

# The Marketplace Merchant

SEPTEMBER 2011 ISSUE



## Mississippi Earthtones Festival

**Celebrating our river through art, music & conservation!**

**[www.RiverfrontAmphitheater.com/Earthtones](http://www.RiverfrontAmphitheater.com/Earthtones) OR Like us on Facebook!**

Join our area's premier celebration of Illinois watersheds through education, recreation, and conservation during the 5th annual Mississippi Earthtones Festival at Riverfront Amphitheater on September 17th from Noon-10pm. This free, sustainable festival offers live music, food and beverages, children's activities, arts and crafts, an eco-village, and a chance to appreciate all the benefits of living on the Mississippi River.

On the main stage this year, we are proud to present two afternoon river-themed presentations by renowned storyteller, Brian "Fox" Ellis. The incredible music lineup includes acoustic folk artist Casey Reeves, bluegrass by the River Ramblers, a bring-your-own drum circle, and Grateful Dead music from Jake's Leg. The beer tent opens at 4pm!

Activities for the kids from Noon-4pm include a 23-foot tall, 3-sided climbing wall that looks like real rock and can accommodate up to three climbers at once—wear your sneakers! Also, craft some nature art projects with the Jacoby Arts Center, interact with the Riverside Reptile

garden tools, cell phones, old shoes, eyeglasses and keys. Pre-order a rain barrel to harvest rain water for gardening; please reserve yours in advance by calling 618-334-3630 and pick up at the festival—only \$65!

Another way to make a big difference is to participate in the

*Also on the riverfront, before the festival:*

### 2011 POW/MIA Wreath Laying Memorial Service

at the Alton Marina on Saturday, Sept 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am

The City of Alton and the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs are sponsoring a unique ceremony to honor all Veterans, Past-Present-Future, and remember POWs and those still Missing-In-Action. In addition to the remembrance ceremony, there will be an opportunity to reach out and thank area veterans.

Ranch's live animals, visit The Nature Institute's booth to color an 8-foot mural of a river scene, do solar experiments with the Sierra Club and more!

There are an abundance of ways to help the environment at the festival. Bring a variety of items to the grounds to be recycled: black plant pots,

required, please go to: [www.livinglandsandwaters.org/GreatMississippiRiverCleanup/site-alton.htm](http://www.livinglandsandwaters.org/GreatMississippiRiverCleanup/site-alton.htm)

For more information, including details on river scene photography and plein air painting contests, please visit our facebook page or website at the address in the header.

## City-Wide Fall Litter Clean-Up

***Please join the Alton Beautification & Clean City Committee along with 30+ area organizations in our major biannual effort to spruce up our streets!***

**Pick up bags & gloves from 9am-Noon at 2 registration stations:**

- Corner of 3rd & Belle
- Corner of 7th & Central

**Groups are also departing at 9am from the following locations:**

- Aunt Sam's Uptown Eatery—2512 College Ave.
- Joe K's Restaurant—2530 State St.

***Residents and business owners are also encouraged to simply clean up their own neighborhood or storefront area!***

### ***Just remember:***

*'If everyone would sweep their own doorstep, the whole world will be clean.*

*~ Mother Teresa*

## Director's Note ~

On behalf of our friends at the Simmons Firm, I would like to invite you to participate in the Miles for Meso 5K race and 2K walk on September 24th, which is a fundraiser to support the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation. Since 2009, this race has raised over \$75K for mesothelioma research! The starting gun is at 9am at One Court Street in Alton.

The race attracted over 500 runners last year, and with \$6,000 in prize money at stake this year's race promises to be even bigger! Register online at [www.milesformeso.org](http://www.milesformeso.org). Vendor spaces at the race are available at a discounted rate of \$75 for their fellow Alton Marketplace partners, and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more details please contact Sarah Whitney at: [swhitney@simmonsfirm.com](mailto:swhitney@simmonsfirm.com) or 259-6503.



*~ Sara*



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



**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
WALK & PICNIC TO  
END VIOLENCE**

**Park to Park for PEACE!**

**Sat, Sept. 10th**

**Register at 11am,  
walk begins at 11:30**

**MEET AT HELLRUNG  
PARK (Central Ave. at East  
7<sup>th</sup>), THEN WALK TO  
HASKELL PARK FOR A  
FREE PICNIC LUNCH**

**Bring a blanket and enjoy  
an afternoon in the park,  
friendly dogs (on leash)  
are welcome!**

**For further information, or  
if you would like a resource  
table at the event, contact  
Tina Culp at 465-1978 or  
tinaculp@oasiswomenscenter.com**

**Sponsored and Coordinated by:  
The Third Judicial Circuit  
Family Violence Prevention  
Council**

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

**Riverbender.com—**

Enter to win our iPad sweepstakes; get us to 2,500 Fans & we'll give away a FREE iPad! The contest is offered only through Facebook. The contest will end and winner will be chosen 2 weeks after likes have been met. Refer your friends to increase your chance to win. Full details & rules at: [www.facebook.com/riverbenderdotcom](http://www.facebook.com/riverbenderdotcom)

**Somtech E-Cycling—**

is a state approved electronic recycling firm located in downtown Alton, which services the St. Louis Metro area. Our focus is providing commercial and residential community members access to reliable electronics recycling year round with pickup and drop-off options. For all commercial clients we offer free pickup and free recycling for many of our accepted items. We are located at 415 Ridge St. Please like us on facebook and visit us at [www.somrecycle.com](http://www.somrecycle.com).

**Senior Services Plus—**

space is still available to display your quilts or be a craft vendor at our Semi-Annual Quilt and Fall Festival on Sat, Sept 17. The quilt show will also include handmade

quilts by SSP's Piece Makers Quilting Group, handcrafted pieces by SSP's Wood Carvers Group, raffles, and door prizes. Expert quilters will be available to answer your questions about quilting. For information on how to have your quilt displayed or participate as a craft vendor please call 465-3298.

**Jacoby Arts Center—**

Literary artists ages 16 and up, including writers, poets, songwriters, playwrights, and actors, are invited to present at Jacoby Arts Center's newly introduced Open Mic: WORDS taking place on third Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. from Sept-Nov and again from Feb-May. The first Open Mic: WORDS takes place on Thurs, Sept 15th. The doors will open at 6 p.m.; presenters begin at 6:30 p.m. Admission to the event is free and open to the public. Audiences of all ages are welcome; however, attendees are advised that content may not be suitable for everyone. A cash bar with beer, wine, and nonalcoholic beverages will be available; light refreshments will also be served. Each artist wishing to present material must pay a \$5 fee, giving them 5-10 minute audience face time.

Pre-registration is requested by sending an email message to [info@jacobyartscenter.org](mailto:info@jacobyartscenter.org) or by calling 462.5222.

JAC presents their premiere fundraising event, Arts & Champagne, Saturday, September 10th from 6-10pm.

This affair will take place at 627 East Broadway and offers a western theme of Diamonds and Denim and western food catered by POPS. There will be a Live Auction of stellar artwork donated by regional artists complimented by a silent auction of goods and services by local businesses. In addition we will have live music and tours of our new artist studios! Tickets are \$50 each with a table of 8 for \$400. The gallery is open Tues-Sat from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun from 12 noon to 4 p.m., closed on Mon. For more info, please visit: [www.jacobyartscenter.org](http://www.jacobyartscenter.org).

**Alton Visitors' Bureau—**

Join us for a wonderful time on a sunset cruise aboard the Spirit of Peoria! The scenic cruise will take place on Sunday, September 18th, departing from the Loading Dock in Grafton at 6 p.m. and returning at 7:30 p.m. Desserts will be served. Cash bar. Tickets are \$35 per person. Call 465-6676 if you'd like tickets, they're going fast!

**We welcome JAZZ ON BROADWAY to the district!**

Stop by 554 E. Broadway and take a look at downtown Alton's exciting new jazz club. Don't miss the Mondin Band featuring George Brock Jr. on Sat, Sept 3rd or Ellen Martinez and Bob Werner on Sept 9th.

Also, every Sunday night from 7-10pm, enjoy Fred Walker's "Saxy Jazz Music Show" The beautifully designed space is also available for rent as a cool, relaxing, eclectic location for your next party or fundraiser.

Call for rates, music options, and catering options. 618-465-JAZZ (5299)  
To join the club's email list, send a request to [jazzonbroadway@gmail.com](mailto:jazzonbroadway@gmail.com)