



**Events by, for and of interest to older residents.  
Open to residents of both towns, and free unless  
otherwise noted.**

## **January 2018**

**Go to our website for detailed and up-to-date information:  
[www.SOMATwotownsforallages.org](http://www.SOMATwotownsforallages.org)**

### **SOPAC Theater**

SOPAC has a new professional theater group in residence, the American Theater Group. Their first production, “A Good Farmer,” will open on Thursday, January 24, with a discount for seniors and pre-show reception. See details listed below. Meet Artistic Director Jim Vagias on the 10<sup>th</sup> to learn about this and upcoming plays.

### **Veterans Benefits**

On January 24 there will be a speaker from the Veteran’s Administration to talk about benefits and help people sign up. Open to all, there will be a light lunch at noon, presentation starts at 12:30. Rsvp for lunch at [Crowe@twp.Maplewood.NJ.US](mailto:Crowe@twp.Maplewood.NJ.US) or (973) 762-8120 x 4005.

### **Bus trip to Sands Casino**

Space still available on the January 16 bus trip to Sands Casino in Bethlehem, PA. Cost: \$20 and includes transportation, lunch voucher and casino cash. Call (973) 763-0750 to reserve your space.

### **Need Help with Heating Costs?**

For assistance with the cost of heating and utilities, call “211.” Through 211 you can get all the information you need to apply for the various assistance programs and benefits and assist you in the process of applying for these.

### **LIHEAP-Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

This federally funded (administered by NJ state & County) program helps pay for the cost of heating and electricity available for those meeting residency, income, age and/or disability qualifications. Applications available November 1 through March 31. Assistance with repair or replacement of heating system, weatherization and medically necessary cooling assistance available for eligible individuals. Call (609) 633-2378, email [EnergyAssistance@dca.state.nj.us](mailto:EnergyAssistance@dca.state.nj.us) or visit [www.energyassistance.nj.gov](http://www.energyassistance.nj.gov).

## **January Events**

### **Thursday, January 4**

**South Orange Lecture Series**, South Orange Library, 1pm

- Jo Ann Middleton, Author and Prof. Emeritus of English and Medical Humanities at Drew Univ.
- Topic: Beginnings

**Thursday Night Book Club**, Maplewood Main Library, 7pm

- “Half a Yellow Sun” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

### **Saturday, January 6**

**Yarn and Fiber Arts Group**, Maplewood Main Library, 10am - noon

- A gathering for people who knit, crochet, quilt, sew, embroider or do other creative things with yarn or fabric. Get feedback & advice. Bring your own supplies. All skill levels are welcome! Facilitated by Maplewood resident Amy Zorn.

## **Monday, January 8**

**Maplewood Garden Club**, Maplewood Main Library, 7:30 pm

- “The Pen & the Trowel” Explore the writing-gardening connection with Marta McDowell. Marta teaches landscape history and horticulture at the New York Botanical Garden and lectures widely. Marta will examine the writing-gardening connection, starting with Mark Twain and connecting authors ranging from Henry David Thoreau, Louisa May Alcott, and Beatrix Potter.

## **Wednesday, January 10**

**Senior Club Meeting**, Maplewood Senior Center, 10:00 am

- Jim Vagias will talk about American Theater Group, the new theater company at SOPAC and the upcoming plays this year. Seniors are invited to an opening night discount and reception before the show.

**Computer Explorations**, Hilton Branch Library, 10 - 11am

- Get the help YOU need! For beginner computer users. We'll help you with documents, email, Internet, photos, social media etc.
- Drop in.

**Wednesdays at the Movies**, South Orange Library, 1pm

- "Meagan Leavey"

**Adult Health Screenings**, Hilton Branch Library, 3:30 -5pm

- Blood pressure and carotid bruit screening, medication, weight & health counseling, Open to residents 18 and older.
- Drop in or call (9673)762-8120 x 4300 for an appointment.

**SOMA Series - "Financial Matters for Seniors,"** Winchester Gardens, 7pm - 9 pm

- Financial advisor Jim Cipirich will focus on the financial questions and concerns that worry older adults and their caregivers.
- Registration not required but suggested at <https://Homesweetsoma.eventbrite.com>

**Read Around the World: Mexico**, Maplewood Main Library, 7:00 pm

- “Pierced by the Sun,” by Laura Esquivel

## **Thursday, January 11**

**Adult Health Screening**, Maplewood Municipal Building, 10 am - noon

- Medication, weight & health counseling; blood pressure & carotid bruit screenings; diabetes risk assessment.
- Drop-ins welcome or call (973) 762-8120 x4300 for appointment.

**South Orange Lecture Series**, South Orange Library, 1pm

- Guest Speaker: Shawn Grain Carter, Prof. of Marketing at the Fashion Institute of Technology.
- Topic: "Should the 1st Amendment of Free Speech also protect Hate Speech?"

## **Saturday, January 13**

**Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic for Dogs & Cats**, 62 Sloan Street/Rescue Squad Building, 9 am -11am

- Sponsored by the South Orange Health Department:973-378-7715 ext. 7711

**Art & Music Reception, Maplewood Main Library, 3:00 pm**

- Our January exhibit is the mixed media work of our own Tech Librarian Robert Nealon. Live music will be provided by Campbell Charshie. Artist's talk at 3:20.

**Monday, January 15**

**Community Coalition on Race MLK Observance, Columbia High School, 2:00 pm**

- Honor Dr. King through music, a sharing of interfaith readings, followed at 3:30 pm by the Annual Volunteer Fair and Reception in the cafeteria.
- Keynote speaker Larry Hamm, founding chairman of the People's Organization for Progress in Newark.

**Tuesday, January 16**

**Bus Trip to Sands Casino, 9 am - 4 pm**

- \$20 for bus, includes casino cash and \$5 lunch voucher.
- Register by calling (973) 763-0750

**Wednesday, January 17**

**Creative Writing Workshop, South Orange Library, 1pm**

- No experience necessary. Just bring pen, paper, and wonderful topics to write about.

**Alzheimer's: Keep Your Brain & Body Healthy, Outsmart the Scammers, Maplewood Main Library, 7pm**

- The Alzheimer's Association will discuss the latest research on lifestyle choices to keep your brain and body healthy as you age, and hands-on tools to incorporate these recommendations.
- Financial Advisor Gary Jones will discuss red flags that indicate fraud targeted at those facing illness.

**Thursday, January 18**

**South Orange Lecture Series, South Orange Library, 1pm**

- Guest Speaker: Rosann Bar, Dean of Business and Social Sciences at Ocean County College
- Topic: Understanding sexual harassment in the work place.

**Sunday, January 21**

**Durand Hedden House & Garden, 523 Ridgewood Rd, Maplewood, 1 - 4 pm**

- Open Hearth Cooking

**Monday, January 22**

**Knitting Workshop, South Orange Library, 1pm**

**Elder Law, Maplewood Main Library, 7:00 pm**

- This seminar will provide relevant information to help you plan ahead. Learn from attorneys some of the strategies and tools that will allow you to protect and preserve your savings, your estate and your legacy.

**Tuesday, January 23**

**Movies return to the MSC, Maplewood Senior Center, 1:00 pm**

- Come and enjoy a movie on the new screen and Netflix. Light refreshments

**Wednesday, January 24**

**Wednesdays at the Movies, South Orange Library, 1pm**

- "The Glass Castle"

**Veteran's Benefits, Maplewood Municipal Building, noon**

- Lunch and presentation on getting your veteran's benefits.
- RSVP for lunch at (973) 762-8120 x4005. Presentation will start at 12:30.

**"A Good Farmer," SOPAC, 6:30 pm**

- Opening night reception for seniors to introduce the American Theater Group, SOPAC's new theater in residence. Join us for coffee & dessert to meet Jim Vagias, Producing Artistic Director, learn about upcoming shows and the stories behind the plays.
- RSVP to (973)762-8120 x4005 for reception.
- Discount of \$5 off the \$25 ticket (final cost \$20) with code ATG5 at box office or call (973) 313-2787

**Thursday, January 25**

**Romance Lovers Book Club, Hilton Branch Library, 6:30 pm**

- The first book of the Romance Lovers Book Club is "A Walk to Remember" by Nicholas Sparks.

**South Orange Lecture Series, South Orange Library, 1pm**

- Guest Speaker: Pete Reader, Chairman of Theatre Dept. at Seton Hall University.
- Topic: Artist's Light - The Effect of Color and Light in Art.

**Overlook Van Screenings, Hilton Branch Library, 2 - 4pm**

- Body Mass Index screenings and cervical health education materials will be offered.

**Friday, January 26**

**Your Digital Doorway, Maplewood Main Library, 10:00 am**

- Learn how to easily access the library's digital resources, including e-books, e-audiobooks, digital magazines, movies, TV shows and music.

**Marshall Elementary School's Indoor Camp Out, 6-8pm**

- Volunteers needed to help sell food, crowd control, singers, musicians, story tellers, camping experts all to help run the event. Interested? Contact Carl Ellis at [ellis.carl@gmail.com](mailto:ellis.carl@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, January 31**

**Creative Writing Workshop, South Orange Library, 1pm**

- No experience necessary. Just bring pen, paper, and wonderful topic to write about.

**Location Guide:**

The Baird – 5 Mead St, S. Orange (973) 378-7754

Burgdorff Center – 10 Durand Rd, Maplewood

Dehart Community Center – 120 Burnett Ave, Maplewood (973) 763- 0750

Maplewood Main Library – 51 Baker St., Maplewood (973) 762-1622

Maplewood Hilton Library – 1688 Springfield Ave., Maplewood (973) 762-1688

Maplewood Senior Center – 106 Burnett Ave., Maplewood (973) 763- 0750

Maplewood Municipal Building – 574 Valley St., Maplewood, (973) 762-8120

The Pierro Gallery – inside the Baird, 5 Mead St., S. Orange (973) 378-7754

South Orange Library – 65 Scotland Rd., S. Orange (973) 762- 0230

South Orange Village Hall – 76 S. Orange Ave., (973) 378-7715

Winchester Gardens – 333 Elmwood Ave., Maplewood (973) 762-5050

If you would like to receive information, mailings and emails from SOMA Two towns for all ages, or post an event in our calendar, please email [Crowe@twp.maplewood.nj.us](mailto:Crowe@twp.maplewood.nj.us) or leave a message at (973) 762-8120 x 4005.