



MERRIMENT

IN DOWNTOWN MOBILE

December 18, 2009

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Downtown Details

News from the Downtown Mobile Alliance

Dear Carol,

Holiday activities continue in Downtown Mobile this weekend as the **Christmas and Holiday Parade** takes to the streets. Please see all the details, including the new



Holiday Market in the Square, in the Events Section at the end of this newsletter. Also, please note that the traditional parade route has been changed because of repairs to the Van Antwerp Building at Dauphin and Royal Streets. [Click here](#) for a map of the new route.

Meanwhile the owners of the historic Van Antwerp are making arrangements to repair the building's facade. The northbound lane of Royal Street and adjacent sidewalks on Royal Street near the building between Dauphin and Conti streets will remain closed until netting has been installed to catch any terra cotta tile that might fall. The owner's consultant told city officials Thursday he expects this process to take 3 days to complete. Once the temporary netting is in place, city officials will reevaluate the opening of Royal Street.

Downtown Holiday Specials

Bienville Books has acquired a few thousand books designed to please the book over on your Christmas list. Art, *Alice in Wonderland*, philosophy, classics, modern & classical dance, music (especially medieval), Russian texts, poetry and a host of signed books. Also, lots of Mobile books by such authors as Peter Hamilton, Julian Rayford, and the largest collection of Eugene Walter books we've ever seen! And don't forget **Old Mobile Restaurants**, a perfect gift for long-time Mobile residents!

Inside Up is offering specials on ornaments, scarfs and hats, and other holiday and gift items...not to mention the most beautiful gift wrapping in town!

If you'd like to go really **green** for the holidays, **Green Solutions** is offering an end of the year special for downtown businesses. Green Solutions picks up glass, cardboard, plastic, paper, kitchen grease, aluminum, electronics...just about everything we generate. Bins are provided and maintained by Green Solutions and the recycling is sorted, cleaned, transported and recorded. Email Burton Rabby at CBRabby@gmail.com or call 228-219-3653 for prices or to schedule a free consultation.

Three Georges is offering all downtown property owners and Downtown Mobile Alliance members a 5% discount on orders today through Dec. 24th. Choose wonderful gift items from Three Georges Southern Chocolates and from the Nuthouse on the website: 3georges.com, or stop by the candy shop on 226 Dauphin Street. You can call in your order to be ready for pickup at 433-6725. Scott will pack and ship your order until Dec. 24th.

Mobile Becomes Football Central in January

Being home to two bowl games brings attention and fans to the Port City. Wouldn't it be great to really roll out the red carpet for them?

First up is the GMAC Bowl on January 6, 2010. This year Alabama's own Troy University is facing Central Michigan University, and thousands of alumni, students and parents will be in town for the match up. You can make them feel welcome by displaying team colors or mascots in your windows. It's a special time for them and small gestures can make it even more special. It might even encourage them to come back to such a friendly city!



The Under Armour Senior Bowl kicks off on January 30, 2010, but we all know the preliminary activities bring in visitors almost two weeks before that. It's a festive time in Downtown Mobile with famous sports figures spotted on every corner. It's also another great opportunity for businesses to send a message that we welcome these visitors and would love them to return to the Port City.



Opportunities for Learning Abound in Downtown

Studio 301 Art Classes

We've got several ways to pass the dreary winter days.

Adults, choose from classes and workshops including Bookbinding, Wire-wrapped Glass Jewelry, Ceramics, Quilting, Drawing, Oil Painting, Sumi-e, and Pine Needle Basketry. Kids, try a class or workshop in Ceramics, Acrylic Painting or Watercolors.

[Click here](#) to view the full list of classes and workshops. Gift Certificates are available at the reception desk or by mail. Call 208-5671 or 208-5677 for details.



Candy-Making at Three Georges

If you'd like to express your creative side in the kitchen, Three Georges will be offering candy-making classes in January. The first class will feature the art of the Praline and will be offered Saturday, January 2nd from 10:30 - 11:30 at 226 Dauphin Street.

Downtown Doings

Some holiday events around Downtown Mobil



The City of Mobile's Christmas & Holiday Parade takes the streets of downtown on **Saturday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m.**, featuring high school bands, colorful floats, giant balloons and everyone's favorite Santa Claus!

Mobile's Christmas and Holiday parade is presented by McDonald's, and features floats and balloons sponsored by the City of Mobile and local companies. A special "Christmas Kids Day in Bienville opens at noon in Bienville Square, with free fun activities such as face painting, balloon clowns, ornament making and Christmas Carols.

The newest addition to the parade is the **Holiday Market on the Square** in Cathedral Square from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The market

will feature fresh fruits, veggies, breads, and pastas for your holiday parties. In addition there will be artisans and craftsmen for those who love giving hand-crafted gifts.

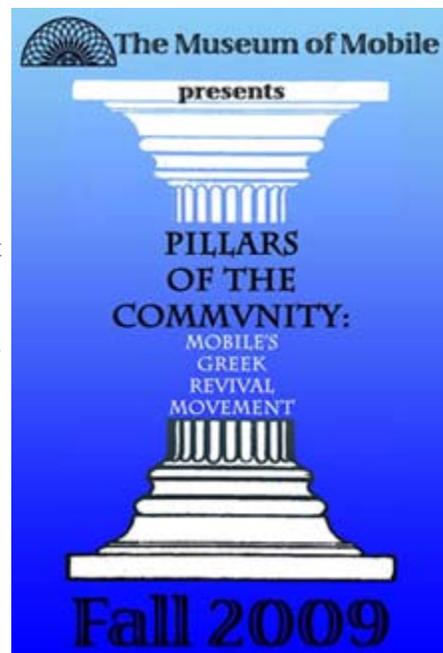
This year the parade route has been changed. **Please note the revised route:** the parade will begin at the Civic Center, turn left on Claiborne, right on Dauphin Street, left at St. Joseph Street, left at St. Francis Street, the left on Claiborne to finish at the Civic Center.

[Click here](#) to see the map. The streets will be blocked off one hour prior to the parade and all cars parked on the street along the route should be removed 2 hours prior to the parade. In case of rain or snow the parade will be presented on Sunday, December 20, at 2:00 p.m.

***Pillars of the Community-
Mobile's Greek Revival
Movement***

Museum of Mobile

Now through January 10
The love affair of the city and its architecture is a story retold in The Museum of Mobile's newest temporary exhibit. As a companion piece to the new book by John Sledge, the exhibit explores the people who in the 1820's changes the region physically from a fortifies colonial town to a more modern American city. "Pillars of the Community" will examine the extraordinary early nineteenth century intersection of personality, economics, architecture and technology that made Mobile's columned masterpieces possible.



[Museum of Mobile](#)

***Saenger Theatre
Christmas Film Series***

Tickets are \$6 for adults
\$3 for Seniors (60+) and Children (12 and under)
Tickets are sold at the door.

It's A Wonderful Life

Thursday,
December 17th at 7pm

George Bailey (James Stewart) has spent his life serving his community, often at the cost of his own happiness. One Christmas Eve, faced with bankruptcy and jail, George is reduced to despair and contemplates suicide. So, heaven sends his guardian angel to show George how dismal life in his hometown would have been if he had never been born.



White Christmas

Friday,
December 18th at 7pm

Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye star as two song-and-dance men who team up after the war to see a charming New England inn through its holiday season. A veritable treasure of Irving Berlin classics including "Count Your Blessings Instead Of Sheep," "Sisters," "Blue Skies," and, of course, Bing Crosby's

immortal rendition of "White Christmas."

[For more information about the Saenger](#)

WWE Presents RAW Live!

Friday, December 18, 2009 at 7:30pm

Tickets are on sale now.

RAW returns to Mobile for the first time in over two years!

Triple H vs. The Big Show
-Special Attraction #1 Contender Street Fight Match-

Kofi Kingston vs. Randy Orton

Plus more of your favorite RAW Superstars in action, including: MVP,



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Mark Henry, The Miz, Jack Swagger, Legacy, Santino Marella, Evan Bourne, Melina, and many more! (Lineup is subject to change.)

Ticket prices: \$60, \$40, \$30, \$20, \$15

Tickets can be purchased at the Mobile Civic Center Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Purchase online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone at 1-800-745-3000.



This year's event will be held on December 31, 2009 and will feature the national recording group, **Jimmy Hall and Wet Willie** on the banks of Cooper Riverside Park, action packed entertainment for children at the Exploreum and Museum of Mobile. Sponsors are excited to add to this year's festivities, "A New Year's Eve Ball featuring MoonPie Over Mobile" at the Arthur Outlaw Mobile Convention Center...and much more.

[For more Moonpie over Mobile Info](#)

Centre for the Living Arts Diamonds and Denim New Year's Celebration

*December 31, 8:00 - midnight
Space 301*

Let's Make Fireworks Together!
The Centre for the Living Arts celebrates the New Year. Wear denim or diamonds or both.
And...

Shake - Drinks begin at 8:30
Rattle - Plates are set, dinner served at 9:15
Roll - Dancing starts at 10:30



Then, let the fireworks begin with champagne on the roof at midnight
Music by **Rick Carter and the League of Legendary Artists**

[Denim and Diamonds for New Years](#)

The Downtown Mobile Alliance exists to promote the redevelopment of Downtown through advocacy, marketing and management of Business

Improvement District services.

Sincerely,

Carol Hunter
Downtown Mobile Alliance

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