

The Gaslight

ISSUE 17
2025

SOUTH ORANGE
VILLAGE
ACCESS IT ALL



SUMMER
EDITION



LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Neighbors,

There's nothing quite like summer in South Orange. For those enjoying a staycation, our community continues to shine with outdoor activities and events for all ages. We kicked off the season with a vibrant Juneteenth celebration on Floods Hill, and our summer concerts, movies, and weekend performances downtown are in full swing. The Farmers Market has returned, summer camps are underway, and our \$1.2M investment to upgrade the 50-year-old gutter system at the pool will ensure its continued success in seasons to come. We also received an \$83,000 grant to install additional sun shading at the pool—another win for comfort and accessibility.

This season also marked a major milestone with the official groundbreaking of the South Orange Public Library's Building Connections project. This transformational investment will ensure our library continues to serve as a cornerstone for civic life, learning, and community connection.

Many of you have reached out with questions about the future of the South Orange Performing Arts Center (SOPAC) and the cinema space following the closure of the previous operator. I want to reassure you that the SOPAC Board has been working diligently to secure a new operator, and those discussions are well underway. However, as you can imagine, financial investments are critical to making the movie theater space viable for long-term partners. If SOPAC has ever enriched your life, I encourage you to consider becoming a member or making a contribution by visiting sopacnow.org. Every dollar helps us bring new life to this beloved venue, both for the performing arts and cinematic experiences.

This summer also brought an exciting primary election season. As someone who's believed deeply in the power of civic engagement since childhood, I'm incredibly proud that South Orange had the highest voter turnout in Essex County! Let's keep that momentum going and continue leading by example—participating in our democracy is one of the most important commitments we can make to one another.

Before I close, I must address an issue that weighs heavily on me: speeding on our streets. Despite outreach, education, and enforcement efforts, I continue to receive messages—and witness firsthand—dangerous driving behavior that puts lives at risk. With very few exceptions, the speed limit in South Orange is 25 MPH. Anything beyond that is not just a violation—it's a choice to endanger your neighbors. I've seen too many close calls that could have ended in tragedy. Please, slow down. And to our pedestrians: please use designated crosswalks and remain alert. We all share responsibility for keeping our streets safe.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful, restful, and safe summer.

Sheena C. Collum
Mayor



IN TOUCH WITH VILLAGE GOVERNMENT

MAYOR

Sheena Collum
973.378.7715 x 2

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Bobby Brown
Jen Greenberg
Karen Hartshorn Hilton
Bill Haskins
Summer Jones
Olivia Lewis-Chang
973.378.7715 x 2

ADMINISTRATION

Village Administrator
Julie Doran
973.378.7715 x 2

GENERAL INQUIRIES

973.378.7715

Clerk's Office, x 1

Building & Code, x 3

Tax Collector, x 4

Assessor, x 5

Finance, x 6

Engineering & Zoning, x 7

Parking Authority, x 2037

Health, x 7710

Water Service x 7760

Public Works

973.378.7741

Recreation & Cultural Affairs

973.378.7754

Fire Department

973.762.3200

Library

973.762.0230

Police, nonemergency

973.763.3000

Rescue Squad

973.762.5647

Animal Control

908.722.1271

VILLAGE HAPPENINGS



PUBLIC WORKS

- **Electronic waste drop-off:**
August 30
- **Container days*:**
July 19, August 23, and September 20
- **Branch pickup:**
July 22, August 26, and September 23

*On Container days, South Orange residents may drop off bulk household items at the Department of Public Works Facility and Recycling Center at 300 Walton Avenue from 8am to 1:30pm (gates close at 1:30pm). Exclusions: tires, electronics, hazardous waste, and construction material may not be dropped off on container days. Commercial vehicles are not permitted to enter the facility (no commercial plates, U-Hauls, Home Depot vehicles, etc.). Proof of residency may be requested.

See the Public Works section of the Village website for more information on these events and services:
southorange.org/235.



SENIOR CONNECTIONS

Brought to you by the Active Older Adult Committee (AOA)

SENIOR CONNECTIONS AT THE BAIRD

Looking to play mahjong, canasta, bridge, bocce, tennis, pickleball, or other games but don't have a partner or group? Would you like to enjoy some friendly conversation over coffee or tea? The Active Older Adult committee (AOA) is here to help you connect!

AOA offers a space to meet others with similar interests. It's a great way to stay active, social, and engaged in the community.

Simply leave your name, phone number, and/or email at the front desk, and AOA staff will help match you with others who share your interests. You'll receive the contact information to make your own connections.

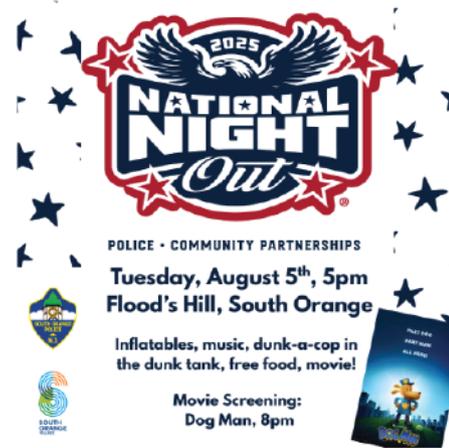
The Baird Cafe is a safe, welcoming place to meet, and there's no charge.

COMMUNITY DAY SAVE THE DATE

This year's Community Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 14, 1-3pm. Stay tuned for more details on this popular South Orange event, which welcomes new residents and showcases local government, businesses, and volunteer organizations.



VILLAGE HAPPENINGS CONTINUED



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

This year's National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, August 5, beginning at 5pm. Join us on Flood's Hill and enjoy free entertainment, including a DJ, inflatable rides, a dunk-a-cop dunk tank, hamburgers and hot dogs, popcorn, and the movie Dog Man, which will be shown at dusk. Giveaways will include National Night Out T-shirts, footballs, and tattoos; and SOPD wristbands, bubbles, beach balls, and stickers.

National Night Out is an annual event aimed at fostering community spirit and strengthening the relationship between police officers and residents to create safer, more caring neighborhoods. This initiative enhances the bond between law enforcement and the community, reviving a true sense of togetherness. It offers an opportunity for police officers and neighbors to connect under positive circumstances.



COMMUNITY COALITION ON RACE

The Schools Committee of the Community Coalition on Race (CCR) will host its 20th annual Board of Education candidates forum on September 18 at 7:30pm in the District Meeting Room at 525 Academy Street in Maplewood. The questions posed to the candidates in this forum focus on racial equity in education, racially integrated schools and classrooms, closing the achievement gap, and supporting all students in achieving academic excellence. This is an important opportunity for the voting public to learn about the candidates' positions as the district moves ahead with its integration initiative and at this moment of challenge to diversity, equity, and inclusion practices.

That's not all the CCR has planned for fall. Visit communitycoalitiononrace.org for information on more upcoming events, such as the "Roadmap to Home Ownership" workshop.

Are you looking for new ways to give back to the community? Join the CCR as a trustee or volunteer. Qualifications include a passion for the coalition's mission of integration and inclusion, and a willingness to volunteer your time. The CCR's work touches on many areas of community life: supporting integrated neighborhoods; conducting demographic research; developing and facilitating events such as the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Observance, the "Conversations on Race" community dialogues, and "Talking to Children about Race" panel discussions; supporting integrated, excellent schools; promoting affirmative marketing projects; and more.

Email
soma@communitycoalitiononrace.org
for more information.



SOUTH ORANGE DOWNTOWN

DOWNTOWN AFTER SUNDOWN LIVE MUSIC SERIES

SUMMER

SATURDAYS IN SPIOTTA PARK

6:30PM-8:30PM

WEATHER
UPDATES

THREADS.NET/@SOUTHORANGEDOWNTOWN

SOUTH
ORANGE
DOWNTOWN

SPIOTTA PARK (20-32 VILLAGE PLAZA)



WEDNESDAYS

JUN 4 - OCT 29

1PM - 6PM

- FRESH PRODUCE
- MEATS
- PICKLES
- NUTS
- BAKED GOODS
- GRAB & GO LUNCH/DINNER

and much more!

SLOAN ST PARKING LOT

LEARN MORE SOUTHORANGEDOWNTOWN.ORG

SOPAC
SOUTH ORANGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

BUY
TICKETS
TODAY!



CASEY ABRAMS AND FRIENDS

Featuring
Dylan Chambers
& Hunter

**THU, SEP 11
AT 7:30PM**



FRIENDS OF THE BROTHERS
A Celebration of The Allman Brothers Band
SAT, SEP 6 AT 7:30PM



JOSHUA RADIN
THU, OCT 16 AT 7:30PM



**REMEMBER JONES
BAT OUT OF HELL LIVE!**
FRI, OCT 17 AT 7:30PM

SOPACnow.org | (973) 313-2787

SOUTH ORANGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ONE SOPAC WAY
SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079



Made possible by funds from the
New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner
agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.





SOUTH ORANGE LIBRARY BUILDING CONNECTIONS PROJECT GROUNDBREAKING



Please join SOPAC for its 20th anniversary season, during which we will once again celebrate the power of the arts to inspire, unite, and uplift. From the timeless jazz of Stela Cole (Friday, September 5), to

American Idol winner Ruben Studdard (Sunday, September 7), to the legendary artistry of Peabo Bryson (Saturday, October 11), it's going to be an incredible year. And that's just in the first few weeks of the SOPAC season! SOPAC is also the place to come for new experiences. Whether it is a performer you have not heard of or a musical style outside your go-to, you are encouraged to give it a try at SOPAC. Ticket prices are reasonable, it's right here in your backyard, and we are confident you'll have a great time. Please visit sopacnow.org to check out the upcoming lineup of events and buy tickets.

PSE&G and the State of New Jersey offer multiple affordability programs and payment assistance programs for customers struggling to pay their energy bill.

Descriptions of the programs, application periods and eligibility guidelines are available on the PSEG website at <https://nj.pseg.com>.



REPORT A CONCERN

You can report a nonemergency issue easily using either the "Report a Concern" link at southorange.org or the GovAlert app from your mobile device.



MARCH 2025: George Matias

South Orange recognized George Matias as its March 2025 Villager of the Month for his dedication to pedestrian safety and community advocacy. A resident of South Orange since 2010, Matias has logged more than 65 public safety issues through the "Report a Concern" platform in just the past year and encourages his neighbors to do the same. His efforts have resulted in improved street lighting and walkability throughout the Village and have inspired broader community engagement. Matias has also built a strong partnership with PSE&G, helping to make it easier to identify and report outages. Matias' work has shown that one person can make a real difference. Want to help improve our Village? Use the "Report a Concern" link on the South Orange website to report safety and service issues. You too can be the change our community needs.



APRIL 2025: Hannah Zollman

Congratulations to Hannah Zollman, South Orange's Villager of the Month for April 2025! Since moving here in 2016, Zollman has become a driving force in our community – serving as chair of The Co-Lab at South Orange and treasurer of South Orange Downtown, and as a Planning Board member. Her dedication to connecting neighbors, supporting local businesses, and creating inclusive spaces is unmatched. From moderating the Community Gifting SOMA Facebook group to mentoring others and uplifting entrepreneurs, Zollman leads with heart and purpose. Thank you for making South Orange a better, brighter place for all!



JANUARY 2025: South Orange Elks Rent Party Garden

The South Orange Elks Rent Party Garden was named the January 2025 Villager of the Month for its outstanding efforts to fight hunger and support the community. Founded in 2012 and rooted in the vision of Chris Dickson and David Wagner, the garden produces nearly 2,000 pounds of fresh vegetables each summer for local food pantries, including the ones at Our Lady of Sorrows in South Orange and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Maplewood. It has also partnered with SOMA Justice to help families in need and features a Little Pantry and Little Free Library to provide additional resources.

With support from the South Orange Elks – longtime champions of local causes – and backing from Mayor Collum and the Village Council, the garden has become a symbol of generosity and service in South Orange. This well-deserved recognition highlights the impact of grassroots efforts and the power of community partnerships.

NOMINATE A VILLAGER OF THE MONTH

Do you know someone who lives or works in South Orange who makes our community brighter and more vibrant?

Celebrate their contributions by nominating them as a Villager of the Month. Embracing diversity of all kinds, this award honors individuals who embody the qualities that make South Orange shine. To submit a nomination, visit southorange.org/756/Villager-of-the-Month and tell us why your nominee deserves this honor!

VILLAGE COUNCIL INITIATIVES

SOUTH ORANGE LEADS STATE IN AFFORDABLE-HOUSING ADOPTION

South Orange was the first municipality in the state to adopt its Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan in response to new state legislation under the Fair Housing Act. Affirming its commitment to fulfilling its affordable-housing obligations for the next 10 years, the South Orange Village Council endorsed the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan for submission to the state, complying early with the state's June deadline.

Mayor Sheena Collum and Director of Planning & Zoning Greer Patras worked expeditiously with the Village's long-standing planning consultant, Topology, to prepare the plan and adopt it at the May Village Council meeting. The Village, having a long track record of affordable-housing compliance, is proud of the plan, which did not require the Village to identify or create new projects; instead, it leveraged ongoing development projects to satisfy its obligations, demonstrating the Village's proactive development policy. Having satisfied its statutory obligations, the Village looks forward to providing innovative housing solutions beyond the confines of minimum statutory requirements. This approach will seek to provide "missing middle" options – such as providing workforce housing that prioritizes local residents and employees – for residents struggling with housing costs who would not otherwise qualify for affordable housing.

"I am super jazzed by this plan," said Collum. "As the first in the state of New Jersey to submit our plan, we were once again ahead of every deadline." Collum added that providing affordable housing is not only mandated by the state but is the right thing to do, especially considering the housing crisis in New Jersey and throughout the country.

"I think we have a lot to be proud of," Collum said. "And, more importantly, we live our values. If you believe housing is a right and we have to contribute to improve the deficit in the state and the national housing crisis, look no further than South Orange as a town that cares deeply about this topic."

To learn more about affordable residential units in South Orange and throughout New Jersey, visit affordablehomesnewjersey.com or call 609.664.2769 x5.

To read the South Orange plan in full, visit southorange.org/971.

WANT TO ATTEND A COUNCIL MEETING?

The South Orange Village Council convenes on the second and fourth Monday of each month. Currently, meetings are held virtually; however, we will transition to the new Council meeting room located at the Baird Center this fall.

For additional details and email addresses of council members, please visit the South Orange website at www.southorange.org.

VILLAGE COUNCIL INITIATIVES CONTINUED

OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND REFERENDUM

South Orange Village is considering a referendum to increase the Open Space tax levy, currently set at \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed value, to support the preservation and enhancement of parks, recreational facilities, and natural areas. This initiative aims to provide long-term funding dedicated to park improvements and environmental conservation efforts that benefit our community, such as the planned Cameron Recreation Area improvements. Other examples are the River Greenway Project, Crest Drive Park improvements, Founders Park improvements, Farrell Field court lights in Meadowland Park, Chyzowych Field improvements, Grove Park improvements, and playground accessibility modifications.

What is an Open Space Trust Fund Referendum?

This is a voter-approved initiative that provides funding dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of open spaces, farmland, historic sites, and recreational areas in New Jersey. These referendums allow municipalities and counties to establish or renew dedicated funding sources, typically through a small property tax levy, to support land acquisition, land improvements, conservation, and stewardship efforts.

By supporting this referendum, voters will help sustain South Orange's commitment to environmental stewardship and quality-of-life improvements.

Your input is essential to this process. The municipality is holding its third public meeting on this topic in September.

We encourage participation from all community members – including local park conservancies, environmental groups, and other stakeholders – to ensure that this initiative reflects the priorities of our residents. Meeting date and location, updates, and other information can be found on the Village website:

southorange.org.

The Open Space Trust Fund aims to:

- Preserve environmentally sensitive lands and water resources
- Maintain and improve parks, recreational facilities, and trails
- Protect farmland and historic sites from development
- Enhance community resilience against flooding and climate change



SCAN ME



MEET YOUR VILLAGE COUNCIL

The South Orange Village Council is an elected assembly consisting of six Councilmembers, each serving a four-year term. Every council member participates in a minimum of three of the six statutory committees and is required to chair one of the three. Additionally, council members act as liaisons to various advisory and statutory boards and committees within the community.



**Councilman
Bobby Brown**

First term: 2021–2025

Chair: Recreation & Cultural Affairs

Member: Strategic Partnership & Citizen Engagement, Finance & Capital Projects

Favorite South Orange activity: *I love running the hill at Flood's Hill with my sons—it's our favorite way to stay active, share laughs, and enjoy the town together.*



**Councilmember
Jen Greenberg**

First term: 2023–2027

Chair: Planning & Economic Development

Member: Finance & Capital Projects, Health & Public Safety

Favorite South Orange activity: *Enjoying summer movies at Flood's Hill and playing tennis on the iconic grass courts at Orange Lawn Tennis Club!*



**Councilmember
Bill Haskins**

First Term: 2021–2025

Chair: Public Works & Utilities

Member: Strategic Partnership & Citizen Engagement, Finance & Capital Projects

Favorite South Orange activity: *Bike ride through town to check out the newly planted trees. Go to all the Village parks, Ivy Hill Park and Metcalf Park to check on their New Jersey Tree Foundation plantings.*



**Councilwoman
Summer Jones**

1st term: 2019–2023
2nd term: 2023–2027

Chair: Strategic Partnership & Citizen Engagement

Member: Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Health & Public Safety

Favorite South Orange activity: *I love the South Orange pool - especially the Adult Swim events!*



**Councilmember
Olivia Lewis Chang**

1st term: 2023–2027

Chair: Health & Public Safety

Member: Public Works & Utilities, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

Favorite South Orange activity: *The ones that bring me joy: walking our tree-lined streets, eating in our restaurants that offer international cuisines & gardening at home & with my community. These 3 pleasures infuse my days with so much happiness!*



**Councilman
Stephen Schnall**

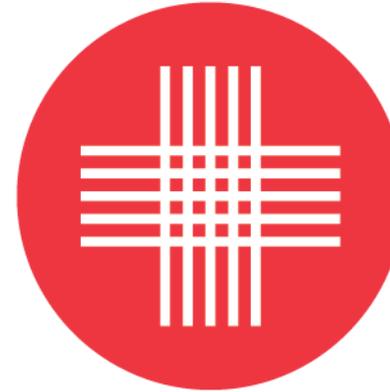
First term: 2013–2017
Second term: 2017–2021
Interim: 2023 & 2025

Chair: Finance & Capital Projects

Member: Public Works and Utilities, Planning & Economic Development

Favorite South Orange activity: *Attending the amazing performances at South Orange Performing Arts Center (SOPAC)!*

VILLAGE NEWS



FROM THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY ZUFALL HEALTH VISIT AT THE BAIRD CENTER

Second Friday of Each Month
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
The Baird Center
5 Mead St South Orange, NJ 07079

Free Services Available

- Health insurance enrollment information
- Information about our affordable medical, dental, and behavioral health services
- Quarterly Free COVID FLU Vaccines
- Quarterly Free HIV Screenings

Vaccine Information

- Flu vaccine available for adults 19+
- It is safe to get both your 2024/2025 Formula COVID and Flu vaccines at the same time!
- Bring your insurance card to the appointment

Registration
Call 973-325-2266 ext. 1040
Registration is encouraged but walk-ins are welcome.

zuffallhealth.org

FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM

The South Orange Police Department proudly supports the Blue Envelope program. This initiative, being adopted by police departments throughout New Jersey, is designed to assist drivers with autism spectrum disorder by reducing communication barriers during interactions with law enforcement.

Participants in the program are provided with a designated blue envelope, in which to put their driver's license, vehicle registration, insurance card, and important personal information, such as emergency contacts. This helps ensure that any interaction with police is as smooth, respectful, and stress free as possible.

Individuals interested in participating in the program are encouraged to contact police Sgts. Nicholas Lonero and Jose Albino at pdspecops@southorange.org; the envelopes are also available for pickup at the South Orange Police Department, 201 South Orange Avenue.

NOW AVAILABLE

2025 South Orange Dog & Cat Licenses

**\$17 FOR NEUTERED/SPAYED PETS
\$20 FOR NON-FIXED PETS
A \$20 LATE FEE WILL BE APPLIED AFTER 5/1/25**

ACCORDING TO TOWN ORDINANCE 68-4, ANY PERSON WHO SHALL OWN, KEEP OR HARBOR A DOG/CAT OF LICENSING AGE SHALL, APPLY FOR AND PROCURE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE VILLAGE A ONE-YEAR LICENSE

<https://www.southorange.org/508/Pet-Licenses>

QUESTIONS?
Call 973-762-8120 ext 2006

Use this QR code or link to register now

South Orange Police Department Blue Envelope Program

DRIVER IS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

DRIVER IS VISUAL DRIVER IS NONVISUAL

"BLUE ENVELOPE" IMPORTANT VEHICLE PAPERS:

- Place your license in the envelope when you receive it, even if the officer is not at your car.
- The officer may shine a flashlight in your car, ring their horn, and they have flashing lights on their car.
- When the officer gets to your car let them know you have a blue envelope, unless the officer's questions, and use the officer before leaving any part of your body.

POLICE OFFICER SPECTRUM AWARENESS GUIDE ON BACK OF ENVELOPE

IMPORTANT VEHICLE PAPERS:

- Driver's License
- Vehicle Registration
- Current Insurance Card
- Emergency Contact

Blue Envelopes are available for pickup at:
South Orange Police Department
201 South Orange Avenue
South Orange, NJ 07079



FROM THE TAX OFFICE THIRD-QUARTER BILLING

2025 third-quarter tax bills were mailed in June and are available online. Payment is due by August 1. Please note that postmark dates are not honored as dates of receipt, and postdated checks will not be accepted. A 10-day grace period is granted every quarter. After 10 days, taxes are considered delinquent, and interest is charged from the original due date. As a reminder, taxes are due quarterly, on February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

Taxes can be verified and paid 24/7 at southorange.org/302/Check-Pay-My-Taxes-Online:

- To verify tax/sewer balances, click "Make an online tax payment," then fill out the "Tax information look-up" form.
- To pay tax and/or sewer balances, select the appropriate payment tab above the "Tax information look-up" section on the same page.

To receive text and/or email reminders prior to due dates, as well as other tax-related communications, sign up for notifications at southorange.org/list.aspx by selecting the "Tax collector" and "Tax collector news" options.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS

For the first time, New Jersey residents can apply for three property tax relief programs – Senior Freeze, ANCHOR, and Stay NJ – on a single application form, the PAS-1. This form can be used by both homeowners and renters. There will no longer be ANCHOR-H or ANCHOR-T applications. New Jersey residents who were 65 and older, or who were recipients of Social Security Disability during the 2024 tax year, may be eligible to file a PAS-1. ANCHOR homeowner recipients are no longer required to have an identification number and a PIN to file for benefits. The deadline for submitting a 2024 tax year property tax relief application is October 31, 2025. Applicants have two options for filing:

- They can file a paper PAS-1 form, which covers all three property tax programs: ANCHOR, Senior Freeze, and Stay NJ.
- They can file the combined application online at propertytaxreliefapp.nj.gov. There will be no auto-file for these applicants.

The 2024 property tax benefit is capped at \$6,500.

TAX SALE

This year's tax sale is scheduled for September 17. The tax sale will include all delinquent tax, sewer, and other municipal charges from 2024 and earlier. It will be conducted via online auction. Please confirm your account balances. Only certified funds and cash will be accepted in order for a property to be removed from tax sale.

Feel free to contact the tax office with any questions: **973.378.7715 x4**.



Gas Powered Leaf Blowers Prohibited May 1 through Sept 30

LEAF BLOWER RESTRICTIONS

Restrictions on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers began again on May 1 and continue through September 30. Details can be found on the Village website at southorange.municipalcodeonline.com; click on "Municipal Code," then "Part II General Legislation" and "187-1 Leaf Blowers."

RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

FALL SOCCER LEAGUES

Registration is currently open for fall soccer leagues for ages 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12. Practices will begin the week of September 1st followed by the first games during the weekend of September 21-22. Teams will practice once per week and all games will be played Saturday or Sunday mornings in South Orange. Each team will play six games followed by an end of season tournament on October 25th. Registration fee is \$150 per player.

SOMA HOOPS BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Back for another season, SOMA Hoops Basketball League will be expanding (again) to serve even more players for our 2024-2025 season! This year, the program will now be open to children Grades 1-10. Our season will run from December-March with registration opening September 18th. Please check the Department of Recreation website in September for additional information on days/times and pricing.

APPLY NOW FOR RECREATION JOBS

Applications for part-time work are now available online at southorange.org/jobs.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

Basketball Referees	Soccer Referees	Group Exercise Instructors
Flag Football Referees	Art Instructors	Sports Instructors
	Dance Instructors	

FALL CLASSES
@The Baird
OVER 100 CLASSES FOR ALL AGES
REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 1

Questions? Call 973-378-7754 or email recreation@southorange.org

RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

SOUTH ORANGE SUMMER NIGHTS ARE BACK ON FLOOD'S HILL!

Join us on **WEDNESDAYS** this Summer for **Free Fun** in Meadowland Park.

Enjoy programming on our **Summer Stage**, including the **JULY** Summer Nights Concert Series and **AUGUST** Movies.

In **July**, music takes center stage with **FREE CONCERTS** at 7:30pm (a variety of local food trucks will be there too).

In **August** it's **FREE MOVIE TIME!** When the sun goes down (around 8pm) bring your blanket, your family & friends and enjoy the show!

Programs are subject to change. **In the case of inclement weather, activities will be canceled.**

South Orange Summer Nights is produced jointly by the South Orange Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs & the South Orange Performing Arts Center.

Visit southorange.org/calendar & the [@SouthOrangeVillage](https://www.facebook.com/SouthOrangeVillage) social media accounts (FB/IG) for all the latest information.

SOMA HOOPS BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Looking for the perfect spot to host your next event? The Baird Community Center offers flexible, affordable spaces for everything from business meetings and birthday parties to book clubs, lectures, and more. Whatever you're planning – we've got the space for it!

For more info on Baird rentals or general inquiries, email ajohnson@southorange.org or call **973-378-7754**.



VILLAGE NEWS CONTINUED

RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH ORANGE SUMMER NIGHTS CONCERT SERIES CALENDAR / Wednesdays at 7:30pm

JULY 2

WHISKEY & SUGAR

High-energy vibes and soulful harmonies with a playlist that blends classic rock, Americana, 90s alt-rock, guilty-pleasure pop, and reimagined acoustic hits.

JULY 9

LOCAL HEROES

High-energy blend of **Americana, country, and rock**—led by powerhouse vocalists **Charlie Pollock** and **Diane Davis**. This hometown band knows how to bring the heat and the heart!

JULY 16

WATER TOWERS

SOMA's own indie rock cover band, brings a mix of **soul, pop, and crowd-favorite tunes**, all wrapped up in rich multi-part vocals and feel-good energy.

JULY 23

SARAH HODD + THE DRIVE

Rock out with an 8-piece powerhouse serving up **explosive covers** and **bluesy, rockin' originals** with a throwback twist.

JULY 30

AUTUMN JONES

A gifted **singer-songwriter and performer**, Autumn blends **R&B, storytelling, and soul** into original music that speaks from the heart. A graduate of Berklee College of Music, her powerful voice and heartfelt lyrics will carry you into the summer night.

ADULT SWIM AT THE SOUTH ORANGE POOL

Friday, July 18th & Friday, August 15th - 5-8pm

Bring your floats & friends & enjoy an evening of music and dinner poolside!

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT / Tuesday, AUGUST 5, Flood's Hill, Meadowland Park

5-8PM: Free Food, Inflatables, Dunk-a-Cop in the Dunk Tank, Giveaways & more!

8-10PM: Movie: **Dog Man**

SOUTH ORANGE SUMMER NIGHTS MOVIES / Wednesdays starting around 8:00pm

AUGUST 13

Wild Robot

AUGUST 20

A Minecraft Movie

AUGUST 27

Wicked

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

**SOUTH ORANGE
COMMUNITY DAY**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th

SETON VILLAGE

FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 5-9:30PM,
IRVINGTON AVE**

Visit

southorange.org/249/recreation-cultural-affairs or call **973.378.7754** for more information on all programming.



SOMA HOOPS

REGISTRATION OPENS 9/18

OPEN TO ALL KIDS IN SOMA GRADES 1-8
SEASON RUNS DECEMBER TO MARCH

QUESTIONS? EMAIL RECREATION@SOUTHORANGE.ORG



SOUTH ORANGE Summer NIGHTS

Join us on WEDNESDAYS this Summer in Meadowland Park!

JULY: Summer Concerts
7:30pm: Food Trucks & Tunes

AUGUST: Summer Movies
Sundown (around 8pm)

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VILLAGE HIGHLIGHTS



TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

RWalk Bike Ride South Orange (WBRSO), a transportation and mobility advisory committee to the Village Council, reminds residents that the train is not the only way to travel to and from New York City. As with the train, senior citizens (62-plus) and children (5-11) enjoy reduced fares. For real-time schedules, alerts, and trip planning, visit the NJ Transit website or download the NJT mobile app.

New Jersey Transit bus routes:

- **Route 107:** South Orange to New York City via Irvington, ending at Port Authority. Daily service with peak-hour express options.
- **Route 31:** South Orange to Newark Penn Station. Frequent daily service, including Sunday and late-night hours.
- **Route 92:** South Orange to Branch Brook Park Light Rail Station. Regular service throughout the day.

Payment: Use the NJ Transit mobile app, ticket vending machines, or exact fare on board.

Private commuter bus services:

- **Boxcar (boxcar.com)** offers premium commuter bus service with reserved seating, Wi-Fi, outlets, and restrooms. Direct route from South Orange to Manhattan.
- **Community Coach (77 Local)**, operated by **Coach USA**, and **Megabus** run buses from West Orange to the Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York City. South Orange residents can connect via local transit. Visit **coachusa.com** and **us.megabus.com**, respectively, for schedules and fares.

Residents interested in working with WBRSO should email walkbikerideso@gmail.com.





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www.southorange.org/610/SO-Alerts

Are you receiving emergency alerts and nonemergency notifications? Communication is key, whether it be during a global pandemic, for a severe weather event, or for a street closure. When you create an account, you decide how you would like to be contacted.



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