

SOUTH END VOICE

Resources at your fingertips: Encouragement, Laughter, and Information.

Happy
Holidays!

WHO: The South End Voice

WHAT: The Community Paper for the South End of Albany, New York.

WANT: Submissions. Got something to say? Do you draw? Want to advertise your event?

EMAIL: southendvoice@gmail.com

Or

CALL: 518-449-5155 x 105

or

STOP BY: 15 Trinity Place, Albany NY.

Stephen Archer

What I like about my neighborhood?

After living in North Albany for 6 years, I recently moved back downtown Albany. While living in downtown, I have grown fond of all the people that I have met and befriended. I have had many great experiences at neighborhood picnics, parties and family gatherings.

Once I became involved in the community and gained knowledge of state, county and government programs available, I learned to appreciate the area. For instance, programs like SJSA's College Prep and GED program, The Center Program, The Schuyler Library, Salvation Army, SPHC, Father Young's Substance Abuse and many others have been set up to give the neighborhood new opportunities. I have become one of those people to take advantage of these programs. I began at the St. Peters Addiction Recovery Center (SPARC) and also went to the center at Albany Housing Authority. I have also taken classes at HVCC, SJSA and SCC.

There are many frustrating and degrading things going on in the downtown area. There are multiple drug dealings, people being murdered and most recently there have been multiple shootings. This goes on in any community as you may know. However, since June to August 2011, I have noticed more police present, walking the streets and being involved within the community.

Many people say that it is dangerous living in the downtown area because of the crime rate, however I disagree. I feel that living in this area allows me to feel safe because someone is always around you, seeing/watching what is going on. You are sure to be seen doing anything. People will notice your absence and will be aware of anyone walking down the street with your stolen property. You will not get this in the suburbs...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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.

Inside This Issue

- 1 Front Page
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- 6 Community Resources
- 7 Community Partner & Contact Info.
- 8 Events Calendar

Want to see your work HERE? Submit to the South End Voice – We'd love to hear from you! More information on Pg. 7

Educational Corner

These essays come from Professor John Harden's *Bridge to College Program* in partnership with St Johns/ St Ann's Center with Residents in the South End of Albany, and with Siena College Freshman.

Sturbridge vs. Shaker

The new frontier some called it, was part of the Englanders migration, they came in droves searching for new opportunities to build a better life for themselves and their families. But here in Sturbridge Massachusetts in the 19th century as they sought for new hopes and promises of betterment. However, let me remind us that they also impeded on the native people; although they celebrated the fact that they were the new founders and land owners. I reject the notion how they became the social economic power of their new community, I strongly agree for people creating their own independent government but at whose expense, who's getting the bad end of the deal? is it going to be on the back of the natives and the so called free slaves as the new land owners said it is their moral and civic duty to care for those who couldn't care or provide for themselves.

As they worked the farms and performed other domestic duties without a voice of representation, are they being enslaved again as they had to relinquish their right to vote, what a contradiction. As I see it they created an unjust and corrupt government like we see today in the 21st century, has anyone taken notice of the occupation in major cities in America and across the globe of people who call themselves 99%-ers protesting against their government for better wages, jobs and affordable education; just to name a few.

On the other hand, the founder of the Shakers Mother Ann Lee, ideology of how to live and govern oneself and to integrate a social spiritual lifestyle was quite organic and simple. She called for truth, love, compassion and kindness to all regardless of gender, age or race. Lee also insisted for all to live as pure as one could possibly live, and if one could not obtain purity they were free to live as they wish, but no shaker would think to cast any stones. But what's really perplexing to me is how they could be so close in time and location but yet so far away in ideology, which one would you choose to be with? The rich white landowners of Sturbridge or the equally yoke shakers?

CONTINUED from PG.1

On the other hand, people in the suburbs can afford to pay for security cameras as equipment, to fight crime but the bad guy will get away.

I believe I am a product of this environment and have become accustomed to the comradery. I enjoy seeing how people in the suburbs live. At the end of the night I feel safe with the police being a holler away as well as with Mrs. Smith's "nosey-self" peeking out her window to see all that goes on. The dealers on the street are also trying to make sure the crime levels are low because they do not want unnecessary police presence in their areas anyway.

I am doing much more to be involved in the community by signing up for, as well as, encouraging other neighbors to take the Citizens Police Academy Course which is offered free to the public. This is a great program that bridges the gap between the citizens in the downtown area and the APD. Often both sides are misunderstood or disregarded while the academy training brings much needed information to both sides.

I appreciate that the downtown area offers scenic and historic sites/parks, shopping, dining, and easy access to most businesses. I think I'll stay.



Thelma McLean –

The Men Who Make Clocks


I can imagine how hard it took for men to make clocks. They had to prepare all the tools, gears and other pieces they needed. Once they gathered all their materials, they had to figure out how to put all the pieces together. To do this they had to know how and when to put the right pieces together in order to create a clock. They also have to use the right tool at different times.

I believe a person making a clock might be very difficult due to the fact that a clock is made up of many small pieces. These small pieces can be very technical to handle. I think it takes a lot of patience and skill to build a clock. They put a lot of effort into making a clock so that it will function the right way.

Upcoming Events!

Stand For Freedom March in New York City

Join us on Saturday, December 10th—The United Nations' Human Rights Day—to proclaim to America and the world:
It's time to Stand for Freedom. We must protect our right to vote.



WHEN: NOV. 10, 2011, 6AM

WHERE: THE BUS WILL LEAVE FROM THE DMV PARKING LOT. 224 S. PEARL ST.

COST: FREE

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

TO RESERVE A SEAT CONTACT: WILLIE WHITE 518-859-4305

ANNE POPE, NAACP REGIONAL DIRECTOR 518-463-5463

Mobilization Co-Chairs:
Hazel N. Dukes, President, NAACP NYS Conference
George Gresham, President, 1199 SEIU

11:00 AM: MARCH FROM THE NYC OFFICE OF THE KOCH BROTHERS, MAJOR FUNDERS OF ANTI-VOTING RIGHTS MEASURES.

12:00 NOON: RALLY AT DAG HAMMARSKJOLD PLAZA, UNITED NATIONS EAST 47TH STREET & 2ND AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

This year, two-thirds of state legislatures have introduced laws that undermine the right to vote. Early voting and Sunday voting are under attack, photo ID requirements will introduce the first financial and document barrier to voting since the poll tax, and racially-motivated bans on ex-felons will wipe tens of thousands off the rolls.

This effort is unprecedented, it is coordinated, and it is targeted. African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, students, working women, seniors and immigrants of all colors will be disproportionately affected.

The right to vote is the heart of our democracy. Throughout our history Americans have been murdered for defending this basic human right. We will not let it be taken away from millions today.

Sponsored by AVillage ...Inc.

Stand for Freedom March in NYC

FREE

Sat. Dec. 10th, 2011 – 6am

Bus will leave from the DMV parking lot,

224 S. Pearl St.

To reserve a seat, Contact Willie White

518-859-4305

Would you like to have your ad here?

Contact Carolyn for more details
518.449.5155 x105
or email
southendvoice@gmail.com

TRANSFORMATION BEGINS NOT WHEN YOU GET A GIFT BUT WHEN YOU GIVE ONE

DECEMBER 5, 2011- The Empowerment Center is rounding up its third year of serving

Submitted by --Anquinette Hayles

The Capital District is in a spirit of giving. Under the leadership and direction of Pastor Andre D. Lewis, the empowerment Center has made it their mission to reach and empower the lost by coming down out of the pool pit, out of the sanctuary, and into the hearts, minds, and homes of the people in this great community.

It's more than just coming to a service and attending a bible study each week -Pastor Lewis exclaims on his 6 am prayer on the line to his members. It's about making the word and the promises of God come a live through a manifestation in the people. Since the birth of the church Pastor Andre D. Lewis has lived in the Albany area. His first stop was the University at Albany, where he graduated with dual degrees. Upon completion of his college career he landed a position as the Assistant Director of the Youth Empowerment & Mentoring Program (Y.E.M.P.). Following the closing of the program pastor Lewis went into full time ministry pastoring a congregation of mixed faces from all around the Capital District.

In addition to a thriving ministry, Pastor Lewis has a heart for building back this community and tapping into the hidden potential. Last month out of a directive from pastor Lewis the leaders of the Empowerment Center birth an event called Dinner & a Word. This event included an empowering word from Pastor Lewis, spiritual strengthening from the ministries leaders and a hot thanksgiving meal to all those who were in need. All together they were able to feed over 100 individuals for their first year.

This month the ministry has kicked things off with something they'd like to call, Bless Fest. Now, originally Bless Fest was supposed to be a one day event where families were going to be invited into a Sunday morning service and receive holiday gifts based on the need outlined in a letter previously submitted by community members. So far the ministry has blessed a family with: an entire living room set, and others with paid rent balances. So I asked Pastor Lewis why? His reply was simply, Some may think we should not have done these things for people but the word of the Lord tells me that we serve a God who gave all He had believing that he would get so much more on His return and He did! This is what I live by, this is what I teach to my members, we may not have much but together we always have enough to give. We are living in a time where it is not just about preaching to the individual but it's about teaching them with our actions. I will end by saying this, Jesus never spoke a word with out following it up with action why then should we think about doing anything less.

The Empowerment Center is making its mark in a powerful way and as a whole they are excited to end this year and begin next year blazing a trail for sings and wonders to follow. In case you were wondering **New Years Eve service will be held at Trinity Alliance, 15 Trinity Place, Albany, NY at 10:00 pm.** Regular services are held at the same location at 11am every Sunday Morning

Neighborhood News & Activities

Volunteer Needs and Opportunities

--- Continued on Pg 6

Program Assistant,
Albany Barn needs volunteers to help assist with programs (dance classes, poetry workshops) at Stage 1. Located at 46-43 North Swan St, Albany NY 12201.

Volunteer must be able to work for 2-3 hour shifts, once a week.

Experience working with children a plus.

If interested, please contact us at 518-935-4858



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS

VITA TAX PROGRAM 2012

Individuals who would like to learn a new skill and help others at the same time. Free training. Benefits: New skills, meet new people, help your community, and have fun.

Call: Tanya Owens,

518-449-5155, x-131

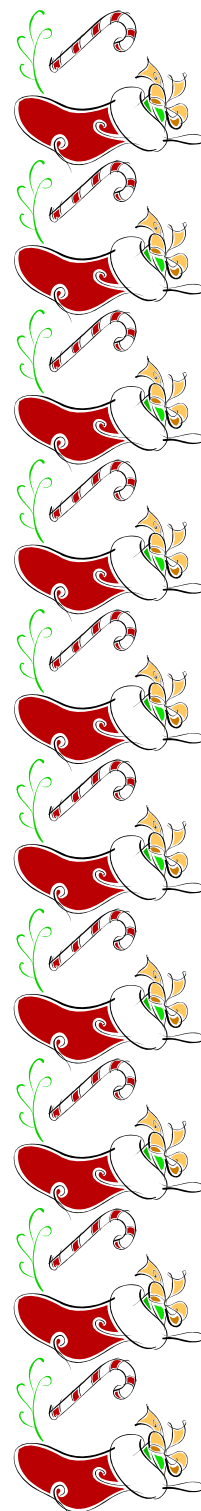
Holiday Hunt

Below are some words that we often hear at Christmastime. See if you can find and circle them all in this letter grid. Look carefully—they are hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards.

- | | | | |
|--------|------------|----------|--------|
| snow | cookies | bows | Santa |
| carols | North Pole | reindeer | sleigh |
| bells | mistletoe | stocking | tree |
| elf | ornament | present | holly |

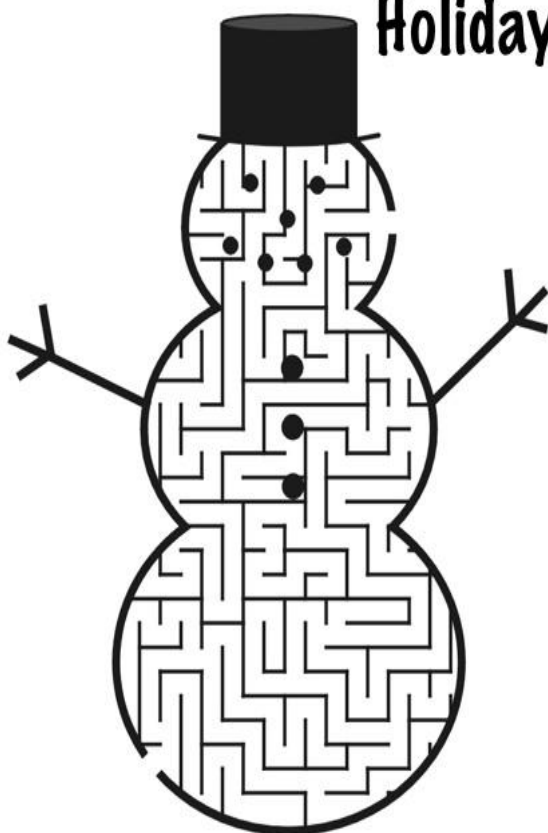


A	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	H	S	W	Q	H	J	N
B	R	U	O	D	L	Q	Z	A	O	Z	P	S	R	O
M	E	E	R	T	O	H	T	N	D	L	E	M	P	R
S	I	K	N	B	J	N	S	Y	R	T	L	G	M	T
I	N	Z	A	G	A	X	C	K	L	B	F	Y	H	H
P	D	T	M	S	R	C	A	R	O	L	S	K	I	P
T	E	J	E	K	Q	O	S	L	E	I	G	H	S	O
Z	E	C	N	D	W	O	M	E	Y	S	O	Q	L	L
U	R	S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G	D	W	R	L	E
E	Y	P	M	E	V	I	Q	U	Y	J	N	O	E	N
L	E	N	V	N	K	E	X	L	T	O	X	Z	B	S
E	O	T	E	L	T	S	I	M	J	Y	M	B	Y	Z

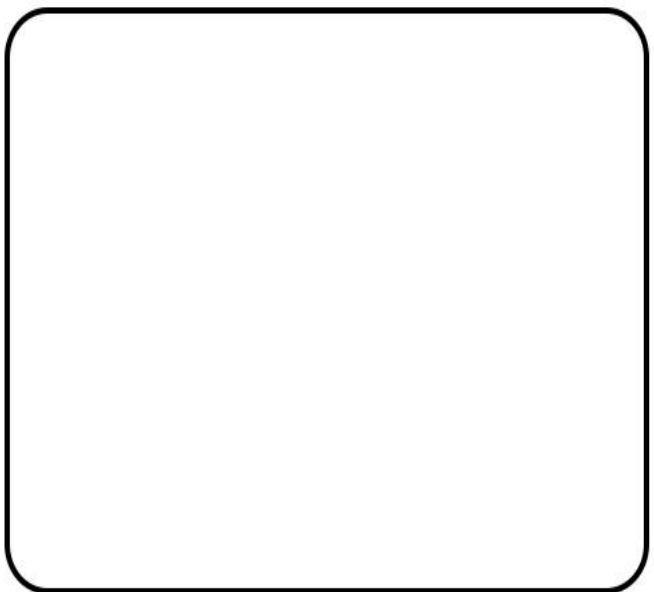




The Kids Corner Holiday Edition



Make your own snowflake in the space below.

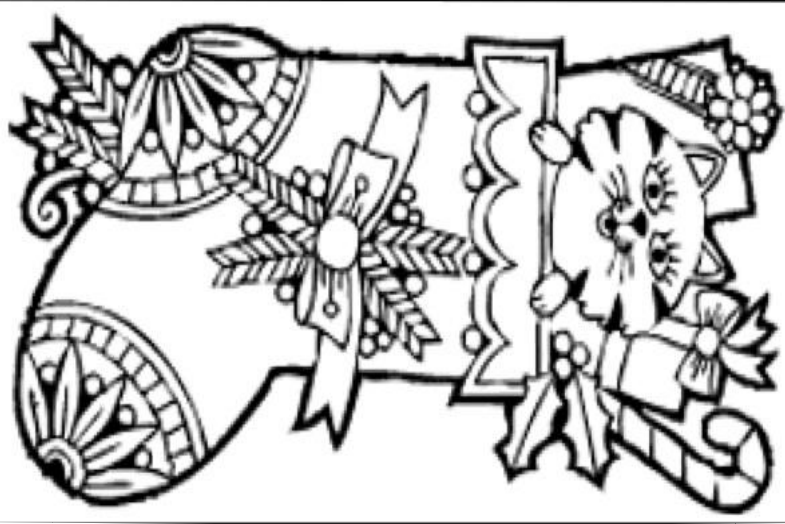


I made myself a snowball,
As perfect as could be,
I thought I'd keep it as a pet,
And let it sleep with me.
I made it some pajamas,
And a pillow for its head,
Then last night it ran away,
But first-- it wet the bed.



Color your own holiday bookmark and cut it out along the line!!

READING
TOGETHER



HOMIE
for the
HOLIDAYS

Community Resources

Volunteers!

Some Words of Encouragement ...

“Friendship is the Miracle-grow for your immune system”

“I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.”

Bill Cosby

“A person is a success if they get up in the morning and gets to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do. “

Bob Dylan

“Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH:

Housing Assistance

Help with Landlord/Tenant disputes and eviction emergencies

United Tenants of Albany

33 Clinton Ave
518-436-8997

City of Albany Office of Equal Employment

Opportunity & Fair Housing/Commission on Human Rights: 518-434-5127

H.E.A.P. Home Heating Assistance

<http://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>
1-800-342-3009

ACAP - 518-463-3475

Cornell Cooperative Extension - 518-756-8650

St John's / St Ann's: Furniture Program

Wed & Fri 9-12pm 518-472-9091

Habitat for Humanity Restore -

A Home Improvement Resale Store
454 North Pearl St. Albany NY 12204
(518) 275-6638
capitaldistricthabitat.org

Want to volunteer with **Trinity Alliance?**

Call the Volunteer Coordinator at **(518) 449-5155** Ext. 125 or visit www.trinityalliancealbany.org or come visit 15 Trinity Pl. Albany, NY 12202

- Help us with Toys for Tots- We will need A LOT of help in the third week of December
- We need coat donations to provide families with gently used coats for the upcoming winter

Want to volunteer with **The Salvation Army?**

- Christmas Assistance applications now M-W-F 1130am-230pm, and it is open to the community, deadline is Dec 16, 2011 **(518) 465-2416**

Community Information – Volunteer opportunities and help

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**.

Believe it or not, we are thinking about tax season 2012 already.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS

VITA TAX PROGRAM 2012

Needed: Individuals who would like to learn a new skill and help others at the same time. Free training. Benefits: New skill, meet new people, help your community, and have some fun. **Call: Tanya Owens, 518-449-5155, x-131**

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**

New Life Church of Christ is planning a **Children's Program**, "God's Building Block". The program will start in January 2012 and is open to the community, so don't delay call today because enrollment is limited. The program will be held on the 2nd Saturday of the month from Noon to 2 PM. Currently accepting registration, volunteers are needed, donations gladly accepted. For more information call 518-432-5800 - we'll return your call.

Community Partner & Contact Information

Community Partner	Telephone (Area Code 518)	Website
Albany Barn – Stage 1	935-4858	www.albanybarn.org
Albany Bike Rescue		www.trinityalliancealbany.org/health-and-wellness
Albany Community Hospice	724-0242	www.communityhospice.org
Albany County Dept. for Children Youth, and Families	447-7500	www.albanycounty.com/cyf
Albany Family Education Alliance	489-2838	www.albanyfamilyeducationalliance.org
Albany Housing Authority	810-0132	www.albanyhousing.org/thecenter
Albany Police Department	438-4000	www.albanyny.org/government/departments/police.aspx
ALLbany Online	598-0900 x3208	Allbanyonline.com
AVillage...,Inc.	859-4305	www.avillageny.org
Boys and Girls Clubs of Albany	462-5528	www.bgcalbany.com
Capital City Rescue Mission	462-0459	www.capitalcityrescuemission.com
Community Cradle	426-1153	www.communitycradle.org
Community Health Worker Program @ the Albany County Department of Health	447-4684	
Grand Street Community Arts	463-2222	www.grandarts.org
Homeless and Traveler's Aid Society	463-2124	www.hatas.org
NY State Department of Health	485-5341	www.health.state.ny.us
Schuyler Mansion	434-0834	www.schuylerfriends.org
South End Implimentation Team		www.albanyny.org/government/departments/developmentplanning.aspx
South End Improvement Corp.	436-8777	www.seicalbany.com
South End Neighborhood Association		www.southendna.blogspot.com
South End Partnership for Safe Families	447-7541	
St. George Orthodox Church	462-0579	
The Salvation Army	463-6678	www.salvationarmycapitalregion.org
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region	449-5155	www.trinityalliancealbany.org
Unity Sunshine Program	434-0815	http://www.unityhouseny.org/

About:

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 SEV 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 housed at the Trinity Alliance Family and Neighborhood Resource Center at 15 Trinity Place.

Submissions, Questions, comments, and corrections can be submitted to Carolyn Holthausen at southendvoice@gmail.com or at 518-449-5155 x105, or stop by!

Editorial Board

Amaury Ortiz
Benita Law-Diao
Terrilee Dodge
John P. Harden
Bria Schultz, Assistant Editor
Charmaine Wilson, Reporter
Carolyn Holthausen, Executive Editor

Interested in collaborating with the South End Voice? Come to one of our meetings! Join us on the last Tuesday of every month at Trinity Alliance.

TA - GED 5-8pm
BR Bike Repair 6-8pm

TA - Jobs club -10-12pm

1
TA - GED 5-8pm

2
TA - Knitting club 9:30-11am

3
AB- Dance Class 11:15-1:15pm

4

5
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm
AB-Teem Poetry Workshop - Evening

6
TA - GED 5-8pm
BR Bike Repair 6-8pm

7
TA Dancing w/ our Elders - 2pm
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm
GSCA - Community Meeting 7pm

8
AV Meeting - 5-7pm
TA - GED 5-8pm
GSCA 8-9:30am South End Partners Meeting

9
TA-Knitting club 9:30-11am

10
AB- Dance Class 11:15-1:15pm

11

12
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm
AB-Teem Poetry Workshop - Evening

13
BR Bike Repair 6-8pm
TA - GED 5-8pm

14
TA Dancing w/ our Elders - 2pm
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm
GSCA - Community Meeting 7pm

15
AV Meeting - 5-7pm
TA - GED 5-8pm

16
TA - Knitting club 9:30-11am

17
AB- Dance Class 11:15-1:15pm
TA -SIHU women's group 1-5pm

18

19
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm
AB-Teem Poetry Workshop - Evening

20
BR Bike Repair 6-8pm
TA - GED 5-8pm

21
TA Dancing w/ our Elders - 2pm
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm

22
AV Meeting - 5-7pm
TA - GED 5-8pm

23
TA - Knitting club 9:30-11am

24
Christmas Eve
AB- Dance Class 11:15-1:15pm

25
Christmas Day

26
AB-Teem Poetry Workshop - Evening

27
TA - GED 5-8pm

28
TA - Jobs club -10-12pm

29
TA - GED 5-8pm

30
TA - Knitting club 9:30-11am

31
New Years Eve
AB- Dance Class 11:15-1:15pm

ONGOING:

TA Computer lab 10-12pm M-F

HA Computer lab 9am-4pm M-F

Lincoln Park Gym: Open M-F 3:30-8pm for ages 15-18 I.D, required

Events Key

- AFEA**- Albany Family Education Alliance,
- AB** - Albany Barn, 46-48 N. Swan St
- 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.

December 2011