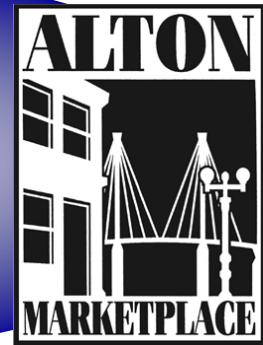


The Marketplace Merchant

NOVEMBER 2010 ISSUE



T'is the season ~ we invite you to a string of events that are sure to get you into the holiday spirit this month!

Thurs, Nov. 18th

Taste of Downtown & 3rd Thursday

Join us for the Taste at the Temple Banquet Facility / Spirits Lounge (300 State Street) from 5–8pm. Restaurants will be preparing a sampling of their cuisine, wine or signature drink and Fritz Distributing will be sampling their craft & holiday beers. Tickets are on sale for \$10 at Bossanova or the Alton Visitors' Bureau—get yours in advance, last year sold out! The trolley will be running a loop between all of the downtown shops for 3rd Thursday from 5:30-8pm thanks to a generous donation from the Simmons Firm. Check the "Events" page of our website that week to see what specials & refreshments will be offered by the merchants!

Fri, Nov. 19th

Community Tree Lighting

Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive at Lincoln-Douglas Square at 6:00—bring your cameras! The free festivities including caroling, candy, cookies, cocoa and prize drawings for kids will continue until 6:45 when Mayor Tom Hoechst flips the lights on our beautiful tree, which is provided by the Alton-Godfrey Rotary Club. The Salvation Army will also be kicking off their "Tree of Lights" campaign. Follow us down to 3rd St. to have your picture taken with a live reindeer from 7–9pm! We'll have kids' activities out on the sidewalk, and you can warm up with refreshments and entertainment at the Riverbender Community Center open house...Santa will be making an appearance here as well!

Sat, Nov 27th

Green Gift Bazaar

Alton Marketplace and the Sierra Club are teaming up on the 8th Annual Green Gift Bazaar, which will be held at the Riverbender Community Center from 10am-8pm.

The event will feature all kinds of hand-crafted items, environmentally-friendly gift ideas, and a variety of work by local artists. We will also provide shoppers with sale info from other downtown retailers—plan a day of shopping & dining with your friends and pick up unique, thoughtful and eco-friendly gifts for everyone on your list! Other features of the event will be interactive crafts for kids and a holiday light recycle drive.

Also that evening from 7-9pm, don't miss Jacoby Art Center's "Last Saturday Nights" concert with the elegant chamber music of the Crussell Quartet!

SPOOOOKY

Halloween Happenings



Around Downtown

The Annual Halloween Parade on Sat, Oct 30th will travel along Broadway from 7:00 - 8:30 or so; if you're looking for a special way to experience the parade this year, try out one of these special events:

~ Riverbender Community Center Halloween Party from 5:00-8:30pm. Bring the whole family to 200 W. 3rd Street for fun before the parade & walk a couple of blocks up Broadway to catch the end. \$15 admission per family includes hot chocolate & cookies, storytelling, arts & crafts, and costume contests. Play all of the usual games of the center plus skull bowling, fortune telling, and if you're brave enough you can visit the mad scientist in the basement vault! Chili and hot dogs will be available for purchase.

~ Jacoby Arts Center's Family-Friendly Halloween Party and Live Music Concert featuring Gabie McGarrah—doors open at 5pm, located at 627 East Broadway. Admission is \$10 for adults / \$5 under 12. Bring in a carved JAC-o-lantern and receive half off admission! Complimentary chili and hot dogs, cash bar. Costumes encouraged! For more information call 462-5222 or e-mail info@jacobyartscenter.org

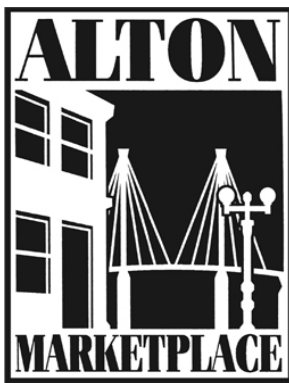
Director's Note ~

Many thanks to Russ Smith and the Board of Downtown Alton Inc. for partnering with us on the various holiday activities. Our organizations will be teaming up to get the streetscape ready for the season on Sat. 11/13 starting at 10am and we could use some helping hands to hang the greenery, lights and red bows the lightpoles, plus decorating the fountain areas, bushes and trees with lights. Meet us on 3rd Street!

Another way to give back this month is to donate canned food items to the Alton Caring Corps, who will be constructing a giant "Castle of Cans" at the Tree Lighting to benefit local food pantries. Bring your canned goods to the event on Nov 19th or drop them off in advance at City Hall, the Police Department, or either of the Fire Stations any time before 5pm on Wed, Nov 17th. To formally join the Caring Corps, call the Mayor's office at 463-3500x3.



~ Sara



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.



The successful

"Downtown Recycles!"

program celebrated its 3rd Anniversary in October & we've collected approximately 38 tons of paper to date. We've now hit a huge milestone by starting to recycle glass bottles from our bars & restaurants—to sign up for this program call Godfrey Recycling at 463-9700

Alton Marketplace Partners—News, Sales & Events!

Tony's Restaurant—

Is offering a free bottle of wine with the purchase of two pepperloin dinners! Take advantage of this special Sunday-Thursday (closed Mondays). Enjoy two 6, 8 or 12 oz. pepperloin dinners at menu price and receive a bottle of Copper Ridge Cabernet, Merlot or Chardonnay...FREE! (offer not valid with any other promotion, limit 1 offer per 2 guests) Located at 312 Piasa St., Phone: 462-8384

Gebbs Total Video—

The "GEBBS" brand is growing and owner Michael Gebben is in need of interns (shooters, editors, business, and other miscellaneous positions). Personality and passion are key, and the right candidates could get the opportunity to be taken on full time! If you are interested please send a resume, demo reel, and any examples of your work that will "WOW" Michael to: michael@gebbs.tv

M&M's Antiques—

Has recently relocated to 307 E. Broadway, just across the street from their former location at Mineral Springs mall. In their beautiful 2,000 square foot showroom, you'll find a wide variety of items, such as: dishes, books, jewelry, beer steins, primitives, oil lamps, carnival glass, and depression glass (including popular brand names such as McCoy, Westmoreland and Shawnee). Mike & Marilyn invite you to drop by their new location and see the treasures they have for holiday gift ideas.

By Design—

Is having a Sale on all Fabulous (faux) Fur products, including coats, jackets, vests and rugs. These items are 25% off through December! All of owner Lillian Bates' designs are also reduced in price. If you've had your eye on something in the shop, now is the time to swing by 136 Front St. & take it home—you deserve it!

Alton Stained Glass Works & Tiffany Inn—

Is constantly evolving their product line and services, and how better to tie a B&B into antique row than to start offering antique beds and furniture? Owner Lynne Ulett has selected rare pieces such as a Murphy bed that folds up to look like a dresser and an antique "ta-bed", which is a bed that turns into a table. Stop by to see these and other beautiful collectibles at 412 E. Broadway, or visit www.altonartglass.com for more info about hot glass classes or Inn reservations.

Edward Jones—

Take a giant step toward a more secure future by attending a free "Preparing Your Estate" seminar on Nov 9th from 6-8pm at the Alton Holiday Inn (3800 Homer Adams Pkwy). Dinner will be served; please RSVP to Nick Darr by calling 465-2515 or drop by his office at 221 Market Street.

Alton receives a prestigious designation

Our community is now part of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area

On October 15th, the 152nd anniversary of the final, famous Lincoln-Douglas debate in Alton, the city officially became the 20th member of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. Many towns boast a connection to the 16th president and vie for this designation, which is bestowed by the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition, but only communities who create a compelling visitor experience through interactive interpretations of historic sites are granted the title. Alton has done this through the Lincoln and Civil War Legacy Trail. The series of ten interpretive panels was installed in 2008, and a new audio tour of the sites is available by dialing (618) 767-6122, followed by the pound key (#), or on compact discs that people can borrow from the Alton Visitors Bureau at 200 Piasa Street. This will be a great boost for Alton's tourism, as international travelers regularly visit the LFLHC website (www.lookingforlincoln.com) in order to plan their itineraries and find Lincoln related experiences for their travels. Congress has authorized the Coalition to spend up to \$1 million annually in matching funds to encourage the preservation, interpretation and promotion of these compelling "Lincoln Legacy" stories. The coalition plans to hold a public meeting in December in Alton to solicit ideas for other ways to promote Lincoln history in Alton and Central Illinois. "The city has developed an engaging and entertaining story about Alton's role in the shaping of Abraham Lincoln, the state of Illinois and the nation," said Hal Smith, director of the Coalition.