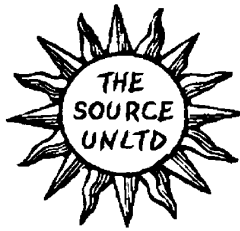


# Source



# Letter

A monthly publication with news about the East Village community at large ©2004

Free in The Village

Volume 2, Issue 2 May 2005

Priceless Everywhere Else

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**FIRST OFF...** It's good to see that the Democrats have found their collectively misplaced cojones in their recent battles with the ruling party over Social Security reform & the judicial nominees. It reminds the country that there are built in checks & balances in place that actually work sometimes. Let the games begin!

## SOURCE STUFF FOR MAY

Perforated Letter Size

**YELLOW LEGAL PADS**

(or \$10.00 pr dozen)

Mention This Ad

**\$1.00 EA.**

### REMINDERS

**Attn Parkers:** Alternate Parking is suspended:

- May 1, Sun. Passover: 8th Day
- May 5, Thurs. Solemnity of Ascension
- May 30, Mon. Memorial Day

**HEAR AND BE HEARD** at the next meeting of the 9th Precinct Community Council. May 10 @ 200 E. 5th St. (cor. Cooper Sq. & 3rd Ave.) 7pm. Jerry Shea, Pres.  
[www.ninthprecinctcouncil.org](http://www.ninthprecinctcouncil.org)

### PLACES TO LEND A HAND

- **TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK** needs volunteers to help paint, garden, & make general improvements. Info: Call 212-288-6220, ext. 266 or email [playground@nyjl.org](mailto:playground@nyjl.org) & mention the ways you can help.
- **EAST VILLAGE VISITING NEIGHBORS** provide help to seniors in our area. For info: 212-260-6200
- **HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE** with our ongoing food drive to benefit **The Middle Collegiate Church Food Programs**. All canned goods you bring to our store go directly to people who really need them.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**GET LISTED! UPCOMING EVENTS, GIGS, ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST.**

To submit, Stop by our store @ 331 E. 9th Street OR e-mail us at [santo@sourceunltd.com](mailto:santo@sourceunltd.com).

Submissions must be received by JUNE 27th. Inclusion subject to space availability.

- **SUDHA & SRIJANA INVITE YOU** to their first party to benefit The Children's Home in Nepal. The goal for this special afternoon is to have a wonderful time together while raising the necessary funds to support educational scholarships for the needy children in Nepal. In addition, this event will assist in providing simple school supplies. Sat. May 14 from 3pm-6pm, at La Palapa Rockola, 359 Sixth Ave. (bet. W. 4th St. & Washington Pl.) (212) 243-6870. For more info on The Children's Fund go to [www.childrenshome.org.np](http://www.childrenshome.org.np)
- **HAPPY HAPPY HAPPY** is what you'll be when you visit this bakery featuring all natural desserts with no dairy, gluten, wheat, yeast, trans fats or preservatives BUT filled with flavor & great variety. Happy Happy Happy is located @ 157 Allen St., Hours are: Sat. & Sun 10am-6pm Wed.-Fri 2pm-8pm Call 212-254-4088 or visit [www.happyhappyhappy.com](http://www.happyhappyhappy.com) A real find!!!
- **ACUPUNCTURE, WHAT CAN IT DO FOR YOU?** This question & many more will be answered by Paul Zucker, founder of The Acupuncture Center (in association with Beth Israel). Thurs. May 12th, 2pm - 3pm, Phillips Care Cntr., 10 Union Square E. Registration is required. For Info Call 212-420-4247.
- **CELEBRATE THE RELEASE** of Bernadette Mayer's new book of poems. Sunday May 8, 12 - 3 pm @ The Bowery Poetry Club, 308 Bowery, 212-614-0505
- **MAKE YOUR MARK ON THE PARK** is off to a great start. 23 stones have been purchased with money going to build a permanent fund to help pay for the care of the park. Stone unveiling is on Sun. May 22, 1:00 pm at Temperance Fountain.
- **THE GIRLS PROJECT**, an empowerment program for 5th grade girls presents "Our End of Year Show" on Fri. May 13 @ 5:30 pm at The Earth School, 600 E. 6th St. @ Ave B. Info: 212-505-3184
- **AN EVENING OF RECORDER MUSIC** with Anita Randolfi (Recorders) and Douglas Lima (Piano). Thurs., May 5th at 7:30 pm, at Diller-Quaile Recital Hall, 24 E. 95th St. 212-369-1484
- **BILLY BANG'S AFTERMATH BAND** at Jazz Standard, May 10 & 11, Sets at 7:30pm & 9:30pm. Butch Morris conducts the May 10th show. 116 E. 27 St., 212-576-2232

**GUEST COLUMN OF THE MONTH**



# Guest Column of the Month

**DHARMA PUNX**

**Noah Levine**

Dharma Punx is a way of being, it is how we have come to integrate our political & spiritual beliefs. We sought a different path than our parents, the once idealistic hippie generation that had long since cut their hair, left the commune & bought in to the system. Peace and love had failed to make any real changes & in response to the despair & hopelessness we felt came the punk rock movement. Seeking to rebel against society's fascist system of oppression and capitalist driven propaganda, kids responded in their own way, different from those before us, a new revolution for a new generation. Aware of the corruption in the government and inconsistencies in the power dynamics in our homes we rebelled against society and family in one loud and fast roar of teen angst. Unwilling to accept the dictates of the system, we did whatever we could to rebel. My situation was compounded by the personal despair so many of our generation were facing; broken homes, addicted parents, abusive teachers and a lack of elders on top of all the normal strife of growing up.

Our parents were too busy trying to succeed or survive in the aftermath of the sixties and the race for riches of the seventies and eighties, or in my case the dedication to spiritual practice & service that at times kept my father ever occupied. So we hit the streets, fueled by the music of revolution, anger, angst, fear, despair, hatred and a total dissatisfaction with the status quo. We dyed our hair and donned new uniforms to set us apart from the mindless masses of adults and brain dead herds of kids that were going along with the lies, buying into the great American fallacy, playing sports, going to school and listening to the awful popular music of the eighties that carried no meaningful message and was in our minds as just another symptom of the disease that was plaguing our society.

We turned to drugs and booze to escape from the feelings of hopelessness and despair. Eating acid like it was candy and chasing speed with cheap vodka, smoking our parents weed, consuming gallons of cheap beer all in a vain attempt to stay numb. Having set our selves apart, we were a constant target of violence & ridicule. Fighting to survive, we often found ourselves involved in some battle or another. All the violence and drugs led to many early deaths, overdoses, murders, car accidents and countless suicides. Death & grief has been a central part of the lives of all the kids who were associated with the early punk rock scene. Following the great examples set by Sid Vicious and Darby Crash, live fast, do lots of drugs, fuck the system by dying young. Half of the kids that I hung out with in the eighties are dead and that is just from my crew in a small town punk rock scene. This is about those of us who didn't die young and are still around in the new millennium. Those of us who, fueled by our dissatisfaction with life and the material world, have turned toward Spiritual Practice.

Having clearly seen the uselessness of drugs and violence we have found a way to use that energy to Awaken rather than for self-destruction. We have taken ourselves and the struggle off of the streets & are now fighting the inner battle against delusions and ignorance, yet continuing to express ourselves in our own unique Punk Rock ways outwardly. This spiritual truth has come in many different forms, while I find myself primarily engaged in Buddhist practice some of the other Dharma Punx have dedicated themselves to the Sufi path of Islamic mysticism, to a personal relationship with Christ or to the Hindu path. I use the term Dharma meaning the Truth with a capital T, and as my father often reminds me, "that which is true is found in all spiritual and religious traditions". No one has the corner on the truth. My story takes you on a sometimes ugly, sometimes beautiful, spiritual journey from Juvenile Hall to the Dharma Hall. It is a full circle, from being institutionalized to teaching meditation in institutions, from robbing and stealing to giving and forgiving. It's about finding freedom and then spending the rest of your life giving it all away.

My intention is to inspire people to find the freedom they are seeking. To encourage investigation of the human heart and mind, and offer an alternative to drugs and violence. I am sharing the importance of meditation, prayer and spiritual exploration, in a medium that is easy to digest, emotionally moving and even entertaining. People will recognize themselves and their children and see the awesome potential for healing and happiness even out of the depths of suffering, grief and despair. It is not just one story but the lives of several different people that have come together to form our crew the Dharma Punx. This is the new face of the punk rock scene, a crew of committed dharma practitioners that you can still find down at the local club singing along to our favorite bands and doing the occasional stage dive. Some of the Dharma Punx are in world famous bands or others work 9-5's, some are married and own their homes, the rest of us rent, trying to get by, all of us are friends and all of us are real people. This is not a fictional tale of romantic suffering and Hollywood love stories, it's about real people, real loss, and genuine spiritual experiences. The Dharma Punx is not just my story it is the story of my Generation.

*Noah Levine is the author of "Dharma Punx" & conducts weekly meetings which include meditation instruction, Buddhist teachings & discussion, at The Rebel Saint Buddhist Meditation Center, 302 Bowery, #2, Tues. 7pm-9pm (Drop In-Donation) Mon. & Thurs. 7pm-9pm (registration required) ,(347)731-3686 [www.dharmapunx.com](http://www.dharmapunx.com)*

**Satch's Corner** Where you can read about some good cd's, books & videos which can be purchased at [www.sourceunltd.com](http://www.sourceunltd.com) through our affiliate program with amazon.com



"Satch"  
by Sara Hauser

## THE DUHKS

If you like acoustic music with some fire to it, this disc by the Canadian group The Duhks, produced by Bela Fleck, is for you. It has a clean, crisp sound, great vocal harmonies & an interesting blend of instruments such as banjo, uilleann pipes, mandolin & a bunch of world percussion all mixed with an interesting selection of traditional & modern songs. My disc came with some video extras which was a nice touch. Overall a good piece of work, very enjoyable to listen to. They just gotta work on the name.

See you next time on the corner.

**Closing Statement: "Fear is a weed; Hate is the tree" St. Augustine**