

The South Orange Gaslight



Spring will be busting out all over!

New gardening group to spruce up downtown

A group of local gardening enthusiasts, the Village Planting Initiative, has big plans to enhance our downtown shopping district.

The group formed last fall to assist the Department of Public Works by planting and maintaining downtown flower beds and planters on Sloan Street, South Orange Avenue and Irvington Avenue.

"Those are the busiest districts in town," said VPI spokesperson Elissa Malespina. "For now, we're focusing on the places that people see the most so we can make our town a little prettier."

VPI currently has 15 members. More are needed for gardening and fundraising.

Malespina said the group aims to purchase 30 "hayrack" style planters to be hung from lampposts on the three main streets. The large planters will be filled with colorful, lush growth in spring, summer and fall, and with seasonal greens during the winter.

The fundraising goal is \$3,300 or \$110 per planter.

Individuals or businesses who donate will be recognized with a plaque on their particular lamppost.

As VPI grows, the work will spread to Village parks, but right now there is not enough manpower, said Malespina.

Main Street South Orange is promoting the program among local businesses and also assisting with fundraising.

If you'd like to get involved with gardening or fundraising, send e-mail to Elissa Malespina at elliotel@yahoo.com.

To donate, make your check payable to Main Street South Orange, P.O. Box 607, South Orange 07079. Write Village Planting Initiative or VPI in the memo line. ▲

Revaluation Completed

The South Orange Revaluation has been completed. Postcards containing property valuations have been mailed to all property owners. If you are dissatisfied with your valuation, you can file an appeal with the Essex County Board of Taxation before May 1. Your appeal will be heard by a commissioner of the Board of Taxation. For more information, go to <http://southorange.org/reval.asp> or call the South Orange Tax Assessor at (973) 378-7715 x7729.

www.somacommunitylink.org

communitylink
IS HERE!

Need a new place to promote your community, sports or arts event?

Check out CommunityLink. Launched in January, the beautifully designed Web site is an interactive portal to community events in South Orange and Maplewood. It provides an events calendar, relevant community news and resident alerts.

Users can click on any given calendar listing and a pop-up window appears with details or links to sponsors' Web sites.

The site was created by the Government and Community Relations Office of Seton Hall University as a way to empower groups to work together and communicate with residents.

Community "partners" are still being sought and more listings are expected as awareness grows.

CommunityLink also hosts an open forum called "Neighbors" for face-to-face meetings between group representatives. At meetings, they build promotional strategies and partner for mutual advancement. Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at different local restaurants.

For more information, go to the site or call Adam Loehner at SHU Government and Community Relations, (973) 378-9846. ▲

Need answers to questions about South Orange services? Check out "How Do I . . .?" on the Village Web site: <http://southorange.org>.

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

March 2008

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■ March Villager of the Month: Wilma Grey

Senior citizens invited to enter writing contest

If you are age 60 or older, chances are you have an excellent life story to share and the Essex County Division of Senior Services would like to hear it.

Amusing or inspirational anecdotes and life-changing experiences are the subjects of the "2008 Legacies Writing Contest." Professional writing experience is not required for entry. Maximum length is 1,500 words and previously published stories may not be used. The deadline is Friday, Mar. 14.

All contestants will be invited to the Legacies luncheon celebration in May, where awards will be presented for winning stories and honorable mentions. The stories will be published in the Essex Advisor.

For complete contest rules or more information, call the Division on Aging at (973) 395-8385. ▲

Nine more teacher grants funded by SOMEF

Nine more teacher grants totaling nearly \$7,000 have been funded in the local school district thanks to the Late Funding Appeal of the South Orange-Maplewood Education Foundation. Including previous grants for 2008, that's \$41,726 in total funding. The grants help teachers throughout the district fulfill their teaching wishes. ▲

Gaslight notes

Submissions - If you'd like to suggest an article for the Gaslight, please contact Editor Robin Patric at (908) 823-9001 or send e-mail to rpatric@patmedia.net. Remember: The Gaslight is funded by the Village and priority is given to municipal information. The Village reserves the right to screen all content.

Postal Delivery - The Gaslight is delivered to all households in the Village. If you know that other residents have received a particular issue at least two days prior but you have not received your copy, call the post office at (973) 762-2872. ▲

Full-day kindergarten proposed in local schools

All-day kindergarten may soon be a reality in South Orange and Maplewood, bringing the local school district in line with other districts across Essex County.

On Mar. 19, the Board of School Estimate will vote on the district's general budget. The same day, they will consider



whether to fund phase one of the all-day kindergarten proposal, estimated at approximately \$1 million.

If funded, the program will begin in September 2008 as a way to eliminate variations in achievement among local student groups.

"We know there is an achievement gap," said Judy Levy, the district's communications coordinator. "We want all children to get the best possible start."

The full-day option will supplement half-day kindergarten already available in all elementary schools.

Full-day enrollment preference will go to any child who qualifies for the district's free or reduced lunch program. If demand exceeds space in any given school, the school will hold a lottery.

Sign-ups at Clinton, Seth Boyden and Marshall schools took place in February. South Mountain's registration is Mar. 3 to 6 and Tuscan's, Mar. 10 to 13.

For those who missed a specific school registration, open enrollment for full-day kindergarten will take place Mar. 17 to 20.

Phase one of the proposed program would establish 11 full-day classes, at least one in every elementary school. Existing classroom space would be used to accommodate 256 full-day students – not enough for every kindergarten-age child in the district.

Phase two would add seven more classrooms to accommodate the district's full kindergarten population. More classrooms would be built or space would be rented else-

where in the community.

Anticipating the proposal's passage, parents have begun registering for next year's kindergarten. They

are providing first-, second- and third-choice options. Those who request but don't get the full-day option will be enrolled in half-day kindergarten, either morning or afternoon.

Classroom assignments will be announced on April 15.

Registration information and forms are available at the Board of Education office, all district elementary schools and many local preschools. The forms are also available for download from the district website, www.southorangemaplewood.org. ▲



Welcome to **Spa Lady**, the national fitness chain that opened in February at 51 Academy Street.

Open seven days a week, the club is specifically tailored to women and offers a seven-day schedule of aerobic and toning classes, pre- and post-natal programs, cardio and strength training. Personal trainers can design custom fitness programs. Owner Susan Gonzales is a South Orange resident. For information, call (973) 378-2501 or visit www.spaladyhealth.com. ▲



School Board election coming up

Candidates for three seats on the South Orange-Maplewood School Board will be up for election on April 15. The deadline for candidate filing was Feb. 25. Terms on the board are three years.

■ **Professionals in Media**

will host a talk on self-publishing with self-published author Ed Charleton on Mar. 19, at 7 p.m. in the Ethical Cultural Center in Maplewood. Admission is \$5, to be donated to the Ethical Center. To confirm attendance, contact Michele Hollow via e-mail at mchollow@pipeline.com.

■ **“The Housekeeper,”** a comedy by James Prideaux, will be performed by What Exit? Theatre Company at Burgdorff Cultural Center in Maplewood. An eccentric bachelor hires a housekeeper who can’t cook, won’t clean, and he can’t get rid of her! The relationship moves from gleeful anticipation to murderous intent. Preview, March 20. Show runs Mar. 21 to April 13, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets, \$15 to \$25. Call (973) 763-4029, or visit www.whatexittheatre.com.

■ The newly formed Maplewood/South Orange **Prosperity Chapter of Business Networking International** invites local business owners to its \$15 networking breakfast every Friday at 6:45 a.m., at Papillion 25 Restaurant in South Orange. Self-employed and commissioned sales people establish steady referrals. Call (973) 519-0042.

■ **The Board of Education Candidates’ Night** will be held Thursday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Marshall Elementary School. Learn the relationship between school policies and integration in our community. The event is sponsored by the Schools Committee of the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race. School board elections are Tuesday, April 15.

■ **A wine and cheese party** to benefit the South Orange Symphony will be held in a private Maplewood home on Sunday, April 13. Enjoy live performances, a silent auction, wine and hors d’oeuvres. A \$30 per person minimum donation is required. Limit: 50 people. To reserve, call (973) 376-6349.

■ **Main Street So. Orange**

www.MainStreetSouthOrange.org
(973) 763-6899

- The annual Rahway River Clean-up takes place Saturday, April 26 starting at 10 a.m. Mark your calendar!
- Start preparing your stage act for “15 Minutes of Fame,” the community talent show to be held during the Celebrate South Orange event, Saturday, June 14. “Take this town and love it.”

■ **South Orange Maplewood Adult School**

schoolinfo@somadultschool.org
(973) 378-7620

- *Summer Day Camp.* More than 100 classes in creative arts, academic enrichment and sports will be offered to children entering grades 1 to 9. June 30 to July 25 at South Orange Middle School.
- *Celebrity Reading.* Emmy Award-winning actor and Village resident Andre Braugher, radio personality Isaiah Sheffer and Tony Award-winner Norbert Leo Butz will perform in a fundraiser for the Adult School, on Monday, Mar. 31, 7 p.m., at SOPAC. A champagne and dessert 75th anniversary gala will follow in the SOPAC loft. Tickets: \$35 for the performance; \$75 for the performance and gala. Contact: (973) 313-2787 or www.sopacnow.org.
- *Eva Samo Lecture Series.* Major issues of the past 75 years will be discussed on four Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at Columbia High. The lectures will be: Mar. 17, NYU’s Richard Randall; Mar. 24, New York



SOPAC is featuring a four-show season of jazz:

- *SFJAZZ Collective (shown above), Mar. 11*
- *Mose Allison, Mar. 15*
- *Paula West, April 12*
- *Brad Mehldau, May 1*

Multiple show packages bring savings of 15% to 35%.

Times columnist Roger Cohen; April 7, Essex County College Professor Eugene Lieber; and April 14, Ralph Bultjens from NYU. Cost: single lectures, \$15; four-part series, \$50.

• *Civil War Expert Don Cleary* explores the “Rival Republic: The Confederate States of America,” on Tuesdays, Mar. 25 and April 15.

■ **Seton Hall Events**

Free at Walsb Library, (973) 761-5105

- “Dialogue with an Ancient Forest,” an exhibit by sculptor Herb Rosenberg. Through April 11.
- “Heading South,” a film about wealthy middle-aged women seeking romance and escape in Haiti. Mar. 12, 6:30 p.m.
- Poet and critic James McCorkle speaks Mar. 18 at 7 p.m.

■ **On Stage at SOPAC**

SOPACnow.org • (973) 275-1114

- Mar. 1, 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.; Mar. 2 and 9 at 2 p.m. – “The Merchant of Venice,” presented by Seton Hall Theater, \$15/\$12.
- Mar. 11, 8 p.m. – SFJAZZ Collective, \$38/\$48.
- Mar. 14, 8 p.m. – Sweet Honey in the Rock, 2007 Grammy nominee, \$38-\$68.
- Mar. 15, 8 p.m. – Mose Allison Trio, jazz/piano, Delta-born blues, \$28/\$35.
- Mar. 29, 8 p.m. – Lydia Johnson Dance, \$35.
- Mar. 30, 2 p.m. – Michael Cooper, poet of the stage. Family theater, \$18.
- April 1, 7:30 p.m. – Jack Kent and project Jazz, presented by Seton Hall. The golden age of jazz, 1945 to 1960, \$15/\$25
- April 2, 8 p.m. – Grammy Award-winner Angelique Kidjo, electrifying world music, \$38/\$48.
- April 4 and 5, 8 p.m.; April 6, 3 p.m. – “Bleacher Bums,” a hilarious look at what it means to be a fan. \$15-\$20.
- April 5, 8 p.m. – Kelly Willis, country vocalist, \$28.

Graphic novelist Ben Katchor comes to S.O.

A reigning star of the graphic novel genre, Ben Katchor, will be at the library on Saturday, Mar. 29 presenting a reading of his work with projections. The program starts at 2 p.m.



Katchor's picture stories and drawings appear in *Forward*, *Metropolis Magazine*, and *The New Yorker*. His weekly strip "Julius Knipl, Real Estate Photographer," has appeared in papers across the country.

He was a 1995 Guggenheim Fellowship recipient and he received the

2000 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. His collaboration with musician Mark Mulcahy, on "The Slug Bearers of Kayrol Island," is currently running off-Broadway to rave reviews.

In his local appearance, Katchor will read from "The Deep Tub and Other Stories of Architecture and Design." An off-beat documentary about the author and his architectural subjects also will be shown.

The lecture is part of the library's current series: "Let's Talk About It – Jewish Literature in America: Modern Marvels, Adventures in the Jewish Graphic Novel." More than 250 libraries nationwide received grants to host the series. ▲

Got book fair donations?

In preparation for its second annual book fair, "Book Bonanza Extravaganza," The Friends of the South Orange Public Library are seeking donations of books, DVDs, videos, CDs and children's games.

The fair will take place Saturday, May 3. Donations will be collected Thursdays to Saturdays, April 17 to 19 and April 24 to 26, from noon to 4 p.m.

Locations for the fair and donations will be announced in the next Gaslight.

Help is needed with donation collections and the book sale. To volunteer, call (973) 495-1295 or email friends@sopl.org.

Lecture Series

Thursdays, 1 p.m.

- Mar. 6 – "Coyote Hunting in Vermont," with Marc Biglioli from Drew University.
- Mar. 13 – "Sacred Stories of the Ancient Near East," with Donald Wimmer from Seton Hall.
- Mar. 20 – "Public vs. Network TV Coverage," with freelance journalist Molly Raskin.
- Mar. 27 – "Arctic Adventure," with Joslyn Cassidy from Drew University.

Regular Programs

- S. O. Book Review Group – Mar. 24, 7:30 p.m., "The History of Love," by Nicole Krauss. April 28, 7:30 p.m., "Three Cups of Tea," by Greg Mortenson.
- Open Stage Night (9th grade and up) – Mar. 20, 7 p.m. Perform poetry, spoken word, sing a song, play an instrument!
- Children's Storytimes – Age 4 and older, Mondays 11 a.m.; Toddlers, Tuesdays 11 a.m.; Babies, Wednesdays 10 a.m.; Stories for Families (all ages), Wednesdays 2 p.m.; Seton Stories (all ages), Fridays 10 a.m.

DREAMCATCHER REPERTORY THEATER

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

"Melancholy Play"

This contemporary farce by Sarah Ruhl, is on stage now through Mar. 16 at Dreamcatcher. When perpetually melancholy and irresistible "Tilly" suddenly becomes happy, friends swept up in their own melancholy discover the necessity of love, longing, and even sadness in a well-lived life. An off-beat, charming comedy by the award-winning author of "The Clean House." Friday and Saturday performances at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$25 general admission, \$20 for seniors, \$15 for students.

PENNY PRETZEL PLAYHOUSE

"It's Storytime Baby!"

Saturday, Mar. 15 at 2 p.m.

Performed by Freggie Productions. Classic fairytales with funny twists to delight young children. Tickets \$9.

"Trickster Tales"

Saturday, April 24 at 2 p.m.

Performed by Barefoot Puppets. Witness a spider beating an elephant in tug-of-war, one of several folktales of the Beluba and Ashanti peoples. Tickets \$9.

JAZZ AT THE BAIRD

(973) 378-7754, x1 • www.thebaird.org

Susan Pereira and Sabor Brasil Quintet

Saturday, Mar. 29, 8 p.m.

Sabor Brasil is one of the most popular Brazilian ensembles in the New York area, fusing hot samba to cool bossa nova, elegant chorinho to exotic Bahia rhythms and modern Brazilian jazz. The group's debut recording includes five of Pereira's songs and one each by Antonio Carlos Jobim and Milton Nascimento.

Enjoy candlelit tables, coffee and cake, and chats with the stars in an intimate setting. Tickets are \$15 in advance (at The Baird or Rocketship and Print) or \$17 at the door. Or buy online (site listed above). For Friends of the Arts levels 2 and 3, \$12.

PIERRO GALLERY

(973) 378-7754 • www.pierrogallery.org

Is it possible to make a photograph of New Jersey regardless of where you are in the world?

April 6 - May 2 • Opening Reception: April 6, 2-4 p.m.

The Internet and digital technology are making "place" obsolete in contemporary global culture. How does an artist in Thailand picture New Jersey? What would he or she say about it in a photograph?

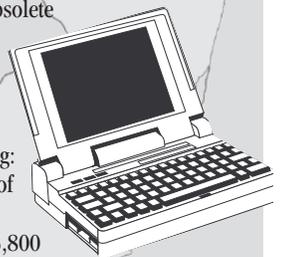
Pierro Gallery makes a global call for exhibition entries through the Web site www.aphotographofnewjersey.com, asking: "Is it possible to make a photograph of New Jersey regardless of where you are in the world?"

In its first week online, the open call Web site generated 3,800 pageviews from 58 countries and more than 100 photo submissions.

Curator Laurel Ptak of I Heart Photograph is gathering printed and digital images selected completely through technological means.

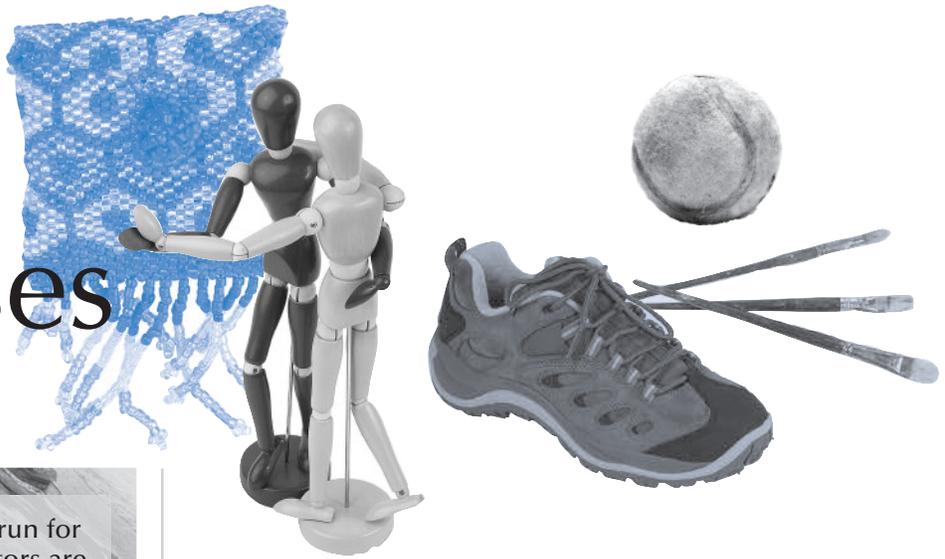
Arts Open House - Sunday, March 30, 1-4 p.m.

Take a self-guided tour of The Baird to discover the variety under its roof. All doors will be open -- the black box theater, the fine arts gallery, and dance/music studio space. Highlights include a staged reading by Dreamcatcher and a special Pierro exhibit, "The Baird Goes Wild for Art," featuring works by children and adults from The Baird's art classes. Examine our students' dance images and music samples, plus footage from past stage performances. Visitors can even register for upcoming events or classes.



Sports & Cultural Arts Classes

Spring 2008



Most classes start the week of Mar. 31 and run for ten weeks unless otherwise stated. Instructors are professionals in their fields.

Registration starts Mar. 1:

- Online at www.thebaird.org (small fee)
- In person at The Baird

Pre-School to 4th Grade

Art Exploration

Children ages 3 to kindergarten work on age-appropriate projects while experimenting with paint, collage, clay and sculpture. Mondays 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., or 1 to 2 p.m. Fee \$95. Instructor Miriam Sumner.

Art Expressions

Students in 1st to 5th grades explore the creative process while developing skills in drawing, painting, collage, sculpture and printmaking. Tuesdays, 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Instructor Lynne Buschman. Fee \$95.

Concocting in Clay

Platypus Pottery comes to The Baird! Students in 1st to 5th grades make animals, aliens, masks and more, while learning hand-building and glazing techniques. Mondays, 5 to 6 p.m. Fee \$95. Materials fee \$30, due at first class.

Discovering Ceramics

Students in kindergarten to 4th grade learn to build with clay and work with molds, also learning glazing techniques.

Saturdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m., with instructor Joan Tomasco. Fee \$140. Materials fee \$15, due at first class.

Musical Theater Workshop

See description under 5th to 8th graders.

Guitar Instruction

For grades 2 and 3, 11 a.m. to noon. Fee: \$77. See description under 5th to 8th graders.

Mosaics for Children

Each student designs and creates an 8"x10" wooden tray with an arrangement of mosaics and hand-painted tiles. They learn layout, placement and grouting techniques. Wednesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. with instructor Joan Tomasco. Fee \$95.

Rhythm Sticks

Infants to 4-years-olds with caregivers will be enriched by tonal and rhythmic development while singing, dancing, listening, watching and exploring. Two Wednesday classes, 9:15 or 10:15 a.m. Instructor Pauline Barrett. Fee \$95.

Sports

Tae Kwon Do for Children and Adults

Learn practical self defense while gaining discipline, body conditioning, self-confidence and stress reduction. Instructor Steve Safran.

- Beginning children, age 5-9: Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Fee \$95.
- Ages 10 and older: Thursdays, 6-7 p.m. Fee \$95.
- Adults: Tuesdays, 8-9:15 p.m. Fee \$142.

Tae Kwon Do for Special Needs Children

Parents of children with autism learn to work more effectively with their children, and all benefit from exercising. Ages 6 to 10: Saturdays, 1 to 2 pm. Ages 11 to 22: Saturdays, 2 to 3 pm. Instructor: Jeff Jacobs. Fee: \$125.

Tennis Lessons

The Baird offers lessons for children and adults beginning the week of April 7. See Web site for dates, times and fees.

Jaguar Track, Ages 6-18

Spring registration will be taken in person at The Baird on Wednesday, Mar. 12, from 7:30 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, Mar. 15, from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Maurice Cooper at (973) 763-0617 or Andrea Johnson at (973) 762-0910.

Renew your Recreation ID badge now!

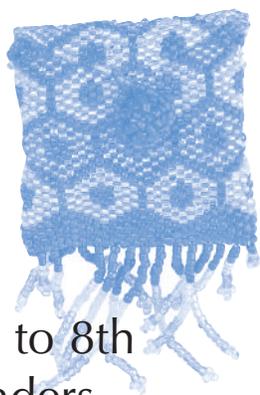
Badges are issued at The Baird from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday to Sunday. Two proofs of residency are required. New or updated badges are \$20 per year.

Register for Summer Playground Program June 30 - Aug. 15

Applications for the South Orange Summer Playground Program will be accepted beginning Mar. 1 at The Baird. To apply, you must be South Orange residents with a current photo ID badge.

The seven-week, half-day program is for South Orange children age 4 through 8th grade. Children meet daily in designated parks and playgrounds. Planned activities are supplemented with free time under counselor supervision.

Applications will be taken in person at The Baird from Mar. 1 to 15. Enrollment is limited and a random lottery may be used at some sites. Applications submitted after Mar. 15 will be accepted on a space-available basis.



5th to 8th Graders

Basic Jewelry Making for Teens

Learn basic design using beads and wire to create earrings, necklaces, pendants and more. No soldering; simple tools are employed and all materials are supplied. Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Fee: \$140, plus a \$30 supply fee, due the first day of class.

Drawing Plus I

Students in 6th to 8th grades learn drawing basics while developing individual strengths and skills. Instructor Lynne Buschman focuses on line, form and composition using graphite, color pencils and paint. Tuesdays, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Fee \$140.

Guitar Instruction

Beginning acoustic and electric guitar instruction covers notes, chords, picking and strumming. Instructor Tom Morris considers students' musical tastes. Eight Saturday sessions. Grades 4 and 5, from 10 to 11 a.m. Grades 6 and 8, from 9 to 10 a.m. Fee \$77.

Musical Theater Workshop

Our musical theater in residence, Flying Ship Productions, is an active professional touring theater. Children ages 8 to 13 work on acting, singing, jazz and improvisational skills. Mondays, 4 to 6 p.m., at The Baird. For details and registration, visit info@FlyingShipProductions.com.

High School & Adults

Basic Jewelry Making

Learn basic design using beads and wire to create earrings, necklaces, pendants and more. No soldering; simple tools are employed and all materials are supplied. Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., with instructor/crafter Lara Danmola. Fee: \$155, plus a \$30 supply fee due the first day of class.

Drawing Plus 2/3

High school students with drawing experience learn to "see" while developing expression skills. Graphite, pastels, colored pencil and paint are used to explore line, composition and form. Instructor Lynne Buschman. For 9th to 12th graders, Thursdays, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Fee \$140.

Glass Bead-Making with Torch

Beginning and intermediate participants learn various techniques in creating beads and small objects, using a torch to melt and shape glass rods.

Students select from numerous glass colors and special effects, such as pixie dust. Mondays, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fee: \$255, includes all supplies, materials and glass.

Life Drawing Open Studio

For people who want to draw from a model, independent of an instructor, at their own pace. Two fee options: \$5 season registration plus a \$10 model fee at each class attended; or no registration fee and a drop-in fee of \$12 per class attended. Bring your own supplies. Tuesdays, 7 to 9:30 p.m. Students under 18 years need a parent's written permission.

Art with a Master

Master artist Philip Sherrod leads students of all levels, in all mediums, providing individual attention and critiques, the key to his popularity. Professional and non-professional artists work side-by-side at their own pace. A model is always available in each of two sessions:

9:30 a.m. to noon, and/or 12:30 to 3 p.m. Registration is \$175. Model fee \$88. (Materials not included.)

Introduction to Relief Printmaking

Using our printing presses, participants explore making images in limited editions through linoleum cuts, wood block, collograph and mono-prints. Students of all levels of experience are welcome; space is limited. Tuesdays from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Instructor: Benita Wolffe. Fee: \$250, including 12 hours of open studio time outside the class. Materials fee of \$15 due the first day of class.

Guitar Instruction

A beginner or refresher course for adults. Participants' musical tastes are considered to enhance enjoyment while learning basic skills. Instructor Tom Morris. Eight Wednesday sessions, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fee \$93.

Dance Classes

Children's Ballet with Elaine Fraim D'Addezi

Age appropriate classes introduce children to fundamentals including positions, steps, vocabulary, floor work and creative movement. A combination of techniques, barre exercises and floor work will be reviewed.

Pre-Ballet I - Beginning ballet techniques for 2- to 3-year-olds with a guardian present. Saturdays, 10-11 a.m. Fee \$95.

Pre-Ballet II - Beginning ballet techniques for 3- to 4-year-olds, Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon. Fee \$95.

Classical Ballet I - Kindergarten and 1st grade. Tuesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Fee \$95.

Classical Ballet II - For children with some experience, this class includes a combination of technique, barre exercises, floor work and more. Grades 1 and 2, Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fee \$95.



DANCE FOR ADULTS

Flamenco Dancing

Men and women explore the energy and soul of gypsy dance — the rhythm, movement and improvisation — all to live guitar. No experience required. Program includes an end-of-class fiesta. Classes meet on Thursdays. Beginners, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Intermediate, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Instructor Toni Messina. Fee \$115.

Middle Eastern Dance

Participants learn isolations, movement and steps to a musical background of Middle Eastern melodies. Instructor Morgiana Celeste emphasizes stance, hips, arms and torso. Classes are on Tuesdays. Beginners, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., fee \$115. Intermediate, 7:30 to 9 p.m., fee \$170.

Spring/Summer 2008 Residential DPW Services

General Guidelines DPW Yard

- Two proofs of residency required
- No commercial vehicles
- Hours: 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
- Arrival: no later than 1:30 p.m.

2008 Saturday Container Days

April 26, May 31, June 28,
July 26, Aug. 23 and Sept. 27

• *Permitted* - Furniture or mattresses, appliances, branches under four inches in diameter, metal items, toys, small household items, tools, strollers, and playpens.

Note: metals and appliances must be separated from other household items.

• *Not Permitted* - Paint cans (empty or not), propane bottles, any hazardous chemicals or their containers, construction materials, grass clippings, household garbage, car/truck parts, batteries of any size, stumps, root sections, branches measuring more than four inches in diameter, and railroad ties. DPW staff will prohibit other items as necessary.

2008 Spring Cleanup: Branches & Leaves

Curbside Placement Dates: April 1 - May 12 (no overlap)

Branches - Must be less than four inches in diameter. For those measuring two inches or less, tie in bundles with cord or twine. Place on grass next to curb, not on street or sidewalk. Not Permitted: roots, stumps or branches larger than four inches in diameter.

Leaves, Yard Clippings, Garden Rakings - Place in brown biodegradable paper bags only, on grass next to curb, not on sidewalk or street.

Do not rake leaves into streets for spring cleanup. Loose leaves and material in plastic bags will not be picked up.

Ignoring the rules is a violation of the Municipal Housing Code.

Grass Clippings - South Orange Disposal picks up grass clippings in plastic bags only, from April 1 to Nov. 1. Limit: two bags per week, 30 pounds per

bag. Place curbside on the second garbage collection day of the week.

Humus, Shredded Wood - Limited quantities available to residents at DPW.

• *Humus* - decomposed leaves, finely textured and dark colored. Used as a soil supplement in gardens or for soil enrichment.

• *Shredded Wood* - hardwood mulch used as top dressing for gardens, flowerbeds, and around trees. May contain bits of rock; not treated.

Ordering/Delivery

Starting Mar. 25, DPW will make appointments for free delivery of humus and shredded wood. Delivery starts April 22.

One product per household per month. Products are delivered loose to the driveway. Call (973) 378-7741.

Commingled Container Usage

Permitted - aluminum food and beverage containers, glass food and beverage containers (clear, brown and green), ferrous cans (soup, coffee), #1 plastic containers (no microwave trays), narrow-necked #2 plastic containers (milk, water), colored #2 plastic containers with narrow necks (detergent, shampoo, bleach).

Not Permitted: Mirrors, window or auto glass, light bulbs, ceramics, #3, #4, #5, #6 or #7 plastic containers or plastic containers with no number, oil or antifreeze containers, plastic or brown bags, coat hangers, paint cans, five-gallon pails, tar pails, laundry baskets, vacuum hoses, plumbing accessories, toys, paper products, building products, dishes, cooking trays, pots and pans, toasters, general household items.

2008 electronic recycling dates

Seven Saturdays remain in the 2008 schedule for free electronic drop off in South Orange and Maplewood. Residents of both towns can drop off at either the Public Works Yard in South Orange or at the Maplewood Recycling Center. Proof of residency is required.

Saturday Drop-Offs:

- Mar. 8, South Orange
- April 26, Maplewood
- June 7, South Orange
- Aug. 2, Maplewood
- Sept. 13, South Orange
- Nov. 1, Maplewood
- Dec. 20, South Orange

Friday Emergencies:

If extenuating circumstances prevent your drop-off on a given Saturday, you may drop-off the Friday before: in South Orange, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Maplewood, 2 to 4 p.m.

Permitted:

Computer monitors, CPUs, keyboards, printers, mainframes, fax machines, scanners, telecommunications equipment, speakers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, DVD players, toasters, irons and old cell phones.

Depot Locations:

- South Orange Recycling Depot, 300 Walton Avenue.
- Maplewood Public Works Department, 359 Boyden Avenue.

Prohibitions:

Commercial and large-quantity electronics users are not permitted.

Electronics cannot be picked up by appointment.

March Villager of the Month

Wilma Grey

You might think that someone who has always worked in libraries wouldn't want to devote her volunteerism to even more library work.

But not if you're Wilma Grey. "It's always been a pleasure," she said. "Not all libraries operate the same."

Wilma recently capped her 30-year career with the Newark Public Library by becoming its tenth director. During most of her tenure, 20 years in fact, she collaborated simultaneously as a board member of the South Orange Public Library.

Between the two, "differences in size and focus always made it kind of exciting," she said. "It was never the same experience at all."

Wilma stepped down from the Village board when her Newark directorship was confirmed last year. "I do miss it," she said. "It gets in your blood."

She had been Newark's assistant director of community library services for nearly 15 years when she was appointed acting director in 2005. She now administers the main library and 10 branches. According to the board president, she was the unanimous choice for director.

Wilma has lived in South Orange since 1986, but "I spend so much time in Newark," that volunteerism at the Village library "was always my way to connect to South Orange. I've found it to be a great community. It's really progressive. The people are interested in issues not only in South Orange but in the surrounding areas and the world at large. They're people with big hearts and I think big ideas as well."

"In her years on the Library Board, Wilma shared her wealth of experience and her professionalism," said South Orange Library Director Melissa Kopecky. "She has been a constant source of support to me personally in addition to her contributions towards making this such a special library."

A native of Newark, Wilma attended Arts High and Howard



University. Her master's degree is from Rutgers.

"I've been able to relate some of my experiences to South Orange and I also picked up good ideas from them," she said. Her devotion to the South Orange Library lasted because, "Everyone there is really interested in providing the best library services possible, given the budget and restrictions of the building. They're really interested in the community. That made it easy to continue to serve and volunteer."

For those reasons, she said, "I'm looking forward to a time when I can spend more time in South Orange." ▲

Main Street offers tribute cards

People who have everything often don't want more. Instead, they prefer that family and friends give monetary gifts in their name to a cause or organization they believe in. Main Street South Orange recently asked to meet that need by offering "tribute cards." When making a donation, gift givers ask Main Street to send a tribute card in the name of the recipient who is celebrating an occasion – a birthday, new job, new home, or new business. A tribute card could also accompany a memorial donation for someone who highly regarded the ongoing work of Main Street or had a love for our town. For more information, call (973) 763-6899 or e-mail Director@MainStreetSouthOrange.org. ▲

Senior gaming extended

Senior Gaming Days at The Baird have been extended to April. Poker Tuesdays and Gaming Thursdays will continue beyond winter but the time has changed to 1 to 3 p.m. Enjoy chess, checkers, backgammon and more. Learn, play or teach. No pre-registration is required. All games, cards and chips are supplied; coffee and cake are served.

Anyone with gently used games may contribute to the existing stock. To donate, call (973) 378-7754, x3. ▲

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

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