

Carol Hunter

From: Carol Hunter [chunter@downtownmobile.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2007 9:53 AM
To: Carol Hunter
Subject: News from Downtown Mobile Alliance



July 2007

Downtown Update

The Latest News about Downtown Mobile

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Dear Carol,

Though the dog days of summer and frequent (though welcome) afternoon showers have reduced the pedestrian traffic in downtown just a bit, they've done nothing to reduce the level of development activity. New businesses are opening and new projects are getting underway. The landscape of downtown is changing before our very eyes, so at this point, it's best not to blink!

Development News



For those of you who have been dreaming of a downtown market for fresh produce and convenience items, it's time to wake up! **The Market at 219** officially opened last week to rave reviews. Owner Todd Henson, who also owns the popular eateries 219 and La Pizzeria, has been working on the Market for many months, making sure it

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serves the needs of the downtown resident and worker. The Market at 219 features specialty foods, fresh fruits and vegetables, prepared foods and a great variety of deli meats and cheeses. When you stop in, be sure to add the items you'd like to see Todd stock to the ***chalkboard wish list***.

Other restaurants on the near horizon:

- **Bellini's**, featuring light Italian fare at 9 South Joachim Street (the corner of Joachim and Conti Streets)
- **Noell B's**, opening in the former Loretta's at 19 South Conception, by Noell Broughton who has established a fine reputation with his Café 615.
- **Bacchus**, opening in mid August in the former Quatorze at 54 S. Conception Street, offering lunch daily and a full bar with a tapas menu in the evening.

Other projects:

- **250 St. Francis Street** is an impressive new condominium project featuring 40 units built around a central courtyard. The three - story building captures the graciousness of old Mobile, with iron balconies overlooking the streets.
- **7 North Royal** is the latest renovation by the folks at Lyons, Pipes and Cook, who have successfully remodeled several downtown buildings. 7 North Royal is across the street from the LPC offices and provides storage for the firm's files on the first floor, and a lovely meeting space on the second floor.

[Find Out More](#)

Parking Issues Drive Discussions

Breakfast Briefing on July 24

Everybody talks about downtown parking as an issue of overwhelming concern. It is perceived as a barrier to retail and residential development and an inconvenience to folks visiting downtown for events. The Downtown Mobile Alliance has been working for the past 6 months with Steve Gibson of Urban Place Consulting to conduct a Parking Management Analysis for downtown. We have conducted surveys, field observations, held interviews, and looked at other cities' programs and have recommendations to share.



Join us on **Tuesday, July 24 at 8:30 a.m. at 261 Dauphin**

Street to hear Steve's findings and share your thoughts as to how we proceed from here. Please call 434-8498 for more information or to let us know you're coming. If you would like a copy of the analysis in advance, email me and we will send it to you, or go to our website, www.downtownmobile.org and download it from the *News Page*, under *Reports and Studies*.

[View the Parking Management Analysis](#)

The Power of Vision

Annual Meeting Schedule Announced

THE POWER OF
VISION



The Annual Meeting of the Downtown Mobile Alliance and the Downtown Mobile District Management Corporation and the Awards Ceremony for Main Street Mobile will be held **Monday, August 13 at the Battle House Hotel**. The luncheon begins promptly at 12 noon, with registration at 11:30, and features **Senator Richard Shelby** as the keynote speaker. Please call 251-434-8498 to make reservations.

The business portion of the Annual Meeting, including the election of new Directors to the Board, will be held **Friday, August 10th at 8:30 a.m. at 261 Dauphin Street**. If you have any questions, please call 251-434- 8498.

Sponsors for the event include

- Airwind Creative
- Alabama State Port Authority
- Armbrecht Jackson
- Cummings and Associates
- Lyons, Pipes & Cook, PC
- Northrop Grumman
- Regions Bank
- Roberts Brothers Realtors
- Volkert Engineering

If you'd like to join these downtown supporters as a sponsor of the event, please call Elizabeth at 251-434-8498.

Sign of the Times

A great sign has always communicated more than the name of a business. Sometimes it reflects the goods sold, the actual nature of the business, even the personality of the owner.



Take a look at photos of downtown Mobile from decades past, when the streets and sidewalks were bustling with activity. The storefront and business signs were bold, perhaps even tacky by today's standards, but they signaled a healthy, vibrant retail and business community.

Each month we feature one of downtown's most creative and appealing signs. This month it's a new kid on the block and the sign is just as edgy as the business itself. Mobile's sign ordinance may seem a bit restrictive, but the folks at the **Demented Needle** have found a way to stand out. Got ink?

Marketing Executive Joins Staff



Susan J. Daniels has joined the Downtown Mobile Alliance as the Membership and Fundraising Director. Susan is no stranger to many downtown regulars as she comes to us from the Bienville Club where she handled membership for the past couple of years.

Susan has an extensive background in marketing and public relations. She has owned her own advertising and design studio and was the director of concession management and marketing for the Florida Turnpike. Susan also has been a chamber of commerce executive and has experience in project management. "The excitement of downtown revitalization" is what attracted her to the job. "I'm thrilled to be involved in downtown's growth!" she adds.

Please welcome Susan as she works to build the Alliance into

an organization that can take a real leadership role in the continued Renaissance of downtown Mobile.

Parks are for Pets and People

One of the signs of a healthy downtown is a growing pet population. It means more people are living downtown and they're bringing the things they love the most. Unfortunately, pet ownership in an urban environment is a little more "hands-on" than in rural settings.



Downtown pets must share limited green space with two-legged residents, which means owners need to clean up after their furry friends.

Few things are more distressing than strolling through the park, only to step onto pet waste deposited by someone's canine companion. If the pedestrian is unaware of the misstep, he often carries the offending material into our restaurants and offices. Yuck!

Fortunately the Alliance has pet waste disposal stations in all downtown parks. The bags are handy and sanitary, and some thoughtful pet owners tell us how much they appreciate the convenience. The city even has an ordinance requiring folks to clean up after their pets since the problem can become a true health hazard. We love pets, and we love their conscientious owners even more!

[View City of Mobile Code](#)

Downtown Doings

Some upcoming events in downtown Mobile



Reptiles: The Beautiful and the Deadly, June 16 - September 23 at the Gulf Coast Exploreum. Come face to face with LIVE reptiles from around the world in this interactive zoological exhibit.

Deadly snakes, colorful lizards, bizarre turtles, alligators and crocodiles are exhibited in naturalistic habitats. Participate in hands-on demonstrations and learn about these amazing creatures. For more information, call 251-208-6873.

A Time for War or Peace: Art That Confronts the Realities of the Present *through Sunday, Aug 5* Space 301 Off Centre, 6 South Joachim Street, Wednesdays through Sundays. A Time for War or Peace is the questioning statement with which this exhibition begins. Whether we are aware of it or not, we are participants in this debate. Even ignoring the buzz of such questions is a statement. Free. www.space301.com

CAPTIVE PASSAGE: THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE AND THE MAKING OF THE AMERICAS, *Through September 3.* The Museum of Mobile (111 S. Royal St.) Mon - Sat, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sun, 1 - 5 p.m. Adults/ \$5; senior citizens/ \$4; students/ \$3; children under six/ free; groups and active military/ \$1 off admission category. First Sunday of each month/ free. Contact: 251-208- 7569

Market on the Square, *Saturdays through July 28.* This farmer's market opens and continues each Saturday, 7:30 - 11 a.m., in Cathedral Square. Get the freshest, locally grown and produced goods, including: tomatoes, cantaloupes, peaches, honey, breads, cut flowers, baked goods, plants, seafood, watermelons, okra, and much more! The public is welcome to come and shop in the Square, play in the fountain and enjoy live music, cooking demonstrations and more.

Classic Film Series at the Saenger, *Sundays at 3:00 p.m. through August 19th.* Classics such as *His Girl Friday* and *On the Waterfront* seen on the big screen in Mobile's historic Saenger Theatre. Adults \$6.00, children/seniors \$3.00. Tickets sold at the door. www.saengermobile.com.

Hurricane on the Bayou: IMAX Film and Simulator, *Through October 4.* The Gulf Coast Exploreum's new IMAX film carries audiences on a journey deep into the soul-stirring of Louisiana--before, during and after the unprecedented devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Also, step inside a category 1 hurricane in the hurricane simulator. For more information, call 251-208-6873.

LoDa Art Walk, *Friday, August 10* Exhibitions and entertainment in a variety of downtown galleries and other venues on the second Friday of each month (except April and October) Sponsor: Main Street Mobile. 6 - 9 PM. Cathedral Square Arts District. Free. Contact: 251-208-7443

Now You See It, Now You Don't: Works by Tim Ellzey

and Christian Zane, through July 31. Chesser Gallery, 306 Dauphin Street. Free. Contact: 251-591-7877.

Blind Mule Battle of the Bands, Saturdays at 9:00 p.m. through July 28. Each week bands will appear at the Blind Mule at 57 North Claiborne to compete to see which local group will eventually appear on *The Pirate, 106.5*.

Mobile Bay's Tenth Annual International Beer Festival. August 25, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Think Globally and Drink Locally - For the tenth year running, both local and visiting beer connoisseurs will descend upon downtown taverns and restaurants to sample over 50 different microbrews and imports from all over the world. The moda! electronic trolley will be on hand to help carry participants from one side of the entertainment district to the other, for free. The festivities take place in Downtown Mobile. For more information call 251-208-7443.

For a complete list of events...

The Downtown Mobile Alliance is a non-profit partnership between the Downtown Mobile District Management Corporation and Main Street Mobile, Inc., whose purpose is to create more exposure for downtown redevelopment efforts, both within the downtown community and throughout the city at large.

Sincerely,

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Downtown Mobile Alliance

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