

CAMBRIDGE



Main Street

NEWS *from* DOWNTOWN

MAY 2006



CALENDAR

May 8, 5:30–7 p.m.
Main Street Board of Directors Meeting

Open to the public.
Chamber of Commerce.

May 13, 1:30–9 p.m.
Groove City Jazz & Blues Fest



Performers include Gary Thomas, Lafayette Gilchrist, Lea Gilmore, John Lamkin, Chris English. Race and Cedar Streets (rain or shine). Plus Second Saturday, with stores open late. And something new: horse-drawn carriage rides by Breeze Away Luxury Shuttle and Limo Service.

May 13
Heritage Day

Events throughout Dorchester County celebrate the area's culture. For information, call 410.228.1000.

May 20
Town Hall Meeting for R/UDAT

Intense community planning includes a town hall meeting open to everyone 9 a.m.–noon Saturday, May 20 at Mace's Lane Middle School. For info, go to www.cambridgerudat.com.

Boost customer relations skills with free workshop

Looking for ways to keep your customers happier and more loyal? Need tips for dealing with difficult customers? Take part in a free workshop, "Building Exceptional Customer Experiences" on Thursday, May 25 at Chesapeake College Cambridge Center, 416 Race Street. Presenters include Rita Mielke of Centreville National Bank, Kemp Brooks of R. Brooks & Son, and John White, retired owner of Johnny's Shoe Shop. Sponsored by Dorchester First!, the Small Business Development Center, and Chesapeake College, the workshop runs from 6 to 8 p.m. with registration at 5:30 p.m. Space is limited. To reserve, contact Joy Loeffler of Dorchester First! at 410.228.1000 or joy@dorchesterfirst.com.

Home and garden accents, seafood businesses open

• **Crab Boy Seafood, LLC** (400 Academy Street, 410.221.7663), opened by Paul Wahl and Matt Wheeler in April, features seafood and steamed crabs with carry-out, catering, and full-service dining outside when weather permits. Open 11–7 Tuesday–Thursday, 11–8 Friday and Saturday; 11–5 Sunday.

• **Dazzle Your Domaine** is bringing home and garden accents to a space in the

back of Joie de Vivre Gallery at 410 Race Street. Owners are Helen Batton and her daughter, Jan Batton Smolca, who works at an architectural firm and does interior consulting part time. Their motto: "Elegance without expense." Grand opening is set for 2–5:30 p.m. May 6. Store hours are 10:30–5 Thursday–Saturday and 11:30–3:30 Sunday.

Art: Upstairs@447 now open; Victor Abarca at Joie de Vivre

May brings more ways to experience art in downtown Cambridge. Artists working in the studios at 447 Race Street have opened their gallery space to the public. The space, known as Upstairs@447, features the impressive work of the eight or so artists every Saturday from 11–5, with hours until 8 p.m. on Second Saturdays. "It's a very exciting time for the arts in Cambridge," said artist Mary Ann Schindler. And mark your calendar for May 13 (5–8 p.m.), when Joie de Vivre Gallery opens a show featuring the work of Cambridge artist Victor Abarca, who draws on his childhood in a small fishing village in Mexico.

About this newsletter: *News from Downtown* is brought to you by Cambridge Main Street, a 501c3 organization dedicated to revitalizing downtown Cambridge. To learn more or to volunteer, contact Liddy Garcia, Main Street Executive Director, at 410.228.0020 or liddymainstreet@comcast.net. The Main Street office is at 501 Poplar Street.

NEWS BITS: Groove City Jazz & Blues Fest brings music to the streets of Cambridge May 13, with a parade led by the Ragin' Unstoppables at 1:30 p.m., workshops with top musicians, performances, and more. For details, go to cambridgemainstreet.com. . . . Do you care about Cambridge's future? Let YOUR voice be heard during a **town hall meeting 9 a.m.–noon May 20** at Mace's Lane Middle School as part of a community planning blitz known as R/UDAT.