

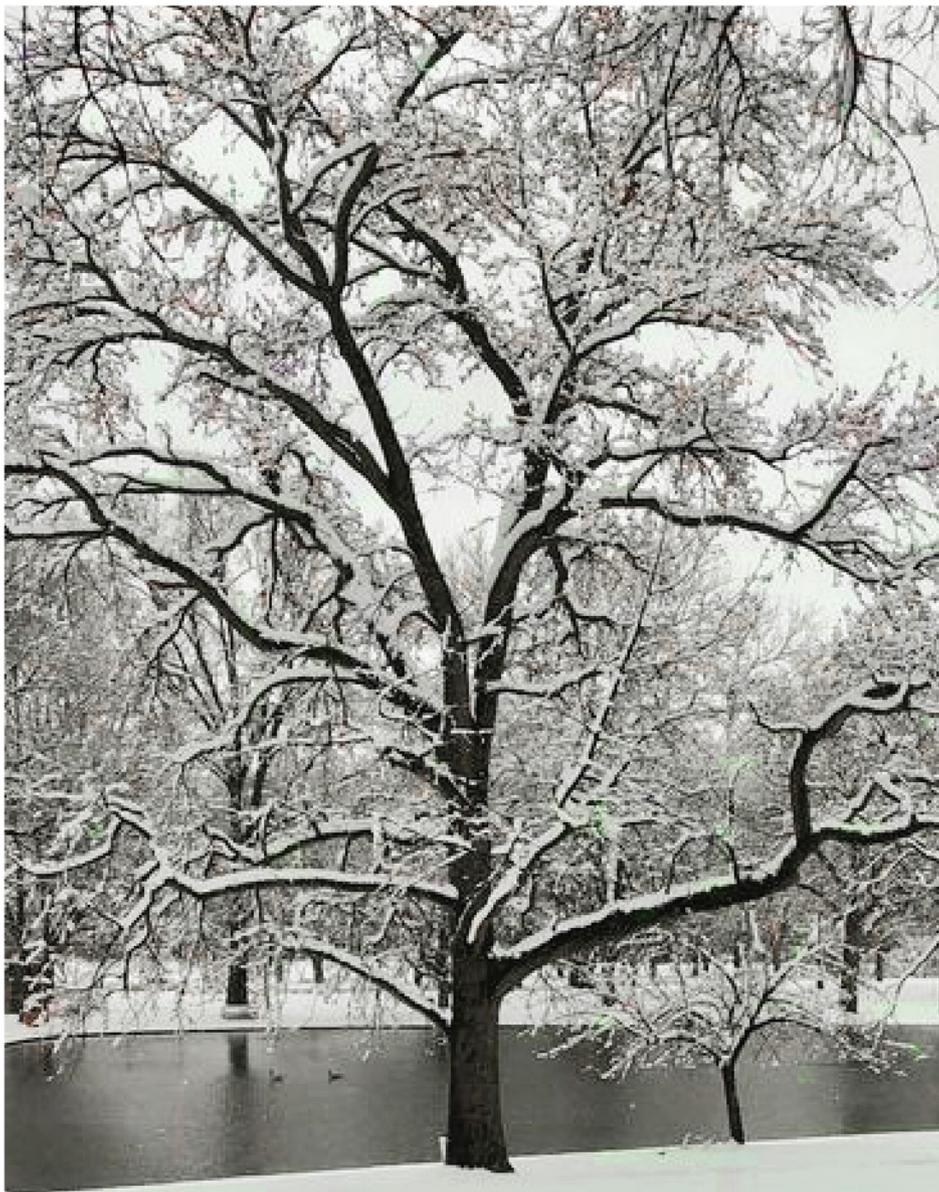
# The Gaslight

ISSUE 03  
2022

SOUTH ORANGE  
VILLAGE  
ACCESS IT ALL

WINTER  
EDITION





SOUTH ORANGE  
DUCK POND  
8.56 ACRES OF  
WINTER WONDERLAND



WITH NATURE



**IN TOUCH WITH  
VILLAGE GOVERNMENT**

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**

Sheena Collum  
973.378.7715 ext 2

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Bobby Brown  
Donna Coallier  
Karen Hartshorn Hilton  
Bill Haskins  
Summer Jones  
Bob Zuckerman  
973.378.7715 ext 2

**ADMINISTRATOR**

Adam Loehner  
973.378.7715 ext 2

**GENERAL INQUIRIES**

973.378.7715  
**Clerk's Office**, ext 1  
**Building & Code**, ext 3  
**Tax Collector**, ext 4  
**Assessor**, ext 5  
**Finance**, ext 6  
**Engineering & Zoning**, ext 7  
**Parking Authority**, ext 2037  
**Health**, ext 7710  
**Water Service** ext 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**  
973.377.2296



# LETTER FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year, South Orange! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays with family, friends, and neighbors. To start the year off strong, I have some exciting news to share with you.

- In October, South Orange received a major competitive grant designed to revitalize and rejuvenate the area located in and around the Irvington Avenue business corridor—Seton Village—and boost economic growth. The initial award under the Neighborhood Preservation Program is \$125,000, and we're anticipating that same amount over each of the next four years, totaling \$625,000.
- In November, our beloved South Orange Public Library was selected to receive \$6.5 million in funding from New Jersey's Library Construction Bond Act for renovation and expansion. The Board of Trustees will be authorizing the financial match, and we will be well on our way to the 21st-century library this community deserves.
- In December, South Orange Commons, the Village's first 100-percent affordable-housing development, located on Third Street, was awarded over \$5.5 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credits over the next ten years through the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency. The proposed project—a partnership between the Village, Jespy House, Bergen County United Way, and Penwal Affordable Housing Corporation—will provide housing to low-income families and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Additionally, our community's new Master Plan was adopted, and our fire department merger with our sister community of Maplewood is well underway—an action that will improve public safety operations while saving significant taxpayer dollars. You can view both the newly adopted Master Plan and the fire services community presentation online at [southorange.org](http://southorange.org).

Last, but certainly not least, an indoor mask mandate was put into effect in South Orange on Dec. 21, 2021, and I urge all residents to comply. We are currently averaging north of 40 positive test cases a day, due to the highly contagious and transmissible omicron variant. To put this into context, at the beginning of December we were averaging zero to three positive cases a day. The good news is that **more than 90 percent of eligible residents have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19**. Where we must do better is getting the booster shot. If you have not done so yet, please visit [essexcovid.org](http://essexcovid.org) and book your booster appointment (you can also register there for the vaccine and/or to get a PCR test). Speaking from experience, it's fast and easy.

I continue to be so grateful for your commitment to keeping yourselves and your neighbors safe. It's a team sport, not an individual event, and we couldn't have a better team.

Take care, be safe, and please don't shovel snow back into the roads! 😊

*Sheena Collum*

Sheena C. Collum  
Village President



# VILLAGE HIGHLIGHTS



## MEADOWLAND PARK CONSERVANCY LAUNCHES GOLD STAR GARDEN PROJECT

The Memorial Rock area next to the pond in Meadowland Park honors those from South Orange who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. The Meadowland Park Conservancy (MPC) has met with local veterans and the Village, and all agree that it's time for an upgrade. The MPC is creating a Gold Star Garden, with improved landscaping and an intimate performance space. The names of two South Orange residents who lost their lives in Iraq will be added to the memorial. The Gold Star Garden project is just one of many initiatives the MPC, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is undertaking as it begins its second year of operation. Please consider donating to or joining the MPC, to support the Gold Star Garden and other projects. For more information, visit [meadowlandpark.org](http://meadowlandpark.org).

## OJETTI DAVIS APPOINTED VILLAGE CLERK

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of Ojetti Davis to the position of Village Clerk. A year and half ago Ms. Davis was tapped to fill the role of acting Village Clerk and she recently passed the Registered Municipal Clerks (RMC) exam making her eligible to be appointed Village Clerk. Anyone who has ever come in contact with Ms. Davis during her 17 years of service to South Orange knows how lucky we are to have her in this essential role. Please join us in congratulating Ms. Davis!



VILLAGE CLERK OJETTI DAVIS AND VILLAGE PRESIDENT SHEENA COLLUM

## POLL WORKERS NEEDED

South Orange needs residents to work the election polls. Poll workers earn \$200 per election. Citizens 16 years and older are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the Clerk's Office at 973.378.7715 x 1 or email [clerksoffice@southorange.org](mailto:clerksoffice@southorange.org).



## SPACE COMMITTEE & COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Arthur Ashe once said, "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." South Orange Village encourages our community members to get involved, because that involvement makes such a positive impact on our community. The Citizen Engagement and Strategic Partnership committee (SPACE), chaired by Trustee Summer Jones, in collaboration with Trustees Donna Coalier and Bob Zuckerman, is revamping the volunteer program within our community. We recognize that we can do better with communicating about volunteer opportunities, recruiting volunteers, and providing consistent and up-to-date details. We are hoping to enlist additional volunteers to work on this project. If you are interested, please email Trustee Summer Jones at [sjones@southorange.org](mailto:sjones@southorange.org).



## CC&J NEEDS YOU!

CC&J is looking to further engage our already active and deeply committed community and is building a database of CC&J volunteers. If you have time and interest, please get involved!



TRUSTEES COALIER, HARTSHORN HILTON, AND BROWN CANVASSING WITH CC&J

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION NEWS

### Energy Solutions

As we move into winter, there is no better time to make sure that your home is both comfortable and cost effective to operate. South Orange Village, as part of the Sustainable Essex Alliance, is pleased to announce a pilot program that provides free, virtual home energy consultations to help you save money and energy. There is no cost to get started and no obligation. To schedule a consultation, log on to [seaenergysolutions.wee.green](http://seaenergysolutions.wee.green) or call 833-425.7283.

### Green Team Volunteers

The South Orange Green Team is out almost every weekend, on either Saturday or Sunday morning, in service to our open spaces. Come for an hour or two. Bring the kids. Bring the parents. Get muddy, get wet, and get leaves stuck in your hair. Check the pinned post on the SOGreenTeam Facebook page for locations and times. If you have a group with a specific space or task in mind, please reach out.

If manual labor isn't your thing, there are plenty of other ways to get involved. Join one of our various committees: Shade Tree, Leaf Management, Storm Drain, River Greenway, Waste Nothing, or Native Plant Nursery. Have another idea? Pitch it at our monthly meeting during the public comment portion. Check the Village calendar for meeting info or reach out to [environmentalcommission@southorange.org](mailto:environmentalcommission@southorange.org).



VOLUNTEERS WALTER CLARKE AND BILL HASKINS

## REPORT A CONCERN

You can report a nonemergency issue easily through "Report a Concern," found on the homepage at [southorange.org](http://southorange.org).



# VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT



## SOUTH ORANGE STORAGE PLATFORM

The planning board recently approved a four-story self-storage facility at the corner of Valley Street and Lackawanna Place that will connect to Founders Park. It will enhance the Valley Street corridor by widening the sidewalks and improving the streetscape and the quality of the ground cover. Importantly, it will remediate contamination from prior industrial uses and existing automobile service uses. Additionally, the project is low impact, generating little to no traffic and no burden on the school system.

As part of the redevelopment plan, the Village was able to negotiate substantial community benefits as part of the agreement. These include:

- Improvements to the visual character and the physical safety of the Valley Street corridor through landscaping, architectural design, and streetscaping elements.
- The streetscape elements will be coordinated, utilizing similar plantings, visual cues, and sidewalks to create a uniform and attractive public realm.
- A dedicated ground-floor community space and meeting room connected to Founders Park to serve both South Orange residents and visitors alike.
- Enhancements to Founders Park, including a movie screen on the park-side facade of the building and new utility connections for water and electricity.
- Expanded public access to Founders Park, with additional bicycle parking facilities.

## GROVE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

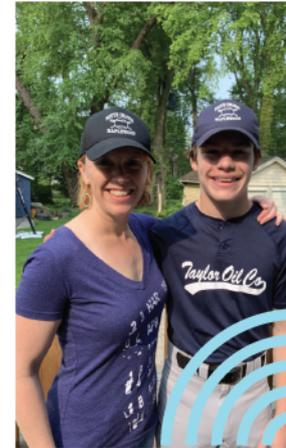
In 2021, the South Orange Village engineer and the Department of Public Works initiated drainage improvements in Grove Park to mitigate puddling after rainfalls. Remediation efforts were made to increase proper flow and ensure that more surface water will be directed to the main stormwater system. This included removing the entire perforated pipe system, cleaning and jetting the line, and elevating and expanding the system. Over 100 cubic yards of new soil was added, to raise the pipes and level the bowl where the wet conditions settle. New grass has been planted to ensure new growth in the spring.



These remediation efforts should greatly improve conditions in the park, but the DPW will continue to monitor the conditions. Residents may see colored flags, which the DPW will use to identify areas of concern should they materialize.

Please address questions and concerns to [gp@southorange.org](mailto:gp@southorange.org).

# VILLAGERS OF THE MONTH



## SEPTEMBER 2021 Pam Bachorz

Play ball! South Orange resident Pam Bachorz hits home runs when it comes to volunteering as the vice president of the South Orange-Maplewood Baseball Committee. Residents of South Orange since 2015, Bachorz and her family live and breathe baseball; in fact, they timed their move from Texas to South Orange to ensure that her son was eligible for the following baseball season. While her son is no longer a part of the program, Bachorz continues to volunteer. Her commitment to baseball has been remarkable. In 2020, the constant changes to state baseball policies due to COVID-19 made planning difficult. Bachorz quickly stepped in to help drive some of the decisions, to ensure that kids could have a successful season and a sense of normalcy during an unprecedented year.



## NOVEMBER 2021 William Dahn

Bill Dahn was a resident of South Orange's Montrose Park Historic District for 26 years. During this time, he helped make a number of improvements to our community through his volunteerism. Dahn successfully led the South Orange Zoning Board of Adjustment for over 15 years. As a licensed architect with years of experience, he was instrumental in providing valuable insights and advice to the board, the applicants, and the public. He ensured that the decisions made were well thought out and based on the most accurate information available. In 2021, he and his family moved out of South Orange, but Dahn leaves a long-lasting legacy to our community.



## VILLAGE SPOTLIGHT Community Coalition on Race

Founded in 1996, the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race (CCR) is a nationally recognized, progressive, grassroots community group committed to racial integration and equity. The organization adopted three main strategies to foster stable racial integration and inclusion:

- To promote strong and sustained robust demand by all racial groups for housing in every area of our community.
- To take proactive steps to ensure involvement of persons of color in the civic life of the community.
- To promote dialogue and understanding on race-related issues.

The CCR continues to make a tremendous impact on our community 25 years later. To get involved or to learn more, visit [communitycoalitiononrace.org](http://communitycoalitiononrace.org)

Villagers of the Month are nominated by the community for their extraordinary dedication to South Orange. The Community Relations Committee, which is the Village's longest-running advisory committee, selects the awardees. To nominate a Villager of the Month, please visit the South Orange website at [southorange.org/756/Villager-of-the-Month](http://southorange.org/756/Villager-of-the-Month).

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES INITIATIVES



SETON VILLAGE CELEBRATION

## GOOD NEWS FOR SETON VILLAGE

In addition to welcoming new businesses **Your Ultimate Patty Place** (400 Irvington Ave), or YUPP, and **Heritage Hair & Boutique** (253 Irvington Ave), we are excited to report the following initiatives and investments occurring throughout the neighborhood and the Irvington Avenue corridor:

- The completion of the **Irvington Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project** and the renovation of the **Carter Park Playground** were completed.
- The **270 & 299 Irvington Avenue Redevelopment Plan** was approved.
- The Board of Trustees voted to accept the **donation of the Father Vincent Monella Italian Cultural Center**. We are eager to begin work with community stakeholders to identify the many exciting ways we can utilize this property.

And last but not least, Seton Village has received a Neighborhood Preservation Grant in the amount of \$125,000 per year for the next five years to further revitalize the neighborhood. South Orange has hired Sally Unsworth, a local resident, to serve as the coordinator for this grant program. Special thanks go to Julie Doran, our Village deputy administrator, for her work securing the grant funding and Trustee Summer Jones, a Seton Village resident who has spearheaded unprecedented levels of community engagement. Also thanks to Trustee Bob Zuckerman, who put this new grant program on our radar.

## COMMUNITY CARE & JUSTICE

In January 2020, Trustee Donna Coallier led the effort to launch Community Care & Justice, a collaboration between South Orange, Seton Hall University and Essex County to reimagine traditional models of public safety and wellness. CC&J places great emphasis on crisis prevention and protecting and elevating our most vulnerable community members and our youths.

### Individual & Family Outreach

With the full support of our police department and rescue squad, the CC&J social workers and interns on the outreach team have gotten started, receiving first responder referrals and offering individuals and families counseling, case management and connections to supportive services.

### Community Outreach

The CC&J mission is dedicated to driving community wellness through racial and social justice and has begun offering related community-based programming:

- An eight-week Social Justice Activation collaboration.
- A wellness series for youths focusing on anxiety management, suicide prevention, and other services.
- A "Peace and Community Justice" speaker series.
- A showcase of an immersive virtual reality platform.
- The FISLL (Faith, Integrity, Sacrifice, Leadership, and Legacy) Project, a collaboration with former NBA superstar Allan Houston providing leadership development.

## NEWCOMERS DAY

Led by Trustee Summer Jones, the Community Relations Committee (CRC) hosted its annual Newcomers Day on Sunday, October 3, 2021. This event was held outdoors for the first time in years and was made successful by the participation of 47 local organizations and committees, the South Orange-Maplewood School District, nine Village departments, and volunteers from the Division of Volunteer Efforts at Seton Hall University. This year the program's focus was shifted from "Newcomers" to "Allcomers," with all residents encouraged to attend, regardless of how long they've lived here. This shift was so well received that the CRC is renaming the event South Orange Community Day. For information on the activities of the CRC or get involved, please visit [southorange.org/749/Community-Relations-Committee](https://southorange.org/749/Community-Relations-Committee).



SOUTH ORANGE TRUSTEES & STAFF WELCOMED VISITORS TO NEWCOMER'S DAY 2021

## SOUTH ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Digital Video System

Trustee Donna Coallier has led an extensive review of South Orange's digital video system (DVS) policy.

DVS is used as an investigation tool by the South Orange Police Department (SOPD) and, in the case of a live incident, to supervise the scene and provide guidance to on-site first responders. Incidents that might involve DVS include but are not limited to crimes, motor vehicle crashes, missing person searches, and law enforcement conduct complaints. The Village has utilized video systems since 1985. As technology has advanced, the Village has continually upgraded video hardware and software to meet modern industry standards. A new upgrade and expansion is currently under community and Board of Trustee review.

In July 2021, we held a virtual session on DVS, sharing information and inviting

public comment. SOPD has reviewed the feedback from the event as well as policy recommendations from the Community Police Collaborative and proposed revisions to existing DVS policy, most significantly prohibiting the use of facial detection when deploying the DVS and strengthening DVS data security.

To read our DVS FAQ, listen to a replay of our July informational and outreach event, and share your views on our digital video system, please visit [southorange.org/838/Digital-Video-System](https://southorange.org/838/Digital-Video-System).

### Body-Worn Cameras

The South Orange Police Department is scheduled to implement its body-worn camera program in February 2022, after the Village IT Department completes required preinstallation technical work.



# RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS



**LOCATION:** 298 Walton Ave  
**HOURS:** Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4:30pm  
**WEBSITE:** thebaird.org  
**PHONE:** 973.378.7754 x2  
**EMAIL:** recreation@southorange.org

The mission of the Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs is to enhance the quality of life in South Orange by providing a well-rounded program of leisure-time activities for community residents of all ages and interests.

## Membership

South Orange residents may purchase Recreation & Cultural Affairs memberships, which are valid January 1 to December 31 of each calendar year. Membership benefits include access to the community pool and tennis courts, and discounts on many department programs. With our CivicRec online catalog, registering for a membership has never been easier. Renewals for returning members and first-time membership purchases can be processed online, by email, or in person. We encourage residents to renew their memberships early in the year. Proof of residency is required each year for all members. More information may be found on our website.

## Early-Bird Pool Membership

Residents must have a current-year recreation membership to purchase an Early-Bird Pool Membership. This membership gives members access to the community pool between the hours of 6:15am and 8am, Mon-Fri.



POOL MEMBERSHIP

## Baseball Registration Open January 1 – January 31

Nothing screams baseball like a cold winter day in January! If you cannot relate to that statement that is completely OK, but registration for South Orange Maplewood Baseball, for players ages 5-15, begins January 1. Registration can be done online, over the phone, or in person. Spots are limited, so be sure to sign up early.

## Playground Camp Registration in March

Registration for our most popular camp, for ages 4-13, begins in March. Camp runs for seven weeks at the start of the summer. Spots are limited. All camp participants are required to have a recreation membership. Registration can be done online or in person, though online registration is recommended.



PLAYGROUND CAMP

## Special Events

The Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs is looking forward to another full year of events in South Orange Village. In 2021, we produced and co-sponsored over 30 events, starting with Black History Month in February and ending with Hometown Holiday in December. We are currently in the planning stages for the first quarter of 2022 and will be working to create meaningful events that reflect the enthusiasm, history, and culture of our community. Please sign up for Village emails and follow our Facebook and Instagram pages, @SouthOrangeVillage, for the most up-to-date information. We look forward to seeing you all in 2022!

February is Black History Month. **The theme for 2022 is Black Health and Wellness.** All activities for Black History Month in South Orange can be found at [southorange.org/881/Black-History-Month-2022](https://southorange.org/881/Black-History-Month-2022). In March, we'll celebrate Women's History Month and Developmental Disability Awareness Month. Watch for more information on special events programming for March.

# PROGRAMS

The following are a few of our programs; check our catalog for additional programming.



## SPRING

**CAL RIPKEN LEAGUE BASEBALL**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS ON JANUARY 1)



**COMMUNITY GARDEN**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS IN JANUARY 1)

**BABE RUTH LEAGUE BASEBALL**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS ON JANUARY 1)

**FIELD HOCKEY**

**TRACK & FIELD**

**ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE**

## SUMMER

**SUMMER PLAYGROUND DAY CAMP**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS IN MARCH)



**COMMUNITY POOL**

**SPORTS CAMPS**

**SWIM LESSONS**

**TRAVEL BASEBALL TEAMS**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS IN APRIL)

**SWIM TEAM**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS IN MARCH)

## FALL

**FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS IN MARCH)



**SOCCER**

**TENNIS INSTRUCTION**

**BASEBALL CLINICS**

## WINTER

**RECREATION BASKETBALL**  
(REGISTRATION STARTS IN OCTOBER)

**INDOOR SOCCER**

**INDOOR TRACK**

**OPEN GYM FOR BASKETBALL**

**FIELD HOCKEY**

**BASEBALL CLINICS**



# VILLAGE HAPPENINGS



## SOPAC

In early 2022, the South Orange Performing Arts Center fully reopens post-pandemic and post Tropical Storm Ida recovery. SOPAC, New Jersey's favorite small performing arts center, cannot wait to welcome audiences back!

All SOPAC patrons are required to wear a mask and show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test taken within 72 hours of the performance start time. Review all COVID-19 policies at [www.SOPACnow.org/covid-19](http://www.SOPACnow.org/covid-19).

View all upcoming events and purchase tickets at [www.SOPACnow.org/events](http://www.SOPACnow.org/events).

**FEBRUARY 5**  
**GANGSTAGRASS**

**FEBRUARY 10**  
**LISA FISCHER**



**FEBRUARY 11**  
**LUCY KAPLANSKY / LARRY CAMPBELL & TERESA WILLIAMS**

**FEBRUARY 12**  
**KIDS 'N FAMILY SERIES: THE HEART & SOUL OF MAGIC**

**FEBRUARY 12**  
**COMEDIAN RYAN HAMILTON**

**FEBRUARY 18**  
**THE JAMES HUNTER SIX**



**FEBRUARY 25**  
**COMEDIAN COLIN QUINN**

**FEBRUARY 26**  
**THE BRIT PACK**

**MARCH 5**  
**MARC COHN**

**MARCH 9**  
**SON VOLT**

**MARCH 10**  
**RESISTANCE REVIVAL CHORUS**

**MARCH 11**  
**RED BARAAT FESTIVAL OF COLORS**



**MARCH 13**  
**DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER & BILL CHARLAP**

**MARCH 18**  
**EDWIN MCCAIN**

## SOPAC GALA 2021 DAZZLES



SOPAC GALA 2021 HONOREE DIANA HART OF DIANA HART CATERING AND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER JOHN LEE, A GRAMMY-WINNING PRODUCER AND JAZZ LEGEND. CREDIT: PHOTOGRAPHY BY PIERNOT

The South Orange Performing Arts Center would like to thank everyone who participated in the SOPAC Gala on November 6, 2021. It was a memorable evening. Tribute was paid to honoree and former SOPAC board member Diana Hart, and the SOPAC Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Grammy-winning producer and jazz legend John Lee. Following the awards presentation, Great American Songbook ambassador Michael Feinstein performed. The gala netted about \$60,000, which will be used toward Tropical Storm Ida recovery efforts and helping to ensure that SOPAC is better prepared to prevent similar damage in the future.

## SOUTH ORANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Great things are happening at the South Orange Public Library (SOPL). The SOPL Board recently welcomed two new trustees. South Orange residents Emily Brown and Andrew Ha were appointed and their resolutions approved at a Village Board of Trustees meeting in November. "This is a really exciting time for SOPL, with the new Trustees, new director, and our plans for the future," said Village Trustee Karen Hartshorn Hilton. "Change is in the air, and the excitement is palpable!"

The library, which has sustained its services to the community throughout the pandemic, is undergoing many positive changes, including new construction and new services. The Connett Building is currently undergoing exterior refurbishment, made possible by a grant from the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund. This project is just one step in the process of expanding the library and ultimately utilizing both library properties.

Technology-focused services are also expanding. There are new and faster hot spots, providing unlimited data, which are ideal for anyone who needs Wi-Fi and is near a power source; they can be borrowed for two weeks. Last month, PressReader was launched, providing unlimited online access to over 7,000 news sources, and in December the library highlighted Creativebug, which provides thousands of arts and crafts tutorials, from novice to skilled levels. These services and many more are available to library cardholders 24/7.

More information can be found at [www.sopl.org](http://www.sopl.org).



PHOTO, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: SOPL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS BRIAN O'LEARY, HILDY KARP (PRESIDENT), EMILY BROWN, AND ANDREW HA, AND VILLAGE TRUSTEE KAREN HARTSHORN HILTON

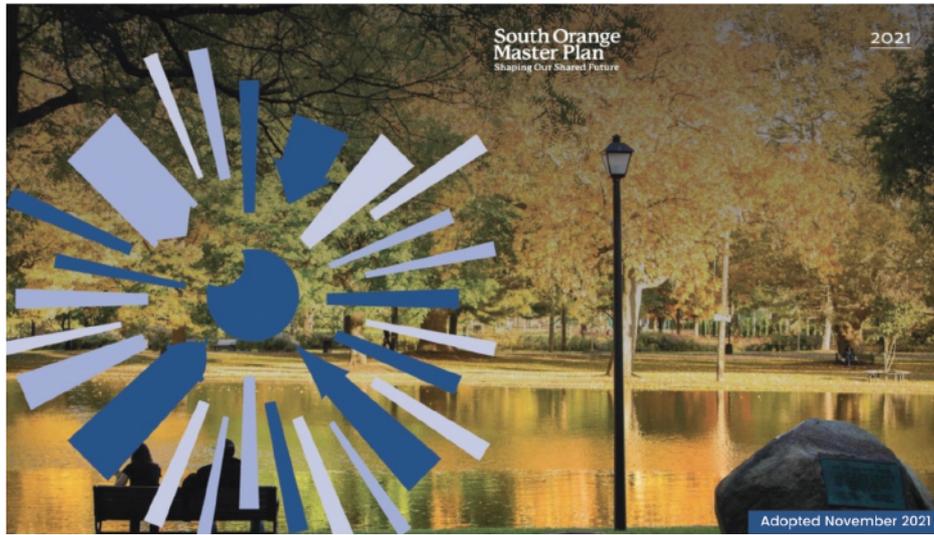
## VILLAGE NEWS

### SENIOR NEWS: THE SOMA 2021 SENIOR SURVEY

Please complete the SOMA 2021 Senior Survey. Accessing and completing it is easy. You can go to [somatwotownsforallages.org](http://somatwotownsforallages.org) for the survey link. If you would prefer to complete the survey by telephone, email us at [soma2towns@gmail.com](mailto:soma2towns@gmail.com) with "Telephone Survey" in the subject line. Include your phone number and preferred days and times for a call. Printed copies are available at the library and at local senior apartment buildings. Survey responses are confidential. We look forward to hearing from you!



# VILLAGE NEWS



## SOUTH ORANGE MASTER PLAN ADOPTED

In November the planning board formally adopted a new master plan, bringing years of community engagement and planning to fruition. South Orange Village worked to ensure that this plan truly reflects our community's values through an extensive community engagement process that included individual residents, community groups, neighborhood associations, and Village boards and committees.

A master plan is an important component of land-use law in the state of New Jersey that gives local governments the authority to make policies that advance their own unique interests. South Orange's new master plan will guide future policies, such as changes to the zoning code.

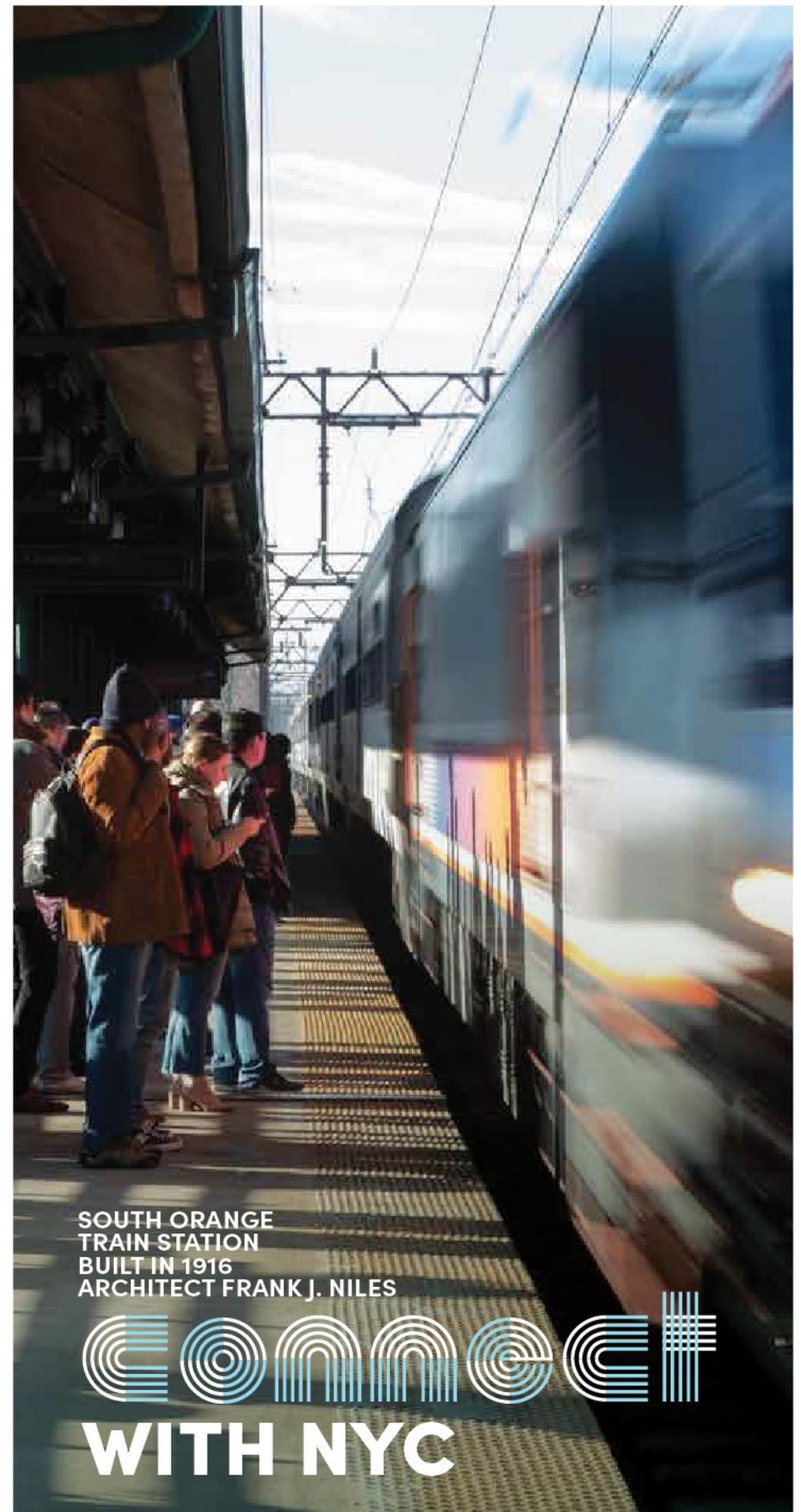
In addition, it outlines strategies for a wide array of issues in the Village, such as environmental sustainability, the design of streets and sidewalks, architectural standards, and creating public art.

In short, the document is a 10-year blueprint for South Orange and articulates both general policy goals and specific proposals, to ensure the Village grows intentionally, and will advance the ideals of residents and leaders.

The full plan can be found at [southorange.org/885/South-Orange-Master-Plan](https://southorange.org/885/South-Orange-Master-Plan).

## COMMUTER JITNEY RETURNS!

The Village of South Orange and the South Orange Parking Authority are pleased to announce the return of the commuter jitney service. Due to a number of factors, the service has been reduced to two primary routes. Passes from 2020 will be honored. New riders can pay \$2 per ride or purchase an annual pass for \$300. The new schedule is posted at [southorange.org/185/Parking-Authority](https://southorange.org/185/Parking-Authority). For purchase information and questions, call 973.378.7715 x2037.



SOUTH ORANGE  
TRAIN STATION  
BUILT IN 1916  
ARCHITECT FRANK J. NILES



WITH NYC



## EMERGENCY ALERTS



ALERTS & NOTIFICATIONS SIGN-UP:  
[www.southorange.org/610/SO-Alerts](http://www.southorange.org/610/SO-Alerts)

Municipal Offices  
76 South Orange Ave  
Suite 302  
South Orange  
New Jersey 07079

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.



BAIRD CENTER GROUND BREAKING CELEBRATION

## PLACE AN AD

The Gaslight is mailed directly to more than 6,000 residents in South Orange. This makes it a great way to reach the community. If you are interested in placing an ad, email [jdoran@southorange.org](mailto:jdoran@southorange.org) for a rate sheet and ad specs.

Village website: [southorange.org](http://southorange.org)  
Join our mailing list for updates