

The South Orange Gaslight



Community Meetings

You're Invited!

■ Town Hall Meeting,

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Residents can informally discuss any topic of interest or concern with the Board of Trustees. Afterward, stay and meet individually with a board member. Additional town hall meetings are scheduled for April 15, July 15 and Oct. 21.

■ Vision Plan Meeting, Jan. 7,

7:30 p.m. - Come to the third public visioning meeting to develop a plan for South Orange's two business districts. Help build a roadmap for future land use, zoning, traffic patterns, parking and development. Meet at Jubilee Hall Auditorium at Seton Hall.

Eden Café now open

A casual café at Eden Gourmet Market on South Orange Avenue has just opened, serving sandwiches, salads and made-to-order pizzas baked in the on-premises wood burning pizza oven. The café is located on the second floor of Eden Gourmet and overlooks downtown South Orange.

A full-service restaurant, also on the second floor, will be opening this spring. ▲

Biz buzz

South Orange welcomes Grade A Goods, a new source for men's clothing with a "contemporary SOHO aesthetic."

The new shop at 21 Scotland Road is owned by Renne Kingston.

C3 emergency alert coming to S.O.

This winter, South Orange is replacing its old resident calling system with a high-tech emergency contact service called C3 Alert.

Using telephone blast messages, C3 will be able to generate an emergency notification to all residents in about one minute. Those who register for the service can get e-mail and text message alerts as well.

The system will notify residents of weather and public safety emergencies as well as power, water and other service emergencies.

Registration will be free and Villagers will be urged to register home, work and cell phone numbers as well as multiple e-mail addresses.

The system is now in the final stages of installation. When it is ready, residents can register for free on the Township website. (Library computers available as needed.)

C3 also will include free opt-in services provided only to those who register for them, such as:

- *Special needs outreach.* One example: someone whose medication requires refrigeration can register for automatic medication assistance in case of a power outage.
- *Information from The Baird.* Including game postponements or rescheduling.
- *Public safety information.* For example, a road emergency or burglary warning in your immediate neighborhood.
- *Online receipt of The Gaslight.*

When the new system is ready for registration, residents will be notified through multiple media: The Gaslight, SOMA-TV, and postings at The Baird and the library. ▲

Free rabies clinic

A free rabies clinic will be offered by the South Orange Health Department on Saturday, Jan. 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the garage behind The Baird (#5 Mead Street).

Any vaccinations that will expire before Nov. 1, 2009 must be updated. Check your renewal form for the expiration date that applies to your cat or dog and be sure to bring the form to the clinic.

First-time vaccinations will provide immunity for one year beginning 30 days after the vaccination. All other animals will receive immunity for three years. A licensed veterinarian will administer the vaccinations.

Please Note: All dogs must be leashed and cats must be in carriers.

During the clinic, animal licenses can be purchased. Tags will be mailed to pet owners. For details, call (973) 378-7715, x7711. ▲

2009 electronics days announced

South Orange and Maplewood co-sponsor a free electronics recycling program, with alternating drop-off locations: South Orange DPW, 300 Walton Avenue, or Maplewood DPW, 359 Boyden Avenue. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon. Recyclers from either town must show proof of residency. Commercial and large-quantity users are not allowed.

Drop-off dates and locations for 2009 are as follows:

- Jan. 24 - Maplewood
- Mar. 7 - South Orange
- April 18 - Maplewood
- June 6 - South Orange
- July 18 - Maplewood
- Sept. 12 - South Orange
- Oct. 24 - Maplewood
- Dec. 19 - South Orange

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

Jan./Feb.
2009

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Seniors: enter '09 writing contest

If you are age 60 or older, the Essex County Division of Senior Services invites you to enter the "2009 Legacies Writing Contest." The deadline for entries is Monday, Mar. 9. No professional writing experience is required and previously published stories may not be used. This year's topics are: a special person, a life-changing experience or a significant period in the writer's life. The suggested maximum length is 1,500 words.

All entrants will be invited to the Legacies luncheon in May, where awards will be presented for winning stories and honorable mentions. The winning stories will be published in the Essex Advisor. For more contest rules and information, call (973) 395-8385. ▲

Parking limited near train station

A parking time limit has been mandated on 13 streets located within three-eighths mile of South Orange Train Station. An ordinance passed on Dec. 15 limits parking to two hours between 8 a.m. and noon except weekends and holidays. The new measure takes effect in January.

The newly restricted roads (or sections of roads) are Beech Spring Road, Conway Court, Edgewood Terrace, Highland Road, Kingsland Court, Kingsland Terrace, Montague Place, Raymond Avenue, Redmond Road, Stewart Place, Tillou Road, Village Road and Walton Avenue.

On most streets, the new rule affects parking on both sides. Physical limits of restricted parking

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New at www.SouthOrange.org

■ Want to know about the latest incidents being handled by the South Orange Police? Go to "Police Blotter": <http://southorange.org/Police/blotter.asp>.

■ Board of Trustees, Board of Adjustment and Planning Board meetings can now be viewed live or on-demand at <http://southorange.org/videoViewer.asp>.

What's Your Opinion?

Main Street's Economic Development Committee wants to attract establishments that will prosper while improving residents' quality of life. Your thoughts on the desired mix of commercial tenants, products and services are requested in a 15-question online survey at MainStreetSouthOrange.org.



AT THE BAIRD

(973) 378-7754 • www.thebaird.org

WINTER SPORTS & ARTS

Baird Arts Classes

This winter, rekindle your passion for learning. The Baird offers more than 30 classes in dance, music and art, from pre-school through adult. All classes are taught by professionals in their fields. The winter session began the week of Jan. 4. Some openings remain. Check the website for details.

Spring Sports Registration

• *South Orange Maplewood Baseball* (Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth) is open to kids 5 to 15. Registration at The Baird is on Jan. 24 and 25 and Feb. 7 and 8, from 1 to 4 p.m. New players must register in person and bring a birth certificate copy. Returnees can register online or in person. Fee: \$90. For details, visit the website.

• *Girls' Softball*. Grades K-8. Register at The Baird, 1 to 4 p.m., Jan. 24 and 25 and Feb. 7 and 8.

• *Spring Soccer*. Professional training and competitive games for children in grades 3 to 8. Registration, Feb. 1 to 15 (or when full).

PENNY PRETZEL PLAYHOUSE

All tickets \$9

• *Punch's Magic Lamp*. Saturday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m. Loosely based on the classic tale of Aladdin, the show includes many characters and routines in traditional Punch and Judy shows. For children of all ages.

• *It's the Wolf*. Saturday, Feb. 28. Follow Mr. Wolf through some of his most famous adventures: "The Three Pigs," "Brier Rabbit and The Wolf," "Red Riding Hood" and "The Three Billy Goats Gruff."

PIERRO GALLERY

Photographic Quad

Jan. 25- Mar. 1

Four artists demonstrate alternative approaches to photography:

- Ron Brown - special effects to re-image New York City scenes.
- Marianne Fourie - photomontage "paintings" from subway rides.
- Eric Levin - emotional implica-

tions of inanimate objects based on shape and juxtaposition.

• Stuart Tyson - digital exploration through colorful, exploding works.

The opening reception is Jan. 25, from 3 to 5 p.m. Hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. or by appointment. For more details, visit www.pierrogallery.org.

CARE FOR YOUR KIDS

Preschool registration.

Registration for the 2009-2010 session continues through Jan. 15. The program combines educational and recreational activities in small classes offered twice weekly for 2 ½-year-olds, three days for 3-year-olds, and five days for 4- and 5-year-olds. Details and applications are online.

New half-day kindergarten program. Three-hour morning and afternoon kindergarten classes are a new option. Each class will have no more than eight students. Details and applications are online.

DREAMCATCHER REPERTORY THEATER

Dreamcatcher's Winter Fundraiser 2009 will take place Sunday, Feb. 8, from 5 to 8 p.m. Spend a family friendly afternoon at the "Daddy Nobucks Mansion" and help benefit Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre. Enjoy homemade soup, play games, see a depression-era cabaret performed by the company, and win goodies in the silent auction. It's all happening at Reeves-Reed Arboretum, 165 Hobart Avenue in Summit. Bring a can of food and some pocket change for the Community Foodbank of New Jersey. Adults \$75, children \$25. Call for reservations or more information.

JAZZ AT THE BAIRD

Enjoy monthly concerts January through May in an intimate, informal atmosphere. Meet and greet performers while having coffee and cake with neighbors. Past performers have included Grammy Award-winning artists. Check out the online schedule.

SOCO celebrates MLK

The South Orange Civic Organization will present its 39th annual Martin Luther King celebration, a free public event, on Sunday, Jan. 11, at 3 p.m., at South Orange Middle School. This year's guest speaker is Linda Epps, president and CEO of the New Jersey Historical Society.

During the celebration, SOCO will bestow its annual Beloved Community Award, given to civic leaders who carry out Dr. King's vision. The two recipients are:

- Audrey Rowe, program director of the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race, a long-time community activist.
- The South Orange-Maplewood Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Committee, an organization that unites residents of all faiths and families, and honors Holocaust survivors, their liberators and descendants.

Networking for media pros

Professionals in Media will be hosting an idea exchange on Jan. 16 at the Ethical Culture Center, 516 Prospect Street in Maplewood, at 7 p.m. It is a networking event with no presenter.

SOMEF Quiz Bowl is back!

Tease your brain and laugh a lot while supporting children's education. Form a team of three to five people (all ages) to compete in a trivia event to benefit the South Orange-Maplewood Education Foundation, Mar. 29, from 1 to 6 p.m. at Jefferson School. For details, go to www.somef.org or call Judy Rubashkin Martel at (973) 378-5948.

Live stand-up comedy

Come to "Comedy & Cocktails," an upscale networking series at Voro restaurant and bar, 52 Vose Avenue. South Orange resident April Woodard, senior correspondent of "Inside Edition," hosts the event with Wil Sylvince, founder of NBC's Comedy Short Cuts Film Festival.

Join the fun Jan. 8 and 22, Feb. 5

and 19. Doors open at 9 p.m. and showtime is 9:30. Advance tickets: \$20 (more at door). Call (973)-313-0399, or visit www.sos2events.com.

On Stage at SOPAC

SOPACnow.org • (973) 275-1114

- Jan. 11, 1: 30 p.m. - "The Velveteen Rabbit," family theater, \$19.
- Jan. 17, 8 p.m. - Joshua Redman Trio, a jazz concert, \$38/\$28.
- Jan. 18, 3 & 7 p.m. - Rachele Ferrell, jazz vocals, \$38/\$45.
- Jan. 24, 25, 2 p.m. - Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Chinese New Year celebration, \$35/\$19.
- Jan. 30, 8 p.m. - Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Anoushka Shankar, classical and world music, \$48/\$68.
- Feb. 2, 7 p.m. - Ladysmith Black Mambazo, world music, \$48/\$38.
- Feb. 7, 8 p.m. - Philadanco, dance, \$35/\$28.
- Feb. 8, 1 p.m. - The Dream Jam Band, family music, \$19.
- Feb. 12, 8 p.m. - The Puppini Sisters, music, harmony, vocal pop, \$48/\$38.
- Feb. 14, 8 p.m. - Ashford & Simpson, R&B Valentine's Day performance, \$88/\$78/\$68.

Community Coalition on Race

www.twotowns.org • (973) 761-6116, x6

- *Achievement Gap Study Group* - Read the latest research on the educational achievement gap, hear speakers and take part in a facilitated discussion during a free, four-part study group, Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12 at 7:30 p.m. at South Orange Middle School. Participants must commit to attending all four sessions.
- *"Making it More than a Dream"* - Rev. Raquel St. Clair, Ph.D., teacher, author and executive minister of St. James AME Church in Newark, will speak at a celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at 3 p.m., on Jan. 19 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Maplewood. The Voices in Harmony Chorus and the coalition's Two Towns Sing-In choir will perform.



Joshua Redman



Ashford & Simpson

(973) 762-0230

Scholar-led book discussions start in March

The library has been awarded a grant to produce a five-part, scholar-led book discussion series, "Let's Talk About It: Love, Forgiveness & Wisdom," starting Mar. 11. The books to be discussed are "Sense and Sensibility," "History of Love," "Winter's Tale," "The Essential Rumi" and "Atonement."

The resident scholar will be Karen Gevirtz, Ph.D., of Seton Hall University. She will help participants appreciate and interpret the works.

The series is offered in partnership with the Maplewood/South Orange Clergy Association. Pastoral Counselor Barrie Peterson will support the healthy emotional process the series will promote.

Copies of the books will be available on a first-come basis. For information, call librarian Nancy Janow, or e-mail her at njanow@sopl.org.

Help choose books for 2009

Jan. 26 is the "Let's Pick Books For the Next Year" meeting. Bring copies of suggested books, reviews or other information to choose selections for 2009.

MLK choral celebration, Jan. 13

In celebration of Martin Luther King Day, the library will present The First Baptist Church Youth Choir, directed by Artrice Richwood and led by Pastor Terry L. Richardson on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

Library Lecture Series

Thursdays, 1 p.m.

- Jan. 8 - Fashion Institute professor Shawn Grain Carter, "Books, Magazines, and Newspapers: Are They Becoming Obsolete?"
- Jan. 15 - SHU English professor Karen Gevirtz, "American Film Satire."
- Jan. 22 - Author and Drew University professor JoAnn Middleton, "Willa Cather's Modernism and the Chicago School of Architecture."
- Jan. 29 - TV broadcaster Cheryl Washington, "Pop Culture."
- Feb. 5 - "The 11th Hour," a film.
- Feb. 12 - SHU English professor John Wargacki, "Verses From the Heart."
- Feb. 19 - New York Times reporter Andy Lehren, "Investigation Reporting at the NY Times."
- Feb. 26 - Caldwell College professor Rosann Bar, "Race and Gender in the Past Presidential Election."

Children's Events - call for a schedule.

Volunteer for townwide celebration

Join the fun and volunteer for the Celebrate South Orange Planning Committee. Be a part of the signature, townwide event from Main Street South Orange.

In Touch

with
Village
Government

General Info.

(973) 378-7715

Emergency, 911

Clerk's Office, x1

Administrator, x3

Construction, x3

Tax Collector, x4

Assessor, x5

Finance, x6

Engineer, x7

Parking Auth., x8

Health Officer

x2020

Animal Control

x7711

Fire Dept.

378-7751

Library

762-0230

Police Dept.

378-7775

Public Works

378-7741

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, rpatric@comcast.net, or call (908) 823-9001

December Villager of the Month

Kyle McLaughlin

Kyle McLaughlin may be only 21, but he's got a history of volunteerism like someone twice his age.

Three years ago, he was chosen as the student liaison from Seton Hall to serve on the Main Street South Orange board. His role was to get more students involved in downtown activities. Meanwhile, as managing editor of *The Setonian*, the university's student newspaper, his downtown involvement prompted him to increase the volume of articles about the Village.

"I really enjoy South Orange," says Kyle, who has lived in town for nearly three years.

After serving as student liaison, Kyle was later invited to become a regular member of Main Street's board. Now he helps coordinate promotional events like the farmers' market and Celebrate South Orange.

His downtown volunteerism also extends to South Orange Middle School. He personally recruited close to 100 students to volunteer for "After the Bell Rings," a program designed to occupy middle schoolers and keep them on campus after school.

Kyle comes from Tampa, Fla., where he began volunteering with nonprofits during high school. Now a senior at SHU, he is majoring in international relations. But his future employment plan is more in line with his nonprofit experience.

"I will be staying in South Orange after graduation," he says, as a full-time employee of Eventage Event Production, the Village company where he has worked part time for the last year. Not surprisingly, much of that work has been recruiting volunteers for charity events.

"In South Orange, getting involved in one thing leads to others and I'm looking forward to continuing," says Kyle. ▲

Train station parking

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are spelled out in an online copy of the ordinance at <http://www.southorange.org/pendingordinances>.

January Villagers of the Month

Tamara and Sergio Schraiber

"We don't have kids of our own so these are our kids," say Tamara and Sergio Schraiber, a couple united by marriage and a passion for animals.

The Schraibers are among 20 volunteers at the Jersey Animal Coalition in South Orange. "They're invaluable," says JAC President Ruth Perlmutter. "All we have to do is ask."

Four or five times a week, Sergio walks the strong dogs that others may fear. He feeds and waters them and cleans their quarters. He has run adoption events, and from his own sign business, has donated numerous signs and banners.

Tamara has coordinated youth group visits and a landscaping project outside the shelter. She also uses her own SOS e-mail network to generate needed items and cash donations. At work, where she is an insurance benefits consultant, she has placed collection boxes for the shelter. Co-workers and clients regularly donate food, blankets,



toys and even newspapers for cages. Friends and family often do the same.

For the Schraibers, JAC is a 15-hour-a-week labor of love that stays on their minds almost 24/7. They are contributing to an organization that, since 1981, has rescued and placed over 7,000 strays.

"They're an asset to the town," said Perlmutter. "Their attitude toward animals shows what kind of people they are." ▲

■ **The Villager of the Month Award** is given to individuals (and sometimes groups) who make significant contributions to the quality of life in South Orange and beyond. Nominations from the public are always welcome. Nominees may live or work in South Orange; current Village employees and volunteers on township committees (eligible for other recognition) are not eligible for VOM. All nominations are reviewed by the Community Relations Committee. Send nominations to the Village Clerk, lcucciniello@southorange.org, to any CRC member, or to ktjdz@aol.com.

Township of South Orange Village South Orange, NJ 07079

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