

Source Letter

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FIRST OFF- Two recent events show that the old-school community spirit still lives and thrives in the East Village. Sidewalk Cafe held a benefit to help Ray Alvarez, owner of Ray's Candy Store, to stave off bill collectors, management companies and the landlord. Various people donated time, talent and cash to the cause. And on the 16th, at Theater 80, Bobby Steele, Jay Wilson and others will raise a few bucks for Jim "Mosaic Man" Power to continue work on his "Mosaic Trail". It's coming-together events like this that keep a community in touch and alive. Buy local when you can --- your dollar is your political statement.

FEBRUARY IS COLOR STICKER MONTH! STOP BY FOR DETAILS

INFORMATION

ATTN PARKERS Alternate Parking is suspended:

- February 12 Fri. Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14 Sun. Asian Lunar New Year
- February 15 Mon. President's Day
- February 17 Wed. Ash Wednesday
- February 28 Sun. Purim

LISTEN, LEARN, SPEAK... The Ninth Precinct Community Council Meeting, Tues. Feb. 16th, 7pm @ 321 East 5th Street 212-477-7805

IN YOUR FACE The Empire State Building lights are part of our everyday lives, but what do they mean?

Date	Color	Occasion
2/22	Green/Blue/Green	Int'l Corp. Philanthropy Day
2/16	Red/Yellow/Red	Lunar New Year
2/15	Red/White/Blue	President's Day
2/14	Red/Pink/White	Valentine's Day
2/8	Team colors of Super Bowl winner (TBD)	
2/6-7	Saints (Yellow/Black/Yellow) Colts (Blue/White/Blue)	



VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY IDEA Volunteer at Beth Israel Medical Center. Volunteers are an integral part of Beth Israel's professional team. Use your current skills or gain new ones in areas of interest to you. For more information call (212) 420-2733.

ALWAYS NEED HELP

- Visiting Neighbors, Call 212-260-6200 or visit their website at www.visitingneighbors.org
- The Food Bank of NYC www.foodbanknyc.org

DROP A CAN IN THE BOX Contribute to our ongoing food drive to benefit The Middle Collegiate Church Food Pantry Program. Bring your **CANNED ONLY** goods to our store. Thanks a lot.

OUT AND ABOUT

GET LISTED! UPCOMING EVENTS, GIGS, ITEMS OF INTEREST... To submit, e-mail us at: santo@sourceunltd.com OR stop by our store @ 331 E. 9th Street *Inclusion subject to space availability.*

- **NEW IN THE HOOD...** Some friends of ours embarking on new endeavors. Jason Corey and Christopher Carson have opened up **The Immigrant NYC Wine Bar**, a cozy spot located at 341 East 9th Street 212-677-2545. Also, the folks at Footgear are branching out with **Village Kids Footwear** @ 117 First Ave. 212-254-2172 Good Luck to both!
- **THE LOWER EAST SIDE HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTS: WOMEN OF THE LES...** From breaking new ground in music, art, literature, and medicine, to advancements in working conditions and women's rights, the women of the Lower East Side played an invaluable role in shaping politics and culture in America and around the globe. Part of the Tenement Talk Series February 11, 6pm @ Ottendorfer Library, 135 Second Ave (St. Marks Place) 212-674-0947
- **SEE HER DEMONS...** Lorraine Leckie and Her Demons rock out on Saturday, Feb. 13th. 7:00pm @ Banjo Jim's, 700 East 9th Street (corner of Avenue C) Visit: www.banjojims.com or Call: 212-777-0869
- **TENEMENT TALKS...** Waiting For Lefty: A Staged Reading with Theater 808 actors, directed by Simon McLean. Based on a 1934 strike of unionized New York cabdrivers, Clifford Odet's first play hit theaters at the height of the depression and was an instant critical and public sensation. Feb. 23rd, 6:30pm, @ The Tenement Museum, 108 Orchard St., RSVP to [events\(at\)tenement.org](mailto:events(at)tenement.org)
- **ABRUPT READINGS...** Joel Bettridge is the author of *That Abrupt Here* and *Presocratic Blues*. Currently he is an Assistant Professor of English at Portland State Univ. Geoffrey Olsen is the author of the chapbook *End Notebook*. He lives in Brooklyn & works at Cooper Union. Mon., Feb. 15th, 8pm @ Poetry Project, 131 E. 10th St. Call (212) 674-0910
- **FOLLOW THE TRAIL...** A benefit for Jim Power, "Mosaic Man" to help support the completion of his Mosaic Trail. Eden & John's East River String Band will perform. Tues. Feb. 16th, 7pm-11pm at Theatre 80, 80 St. Mark's Place.

GUEST COLUMN OF THE MONTH Be Part of the Guest Column. Submit stories, photos, drawings to: santo@sourceunltd.com

East Village Profile: A Talk With Jared Boxx →

East Village Profile: A TALK WITH JARED BOXX OF BIG CITY RECORDS: KEEPING VINYL ALIVE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

On a recent cold Friday evening, I spent some time with Jared Boxx, owner of Big City Records located at 521 East 12th Street. We touched on a number of topics and here's how it went.

Santo: Where are you from?

Jared Boxx: I was born in Connecticut and also lived in Massachusetts and I came to New York in 1995. I came here to basically try to survive, make it and get into music. I started to work at A-1 Records (on 6th Street) in 1999.

S: What did your parents do?

JB: My mom had a few different jobs and my dad worked in construction.

S: Why this? Did you dig vinyl from when you were young?

JB: I knew if I could get into the music business I would make a living and be happy. I always loved record shops and records so I knew if I started working in one, I wouldn't want to stop.

S: Do you see vinyl as a movement or revival?

JB: A little bit. It's a medium that is real special. There have been a lot of mediums in music down the line that have come and gone, but vinyl has something special about it that has people still collecting it.

S: How did you wind up on East 12th Street?

JB: I moved down to the East Village in 1997 and started to frequent the record shops that were here, like Finyl Vinyl on 7th Street, Fat Beats on 9th Street, and a lot of the other ones. Then I wound up at A-1 and that would be the one I'd be in all the time and eventually got a job there.

S: Any favorite place in the Village?

JB: I always love getting coffee at Ray's on Ave A, B & H Restaurant on 2nd Ave is also one of my favorites, and Yonah Schimmel Knishery on Houston.

S: What do you think is the best thing about having a business?

JB: You get to keep a social relationship with your neighborhood. You can watch and you can read about it, but there's something special when you have to wrestle with it on a daily basis.

S: And what do you think is the hardest thing about it?

JB: I think just doing retail in New York City. It's a place that can take a lot more than it gives sometimes. And you have people of all sizes, young and old, and some days when you work retail, you leave and it's like ...oh, man! you're fried. But then something good happens and it pulls you back in place.

S: So you do online also?

JB: A little bit, when we have to. You don't want to become a dinosaur, but we are an old school record store. We don't do a whole lot of online stuff but when the bill collector comes, you do what you have to or you won't be here anymore. Tourists help out a lot. We get a lot of collectors from all over the world, Argentina, Italy and Japan.

S: What about the future? Do you see yourself here for the long haul?

JB: I think so. You know, you become part of your block, and your neighborhood & 12th Street's got it's special place, so I don't think we'll be going any place soon. We hope to be here as long as we can. People seem to like the store.

S: And you feel good about the future of vinyl?

JB: Yeah, people seem to want it in their lives. Out of the last 100 years of music mediums, vinyl has lasted and will outlast them all.



Jared Boxx
Big City Records
12-8pm Everyday, 521 E. 12th Street
212-539-0208 bigcitynyc@gmail.com

Satch's Corner Where you can read about some good cd's, books and videos



"Satch" drawing
by Sara Hauser

LARRY BIRD, MAGIC JOHNSON -- WHEN THE GAME WAS OURS ... We're going back to the 80's and a time when the NBA was having all kinds of (justifiably) bad image troubles. Along come two college rivals: a white kid in Boston and a black kid in L.A., with tons of game, to two teams with a historic rivalry, where they proceed to turn the NBA into a global phenomena. This was pre zillion dollar contracts and "Air Jordan" sneakers. When it was all about THE GAME. A great first hand account from the players about their feelings towards each other & the world. I give it 3 bones. See you next time on the corner...

Closing Statement: "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt. -Abraham Lincoln