



# The Marketplace Merchant

SEPTEMBER 2007 ISSUE



## Join us at Alton's beautiful Riverfront Park for "It's Our River Day"!

On Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 2:00 the public is invited to Alton's Riverfront Park to take part in the "It's Our River Day" festival. The event is being presented by Alton Marketplace and the Sierra Club, and the goal of this day is to promote education, recreation, and conservation on our state's waterways.

At this event, there will be booths on ecology, native plants and animals, and recycling, along with nature arts & crafts, and food vendors. Live solar-powered folk and bluegrass music will be playing all day. The Alton Beautification & Clean City Committee is organizing a litter clean-up around Riverfront Park & the levee trail, and Missouri River Relief will be ferrying volunteers by boat to islands and shorelines to pick up litter on

the river. Bike safety talks will be given by Wild Traks bikes, and both a 5-mile and a 40-mile bike ride will depart from the festival at 9am and return to festival grounds afterwards. Wild Traks will have

Springs Haunted Tours will be giving "Haunted River" presentations, and representatives from the Alton Museum will be on hand giving presentations about the history of Alton's stretch of the

Mississippi. Sheppard, Morgan & Schwaab engineering firm will be setting up a presentation about the river-

front redevelopment, and will be present to answer questions about the timeline & specifics of the project.

It's Our River Day is an initiative of Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, which is held annually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September in river towns across the state. The event is in its fourth year, and this is the first year that Alton has participated on a large scale. Hope to see you there!

### Big thanks to our sponsors:

Sierra Club, American Water, ConAgra Foods, Alton Acoustic Arts, Norton & Rain Insurance, Mississippi Half-Step Restaurant, and Alton Youth Development Strategy Partnership

rental bicycles available, and Ciao Bella Scooters will have rental scooters available as well as information about their economical form of transportation.

Children's activities will be offered by many groups, such as: The Nature Institute, Jacoby Arts Center, and Community Cultivators. The Treehouse Wildlife Center staff will have live rehabbed animals on hand. Mineral

## Third Thursdays

**"Ladies Night Out"**  
shopping experiences!

### September 20th

*"Death By Chocolate"*  
Featuring chocolate basket raffles to benefit the Crisis Food Center!

### October 18th

*"Be Aware & Win a Chair"*  
Featuring decorated chair raffles to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation!

### November 15th

*"Frosty On Broadway"*  
Featuring holiday wreath raffles to benefit the local Women's Oasis Center!

A free trolley route will run from 5:00—9:00 pm  
Attendees can catch a ride to each participating business!

Big thanks to our sponsor, St. Anthony's Hospital—health care professionals will be aboard the trolley talking about health awareness issues!

New this year—a bonus "gift bazaar" in the Crystal Room at Mineral Springs Mall

This is a great chance for you & your friends to have a fun night out while getting a jump on your holiday shopping!

## Director's Note ~

The weather is finally beginning to break & it's time for all of our hard work over the last few months to pay off, so let's have some fun!

Marketplace has many events coming up during the month of September, and no matter what your interests are we surely have an event that you will enjoy! Thanks to all of our sponsors & volunteers who have helped us put everything together. We can always use extra helping hands for the "day of", so if you would like to get in on the action, meet new people, and have a great time in the process of helping your hometown please don't hesitate to give us a call!



~ Sara



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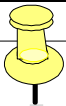
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A community based, not-for-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to securing the economic vitality and aesthetic quality of the district.



Please join us for the  
**Downtown Loft Tour**  
Friday, Sept. 7th (4:30–7:30)

\$20 Tickets can be purchased starting at 4:00 on the day of the tour at the Masonic Temple or City Hall.

A reception will follow until 8:30 at Mineral Springs Mall, and will feature wine & hors d'oeuvres from Tony's.

Shuttles will continue to run until 9:00.

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

### *Meridian Bank—*

Is water-logged, but still open for business! They are operating from Suite #602 in the Meridian Bank building (200 W. 3rd St.) while repairs are being made to the lobby.

### *A&A's Beads-N-Things*

Is having a liquidation sale! Enjoy savings up to 70% off storewide & help them clear the shelves so that they can have room to remodel!

### *Ciao Bella Scooters—*

Is now offering scooter rentals! For a limited time, rent a scooter from them at the Day Rate (\$70 for a 50cc scooter or \$95 for a 250cc scooter) and deduct that amount from the purchase price of a new scooter! (See store for details)

### *BossanOva—*

Has just celebrated their 3rd Anniversary! Stop by for a martini, check out their new look & hear the new musical acts they are booking. Open at 4pm & serving dinner nightly!

### *American Water—*

Come visit their booth at the It's Our River Day festival, where they will have experts on hand to speak about water conservation and watersheds!

### *Jacoby Arts Center—*

Has just released their schedule of classes for the Fall & Winter! Registering for classes now entitles adult students to a "Studio Pass" which gives the artist the opportunity to use the studio spaces at the Jacoby Arts Center on their own time for the duration of their classes! (subject to space availability)

### *The Growth*

### *Association & SCORE—*

Are hosting the 9th annual "For Women By Women" career development seminar to be held at the Alton Holiday Inn. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 19th from 7:30am to 1:30pm, \$50 per person, or \$275 for a table of six. For more info call 467-2280

### *New Frontiers Home Furnishings—*

Has a sidewalk sale underway; if you haven't been inside for awhile, stop in & see all of the new items that they have in stock for your home & patio!

### *Riverview Suites—*

Has a beautiful new "studio" apartment that they will be featuring on this year's loft tour. Come see the latest addition to the Stillwell building!

### *Entertainment Drive to benefit our troops!*

Donate your old CDs & DVDs that will be sent to combat zones all over the world! A drop box is located at the Marketplace office, and donations can be deposited through the mail slot. You may also submit addresses of loved ones that you would like to receive a shipment. For more information, contact Brenda Moore at: 917-4679 or [toob4given@yahoo.com](mailto:toob4given@yahoo.com)

## Time to gear up for the 2007 Challenge of the Bluffs Run!

Join us for this USA Track & Field Sanctioned Event

Presented By: Alton Marketplace and the Alton Beautification & Clean City Committee

This year's race will be held on Saturday, October 6th. The 5-mile run and 2-mile walk start at 9:00 a.m.

Start at Broadway & Alby - finish at Belle & 4<sup>th</sup> St.

Athletic trainers from Alton Memorial Hospital's Human Motion Institute will be on-hand for Warm-up exercises!

Entry fee—\$20 per runner or \$18 per runner if registering five or more entries together

All participants receive a long sleeve t-shirt and a goodie bag provided by area vendors

Post race refreshments & awards ceremony held at Mac's Time Out on Belle Street (near race finish line).

New this year—register at [www.AltonMarketplace.com](http://www.AltonMarketplace.com) & pay online with PayPal!