SouthSide Film Festival: Take One

By Johan Thomas

This year Bethlehem’s SouthSide has been fortunate enough to host many great community related events. From First Friday celebrations to Spring on 4th – What’s on 3rd events, the SouthSide has maintained a festive atmosphere for its residents and Lehigh University. Continuing the trend, the SouthSide is currently preparing for one of its next big events – the SouthSide Film Festival.

The SouthSide Film Festival grew from an idea of Lehigh alumnus and Bethlehem resident Graham Stanford. In 2003, Stanford along with several of his filmmaking friends held a small festival of their own in Goosey Gander’s basement. The festival’s small scale success led to an idea of a larger festival, one involving more of the SouthSide community. In addition, it spawned the creation of the SouthSide Film institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the art of filmmaking.

This year’s festival, which the institute has dubbed the prequel to its first official festival in 2005, will run from June 17-20. On the first night, Goosey Gander will play host for the festival’s kickoff ceremony, serving dinner and offering a Gong Show-style event called “Rumble at the Goose” that allows the audience to play movie critic.

Jeff Vaclavik, committee member and one of the chief organizers of the festival commented on preparations for the event.

“It’s cool to see a lot of different people from the community, young and old with various backgrounds, come together for this unique event.”

As we move toward the end of the spring semester, it’s time to start thinking about “Operation Move Out” which leads to the “Great South Side Sale” in September.

“Operation Move Out” provides students the opportunity to dispose of their no longer wanted articles in an orderly way, and ultimately those articles get converted into an outstanding fund-raiser in the fall providing much needed support for very worthy South Side Bethlehem non-profits.

Please keep this important fund-raiser in mind as you get ready to wrap-up the spring semester and head off from Lehigh in May. And have a great, safe summer!!

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By Johan Thomas

Bethlehem’s SouthSide is a unique community made up of many different people from various backgrounds. Not only is the SouthSide’s cultural diversity recognized by the makeup of its many residents, its diversity is also reflected by its many restaurants and eateries.

On the SouthSide, diners can enjoy a variety of cuisines from all around the world, catering to all sort of tastes and dietary lifestyles.

Diners can enjoy a variety of kabob’s, homemade humus dip, and many other traditional Mediterranean dishes at the Olive Branch.

On the SouthSide restaurant-goers can indulge in many tastes from the orient. The Dancing Fish Co. has a full service sushi bar and offers a wide selection of traditional Japanese cuisines such as tempura and teriyaki. Also, the China Buffet offers an all-you-can-eat buffet style menu.

Nawab provides a fine dining experience and exotic Indian dishes such as Rogham Josh, lamb curry, traditional Tandori dishes and more.

Both La Lupita and Tulum serve burritos tacos and other authentic Mexican cuisine, all prepared with fresh ingredients. The diverse selection of foods is also seen in some of the SouthSide more frequented eateries.

Lehigh Pizza, a staple on the Southside for more than 20 years, offers more than 25 toppings for its pies and a vast menu of other appetizers and meals.

3rd Street Chicken and Ribs makes its delicious selection of Buffalo wings, chicken, ribs and potato logs from scratch.

Goosey Gander, which has become a SouthSide lunchtime favorite, offers an assortment of deli style sandwiches. “The Goose,” as it is known by many residents of the SouthSide, also recently opened a new addition, serving dinner and catering to the nightlife crowd on the SouthSide.

The SouthSide is also a great place for restaurants-goers with alternative dietary lifestyles.

For vegetarian diners, the Green Café offers a completely vegetarian, mostly vegan menu, serving organic foods with dishes such as tofu vegetable stir fry and vegetarian burritos and chili.

Rebecca Pancoast of the Green Café commented on the SouthSide variety of restaurants and eateries.

“I think is wonderful, a lot of the restaurants are family owned and it is real neat that everything is so close,” Pancoast said.

The Southside offers fast food favorites Wendy’s and McDonald’s for the on-the-go diner. Patrons can also get a “Greeker”, a hot dog covered with mustard, onions and chili at Pete’s Hot Dogs.

Restaurant-goers can even enjoy a great meal on Lehigh’s campus. At Pastaficio’s diners can choose from a wide selection of pasta dishes.

Bethlehem’s SouthSide is a wonderful community where residents, Lehigh students and visitors can all enjoy the diverse mixture of culture and cuisine.

Simple Cobbler

1 cup self-rising flour
1 cup sugar
1 cup milk
1 stick butter (or margarine)
1/4 tsp cinnamon
1 can sliced fruit (peaches, apples, berries, etc.)

In a large casserole dish, melt the butter in the microwave. Add flour, milk, sugar, and cinnamon, and stir slightly. Add can of fruit (liquid and all), and do not stir. Bake at 375 degree for 30-35 minutes or until top begins to brown. Serve plain or with ice cream. Makes 6-8 servings.
Volunteering means much more

By Johan Thomas

As the semester comes to a close and students begin to pack up to go home, the Lehigh community must ask itself: ‘what have I contributed to the community.’ For students and many faculty members, the SouthSide is a home away from home. We all must consider what the SouthSide provides for us. What better way to give back than to volunteer.

Get involved. In the community, students can lend a hand to the Boys & Girls Club of Bethlehem, Banana Factory, Broughal Middle School, American Red Cross LV Chapter, or the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. On Campus, students can donate their time helping out at the Women’s Center, Zoellner Arts Center, or even get involved in the C.O.A.C.H. Program.

Volunteering is more than an opportunity to give back. We gain so much when we volunteer. Volunteering builds character. Volunteering can boost your self-esteem. It allows us to pledge our time to causes that we strongly believe in. It can also fulfill the physical activity we all need to maintain a healthy well-being. Outdoors on a sunny day, volunteering can even be a way to get that tan you’ve been missing.

Volunteering builds an interaction between us and our community. It benefits all, its effects extending throughout the community and fostering a cooperative atmosphere among residents.
ID Opens Doors
By Johan Thomas

Being a Lehigh student has many advantages. Here, students enjoy a top tier education, a beautiful campus and a vibrant community. Throughout the community, various businesses offer special services and discounts to Lehigh students.

Although many students utilize GoldPlus, few students realize all that a Lehigh ID provides.

By simply showing an ID students can enjoy special discounts and quality service on everything from food to a tan.

On the SouthSide, Marla Duran Women’s Clothing offers students a 10 percent discount on most merchandise. New to South Bethlehem, Sands Tan offers student discounts on all three of its tanning beds.

Along Main Street several store offers discounts; Unlimited Hair Designs Inc. offers a first-visit discount of 20 percent to Lehigh students; Aardvark Sports Shop offers a 10 percent discount on all regular merchandise to members of Lehigh’s track and field team.

For students with an art interest, Art & Drafting Connection offers students 10 percent off all regular merchandise.

Many restaurants and eateries throughout town also offer special services and discounts. SouthSide favorites, Lehigh and Campus Pizza both offer discounts to students. Showing your Lehigh ID at 3rd St. Chicken and Ribs will get you a 10 percent discount on all food. Also new to the SouthSide, Quiznos offers discounts to students who purchase combo-packages.

With such a wide variety of businesses in Bethlehem, having a student ID comes in handy.