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September 2007

Downtown Update

The Latest News about Downtown Mobile

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Dear Carol,

The pace of life often picks up in the fall when children are back in school and kick-off times rule everyone's schedule. So it is with downtown Mobile. The fine arts season and BayFest will kick off months of events and activities to delight thousands of visitors. Summertime gave us all a much needed break, but it's time once again to take advantage of all that downtown has to offer!

Development News

We hope you're sampling the many new restaurants and night spots that have appeared on the scene in recent months. And if you're still looking for something new, downtown is the place to be. Our existing businesses are also making national headlines and helping put Mobile on the map. Here is a sampling of what's happening in downtown.



- A local developer has purchased the **former wholesale florist** at the corner of St. Louis and Washington Streets for \$389,000 and plans to convert it into residential, retail and office condominiums. The 25,000 square foot building covers most of the block and fronts St. Louis, Washington, Dearborn and St.

Michael Streets.

- **Serda's Coffee Company** - If you're looking for a new place for your morning caffeine fix, you won't have to wait much longer. Serda's will be open in November and will offer a full range of coffee beverages, as well as sandwiches and a great selection of beer and wine. 3 South Royal Street
- **The Pint** - Located at 201 Dauphin Street in the former Subway space, The Pint offers a wide selection of beer and wine.
- **Late Night Concessions** - This concept, with its late night menu, is sure to please the after hours crowd that fills Dauphin Street on the weekends. Located at 274 Dauphin Street, the restaurant is scheduled to open in a few weeks.
- **The Bull** is restaurateur Wendell Quimby's latest venture. Offering Southwestern cuisine, the restaurant will open at 609 Dauphin Street later this fall.
- **MDi Media Group** has been listed on Inc. Magazine's 5000 Fastest Growing Private Companies in America. The magazine notes MDi's internet technology that allows clients to follow and comment on a project's development in real-time.

[Find Out More](#)

Living Downtown: The Tour

RBC Centura Joins the Inaugural Tour as Title Sponsor



Ever wonder about all the buzz surrounding downtown living? Then you won't want to miss the **Living Downtown Tour, sponsored by RBC Centura, Saturday, October 20, 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.**

Experience one of the hottest residential trends across the country by touring some of downtown Mobile's finest examples of urban living. You'll be able to walk through up to 30 contemporary lofts, spacious townhouses, luxurious condominiums and beautifully restored historic homes--all within minutes of banking, shopping, fine restaurants and arts events. Tickets are \$15 if purchased before the tour, \$20 on the day of the tour and may be purchased on line at www.downtownmobile.org or at the following locations:

- Downtown Mobile Alliance - 261 Dauphin Street
- Dauphin Realty - 2569 Dauphin Street, 6207 Cottage Hill Road, 559 North Section Street, Fairhope
- Fort Conde Welcome Center
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage - 1111 Hillcrest Road
- Spring Hill Lighting - East Beltline Highway between Old Shell Road and Springhill Avenue

Many thanks to our sponsors for making this event possible: **RBC Centura, Starbucks Coffee, 95-KSJ, Lite Mix 99.9, News Radio 710, WKRG News 5**, 250 St. Francis Street - A Condominium, Dauphin Realty, The Guarantee Title Company, Makeda Nichols State Farm Insurance, St. Louis Lofts - A Condominium, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, WHL Architects & Interiors

For more tour information

Gulf Coast Antiques, Food and Wine Festival

While you're downtown for the Living Tour, you have the perfect opportunity to look for furniture for your new place at the **Gulf Coast Antiques, Food and Wine Festival**. This inaugural festival is sure to please those with refined taste, or those who'd like to sample fine living only for



a weekend. The Mobile Convention Center will be transformed into a showcase of fine living on **October 19, 20 and 21** when the new Gulf Coast Antiques, Food and Wine Festival takes place. According to David Calametti, Chair of the Festival Planning Committee, the event will showcase some of the finest 18th and 19th century antique dealers in the country. Expect to find furniture, paintings, porcelain, oriental rugs, linens, pottery, glass, silver, jewelry, collectables, and architectural and garden pieces.

There will also be nine wine distributors participating in the wine tasting, and samplings from some of the best restaurants in our region. Along with the Antiques Village and the food and wine tastings, there will be a host of specialty foods and products that will be showcased in the Gourmet Marketplace along with the latest in kitchen and culinary appliances and accessories.

The Gulf Coast Antiques, Food and Wine Festival hours are

Friday, October 19, 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, October 20, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.; and Sunday, October 21, Noon until 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for a weekend pass. VIP Patron Weekend Passes are \$75. Tickets to the Cigar Bar "Tasting" Party, on Saturday afternoon are \$50.

[For more information](#)

BayFest Tickets On Sale at the Alliance Office



BayFest will celebrate its 13th anniversary on October 5, 6 and 7, 2007 with an anticipated 200,000 guests who will make merry on the streets of downtown Mobile, Alabama for three days and nights to the strains of more than 125 live musical acts on multiple stages. BayFest organizers are still booking bands for the event, but the line up so far is shaping up to be one of the best yet: LeAnn Rimes, Alice in Chains, Boyz II Men and Brian McKnight.

Tickets will be available at the Downtown Mobile Alliance office at 261 Dauphin Street for \$35 for the three day pass.

[For more BayFest information...](#)

Downtown Doings

Some upcoming events in downtown Mobile

BayFest Music Festival. *October 5, 6, and 7 in the streets of downtown Mobile.* Weekend pass/ \$35, Single day pass/ \$25. Over 125 live musical acts on nine stages. Confirmed acts for this year include LeAnn Rimes, Velvet Revolver, Alice in Chains, Daughtry, Boyz II Men, and Brian McKnight. Kids have fun too with a petting zoo, karaoke, games, kid-friendly shows, and arts & crafts. For more information call 251-208-7835.

Living Downtown Tour, sponsored by RBC Centura,

Saturday, October 20, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Visit 30 downtown properties open for public tours. Tickets in advance/ \$15, tickets on day of event/ \$20. For more information call 251-434-8498 or visit www.downtownmobile.org.

Gulf Coast Antiques Food and Wine Festival. *October 19, 20, and 21 at Mobile Convention Center.* Weekend pass/ \$10. Celebrating fine antiques, fine food and fine wine, this festival presents a 50,000 square foot shopping village of high-quality antiques and collectables in concert with a culinary marketplace featuring gourmet foods, fine wines, state-of-the-art appliances and accessories. Demonstration stages will feature celebrity chefs creating their signature dishes and sharing kitchen secrets alternating with renowned antiques and design experts offering their insights and advice on the care and feeding of your special pieces. For more information please call (251) 694-0457 or visit www.gcafw.com.

Reptiles: The Beautiful and the Deadly, through 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.

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.

Life is But a Dream: Contemporary Figurative Photography - through Sunday, Oct 07, 2007. The photographs in this exhibition explore how photography, a medium that is a fusion between science and art, is behaving now. It is still a powerfully telling medium due in part to its seductive believability. The clarity with which photography can record a moment lends a bit of journalism to every photograph. This subtext of "truth" in photographs and the way it folds itself into our personal experience and visual culture in general is the subject of this exhibition. Space 301 Off Centre, 6 South Joachim Street. www.space301.com

Friends of the Library Table of Contents annual fundraiser, Thursday, September 20, Battle House Hotel. Dinner followed by a presentation from **Juan Williams**, author and political analyst. 251-208-7097.

LoDa Artwalk . Cathedral Square Arts District 6 - 9 PM.

Exhibitions and entertainment in a variety of downtown galleries and other venues on the second Friday of each month (except April and October). For more information call 251-208-7443.

Market on the Square. *Each Saturday in Cathedral Square throughout October and November, 7 - 11 a.m.* Get to the farmers' market early for the best pickings of this year's fall crop! For more information, call (251)208-7540.

Brown Bag in Bienville Square. *11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.* Bring a lunch and enjoy. The September line-up is as follows: John Reno and the Half-Fast Creekers on Sept. 15th The Mithril (Tom Morley) on Sept. 22nd Rick Chancey on Sept. 29th For more information, call (251) 470-7730.

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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