

Updated 4/20/24

Pletman Presents Classical Guitarist on April 21

No better way to continue enjoying the delights of April in Oronoque Village than to attend the Pletman Concert Series performance of classical guitarist John Lehmann-Haupt on Sunday, April 21, at 3 p.m. in the North Clubhouse.

John has been playing since he was 5 years old. Known equally for his arrangements of popular and traditional songs and for his classical interpretations, he has performed throughout the Northeast and in the homes of such prominent New Yorkers as Tom Brokaw and Madeleine Albright.

John's 2002 CD "Songs of the Guitar" was hailed by The Audiophile Voice as "a tantalizing musical mix ... He makes the guitar sing." "Songs of the Guitar II," released in 2017, has drawn praise for his "creativity and impeccable sensitivity to the character of a wide range of genres" (Amazon review). John's arrangement of "Ashokan Farewell," the theme from Ken Burns's "Civil War" television series, has been published by Mel Bay, and he is currently preparing a Mel Bay book, "Airs and Ballads for Classic Guitar," soon to be published.

John was a staff instructor at New York's American Institute of Guitar from 1982 until its 2008 closing, and he continues to teach privately. He has written extensively on music for The New York Times, Acoustic Guitar, Family Life and several other magazines, and has prepared notes for releases including Deutsche Grammophon's boxed set "The Segovia Collection." Since 2006, John has served on the Board of Directors of the New York City Classical Guitar Society.

The concert will be followed by a reception and a chance to meet our performer. Our final spring concert will be held on May 19 and will feature pianist Anyi Cai. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Discussion on How Resident Volunteers Can Assist Public School Students

Please attend an informational session on April 24 at 4 p.m. at the North Clubhouse presented by Stratford Volunteer Corps.

During the session, Heather Borges (the Acting Superintendent of Stratford Public Schools), Dr. David Chess & Mike Suntag (a former educator and co-owner of Breakthrough Education Strategies LLC) will describe how OV residents can make a difference in children's lives by volunteering in public school classrooms. Stratford Public Schools have dramatically changed over time, and teachers/students are in need of support

- Over 71% of Stratford school population identify as minority
- 47% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch
- 26% are chronically absent

Pickleball Demos for Beginner Level

Whether you are a returning Pickleball Club member or thinking of joining, come to courts on either Thursday, April 25, at 6 p.m. or Saturday, April 27 at noon to learn about game rules, scoring, game sign up, the club, watch a demo game played by experienced members, and meet some people in the community. No RSVP is needed.

House & Garden Tag & Bake Sale is April 27

The House & Garden Tag and Bake Sale is April 27, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at SCB. Residents may purchase tables -- for \$20 per table -- to sell their goods at the tag sale.

Residents are encouraged to donate items to the sale, such as silver, pottery, artwork, china, crystal, boutique accessories (jewelry, purses, scarves, perfumes,) housewares, small appliances, small furniture and lamps. Items can be dropped off at the SCB stage on April 26 after 3 p.m. (Please - no computers, odds and ends glassware, books, CDs, DVDs/videos or chipped or dirty items, especially uncleaned or soiled small appliances.)

Donations of baked goods are needed. Please drop off on April 26 after 3 p.m. or April 27 before 9 a.m.

Lecture Series: Artists of the WPA

The OV Arts Guild and Wendy Swain present a four-part lecture series on "Artists of the WPA." Sessions will be held at 4 p.m. at NCB on April 28, May 5 and May 11. On May 26, the final session will be held at 4 p.m. at SCB. Admission is free for OVAG members, \$5 per session, payable at the door, for all others.

April 30 Pickleball Club Opening Meeting

All members and prospective members are welcome to the opening meeting at 6:30 p.m. at NCB to hear about the club's exciting plans for 2024. Angelo Rossetti, an award-winning professional player and coach, will be a guest speaker to talk about on-site lessons for beginner and more advanced-level players. A social hour will follow with refreshments. Membership forms will be available – the membership fee is \$40 per player and is due by May 15 (checks can be made payable to OVPC).

Free Clinics in May for Pickleball Club Members

Every Tuesday and Thursday in May there will be clinics at 6 p.m. for beginner-level Pickleball Club members to help them learn the game with hands-on play. There is no better way to learn the game than to play it! So put on your court shoes and athletic wear and come down to the OV pickleball courts and try your hand at the game. Paddles will be provided. No RSVP is needed.

House & Garden Meeting on May 1

A talk on "Last all Spring and Summer Container Gardens" will be presented by Danny Quinn, manager of West Hollow Farm, will take place at SCB on May 13 at 1 p.m. Three beautiful containers will be raffled at a cost of \$3 per raffle tickets or 3 tickets for \$5.

Admission is free for members, \$5 for guests. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

Kentucky Derby Party on May 4

The Guys & Dolls Club will hold a Kentucky Derby Party on May 4 at the South Clubhouse from 5-8 p.m. Cost is \$20 and includes a large selection of appetizers, including options for vegans and vegetarians. Residents are encouraged to dress for the event in; ladies in hats and men with bow ties. There will be prizes for the best hat and bow tie. A sign-up sheet will be included in the April 1 Villager. RSVP by April 26.

Barry Manilow Impersonator at Funseekers

On May 7, Jay Gates will provide a program of Barry Manilow's hits at the South Clubhouse. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Admission is \$9 for members, \$13 for nonresident guests. Complete details will be published in the April 15 and May 1 Villagers.

Tennis Club to Hold Spring Meeting

Oronoque Village Tennis Club (OVTC) invites residents who are interested in learning about the club and the benefits of membership to attend its first general meeting of the season. on Wednesday, May 8, at 4 p.m. at NCB. Immediately following the meeting, OVTC will provide hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and soda.

Club dues, for both players and social members, are \$45. Please make checks payable to "OVTC." Checks can be dropped off at the OVTC box at NCB or brought to the meeting. The deadline for dues payment is May 18.

OVTC's first social event of the season is a round robin, open to all residents, on Saturday, May 18, at 9.30 a.m., followed by a brunch at 11:15 a.m. Sign-ups can be made at the May 8 meeting or on the bulletin board at the courts.

Good Times Club Presents Neil Diamond ... The Tribute From Las Vegas (Sold Out)

On May 14, Good Times Club will offer a bus trip to Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville for a Neil Diamond tribute performance. Longtime Las Vegas entertainer and Legends in Concert alumni Rob Garrett has become the #1 Neil Diamond tribute artist with his unparalleled portrayal of the legendary performer. The show features all of your favorite hits: "Cherry, Cherry," "Coming to America," "Girl, You'll Be a Woman Soon," "I'm a Believer" and, of course, "Sweet Caroline."

Bus Departs SCB: 10:15 a.m. (Coffee & Donuts on Arrival) / Estimated Return: 4:30 p.m.
Family-Style Menu: Garden salad, pizza, pasta, chicken ala Kathryn and broiled scrod with crumb topping, vegetable, potato, rolls, dessert and coffee.

OV Wine Club "Last Hurrah" Is May 9

After 10 years it's time to say goodbye. We thank our many supporters through the years. So, put on your gladrags and join us for this final wine-tasting event. We will be sampling premium

wines from notable wine regions of the world, such as Loire Valley of France, United States, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria/Germany, etc.

Light fare will accompany the wine tasting. Our sommelier Michelle De Wyngaert will provide her usual expert commentary.

The event takes place May 9, 7-9 p.m., at NCB. The cost is \$30/person limited to the first 40 respondents. No checks will be accepted before April 16. See the April 15 Villager for full details. Questions? Contact Charlie DiGiovanni at 203-258-8063.

May Movie is "The Holdovers"

The movie for May is "The Holdovers," which will be shown at NCB at 7 p.m. on May 10 and at SCB on May 15 at 2 p.m. \$1 admission includes popcorn.

"The Holdovers" explores the intricate, ever-evolving tapestry of human relationships against the backdrop of a New England prep school during a period of social unrest and insecurity in 1970s America. With the festive Christmas season ironically serving as a melancholic backdrop, the film explores human connection between three people amid their search for a place to fit in: Paul Giamatti is Paul Hunham, a downtrodden teacher. Academy Award-winner Da'vine Joy Randolph is Mary, whose son was recently killed in Vietnam. Dominic Sessa is Angus, a troubled student whose stuck at school during the holidays.

Revenue from the May movies will be donated to the Alzheimer's Walk, sponsored by the Pickleball Club, which takes place June 1 at SCB.

Sutton Place Trio to Perform May 17

The OV Arts Guild (OVAG) is thrilled to bring back the Sutton Place Trio, which performed to a sold-out audience in Oronoque Village last spring. This group, which includes Oronoque resident and jazz guitarist Al Gafa, has a New York sensibility reminiscent of the combos that filled the nightlife, clubs and hotels of the Manhattan skyline. Performances include jazz and original music influenced by well-known artists such as Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Nat "King" Cole, Duke Ellington and Antonio Carlos Jobim.

Al Gafa, a virtuoso guitarist, has performed with Dizzy Gillespie, Sammy Davis, Jr. Sarah Vaughan and Johnny Hartman. He was musical director for the legendary jazz vocalist Carmen McRae. He performed at the Playboy Club in the late '60s and has participated in studio work with everyone from The Monkees to Paul Simon. He can be heard on the soundtrack of the film "The Bridges of Madison County" and he recorded "Legion Beach: The Al Gafa Quinteto" on the jazz label Pablo Records. Al continues to make occasional appearances in Manhattan at Birdland Theatre and as a guest artist the Zinc Bar Guitar Masters Series and he does recording sessions each month.

Leonhart has been named the Outstanding Bassist in the Recording Industry three times and is always mentioned when the discussion turns to the outstanding. Jay has toured worldwide for

more than 40 years. He has been privileged to play with the likes of Judy Garland, Duke Ellington, Thad Jones, Buddy Rich, Peggy Lee, Mel Torme, Sting, James Taylor, Luciano Pavarotti and many more. Over the years, Jay has been writing and singing his own very individualistic songs about his life as a bass player.

This event will be held in the North Clubhouse with cabaret-style seating, BYOB and snacks. OVAG will provide soft drinks, coffee, tea and desserts.

Reservations are required. Registration forms will be published in the April 15 and May 1 Villagers. Members of the Arts Guild attend at no charge, guests pay \$10 at the door. This event is open seating and the doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The event begins at 7 p.m.

Brazilian Singing Sensation Will Perform for Weekenders on May 18

Singing sensation Jose Paulo will perform for Weekenders at 6 p.m. at NCB on May 18. A fabulous evening of music and dining is planned.

Jose Paulo's voice will mesmerize you and his personality will charm you. He is very versatile and he has studied in various certified music schools. He is able to sing all styles of music in English, Portuguese, Italian and French. Jose, who resides in Newington, is a native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He started performing at the age of 12, singing "Ave Maria" at local weddings.

He has been recognized with many singing awards, as the best Brazilian singer in the United States by the Brazilian International Press Award, Latino de Oro and AMTC.

He released his first CD in 2008, toured two weeks in Japan, sang for Pope Paul II, and has performed at many different venues such as Foxwoods, The United Nations and in concerts with Sergio Franchi and Guitar under the Stars.

In 2016, he released his second album CD, titled "This is Me." All songs on "This is Me" CD were composed and sung by him.

The admission price of \$30 includes a dinner of eggplant parm, chicken cutlet Italiano, cavatelli with broccoli, salad, rolls, butter, dessert, coffee, tea and soda. To attend, put checks with any table arrangements in the Weekenders box at NCB by May 8. More details will be included in the April 1 and April 15 Villagers. Questions? Call Carol at 203-375-2101.

Hadassah Card Party is May 20

All are invited to the Hadassah Card Party and Luncheon at noon at NCB on May 20. The cost is \$25. A sign-up sheet will be published in the May 1 issue of The Villager.

10th OV Alzheimers Walk on June 1

Alzheimer's is more than just memory loss — it is a progressive and fatal disease. Currently, more than 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's and 11 million provide unpaid care for

them. Locally, the disease continues to devastate our families, finances and future. Alzheimer's disease kills more people than Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer combined.

On June 1, the Pickleball Club will sponsor the OV Alzheimers Walk, which celebrates the 10th anniversary of this fundraiser. Please join our Alzheimer's fundraising event.

The suggested entry donation is \$25 per walker. We are offering 3 ways to donate:

1. Put your donation check (made out to Alzheimer's Association, CT) in the Pickleball mailbox at the NCB.
2. Use this OV Team link to donate on line: <http://act.alz.org/goto/OronoqueVillage>
3. Bring your check to our walk on June 1st.

June 5 Book is "Peace Like a River" By Leif Enger

The Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the NCB Library. The June 5 book is about a heroic quest, a tragedy and a love story; an 11-year-old asthmatic boy in the Midwest, who has reasons to believe in miracles, along with his father and her sister, finds himself on a cross-country search for his outlaw brother who has been charged with murder.

Their journey unfolds like a revelation, and its conclusion shows how family, love, and faith can stand up to the most terrifying of enemies, and the most tragic of fates.

SAC to Salute Veterans on June 8

A Welcome Summer and Salute to Those Who Served takes place at the North Clubhouse on June 8, 12-2 p.m. Admission is \$12. Veterans are welcome at no charge.

Enjoy grilled hot dogs with tasty toppings, cold salads, baked beans, lemonade, iced tea and ice cream.

Full details and a signup sheet will be included in the May 1 issue of The Villager.

SAVE THE DATE: The OV Golf Tournament is July 15 at Blackhawk Country Club.

Ongoing Events

Arts Guild: The spring exhibit, titled "Things I Love to Do," is on view at Galerie OV in the South Clubhouse.

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

Crafts If You Are Not An Artist: "Crafts If You Are Not An Artist" meets on the fourth Saturday of each month, from 2-4 p.m., in the Arts & Crafts Room of the South Clubhouse.

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 each month.

Drop-in Bridge: Drop-in Bridge takes place on Mondays from 6:00-8:00 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 Card 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 Dance classes are held on Wednesdays at the NCB weekly. Beginner classes start at 9:30 a.m., followed by a class for all levels at 10 a.m. There is no charge. Call Sonya DeBiase at 203-377-1515 for information.

Low-Impact Exercise Class: Low-impact exercise classes, taught by Renee Zinn, are held at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays and Fridays at NCB. Bring weights and water.

Poolside 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 / 203-231-4753 or Tom Fuchs: tofu28469@gmail.com / 203-500-6646. 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. Vaccinated members only. Please show proof.

Writer's Group: The Oronoque Village Writer's Group (OVWG) is a group of writers who enjoy sharing their work in a trusted environment. Members commit to twice-monthly workshops held on alternate Tuesdays at 2 p.m. in the SCB Card Room. Members include published authors and hobbyists. Works include essays, memoirs, poems, short stories, humorous tales,

heart-wrenching histories. Contact Mary von Ziegesar at MvonZ@optonline.net or call 203-767-9760 with questions.

Yoga: Yoga classes are held twice-weekly beginning May 7. Thursday classes continue to be held from 10-11 a.m., at the South Clubhouse. Feel free to observe/attend the first class free of charge. A new class has been added on Tuesdays (beginning May 7) from 3-4 p.m. at NCB. The fee is \$10 per class. Classes are conducted on the mat although accommodations can be made. For information, contact Virginia Verrillo at 203-257-4734 or 203-870-1554.

Zumba: Zumba classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11 a.m., at the North Clubhouse. Cost is \$30 for 4 classes, \$60 for 8 classes or \$100 for 16 classes.