



# The Marketplace Merchant

APRIL 2008 ISSUE



## Alton Marketplace & Meridian Bank to co-host SCORE workshop on April 3rd

All local businesses are invited to attend a free SCORE workshop on Thursday, April 3rd from 9:00 —10:30am, which will be held in the conference room at Meridian Bank (200 W. 3rd Street). Attendees will learn about a free program through the IL

States Attorney's office to collect on bad checks. The presenter will be Laura Fitzgerald, Community Relations Representative for the States Attorney's office. The "Bad Check Program" is a diversion program where an attempt is made to collect money before turning the offender over for prosecution through the States Attorney's Office. The program

has been a huge success, and the majority of the time the offender makes good on the check and no further action is required. As part of the program, offenders are required to go through an educational program to learn about budgeting and why this

**What:** "Bad Check Program" workshop  
**Who:** Laura Fitzgerald from the IL States Attorney's office  
**Where:** Meridian Bank Conference Room (200 W. 3rd Street—2nd floor)  
**When:** Thursday, April 3rd—9:00-10:30am  
**To Register:** call Sara at 463-1016

activity is unlawful. The benefits to business owners are that first, the program is completely free, second, there is only a simple form to com-

plete and third, there is no minimum requirement on the check to be collected.

The workshop will begin at 9am, and will run approximately 45 minutes, with time for a question and answer session at the end. The atmosphere will

be informal, with a great deal of interaction between the speaker and attendees. Materials on the program will be provided at the workshop, and will be available at the Marketplace office for any business owner who is unable to attend. Meridian Bank will provide refreshments.

## We welcome Gebbs Total Video to Broadway!

This full service video/media resource has recently relocated to 318B E. Broadway! The team specializes in multimedia and video-related services such as: commercials, training videos, event videography, 3D logo design, music video production, and photo montage DVDs set to music. Plus, they can transfer your old film, tape, 8mm, or VHS media to DVD! Browse samples of their work online at: [www.gebbstotalvideo.com](http://www.gebbstotalvideo.com) where you will also find their updated blog which contains special offers and up-to-date news on what's happening at Gebbs!

You'll find GTV next door to Mississippi Mud Pottery & their current hours are: Mon-Wed 11-6 / Friday 11-5 Tues, Thurs, Sat, & Sun by appt. — please call: 462-6400

## Director's Note ~

There's been lots of action in downtown Alton already this spring! Improvements are being made to many properties in the district; 3rd Street is under transformation with many great construction and rehab projects in the works. Also, some of our favorite antique shops will be relocating to make Broadway's "Antique Row" more pedestrian friendly, so look for those changes in the coming months!

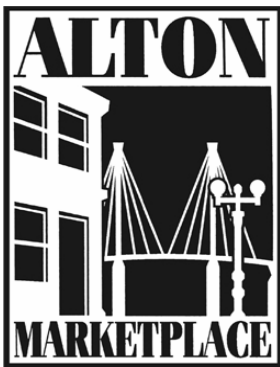
On 4/22 we will be participating in the Eco-Fest on the LCCC campus as part of their Earth Day celebration. Stop by from 10-2 to learn what Marketplace & other area organizations are doing to help the environment!



~ Sara

**The task ahead of you is never as great as the power behind you.**

~ Anonymous



100 East Broadway  
Alton, IL 62002

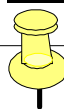
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A community based,  
not-for-profit, volunteer  
organization dedicated to  
securing the economic  
vitality and aesthetic  
quality of the district.



Join us at the  
**City-Wide  
Litter Clean-Up**

on Sat, March 29<sup>th</sup>

at the Downtown  
registration site to pitch  
in for this bi-annual  
event to help clean up  
& beautify our city.

Trash bags, gloves, and  
refreshments will be  
available at **Bossanova**,  
(112 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street)  
from 9am to Noon

Hosts will be on-hand to  
direct volunteers towards  
the areas that are in need  
of the most attention.

Call ahead to register  
your group: 463-1016

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

### Alton YWCA—

is organizing a trivia night that will benefit the local Weed & Seed strategy. The event will be on Saturday, April 26 and it will be held at Old St Pat's School at 5th & Central (please use the 5th Street entrance) Contact Kristen for more info at: 465-7774 or korban@altonywca.com

### Sierra Club—

Do your part to help Mother Earth by volunteering at an environmental event this spring! Help is needed on 4/9 for an Earth Day celebration at LCCC, on 4/12 for a litter clean-up on Choteau Island, on 4/12 for a project at the children's Discovery Garden, on 4/17 for an Earth Day celebration at SIUE, on 4/19 & 23 for electronics recycling drives, and on 4/25-26 for a youth activity at the "Wings of Spring" festival in West Alton.

### Saville, Evola & Flint—

Big thanks to Marketplace's newest supporter, the law firm of Richard Saville, Robert Evola, and Ethan Flint, which has moved into the historic World's Fair building at 322 E. Broadway. The practice focuses on helping cancer victims, specifically anyone suffering from asbestos related lung cancer or mesothelioma and benzene related leukemia. If you or one of your loved ones are suffering from these diseases, you are welcome to call the firm at 465-3220 for a free consultation to discuss your legal rights. The firm takes pride in providing prompt and personal service to each client. For more information on the firm and to also find legal and cancer resources, please visit:

www.toverdict.com

### Mac's Time-Out—

Mac's is now serving food until closing time on Fri, Sat & Sun nights. The

menu includes: pulled pork, sloppy joes, pork steaks, 1/2 rack of ribs or 1/2 chicken, and sides: cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad, green beans, garlic potatoes, and chips. Coming soon, you will be also be able to have dinner at Mac's on Thursday nights & enjoy \$1 bottles!

### Jacoby Arts Center—

Visit ARTSPLASH for free family art activities on April 12th from 10:30—Noon. You can still visit the exhibit "Works on Paper" until April 13th, then beginning on April 18th—May 4th you will find the LCCC Student Art Show! While you are visiting the beautiful JAC gallery and witnessing the talent that our local college students have to offer, make sure to check out the newly remodeled Artist Shop; April's featured artists are painter, Jeff Vaughn, and composer, Jean King.

### Discover the economic benefits of the arts at this free one-day conference:

What: ArtWORKS Symposium

When: April 29th, 2008 from 10am to 4:30pm

Where: Illinois State Library in Springfield

Cost: None! This premier event is free and open to the public.

Hosted by: Illinois Main Street

RSVP: to the Alton Marketplace office by Friday, April 25th

Attendees at the ArtWORKS conference will discover new strategies for integrating the arts and economic development. You will have the chance to meet local economic development leaders and learn about exciting arts partnerships across Illinois. The keynote speaker from Paducah, KY will be addressing topics such as: building an arts community, the economics of the arts, and building your own charrette. Closing remarks will be made by Lt. Governor Pat Quinn.