

# SOUTH END VOICE

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2011

## Our First Issue

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The South End Voice (SEV) is a collaborative monthly publication by and for the people and community based organizations of Albany's South End. Articles will highlight issues that affect our community. All individuals who work, reside, volunteer, or appreciate the south end are welcomed and encouraged to submit articles, opinions, pictures, artwork, and upcoming events. Issues will be distributed on the first Thursday of each month.

The South end Voice is housed at the Trinity Alliance Family and Neighborhood Resource Center at 15 Trinity Place. Questions, comments, and corrections can be submitted to Michael Parsons at [southendvoice@gmail.com](mailto:southendvoice@gmail.com) or at 518-449-5155 x105.

We hope the first issue proves a useful and inspiring form of communication, collaboration and creativity.

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## Get Involved!

If you or your organization would like to become involved with the creation, dissemination, and/or support of the South End Voice please let us know.

We need community partners, writers, artists, editors, distributors and more.

## South End Voice Community Partners

**Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region** (449-5155)  
www.trinityalliancealbany.org

**Unity Sunshine Program** (434-0815)  
Unityhouseny.org/services/service\_detail.cfm?ID=2

**NY State Department of Health** (485-5341)  
www.health.state.ny.us

**The Salvation Army** (463-6678)  
www.salvationarmy.org

**Grand Street Community Arts** (463-2222)  
Grandarts.org

**Albany County Dept. for Children, Youth, and Families** (447-7500)  
www.albanycounty.com/cyf

**Boys and Girls Club** (462-5528)  
http://www.bgc-albany.org/

**Albany Bike Rescue**  
www.trinityalliancealbany.org/health-and-wellness/

**Albany Police Department** (438-4000)  
www.albanyny.org/government/departments/police.aspx

**South End Partnership for Safe Families**  
no website

**South End Neighborhood Association**  
http://southendna.blogspot.com/

**Schuyler Mansion** (434-0834)  
www.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/loc/schuylermansion.html

**Albany Family Education Alliance** (489-2838)  
http://www.albanyfamilyeducationalliance.org/

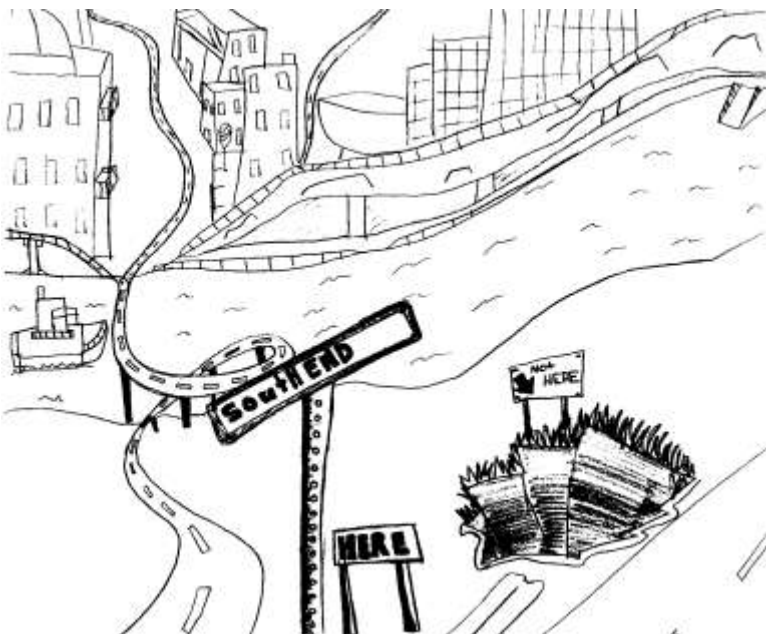
**St. George Orthodox Church** (462-0579)  
No website

**Capital City Rescue Mission** (434-3411)  
www.capitalcityrescuemission.com

**A Village..., Inc.** (859-4305)  
www.avillageny.org

**Homeless and Traveler's Aid Society** (463-2124)  
http://www.hatas.org/

**South End Implimenttion Team**



Artwork:  
Isaiah Tubbs, age 14, SE Resident

## On the Beating Path

**By Charmaine Wilson**  
Contributing Writer

ALBANY -- When asked about the reinstatement of beat cops in the South End, Officer Josiah Jones explains "It's a proactive way to improve this neighborhood's quality of life." Jones, a Westchester County native with a law background in criminal defense, has served with the Albany Police Department (APD) for over six years and is quite familiar with the area.

South End area stakeholders along with APD's Neighborhood Engagement Unit (NEU) wish to expand public safety efforts. They will address such issues as drug trafficking and broken windows that make some residents fearful and intimidated in their own community.

Beat cops are looking to build trust and collaborate with community groups. "So far beat cops are having a positive impact on residents," Jones said. Community policing will consist of patrolling assigned NEU zones and being accessible and approachable while on the beat.

When asked what's in store for beat cops in the upcoming months, Jones replied confidently "We're just looking forward to working with the community in a cooperative effort."

Both Officer Josiah Jones and Officer Ben Sturges of the Albany Police Department, Neighborhood Engagement Unit (NEU), patrol NEU Zones located in an area that includes the South End. To learn more or view the NEU Zone map, please visit Times Unions, Crime Confidential blog at <http://blog.timesunion.com/crime/map-albanys-new-neighborhood-beat-officers/6425/>

### **Important Information**

Contact local beat officer: [jjones@albany-ny.org](mailto:jjones@albany-ny.org)  
Non-emergency local police line: 462-8050  
Emergency number: 911

## Spotlight on Unity Sunshine

**By Nahal Navidar**  
Unity Sunshine Program Albany

Unity Sunshine Daycare Program has been providing quality childcare to children ages 6 months to 5 years since opening its doors last April in their new expanded location in downtown Albany. Unity Sunshine is an integrated daycare program providing a nurturing environment tailored to fit the individual needs of every child that enters the classroom.

The distinct factor that makes the program thrive is the devoted teachers and their common love of children. "Truly the best part of my job is watching the flow of pride that comes over the children's face when they recall something that they have learned. It is really remarkable to watch these children grow in their abilities and learn to love school," remarks preschool teacher Lyla Shaughnessy.

The compassionate nature of the teachers sparks a special connection with their students in the classroom environment. "I love learning from my students. They have such a fresh outlook on life that is refreshing nowadays," says Special Education Teacher Michelle Suen of her students. Jaron Serven, a Head Teacher in the Infant Room recognizes the importance of quality childcare and the impact it has on the community.

"Unity Sunshine provides a rewarding way to give to a community, a world, in need. It is so gratifying to take part in what is, at its best, a support system and foundation." Unity Sunshine hopes to continue to grow and meet the needs of the children and families of the Albany community.

## St. George Parish Open House

On Sunday, April 10, at 4:00 PM, St. George Parish will be holding an "OPEN HOUSE" and extends an invitation to you to come and visit us at this time. We will use this opportunity to greet parishioners, friends, and neighbors as we begin a series of events celebrating our 75th Anniversary as a parish and the 55th anniversary of the building of our Parish Church.

Fr. Gregory will be available to offer a brief presentation and answer your questions concerning the Orthodox Church, its history and practices, as well as a history of the parish of St. George. Refreshments, which will include many Middle Eastern, Ethiopian, and European tradition foods, will be available for your tasting pleasure. We will close the afternoon with Vespers.

Please join us and bring your friends. (1 St George Place)

# Community Resources

## Job Leads

**Grand St. Community Arts**  
Summer Youth Program Staff  
518-463-2222

**Boys and Girls Club**  
Maintenance Position  
518-462-5528  
Summer Camp Counselors

**Wendy's Restaurant**  
1335 Central Ave.  
518-459-4700  
(May be hiring)

**Dr. King Career Fair**  
Thursday April 14 12:30-4  
Empire State Plaza  
Convention Center  
1-888-4-NYSDOL

## Educational

*Do you Smoke? Are you pregnant, parenting or around young children? Want to learn more about the effects of Secondhand Smoke?*

Community Cradle offers **FREE HELP!** Call us to find out more about our private **QUIT COACHING!**  
**(518) 426-1153**

### Quality Babysitters

Free Class offered by Child Care Coordinating Council on what qualities to look for when choosing babysitters: 5:30-6:30  
Unity Sunshine Program,  
50 Philip Street  
*Free dinner and babysitting provided to children 18 months and older. RSVP to Nahal at 518-434-0815.*

## RACE TO 10,000

A new and exciting program is about to begin at Trinity. The Race to 10,000 will consist of a 10 week session where members will meet weekly for 2 hours. The program will educate parents in the importance of early language development and will explore ways to build vocabulary in their young children.

Group sessions will take place at Trinity, with parents and children also engaging in field trips throughout the community. The course will be highly interactive and will prove to be much fun for both parents and children alike! If you have a child birth- three years and are interested in participating in this program, please contact Nancy Lonczak at **694-5641, ext. 21.**

### Albany Family Education Alliance – Baby Institute:

Parent and child Education Program- For parents and children 0-3 years olds. Time: 9:00am-1:30pm, Nine week series - April 2-May 29<sup>th</sup> – Location: Giffen Elementary School, 274 S.Pearl St (Morton Ave. entrance). Transportation, lite breakfast and lunch provided. For more information and registration, call Noelene Smith at 489-2838 or Beatriz Velez, outreach worker at Trinity Alliance-449-5155. x- 125.



# Earth Days

## South End Earth Day

People are getting excited about the South End Earth Day! Earth Day is a chance to get together with our South End neighbors and friends, to clean up the streets, learn new skills, meet new people and celebrate our environment. We have a survey and want your feedback! What would you like Earth Day to be like? Would you like to plant gardens? Clean up a street or a vacant lot? Learn about recycling and composting? It's up to you! With your input, this will be a day the South End can be proud of.

We hope to have as many South End residents and organizations involved as possible for this amazing daylong event set for **Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00am-3:00pm. We have a great team of people together to organize the event including members of Grand Street Community Arts, AVillage, the South End Neighborhood Association and others. "We've already got some really positive feedback from our neighbors for the South End Earth Day; we hope to have lots of projects and workshops going on that day and to deeply involve the community and its residents" said Willow Eyres, one of the Earth Day coordinators.

So far, survey responses have included a range of great project suggestions; everything from cleanups, flower plantings, garden construction, and workshops on how to increase energy efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint. We'd love to hear more!

Are you a part of an organization that you think should be involved with Earth Day? Please contact us at [earthday@grandarts.org](mailto:earthday@grandarts.org).

## A Community Garden

Trinity Alliance with Master Gardener Edward Noel Wilson, community resident gardener Mary Travis, Fred Boehree, and Diana Conroy, will be preparing the community garden on Trinity Place sometime in mid to late April. We need volunteers to help us ready the garden for planting. The garden is open to anybody and all are welcome to plant, tend and harvest. For more information please contact Markell at 515-449-5155 x 132.



# South End Volunteers!

Are you interested in giving back to your community? Do you need volunteer hours to satisfy your educational or social service requirements? Do you want to improve your resume? The following organizations are in need of talented volunteers.

## Salvation Army

Food bank p/u, mobile canteen, mentors for afterschool programs, holiday assistance, receptionist, building maintenance (all season in and outside)

## HATAS

Ambassador, Someone that acts as a networker and story teller. They share the story of what HATAS has been doing, what is going on in the community, and spreads the word of Change For Change, our fundraiser to prevent homelessness.

HATAS is looking for community members to interview about their experiences and opinions about homelessness for a video we are making. Looking for people with experience or strong opinions.

## AVillage

Earth Day volunteer: Through a partnership with the Grand Street Community Arts (GSCA) Center's Vacant Lot Project, AVillage...Inc. will convert an Albany City owned vacant lot into community stage for performances, lectures, and films. Join us for an Earth Day celebration to clean the 4<sup>th</sup> and Elizabeth Street lot in preparation for our upcoming stage. Westminster Presbyterian Church and the National Presbytery Association have provided financial support to build the stage. We need able-bodied people to help clean and landscape the lot on April 30, 9-5pm. To volunteer contact Willie White, 518-859-4305, [avillage5@aol.com](mailto:avillage5@aol.com) for more information, or JUST SHOW UP ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND ELIZABETH STREET LOT ON APRIL 30.

Kids! Do you like gardening, but you don't have a yard? Do you live in the South End and would like to access healthy fresh produce? Join us for an Earth Day celebration, April 30, 9-5pm, as we create a beautiful and healthy community garden on Catherine Street. We need adults to help construct wood boxes for raised gardens that will be planted and maintained by South End kids. No prior experience needed to participate! For more information, please email [willie@avillageny.org](mailto:willie@avillageny.org)

## Global Youth Service Day (All Over Albany)

The Department for Children, Youth and Families / Youth Bureau will observe Global Youth Service Day **Saturday, April 16, 2011 between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.**, with a celebration following at Lincoln Park from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. with food, live entertainment, DJ, rock climbing walk and give a ways.

To find out which volunteer site is nearest to you, contact me at 518-447-5540 / email or visit [www.gysd.org](http://www.gysd.org). I look forward to working with you on this important day.

JOSEPH H. ESPINOSA

Prevention Specialist

Albany County Department of Children, Youth and Families / Youth Bureau

[Joseph.Espinosa@albanycounty.com](mailto:Joseph.Espinosa@albanycounty.com)

## Free Stuff

Trinity Alliance (15 Trinity Place) has three workdesks in good condition and two small couches to give away.

## Free Kittens

We just had a litter of kittens and are now ready to give them away. For more information please e-mail [djreggiec@yahoo.com](mailto:djreggiec@yahoo.com).



### Unity Sunshine Program

50 Philip Street, Albany  
Corner of Madison Avenue and Philip Street

- Growing Minds
- Rich language and play-based curriculum
- Outdoor multi-play area
- Well-equipped, spacious classrooms
- Interaction with children with special needs
- Nursing services on site
- Generous and caring staff and environment

• Day Care  
6 wks.—5 yrs.

• Preschool

• Special Education Services

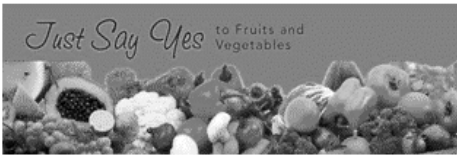
• Integrated Classroom Setting

• Related Services: Speech, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Work


Open year round,  
Monday—Friday  
7:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.

Applications now being accepted. To inquire,  
Call 518-434-0815





Just Say Yes to Fruits and Vegetables



Salvation Army  
Wednesday  
April 13, 2011  
11 am  
Please tell us  
You're coming!  
463-8678  
Ext. 20

You're invited to a free nutrition workshop.

New ideas Free Produce! Recipes  
Taste Samples Free Gift

- ▶ Plan and prepare healthy meals
- ▶ Enjoy more fruits and vegetables
- ▶ Use food stamps and pantry foods to eat well
- ▶ Keep foods fresh and safe

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This material was funded by USDA's Food Stamp Program. The Food Stamp Program provides nutrition assistance to people with low income. It can help you buy nutritious foods for a better diet. To find out more, contact 1-800-221-5889.

# April

If you would like to add a program or event to next month's calendar please contact Michael at 518-449-5155 x105

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>National Child Abuse Prevention Month</b>						
					<b>1</b> April Fools' Day TA Knitting Club 9:30-11 am BGC Free Activities for Families 6 pm (call for details)	<b>2</b> SG Spring Clean Up 1-3 pm
<b>3</b> TA Food Distribution 12:30 p.m. (15 Trinity Pl)	<b>4</b> TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM TA Computer space 10 AM-12 PM GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>5</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM SA Microsoft Excel Class 1-2:30 SA Microsoft Word Class 2:30-4	<b>6</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM TA Dancing with Elders 2pm TA Strength Condition6-8 PM TA Spanish 5:30-7 PM TA English as 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lang.7-9 PM	<b>7</b> AV Meeting 5-7 pm GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5 pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>8</b> TA Knitting Club 9:30-11 am	<b>9</b> Keys for Kids Concert at New York State Museum 5:00 pm SG Spring Clean Up 1-3 pm
<b>10</b> SG Open House 4-6 pm GSCA and Green Tech High Work Party 11 am-3pm	<b>11</b> TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM TA Computer space 10 AM-12 PM GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5 pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>12</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM SA Microsoft Excel Class 1-2:30 SA Microsoft Word Class 2:30-4	<b>13</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM SA Free Nutrition workshop 11 am call 463-6678 x20 TA Dancing with Elders 2pm TA Spanish 5:30-7 PM GSCA Community Session 6:30-8 @ Howe Library US Quality Babysitters(see article TA Gala call 518-449-5155 x100	<b>14</b> GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5 pm Dr. King Career Fair 12:30-4 pm Empire State Plaza Convention Cent AV Meeting 5-7 pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>15</b> TAX DAY TA Knitting Club 9:30-11 am BGC Free Activities for Families 6 pm (call for details)	<b>16</b> BGC Youth Service Day Project 9-1 pm CYF Global Youth Service Day 518-447-5540
<b>17</b> Palm Sunday	<b>18</b> Passover at Sundown TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM TA Computer space 10 AM-12 PM BGC Open 8-6 for Kids Spring Break GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5 pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>19</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM BGC Open 8-6 Kids Spring Break SA Microsoft Excel Class 1-2:30 SA Microsoft Word Class 2:30-4	<b>20</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM TA Dancing with Elders 2pm TA Strength Condition6-8 PM TA Spanish 5:30-7 PM TA English as 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lang.7-9 PM BGC Open 8-6 Kids Spring Break	<b>21</b> AV Meeting 5-7 pm BGC Open 8-6 Kids Spring Break GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5 pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>22</b> Earth Day Good Friday TA Knitting Club 9:30-11 am BGC Open 8-6 Kids Spring Break	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Easter	<b>25</b> TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM TA Computer space 10 AM-12 PM GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>26</b> BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM SA Microsoft Excel Class 1-2:30 SA Microsoft Word Class 2:30-4	<b>27</b> Administrative Professionals Day BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM TA Dancing with Elders 2pm TA Strength Condition6-8 PM Spanish 5:30-7 PM TA English as 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lang.7-9 PM	<b>28</b> AV Meeting 5-7 pm SA Cooking Class: 6:30-8:30pm GSCA Afterschool Kids Club 3-5 pm SA Martial Arts/ fitness 6:45-8 pm	<b>29</b> TA Knitting Club 9:30-11 am BGC Free Activities for Families 6 pm (call for details)	<b>30</b> South End Earth Day

## Events Key

**AFEA-** Albany Family Education Alliance,  
**APD-** Albany Police Department, 126 Arch St.  
**AV-** AVillage...Inc., 15 Trinity Place  
**BGC-** Boys and Girls Club, 21 Delaware Ave.  
**BR-**Albany Bike Rescue, 15 Trinity Place  
**CYF-** Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families, 112 State St.  
**GSCA-** Grand Street Community Arts, 68 Grand St.  
**HATAS-** Homeless and Traveler's Aid Society, 138 Central Ave.  
**SA-** Salvation Army, 20 South Ferry St.  
**SENA-** South End Neighborhood Association  
**SEP-** South End Partnership for Safe Families  
**SG-** St. George Orthodox Church, 1 St George Place  
**TA-** Trinity Alliance, 15 Trinity Place  
**US-** Unity Sunshine, 50 Phillip St.

## Ongoing

SA Fit for the King Afterschool Program:  
(ages 6-12) 3-6pm M-F

SA Resurrection Afterschool Program: (ages 13-18) 3-6pm M-F

SA Open Gym/Weight room: (7-9 am) M-Th

SA Church Services Tu, Th, Fri (7-9 pm)

## Editorial Board

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