



The AVillage Voice

To all my friends,

Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers, and well wishes. I hope you all are enjoying this beautiful weather — it is driving me crazy to be stuck inside these four walls, but I do understand that it's part of the healing process. I did want to update you all on my medical progress; your prayers are working. I had my surgery for prostate cancer on the 24th of March and my progress is amazing. My daughter is taking good care of me; I've had so many of my friends calling, counseling from people who've been through this procedure before, stopping by, sending flowers, fruits, cards, books, cookies, going shopping, and most of all, just keeping me lifted up in prayer. It all lets me know that you care. Thank you! My family and I really appreciate you! On April 5th, I will be returning to get my doctor's update on my progress and I hope to keep you all updated on my healing. Please continue to hold my family in your prayers; I look forward to serving in my community again, working with the amazing AVillage members, returning to my church, starting my garden, and living a healthy life.



Willie White



Did you know...

The [Albany County Land Bank](#) now owns 98 properties in the South End. Roughly half are vacant lots and half are vacant buildings, all obtained through the Albany County tax foreclosure process. While this is very daunting, it's also a great opportunity because the Land Bank is dedicated to making sure these properties get into responsible hands as quickly as possible.

South End Earth Day, **April 22nd**, will feature staff from the Land Bank who can explain how to find what you are looking for, offer assistance in the application process, and finding the resources you need to get the job done. They will also be showing selected buildings and vacant lots.

This year's Earth Day is shaping up to be bigger than ever, with more territory covered, more projects, more partners, and more fun activities. Please let us know if you can volunteer on the day, or help us plan the event. Contact us at (518) 451-9849, or avillagevista@gmail.com.

Summer Job Opportunities

Are you interested in farmers' markets, community gardens or youth programs? Do you like getting PAID to do things you're passionate about? Then you're one resume and cover letter away from being interviewed for our new Market Manager, Garden Coordinator, or Youth Program Assistant positions. Send your resume & cover letter to stacy@radixcenter.org to set up an interview. Check out our website's [Get Involved](#) page for more information. We look forward to hearing back from you.

AVillage and the Radix Center, in partnership with Trinity Alliance, work together on summer programs in the South End. Our goal is more fresh food for everybody, whether you buy it at our Farmers' Market, grow it yourself in one of our gardens, or start your own garden. We also teach young people about gardening and caring for our environment.

Strategies to Reduce Gun Violence

[The American Public Health Association](#) (APHA) calls gun violence a public health crisis. Every year, approximately 30,000 Americans are killed, and another 60,000 injured, at the hand of a gun; yet, there has been a decades-long research gap on gun violence and its root causes. A recent report by [Everytown for Gun Safety](#) offers a view of available data, as well as innovative approaches to reducing gun violence. In honor of National Public Health Week, the [University at Albany School of Public Health](#) brings together researchers and practitioners to discuss the public health implications of gun violence, as well as potential strategies to reduce its impact in the United States.

When: Monday, April 3, 2017 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Where: University at Albany School of Public Health ([1 University Place](#)); Room 110A.

Farewell To Breathing Lights

You are invited to the [Breathing Lights](#) Project Finale & Policy Summit on **April 7th**, at [Proctors \(432 State Street\)](#). Click on the link to register.

YOU MUST REGISTER if you plan to attend. When details and speakers are finalized, the schedule will be posted online.



Important Change For Nutrition Class

Last week we had an egg frittata; what is in store for the future? In partnership with [Cornell Cooperative Extension](#), our nutrition classes will now be in two locations: the [Capital South Campus Center](#), 20 Warren St., and [Greater St. John's Church of God in Christ](#), 74 Fourth Avenue.

If you're interested in attending, stay connected to our website, Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram pages; if you don't have access to any of those outlets, please email us at avillagevista@gmail.com, or call us at (518) 451-9849.



Speakers For Thursday Meetings

April 6th— Civic Participation: Assembly Member John T. McDonald III will report on the state budget.

April 13th— Economic Literacy: Board Member Derrick Conyers will give a presentation on helping individuals gain financial independence & stability.

April 20th— Health Advocacy: Interim Executive Director Marc Johnson will lead a group discussion about our contaminated drinking water, and the impact it can have on the South End.

Thursday meetings start at **5:30 p.m.** at the Capital South Campus Center. For more information on meetings, contact us at avillagevista@gmail.com.

Play Ball!

There's still time to sign up for the 2017 American Little League season! You can register at the American Little League clubhouse, located at [First Avenue and Krank Street](#), each **Wednesday and Friday** from **6 to 7:30 p.m.**, and on **Saturdays** from **10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through April 15th**. The games begin **April 24th**. For more information, call (518) 463-3324.

**Seniors: Health & Wellness
Are The Key To A Brighter Future**

Learn To Use Tax Credits Effectively

Join [Historic Albany](#) and [Preservation Studios](#) for

You are invited to be a part of the Healthy Aging Fair, sponsored by the [City of Albany](#), [Department of Recreation](#), [RSVP of the Capital Region](#), and the [Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc.](#) The goal of this event is to make seniors within the community aware of essential health and wellness programs by bringing them together in one room. The Health and Wellness Leaders will provide information about the benefits of their specific programs; attendees of the fair will have the opportunity to participate in various health and wellness demonstrations; seniors who would like to be trained as Health and Wellness Leaders will be able to register for future training. The Fair is scheduled for **Thursday, April 13th**, from **1 p.m. to 3 p.m.**, and held at the Department of Recreation ([7 Hoffman Avenue](#)). There will be raffle prizes, giveaways and refreshments.

a workshop on how to make dollars and cents of using the Federal and New York State Historic Preservation Rehabilitation Tax Credits. Mike Puma, of Preservation Studios, will discuss the financial minutia of using these tax credits, evaluating their effectiveness for your project, and how to make them work for partially owner occupied multifamily homes and completely occupied tenant multifamily homes.

Date: Thursday, April 13th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Capital South Campus Center.

Cost of admission: \$5 Historic Albany Members/
\$10 General Admission

Please RSVP to info@historic-albany.org, or call (518) 465-0876 to reserve a spot.

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