

Downtown Businesses Move to Front Street

Despite the economy that has been impacting businesses and individuals across the country, these downtown businesses have decided to make the move to Front Street (and one to Market Street just off of Front).



Check them out at their new locations:

DoubleWide Skate & Surf Shop - 24 N. Front Street

Una Luna World Gallery - 226 S. Front Street

Silk Road Antiques - 103 S. Front Street

Sawgrass Gifts - 10-A Market Street (in the same building as City Buddha)

CFCC Goes Smoke-Free

As of August 1st, the use of tobacco products on Cape Fear Community College property will be prohibited. This includes both their downtown and North Campus locations.

CFCC made this announcement which continues a trend of many institutions, such as other school, hospitals, and government buildings, going smoke-free. UNCW and New Hanover Regional Medical Center already have such a policy in place.



A proposal intended to ban smoking in restaurants and bars in the State was not passed back in 2007, however, many restaurants are still implementing smoke-free policies, or restricting the hours in which their patrons can smoke.

See Who Has Opened Up Shop Downtown

There are some new businesses that have opened in downtown! These additions are worth checking out!

The Arabian Nights Lounge & Hookah Cafe has opened at 117 Grace Street. They are open daily from 2pm-12am during the week and from 2pm-3am on weekends.

On the southside of downtown in Chandler's Wharf, a new gallery and framing shop is open. The Art of Rebecca Duffy Gallery & Framing Shop is located downtownstairs in the atrium of Chandler's Wharf.

There's a new florist on Princess Street - Moxie Floral Design Studio. Check them out for your Valentine's Day needs at 116-A Princess Street.

North Carolina Jazz Festival Comes to Town



The 29th Annual North Carolina Jazz Festival Brings World-Class Musicians to Wilmington, NC. During the weekend of February 5th through 7th, the 29th Annual North Carolina Jazz Festival will present concerts by more than a dozen traditional jazz artists who will perform in a cabaret-style setting at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside ballroom. Aficionados can see and hear their favorite traditional jazz musicians perform live, along with opportunities to meet and mingle with the artists.

For more information, including a schedule of events and to purchase tickets online, please visit the event website at: <http://www.ncjazzfestival.com>

2009 Azalea Festival

The 2009 Azalea Festival will be held this year from April 1st through April 5th. Please stay tuned to the next issue of our newsletter for more information regarding impacts to the downtown area, such as street closures, parking information, and other items related to the parade route, staging areas, and redevelopment of downtown areas.



Gearing Up for the 2009 Table Host Luncheon!

Planning is underway for our upcoming Table Host luncheon brought to you by WDI & Carolina First Bank! The date & location have been set, and we are currently working to finalize a speaker for the event.

What: Table Host Luncheon

When: Tues. March 10th

Where: CFCC Schwartz Ctr.

(w/ convenient, adjacent parking)

[Look for newsletter & email updates!](#)

SPONSORSHIP INFO:

Sponsorship opportunities for the 2009 Table Host are now available.

This event is very well attended, with last year's event seating nearly 600 of the most important and influential members of our community.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, please email us for a sponsorship packet:

leeanne@wilmingtondowntown.com

john@wilmingtondowntown.com

or you can call the office:

(910) 763-7349

Sponsors To Date:

Cape Fear Bank, BB&T, Carolina Marine Terminal, Wilmington Industrial Development, PB&G Partners, GMC Real Estate, First Citizens Bank, PPD, and Griffin Estep.

REMINDERS

Loan Program

Wilmington Downtown administers business loan programs that provide capital for rehabilitation of commercial buildings in Wilmington's Central Business District and operating capital for qualifying downtown businesses. Rehabilitation Loans & Operating Loans offered at 3/4 Prime. 910-763-7349

EVENTS

Public Input Session
| City Hall |
Wed, Feb. 11th
5pm - 7pm

The City of Wilmington is hosting an open house to showcase the progress of the Streetscape Improvement Project for N. Front Street. The current project is focused on the blocks between Market and Chestnut Streets. Improvements include lighting, sidewalks and curbing, pedestrian benches, traffic signals, utilities and other enhancements that will contribute to a thriving downtown.

Free Wine Tasting
| Wilmington Wine Shoppe |
Thursday, Feb 12th
Wilmington Wine Shoppe hosts a free wine tasting every 2nd Thursday of the month! For more information, contact them at: (910) 772-2077

NC Jazz Festival
| Hilton Riverside Hotel |
Thurs, Feb. 5th - Sat, Feb 7th
7:30pm - Midnight
The NC Jazz Festival has been around since 1980 and this year will be the 29th Annual Event. Please see story to the left for more information!

Art Showing
| Tanyard Parish 212 S. Front |
Daily through Feb 28th
10am-3pm
The works of Elizabeth Darrow, a Connecticut native, will be on display at the Tanyard Parish development. Come explore her art and the newly finished townhomes and brownstones of Tanyard Parish.

Beam Signing Ceremony
| Beside Chamber of Commerce |
Wed, February 11th
1:30pm
The Mayor and the owner of the construction company in charge of the Convention Center will say a few words and then ceremoniously sign one of the beams that will be used in the actual structure of the finished convention center.

REMINDERS

Properties Listing
If you need to update your available property list on our website, please contact John at 910-763-7349 or email the listing to john@wilmingtondowntown.com