

The Alger Marquee



Friends of the Alger Theater (313.438.3908)

A Message from Our President

Dear Friend,

A lot has happened here at the Alger since I last wrote to you in the spring of this year. The "Friends of the Alger Theater" successfully sponsored a couple of very entertaining and enjoyable events that were fun and gratifying for our group to produce.

The first event was our Ribs and Blues concert held at the Pointe Bar-B-Q on E. Warren. The place was packed and swayed the entire night to the bluesy sounds of RJ's Rhythm Rockers led by drummer RJ Spangler of Detroit's own Sun Messengers fame. The tasty BBQ ribs and chicken, plus assorted side dishes set out by Pointe BBQ co-owners

Dave and Mike Muer was delicious. The camaraderie of all those in attendance that night made for a very memorable event.

The "Friends" also sponsored a most delightful afternoon at our annual "Community United Through Music" concert held at Peace Lutheran Church. The atmosphere was electric with the dynamic and uplifting vocal and instrumental music performed by very talented community choirs, soloists and a host of musicians. The church was filled with spiritual songs that made for a wonderful time listening to inspirational music and engaging in good fellowship at the reception

that followed the concert.

In other news... the "Friends continue our quest to obtain historic designation for our theater building. Our consultant, Rebecca Binno-Savage who is assisting us on this project tells us our initial application in the multi-step process for historic designation was found acceptable by the State of MI Historic Preservation Office. We're now in the midst of the second phase of the designation project and expect to hear back on our most recent application very soon.

On a less satisfying note I'm disappointed to report the "Friends" grant proposal to the Knight Foundation requesting

(Cont'd on page 2)

Annual Meeting / Membership Renewal

The Friends of the Alger Theater's Annual Meeting for our fiscal year which ended on September 30th is scheduled for Thursday, November 11, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. This meeting is open to all our members to review and discuss the past year and to participate in the planning process for the new fiscal year and beyond.

Please consider this your invitation to join us to help

chart our course for the future. The meeting will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church lounge located at 11475 E. Outer Drive at Berkshire.

Thank you to all of our members for their very generous contributions to the Friends of the Alger Theater. Your ideas, time, talent and financial assistance have been invaluable to our non-profit

organization. The Board of Directors are extremely grateful for all donations that help to fund operations and promote our efforts.

Please take a moment to renew your annual membership and be with us if you can on November 11th. Please refer to page two of this newsletter for our new membership categories. We greatly appreciate your support!

**FRIENDS OF THE
ALGER THEATER**

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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)

assistance for funding to renovate the Alger was not successful. The experience of assembling all the required grant materials has been beneficial and will help in crafting future proposals for funding assistance to other foundations.

Our organization however was successful in obtaining a small Federal-matching grant administered by the U-Snap-Bac Community Development Corporation. This matching grant will be used to improve the exterior façade of the theater. Exposed brick on the building will be power washed, repaired, and sealed which will improve not only the structural integrity of the building's masonry but also give the theater a much needed makeover and cleaner

look. This work is expected to be done by mid November.

Over the past number of months the "Friends" have also been busy forging many meaningful partnerships with various groups in the area that will definitely be a benefit to our entire community. Together with Christ CDC and the East Warren Business United organizations, we have begun to plan for the implementation of some of the recommendations that resulted from a study completed in the spring by the University of Michigan Graduate School of Urban Planning of the E. Warren commercial corridor. Projects addressing security issues and cleanliness along E. Warren from Alter Road on the west to Mack

Avenue on the east will begin soon.

In closing I'd like to express our gratitude to Mary Martinez from AAA Office Supply for the beautiful flowers she donated this past summer that adorned the street planters along the perimeter of the theater. And thanks also to Bill Barlage and other volunteers from East English Village who recently planted scores of tulip bulbs in the planters outside the Alger – we can't wait till spring to see all the color.

Finally a big word of thanks to Susan Shade from Standard Federal Bank who arranged for a \$1,000 donation from the bank of which we're extremely grateful for.

Dennis Costello
President

About Our Organization... / New Membership Categories

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

programming by fully utilizing the historic Alger Theater.

Membership Categories:

Apprentice (Student) \$15
Soloist (Individual) \$20

Ensemble (Family) \$50
Living Legend (Senior) \$50
Director(Sm Business) \$50
Producer (Non Profit) \$75
Executive Producer \$200
(Business w/ 50 + employees)

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