



The Marketplace Merchant

MAY 2010 ISSUE



Dream Downtown Real Estate Tour to be held on Sat, May 22nd!

Alton Marketplace's Economic Development committee is holding the first "Dream Downtown Real Estate Tour" on Saturday, May 22nd from 10am-2pm. The goal of the event is to showcase the downtown district's prime available commercial spaces to entrepreneurs, developers, realtors, and business owners. Tour headquarters will be at the Riverbender Community Center at 200 W. 3rd Street. There, attendees can meet with real estate specialists and downtown enthusiasts and get more information about the various buildings, storefronts and offices available for lease or purchase in downtown Alton.

Maps will be available that will direct interested parties to open houses that will be going on

is also developing a series of workshops on start-up business topics to assist attendees who have goals

of opening new businesses in downtown Alton. Some of the businesses that our committee has targeted are: sushi bar, gourmet grocery, ice cream shop, yoga studio, Gymboree day care, day spa, as well as artist studios, galleries, and live/work space. Do you have a DREAM business in mind for downtown? We welcome your suggestions & involvement, please send comments to: info@altonmarketplace.com

Also on Sat, May 22nd...

Andy's Auto Body invites you to a

WASHERS TOURNAMENT

To benefit The Backstoppers (support to families of those who have fallen in the line of duty)

Registration at 11am / Tournament at 1pm
3444 E. Broadway in Alton
\$25 per person

All players receive a commemorative t-shirt
Winners receive trophies & cash prizes:
1st place \$100 / 2nd \$50 / 3rd \$25
BYOB, refreshments available for purchase
For more info, please call Beth at 465-7006

throughout the district. Alton Marketplace will also be educating attendees on incentives available to new businesses and property owners, and the Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)

Director's Note ~

Spring is here & you have probably already taken the lawn mower out for a spin and started on your home landscaping. If you enjoy gardening & working outdoors, I would like to invite you to help with some beautification projects around the area! We will be assisting Downtown Alton Inc. on Sat, May 15th with planting annuals in the streetscape beds—grab a trowel and head down to 3rd Street at 10am! There is also a great Community Garden project in the works with the Alton Caring Corps. We are narrowing down the best locations and we welcome any individuals or groups that would like to participate with growing food or flowers. For more info, please contact Curtis Collins, the project chairperson, at curtisco181@hotmail.com



~ Sara

Heritage Tourism Workshop

Come share your ideas with community leaders, tourism partners and economic development professionals at an Economic Development through Heritage Tourism Workshop. At this afternoon workshop for tourism development, you will learn the basics of historic preservation programs, diversity and development on Main Street, as well as the economic impact of heritage tourism on Illinois' economy.

Presented by Peoples Economic Development Corporation and Southwestern Illinois Tourism Development Office, the workshop will be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Spirits Restaurant & Lounge in Downtown Alton. The workshop is FREE but registration is required. For more info or to register please contact the Southwestern Illinois Tourism Development Office at 618-979-6197 or achitwood@visitsouthwestillinois.com



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.



Senior Services Plus

Invites you to a benefit
concert for Meals on Wheels
Sat, June 5th – 5-10pm
at Alton Riverfront
Amphitheater

**Featuring:
“Memories of Elvis”
with Steve Davis,
Thomas Hickey
as Buddy Holly,
Teen singing sensa-
tion Darrein Safron,
and SH-BOOM!**

Advance tickets are \$15 for
regular seating (\$20 at the
door), and may be pur-
chased at Senior Services
Plus – 2603 North Rogers
Ave. in Alton. For more
info please call 465-3298

Alton Marketplace Partners—News, Sales & Events!

RiverBend Growth Association—

Join the RBGA at their
Business Expo on Wed,
May 5th from 10am to
2pm. The event will be
held at Julia’s Banquet
Center—101 Eastgate Plaza
in East Alton. Members
will be showcasing their
goods & services and area
caterers & restaurants will
be serving sample menu
items. The event is open
to the public, for more
information please call
467-2280

Junior League of Greater Alton—

Invites you to its 23rd
Annual Ham O’Shanter
Golf Tournament on Sat,
May 22, 2010 at Spencer
T. Olin Golf Course,
honoring Mary Lou Cou-
sley, a long-time sustaining
member. Registration and
lunch at 12:00pm and
Shotgun Start at 1:30pm.
Dinner and awards will
follow golf. There is an
\$80 fee per golfer which
includes 18 holes of golf,

cart, lunch, dinner, beer &
soda. For more information
on player registration and
sponsorship opportunities,
please contact Gina Allen at
618-786-2668 or petengina
@gtec.com or Laura
Shansey at 618-466-9593 or
laura.shansey@att.net

Marquette Catholic High School—

Welcomes children ages 3-
12 to a Princess and Dragon
Tamer Character Tea to be
held at The River-
bender.com Community
Center, 200 E. 3rd St. in
downtown Alton on Sat,
June 12. The "Tea" begins
at 10am and will feature
fairytale characters, treats,
games and prizes. Partici-
pants are invited to dress as
their favorite princess or
dragon tamer. Parents are
encouraged to bring
cameras. Marquette
Catholic High School
Theater Club is sponsoring
the event. Advance tickets
are available at the MCHS
main office at \$10 for 3-12
years old, with free adult

admission. \$12 on the day
of event. For more infor-
mation contact 466-1617.

Castelli’s Moonlight—

Hoping you can join us
for our upcoming Schlafly
Beer Dinner on May 13,
at 7pm- 9pm! Price is
\$35/per person plus tax
and tip and includes a 4
course menu with
Schlafly's Craft Beer
samplings. We'll also have
a raffle for prizes and
attendance. Reservations
only- please call to reserve
space with your credit card
by Tuesday May 11th.
Please call 462-4620 or
792-6895 if you have any
questions, or visit
www.castellis255.com

Saint Clare’s Villa—

Welcomes you to “A
Night at the Villa”! Join us
for an Open House on
Wednesday, June 2, 2010
at 915 East 5th Street in
Alton from 6 -8 pm to
learn more about our
supportive living for
seniors. Come and see
what the Villa has to offer!

CALLING ALL LOCAL MUSICIANS—THIS COULD BE YOUR CHANCE TO PLAY AT ALTON RIVERFRONT AMPHITHEATER!

Alton Marketplace and Riverbender.com are announcing the first stage of the 2ND Annual BIG GIG Local Music Show set for Sat, July 24th. Six St. Louis Metro area bands will be chosen to perform their original music. Band recruitment is now in progress until May 15th. A live feed of the event will be broadcast on Riverbender.com/music. The band who sells the most tickets will receive several promotional tools to advance their music career including: airtime and feature interview on WLCA 89.9 FM, electronic press kit, DVD of their BIG GIG performance, \$250 in free recording time at the studio of their choice, promotional article in the Telegraph and the featured artist spot on Riverbender.com. Tickets will be \$10, and \$1 from every ticket sold will be donated to the Jacoby Arts Center to advance their live music endeavors. Each band will receive a portion of the proceeds for all tickets they sell. The event is open to all genres; visit www.AltonMarketplace.com to download an application to be sent in along with a band photo and three original songs that best represent your music style. Bands may also choose to include one optional cover song in their entry package. For more information, please contact Sara McGibany at: 463-1016.