

## CHICAGO'S SUMMER IN THE CITY CELEBRATES THE BIG NIGHT: BLOCK PARTY, WITH FREE TICKETS TO PRE-REGISTERED BUYERS

*Pre-register online and receive complimentary tickets to Enjoy a unique, Fun-Filled Evening of Entertainment along the Chicago River*

**CHICAGO** – (May 16, 2008) – This July, The Big Night at The Chicago Market will feature all things summer — great food, great drinks and Parrot Heads! Gone 2 Paradise, featuring Frank Paul, highlights the party, bringing the ultimate Jimmy Buffett music experience to The Chicago Market in the unique and scenic outdoor venue along the Chicago River.

Join us on Monday, July 21 from 6-7:30 p.m. for an unforgettable evening in Chicago — enjoy a *Cheeseburger in Paradise* or a trip to *Margaritaville* after a successful Market day at The Merchandise Mart.

The Chicago Market: Living and Giving runs July 17-23, 2008 and will offer the industry's latest trends, state-of-the-art design and a variety of special events and seminars for attendees. With a world of product at buyers' fingertips, The Chicago Market is the ultimate destination for upscale and specialty independent retailers.

### **Sponsored by the Alliance for the Great Lakes**

Unwinding on the beach. Fishing and boating. Taking advantage of the natural beauty that abounds in our area solely because of our waterways. The Great Lakes are a source of wonder and pride – and they deserve our respect and stewardship. The **Alliance for the Great Lakes (AGL)** is the only independent organization 100% devoted to the health of the Great Lakes. Through education, policy and local efforts, the Alliance for the Great Lakes is committed to protecting and restoring our lakes, rivers, streams and coastlines to ensure that over 40 million people living around the Great Lakes may enjoy them now and for generations to follow. Visit [www.greatlakes.org](http://www.greatlakes.org) for more information.

For more information on The Big Night or The Chicago Market: Living and Giving, please visit [www.shopchicagomarket.com](http://www.shopchicagomarket.com) or call 800.677.6278 (MART).

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**Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (MMPI)** is a trade show and property management firm, specializing in managing buildings devoted to wholesale showrooms and commercial office space. MMPI produces more than 300 trade shows, market events and conferences each year. MMPI manages The Merchandise Mart and 350 W. Mart Center in Chicago; Market Square, the Suites at Market Square, Hamilton Market, Plaza Suites, Furniture Plaza and the National Furniture

Mart in High Point, N.C.; the Architects & Designers Building and 7 W New York in New York; the L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and the Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest in Washington D.C.

**Vornado Realty Trust**, owner of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated real estate investment trust. Vornado's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO.

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