

The Alger Marquee



Friends of the Alger Theater (313.438.3908)

A Message from Our President

Dear Friend,

By now I hope you've noticed the new format of our newsletter – **The Alger Marquee**. What do you think? We're quite excited about it and feel it projects a more professional image for our organization. While the inclusion of photos and graphics help make it more eye appealing and interesting for you the reader, most important is the content that we're bringing to you to keep you informed about the Friends and Alger Theater! Here is a brief update of what's been going on.

Looking back to last fall, The Friends of the Alger Theater held our annual meeting in October. A re-

cap of a most successful previous fiscal year was presented as well as a solid preview of things to come for 03/04. Election of Board officers for the organization also took place with the following results:

President – Dennis Costello, Vice President – Phyllis Boles, Treasurer – Geoff Gowman, Secretary – John Dunstone, and Membership Chair – Napoleon Wright.

A big thank you to everyone that renewed their membership in the last quarter of 2003. The Friends are extremely grateful for those of you that have helped financially support our organization over the years. Your monetary contributions have gone a

long way in helping to sustain our efforts.

The Alger Board spent a very productive weekend in the latter part of November with a fund development consultant. We participated in an organizational assessment and planning session that resulted in a comprehensive strategic plan for the Board to begin implementing.

The strategic planning document that was crafted will provide a framework for the Board to develop a grant proposal to the Knight Foundation for significant financial assistance. Our funding request to Knight, which we plan to submit this month, will not only

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"Ain't Got No Valentine" Ribs and Blues Concert

Has this cold and snowy winter got you down? Come join us for a hot night with the area's best ribs and Blues. The Friends of the Alger are hosting this can't miss event at one of our very good neighbor's - The Point Bar-B-Q, 17410 East Warren, Detroit. The date is February 12, 2004, the time is 8:00pm.

We are thrilled to have, as the featured performers Detroit's very own R.J.'s

Rhythm Rockers, fronted by drummer RJ Spangler who earned his first Motor City Music award in 1982 with a band he co-founded called the Sun Messengers. Mr. Spangler's talents have taken him across North America and Europe, but it is here in Detroit where we claim him as our own. Mr. Spangler and the rest of the band's credits are too numerous to mention here, but check them out at [\[ons.com\]\(http://www.ons.com\) for the whole story. Tickets are \\$20.00 each in advance or \\$25.00 at the door. Your admission includes a delicious rib or chicken dinner and the show \(cash bar\).](http://www.spanglerbluesproducti</p></div><div data-bbox=)

For tickets or information call 313.882.2579, 313.516.1225, Or Re/Max Premier at 313.640.0100.

See you on the 12th!



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*"Cultural Activity is one
of the hallmarks of a
healthy and vital
community."
- Venture Fund*

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.algertheater.org

President's Message (cont'd)

address the creation of a Community Arts Center at the Theater but also will positively impact community development along the East Warren Avenue commercial strip and the residential neighborhoods surrounding the Alger.

In January we convened a Community Visioning meeting. Many key stakeholders in the community enthusiastically accepted our invitation and participated. In the end we all came away with a commitment to work together for positive change and improvement in our community. Follow-up discussions and planning for effective action will commence in the weeks ahead.

The Friends also have begun to work with Christ

About Our Organization...

The Friends' Mission is to enhance the quality of life and encourage the economic revitalization of the community through cultural and recreational

Community Development Corporation and East Warren Business United on a commercial revitalization initiative along East Warren Avenue. A graduate studies class at the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning is conducting a retail / commercial study for us which will address a variety of issues affecting businesses and patrons alike. The outcome of the final report from this study will be a plan to strengthen the retail district in our community.

In January we also submitted an application to the State of Michigan to receive Historic Designation of the Alger Theater. It is the hope of the Friends to achieve historic designation at the Federal, State and Local

programming by fully utilizing the historic Alger Theater.

The Friends of the Alger Theater is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community-

based charitable organization. Such designations will create a number of opportunities for the Friends to qualify for funding from a targeted group of sources and make available a number of other resources to aid our efforts.

In closing, I'd like to invite you to our "Ribs and Blues" show at the Pointe Bar-B-Q on Thursday, February 12th at 8 P.M. A separate article in this issue of The Alger Marquee will provide additional information. Please help support this event sponsored by the Outreach Committee of The Friends of the Alger Theater. Good food and great music – it'll be a blast!

Dennis Costello
President

based charitable organization. Consult your tax specialist for information regarding the deductibility of your contribution.



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