

The South Orange Gaslight



It Takes A Village

to answer these questions

Should we become "South Orange Village" instead of the "Township of South Orange Village"? Should the Village President and Trustees get title changes and stipends?

These questions arose from 11 months' work by the Village Charter Review Committee, which presented findings on June 27. As a result, three nonbinding referendum questions will appear on the general election ballot on Nov. 8. Voters will be asked whether the charter should be amended to:

■ Change the name "Township of South Orange Village" to "South Orange Village"?

■ Change the title "Village President" to "Mayor," change "Board of Trustees" to "Village Council," and change "Trustee" to "Council Member"?

■ Provide the Village President an annual stipend of \$2,400 and Village Trustees annual stipends of \$1,800 each, without other benefits, such as healthcare or pension eligibility?

The seven-member, volunteer Charter Review Committee was appointed in May 2010 and members conducted 21 public meetings between August 2010 and June 2011. The committee included four at-large members, two trustees, and the former Village president.

In accordance with the Village Charter, the review process occurs at least once every 12 years to examine the document's functioning and to consider amendments. Changes require adoption by ordinance. For more information about the Charter review process, visit southorange.org/CharterReview. ▲

Reassessment values coming in November

Realty Appraisal Company of West New York, N.J. is conducting field work in South Orange for the 2012 Village-wide home reassessment. The process will ensure that every property is assessed at its full and fair market value. Home sales analyses for 2010 and 2011 will encompass neighborhoods, housing styles and market trends.

Reassessment differs from revaluation (last conducted in 2008), which requires interior inspections of all properties. Reassessment does not require interior inspection.

Property owners will receive value notifications in mid-November. At that time, homeowners can arrange an informal review with Realty Appraisal Company to discuss a newly assessed value before it is finalized.

For more information on the status of the reassessment process, go to www.realtyappraisal.net. Under "Quick Reference," click on "Current Revaluations," then scroll to South Orange. ▲

Keep shrub and trees neatly trimmed

South Orange police remind all residents that shrubs and trees must be trimmed so they don't overhang or block sidewalks, especially on corner properties where they could block the view of drivers. Noncompliance could result in a written notice from the chief.

Village Code 117-35C says lawns and bushes exposed to public view must be maintained in an orderly state, "free from becoming overgrown, littered and unsightly." Holes, gullies, mounds, accumulations of

debris and excavated materials must be eliminated; fire hydrants and sprinkler connections cannot be obstructed by landscaping.

Also, ordinance #138-7 says "plant life" that's more than 2 1/2-foot high, that has grown within 10 feet of a roadway, or within 25 feet of an intersection is unsafe.

Any owner or tenant who receives a written notice from the chief of police to cut plants to less than 2 1/2 feet must comply within 10 days of notification. ▲



10 years later . . . A tribute to 9/11

South Orange will be joining in a 10-year anniversary memorial of the tragedy that rocked our nation on Sept. 11, 2001. Among the commemorative activities will be a downtown candlelight vigil, participation in the National Moment of Remembrance at 1 p.m., an observance by the South Orange Fire Department, and a week of related events at the library. Follow the plans as they unfold on our Township website, www.southorange.org. ▲

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

September
October
2011

Inside

- Dreamcatcher gets \$25,000 in grant support
- Giants of Jazz to honor drummer Tootie Heath
- 2-page schedule of Baird sports and arts events
- Clip and save DPW fall residential programs
- Library remembers 9/11 with 10 events for 10 yrs
- Don Thomas named October Villager

Dreamcatcher earns \$25,000 in grant support

Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre of South Orange has been awarded \$25,000 in grants from two of the most significant arts supporters in the state.

A \$5,000 grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts allowed Dreamcatcher to add a third main stage production to its season.

The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation doubled its 2011 support to \$20,000, allowing the company to hire two new part-timers, a grant writer and an outreach coordinator.

Dreamcatcher has garnered high praise in recent years, including a New Jersey Obie Award from The Star-Ledger for the fall 2010 production of "THIS." Artistic Director Laura Ekstrand said program attendance has grown by 42 percent in the last three years, despite the troubled economic climate. The company, located at The Baird on Mead Street, is entering its 17th year.

"I know that a lot of great companies received reduced support this year, so we're extremely grateful that we received (these grants)," said Ekstrand. "It's an acknowledgement that we're now reaching more people in the state with our programs." ▲

Local blogger donates 1,000 bowls of dog food

South Orange resident Michele C. Hollow recently donated 1,000 bowls of Iams All Natural dog food to Jersey Animal Coalition in South Orange, after running a contest on her blog "Pet News and Views" (<http://petnewsandviews.com>). She collected comments from readers in exchange for bowls of food from Iams.

This fall, Michele will run another contest with Iams to benefit animal shelters across the country as part of Iams' Home 4 the Holidays contest. ▲

Giants of Jazz to honor drummer Tootie Heath



The 14th Annual Giants of Jazz benefit concert will honor legendary drummer Albert "Tootie" Heath on Saturday, Oct. 1 at 9 p.m. at the

South Orange Performing Arts Center.

Sharing the stage during this world class night of jazz will be Billy Hart, Bob Cranshaw, Claudio Roditti, Yotam, Michael Dease, Sharel Cassity, Roy Hargrove, Winard Harper, Steve Davis and Cecil Brooks III.

Tootie, the youngest of the famed Heath brothers, has also worked and recorded with John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock, JJ Johnson, Dexter Gordon and Cedar Walton.

Giants of Jazz is presented by SOPAC, the Village of South Orange, and The Baird. It is produced by John Lee and Jazz Legacy Productions.

Tickets are \$50. For details, visit SOPACnow.org or call (973) 275-1114. ▲

Brady-Danzig publishes children's book



Patricia Brady-Danzig, an internationally known soprano, pianist, and recording artist has authored a children's book, "Fabrizio's Fable"

(LaFavola di Fabrizio)", written in English and Italian. The book tells the story of Fabrizio, a smart mouse who outwits Luigi the cat.

A CD inserted in the back cover contains Fabrizio's Song, performed by the Celebration Singers Children's Choir of Cranford, as well as the author's reading of the story in both languages.

The \$20 book (plus \$4 for shipping) can be purchased online at pbdmusic.com/fabrizio.html. ▲



Realty Executives New Jersey, has opened a branch office at 14 South Orange Avenue, Suite 2R, under the management of R.J. Lennon and Sharon Arnette. Welcome to the new team!

Farmers Market

Get your Jersey Fresh produce, flowers, pickled vegetables, baked goods and prepared foods, every Wednesday until Oct. 26. Hours are 2 to 7 p.m. in the Sloan Street parking lot. (Provided by Main Street South Orange.)

Try these tips to reduce your carbon footprint

Each of us contributes to greenhouse gas emissions by burning fossil fuels for electricity, heating, transportation and more. These eco-friendly tips from the South Orange Energy Committee will help you reduce your "carbon footprint":

- Ride your bike to work or to the train station. Walk as much as you can.

- Invest in window shades, awnings and solar window screens. Solar wind screens applied to glass windows and doors will keep your house cooler on sunny days.

- Plant trees and bushes strategically to increase shade and reduce need for air conditioning.

- Periodically check your air conditioner filter. Clogged filters reduce air flow through the machine.

- Turn off all lights during the day.

- Turn the air conditioner off when you are not home, or use a timer function.

- Replace your old AC with an energy-efficient unit.

- Use fans to save energy and money, especially morning and night when it is cooler outside.

- Line dry your clothing.

- Turn off the dishwasher drying function; let dishes air dry.

- Use your outdoor grill instead of the oven; your house will stay cooler inside.

- Keep your fridge full to slow warming when the door is left open.

- Make sure furniture is not blocking air vents.

- Keep lamps away from the thermostat; they could be tricking the AC into working harder.

- Use the sleep function for TVs, DVD players, and computers.

- Get your ducts cleaned to avoid cold-air leakage. ▲

SPORTS & FITNESS

Registration is under way for fall sports and fitness. Details and registration are available at The Baird or online.

■ **Fall Baseball** - Players ages 7 to 15 who participated in South Orange-Maplewood Baseball in the spring are eligible. This fall, the focus is player development, not league play.

- **Rookies** (age 8 as of April 30, 2012) - Six Mondays beginning Sept. 12, from 4 to 5:15 p.m., or 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Fee: \$55.

- **Minors and Majors** (ages 9-12 in 2012) - Meet twice a week for six weeks beginning Sept. 7. Skills practice on Wednesdays and instructional games on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Fee: \$75.

- **Babe Ruth** (ages 13-15 in 2012) - Meet Friday afternoons, 4 to 6 p.m. for six weeks beginning Sept. 9. Fee: \$75.

■ **Basketball at The Baird** - The Village of South Orange and South Mountain YMCA will provide supervision and programming on The Baird's outdoor basketball courts, every week through Oct. 30.

- **Supervised Open Court** - YMCA coaches will program activities for various age groups and monitor their activities. The program runs through Oct. 30: Thursdays and Fridays, 4 p.m. until dark; Saturdays and Sundays, noon until dark.

- **Basketball Skills & Drills** - Boys and girls practice on the outdoor courts on five Saturday mornings beginning Sept. 10. Grades 1 and 2, 9:45 to 10:45. Grades 3 and 4, 11 a.m. to noon. Fee: \$55.

- **Pre-Season Basketball Skills & Conditioning** - YMCA "Coach Fred" will conduct a basketball skills training and conditioning clinic on Thursdays and Saturdays at The Baird. Girls and boys in grades 5 through 9 can prepare for the upcoming season. For details and registration, contact the South Mountain YMCA: (973) 762-4145 or www.smountainymca.org.

■ **Travel Basketball Teams** - South Orange boys and girls, grades 6 to 8, participate in the Suburban Essex League. Practices and games are on weeknights and Saturdays, November through February. Teams are selected after tryouts in October. Watch the website for details.

■ **Learn to Ski** - South Orange and Maplewood students, grades 3 to 8, are bussed from The Baird to nearby Mount Peter ski area on five consecutive Wednesdays beginning in January. Registration begins Oct. 1.

■ **Senior Fitness** - Wednesday and Friday morning sessions run from 10:15 to 11 a.m., beginning Sept. 21 or Sept. 23 for eight weeks. Drop in to try one class without obligation. Fee: \$40.

■ **Adult Fitness** - A fitness class for active adults will be offered on Wednesday afternoons at 2 p.m. for 10 weeks beginning Sept. 21. Fee: \$110.

■ **Adult Soccer** - South Orange and Maplewood adults will meet for informal soccer games at New

Waterlands Park on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. A range of fitness, age and skill levels will be accommodated.

Registration required. Fee: \$35.

■ **Tae Kwon Do** - Gain self-confidence and reduce stress. Instructor Steve Safran teaches practical self-defense, discipline and body conditioning. Beginner classes for children are on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4 p.m. starting the week of Sept. 19. Three beginner adult classes are offered Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Wednesdays at 9 a.m. or Fridays at 11:30 a.m. Advanced adults meet Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

■ **Tae Kwon Do for Special Needs** - Parents of children with autism learn how to work more effectively with their children, and everyone benefits from exercising. Instructor: Jeff Jacobs. Fee: \$125. Saturday classes. Ages 6 to 10, 1 to 2 p.m.; ages 11 to 25, 2 to 3 p.m.

■ **Tennis** - Tennis clinics for children and adults are offered by the US Sports Institute on courts at The

PIERRO GALLERY www.pierrogallery.org

Artists Who Teach

Sept. 10 - Oct. 15 • Opening Reception, Sept. 10, 2-4 p.m.

Celebrate "Artists Who Teach: Baird Teaching Artists 2011."

An exhibition of works by The Baird's own teaching artists will include painting, photography, printmaking, decorative objects and artist books. The artists include Ruby Amanze, Lynne Buschman, Santiago Cohen, David Heffernan, Karen McDermott, Larry McKim, Jeremy Moss, Denise Deubel Patierno, Andy Weeks and Benita Wolffe.

Baird Arts Open House

Saturday, Sept. 10, noon-4 p.m.

What kind of artistic experience would you like to have? The Baird invites the community to an open house to sample the cultural arts classes available there. Take a mini class, see a technique demo, or view a student exhibition.

Among the events you can consider: silk screen a T-shirt with Larry McKim, attend an intro to John Brophy's advanced guitar class, see dancer Elaine D'Addezio's images of her youngest ballet dancers, hear Andy Weeks' talk on contemporary landscape painting, or see Steve Safran's demo of a Tae Kwon Do session.

DREAMCATCHER

www.dreamcatcherrep.org • (800) 838-3006

- Multiple Personality Disorder, Saturday, Sept. 17, at 8 p.m. Dreamcatcher's improvisational comedy troupe mixes your input with their stage creativity to come up with unique scenes guaranteed to make you laugh. Unpredictable, ridiculous, and just plain fun! Tickets are \$15.

- "Next Fall," by Geoffrey Nauffts, Friday, Oct. 28 to Sunday, Nov. 13. Nominated for the 2010 Tony Award for Best Play, Next Fall takes a witty and provocative look at faith, commitment and unconditional love. During the play's Broadway run, the New York Times called it, "The funniest heartbreaker in town." Friday and Saturday shows are at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$10 to \$30.

Baird. Sessions are grouped by age and skill categories. For details or to register, visit www.USSportsInstitute.com.

■ **USSI Sports Squirts** - South Orange will host the US Sports Institute's "Sports Squirts" program for 3-5-year olds in Meadowland Park on Monday mornings. Children are introduced to a variety of sports in a safe, structured environment. To register,

visit www.USSportsInstitute.com.

■ **Senior Pool Party** - The annual Senior Pool Party will take place Tuesday, Sept. 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the South Orange Pool. All seniors (not just residents) are welcome. Enjoy barbecue food and live music. Advance registration is required at The Baird by Aug. 31. For information, call (973) 378-7754, x1.

Nearly half of this fall's arts classes are new, a tantalizing array of visual and performing arts for everyone from infant through adult. Most classes begin the week of Sept. 19. All are taught by professionals in their fields. For details and registration, check the website.

** Indicates a new class*

VISUAL ARTS

3D Village * *Age 3 and older.* Children explore the world by creating objects with instructor Denise Deubel Patierno, Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Fun with Art *Ages 2 to 3 with caregiver.* Let your child's natural curiosity be tapped through the artistic process. Miriam Sumner teaches Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Comic Book Capers *Grades 1-3 and 4-6.* Design and write your own comic book, guided by Vicki Arlene, Tuesdays, 4 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.

Eyes through the Lens: Children's Photography * *Grades 2-5.* Learn techniques from acclaimed professional photographer Jeremy Moss, Mondays at 4 p.m.

Mural Patchwork * *Grades 3-5.* Artist and children's book illustrator Santiago Cohen leads this after-school group mural project on Thursdays at 4 p.m.

Stop Motion Animation * *Grades 4-6.* Learn how to create motion with still images using digital cameras and small props. Santiago Cohen teaches Thursdays at 5 p.m.

Earth, Wind and Fire *Grades K-4* – Youngsters create unique projects in clay and glass. Joan Tomasco teaches Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

Drawing Plus 1 *Grades 5-8.* An introductory class with Lynne Buschman, Thursdays at 4 p.m.

Drawing Plus 2/3 *High School.* Students with some drawing experience learn the basics and explore line, form, composition and perspective. Lynne Buschman teaches on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

Handmade Books * *High School.* An intro to the art of handmade books with Debra F. Livingston, Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

Silk Screen Printing *High School and Adults.* Learn to silk-screen with Larry McKim, Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

Water Color Painting * *High School and Adults.* Paint with watercolor to create still-life and landscapes. Larry McKim teaches on Thursdays at 4 p.m.

Relief Printing * *High School and Adults.* An intro to relief block printing using linoleum, with Larry McKim, Mondays at 4 p.m.

Approaching Landscape * *High School and Adults.* Practice landscape painting from multiple vantage points. Andy Weeks teaches Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Starting in Oil Paint * *High School and Adults.* Begin painting in oil during this technical class taught by Andy Weeks, Saturdays at noon.

Life Painting * *Adults.* An intensive exploration of the human form, working from live models. David Heffernan teaches Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Non-Drawing * *Adults.* Drawing is visceral, not for the timid. Let loose and draw! Ruby Amanze teaches Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Scarves and Such * *Adults.* Explore fabric surface design techniques such as chemical and natural dyes, shibori (resist dyeing), batik, devore (burn-out) rust printing and marbling. Ruby Amanze teaches on 10 Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Art with a Master *Adults.* Students of all levels, in all mediums, work with master artist Philip Sherrod on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.

Exploring Mixed Media * *Adults.* Each session will introduce

three or more new techniques using paints, gel as a resist, paper, fabric, canvas board, stamps, sponges, stencils and more. Karen McDermott and Benita Wolffe teach Wednesdays at 7 p.m., from Oct. 5 to Nov. 23.

DANCE

All ballet classes are taught by Elaine D'Addezio.

Pre-Ballet I *Ages 2-3, with guardian.* Children are kept interested and engaged while getting an introduction to ballet. Saturdays, 9:15 a.m.

Pre-Ballet II *Ages 2-3, with guardian.* Saturdays, 10:15 a.m.

Pre-Ballet II *Age 3, with guardian.* Saturdays, 11:15 a.m.

Ballet I *Age 5.* Saturdays, 12:15 a.m.

Ballet II *Ages 6 and older.* Saturdays, 1:15 p.m.

Flamenco Dancing - Beginning

Adults. Put some passion in your life! Professional dancer/instructor Toni Messina (Viva Flamenco) teaches basic movement, rhythm and expression, all with a live guitarist. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

Flamenco Dancing - Intermediate

Adults. For students with basic knowledge of flamenco movement and vocabulary. Toni Messina teaches on Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.

Middle Eastern Dance - Beginning *Age 16 to Adult.*

Learn basic "bellydance" isolations and movements (shimmies, hip drops, snakes, undulations) and Middle Eastern musical rhythms. Morgiana Celeste teaches Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Middle Eastern Dance - Intermediate/Advanced

Age 16 to Adult. Morgiana Celeste teaches Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Line Dancing *

Adults. Learn a fun, soul-stirring way to shake your hips and burn calories. E. Talley II teaches Mondays at 7 p.m.

MUSIC

Song Stories *

Ages 3 and up. Movement, music and creative play are used to explore stories. With Denise Deubel Patierno, Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Rhythm Sticks *Infant to age 4, with caregiver.*

Students are enriched by tonal and rhythmic development while singing, dancing, listening, watching and exploring. Pauline Barrett teaches on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Beginning Guitar 1

Grades 2-4. Thomas Morris teaches Saturdays at 11 a.m.

Beginning Guitar 2 *Grades 5-8*

- An easy, encouraging intro with Thomas Morris, Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Advanced Guitar * *Grades 7 and up*

- Improve your guitar playing by learning your favorite songs. John Brophy teaches Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

Adult Banjo * Teacher Thomas Morris offers a hands-on introduction for adults, Wednesday at 7 p.m.



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Branches & Shrubs

Between Sept. 19, 2011 and early April 2012, trimmings and branches cannot be left at curbside for pickup. They may be brought to the Public Works Recycling Depot at 300 Walton Avenue.

Branch pickup ends in September. An appointment is required. Call DPW on or before Sept. 19. Branches must be under four inches in diameter for pickup or drop-off. No roots or stumps are accepted. The last branch pickup appointment (no charge) will be Sept. 27, 2011.

For information, call (973) 378-7741, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grass Clippings

South Orange Disposal Company will pick up grass clippings collected in plastic bags and placed between the curb and sidewalk. Two bags per week are permitted on the second day of your regular garbage collection. For information, call (973) 762-3880.

Leaf removal starts Oct. 24

The 2011 leaf removal season is Oct. 24 through Dec. 5. Pickup cycles are estimated at 11 days. Any rake-out after Dec. 5 will be a violation of municipal ordinances. For more information, check the leaf collection web page, www.southorange.org/leafcollection, or call the leaf removal hotline, (973) 378-7501. Information is updated daily.

If you live on a county road, call (973) 239-3366.



Leaf Collection Rules

1. Pile leaves no more than four feet from the curb and not in traffic lanes.
2. Leaves left in plastic bags will not be picked up.
3. No debris other than leaves is permitted in the streets. Improper placement could prevent pickup.
4. Avoid creating leaf mounds; they attract children and subject them to traffic dangers. They also create potential fire and traffic hazards.
5. Do not place leaves within 10 feet of storm catch basins.

Final Container Day, Saturday, Sept. 24

Drop-off hours are 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Public Works Garage, 300 Walton Avenue. Bring two proofs of residency. No commercial vehicles allowed.

- **Permitted:** Furniture, mattresses, appliances, toys, carpets and strollers. Also, leaves packed in brown biodegradable paper bags, and branches measuring four inches or less in diameter.
- **Not Permitted:** Propane bottles, hazardous chemicals/materials, construction materials, grass clippings, household garbage, car/truck parts, batteries, railroad ties or any electronic items. To check on questionable items, call Public Works.

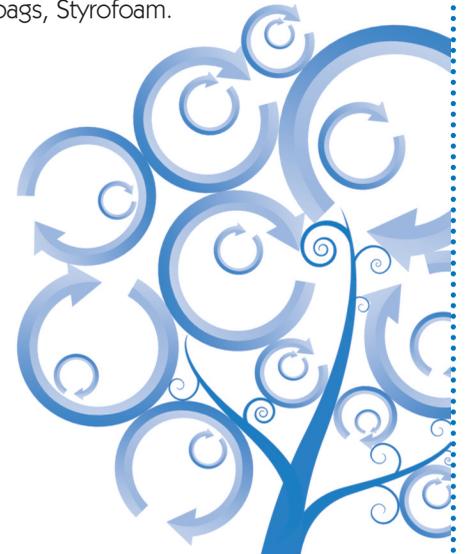
Electronics Recycling

South Orange and Maplewood co-sponsor a free electronics recycling program, with two alternating drop-off locations. Residents of either town must show proof of residency on site. Commercial and large-quantity users are not allowed.

- Remaining dates for 2011 are:
- Sept. 17 - South Orange Recycling Center, 300 Walton Avenue.
 - Oct. 22 - Maplewood Recycling Center, 359 Boyden Avenue.
 - Dec. 17 - South Orange Recycling Center, 300 Walton Avenue.

Year-Round Recycling Depot

- **Permitted:** Glass food and beverage containers, aluminum and ferrous cans, #1 and #2 plastic containers (such as some soda and water bottles, milk and detergent containers), empty paint cans, newspaper, high-grade paper, branches no larger than four inches in diameter, crushed corrugated boxes, leaves (spring and fall only), items made entirely of metal (not heavily rusted), kitchen appliances, tires (each affixed with a sticker purchased from Village Hall).
- **Not Permitted:** Sheet or window glass, aluminum foil, propane bottles, household debris, garbage, roof shingles, plastic bags, doors and windows with glass and/or hardware, railroad ties, pressure-treated wood, construction material (tiles, plaster, sheet rock, paneling, wood with nails, painted wood), furniture, tree stumps, brush larger than four inches in diameter, grass, plastic bags, Styrofoam.



The 2012 Toter Schedules will be inserted in the Nov./Dec. 2011 Gaslight. Please remove and save for reference. The schedule is also available year-round on the Village website, www.southorange.org, at The Baird, the library, the DPW office or Village Hall.

Residential Public Works Programs

Fall 2011

HAPPENINGS

Race through Newstead

On your mark, get set, GO!! The 9th annual Newstead 5K takes off Saturday, Sept. 24 at the South Mountain Annex.

Entry is \$20 through Sept. 19 and \$25 thereafter. Race day registration opens at 8 a.m.; race time is 9 a.m.

The race benefits the Achieve Foundation of South Orange and Maplewood.

For details or registration, visit www.newstead5k.com.

S.O. Symphony seeks new players

Violin, viola, cello, bass, trumpet and percussion players are needed to fill out the

sound of the South Orange Symphony. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the South Orange Middle School auditorium. The first concert of the 63rd season is Saturday, Nov. 19. To audition, call (973) 729-5275, or visit www.south-orangesymphony.org.

Adult School this fall

www.somadultschool.org

■ **Fall classes** begin Saturday, Oct. 1. Early bird discounts on select courses are offered until Sept. 16.

■ **Hollywood Sex & Violence** - Hear how it has evolved from the silent movies to today. Benjamin Nelson of

Fairleigh Dickinson University will present the 22nd annual Redpath Lecture at Columbia High Library on Monday, Nov. 14 at 7:30 p.m. Fee: \$10.

■ **College for a Day** - Get a taste of contemporary college instruction. Four special courses are offered Saturday, Nov. 19: "What You Were Never Taught About Language," "Race and Real Estate: The Creation of America's Ghettos," "Language and the Brain," and "Redesigning Life: The New Era of Synthetic Biology."

■ **Eva Samo Lecture Series:** The Sexy City - Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Columbia High Library. ♦ Oct. 17, "Cities in Developing

Countries," Susan Gladstone of Columbia University. ♦ Oct. 24, Marc Morial, National Urban League, will speak about American cities. ♦ Oct. 31, "Cities of the 21st Century," Leonardo Vázquez, Rutgers' Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. ♦ Nov. 7, "The Disappearing City," with Dr. Frank Popper, Bloustein School.

■ **Thug Life** - Michael Jeffries (CHS, 1998) will discuss his recent book, "Thug Life: Race, Gender, and the Meaning of Hip-Hop," at the Don Hamingson Literary Showcase, Wednesday, Nov. 8.

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HAPPENINGS

Community Coalition Celebrates 15 Years

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■ **Realtor Coffee and Conversations.** Help develop action plans for a strong housing market. In September.

■ **Candidates Wanted.** The Coalition Nominating Committee is looking for 2012 trustee candidates. E-mail by Sept. 12 to nominate yourself or others.

OCTOBER EVENTS

■ Integration Annual

Dinner. Saturday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m., SOPAC Loft. Music, dinner, dancing and conversation. (Special price to attend Coalition dinner AND Giants of Jazz.)

■ **Report to the Community.** Learn how the Coalition is fostering community integration.

■ **Two Towns Sing-in Workshops.** Free workshops on varying musical genres.

■ **Planning Ahead Workshop** for Middle School Parents. Prepare your student for high school.

■ **Talking to Children about Race.** Follow-up talk with psychologist Diane Hughes.

On Stage at SOPAC

SOPACnow.org • (973) 275-1114

• Sept. 17, 5 p.m. – Blues in the Loft, South Orange International Blues Festival Kick-Off, \$15.

• Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m. – Roger McGuinn, leader of the legendary Byrds (rock, folk) performs a benefit for EIES of New Jersey. Tickets: \$50/\$40.

• Sept. 23, 8 p.m. – The Rose Ensemble (Florentine and Renaissance choral music), \$25/\$35.

• Oct. 15, 8 p.m. – U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors, free.

• Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. – The English Concert, a baroque orchestra, \$25/\$15/\$8.

• Oct. 22, 8 p.m. – Ben Vereen, cabaret, \$45/\$55/\$75.

• Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m. – Jazz accordionist Eddie Monteiro, \$25/\$15/\$8.

• Oct. 29, 11 a.m. – Star Trek Live! (interactive spectacle for kids and families), \$15.



The National Moment of Remembrance will be observed in the Village at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11.

3 Play Readings

Enjoy three new play readings by SOPAC's Midtown Direct Rep.

• Oct. 6 and 7, "Significant Others."

• Oct. 13 and 14, "The Rubber Room."

• Oct. 20 and 21, "Deep is the Ocean."

All shows are at 8 p.m.; \$10 each or \$25 for all three.

9/11: 10 events, 10 years later

Ten commemorative events will mark the week surrounding Sept. 11. All are at the library unless otherwise indicated.

■ **Thursday, Sept. 8** - 11 a.m., Banjos Plus performs classic American songs. ♦ 7:30 p.m. poetry jam on tolerance, for teens and adults.

■ **Sunday, Sept. 11** - 1 p.m., National Moment of Remembrance observed in the Village. ♦ 2 p.m., Children's Storytime, celebrating heroes. ♦ 2:30 p.m., Solos, Youth Orchestras of Essex County. ♦ 3:30 p.m., NJ Assemblywoman Mila Jasey speaks on communities. ♦ Evening Candlelight Vigil, details coming.

■ **Wednesday, Sept. 14** - 1 p.m., screening of "9/12: From Chaos to Community," a documentary about New York City volunteers, and the recovery workers they cared for.

■ **Thursday, Sept. 15** - 1 p.m., 9/11: "U.S. and Osama bin Laden, Before and After," a lecture and discussion with Eugene Lieber.

■ **Tuesday, Sept. 20** - 7 p.m., screening of "Not in Our Town" (see below).

Not in Our Town

The PBS documentary "Not in Our Town: Light in the Darkness," will be screened at the library on Tuesday, Sept. 20., at 7 p.m. Rutgers Women's Studies professor Carlos Decena will lead a follow-up discussion.

The nationally acclaimed documentary spotlights Patchogue, N.Y., where residents banded together to defy local hate crimes committed against Latinos in 2008.

This screening is part of "Not in Our Town Week," Sept. 18 to Sept. 24, when communities nationwide will gather for local screenings and related activities.

"The Absurdity of War"

Satire and humor are prevalent in this film series on war and its perpetrators. Each screening will be followed by a discussion with a film expert.

Library Events

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First up on Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. is "The Great Dictator," starring Charlie Chaplin; discussion with John Columbus, founder and director of the Black Maria Film Festival.

Also scheduled are "Dr. Strange-love and How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" on Nov. 29 and "Life is Beautiful" on Dec. 27.

Business Seminars

Richard Berak from the Service Corps of Retired Executives will host two business seminars this fall:

• "Starting and Managing a Successful Business," Thursday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m.

• "Starting a Home-Based Business," Thursday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m.

Regular Events

• S. O. Book Review Group: Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m., "Outliers: The Story of Success," by Malcolm Gladwell; Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m., "Cutting for Stone," by Abraham Verghese.

• Knitting Workshop, Monday, Sept. 19, at noon.

• Wednesday at the Movies, 1 p.m., Sept. 14, 28, Oct. 12, 26.

Library Discussion Group

Thursdays, 1 p.m.

• Sept. 15 – "U.S. and Osama bin Laden, Before and After."

• Sept. 22 – "Shrinking Cities."

• Sept. 29 – "World Political Update."

• Oct. 6 – "A Story of Survival," with Marsha Kreuzman, survivor of five concentration camps.

• Oct. 13 – "Stand-Up Comedy."

• Oct. 20 – "Bad Guys: Bandits in 19th Century Italy."

• Oct. 27 – "How People Create the Beauty in This World."

Children's Programs

• Filmmaking (16 and older), Mondays, 3:30 p.m.

• Lego Club, ages 6-8, Oct. 10, 3:45 p.m.; ages 8 and older, Oct. 24, 3:45 p.m.

• Chess and Board Games, all ages, Tuesdays, 3:45 p.m.

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DON THOMAS

October Villager of the Month



Some people believe there's "little or nothing to say about the past, other than it's over and done with, so

let's move on."

Lucky for South Orange, Don Thomas doesn't agree. His self-published history of an old Village church is an ode to those who have worshipped there and created a legacy of Village tolerance.

"The Episcopal Church(es) of Saint Andrew and Holy Communion" is a 156-page book that traces the lives of parishioners who have filled the pews at South Orange and Ridgewood avenues for the last 150 years. Their historic deeds have impacted the Village, our nation and even our world. For example:

- *William Allen*, long-time secretary of the national Railway Time Convention was dismayed by the existence of 50 time zones between New York and California. In 1883, the U.S. adopted the four time zones he developed to simplify matters.

- *Spencer Miller, Sr.*, back in the early 1900s, conceived of putting oil on stagnant waters to reduce mosquito populations, since mosquitoes were thought to spread typhoid fever. Eventually, his local technique was adopted by the county and the state.

- *Rev. Lewis Cameron* advocated for a place where all South Orange children could play together safely regardless of social or economic circumstances. Today, Cameron Field retains its legacy as a home of interracial harmony.

A lot of roads and places in South Orange are named after St. Andrew and Holy Communion parishioners, for example: Hoskier Road, after a family who fought in World War I; Roosevelt Park in Maplewood (formerly part of South Orange), after

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Cornelius Roosevelt, uncle of Teddy Roosevelt, who often vacationed in South Orange and attended his uncle's church; and of course, Cameron Field, after the beloved Rev. Cameron.

Thomas' probe into the annals of his life-long church began three years ago when the church was anticipating its 150th anniversary (in September 2010.) "They wanted somebody to write a history. I'm not the oldest member, but I've been there the longest," he said.

"I ended up reading all the minutes of the vestry," a tedious task at times, but "I never knew when I would stumble onto something."

One gem of discovery was the identification of Villager George Baldwin McCoy as an unacknowledged casualty of World War I. McCoy's father was a U.S. Congressman representing the same district as current Congressman William Pascrell.

It was Pascrell's continued digging into Thomas' finding that confirmed McCoy's veteran status, and last year, McCoy was added to South Orange's WWI memorial flagpole—all thanks to the painstaking research of Don Thomas.

At age 79, Thomas is not in the best of health, but when he started the project, "I was blown away by the research. That's what kept me going," he said.

Thomas is the last surviving member of his own family. He never married, nor had children, but he helped shape hundreds of young lives as a high school English teacher in Livingston for 10 years and then as a guidance counselor in Westfield schools for 20 years.

His impressive credentials include undergraduate and teaching degrees from Columbia University

and a doctorate in education from Rutgers.

For a while, he belonged to the South Orange Historical and Preservation Society, but his true devotion has always been with the church—its history, the building committee, and of course the choir that he joined at age eight.

I grew up in the Episcopal Church," says Thomas. "We talk about everybody as equal. No black, no white. We're all human. Yet nearly all our ministers were white males . . . until now."

Today, Reverend Sandye Wilson, an African-American woman, is the minister at St. Andrew and Holy Communion, presiding over a decidedly diverse congregation. "Finally," says Thomas, "we practice what we preach."

"Read the book," he urges. It's "not just a list of possessions and important dates. It's about the people who made South Orange what it is today." ▲

Library Events

Cont'd from page 7

Special Events

- Banjo Plus, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, 11 a.m.
- Songs and Stories with Ms. Marilyn, Sept. 22 and Oct. 27.
- Girl Scout Mom & Me Tea, Oct. 14, 3:30 p.m., ages 5 and older with adult.
- Big Jeff Halloween Concert, Oct. 24, 7 p.m. All ages. Come in costume.

Storytimes

- Pajama Storytime, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, 6:30 p.m.
- Toddler Storytime resumes Sept. 27, 11 a.m. (age 2 ½ - 4).
- Babies Storytime resumes Sept. 28 (birth -2 ½).
- Seton Stories, Oct. 7, 10 a.m., all ages.