

November 13, 2006

by Ken Grimes, Jr.

Sunday after church has its traditions that vary from family to family. For those who flick on the TV for a brief respite in the recliner or on the couch, its one of several options this time of year, NFL football, golf or NASCAR. Watching the hype this weekend I got a little caught up in the big promos for the matchup with the Bears and the Giants. I'll be lucky when I finally write this if I can even tell you who won the game since it probably ended after my energy expired. For most of us who follow college football, this past weekend was a big downer for most as Auburn was pummelled at home by Georgia. The Crimson Tide marched into Baton Rouge and LSU showed who owns Death Valley this year. Florida barely squeaked by South Carolina thanks to a couple of blocked field goals. And the two big shockers was the 30-0 shut-out of Florida State by Wake Forest in Tallahassee and the Rutgers Scarlet Knights knocking off number 3 Louisville on national television to remain undefeated. That's alot to absorb but just think about this long



Cleveland Browns GM Phil Savage, Jr. hosted a delegation of Orange Beach residents

list of upsets and close to home defeats. Truly a week of college football to forget . . . lest we have to remember.

A good number of Orange Beach families got the red carpet treatment in Cleveland as they toured the facilities and stadium of the Cleveland Browns. Team General Manager & Sr. Vice President, Phil Savage, Jr. proudly showed off the Browns organization to the locals as his parents Phil and Carol Savage led the entourage which in-

cluded Allen and Diane McElroy, Wendell and Sandy Sawyer, Kirk and Connie Kirkland, Scott and Sue Hardee, Craig and Vicki Dean, Ron and Diane Weaver. A behind the scenes tour of a professional football team is quite an experience according to the locals. It's great to see Phil, Jr. achieving such a level of success in his career as he led the Baltimore Ravens in previous years and progressed to this new role. The Mobile native keeps his roots firmly planted with family and faith while leading such a large, well recognized organization. Mom and Dad seem pretty proud as well as the photos of the visit to Cleveland proved all smiles and plenty of appreciation on the trip. The group is also quite proud of Joe Savage, who heads a ministry known as "Winners Influence" which reaches professional

athletes and beyond as these role models become better leaders and influencers in the world in which they make such an impact. Great job Phil, Jr. and Joe Savage. We are proud of you guys and wish you the best in your careers!





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Orange Beach, Alabama

A nice story in the Sunday news about people asking for the flags to be flown in our neighboring city. It's great to know that here in the City of Orange Beach that our Boulevards fly "old glory" at every possible opportunity. This week they flew in honor of Veteran's Day and we truly appreciate and thank all of our veterans. To each of you and your families that have served in our nation's military, we owe our freedoms to you for the many sacrifices made through the years. Thank You, and thus our flags flew once again to honor our country. A few men serving in Iraq and Afghanistan with ties to Orange Beach are MSG Gary Lindsey, 226th Area Support Group (husband of Sheryl Lindsey); Richard Martorelli (son of Cyndi Brewer); LCPL Christopher R. Judy (grandson of Lester and Virginia Judy). There are many others to keep in our prayers as they serve overseas.

OBFD hosted departments from all over the county for a Tactics and Strategy session on Sunday at the Orange Beach Community Center. Battallion Chief / Training Officer Kevin Lanford keeps the efforts coming as each page of the calendar turns, another training opportunity arises. Recent training of the OBFD included a Collapse Class to aid in search and rescue techniques as well as a High Angle Rescue which paid off with a rescue emergency at a high rise condominium under construction. The victim was treated, secured and removed to a rescue vehicle by the crane lowering a basket over ten stories down. Great job to the fire guys for their dedication to saving lives in Orange Beach.



Training, Training, Training on Tactics and Strategies

The Catch the Island Spirit Award for this month was presented to Sunshine Keenan, Youth Coordinator at the Orange Beach Recreation Center. In a surprise visit by the Island Spirit Committee and co-workers from the city, Sunshine was presented the honor by Nora Mandoki and other chamber of commerce staff and volunteers.



"Her willingness to help the young people while getting to know the parents and each family is above and beyond her basic duty. Sunshine is a pleasant and friendly personality who works at making her programs the best for each child and she is an asset to the City of Orange Beach and our Recreation Center" added Mayor Pete Blalock. Congratulations Sunshine and thanks for the dedication.

Sunshine Keenan accepts the Island Spirit Award with roses, pin and other goodies. Past recipients Candy Martin, David McLain and Jeff Silvers joined in the honor.



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Orange Beach, Alabama

It was Monday night potluck time at the Orange Beach Community Center as the Association and residents enjoyed a great meal with a special guest speaker, Patti Hall, Director of the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo. Patti talked about the zoo and its recovery from Ivan and Katrina giving highlights of the Animal Planet series "The Little Zoo That Could" and how the show has made the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo a popular attraction for many new supporters. Following her comments, the Board of Directors of the OBCCA presented a check to the zoo for \$500 in support of ongoing expansion efforts. Another



check was presented by Association President Ed Carroll to the Orange Beach Ladies Fire Auxiliary for \$500 to aid in their programs. Board members were all smiles for the donation photo as Mr. Carroll sealed the latter with a kiss for good luck.



Like a mummy. . . it's time to wrap up the Halloween season with a few locals who won the first annual Wharf Halloween Costume Contest. The winners ages 1 month to 4 years; 1st place Jayden Lane, 2nd place Emily Walstad, 3rd place Noel Hand. Winners for ages 5-8; 1st place CJ Cotton, 2nd place Jack Wallace, 3rd place Tory Kelsen. Ages 9 and up winners; 1st place Savannah Lindsey, 2nd place Cameron Lodge, 3rd place Devin Babineaux. **Best of Awards:** "Cutest Chick in Town" - Ireland Rose Gray; "Best Smile" - Tanner Erny; "Best Superhero" - Jacob Bucher; "Island Spirit" - Emma and Mary Alice Bartholamew; and "Ms. Wharf" - Falyn Beebe. Scary and cute at the same time. Congratulations kids.

The deadline is here to register for Orange Beach Youth Basketball and Cheerleading. If you have yet to get that form completed, stop by the Orange Beach Recreation Center today. Basketball is open to ages 5 and up and is \$40 which includes uniform, pom poms, insurance and awards. Games if you have questions. A parents meeting 16th at 6pm at the Recreation Center.



trophy and insurance. Cheerleading is open to The fee is \$35 which includes practice uniform, uniforms are extra. Call 981-6028 immediately for cheerleading is scheduled for November

Thanksgiving is just around the corner as we begin to plan our family dinners and get together with friends and neighbors. In celebration of the holiday the annual Orange Beach Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at Orange Beach United Methodist Church, 28571 Canal Rd., at 6 p.m. on Sunday, November 19th. Everyone is invited to this community event which is a great opportunity to give thanks, share is music and song and enjoy a brief service of praise by our local pastors. All Orange Beach churches participate so don't miss the fellowship with other Orange Beach residents. Anyone interested in singing in the choir that night should come to the practice at 5:00 p. m. in the choir room at the rear of the sanctuary. Thanks to Ann Boling from OB United Methodist for the information.



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Orange Beach, Alabama

Keeping Orange Beach beautiful is just part of the daily routine for many folks around town as the Orange Beach Garden Club is always on the lookout. With an eagle eye and plenty of green thumbs, the club is pleased to announce its recent winners of the October Yard Awards. The "Residential Yard of the Month" recipient is Dennis and Diane Ott who reside at 26464 Marina Rd. Dennis proudly admits that Diane performs most of the work and provides all the creativity. The "Commercial Yard of the Month" goes to The Yacht Club of Terry Cove which is located at the south end of "D" Street on the water. Tony Overstreet is responsible for designing this gem and it sure looks great on the waterfront. Congrats to the winners and



OBGC

thanks to club members Shirley Krages and Doris Milford for the information. Keep working in those yards, as the holiday lighting is just around the corner.



OBGC



The Frank Brown Songwriters Festival continues all over Pleasure Island. If you haven't made it out yet, try this week as it concludes on Sunday night. The Orange Beach Art Center will have performances Thursday through Saturday night. Call 981-ARTS for info and be sure to start that holiday shopping while your there.

A few upcoming events to keep in mind are the City of Orange Beach Tree lighting and Santa Visit on Monday, November 27th at 6pm in front of City Hall. The chamber's Nautical Night of Lights Boat Parade will set sail on Saturday, December 9th from dusk till its over traveling from Lulus to Calypsos at Orange Beach Marina. To register your boat call Lester Bryant at 609-9771 or Michelle Brown at 968-4237. The Bear Point Civic Association will hold its annual Christmas Open House on December 9, 2006 from 6 to 8 p.m. at its facility on Bay La Launch Avenue. The event will highlight a visit with Santa and his Elf for the children. Stop by for some refreshments, door prizes and nice decorations. The BPCA invites you to celebrate the season with them as everyone is welcome! Contact Judy Moore at 981-5734 if you have questions.



Baldwin Register article about the Bear Point Neighborhood Plan



Courtesy of City of Orange Beach

This artist's rendering envisions Canal Road in Bear Point as a tree-lined boulevard with sidewalks and grassy medians. Orange Beach planners said that taking over the easternmost portion of Canal Road from the Alabama Department of Transportation as part of a neighborhood improvement plan could allow the state highway to be transformed into a boulevard through the residential area.

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Orange Beach, Alabama

Bridge scores for this week at the Orange Beach Senior Activity Center are for Tuesday November 7th: 1st: Rita Jones; 2nd: Dolores Howell; 3rd: Emily Bell and for Thursday November 9th: 1st: Doug Smith; 2nd: Barbara Martin; 3rd: Dorothy Roberts. Looks like a few new names added to the competition.

A final note to Orange Beach residents, that the Fire Department is testing fire hydrants for the next two weeks. You may experience some loss in water pressure or possible discoloration of water but be assured that all lines are safe. Thanks for your cooperation as these lines are tested.

Got some news around Orange Beach? Let us know what's going on by sending your community news to obecon@gulftel.com and be sure to log onto www.cityoforangebeach.com and register to receive the weekly newsletter online which has much more detail and color photography on other events.

A Final Look at Orange Beach this week. . .



Proud parents Phil and Carol Savage with son Phil, Jr. inside the Cleveland Browns training facility.

Right: Dianne McElroy with NFL legend Jim Brown at the Football Hall of Fame. Below: Diane Weaver checks out a size 16 shoe from a player. . . They are big. Below left: Craig Dean and Scott Hardee pull a goalpost lean to a tee.



Right: Kirk Kirkland, Ron and Diane Weaver and Vicki Dean confirm that the luxury box beats a bleacher seat in Cleveland or anywhere really!



Members of the City of Orange Beach Police and Fire Departments join Jeff Moon, City Administrator in thanking Retired Col. Danny McKnight following a Real World Leadership training conference held at the Rave recently. McKnight led the ground forces in Mogadishu, Somalia following the Blackhawk Down event made famous by the big screen. Practical decision making and consistency in action are one of many keys to effective leadership. Lead by involvement, he adds.



BEAR POINT

Neighborhood Improvement Discussion

6:30 PM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2006

ORANGE BEACH RECREATION CENTER

COME HELP PLAN YOUR COMMUNITY.



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