



SOUTH END VOICE

Volume 1, Issue 4

July 2011

July's Issue

July is a month of revolution and rejuvenation, from America's Independence Day on the 4th to the remembrance of the storming of the Bastille on the 14th. It is a time of change and transformation. This issue includes poetry about life and death all the good and bad in between. As always, we have included a variety of resources, programs and events that we hope will bring people together.

The SEV voice now has a website, which can be accessed at <http://southendvoice.weebly.com>. The website holds a backlog of our past issues and all of our submission forms. Community members may also submit materials through the site.

The South End Voice is a collaborative monthly publication by and for the people and community based organizations of Albany's South End. 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 or at 518-449-5155 x105.

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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, journalists, 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)
www.unityhousesny.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.salvationarmycapitalregion.org

Grand Street Community Arts (463-2222)

Boys and Girls Clubs of Albany (462-5528)
www.bgcalbany.com

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
www.southendna.blogspot.com

Schuyler Mansion (434-0834)
www.schuylerfriends.org www.nysparks.com

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

Albany Family Education Alliance (489-2838)
www.albanyfamilyeducationalliance.org

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

Capital City Rescue Mission (462-0459)
www.capitalcityrescuemission.com

AVillage..., Inc. (859-4305)
www.avillageny.org

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

South End Implimentation Team
www.albanyny.org/government/departments/developmentplanning.aspx

Community Cradle (426-1153)
www.communitycradle.org

Albany Housing Authority (810-0132)
www.albanyhousing.org/thecenter

South End Improvement Corps (436-8777)
www.seicalbany.org/

Albany Community Hospice (724-0242)
<http://www.albanycommunityhospice.com/>

ALLbany Online (598-0900 x3208)
Allbanyonline.com

Artwork by Anthony, SE resident



Local Poets

Death...

By Cynthia London
Community Member

Death...
Some run and hide from it
Others use it as an escape
Yet, for some it's a peaceful
Respite from;
The noise of the world
The pollution of the air
The desecration of the earth
The disrespect for life

“I am raising a contribution. Not a statistic.”

-Cynthia London, personal motto

In reference to my children

By Queen Nyima Parker
Community Member

In reference to my children
I had six Eagles in one nest
All six were the Kings of the Eagles.
I nursed them up with pain and care, No cost, no labor did I spare
At last they spread their wings and sang different songs and went
separate ways
At last they come to see the nest. Until they Fly Back.
To sing another song

Keep on the Watch

(I am who I am)

By SHE (dkt)

The world is sleep
Don't you sleep
Keep on the WATCH

He wants to take
You down with him!

He's taking as many as
He can, who don't keep
On the watch (you know who)

3 Acres and a mule?!?!?

If you don't know, you
Know now, you've got
To FIGHT!

Nothing's gonna ever
Be RIGHT!

Only when that
Day Comes, Then
Everyone will SEE!

Only then for us Only them
Whom BELIVED And KNEW
A RAINBOW OF PEACE AND
LOVE

So... forget about those 3 acres
and a mule
There is so much more!

Keeping a promise
From, I am who I am all the
RICHES FOR US
THAT HE HAS IN STORE.
Keep on the watch

Limit

By: Erica Morrow
Community Member

This is it
I reached my limit
I can't take this
Always been very independent
I'm sick of collecting unemployment
A couple of dollars a week
To help support me and a family
Please
I'm taking the first step in bettering my life
Entering college for the first time
It's a dream of mine
I made it and proud to state it
30 happy
Mother of three
And working on my degrees
Finally
I did something for me
I pray my experiences take me far
I want to live like a star
I dream to become
A famous story and song writer
I want to enlighten
I have a lot to share
I have goals
I need them to show
I birthed a daughter and two sons
Their going to look up to the best one
Success is the best
I won't sit and settle for less
I was blessed
With this ability to write
Baby Institute
Gave me the courage to recite
And
I admit
I like
Hard work
Equals success
I will not rest
Until I'm at my best
Accomplishing my dreams
Means I made it
But it don't mean I reached my limit
Skies the high
I'll keep up the good work till the day I die
I already let to much pass me by
It's time I live my life
Starting with college
Achieving my degrees
And working towards a career
That's best fit for me
It's my dream
To succeed
I'm headed for big things
May god bless me?
Please?

Thanks for reading
Good luck to all who try

An Observation

By Anonymous

I was waiting for the bus last Thursday evening near the Times Union. There was a man sleeping on the bench next to the Coliseum on South Pearl. I feel very bad about what is happening to the people of Albany with no jobs, no housing, rent too high, and not making enough money to pay for food, etc. I would like to know why there are so many homeless men and women living on the streets of this great city.

I Feel Ya' Pain

By: Carissa
Age 17

If you've been disrespected
Put down or beat on
I feel ya' pain
I've been through it and so much more
My mom told me God rewards
For doin' right
So why did he take my little sister's life?
If I could rewind in time
And exchange my life for her's
It all would be fine
So many thoughts
Runnin' through my mind
But my heart hurts from
Those who I call my loved ones
The pain I feel will one day
Overwhelm me
Who knows tomorrow could be
That day and no one
Will be there to help me

Bald Eagle

By: Jaionna
Age 9

The bald eagle
stands for hope
and pride that
means anybody
from any state can
come to America
and this state is
different from any
other state. We
make you super
happy that you are
in America.

Job Opening

Artwork by Myrese Barrett
Age 11

Trinity Alliance is looking for Employment Services Coordinator who will establish and maintain employer base for job opportunities; develop and maintain system for tracking of employment and retention activity; support career development.

Required:

- Bachelor's degree from accredited college and/or two years experience in job development, job placement, employment counseling, or a job seeking skill training and motivation
- Excellent organizational, interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills
- Ability to deliver curriculum and manage group sessions
- Ability to perform comfortably in fast-paced, deadline-oriented work environment
- Ability to successfully execute many complex tasks simultaneously
- Ability to work as a team member, as well as independently

If you meet the requirements and are interested in learning more about the job please find complete job description at 15 Trinity Place. Resumes and cover letters should be brought to Francine.



The Walk Down Life's Path

By **Richard R. Jackson**
Community Member

When we walk the path of life our only instructions are our experiences. Many of us walk the path of life stopping at all intersections asking whomever for directions hoping they may make our walk easier. However we sometimes realize to late in our walk down the path of life that these people we are requesting directions from are walking the same walk we are walking.

The path of life could be a long walk or a short walk. It all depends on how we walk. It depends upon what we learn while walking. But most important utilizing the things we learn to make our walk easier. There will be many corner stores, pot holes, stick-up men, drug dealers, CEO's pimps unlimited opportunities and a slew of many distractions, attractions and illusions satisfactions. It is one walking to weigh his/her options so that they may continue to walk and not be hindered or blind sided during their walk down the path of life.

Many people have remained on specific blocks or intersections while ensuring their walk down life's path. Because they have found comfort and familiarity. So they have become paralyzed by fear of the unknown. So they halt their walk and become a fixture in a place where they feel safe. However life goes on and those who remain a glued fixture to a specific block or intersection watch others who are pursuing their walk down life's path walk right by.

It is easy to develop habits, kinks, self isolation and criminal mind along the path of life. Because this walk is not a easy walk and some of those walking this tedious walk look for comfort outside of themselves. Life's path has no major rules or laws. It's only request that you breath. Breathing becomes easy but the walk down life's path gets harder. Mainly because those walking pick up things that they want instead of things that they need. Experience is know to be the best teacher but life's path has a way of making us forget our previous mis-haps. So we hold on to those comforts outside of ourselves because they are easier to remember and can be found on every block or intersection.

Everyone's life path is guided by a special light. A light to guide us along the path in darkness. A light that allows us to use rational thought over guess work. A light that talks to our sub-conscious and reasons with our conscious thought. A light that brings in to view the next block or intersection on our path down life's road. A light that gives direction to our imperfections. A light that gives us courage to fight and insight to do right. But it is on those walking own the path of life. To recognize the light and not be blinded by it's brightness.

One will meet, encounter and also interact with many characters, individuals and funny style people on life's path. Friends are a wonderful thing to have while ensuring one's journey down life's path. However friends can be impediments to ones continues movement down life's path. Happiness breeds envy and envy breeds contempt. So pick one friend on the journey down life's path is a difficult task that one must ensure with caution and objectiveness. One must not be afraid to travel alone with one thoughts and ideas. A friend can help in the tedious journey down life path; but our best and most trusted friends are ourselves.

The journey down life's path is beautiful that will teach us great lessons with every step. However the lessons mean nothing if they are not internalized and acted upon with each movement along life's path. We will display many emotions, angers, frustration, despair, hopelessness, and a sew of other emotions. These type of emotions can consume on to extent that one get's stuck in a paralyze of analysis. One tries to figure out the root cause of emotional turmoil that impedes our development and do not learn until later on in life; that we must keep it moving. Emotions are a part of life. How we deal with them must be based on our own life's lessons learned; not that of others. We are each very unique people and what works for another might not necessary work for us. So never forget a lesson learned for the same emotion is bound to rise again down life's path.

Nobody said life path was going to be a easy walk, nobody gives us a blueprint to navigate ones way down life's path. As one walks down life's path one can not hold resentments for our actions or other people actions that directly affect us. Resentment fosters hate because it sit's on the heart and makes it cold all a while draining our spirituality and keeping us away from inner peace that gives one the strength to journey down life's path with a open mind and vision to see life for what it is and not for what we want it to be. Resentment is a cancer that not only kills one from within it also kills the relationship with all those around us, and infect them as well. There will be falls in life, there will be others who sole purpose is to bring us down and there will be those that we just want to see buried. However that path of life has no path called get back lane or a intersection named cold heart expressway. The only directions is our previous experience and the only guides is the light. Experience can harbor resentments that can direct us down dead end roads or they can be utilized as lessons learned and give us an inner navigator system to follow the light of truth and peace.

Much can be elaborated about the path of life and it is many pitfalls and unlimited opportunities. However what it essentially boils down to is individual choices. Yes the environment factors in as well as societies norms and laws. But one is still faced with his/her individual choices. Choices can not be made on ones journey down the path of life must be made based on knowledgeable, rational decision making that can assist in ones continuous movement down life's path. There is no do over in life, there is no built in eraser or whiteout. There is just long or short journey before us and ones choices will ultimately determine just how long or short one's walk down life's path !!!!

Community Resources

Volunteers!

ALLbany Online

Instructor, ALLbany Online needs volunteers to hold basic computer classes and orientation sessions for online work force training. Volunteers will lead classes utilizing an informative PowerPoint presentation at various Community Technology Centers (CTCs). No prior teaching experience required: training will be provided. If interested, please call 518-694-9900.

Youth Editorial Board Member

The South End Voice Editorial Board is looking for a youth board member to attend meetings and ensure that the opinions and perspectives of young people are represented in the publication. The youth member is also responsible for collecting submissions from young members of the community. The board meets once a month to compile, organize, and edit content of the next month's publication. Board members determine the content of each issue and the direction of the publication. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact South End Voice at 518-449-5155 x 105 or at southendvoice@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Free Concerts at Albany Riverfront Park

- July 7 Burton Cummings (5:00 pm)
- July 14 Carbon Leaf (5:00 pm)
- July 21 Kansas (5:00)
- July 28 Parrotbeach, A tribute to Jimmy Buffet (5:00)

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Friends of Schuyler Mansion

July 4 Celebration on the grounds of Schuyler Mansion from 11am to 4pm. Free festivities include an Open House (self-guided tour) of the mansion. If you miss coming to the site on the 4th of July, please plan to visit this summer. Schuyler Mansion is open for walk-in visitation Wednesday – Sunday, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Mansion tours begin on the hour, with last tour beginning at 4:00pm. Adults \$5 / Seniors & Students \$4 / Children (12 and under) Free (must be accompanied by adult).

Price Chopper's Homegrown Fabulous 4th and Fireworks

July 4 at the Plaza(12-10pm) THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "HOME GROWN FUN" with an emphasis on local food and entertainment! Enjoy live music and entertainment with a performance by local favorites, the Audiostars, and live radio broadcast by Radio Disney with their next big thing: Kicking Daisies. Other local bands include Captain Squeeze & the Zydeco Moshers, Hair of the Dog, and Alex Torres & His Latin Orchestra.

CDTA Meeting on Morton Ave Bus line

July 11 at 5 pmat the Albany Housing Authority (200 South Pearl St.) The meeting will focus on the upcoming bus line on Morton Ave. All community members are welcome to attend.

South End Farmers' Market

July 16 AVillage..., Inc. will host the 1st South End Farmers' Market at the Lincoln Square Apartments, Saturday, July 16, 10am-2pm. The market will start out small for this season, and build momentum and support for a larger market in 2012. AVillage..., Inc. plans to staff the market through a youth entrepreneurship initiative. Come out and show your support and enjoy the fresh local produce, flowers, pasta and other farm products, ... and fellowship with your neighbors!

Immigrant Drop-In Night

July 18 5:30-6:30 pm at the Social Justice Center, 33 Central Ave. A free service from the New Sanctuary for Immigrants (NSI). Provide assistance on practical and legal matters. Assist immigrants with food, healthcare, clothing, school registration, ESOL classes, and workplace advocacy. For more information, please call 472-9091 ext 4(English) or ext 6(Spanish).

Resources

The South End Improvement Corporation has collaborated with CDTA to assist new homeowners in the South End. The South End is recognized by the City as a transit supportive neighborhood based on available transit services, pedestrian accommodations, limited parking or limited car ownership, and the presence of transit dependant populations. Therefore, CDTA is willing to provide qualified homeowners with two bus passes per household, per month, for 24 months as part of the TDM Homeowner's Incentive Program. This program requires for new homeowners occupy their new home for at least 24 months after its purchase and resides within the South End boundaries. For more information, please contact Carrie Ward with CDTA at 518.437.6865.

Free basic computer & Internet classes and workforce online job training. We also provide free wireless Internet (Wi-Fi) in certain areas with in the city of Albany and low cost desktop computers for those who qualify. If you or someone you know would like to attend a free class or learn more about other services, please give us a call at 518-694-9900 or visit our website: www.allbanyonline.com.

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

Community Hospice Camp Erin—Friday, September 23rd through Sunday, September 25th, 2011

Camp Erin is a free weekend overnight camp for children and teens, ages 6-17, who have lost someone important in their lives. It combines traditional, fun, high-energy camp activities with grief education and support. Camp Erin's staffed by licensed social workers, nurses and trained community volunteers.

If you would like more information, or an application for Camp Erin – Albany please call Audrey Kirchofer at (518)694-4980.

July

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

Events Key

AFEA- Albany Family Education Alliance,
 AO- ALLbany Online, 87 State St
 APD- Albany Police Department, 126 Arch St.
 AV- AVillage...Inc., 82 Clinton St.
 BGC- Boys and Girls Club, 21 Delaware Ave.
 BR-Albany Bike Rescue, 15 Trinity Place
 CH- Community Hospice, 445 New Karner Rd.
 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.
 HA- Housing Authority, 200 Green St.
 RM-Rescue Mission, 259 South Pearl St
 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
 SM- Schuyler Mansion
 TA- Trinity Alliance, 15 Trinity Place
 US- Unity Sunshine, 50 Phillip St.

Ongoing

TA Computer Lab (10am-12pm) M-F
 HA Computer Lab 9am-4pm M-F

Lincoln Park Gym: open M-F 3:30-
 8:00pm for ages 15-18 I.D. required and
 staff are available for personal training

Editorial Board

Amaury Ortiz
 Benita Law-Diao
 Terrilee Dodge
 James Shultis
 Charmaine Wilson, Reporter
 Michael Parsons, Executive Editor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4 <u>Independence Day</u> SM July 4 th Celebration 11:00 am -4:00 pm (pg 4)	5 BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM	6 TA Dancing with Elders 2pm	7 AV Meeting 5-7 pm Alive at Five Burton Communigs 5pm (pg 4)	8 TA Knitting Club 9:30- 11 am GSCA First Friday 8-10 pm	9 Health Check Day 10am-2pm S. Pearl St. at Morton Avenue Check blood pressure, pulse, respiration and blood sugar
10	11 TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM CDTA Meeting 5pm (pg 4)	12 BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM	13 TA Dancing with Elders 2pm GSCA 7-8:30PM Community Meeting	14 AV Meeting 5-7 pm GSCA 8-9:30am South End Partners Meeting Alive at Five Carbon Leaf 5pm (pg 4)	15 TA Knitting Club 9:30- 11 am Community Input Meeting	16 South End Farmers' Market 10am-2pm (pg 4)
17	18 TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM Immigrant Drop-In Night 5:30-6:30 pm (pg 4)	19 BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM	20 TA Dancing with Elders 2pm	21 AV Meeting 5-7 pm Alive at Five Kansas 5pm (pg 4)	22 TA Knitting Club 9:30- 11 am GSCA Hip Hop night	23
24	25 TA Fitness Walk 8-9 AM & 12-1 PM	26 BR Bike Repair 6-8 PM	27 TA Dancing with Elders 2pm	28 AV Meeting 5-7 pm GSCA 8:00-9:30AM South End Partners Meeting Alive at Five Parrot Beach 5pm (pg 4)	29 TA Knitting Club 9:30- 11 am	30
31	August 2- National Night Out (6-8 pm) August 6- African American Family Day (Empire State Plaza)					