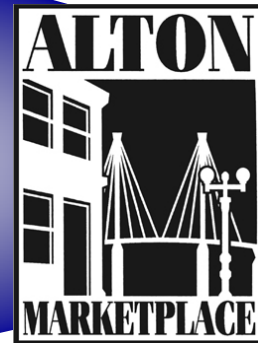


The Marketplace Merchant

APRIL 2010 ISSUE



Get Alton ready for EARTH DAY ...the City-Wide Litter Clean Up is Sat April 17th!

In preparation for Earth Day, the 2010 Alton City-Wide Spring Litter Cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 17th, rain or shine, starting at 9am. Interested individuals and groups can pick up free gloves and bags and get directions to areas that are in need of attention by stopping by one of the two registration stations: Bossanova Restaurant and Lounge (112 W. 3rd Street) or St. Patrick's School (5th and Central). Citizens are also encouraged to go out on their own and pick up litter in their neighborhoods.

Litter-free streets are essential for maintaining a high quality of life and instilling community pride in Alton. To make this spring cleaning effort as successful as possible, the Alton Caring

Corps is making an appeal to groups (youth groups, service organizations, business associations, and other similar groups) to adopt sections of the main thoroughfares in

just from a good health perspective, but also from an aesthetic perspective," said Hoechst. "When visitors come to town, we want to have our best foot forward

and we want them to leave with an impression that Alton is a clean, safe, and historically rich community. Also, litter hurts the economic value of neighborhoods; one bad neighbor that doesn't maintain his or her property can reduce the value of the entire neighborhood.

Having a litter free community makes good economic sense for everyone."

For more information or to adopt an area, please contact the Alton Marketplace office at 463-1016. And don't forget that Earth Day is April 22nd!

Many thanks to the following groups that have signed up to participate:

Alton Marketplace, Sierra Club, ROTC, Alton Beautification and Clean City Committee, Downtown Alton Inc., Jacoby Arts Center, Pride Inc. & Student Pride, Friends of Haskell, Upper Alton Business Association, 100 Black Men of Alton, North Alton-Godfrey Business Council, Upper Alton Business Association, Knights of Columbus, Main Street Methodist Youth Group, Boys & Girls Club of Alton, Pathways to Success, Home Depot, and the Alton Weed & Seed Strategy

town and clean them up on the 17th and beyond if they are so inclined.

Mayor Tom Hoechst is supportive of the City-Wide Spring Litter Cleanup.

"Reducing litter is very important for the community not

Director's Note ~

We are finally enjoying some beautiful weather, and everyone is getting excited to get out & about for some great community events. Keep an eye out for more info on a new tour that Alton Marketplace is spearheading to encourage new business & downtown living. The first "Dream Downtown Real Estate Tour" will be held in late May, and will showcase all of the retail, office, and residential space for sale or lease in the downtown district.

Our committees are also working hard on plans for the All-Wheels Drive-In Car Show on Sun, June 24th and the BIG GIG Local Music Show on Sat, July 27th—if cars or music are your thing, please consider getting involved & lending a hand!



~ Sara

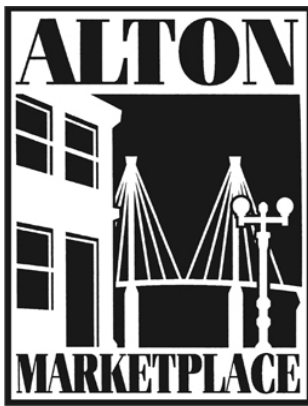
Thanks, Pepsi!

Congratulations to Alton High School and Alton Park & Recreation who both received enough votes to win \$50,000 from Pepsi through their "Refresh Everything" grant project!

The Riverbender Community Center has been in the running for \$250K and ended up in 4th place in this round, but only the top 2 placeholders receive the grant. Now for the good news—our project was chosen to roll over to the month of April, so we have another shot at making this happen to give our kids a fun safe place to hang out... movie theater, dance floor, video games, art studio, musical equipment, ping pong, pool, foosball...what more could you ask for?!

Vote EVERY DAY at
www.riverbender.com/vote

Also, please visit:
www.riverbender.com/communitycenter
to learn more, or call 465-9850 to schedule a tour!



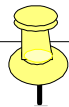
NEW LOCATION

200 W. 3rd St. Suite 100
Alton, IL 62002

618-463-1016

info@altonmarketplace.com
www.AltonMarketplace.com

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



*~ calling all
Farmers & Artists!*

You are invited to a
planning meeting for the
upcoming season of the
Alton Farmers' &
Artisans' Market on
Sat, April 24th - 9:00am
at the Riverbender
Community Center.

Madison County has been
accepted into the program
to accept Women / Infant
/ Child and Senior
Coupons for locally grown
produce, and training for
farmers will be available
after this meeting.

The Market (Located at
Henry St. & Landmarks
Blvd.), will start on June
5th & run from 8am-Noon
every Saturday
through October!

Alton Marketplace Partners—News, Sales & Events!

Mineral Springs

Haunted Tours—

Riverbend Paranormal
"Meet and Greet"
Saturday, April 24, 2010,
7p.m. These events in-
volve paranormal investi-
gators demonstrating the
use of ghost hunting
equipment, and the
proper way to conduct a
paranormal investigation.
after the learning sessions
attendees will be able to
use investigative equip-
ment and will be led by
investigators on a ghost
hunt in the Mineral
Springs Mall. For more
info please contact Janet
Kolar at: mineralsprings
hauntedtours@yahoo.com
or 465-3200

Late Night Café—

Get your first meal after
last call at 210 W. 3rd
Street! Late night
breakfast is being served
on Thursday, Friday, and
Saturdays from 11pm to
5am...the restaurant touts
itself as a "extraordinarily
sobering experience".
Plans are also in the works
at this location to add

dueling pianos to the mix of
downtown entertainment—
the Ragin' Cajun Piano Bar
will be opening in time for
the 1st block party of the
season! Come visit and see
the major improvements
that have taken place, and
keep up with their progress
on Facebook or MySpace
(search for Ragin' Cajun
Piano Bar). Call Aaron at
433-9119 for more info.

Gentelin's on Broadway—

Is offering their signature
Blue Cheese Kabobs for
only \$4.50 during the entire
Month of April!!! Enjoy the
beautiful weather out on
the patio, which is now
open & featuring daily
drink specials. Become a
Fan on Facebook and sign
up to join their mailing list
on their website:

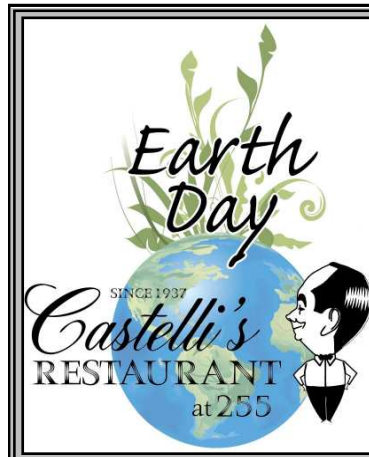
www.gentelinsonbroadway.com

Saint Clare's Villa—

is a supportive living facility
for seniors age 65 and older
located at 915 E. 5th St. in
Alton. The Villa offers
residents their own private
apartment and many
services that remove the
stress from their daily lives!

Their goal is to keep their
residents out of a nursing
home for as long as
possible. They offer
services that make life
easier for Seniors, such as:
three meals a day, weekly
housekeeping & laundry
services, medication
management, a variety of
daily activities and recrea-
tional programs, 24-hour
security and emergency
response system (Lifeline),
all utilities (except phone),
chapel and daily Mass,
plus small pets are
welcome! All apartments
have a private bathroom
with a walk-in shower and
kitchenettes with a full
size refrigerator/freezer
and microwave.

Stacey Noble Loveland has
recently joined the Villa as
their Marketing & Admis-
sions Coordinator, and
she would enjoy the
opportunity to take you
and your loved ones on a
tour & treat you to lunch.
If you know of someone
who would benefit from
living at Saint Clare's
Villa, please call 463-9000.



"Earth Friendly" will be the buzz word at the Earth Day
Celebration hosted by Castelli's Restaurant at 255 and
sponsored by The City of Alton, on Sat, April 24th from
10am—2pm in the north parking lot. In celebration of Earth
Day, Castelli's Restaurant at 255 will be inviting the public to a
fun-filled day of earth-friendly activities at the restaurant.
The community is invited to take part in the festivities, which
will include local businesses showcasing their "green" prod-
ucts and initiatives, beer, wine, food, live music, as well as
activities for the kids. In an effort to become more "green" as a
business, Castelli's has been recycling restaurant waste since
January 2009, including paper, cardboard, plastic, and bottles.
The restaurant is located at 3400 Fosterburg Rd. & admission
is free. Vendors wanted—for more information, call
(618) 462-4620 or visit their website at www.castellis255.com