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I was in San Diego last week for a conference, and the experience has gotten me really excited about Atlanta's Downtown potential. San Diego's downtown area is brimming with restaurants, clubs, shopping, theatre and PEOPLE. I didn't get panhandled once in the entire week.

What was really heartening was hearing from a bartender that the downtown area was very dangerous five years ago. To see it today you would never know it.

With a few key districts, San Diego's downtown area has transformed into an entertainment venue that I haven't seen anywhere else. They opened a homeless shelter and cleaned up the area.

With the Georgia Aquarium opening soon I just know that Atlanta's downtown will rival San Diego's exciting atmosphere very soon!

Deb Day  
 V.P. Communications  
 ADNA

### **CARE USA TO HOST JUNE COMMUNITY MEETING**

Our June 14 Community Meeting will take place at the CARE USA Headquarters in Downtown Atlanta, 151 Ellis Street, from 6-8 p.m. Join us for an enlightening briefing on Downtown's connections to the world, thanks to CARE. Guest speakers will include CARE staff involved in tsunami relief efforts.

Centennial Park will not be hosting "Concerts on the Bricks" this year; however 99X will be presenting free concerts every Saturday night at Kenny's Alley.

# ADNA Monthly Newsletter

Guess we'll have to move the party!

## **ATLANTA DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL AND TOUR OF LOFTS IS HERE!**

**This weekend, May 14-15.**

Jennifer Henderson, Maria Balais and Beth Haynes have been working hard for months to ensure that the festival is a success. Tony Stewart has lined up some wonderful artists, and Susan Roe has got some great musicians ready to entertain us. Be sure to tell all of your friends to come out and enjoy the festival. Get the OPer's downtown to the Tour of Lofts. We have 14 great lofts to tour, with Chef samplings at a number of them. It's your festival, let's show your appreciation for your neighborhood!

**FOCAL**  
 FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL ATLANTA LIBRARY

### **NEWS RELEASE**

**Local Nonprofit Promotes Library Services and Promotes Summer Reading with June Book Sale**

Friends of the Central Atlanta Library (FOCAL) will host its annual summer book sale June 2-4, 2005, at the downtown Central Atlanta Library. The book sale is a fundraising event created to support the programming and resource needs of the library. Proceeds from the book sale will help purchase new furniture for the kid's section of the library as well as support general programming at the library.

Current and classic gently used books donated by the public as well as library books that are removed from circulation will be available for sale. The book sale

is free and open to the public on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. FOCAL members are invited to a "preview" sale and reception on Thursday night June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A wide variety of fiction and nonfiction books, CDs videos and audio books will be for sale from \$0.50 to \$3.00. Children's books will also be on hand to stock up for summer reading programs.

"We are very excited about the book sale. Not only is it a great event that promotes literacy and reading in time for summer, but it is also a great way for us to support the library and new director by engaging the community," said FOCAL President Vanessa Foster.

For more information about FOCAL, to volunteer for the book sale, or to inquire about FOCAL membership visit the FOCAL website at [www.focalweb.org](http://www.focalweb.org).

**SPECIAL THANKS** to District 2 City Council Member Debi Starnes for sharing her evening with us at our April Community Meeting. Her vision of downtown over the last 12 years, and all her hard work, is starting to pay off. Auburn Street is getting a much-needed facelift, and a new homeless shelter is about to be opened. We will miss her dedication!

A Segway-based guided tour service--already running in Paris, New Orleans, Washington and Chicago--has just opened an Atlanta location. Atlanta, especially Downtown, is well-known for its Segways, as they are used by the [ADID Ambassadors](#) as well as various local law enforcement and security personnel. Segways are a

self-balancing, personal transportation devices designed to operate in any pedestrian environment.

[Atlanta Segway Tours](#) will take customers on a 3-hour city tour of Atlanta covering primarily Downtown locations, everything from Turner Field to Centennial Olympic Park. Tours are given in an intimate setting having only eight people to one guide. Tour itinerary includes:

- Underground Atlanta
- World of Coca-Cola
- Georgia State Capitol
- Turner Field
- Ebenezer Baptist Church
- Martin Luther King Jr. Center
- Peachtree, Auburn and Broad Streets
- CNN Center
- Philips Arena
- Centennial Olympic Park
- Georgia Aquarium
- Children's Museum

Each tour begins with a 45-minute orientation session. Tourists will practice on the Segways so that everyone feels comfortable. The Segway is appropriate for virtually anyone 12 and older.

**The tours are based out of Underground Atlanta. Reservations are required. Tours are \$65 for 3 hours and run rain or shine.**

### **Downtown Dweller Happy Hour Friday, May 20 @ Pacific Rim, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Please join us on the other side of the ADNA Festival & Tour of Lofts as we get together for our monthly happy hour. This time we'll take a journey to the Pacific Rim where they will allow us to taste some of their unique appetizer creations. Spirits will be on hand of course, so let's not forget to show our servers and bartenders some love for their hospitality! We look forward to seeing you there! If you have questions please send an email to [jennifer@downtownatl.com](mailto:jennifer@downtownatl.com).

Pacific Rim  
303 Peachtree Center Avenue  
Atlanta, GA  
(404) 893-0018  
[www.pacificrimbistro.com](http://www.pacificrimbistro.com)

### **WWBD (What Would Brian Drink?)**

Brrrrrrrr! All this unseasonable (or as some call it, unreasonable) weather has driven me back to the comfort of my favorite... reds. Here a few of my recent tastings.

#### **From Portugal**

#### **Quinta Do Portal: Portal Douro 2000 about \$9-\$12**

Big and full. Lots of ripe berry on the nose. This guy has a deep ruby color. Good example of a Douro wine. Let it open for about 20 minutes to get the full impact.

#### **From Australia**

#### **Tait "The Ball Buster": Barossa Valley 2003 \$19 - \$23**

Look out, mates! The wine maker wanted to name this after his wife. But "Michelle's Block" left him with visions of a soft and elegant wine. Well, this is not soft and elegant, and so the name. This thing is huge, thick, juicy and intense. It's a blend of 60% Shiraz, 19% Merlot and 21% Cabernet Sauvignon. And if that doesn't do it for you, buy it just for the name.

#### **From California**

#### **Kunde: Cabernet Sauvignon 2000 \$18 - \$25**

One of my all-time favorites from Sonoma Valley California. Kunde makes a great chardonnay, but his reds are always something special. This is really a nice bottle of wine. Doesn't need a lot of breathing, just pop it and let it go. Ripe fruit of cherry and cassis with mint roasted pepper and slight oak pull together a full bodied wine. Blended with Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot to add dimension and depth. Works best with prime rib, grilled steak.

Enjoy.

### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

This week, of all weeks in the year, belongs to Downtown Atlanta and the ADNA. It starts with tonight's monthly Community Meeting and ends Sunday evening, with the close of the annual Downtown Festival & Tour.

Over the course of just 6 days we will:

*Come together at CNN Center to explore a future vision of transportation linking Downtown to points east, west, north, and south, thanks to Michael Robison of Atlanta Streetcar and our good friends at Turner Broadcasting*

*Host an event at Americasmart to kick off the annual Downtown Festival & Tour and thank the many sponsors who share our vision of a Downtown that Atlantans can call "home"*

*Throw a two-day party that radiates out from the streets of Fairlie Poplar to condos at the furthest ends of our neighborhood, introducing thousands of people to the benefits of Downtown living*

As you look around the neighborhood this week, remember that all this activity happens because dozens of your neighbors are passionate about where you have chosen to live. Not only are they willing to go public with their passion, they love getting others involved! Their passion fuels festivals, cleaner streets, safer pedestrian options, better parking solutions, unique theatre experiences, community gardens, and new dog parks.

Through these shared accomplishments, friendships are born and nurtured, businesses thrive, and those who once stood on the sidelines dip their toes into that rarest of gifts: community.

We'll see you at the Festival and Tour this Saturday and Sunday, May 14 and 15!

**Jay Tribby**  
**2005 President, ADNA**  
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