

The South Orange Gaslight



The Gaslight

is published six times a year for the residents and businesses of South Orange Village

July/August
2014

Village Hall goes on the market

Want to buy a notably historic building in the heart of downtown South Orange?

Village Hall is going on the market after Village Trustees agreed on June 16 to find out if the building could attract buyer interest. The Village will spend \$10,000 maximum to market and advertise the opportunity and each potential buyer will be asked to submit a proposal.

With asbestos abatement scheduled for completion in early July, interested parties will have through November to inspect the property and determine their interest.

It is not the first time the Village has attempted to sell the building. In 2011, one potential buyer came forth and the Village discussed retaining partial use of the building for office space. Now, with asbestos abatement completed, the property may be more attractive.

At the June 16 trustees meeting, Village Counsel Steve Rother recommended outright sale. He addressed the potential liability in a public-private partnership, including the risk that ownership could revert to the Village.

Board members agreed. "This is about trying to get ourselves out from under the burden," said Trustee Walter Clarke.

The Village Hall parking lot would be included in the sale, and easements for adjacent properties accessed through the lot would be a condition of sale.

Also, since the building is a state historic site, any sale would come with a restricted deed requiring exterior preservation.

If the Village receives proposals, Trustees will have to weigh the cost of renovation, estimated at \$6.5 million, against the cost of establishing permanent offices elsewhere. The Village could continue to lease space, as it does now, or find a site for a new building. ▲

South Orange providing IT to Maplewood

South Orange has long prided itself on technological advancements and sophisticated information technology, or IT services. Effective Jan. 1 of this year, the Village began sharing its expertise with Maplewood.

Both municipalities get excellent tech support through the Village's three-man IT staff, while reaping financial savings to the benefit taxpayers.

Service to Maplewood includes help desk expertise at the personal computer level, network control, systems analysis, and infrastructure evaluation, as well as recommendations and installations.

"The two towns have a history of municipal cooperation and shared services to maximize efficiency," said Village Administrator Barry Lewis. Other mutual services previously in place include a shared municipal court and Maplewood's provision of code enforcement services to South Orange.

Lewis said South Orange's IT expertise could be extended to other municipalities as well. ▲

BiZ BUZZ

Welcome to three new downtown businesses:

• **Ricalton's Village Tavern**, 19 Valley Street - enjoy

American fare in multiple dining spaces, including the downstairs bar, The Snug. Info at (973) 763-1006, or www.ricaltons.com.

• **My Morocco at Falaffel-ly Yours**, 50 West South Orange Avenue - An expansion of Falaffel-ly Yours puts the same great Middle Eastern cuisine in an authentic Moroccan setting, complete with music and belly dancing. Info at (973) 313-1333, www.falaffelly-yours.com.

• **South Orange Jewelry and Art Exchange**, 67 South Orange Avenue - The former Robyn Ross jewelry store has been re-imagined and re-opened as the South Orange Jewelry and Art Exchange, or SOJAX by Ross Fields. SOJAX is a multi-vendor store featuring local artists and art dealers in a cooperative environment. For details, call (973) 913-1100. ▲

Inside

■ **First Night is coming back!**

■ **All-brothers baseball team featured at the library**

■ **interACT offers acting camps for children and teens**

■ **Downtown After Sundown concerts resume; Outdoor Concert Series starts July 2**

■ **Torpey to advise Newark leadership on technology**

■ **Maryam Latif and Teddy Monaghan named Villagers of the Month**

Local First Night festival makes a comeback!

2015

Happy New Year!

After a two-year hiatus, an effort is under way to re-establish First Night of Maplewood and South Orange, starting with New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, 2014.

Preliminary meetings have been held and a 19-member board has been established, including four officers: President Michael Goldberg, Vice President Ileana Castillo, Treasurer Sandi Goodman and Secretary Karen Marlowe.

First Night is an inexpensive, family-friendly New Year's Eve celebration with entertainment for all ages. The tradition was established in 1993 as a drug- and alcohol-free celebration of the visual and performing arts.

The board is looking for volunteers to help with event planning, fundraising, contract negotiation, marketing, logistics, ticket sales and decorating. Meetings are held approximately twice a month. For details, go to <http://www.firstnightmws.org>. ▲

To find out when and where various Village board meetings will be held, visit <http://southorange.org/calendarGovi/>



UPSIZING or DOWNSIZING? YOU CHOOSE. I DELIVER.

Make your next move with Maggie.

MAGGIE CALISTER

njrealestatemama.com

maggiec@kw.com

(973) 913-8020

kw

KELLERWILLIAMS
MID-TOWN DIRECT REALTY



■ Shop FRESH every Wednesday

The South Orange Farmer's Market, sponsored by SOVCA, is back for 2014! You'll find all the fruits and vegetables featured in past seasons, plus new vendors this year. Nuts, vegan treats, gluten-free foods and even New Jersey wine are among the choices. The market is open every Wednesday from 2 to 7 p.m. in parking lot #9 at the intersection of Sloan Street and First Street.

2014 vendors:

Alstede Farms
Hoboken Farms
Paolo's Kitchen
Stony Hill Gardens
Tree-Licious Orchards
Vesco pickles and olive
Buddha Belly vegan treats
Eden Fresh hummus
Villa Milagro Vineyards
Gourmet Nuts & Dried Fruits
Zen Bread & Kitchen
Top Shelf natural body soaps

South Orange Village Center Alliance

www.sovillagecenter.org • (973) 763-6899

■ Enjoy weekend toe-tappin' tunage

Going to be in the Village for weekend dining, shopping or theater? If so, come to the Downtown After Sundown concert series every Friday and Saturday from 7:30 to 10 p.m., straight through Labor Day.

Jazz, blues, pop, rock, folk, R&B and swing music will be performed in two down town locations. July concerts are listed below; the August schedule is forthcoming.

Sloan Street

Friday, July 4 - Dave Rimelis Duo - jazz, pop, family sing-along

Saturday, July 5 - Dave Braham Duo - Irish

Friday, July 11 - Stephen Fuller Duo - jazz, blues, R&B, pop

Saturday, July 12 - Lance Bryant Trio - jazz

Friday, July 18 - Ben Williams - swing

Saturday, July 19 - Stephanie Jones Ensemble - jazz, blues, bossa nova

Friday, July 25 - Maplewood Bass Quartet - jazz

Saturday, July 26 - Josh Rednik - blues and rock

Spiotta Park

Friday, July 4 - to be determined

Saturday, July 5 - Black Wax - funk and groove

Friday, July 11 - Bossa 5 - bossa nova, samba

Saturday, July 12 - NoName James and Butterball - blues

Friday, July 18 - David Easton Band - funky jazz and rock

Saturday, July 19 - The Accelerators - 80s power rock

Friday, July 25 - The Bill Tally Quintet - jazz standards

Saturday, July 26 - Viva Flamenco - flamenco and jazz

Sign up today for 'SOConnect'

South Orange's cost-free online service request and 311 tool lets residents access information, track service requests, and instantly report nonemergency municipal issues. Sign up and submit your issue online from the Village website, www.southorange.org. Village staff will be notified automatically and will keep you in the loop with status updates. ▲

Happenings

■ Have fun and learn about your health

Take advantage of a free opportunity to reduce your risk of health problems. The South Orange Health Department will hold its 8th annual free health fair on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the South Orange Fire House.

No-cost health screenings will include: spinal analysis, glucose and cholesterol counts, blood pressure checks, hearing tests, osteoporosis screening, and lead screening for children 8 months to 6 years old.

Participants can also get information on the Supplemental Nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), learn about male and female cancers, become a blood donor, and chat with members of the South Orange Domestic Violence Response Team.

Kids can enjoy face painting and pick up age-appropriate health literature.

■ 12th annual Newstead 5K set for Sept. 20

Mark your calendar for the 12th-annual Newstead 5K to be held Saturday, Sept. 20. More than 500 runners and walkers are expected to participate in the annual fundraiser for the Achieve Foundation.

Each year, the race raises about \$15,000 to support Achieve programs, including teacher grants, volunteer tutors, technology upgrades and facility improvements in South Orange and Maplewood district schools.

To become a race sponsor, contact Helen DuBoway at newstead5k@achievefoundation.org. Race entry forms will be available at achievefoundation.org by July 1.

■ Learn about Jersey's all-brothers baseball team

Acclaimed New Jersey author Audrey Vernick will appear at the South Orange Public Library on Thursday, July 10, at 1 p.m. to discuss her book, "Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team," a New York Times Notable Book of 2012.

The book tells the story of the Acerra family – 16 children, including 12 ball-playing boys. It was the 1930s, when large families were common. But only one had enough to field a baseball team. The Acerras were the longest-playing all-brothers team in baseball history. They loved the game, but also cared for and supported each other as a team.

■ On Stage at SOPAC

SOPACnow.org
(973) 313-2787

July - Free concerts in the park. (See page 7)

August - Free movies in the park. (See page 7)

Herb & Milly Iris Gallery at SOPAC

On view June 7 - Sept. 18

"A Conversation," contemporary paintings, drawings and constructs by two New Jersey-based artists:

- Ann Vollum - "Beastly Beasts," a universe of fantastic creatures and environments intended to amuse and celebrate.

- Russell Christian - human characters and totemic symbols can be seen as tokens of a circus sideshow or remnants of emigres who fled persecution in their homelands.

A closing reception will be held Sept. 13, from 6 to 8 p.m.

■ The Bard's top comedy comes to S.O. Library

"A Midsummer's Night Dream," Shakespeare's most popular comedy, is coming to South Orange on Thursday, July 24, at 7 p.m. Next Stage Ensemble, the summer touring company of the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, will perform at South Orange Public Library.

The play is a joyful romp focused on the universal theme of love and its complications, and is appropriate for all ages, children to seniors. Entry is free and refreshments will be served.

Next Stage Ensemble is part of the Shakespeare Theatre's summer professional training program, created to foster the work of early career actors and directors.

South Orange-Maplewood Adult School

www.somadultschool.org • (973) 378-7620

■ Children's Summer Programs

You can still sign up for the Children's Summer Program at the Adult School. More than 100 classes in academic enrichment, creative arts and sports are offered in two sessions: June 30 to July 11, and July 14 to July 25. (If there's room after a class begins, sign-ups are still permitted.)

Programs are for children and teens entering grades 1 to 12, as of fall 2014. Included are Acting, Art, Math, Printmaking, Mosaics, Karate, Knitting, Hip Hop, Comics, First Aid, Computers, Science and more.

One-week sports camps run 9 a.m. to noon and include co-ed baseball, fencing, soccer, gymnastics and track & field; boys lacrosse and basketball; and girls lacrosse.

■ July Adult Classes

Adults, you can still sign up for these classes: Grantwriting Bootcamp, Tennis, Learning to Meditate, Summer Wine-Pairing Dinner at Coda, Golf, Get to Know Your iPad, or Women, Walking and Wellness.



**New Jersey
Tae Kwon Do**
CHUNG DO KWAN

A COMMUNITY • FAMILY SCHOOL
www.tkdnj.com
154 Valley St., South Orange, NJ
973-781-5888

**Challenge the potential
within yourself.**

ADULTS • TEENS • CHILDREN

#1 Agent in South Orange*



Eric Schwartz
Sales Representative
Office: 973-762-3300 x119
Cell: 201-953-9994
eric schwartz@luckymail.com
www.TheSchwartzTeam.com



Maplewood Office - 697 Valley Street - Maplewood, NJ 07040

*per GSMLS

Summer camps, activities

Children's camps and activities are offered all summer at The Baird. For details and registration, drop by The Baird or go online to www.thebaird.org (select "View Activities"). Offerings include:

- Cool Rocket/Science Camp, ages 6-11, weeks of July 21, 28, Aug. 4 and 18.
- InterAct Drama, grades 2-6, weeks of July 28 and Aug. 4.
- Cougar Baseball, ages 6-14, weeks of June 30, July 7, July 14.
- Rise Softball Camp, girls, grades 3-8, week of July 14.
- Funky Fun Art Camp, grades 1-6, weeks of July 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4 and 11.
- Wright Skills Girls Basketball Camp, grades 3-12, weeks of July 28 and Aug. 4.
- USSI Multi-Sports Camps, ages 3-12, week of Aug. 18.
- USSI First Play Golf Clinics, ages 4-10, week of Aug. 11.
- USSI Tennis, all ages and abilities, weekly through summer.

New this Summer!

Sign up for Funky Fun Summer Art Camp

Six weeks of unique arts and crafts are offered this summer for students who will enter grades one to six in September. Group projects include homemade bouncing balls, magical growing soap, sparkly slime, marshmallow shooters and custom trading cards. Kids also will enjoy art-themed games using created items. All classes run from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| July 7-11, Monster Mania | July 28-Aug. 1, Explosion Paint |
| July 14-18, Glitter Galore | Aug. 4-8, Photography Fun |
| July 21-25, Clay Creations | Aug. 11-15, Comic Book Creation |

Adult nights return to South Orange pool

July 20 and Aug. 17 will be adults ONLY nights at the South Orange pool, located in the Cameron Field complex. Bring your floats and friends to relax, enjoy musical entertainment and dinner from Stony's Restaurant. A Baird I.D., driver's license or other proof of Village residency will be required. Times both nights will be 6 to 8 p.m.

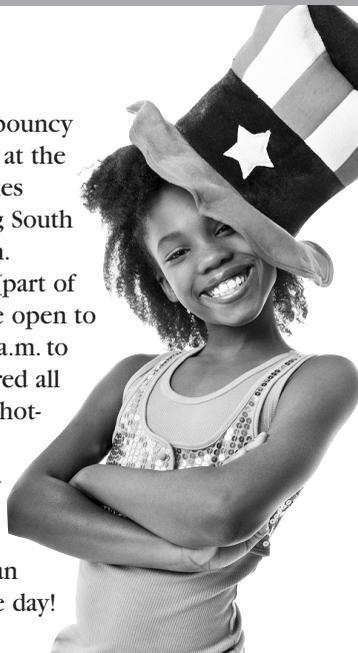


July 4th events

Relay races at Cameron Field, a bouncy house and slide, model boat exhibit at the duck pond ... Those are the festivities planned at Meadowland Park during South Orange's annual July 4th celebration.

In addition, the municipal pool (part of the Cameron Field complex) will be open to all South Orange residents from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., with holiday family fun offered all afternoon: sand art, a photo booth, hot-dog-eating contest, and ping pong tournament. Proof of residency (I.D. badge, driver's license or utility bill) will be required at the pool.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring the family and enjoy the day!



Registration for fall cultural arts classes begins Aug. 1

interACT Theatre

Info at (917) 334-3015 or lisa@interactproductions.org

New Teen Ensemble launches in July

interACT announces a new opportunity for high school actors. ACTivate will be a four-week theatre workshop for teens ages 14 to 18. Help create and perform an original play using improvisation, acting, playwriting and monologues.

Classes run every Tuesday from July 1 through July 22, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Baird Theatre. Fee: \$75. Register in person at The Baird, or online at www.thebaird.org (search for ACTivate Theater Workshop).

Drama camp for children, July and August

Children in second through sixth grades will write and stage an original play to be performed before a live audience.

Register for one or two weeks of camp. The theme for week 1, starting July 28, will be "Fairy Tales"; week 2, starting Aug. 4, "Mysteries." Daily classes run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Fee: \$250 per week.

Register in person at The Baird, or online at www.thebaird.org (search for interACT Summer Theater Camp).

Register now for fall soccer

Registration begins July 1 for the fall season of South Mountain Soccer. South Orange Recreation sponsors the program for boys and girls in grades 3 through 8, at all skill levels. The 10-week season includes professional training one day a week and a game each weekend. No tryouts are required. Register at The Baird or online at www.thebaird.org.

South Orange Library Events

(973) 762-0230 • www.sopl.org

Library Discussions

Thursdays, 1 p.m.

• July 10 - "Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team," with New Jersey author Audrey Vernick. (See Happenings, page 2)

• Jul 24 - "Understanding the Punchline: Insights Into the Sociology of Humor," with Caldwell College sociology Professor Rosann Bar.

• Aug. 14 - "Women Scientists Everyone Should Know About," with author and Seton Hall English Professor Karen Gevirtz.

• Aug. 28 - "Carpe Diem - Seize the Day!" with Ann Freeman, educator and vice president of the Roseland Board of Health.

Recurring Events

• Book Review Group - July 28, "Kissing the Virgin's Mouth," by Donna M. Gershten. Aug. 25, "Dear Life," a short story collection by Alice Munro. Both sessions are at 7:30 p.m.

• Knitting Workshop led by Nan Samons. Mondays, July 21 and Aug. 18, at 12 noon.

The August workshop will be a farewell to summer at Bonte Wafflerie and Cafe, #12 South Orange Avenue. All are welcome.

• Wednesdays at the Movies: July 9, "Frozen"; July 23, "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang"; Aug. 6, "Peter Pan"; Aug. 20, "Summer Rental."

Children's Room

• Minecraft (age 5+) - alternating Mondays, starting July 7, at 3 p.m., except July 28.

• LEGOs (age 7+) - alternating Mondays, starting July 14, at 3 p.m.

• Monday Night Family Fun (all ages) - Six special

programs sponsored by The Friends of the South Orange Library, all at 7 p.m.

- July 7, Bobaloo storyteller.

- July 14, Drummers Circle.

- July 21, Magic with Gallileo.

- July 28, Minecraft Family

Night.

- Aug. 4,

Essex County Environmental Center (sign-up required).

- Aug. 11, "Aladdin's Lamp," with Fantasy Puppet Theater.

• Toddler Storytime with Ms. Keisha (age 2 ½ to 5) - Tuesdays, 11 a.m., through Aug. 13.

• Tech Tuesday (all ages) - starts July 8 and ends Aug. 12, at 3 p.m.

• Wednesday Babies Storytime (newborn to 2½) - 10 a.m., through Aug. 13.

• Family Movies (all ages) - Wednesdays, July 9, July 23 and Aug. 6, at 1:30 p.m.

• Storybook Crafts (all ages) - Wednesdays, July 16, July 30, and Aug. 13, at 1:30 p.m.

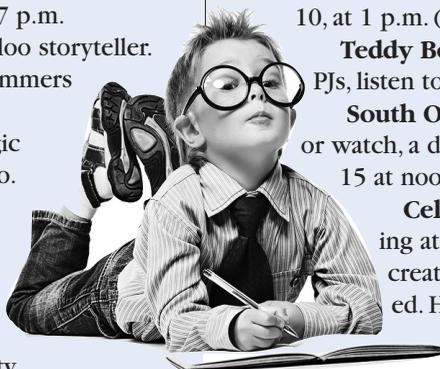
• Book Bunch (age 9 and up) - Wednesdays, July 9 and Aug. 13, at 4 p.m.

• Thursday Messy Art (ages and times vary) - includes paper mache, tie-dye, Mehndi and more.

• Friday Feature Movies (all ages) - enjoy a movie and popcorn, July 11 through Aug. 15, at 1:30 p.m.

• Lunch Bunch Storytime (with adult) - songs and stories, July 11, July 25 and Aug. 8, at 1:30 p.m.

• Anime Club (grade 6 and up) - Fridays in July and August, at 3:30 p.m.



Special Children's Events

"Brothers at Bat," a featured New Jersey author, July 10, at 1 p.m. (see Happenings, page 2).

Teddy Bear Sleepover, July 24, 7:30 p.m. Come in PJs, listen to stories and stay the night.

South Orange Players Drama Club - Be a part of, or watch, a dramatic performance. Workshop Aug. 14 and 15 at noon; performance Aug. 18 at 7 p.m.

Celebrate Reading Day, Aug. 18. Partner painting at 1 p.m. Bring a friend or family member to create art together. No painting experience needed. Hula Hoop contest and ping pong at 2 p.m. ▲

Torpey to advise Newark leadership on technology

Newark Mayor-elect Ras Baraka has tapped Village President Alex Torpey to serve on the mayor-elect's Information Technology Transition Subcommittee. Torpey will share his experience in technology deployment in South Orange as well as his private sector know-how as a partner of Veracity Media, the digital consulting firm he founded.

South Orange has gained recognition as an information

technology and digital leader, due to upgrades such as the high-speed fiber network between municipal buildings, public WiFi access, a smart-phone app for resident service requests, and upgraded internal workflow procedures.

This year, the Village even began providing IT department services to Maplewood, a revenue source soon to be offered to other towns as well.

In Newark, Torpey will make recommendations on media, technology and digital policies to improve the city's economic development potential. ▲

SEMI-INDEPENDENT LIVING AND THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY

The Charles Bierman Home is a unique semi-independent housing facility featuring:

- Studio apartments with assistance available.
- Warm, social setting with daily on-site recreational activities.
- Walking distance to houses of worship, shopping, library and other community services.
- 3 meals daily offered in kosher dining room.
- Housekeeping and laundry services.

The Charles Bierman Home

Call 973-303-7018 or visit www.DaughtersofIsrael.org
110 Vose Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079

To catch a goose!

Troncone now Animal Control Officer

It was a bad choice on the part of Mama and Papa Goose. They hatched 10 goslings in the courtyard of the South Orange Middle School back in May.

To keep the family safe, a teacher called South Orange Animal Control Officer Melanie Troncone to catch the birds and release them elsewhere. Papa promptly flew away, but Troncone caught mama with a net and scooped the babies into a cat carrier.

"Afterward, I brought the babies to the teacher's classroom and showed them to the kids. They loved it," she said.

The goose family episode was one of Troncone's first adventures as South Orange's new animal control officer. She began her duties on May 5, succeeding Dick Ash, who retired in February.

As a full-time employee of the Village Health Department, Troncone took special training to learn how to remove wild animals, pick up dead animals, and control the local Canada goose and feral cat populations.

Troncone is a 36-year Village resident and a five-year volunteer for the South Orange Rescue Squad, a devotion she plans to continue. She was previously employed as a medical assistant. ▲

Free Blood Pressure Screenings for Villagers are offered by the South Orange Health Department on the first and third Thursday of every month, in two locations:

- First Thursday: 9 a.m.-10 a.m. at the Charles Bierman Home, 110 Vose Avenue.
- Third Thursday: 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m., at The Baird, 5 Mead Street.

Health counsel is provided by a public health nurse. For information, call (973) 378-7715, x7710.

Recycling

SOUTH ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

300 Walton Avenue, South Orange

Open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturdays, 8 a.m. to noon

Closed to the public: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Saturday Container Day Drop-Offs

July 26, Aug. 23 and Sept. 27

8 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Clear out your extraneous stuff! Disposal containers are provided at the Public Works Yard at 300 Walton Avenue. Please arrive before 1:30 p.m.

Two proofs of residency are required. No commercial vehicles permitted. Call DPW about permissible drop-offs.

Electronic Drop-Offs

Four Saturdays remain in the 2014 schedule for free electronic disposal. Villagers can drop off at the Public Works Yard in South Orange or the Maplewood Recycling Center. Proof of residency is required. Call DPW to ask about permissible drop-offs. Commercial or industrial companies are excluded.

Hours: 8 a.m. - noon

- July 12, Maplewood
- Oct. 4, Maplewood
- Sept. 13, South Orange
- Dec. 13, South Orange

If you cannot drop off on the designated Saturday, alternatives are: South Orange, the prior Thursday; Maplewood, the prior Friday. (Drop-off locations remain the same.) For details, call Maplewood at (973) 762-1175, or South Orange at (973) 378-7741, x221.

Branch Pickup Appointments

Branches must be four inches or less in diameter and bundled with cord. No roots or stumps permitted. Call DPW at (973) 378-7741, x221 to schedule a pickup from now through Sept. 15.

Two Paper Shredding Days

DPW will hold two paper shredding days at the Public Works Yard: Saturday, July 19 and Saturday, Oct. 18, 8 a.m. to noon both days. The shredding vendor will provide a "certificate of destruction" to verify that all material was shredded beyond recognition.

Grass Removal

Grass clippings cannot be brought to the Public Works Yard. Contact your garbage collector for grass removal.

MAPLEWOOD SOUTH ORANGE MILLBURN SHORT HILLS

SOUTH ORANGE

TITLE DEED
MARKSLADEHOMES.COM

SALE OR RENT

Buying or Selling a Home ?
Renting a Home ?
Don't Take a *Chance* Card !

Go with a Winner and be a Winner
Don't pass Go, **GO** Directly to Mark
Discreet Short Sale Advice and Success
Listing Clients got 98% of List Price with Mark

Mark Slade
o 973.762.5400
c 917.797.5059
marksladehomes@aol.com
marksladehomes.com
southorangenjopenhouses.com

each office independently owned and operated

KELLER WILLIAMS

Presented by

Village of South Orange, The Baird and SOPAC

Free Concerts in the Park

Wednesdays, 7:30 pm
July 2 - July 30

Wed., July 2 *Reggae*
DUB PROOF

Wed., July 9 *80s Tribute*
MAX HEADROOM

Wed., July *Rock, Pop, Top 40*
THE WISENHEIMERS

Wed., July 23 *Jazz*
JOHN LEE & FRIENDS

Wed., July 30 *Rock*
ROCK THE HILL

Flood's Hill, Meadowland Park
(70 North Ridgewood Avenue)

Concert Rain Location: SOPAC

All artists and schedules
subject to change.

For more information:
www.thebaird.org
www.SOPACnow.org

Free Movies in the Park

Wednesdays, 7:45 pm
August 13 - August 27

Vote for your favorite film, thru
July 6, at SOPACnow.org

Food Vendors on Site: ST. JAMES GATE *lobster rolls, smoked ribs*

• PIZZA VITA *wood-fired pizzas* • MIELE'S CONCESSIONS *pretzels, hot dogs, fried Oreos, funnel cake*

Sponsors:



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
Finance, x6
Engineer, x7
Parking Auth., x8
Health Officer
 x7710
Animal Control
 x7711
Fire Dept.
 378-7751
Library
 762-0230
Police Dept.
 378-7775
Public Works
 378-7741
Recreation & Cultural Affairs
 378-7754
Rescue Squad
 762-3410
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

Villagers of the Month Maryam Latif



Maryam Latif's dad is a co-owner of Sheesa Pharmacy in East Orange. "I've always admired how he talks to his patients as

people, not just patients," says Maryam. "They appreciate him. "I want to be able to help people like that — on their level."

Apparently she's already on her chosen road. As one of 50 Columbia High students who made the final cut in the school's Peer Counseling program, Maryam was assigned to counsel elementary students on issues such as bullying, social anxiety, family problems, and high school apprehension.

"I helped the kids from my own perspective," she said. "A teenager can be an effective role model for younger kids."

Maryam bonded particularly with a primary school student who was lacking attention at home. "We talked about how to make friends and be yourself. It was really beautiful watching her open up.

"Initially, she wasn't open. But I let her know I would be there week after week, and I became a mentor and friend, like an older sibling."

At Columbia, Maryam also joined the Fencing Club and the anti-bullying club, called STATIC (Students Taking Action to Ignite Change).

But her heart is at her mosque in Newark, where she helps with the highly active soup kitchen and

Township of South Orange Village
 South Orange, NJ 07079

Presorted Standard
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Newark, NJ
 Permit No. 7081

Postal Customer
 Local 07079

Village Web Site: www.southorange.org

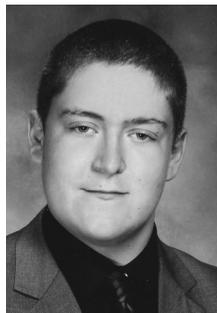
teaches younger kids how to read Arabic. "I'm fluent in reading but not in speech," she says.

Starting this fall, Maryam will pursue a six-year pharmacy degree at Long Island University, following in the footsteps of her father and oldest sister. She'll miss her parents, Zameena and Ashraf Latif, whom she admires greatly, but their lessons will go with her.

"I admire them because they are leaders in the Muslim community and in the household. They push me to aspire forward to greatness, to give back to the community and make it better. It's something I've always tried to do."

Maryam says, "High school is merely the beginning. I definitely plan to give back throughout my life." ▲

Teddy Monaghan



In our world, "You get an education anyway," says Teddy Monaghan, a 2014 Columbia High grad. "What sets people

apart is how they interact."

Bright spots in Teddy's high school experience were the times he spent helping other Villagers — through volunteerism and employment at the library, and as a tutor and counselor among younger students.

Come fall, he's off to Elon University in North Carolina where he plans

to major in finance, a largely self-generated interest.

"Sophomore year, I wasn't really spending my money on anything." So, he decided to invest in stocks.

"I enjoyed the process, kept doing it, and figured out how it all works." Then he took an economics course his senior year and the pastime became a career goal.

Still, "I want to continue helping people and giving back to my community. I haven't thought through how I will do that in the future, but I know I will."

At South Orange Library, Teddy learned to manage programs and people by promoting under-attended kids' clubs, like Legos and Minecraft. He coordinated computer time and demonstrated techniques to kids.

In his first three years at CHS, he volunteered for Elementers, a reading tutorial in local schools. Each semester he was assigned to one third- or fourth-grade student who was falling behind in reading.

"I really enjoyed it and most of the kids seemed to improve."

Teddy's selflessness caught faculty attention at CHS. He was invited to interview for, then was selected for, the Peer Counseling program. He helped an elementary student in need of greater socialization, and worked with a middle schooler, easing his fears about high school entry.

The unexpected gift in the process was a deep sharing with fellow peer counselors. "We became close because of our training."

Teddy is the younger of two sons to Sarah and Joseph Monaghan. "All my values are from them," he says, "and I don't know, I think they've raised me well."

We think so too, Teddy. Keep it up with that "interaction" thing! ▲



Natalie Knows...

Weichert Realtors

How to make homeowners very happy!

Natalie Farrell

Office: 973 762-3300
 Cell Ph: 917 514-7541
 sold@nataliefarrell.com
 www.nataliefarrell.com

MIDTOWN DIRECT
 A G E N T