

Akhi, the beggar sage, sits at the city gates, instructing all in the dance of life.

Ask Akhi...



By Bob Kloos

Oh my. In our simple way we beggars are used to helping with the "cash flow", a few coins here and there. Now we must deal with the *traffic flow*. Since my last visit with you, I was told there was a new city manager inside my gate who decreed that the gates shall be "ONE WAY".

For years I have seen the faces of friends and strangers coming and going. From now on I will see them only coming or going. Only one greeting each day! Allah, have mercy.

But, what do you think? On the first morning of the "ONE WAY" I looked up to see so many new faces. At first I thought all these strangers were coming to our city for the first time. I greeted them all and many unburdened themselves of bread and coins. Allah be praised.

At day's end I waited for these strangers to return to their homes. Will they stay all night inside the city gates? Oh foolish Akhi. They have already returned home! They have heard the decree and used the other gate to exit the city. I knew that!

And then I understood they are not strangers to the city at all. It is just that for years they have been coming and going through the other city gate. Were it not for the "ONE WAY" decree, Akhi would never have met these strangers. What wisdom the new city manager possesses! A decree that made it possible for me to meet everybody. Allah is good.

Now Akhi must decide whether he wants to meet everyone coming, or going. I must choose whether to awaken them at dawn or bless them at day's end. So many possibilities.

But one thing remains and this is both a challenge and a consolation for Akhi. Now I must make certain that each greeting overflows with hospitality. Why? It has been decreed. There is only "ONE WAY" to greet one another. Be well.

Spotlight On: Christina Livers

New board member



Occupation: Russell Township Trustee
Relationship to Beacon Street: Friend, mother of Maria Livers; new board member.

Birthday: Sept. 20

Home: Russell Township

Family: Husband, Joseph A. (Fred), daughter, Maria.

Favorite Movies: "Gone With the Wind"; "ET"; and "Apollo 13"

Favorite Books: The Good Earth and Dragon Seed, both by Pearl S. Buck.

Hobbies: Reading, cooking, camping, swimming, choir, travel, theater, gardening and ice skating.

Best thing about working with BS : The joy of sharing in helping people feel special.

Motto: "If you have something to gain and nothing to lose by trying, try!"

Was your appeal letter returned to you?

It's come to our attention that the Post Office may have failed to forward some of our mail to our new address. Instead a postal worker inadvertently labeled some of our mail: "Addressee Moved: Forwarding Address Expired." According to the Post Office, everything is back in place now, and they're sorry for the mix up. So are we. If your contribution envelope was returned to you, send it directly to us at:

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