

Source Letter

PUBLISHED BY THE SOURCE UNLTD

COPIES & MORE SINCE 1982

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

Free in The Village

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Priceless Everywhere Else

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FIRST OFF... Hillary brings the ball up, passes it to Chelsea at center court who wants no part of it and rifles a pass to Bill in the corner who throws up a shot from South Carolina that's partially blocked by Michelle Obama and finds it's way back to Hillary who holds on to it at midcourt as the clock ticks away... That's the way the media is presenting it. We'll see where it all winds up. Turn the clocks ahead, enjoy the beginning of spring. As always, Support your local vendors when you can, and keep the community strong, vital and real.

SOURCE STUFF FOR MARCH
FULL COLOR POSTCARDS **.29¢ ea**
min 1000 cards

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www.sourceunltd.com

INFORMATION

Attn. Parkers: Alternate Parking is suspended:

- | | | |
|--------------|----------|---------------|
| • March 20th | Thursday | Holy Thursday |
| • March 21st | Friday | Good Friday |
| • March 21st | Friday | Purim |

• The Ninth Precinct Community Council Meeting will be held on Tues., March 18th, 7:00 pm @ 200 East 5th Street (Cooper Square & 3rd Ave.) WWW.THENEWNINTHPRICINCT.ORG



• **CLOSE TO HOME...** Get involved with **Visiting Neighbors.** Visit their website at www.visitingneighbors.org and see what works for you.



• **GOT CANS??...**

Help out by contributing to our ongoing food drive to benefit Middle Collegiate Church Food Program. Bring your canned goods to our store. Thanks

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

Submissions must be received by March 28th. Inclusion subject to space availability.

- **SEX! DRUGS! & UKULELES!**...a romantic musical comedy of the future, conceived and written by Uke Jackson (book & lyrics), music by Terry Waldo. In the "retro future", the piece follows the rise of three young outlaw uke strummers who come into contact with a mysterious stranger who changes all their lives forever. Directed by Victor Maog, March 7th to April 6th @ Theater for the New City, 155 First Ave. (bet. 9 & 10 St.) (212) 254-1109
- **WHAT'S UP IN YOUR WORLD?**... Find out in this special, teens-only hour in the Chatham Square tech lab. Ages 12 to 18 are welcome. Mon, March 17, 4:00pm, @ Chatham Square Public Library, 33 East Broadway For info call (212) 964-6598.
- **THE POETICS ORCHESTRA**...an ensemble of poets & musicians conducted using hand signals and rhythmic forms to shape collective improvisation. Lineup & details tba. Friday March 14th, 10:00 pm @ The Poetry Project, 131 E. 10th St. (corner of 2nd Ave), Call (212) 674-0910 www.poetryproject.com
- **THEY'RE WATCHING**...Frances Madeson will read from her hilarious novel, "Cooperative Village", a clever satire of the Patriot Act and a look at urban living, Thursday, March 13, 6:30pm @ Kips Bay Library, 446 3rd Ave., (212) 683-2520, Fully Accessible
- **EEN & FRIENDS**...Robert Een performs from his Obie Award winning score for Hiroshima Maiden. The music features Een on cello and voice, joined by Bill Ruyle on hammer dulcimer & percussion, & Jeff Berman on vibraphone, marimba, lap dulcimer & percussion, March 16, 8:30pm @ Roulette Space, 20 Greene St., (212) 219-8242
- **NICK**... Nick has a house he can't afford, filled with live-in relatives. The sexy daughter of his creditor offers to rescue him. His acceptance might just bring down the house. Comic, intense & provocative. Sat., March 15 & Sun., March 16, @ Interart Theatre, 500 W. 52nd St. Cocktails & conversation before & after the staged reading. FREE ADMISSION! For more info, visit blessedunrest.org
- **THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF UNCLE WIGGILY**... by Laurel Hessing, a verse play with music for young audiences, Directed by Crystal Field, Music Composed by Arthur Abrams, Through March 30th @ Theater For The New City, 155 First Ave. (bet. 9 & 10 St.) (212) 254-1109

GUEST COLUMN OF THE MONTH

Be Part of the Guest Column...Submit your stories, photos, drawings to: santo@sourceunltd.com

THIS MONTH...SHAMELESS SELF-PROMOTION

The Villager

West and East Villages, Chelsea, SoHo,

NoHo, Little Italy, Chinatown and Lower East Side, Since 1983

February 13 - 19, 2009

Photocopies to DVD dupes, no limits at The Source

BY KRISTIN T. EDWARDS

The bar in "Cheese" isn't the only place where everyone knows your name. They also know it at The Source Unlimited in the East Village.

On a recent Friday afternoon, the small copy shop and stationery supply store saw a steady stream of customers, many of them calling out "Hey, Santo" as they entered.

That would be Santo Mollica, the store's affable owner. From the conversations they had with him, it was clear that many came there often. Also getting frequent greetings were Mollica's girlfriend Margaret and their dog Satch. While not directly involved with the business, Margaret does help out from time to time and is known in the neighborhood, as well. Satch is popular, too.

"People come just to see him and bring him treats," Mollica said.

"I have a lot of regular customers — artists, business owners and regular people," Mollica said of his clientele. Customers are drawn back by the diverse services The Source Unlimited offers.

In addition to black-and-white and color photocopies, customers can also make other promotional items, such as business cards, postcards, stamps and stickers. The store can also duplicate CDs and DVDs and sells an array of fun postcards and stationery supplies.

"This is the only place that sells those pink notepads. I think he carries them just for me. He understands the pink," said Tanya Seeman, a freelance costume designer for film and TV.



Santo Mollica, right, with customer Thomas Hooper, who waits nearby and came in to order business cards at Mollica's store, The Source Unlimited, at 331 E. Ninth St.

Yes, there's more to Source Unlimited's success than their goods and services.

"They are beloved in the neighborhood for their service, honesty and their good looks," said John David Earnest with a laugh.

Earnest is a composer in the Village who has been patronizing the shop for 20 years for all his binding and copying needs. When he's in town, he pops in a few times a week. As a lover of small businesses, he prefers The Source to bigger, commercial companies, because he knows he is getting more attention.

Mollica purchased the space, at 331 E. Ninth St., in 1979. At the time he had been taking classes uptown at Hunter College. The advertisement in *The Village Voice* described the location as being mixed-use space, one where someone could live and run his or her business. As his first choice,

a loft in SoHo was too pricey; the mixed-use space was just right.

An aspiring musician, Mollica at first had to pawn his electric guitar to make the rent on the space. He was able to buy the instrument back again, only to resell it once more.

"I didn't really like electric guitars," he said. "It looked good, though; it's easy to sell them when they look good."

In 1982, Mollica was promoting his own music as a solo artist and doing layout and design on the side for other artists for some extra money. He often had a hard time getting things copied, so he bought his own equipment and opened his business.

It was his love of music that inspired him to offer CD — and previously cassette — and DVD duping. While some newer competitors have seen the genius of the

service, he was one of the few places doing it at the time.

Many local bands and artists have visited the shop to make copies of their demo tapes. As a musician himself, he enjoys helping people in the arts.

"I like to give 'em a break. It's a hard nut to crack," he said of the arts.

Though he has had patrons crack it.

"The band We Might Be Giants used to come in here to make their flexis," Mollica said. Actor Danny Hoch, who appeared in the movie "Lucky You" last year, also was a frequent customer at the store before he made it.

"He came back to visit recently, just to see if we were still here," Mollica said.

As a longtime East Villager, Mollica has seen the neighborhood change. He said while there's still some crime, it has greatly decreased since the 1980s when the area was full of drugs.

"People would approach you on the corner and try and sell to you," he recalled.

As the area became safer, it also became more high-end, with more boutiques coming in and tents rising, Mollica said, recounting the familiar story. Of the area's explosion of bars and clubs, he said that while the area has gained a nightlife, "they did so at the expense of the day life."

Things on his street changed, as well. Many of the mixed-use spaces on his block were converted from residential dwellings into retail storefronts, and there was pressure for him to move out of the building, as well. He began a court battle with his landlord in the 1990s and recently was finally able to resolve the matter amicably.

Satch's Corner Where you can read about some good cd's, books and videos that can be purchased at www.thesourceunltd.com through our affiliation with amazon.com (just click on the amazon logo)



"Satch" drawing by Sara Hauser

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Before shortening their name and churning out lite pap hits, Chicago was a progressive, smokin' band which combined horns, percussion and rock guitars in a song format which cooked. This 2 disc set is worth checkin' out to see what fm radio was embracing in it's formative years. "Beginnings", "Questions", "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?" plus some jams make this a worthy addition to any collection. I give it 4 bones. . . "See you next time on the corner..."

Closing Statement: "You can't pray AND worry, the two just don't go together." - Ossie Davis