



PNN



PMHS News Network
June 2011

A Once-Empty Theater Plays A Leading Role in a Revival

WILMINGTON, Del. — A recent Saturday gathering of children eating peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and bouncing to the beat of an African band in a renovated theater was a fitting symbol for the continuing efforts to revive the city’s Market Street corridor.

The lunchtime concert was in the once-grand Queen Theater, which had sat vacant for more than 50 years until a \$25 million renovation brought it back to life in April as a restaurant and live-music space. The theater is considered the anchor of an ambitious public-private partnership to breathe new life into a nine-block stretch of Market Street that connects Wilmington’s thriving central business district and the Christina River’s redeveloped waterfront of office, residential and retail space.



Chris Buccini, a developer, near the Queen Theater

“When Market Street reopened, we saw the architecture and the opportunities and we bought 28 buildings,” said Chris Buccini, a managing partner of the [Buccini/Pollin Group](#), a real estate development and management company that focuses on the mid-Atlantic region and has been the biggest player in Market Street’s makeover.

The architecture of the corridor’s two- to four-story buildings ranges from late-19th-century styles to Art Deco. Their bones were solid, but much of the upper floor space was vacant and neglected. Mr. Buccini’s company and other private developers, local businesses and foundations and city officials came together to create the Lower Market Design District, or LOMA, short for Lower Market. It now encompasses Market Street from the river up to Rodney Square, Wilmington’s epicenter. It also includes properties on adjacent King and Shipley streets.

The LOMA district has several missions. One is to bring in boutiques and entertainment options, like bars and restaurants. Another is to attract the so-called creative class, including artists and small but growing software, design and marketing companies. And developers are converting the vacant upper floors into apartments, aimed mainly at the city’s young professionals.

At one of Mr. Buccini’s properties, on the 900 block of Market Street, a former office building has been converted into a [Public House](#) restaurant. He said rent in the upstairs apartments range from \$900 for a studio to up to \$2,400 for a two-bedroom unit, and that the units are almost fully leased.

As he walked along Market Street’s brick sidewalks and vintage street lamps, Mr. Buccini pointed to some of the corridor’s additions, including a tapas restaurant and some cutting-edge clothing stores. He stopped in front of one of his properties, an empty WSFS Financial bank branch, which he said he was in no rush to fill. “Honestly, we’re waiting for something cool to come in here,” he said. “Maybe do a ping pong/pool hall/bar kind of place.”

From a retail perspective, Mr. Buccini, a Wilmington native, said the goal was to fill the district with distinctive businesses to make it stand out from suburban shopping options. “We want local and regional players to create a more homegrown, folksy feel,” he said.

Other people see success coming more quickly. “The LOMA area isn’t completely there yet, but it has vibrant potential,” said Don Meginley, the president of [Preservation Initiatives](#). His firm specializes in adaptive reuse of historic properties, and has played a big role in renovating the lower end of Market Street. “I think we will see dramatic changes over the next 18 to 30 months. The Queen is so huge in this equation.

Courtesy of Jeff Schlegel

Inside the PNN:

Associate of the Month	2
Hilton BWI	3
Comfort Inn Capital Beltway Hotel Happenings	4
Sheraton Meadowlands Goes Green	5
Happy Birthday	6
Recipe	7
Calendar	8
Happy Anniversary	9
Charities	10



Here's to you—the one with your 'game on'. You power-up the workday with your skillful performance. Jumping from task to task...thank you.

Associate of the Month

Embassy Suites Dulles

Evelyn Chirinos

Homewood Suites Dulles

Jose Mariscal

HGI & Homewood Suites/ Arundel Mills

Socorro Garcia

Comfort Inn Capital Beltway

Estella Escobar

Hilton BWI

Thelma Lewis

Aloft Dulles & HGI Dulles North

Aloft BWI

Leroy Mack

Embassy Suites Newark

Kenny Myers

Homewood Suites Newark

Gary Freeman

Sheraton Meadowlands

Ana Marie Perez

We Made the News!!!

The Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport Housekeeping department was featured in the Baltimore Times:

"BWI Hilton receives Letter of Appreciation"



The BWI Hilton Hotel Executive Housekeeper Sue Carson and her outstanding housekeeping staff are overjoyed at receiving a Letter of Appreciation from the Global Soap Project representative and learning that they turned in more used soap, 886 pounds, than any other hotel in the BWI and Annapolis areas.

The Global Soap Project takes used soap and sterilizes, remolds and ships it to Africa to be distributed to refugee camps. This also keeps the used soap out of Anne Arundel County's landfills which in turn keeps the Chesapeake clean.

-April 15-21, 2011 (www.baltimoretimesonline.com)" Kudos to Sue Carson and the entire Housekeeping staff.

The month of May was extremely busy for our hotel. There were several BEAUTIFUL proms. We had 600 high school students who were dressed in every color you could imagine. They pulled up in limos, the red Dodge Charger limo had "Lamborghini" style doors, some arrived in an RV, chartered buses and fancy cars. Honor Flight did arrive while the prom was taking place. They too enjoyed the festivities. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

The date has been set for our 2nd quarter Blue Energy Community activity. We will be taking a team of 10 people to volunteer for the Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake on Thursday June 23rd.

Jodi Fisher former PMHS Sales Professional of 10 years is currently a professor at Howard Community College. We scheduled a trip for both of our properties on May 19, 2011. The students received a tour, voluntarily worked for an hour in Laundry/Housekeeping, then ended with appetizers at Wxyz. Below is Jodi's thank you note:

"Thank you so much Tishuana for the time you took to arrange our field experience! The HCC students raved about the afternoon and what they learned. HCC appreciates the partnership with PMHS..."

At the Aloft BWI, we are excited about summer and our upcoming cook outs for our guests. The team has created a chalkboard communication wall in the back of the house, which is unique to the Aloft and has created more of a fun environment for everyone! In June, we are hosting a Jazz Fest and will even have a great jazz band in WXYZ.



Lastly, our associates from the Hilton and Aloft BWI had a BLAST at our annual Luau. Lisa Wilson won an MP3 player from the 1st game of pass the pineapple. Timothy Johnson won a free night stay at the HGI Dulles, from the 2nd game of pass the pineapple. Tanya Shannon won a DVD player for winning musical beach towel. Keosha Buie won \$10 from the ladies traditional Hawaiian foot race. Timothy Johnson again, won \$10 from the men's race. However, Andrew Peterson (HR Coordinator) was right behind him in second place. Tamikka Pogue won \$50 for gas and Keosha Buie again won, a gift certificate valued at \$100. We believe this year's Luau topped all others and was a great kick off to our summer. Associates are still talking about it and looking forward to their summer vacations.

Enjoy the sunshine,

Tish Hodge, PHR



Comfort Inn Capital Beltway at Maryland National Travel & Tourism 29th Anniversary Celebration



Maryland joined hundreds of cities, states, and businesses nationwide in the annual salute to travel and tourism in America. Representatives were chosen from the tourism industry and public awareness groups throughout the area to display their information as creatively as possible on May 11th at the I-95 North Welcome Center. Among the select few chosen was Comfort Inn Capital Beltway(H3). Due to the new efforts to spotlight the Welcome Center staff and the hotel they saw fit that our presents be known.

The festival took place on the outdoor courtyard 10:30am -3:30pm. We were able to meet a wide range of individual travelers and groups traveling to the area and other points north.

H3's festival participation has really put the property on the map for last minute travelers and even monthly groups.

Written by: Maurice Douglas

Hilton Garden Inn Dulles North has won a 2011 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence!

TripAdvisor awards this certificate to properties who consistently receive excellent ratings from our members. They think our 4 rating is something to be proud of and we hope you do too.

Best wishes for continued success in 2011

Sheraton Meadowlands Goes Green

Our associate of the Month was Ana Marie Perez . She is a server in the restaurant who besides giving great service with a smile ... went out of her way to learn how to say good morning to our guests in Korean, Chinese and Japanese. We have a big Asian tout business, and on more than one occasion has really wow the guests.

GREEN Initiative-

The Sheraton Meadowlands has launched a comprehensive recycling program at our hotel. We have established a program for trash, recyclables and compost. We have had training in all departments and we are doing are part to make sure we all do our part to save the environment.

At the same time the hotel will be going under a major renovation in our parking lot. Why you may ask? It is because we are installing a solar carport system that will begin the end of June. The system will not only give us a covered parking lot but will generate huge savings on our electric usage. We are all excited about this project and will share more information as it unfolds. Attached is a preliminary photo of what the project will look like.

Written by: Andrew Halper

SOME DON'T LIKE IT **Hot!**

Stay safe in the heat

Follow these 6 steps to protect yourself from the heat this season:

1. Practice pre-hydration. Before you start work, drink up to 16 ounces of fluid. After you begin work, drink 8 ounces every 20 minutes during the activity.
2. Drink the right stuff. Plain water is the best for quenching thirst. Never drink alcoholic beverages when working in the heat.
3. Become acclimated to the heat slowly. If possible, take 5 to 7 days to reach a full work schedule in the heat. If you've had previous experience with the job, your heat acclimation may be quicker than if you're new to the job and/or to working in the heat. Remember that after about 4 days of working in cool conditions, your heat acclimation will decrease.
4. Don't wear a hat. The body loses a lot of heat out of the top of the head. If you're in hot shade, don't wear a hat. If you're in direct sun and need shading, wear a visor that's open at the top. Also see #6.
5. Wear the right fabric. Cotton is great at absorbing moisture from the skin while sweating, but it can create a problem if it gets soaked. If possible, wear a loose, thin, white, synthetic t-shirt while working in the heat. Synthetic material does not absorb sweat, but sends it off the skin to be quickly evaporated.
6. Don't remove PPE. You must wear required PPE even in the heat. Pay attention to your reaction to the heat and ask for a break if you start to feel overheated.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Comfort Inn Gunston Corner

6/2 Jane Carter
 6/2 Maria Campos
 6/5 Sandra Guerrero

Comfort Inn Beltsville

6/6 Rosa Aguilar
 6/7 Estefani Guzman
 6/17 Muriel Parker
 6/23 Jenny Guardado

Embassy Suites Newark

6/1 James McGhie
 6/13 Daniel Poku
 6/13 Antonia Ayala
 6/14 James Yetman
 6/22 Ervin Neal
 6/22 Sean Sestak
 6/29 Carlos Tapia

Embassy Suites Dulles

6/1 Jose Rivera
 6/21 David Jenkins
 6/28 Sobe Mokoti

Homewood Dulles

6/17 Rosa Carabantes
 6/19 Thanh Dang

Homewood Suites Newark

6/5 Hilda Mendoza
 6/7 Alyssa Hatfield

Aloft Dulles

6/16 Alun Mekamdem Mebe
 6/24 Noemi Torrico
 6/24 Brittny Walter

Hilton BWI

6/3 Ivano Gagliardi
 6/9 Kemia Brinkley
 6/9 Shaundra Burton
 6/12 Thelma Lewis
 6/12 Paul Kelsey
 6/16 Lisa Guerra
 6/20 Janelle Kaiser
 6/21 Linda Steelman
 6/23 Josi Waterman
 6/25 Tanya Shannon
 6/30 Maria Duarte Matos

Support Center

6/2 Shelby Jerkins
 6/9 Robert Buccini
 6/27 Brenda Flores
 6/29 Alex Johnson

HGI Arundel Mills

6/10 Lal Thang
 6/13 Sylvia Hutchings
 6/13 Alexandria Vandross
 6/17 Asad Mushtaq
 6/19 Danielle Blake
 6/19 Sianita Ugaddan
 6/23 Grace Hawkins
 6/27 Edward Williams

Homewood Suites Arundel Mills

6/2 Bernadette Wilson
 6/4 Elizabeth Miller
 6/7 Koyanta Davis
 6/9 Biniyam Tesfaye
 6/21 Skye Bennett

Sheraton Meadowlands

6/2 Michele Mele
 6/2 Luis Diaz
 6/2 Andrew Halper
 6/4 Musa Jibrin
 6/7 Jeff Koodish
 6/8 Aura Gautier Du Defaix
 6/8 Yuridia Carcich
 6/13 Jacob Pack
 6/14 John Matthews
 6/17 Rodolfo Conde
 6/19 Raul Cano
 6/20 Juana Liriano
 6/27 Miguel Agbunag
 6/28 Rolando Farfan
 6/29 Fadil Sahatqiu

Aloft BWI

6/3 Janet Roberts
 6/13 Eden Hansom
 6/16 Theresa Taylor Mitchell
 6/30 Freddy Famba

Sheraton Edison

6/4 Todd Buckley
 6/8 Melissa Krupp
 6/17 Andrew Santos
 6/28 Joan Caplette
 6/29 Naresh Singh
 6/30 Maria Peralta
 6/30 Brenna Bradley

HGI Dulles

6/14 Vilma Linares De Mayorga
 6/18 Elsa Pineda

SAFETY CORNER

Home Safety

June is **Home Safety Month**. According to the Home Safety Council

(www.homesafetycouncil.org), every day 55 people die in American homes and 58,000 people are injured enough to need medical care. Five common causes of home injuries involve:

1. Falls
2. Poisonings
3. Fires and Burns
4. Choking and Suffocation
5. Water dangers

Help prevent falls in your home by:

- Installing handrails on stairways and grab bars in tubs
- Installing bright lighting in stairs and hallways
- Using ladders rather than furniture to reach heights

Prevent poisonings by:

- Locking up cleaners and medications
- Keeping these materials in their original containers
- Following directions for use of these materials
- Posting the Poison Control Center number by phones: 800-22-1222

Check out the Home Safety Council website for more information on how to prevent accidents and injuries at home from all 5 home dangers—as well as other home hazards.



Tomato-and-Cilantro-Marinated Chicken Shashlik

Contributed by Dmitry Leonov

TOTAL TIME: 40 MIN Plus overnight marinating

SERVINGS: Makes 8 skewers

Grating tomatoes is a quick way to create the juicy puree that becomes a tangy base for a super-simple marinade

INGREDIENTS

- 2 large plum tomatoes, coarsely grated on a box grater
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 cup pure olive oil
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro
- 4 pounds skinless, boneless chicken breasts, cut into 2-inch pieces
- Vegetable oil, for brushing
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

DIRECTIONS

- In a large bowl, combine the grated tomatoes, garlic, olive oil and cilantro. Add the chicken and coat thoroughly with the marinade. Cover and refrigerate overnight.
- Light a grill. Thread the chicken onto 8 metal skewers, leaving a small space between each piece. Brush the chicken with vegetable oil and season with salt and pepper. Grill over moderate heat, turning occasionally, until lightly charred and just cooked through, about 15 minutes.

June 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 National Rocky Road Day	3	4
5	6 Hunger Awareness Day	7	8	9	10 Iced Tea Day 	11
12	13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18
19 	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OUR MISSION

- 1) Deliver **service** in a friendly, courteous and helpful manner
- 2) Provide our guests with a superior hotel **product**
- 3) Create a workplace environment that promotes **training** and encourages **loyalty**,
- 4) Achieve financial objectives in order to enhance **job security** and reward associates

RESULT OF ACCOMPLISHING OUR MISSION:

A dedicated team of skilled associates taking pride in their work and who are aware of the importance of “gratified repeat guests.”

Happy Anniversary



ONE YEAR

Sobe	Mokoti	6/21/2010 Embassy Suites Dulles
Andrew	Santos	6/22/2010 Sheraton Edison

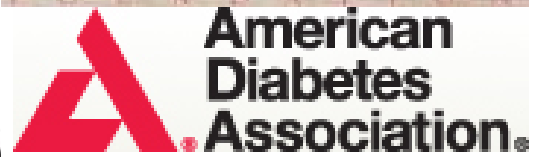




Giving Back to Our Communities

In 2009, PMHS and BPG supported these worthwhile organizations

Social
Education
The Arts



Learn and Live