema will follow the reading with a discussion of the relevance of Elisabeth's book today.

The book will be available for purchase by credit card at this meeting, with all net proceeds from the sale of the book going to the International Red Cross.

Co-sponsored by the Oronoque Village Writer's Group and the Oronoque Village Arts Guild, all residents are welcome to this event

**Friday, March 15  
4pm SCB**

Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Member of the Arts Guild and the Writer's Group may attend free of charge. Guests pay \$8.00.

# 5 Years Under Nazi Occupation

## A World War II Memoir of Resilience & Survival in the Netherlands

By: Elisabeth Breslav



**SAC**

PRESENTS  
**Oronoque**

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

Play As A Group or Singles

\$20 PP

GREAT PRIZES

SATURDAY,  
March 9th, 7-9:30  
NCB

Wine, Beer & Soft Drinks, Hors d'oeuvres included!

Drop off Check(s) In SAC Box NCB by 3/3/24

Elaine 203.913.2716 Pat 203.375.1788 Ivy 1.732.995.2540



# Enrich And Expand Your Mind.

Join us for a rewarding adventure in learning. The OV Speaker Series in conjunction with the Institute for Learning in Retirement is offering you a continuing journey of lifetime learning.

Whether you have an interest in the arts, literature, music, current events, history, science, film, creative

writing, gardening, card games (including Bridge and Mahjong), social lunches, museums, or virtual tours, we have courses for you.

Two of the most popular lecturers from the Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) will present information about available year-round courses. They will lead mini-presentations on

their American History and Contemporary Literature topics

So, join us for our first event. Following the program, you're invited to a meet and greet reception with wine and treats. This is a free event, but donations are appreciated.



Friday, March 8, 2024 at 3 p.m.  
in the South Clubhouse.

*For information, contact*  
Chris Orrell at 781.879.4723 or  
Mary von Ziegesar at 203.767.9760



**ORONOQUE  
VILLAGE  
SPEAKERS  
SERIES**

## 2024 Employee Holidays

The Business and Maintenance Offices will be closed on the following dates:

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)

**NOTE: Holiday closures do not impact the trash and recycling pickup schedule. Trash & recycling are collected on Wednesdays.**

**If the schedule changes, residents will be notified with a robo call and email.**

## PLEASE, CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOGS!



Please be courteous to your neighbors and clean up after your pets.

Dog waste is unsightly and it is full of bacteria, attracts flies and can wash into waterways during rain.

Residents must take responsibility for their dogs and clean up after them.



OV Karaoke Club: No fees or dues \* No commitments \* Just fun!

Please join us for our next Karaoke/Dance Party on February 23 at SCB at 6:30pm.

All you need is your wine and dancing shoes. A good time is guaranteed for all! No need to RSVP...just come on over, grab a seat, and either watch or join the fun by putting in a song or two! Hope to see you all then. Oh... and tell a friend!

**FUNSEEKERS PRESENTS**

**JOEY VINCENT**  
THE "funny"  
MAN WITH THE HORN:  
St Patrick's Day  
Celebration!

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024**  
7pm SCB Doors Open 6:15

Joey Vincent has been entertaining audiences throughout the United States, Canada and Europe for over 30 years, including appearances at Carnegie Hall, Philadelphia Academy of Music and Toronto Symphony Hall, as well as America's Got Talent.

A fast-paced blend of musical impressions, stand-up comedy, singing Irish as well as other well-known contemporary hit tunes and trumpet virtuosity, this unique show is one you shouldn't miss!

Reservations required and payments will be accepted from February 16th through March 8th unless maximum capacity is reached. Open to resident Funseeker members and one non-resident guest per single resident until February 25th. Starting on Feb. 26th, if there is space availability, member residents may sign up any number of non-resident guests. **Please put \$7.00 check per person into FUNSEEKERS mailbox, NCB (\$11.00 non-resident guest).** Not a 2024 member? Join for \$15 per person. Questions? Call Lynn Collins 203-260-4644.

Coffee, Tea ,Soft Drinks & Dessert To Be Served

**BYOB and SNACKS!**

**GUYS & DOLLS**  
PRESENTS  
**THE FABULOUS MONTHLY**

# BINGO

**\$2.50/CARD**  
**RAFFLE PRIZES**  
**Plus A BIG 50/50**  
**"SWEET TREATS"**

**FEBRUARY 15, 7 P.M.**  
**at South Community Building**

**THE GUYS AND DOLLS CLUB**



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

The book for March 6 is "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks. A thrilling story about humanity in all its ugliness and beauty. A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history: from these strands, a Pulitzer Prize winner braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history.

Based on the remarkable true story of the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington, "Horse" is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism.

## The Movie Club Presents *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3*

**Friday, March 8, 7 p.m. at NCB**  
**Wednesday, March 13, at 2 p.m. at SCB**  
**\$1 admission includes popcorn**

Toula Portokalos (Nia Vardalos) and her family go international in the third movie to deliver her late father Gus' journal to his childhood friends in the Greek village where he grew up.



They're hoping to meet Gus' friends at a village reunion organized by the self-appointed town mayor, Victory (Melina Kotselou).

In addition to their daughter, Paris (Elena Kavouris), who's now in college, Toula and Ian (John Corbett) are joined by Aunt Voula (Andrea Martin), Theia Freida (Maria Vaccratsis), Toula's brother Nick Portokalos (Louis Mandylor) and Paris' old fling, Aristotle (Elias Kacavas). Toula's mom Maria (Lainie Kazan), meanwhile, stays back in Chicago, as she deals with memory loss.





Millions of birds will be migrating through Connecticut this spring. Learn about what birds need as they migrate, what birds we should look for, and how to make our very own Oronoque Village yards and public spaces attractive to them.

Come listen to Migrating Bird Expert Chris Petherick, lifelong bird watcher, backyard bird feeder and owner of the Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop in Fairfield, CT.



*Wild Birds Unlimited*  
Nature Shop

Presents:

# Connecticut's Spring Bird Migration



**MONDAY - MARCH 11, 2024**

**1:00 pm SCB**

*Coffee, Tea & Treats served following the program*

Members: Free - Guests \$5







*Celebrate*  *Stratford*  
2024

**The Shakespeare Market**

The 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month

**Restaurant Week**

February 24 - March 2

**Main Street Festival**

June 1

**Summer Concert Series**

June 25- September 3 (rain date the following Thursday)

**Fireworks**

July 2 (rain date July 5)

**Blues on the Beach**

July 20

**Latin Music Festival**

September 15 (rain date September 22)

**The Great Pumpkin Festival**

October 19 (rain date October 20)

**Holiday Tree Lighting**

December 2

**Holiday Menorah Lighting**

January 2, 2025

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



# Calling All Artists!

The Stratford Arts Commission is looking for artists to help us update the artwork on our our Big Belly Receptacles.

Deadline for submissions: Monday, 3/1/2023

Accepting art from artists of any age and skill level to be considered!



Have your art displayed in town!



Contact [RFredette@townofstratford.com](mailto:RFredette@townofstratford.com)