

The South Orange Gaslight



The Gaslight is published 10 times yearly for the residents & business community of South Orange Village.

May 2005

Beifus & supermarket developer agreements reached

Condos & Retail (former Beifus car dealership)

The Village has reached an agreement with developer Andrew Beifus requiring that the four-story building project at #9 West South Orange Avenue must be under full construction by the middle of this year. Otherwise, the property will be turned over to the Village for use as a temporary parking lot during other construction projects.

Plans call for a four-story building with 9,896 square feet of retail space, 57 luxury apartments and 97 parking spaces.

New Market Square

The Village Planning Board has signed a 30-year lease agreement with grocery store operator John Choi, who will open South Orange's new gourmet supermarket by Christmas of this year. The agreement was approved April 11.

The 13,500-square-foot market will be located at the site of the former ShopRite on South Orange and Vose avenues. It is one part of the larger New Market Square Development planned by Sterling Properties and South Mountain Development Company. The plan also encompasses a new commercial/residential building on Vose.

The Village is finalizing property sales and a developers' agreement has been signed by all parties. ▲

Tours, demos & a teddy bear clinic

Help celebrate National EMS Week

You are invited to the May 15 celebration of National EMS Week, to be held at South Orange Rescue Squad headquarters, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Activities will include:

- A blood drive, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Discussion with a pediatrician regarding childhood asthma.
- A fitting inspection station for infant and child safety seats (South Orange Police Department).
- Demonstrations by the South Orange Fire Department.
- Blood pressure screenings.
- Ambulance tours and equipment demonstrations.
- Teddy bear clinic.
- Poster contest.
- Health and seasonal safety tips sheets.
- Free food and drinks.

The local event is part of a national celebration taking place

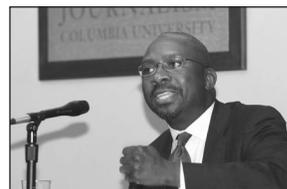


May 15 to 21 to honor more than 750,000 EMS personnel nationwide. EMS is a vital part of every community, but recognition of its contribution is often lost in the broader focus on fire, police, public health and homeland security. The tours, demonstrations and teddy bear clinic are all designed to help eliminate young children's fears of EMS. ▲

South Orange resident wins 2005 Pulitzer Prize

Dele Olojede, a South Orange resident and former foreign editor for Newsday in New York, has won a 2005 Pulitzer Prize in International Reporting for his four-part series on the aftermath of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

The series, "Rwanda: 10 Years of Pain," was a "fresh, haunting look at Rwanda a decade after rape and genocidal slaughter had ravaged the Tutsi tribe," according to the Pulitzer



board of directors.

Olojede was born in Nigeria in 1961, the 12th of 29 children. Since 1999, he has lived in South Orange with his wife, Amma, also a journalist, and their two children. The family is planning a move to Johannesburg.

Columbia University annually bestows the Pulitzers, the country's most prestigious prizes for journalism, in 14 categories. ▲

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■ Four artists explore 'The Realities of Our Times,' the forthcoming exhibit at Pierro Gallery

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■ Rabbi Yeheil Orenstein named Villager of the Month

Give an 'apple' to the teacher

As the school year winds down, many parents ponder how to acknowledge their children's teachers and others in the schools who have made the year a success. The South Orange-Maplewood Education Foundation (SOMEF) offers a unique gift idea, just right for the occasion: the gift that gives back.

For a donation of \$4 or more per card, SOMEF "Honor Your Teacher and Staff" tributes, printed with students' or parents' personal messages, can be delivered to staff members at the end of the year. Campaign proceeds will go back to the schools through the SOMEF Teacher Grant program.

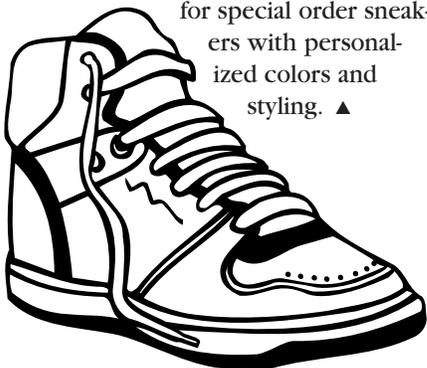
Every fall, the school staff is invited to apply for grants for special classroom projects. Since 1999, SOMEF has given out 189 grants totaling \$114,000 to staff members in all nine schools. The grants have ranged from a "Circus in a Backpack" to "Invention Conventions" to partnerships with the Newark Museum.

Honor Your Teacher and Staff tribute order forms are available at www.somef.org, or call (973) 761-7294. Orders must be received by June 10. ▲

Welcome to 'Laced.'

Laced., a new store selling men's and women's sneakers and women's casual shoes, opened April 16 at 108 West South Orange Avenue. Shoe prices range from \$40 to \$200. Owners Tasha and Cory Strong, five-year residents of the Village, also offer a custom division

for special order sneakers with personalized colors and styling. ▲



In The Schools

Outstanding Faculty



■ CHS physical education teacher

Judy LoBianco has been named an inaugural member of the International Biographical Centre - Leading Educators of the World 2005 out of Cambridge, England. Her biography will appear in a worldwide directory of prominent educational leaders.

■ CHS world language teacher Debbie Gomer has received a Fulbright award to explore Japan with a delegation of 200 teachers. During her three-week trip, Gomer will attend a series of seminars and lectures while staying with Japanese families and visiting local schools.

Award-Winning Filmmakers

CHS film and animation students have earned the following recognitions:

■ Junior Matthew Lee was one of 15 tri-state students chosen for the William H. Cosby Future Filmmakers Workshop.

■ An animated film by senior Rebecca Rojer was selected for the Cartoon Kocktails Animation and Comic Festival in San Francisco. Rojer also was a national semi-finalist at the Free Speech and Democracy Film Contest in April.

■ Two films made by CHS students were finalists in the Nashville Independent Film Festival (young filmmakers category):

- "Pocket Watch," by Toby Barna, John Davis, John Goldstein, Sean Douglas and Nick Brancaccio.
- "And Then Everything I Saw, I Liked," by 2005 graduates Ariel Jackson and Halli Melnitsky, together with current seniors Ashley Rutledge and Emily Brisbon.

The students are all taught by film and animation teacher Boris Gavrilovic. ▲

Three car-seat inspections offered this summer

The South Orange Police Department will conduct free child car-seat inspections on the following Saturdays at the South Orange Rescue Squad:

- June 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Aug. 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sept. 10, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

No appointment is necessary. Certified child passenger safety technicians will perform all inspections. For further information, call Sgt. Ed Heckel at (973) 763-3000, x7802. ▲

Register May 19

Packers football & cheerleading

Boys and girls ages 5 to 15 who are interested in cheerleading and football can register May 19 for the Maplewood/South Orange Packers. The team is a nonprofit organization dedicated to community youth. Coaches teach the fundamentals of football and cheerleading while emphasizing the importance of education and teamwork.

The Packers play and cheer in the Mountain Valley Pop Warner Football League.

Registration is at 7:30 p.m. at the Clinton School. Information packets will be available at the school or can be downloaded at www.leaguelineup.com/msopackers. ▲

Don't miss THIS party!

Sunday, July 3rd from noon to dusk will be the party of the year in South Orange. Mark your calendar for the premiere of the locally-inspired, original musical suite, "An American Dale," performed by 300 musicians and the best bands from South Orange and Maplewood. "Two Towns in Harmony" will be a once-in-a-lifetime community celebration! Look for more information in the June Gaslight. ▲

Don Braden to perform at Baird Center



"Jazz at the Baird," the intimate series featuring jazz greats from our own home town, concludes on May 21 at 8 p.m. with the Don Braden Organic Trio. The series is presented by the South Orange Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs.

Tickets are \$12 for Friends of the Arts, levels II and III; general admission, \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door. Tickets may be purchased in person at Mail Boxes, Etc., Baird Center, or on-line at <http://southorange.recware.com>. For more information, call (973) 378-7754.

Tour the historic gems of South Orange

"The Neighborhoods of South Orange" a house tour planned by the South Orange Historical and Preservation Society, will take place Saturday, May 21, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., focusing on Prospect Avenue and Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Unique table settings created by tabletop designers will be displayed in each of six tour homes.

Participating designers include: Kevin Clark, ASID of South Orange; Anya Ellia, Interiors of Maplewood; Janelle McKenzie, Sayan Living, South Orange; and antiques dealer Marlene Jacknis of South Orange.

For information, contact Mary Kay Mitchell at (973) 762-7078, or send e-mail to jmkmitch@optonline.net.

'A Stroke of the Brush'

Juried works by members of The Essex Watercolor Club will be on exhibit from May 26 to July 13 at Seton Hall's Walsh Library Gallery. For more information, call (973) 275-2033 or (973) 761-9005.

Kids' music that rocks!

Prospect Co-Op Nursery School presents Mr. Ray on May 21 for two shows, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at Prospect Presbyterian Church, 646 Prospect Street, Maplewood. Come hear the music that "Family Fun" magazine calls "crisp, zestful rock-and-roll arrangements." Advance tickets are \$10 per person; at the door, \$12 per person. Contact Christine Hayward at (908) 598-1981 or haywardcs@comcast.net for ticket sales and information. ▲

Four summer day camps offered for active kids

Four day camps are offered this summer by The South Orange Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs. For more information, visit <http://southborange.recware.com>.

1 Summer Playground Program (June 27 to Aug. 12)

Space is still available in this seven-week, half-day, fair weather program for children in grades 1 to 8. Grouped by age and grade, children meet daily in a designated Village park or playground. Activities include games, sports, music, art, swimming, special events and field trips. Time is built in for children to create their own fun under the supervision of camp counselors.

2 Basketball Camps (July and August)

Girls and boys can enjoy three basketball camps on newly renovated outdoor courts (adjustable baskets for young players). Instructors will use drill stations and scrimmages to teach shooting, ball-handling, dribbling and defensive concepts. All sessions are from 9 a.m. to noon. Fee: \$150.

- Grades 1-4: July 25-28, or Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Instructors from Hoop Heaven in Whippany.

- Grades 5-8: Aug. 1-4. Instructors from the NJ Cyclones AAU Club.

3 Tennis Camps (Last week of June - Labor Day)

Certified tennis professionals from First Serve Tennis LLC will teach weekly camps open to South Orange and Maplewood children. Tennis instruction and competitive play is open to children from kindergarten through grade 9 (in September 2005). Classes are at Meadowland Park tennis courts adjacent to Baird Center, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A maximum of six students per instructor ensures sufficient individual attention. Fee: \$190.

4 Baseball Camp (July 5-8)

The Willie Wilson Baseball Camp is run by Willie Wilson and his team of instructors, all former Major League players. Children ages 8 through 14 will focus individually on hitting, catching, infield, outfield and pitching. Team segments cover throwing mechanics, cuts and relays, pop fly communication and rundowns. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., July 5 to 8, with July 9 as a reserve rain date. ▲

Renew your Rec. Dept. ID badge now!

Avoid long lines and renew your Recreation Department ID badge now. New photos of all badgeholders must be taken this year. For info, go to <http://southorange.recware.com> or call (973) 378-7754.

DREAMCATCHER

New Play Readings, Thursday, May 26, 7:30 p.m.

"Empty Rooms" and "Walter And Peg," by John Watts

In these two one-act plays, characters struggle between hope and reality. In Empty Rooms, three individuals collide when each has the opportunity to turn a corner in relationships. In Walter and Peg, a married couple confronts past and future as their daughter leaves home.

Teens still enrolling in summer acting program

Teens ages 13 to 17 can still enroll in the sixth annual Teen Actors Conservatory, offered July 5 to 29. Classes taught by theater professionals are held Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Baird Center. Included are movement, voice and speech, the building blocks of acting, scene study, Shakespeare and improvisation. The cost is \$650; limited scholarships are available. For applications and information, call (973) 378-7754, ext. 2228, or visit www.dreamcatcherrep.org. ▲

PIERRO GALLERY OF SOUTH ORANGE

Through May 15 As She Sees It; Eight Artists

May 29 - July 17 Realities of Our Times: A Closer Look

- Marcia Annenberg- painting
- Tim Gaydos - painting, drawing
- Shakeh Sassoon - painting, drawing, mixed media
- Helen Stummer - photography

Opening Reception: Sunday, May 22, 3 to 5 p.m. Gallery Talk: Sunday, May 22, 2 p.m. For more information, call (973) 378-7754. ▲



Library Events

For info call (973) 762-0230

Villager of the Month Rabbi Yeheil Orenstein



Beth El to its current membership of more than 500 people.

"Rabbi

Orenstein has served as a leader, guide and master of ceremonies at events throughout South Orange and Maplewood," said Community Relations Committee member Nancy Heins-Glaser. In her Villager of the Month presentation, she commended the rabbi as "a man of true religious principle and goodwill who has been called upon to develop uplifting musical presentations, to support another congregation when fire destroyed their church, and to officiate at shiva services for individuals with no local affiliation."

The rabbi and his wife, Sylvia, have lived in South Orange for more than 35 years and raised three children here. Previously, he was a chaplain for the U.S. Air Force, and provides similar services to the New Jersey State Troopers Association.

His bittersweet departure from Congregation Beth El will not bring an end to his long service. He has promised to remain active in the community for many years to come and South Orange will continue to be blessed by his presence. ▲

In Touch

with Village Government

- General Info.**
 (973) 378-7715
 Emergency, 911
 Clerk's Office, x1
 Administrator, x2
 Construction, x3
 Tax Collector, x4
 Assessor, x5
 Welfare, x5
 Finance, x6
 Engineer, x7
 Parking Auth., x8
 Health Officer
 x2012
 Animal Control
 378-7745
 Fire Dept.
 378-7751
 Library
 762-0230
 Police Dept.
 378-7775
 Public Works
 378-7708
 Recreation &
 Cultural Affairs
 378-7754
 Recycling Info. &
 Street Dept.
 378-7741
 Water Service
 266-8869

Talented Teens Hailed at Annual Film Festival

Come celebrate New Jersey's teenage media artists at the 31st annual Young Filmmakers & Video-makers' Festival to be hosted by the South Orange Library on Wednesday, June 8, from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

The festival is being hosted by the library for the sixth consecutive year.

All featured films are written and produced by teens. The festival is a collaborative project of the Thomas A. Edison Media Arts Consortium, New Jersey City University and New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Keep Your Kids Busy This Summer

This year's statewide Summer Reading Programs are "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds," for kids up to sixth grade, and "Joust Read," for kids entering seventh grade and up. Whatever their age, kids can read a book, magazine, newspaper, or Web site to earn a prize. Sign-up begins on June 20.

Related programs will include Monday night family programs (such as an interactive puppet show), art programs on Thursday afternoons (including tie-dye), Fridays movies and popcorn, and teen open stage poetry nights, weekly storytimes, chess and games for all ages. Kids can volunteer to help with activities.

Special Groups

- S. O. Book Review Group (adults) - Monday, June 13, 7:30 p.m. "Kite Runner," by Kahled Hosseini.
- Star Book Group (grades six and up) - Friday, June 10, 4 p.m. "Going Solo," by Roald Dahl.
- Open Stage Teen Poetry Reading (9th grade and up) - Thursday, May 19, 7 p.m.
- Creative Writing Class - Tuesdays, May 17, June 21, 7:30 p.m. No experience necessary. ▲

To submit information for *The South Orange Gaslight*, send to Editor Robin Patric, c/o Village Hall

Township of South Orange Village
South Orange, NJ 07079

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Village Web Site: www.southorange.org
E-mail for Village Administrator: jgross@southorange.org