

# Alton Marketplace

## Friday Facts

APRIL/MAY 2007 ISSUE



### Get the word out to tourists about your special promotions with Group Shopping Passes!

Alton Marketplace and the Convention & Visitors' Bureau will be teaming up to create shopping passes and deliver them to multiple group tourism activities that will be coming to town in 2007, such as:

- ◆ 7 Dockings of the:
  - \* Delta Queen
  - \* Mississippi Queen
  - \* American Queen
- ◆ Business Conventions
- ◆ Holiday Shopping Promotions

Our passes will have "good through" dates & will only be valid within the set time frames for

each of the events as well as unique designs that are specialized for each promotion. The shopping passes are not only for retail stores, but also for restaurants and services!

Put some thought into an eye-catching offer that will appeal to tourists, such as:

- ◆ 10% off purchases!
- ◆ Free gift with purchase!
- ◆ Shipping available!

If you have a special offer or sale that you would like us to include on multiple shopping passes that will be promoted throughout the year, please contact the Marketplace office for more info!

Our Organization committee is also considering a couple of ways to take this idea to the next level. We are exploring the option of creating a "Downtown Perks" pass that will allow Marketplace Partners to offer discounts to one another as another benefit of being involved with our revitalization efforts.

Another idea is to promote the "Perks Pass" to the public as a fundraiser that will support additional revitalization efforts. To be involved with the planning, come to the Org meeting on 5/3!

### It's your downtown!

There are many ways to get involved in the revitalization process; if you've always wanted to help but just didn't know where to start, here's your chance! Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at the Marketplace office (100 E. Broadway)

#### ORGANIZATION—

5/3, 8pm

(focusing on volunteer recruiting, fundraising & partnership benefits)

#### PROMOTIONS —

5/9, 5pm @ A&A's Beads

Challenge of the Bluffs Run:

5/9, 6pm @ A&A's Beads

Farmers' & Artisans' Market:

4/14, 10am @ Joe K's on State

All-Wheels Car Show:

4/18, 5:30 @ A&A's Beads

#### DESIGN & ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING—

5/10, 6pm

It's Our River Day:

4/16, Noon

"Downtown Recycles!":

4/19, 6pm

Loft Tour & Upstairs

Downtown Workshop:

4/24, Noon @ Tony's

\*working lunch, please RSVP your reservation to 463-1016 if you plan to attend!

### Director's Note ~



All good news to report from the Marketplace office! Each of our four committees is back to meeting on a regular basis, and we have started breaking down into subcommittees so volunteers can work on projects tailored to their specific interests! I am very excited about the resurgence of support we have been experiencing — from both volunteers and businesses. The enthusiasm is spreading & I'm glad that the hard work we have been putting in shows...we are really moving now; join us at a meeting & see for yourself!

We would also like to spread the word that we are looking for a new name to go with the Marketplace newsletter's new look. You can submit your suggestions by email or phone & if your idea is chosen you will win an Alton-Godfrey montage print, compliments of Alton Marketplace!

~ Sara



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Alton, IL 62002

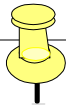
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A community based,  
not-for-profit, volunteer  
organization dedicated to  
securing the economic  
vitality and aesthetic  
quality of the district.



*IL Main Street  
Architects to visit  
Alton on April 24th*

Two architects will be in town performing site visits on downtown properties to help with façade improvements, provide renderings, and give advice on how to best utilize 2nd-stories.

Any property owner that is interested in having a site visit can call 463-1016 to set up an appointment—morning and afternoon time slots still available!

## *Alton Marketplace Partners—News, Sales & Events!*

### *Mineral Springs Haunted Tours—*

Will be hosting the first "Ghost Hunting University" with Christopher Moon of Haunted Times Magazine! The event will be on 6/30 from 4pm-11pm at Mineral Springs Mall. The cost for "GHU" is \$99 per person, which includes lectures & training with paranormal investigative equipment, followed by a Mineral Springs Haunted Dinner Tour and investigation.

Also, don't miss the 1st regular ghost tour of the season - April 21st @ 7:30pm! Walking tours—\$30, Tour & dinner—\$50, Tour, dinner & haunted overnight—\$100. Call 465-3200 or visit [www.mineralspringhauntedtours.com](http://www.mineralspringhauntedtours.com) for more info or tickets!

### *Jacoby Arts Center—*

Presents work by renowned artist & Alton resident, Arthur Towata. The exhibit will run until April 15th.

JAC will also be hosting the 2nd Annual May Day Fashion Show on May 4th at 6pm. Visit: [www.jacobyartscenter.org](http://www.jacobyartscenter.org) or call 462-5222 for more info!

### *Beall Mansion—*

Purchase gift certificates online to be a guest at the most beautiful B&B in Alton! [www.beallmansion.com](http://www.beallmansion.com)

### *Gentelin's on Broadway -*

Is offering half priced bottles of wine on Wed nights (30% off reserve bottles). They have both a private dining room that seats up to 10 (perfect for dinner meetings), and a banquet room that seats up to 60. They are not open for a regular lunch, but will accommodate luncheon groups of 20+ people. Business has been very busy, so make weekend reservations early @ 465-6080!

### *WBGZ Radio & Riverbender.com—*

Have teamed up to offer a new service to the area; their new website combines the audio elements of local radio, the visual elements of print media, plus the on-demand availability of the world wide web. Visit: [www.altondailynews.com](http://www.altondailynews.com)

### *Logo-It/Langa Resource Group*

Can help with all of your embroidery, screen-printing, and promotional product needs! Take advantage of their spring sale & save on custom printed t-shirts; get as few as 48 shirts for \$5.92 each. It's also time to order your 2008 calendars!

For details, call 462-1899 or visit: [www.wecanlogoit.com](http://www.wecanlogoit.com)

### *Ciao Bella Scooters—*

Has relocated to 443 E. Broadway! Owner Helen Davidson is excited about the move & would like to invite everyone to the Grand Re-Opening on Sat, May 19th!

### *Argosy Casino—*

Little River Band — \$20  
4/11 & 4/12 — tickets available  
4/13 & 4/14 — SOLD OUT!  
(all shows @ 7pm)

Tommy Chong & Shelby —\$15  
4/27 & 28, 7pm and 9pm.

Chuck Berry — \$25  
5/11—7pm

The Guess Who— \$20  
5/19, 7pm and 9pm.

### *Alton Acoustic Arts—*

Welcomes Triple Grammy Nominee **Rhonda Vincent & the Rage** to the stage at LCCC's Hatheway Cultural Center on Friday, April 27th for a night of country, gospel & classic bluegrass. The opening band will be local bluegrass favorites **Lazy Joe**. Showtime—7:30. Tickets are still available for \$20 - all seats GA. For more info or to purchase tickets, contact 208-3458 or [acoustic.arts@hotmail.com](mailto:acoustic.arts@hotmail.com)

### *Kimbro Auction Service—*

Holds live auctions at their location in Mineral Springs Mall every 2nd Sunday at noon & every 4th Friday at 6pm—doors open 3 hours prior to start time. No auction Mother's Day weekend; upcoming auctions will be held on 4/27 (Scott Estate), and 5/25. For more info, call 465-7564 or visit [www.auctionzip.com](http://www.auctionzip.com) for a complete listing of items up for bid!

## "DOWNTOWN RECYCLES!"

Alton Marketplace is initiating a long overdue recycling program for downtown businesses! We will be starting with paper and aluminum, and will have one collection point for recyclables on Broadway & one on 3rd Street. Containers for collecting materials will be provided at no cost, and a free pick-up service by Marketplace volunteers will soon be offered to all Partners in the downtown area. Many thanks to Hayner Public Library, Mineral Springs Mall, the Sierra Club, Madison County Solid Waste Coordinator Leah Dettmers, and Highland Recycling for their help in getting the program started!

To inquire about how to get your business involved or to volunteer with planning & maintaining the program please come to the next Recycling meeting Thursday, April 19th — 6pm at the Marketplace office, or call 463-1016 to see how you can help!

