

# The South Orange Gaslight



## Can art generate dialogue on world events & politics?

Absolutely, say the folks at Pierro Gallery of South Orange. To prove it, the gallery is mounting a blockbuster art exhibition that has attracted the advance interest of the New York Times and the Star-Ledger.

Scheduled for May 7 to July 16, the show will be a mini time capsule of the last three tumultuous years.

"Headlines" is intended to open an active dialogue between viewers and artists while offering a provocative cultural experience.

The large, thematic, group exhibition is curated by art history professor and independent curator Mary Birmingham. It features 17 artists who reference current events, politics and world affairs through painting, drawing, digital imagery, video and installations.

As a measure of the show's prominence, the New York Times and the Star-Ledger have both agreed to write reviews.

Augmenting the exhibition will be three special programs:

➔ June 9, 7:30 p.m. - "Art That



*In his glitter on inkjet print, artist Henry Sanchez depicts politicians as icons surrounded by admirers.*

Makes Headlines," a panel discussion with curator Mary Birmingham, artists Jonathan Allen and Amy Wilson, and New York art critic John Habor. Their topic: headline-grabbing art and the first amendment.

➔ June 11, 1-4 p.m. - "News Events Workshops & Symposiums," including participatory artworks, man-on-the-street interviews, and a panel discussion.

➔ June 16, 7:30 p.m. - Tim Miller, art performance and a Q&A.

The opening reception is Sunday, May 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. Gallery hours are Friday to Sunday 1 to 4 p.m., or by appointment. For information call (973) 378-7754, x3, or visit [www.pierrogallery.org](http://www.pierrogallery.org). ▲

## Main Street launches design awards

To encourage improved esthetics in the central business district, Main Street South Orange has developed a Design Excellence Award Program open to downtown business and building owners.

Design awards will be given for exterior and interior designs or a combination of the two; for renovation, reconstruction or revival.

A committee of MSSO members will grade entries in each category.

Each recipient will receive an award plaque, an Excellence in Design decal for display, and a letter of commendation from the Village President. Winners will be featured on the MSSO, Village and Maplewood Web sites, the Gaslight, and the News Record.

Awards will be presented each spring and nominations can be made at any time during the year.

## Five-screen SOPAC cinema to open in late summer

The exterior is almost finished; interior walls, plumbing and electrical installations are well underway. Construction of the South Orange Performing Arts Center is nearing completion and the five-screen movie theater



will be the first part to open, likely late this summer. Final touches on

the rest of the building will be completed soon after, with an inaugural gala of the stage planned for November.

SOPAC Executive Director Jessica Finkelberg says, "We will present performers with national reputations and up-and-coming artists of all genres, with a particular emphasis on music."

SOPAC will be a three-story facility containing a 415-seat live theater, the cinemas, and a third-floor community room overlooking South Mountain Reservation where meetings and private events can be held.

The design includes separate entrances for theater and movie audiences, a common lobby and a grand staircase.

The performing theater, only 12 rows deep at the orchestra level, with balcony seating for 120, is "very special in its ability to engage audience and performer," said SOPAC Board of Governors Chair Barbara Stoller. It "gives an immediacy and intimacy to its audience that

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

**April 2006**

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## Resource-sharing session offered to local nonprofits

"The CRC Summit II: An Afternoon of Networking and Support" for volunteer and nonprofit groups in South Orange, will be held Sunday, April 23, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., at Pierro Gallery at The Baird.

Participants will share ideas for locating funds, recruiting volunteers and reaching a larger audience of subscribers. They can also post special events on the Village's online community calendar.

The South Orange Community Relations Committee is hosting the event for the second year in a row as a means of helping local organizations, many of them lacking in optimum participation. The summit also allows the town to acknowledge the good works of its many and varied volunteers.

Tips on mailing list management and a brief presentation by a Web design expert will be offered. Also, South Orange Library staffers will explain their support strategies for volunteer groups.

All local nonprofits are invited. A head count of participants is requested in advance. Refreshments will be provided. To sign up, contact Janis Zaveri at (973) 762-0110, or KTjdz@aol.com. ▲

## Main Street Design Awards

Cont'd from page 1

The deadline for each presentation cycle will be 30 days before the spring presentation date (to be announced on Main Street's Web site).

The nomination form is available at Village Hall or online at [www.MainStreetSouthOrange.org](http://www.MainStreetSouthOrange.org). Completed forms can be mailed to Main Street South Orange, P.O. Box 607, South Orange, NJ 07079; faxed to (973) 761-4357; or e-mailed to [director@MainStreetSouthOrange.org](mailto:director@MainStreetSouthOrange.org). For information, contact Director Carole Anzalone-Newman at the same e-mail address or call (973) 763-6899. ▲

## Discard your unwanted household goods

### First Container Day: April 22

Six Saturday Container Days are offered between now and September by the South Orange Public Works Department. Residents may discard unwanted household items at the DPW Yard at 300 Walton Avenue on these dates: April 22, May 20, June 24, July 22, Aug. 26 and Sept. 30.

Container Days are limited to residents of South Orange only. Two forms of ID are required for proof. No commercial vehicles are permitted. For information call (973) 378-7741. ▲

### Branch & Leaf Disposal

The last day for curbside placement of branches and leaves will be Monday, May 8. Residents may place at the curb any branches under four inches in diameter and leaves collected in brown biodegradable lawn and leaf bags. ▲

## HAPPENINGS

### 'After the Storm, Keeping Our Water Clean'

Seton Hall University is sponsoring a Sustainable Communities Roundtable Panel Discussion on Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m., in Jubilee Hall Auditorium. To RSVP, call (973) 761-9022, or send e-mail to [environmental@shu.edu](mailto:environmental@shu.edu). A related workshop is offered from 4 to 6 p.m. For information, visit <http://artsci.shu.edu/news.htm>.

### Time journalist Matt Cooper to speak at Columbia High

Time magazine White House reporter Matt Cooper, a 1980 Columbia High School graduate, will speak at the Don Hamingson 8th Literary Showcase on Monday, April 24. His topic: "Confidentiality and the Courts: My Adventures in the CIA Leak Case." Cooper testified before the special prosecutor in the case after a bruising legal battle that went to the Supreme Court.

The annual literary showcase is held in memory of Hamingson, the former Columbia High teacher and late director emeritus of the South Orange/Maplewood Adult School. Cooper is a former student of Hamingson's.

The adult school is sponsoring the lecture, which starts at 7:30 p.m. at Columbia High. Admission is \$10. For information, call (973) 378-7620, or visit [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org).

### S.O. Symphony performs spring concert

Pianist Seo Yeung Lee, winner of the South Orange Symphony's 2005-2006 Artist Competition, keyboard category, will be the guest artist at the symphony's upcoming concert on Saturday, May 6. Lee will perform Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto.

Also featured will be four pieces by the full orchestra: Rimsky-Korsakov's "Capriccio Espagnol," Alan Hovhaness' "Mysterious Mountain," Strauss' "Waltz from Der Rosenkavalier," and Camille Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto #2.

The free performance begins at 8 p.m., at Sterling Hall in South Orange Middle School. Music Director Robert Helmacy will conduct.

For one hour before the concert, selected musicians will perform chamber works in the school lobby. Listeners are encouraged to chat with the performers about their instruments and music.

For information, visit [www.southorangesymphony.org](http://www.southorangesymphony.org), send e-mail to [sosymphony@aol.com](mailto:sosymphony@aol.com), or call (973) 378-2772.

### Main Street Spring Festival

Celebrate spring and prepare for Mother's Day by decorating flower pots and baskets, shopping for plants or gifts, and making cards. Main Street South Orange is sponsoring the Spring Festival on Saturday, May 6, from 11-2 p.m., at Spiotta Park. Call (973) 763-6899 or visit [www.MainStreet-SouthOrange.org](http://www.MainStreet-SouthOrange.org).

### Benefit planned for Tony Smith Sculpture Project

On May 13, the Lennie Pierro Memorial Arts Foundation will hold its first annual Art & Soul Gala at Orange Lawn Tennis Club. This year's honoree is long-time resident and civic booster Roy Scott, owner of RE/MAX Village Square. All proceeds from the fun-filled black-tie event will benefit the foundation's Tony Smith Sculpture Project. For more information, contact Project Director Cheryl Arnedt at [tonysmithproject@verizonmail.com](mailto:tonysmithproject@verizonmail.com).

### Save the date: Montrose in May

On Saturday, May 20, the 11th annual Montrose in May Historic House Tour will wend its way through the Montrose Park Historic District. Tickets, available in early May, will be \$25 per person at various shops in South Orange and Maplewood, or \$30 on tour day. For more information, visit the MPHD Association Web site, [www.MontroseParkSONJ.org](http://www.MontroseParkSONJ.org), or call (973) 763-1880. (More details in the May Gaslight.)

### Celebrate EMS Day, Saturday, May 20

The first responder community of South Orange will celebrate EMS Day 2006 on Saturday, May 20. Police, fire and rescue squad personnel, along with volunteers of the newly created Community Emergency Response Team will offer a day of festivities at South Orange Rescue Squad headquarters at #4 Third Street.

Village Clerk Marj Smith who chairs EMS Day is expanding on the national celebration by recognizing "all the local first responders because we work as a team, not as stand-alone units."

Events will include equipment demos, a fire-fighting exhibit, ambulance tours, teddy bear clinic, a blood drive and blood pressure screenings. Information on poison control, health and seasonal safety tips will be available. ▲





## IT'S HAPPENING AT THE BAIRD!

### **Dreamcatcher**

(973) 378-7754, x2228  
www.DreamcatcherRep.org

#### **'In Full Bloom'**

April 28 through May 14, Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre will perform the New Jersey premier of Suzanne Bradbeer's "In Full Bloom," a coming-of-age story published in "Women Playwrights: The Best Plays of 2000."

Recently staged in New York City, the play explores life as experienced by 16-year-old Phoebe Harris, who is confused by conflicting messages about being a woman. Her father leaves her mother for a much younger woman, her neighbor contemplates plastic surgery, and her face and body are suddenly receiving an uncomfortable amount of attention. Why does she feel she's disappearing, even as she is becoming more fully herself?

Performances are Friday and Saturday nights, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets, \$25 general admission, \$20 for seniors, and \$15 for students.

#### **Sign up now for summer conservatory**

Dreamcatcher's Summer Theatre Conservatory for tweeners (10-13) and teens (14-17) runs July 10 to Aug. 4. Weekly sessions include Actor's Workshop, Comedy Workshop, Acting for the Camera, and Filmmaking. Costs range from \$200 for one session to \$640 for all four. ▲

### **PIERRO GALLERY OF SOUTH ORANGE**

#### *On Display through April 30* **Anecdotes: Narrative Paintings**

Four emerging artists: Erinn Frayer, Wendy Letven, Nicholas Rosal, and Philip Shimko, use bold colors and stark palettes to create unique moments in time. ▲



### **Stein Bros. Quintet**

*Final in Jazz at the Baird series*

Two brothers from South Orange are the final performers in the Jazz at The Baird series. Well known in northern New Jersey with a growing New York presence, Asher (alto sax) and Alex (tenor sax) Stein are still in their early twenties. Their careers began at the Peppermint Lounge in Orange, and they have appeared at New Jersey PAC, Kavehaz and the Carlyle Hotel in Manhattan, Shanghai Jazz in Madison, Trumpet's in Montclair, and the Priory in Newark.

The brothers lead their own quintet and also perform as members of the Bud Powell Tribute Sextet. They have appeared as members of the T.S. Monk Sextet.

Star Ledger jazz critic Zan Stewart says the Stein Brothers "display an impressive command of, and keen intuition for, [bebop's] language [and] are capable of crafting solos and compositions packed with the kind of winsome lines and propulsive rhythms that make listeners pat their feet and nod their heads in appreciation."

The May 13 show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$17 at door. To purchase, visit <http://southorange.recware.com> or come to The Baird or Mailboxes Etc. For information, call (973) 378-7754 or visit [www.thebaird.org](http://www.thebaird.org). ▲

## **Neighborhood/trustee meetings continue**

The next Neighborhood Meeting with Village Trustees is set for Wednesday, April 19, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at The Baird. Starting at 6:30 p.m., the trustees will hold an "office hour," when residents can speak individually to any trustee.

Residents from the following zones/streets are invited, but the meeting is open to all Villagers.

*Zone 3* - Beechspring Rd, Brookside Rd, Forest Rd, Franklin Pl, Franklin Ter, Glenside Rd, Harmon Rd, Hart Dr North, Hart Dr South, Highland Rd, Luddington Rd, Mayhew Ct, Mayhew Dr, Melrose Pl, Overhill Rd, (east of Harding Dr), Ravine Rd, Redmond Rd, Ridgewood Rd North, Tillou Rd, Twin Oak Rd, Village Green Court, Walnut Ct, Wyoming Av.

*Zone 4* - Centre St, Elm Ct, Fielding Ct, Finlay Pl, Hall Ct, Hamilton Rd, Hartford Ct, Hartford Rd, Holland Rd, Kenmore Av, Kingman Rd, Lackawanna Pl, Marion Av, Marshall Ct, Montrose Av (east of Grove Rd), Mosswood Av, Park Pl, Patricia Ct, Self Pl, Stanley Rd, Stirling Av, University Ct, Warren Ct, Warwick Av.

*(Zones 5 & 6 will meet June 21)*

## **SOPAC** Cont'd from page 1

is hard to find anywhere."

Clearview Cinemas has been selected to operate the movie theaters, a showcase for the best in commercial, art and independent films.

SOPAC is located adjacent to the New Jersey Transit parking lot. Patrons will have free use of the lot's 265 spaces on evenings and weekends, with additional parking at the Middle School.

SOPAC is an independent nonprofit corporation managed by a 21-person board of governors. In addition to Stoller, the board includes many other South Orange residents: Vice Chair Dr. Jonathan Steinberg, Treasurer Samuel Giuliano, Village President William Calabrese, Marketing and Development Co-Chairs Anne Mai Bertelsen and Derek Murphy, Building Committee Chair Dave Bressen, B. Lawrence Branch, Dr. Sanford Lewis, Anthony Richards, Rose Meade Hart, Molly Easo Smith, Steven Friedlander, Milly Iris, Marc Pomper, James Lazarus and John Zoubek. Villager Heath Mensher was hired recently as administrative associate.

For SOPAC updates, log onto [www.sopacnow.org](http://www.sopacnow.org), or call (973) 275-1114. ▲

## Library Events

For info call (973) 762-0230

### Get library audiobooks online

Library cardholders have a new choice when it comes to audio downloads. Now, digital audiobooks can be checked out and downloaded from the library's Web site, [www.sopl.org](http://www.sopl.org). No trip to the library is required -- books can be downloaded from home or office.

Audiobook downloads are compatible with most WMA/MP3 players, Pocket PCs, laptops and Windows PCs. Many titles can be burned to CD and used in car stereos and regular CD players. Any library cardholder can download the digital book, or place a hold. Audiobooks are automatically returned to the system so there are no late fees.

The digital collection includes hundreds of popular fiction titles as well as audiobooks in subjects such as business, self-improvement, and history.

### Raising funds for damaged Louisiana library

Doing its part for hurricane relief, the South Orange Public Library has partnered with Maplewood Memorial Library to adopt the Lafitte branch of the Jefferson Parish Library in Louisiana.

The Lafitte Library branch suffered immense damage during Hurricane Katrina and is currently closed. All walls were damaged by wind-driven rains that came in through roof vents. Most of the children's collection, all nonfiction and easy books were lost. The building is being gutted and all walls, carpeting and fabric furniture are being removed.

South Orange Public Library is accepting

### Historic society and Welk awarded

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey has awarded Montrose Park Historic District Association and writer Naoma Welk with second prize in the Publications Award Competition for MPHDA's pamphlet, *Wallpaper 101*.

The wallpaper piece and Roofing 101 are the first two in a series of free informational pamphlets from MPHDA. Still in the works are pamphlets on architectural terms, exterior house paint schemes, and how to research your house's history. To request copies, visit [www.montroseparksonj.org](http://www.montroseparksonj.org). ▲

monetary donations for replacement of Lafitte's furniture and books. Checks can be made payable to Friends of the Jefferson Public Library. For more information, visit [sopl.org](http://sopl.org), About Us, Library News.

### The Friends seek event planning assistance

Are you an active user of the South Orange Public Library? Do you and your children attend its many activities, lectures and workshops? If so, then consider joining the Friends of the South Orange Public Library, a nonprofit group that enhances services and activities and helps library staff stay attuned to community interests.

Several public events are in the works and The Friends need more volunteers to help plan, design marketing materials and work with children's groups or adults. To sign on, call Janyce Wolf at (973) 761-6821, e-mail her at [njanyce@aol.com](mailto:njanyce@aol.com), or speak to Phyllis Kalb at the library.

### Thursday lectures

All sessions at 1 p.m.

- April 20 – "The Influence of Fathers," with psychotherapist and author Lewis Epstein.
- April 27 – "Who's Better, Who's Best in Basketball, Baseball and Golf?" with Elliott Kalb, author and sports historian.
- May 4 – "Baseball 2006," with Allen Barra, Elliott Kalb and Allen St. John, authors and sports historians.
- May 11 – "First Mothers: Women Whose Sons Become President," with Rosann Barr, sociology professor at Caldwell College.
- May 18 – "What is a Documentary?" with Paul Arthur, professor of film studies and English at Montclair State University.

### Regular Programs

- S. O. Book Review Group (adults) - Monday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., "The Devil in the White City," by Erik Larson.
- Star Book Group (grades six and up) - Thursday, April 20, 4 p.m., "Hoot," by Carl Hiaasen. Thursday, May 16, 4p.m., call for book title.
- Open Stage Teen Poetry Reading (9th grade and up) - Thursdays, April 20 and May 16, both at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday Movies: "Hello Dolly," April 26. "Rent," May 10. Showtimes, 1 p.m. ▲

### Parking Authority seeks board apps.

A vacancy on the South Orange Parking Authority board needs to be filled. Any resident or local business owner with experience in urban planning, traffic engineering or related fields will be of particular interest. Applicants should have serious interest in volunteering and real time to serve on the committee.

Resumes, including education and employment experience, should be accompanied by a cover letter describing the applicant's interest in serving, other community involvement, and any potential conflict of interest. E-mail to [msmith@southorange.org](mailto:msmith@southorange.org), fax to (973) 761-4357, or mail to Village Clerk, 101 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079. The deadline is Friday, April 21, by 4 p.m. ▲

## In Touch

with  
Village  
Government

**General Info.**  
(973) 378-7715  
**Emergency, 911**  
**Clerk's Office, x1**  
**Administrator, x12**  
**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.**  
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**Public Works**  
**378-7708**  
**Recreation &**  
**Cultural Affairs**  
**378-7754**  
**Recycling Info. &**  
**Street Dept.**  
**378-7741**  
**Water Service**  
**266-8869**

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](http://www.southorange.org)  
E-mail for Village Administrator: [jgross@southorange.org](mailto:jgross@southorange.org)