

Orange Beach Community News

Orange Beach, Alabama

May 8, 2006

by Ken Grimes, Jr.

Close to one hundred Orange Beach folks participated in the National Day of Prayer ceremony last week at the OB Recreation Center. Pastors representing churches from the city, residents and city employees came together for a few moments to collectively pray for our nation, our troops, state, county and local officials and asked for God's guidance in leading our communities. Governor Riley was the keynote speaker at the Pleasure Island Rotary Club Mayor's Prayer breakfast that same morning as 250 shared in the comments about the foundation on which our nation was built, Divine Guidance from God. Orange Beach Elementary School held it's annual "Field Day" organized by Coach Gary Hollis last Friday. Students had big fun while showing their stuff in many athletic competitions from sprints, to tug of war, to sack racing. Great job kids to all who gave their best.

The City of Orange Beach is sponsoring an Ecycling Day on Friday, May 12 from 8-5pm at City Hall. This is a positive way to dispose of your electronic items that have seen better days. Cell phones, computers, batteries, etc can be dropped off at the City Hall lobby and keep such items out of the landfills and maybe make a difference in the environment. Council Member Tracy Holiday is excited about this unique effort for our city and encourages your support. Take a moment complete the City of Orange Beach Recycling Survey online at www.cityoforangebeach.com which is generating a good response from residents in regards to the issue of recycling. Your comments will be considered by the city leadership.

Local residents Edith Brooks and Patsy Carleton were recently honored by the United Methodist Children's Home for their volunteerism with the "Babies First" program. The program is a unique residential program that helps provide young mothers and their babies with a stable home environment as the mothers learn parenting skills, complete their education and secure employment. Patsy and Edith are both members of the Orange Beach United Methodist Church, Edith is the wife of Rev. Dick Brooks. Visit: www.UMCH.net to find out more. Great job ladies and congratulations!



Governor Riley was keynote speaker at the Rotary Club Prayer Breakfast and spoke of our nations founding on the principle of God by our forefathers



National Day of Prayer was celebrated in Orange Beach at the Recreation Center with area pastors LtoR Dick Brooks, OB United Methodist, Michael Bonham, Peace Lutheran, Dr. Michael Anderson, OB Presbyterian, John Price, First Baptist OB, and Deacon Lonnie Patrick, Romar Beach Baptist Church



Friday, May 12th 8a-5p City Hall



UMCH Board Chair Rev. Doreen Duley, Edith Brooks, UMCH Regional Director Susan Simonson, and Patsy Carleton



Vince and Lisa Burchfield
of Orange Beach

Vince Burchfield of Orange Beach recently finished in 2nd place Clydesdale Division, over 200 pounds, in the Mullet Man Triathlon. This was his 3rd Mullet Man in recent years. Vince has been competing in triathlons for 15 years and has consistently finished near the top. He won the Sandman Triathlon at Lake Shelby in 2003. Vince and his wife Lisa are training now to compete in the upcoming GrandMan Triathlon, June 3rd in Fairhope. Lisa ran her first race on her 40th birthday two years ago and teaches a Power pump class at the Orange Beach Recreation Center. Vince and Lisa are active around Orange Beach Elementary and the City of Orange Beach where the 8U boys basketball team of Vince's went 17-0 winning the Island tournament. Great job Vince and Lisa and here's to continued success as you represent Orange Beach in these physically challenging events.

During the week of May 7-13, building departments across America and around the world will celebrate Building Safety Week. Building Safety Week raises public awareness of building safety by promoting the use, enforcement and understanding of building safety and fire prevention codes to protect lives and property. "Building a Safer World Together" is the theme of Building Safety Week 2006 across the nation.

Building and fire code enforcement is the job of professionals who work right here in the City of Orange Beach. Inspectors, plans examiners and others in our department work to ensure that the structures you and your families live, work and play in are safe. They are active members of the International Code Council, an association that develops building safety and fire prevention codes that are used in more than 15,000 jurisdictions across the nation. The International Code Council Foundation, an organization dedicated to changing the devastating effects of natural disasters and other building tragedies at home and around the world, sponsors building Safety Week, first observed in 1980.



City of Orange Beach Community Development Staff

The Orange Beach Community Development Department is using Building Safety Week to educate the community and to increase public awareness of the role building safety and fire prevention officials, local and state building departments and federal agencies play on the front line of defense to protect lives and property. They are the "silent defenders" who are seldom seen but work daily to ensure safety in the built environment. The role of the Community Development / Building Department is to support projects that improve building safety at home and in the community. The department takes steps to ensure that the places where people in our community live, work, play and learn are safe by reviewing building plans, issuing building permits and inspecting buildings during and after construction. Find out more about Building Safety Week at www.icc-foundation.org

Margaret Long's book signing was a pleasant success! Thanks to Sandy Derstine, Mary Koehn, Claire Laurion, and Opal Young for helping with the event. Copies of *The Best Place to Be* are at the Art Center for anyone who would like to learn more about the history of Orange Beach. Gulf Publishing held a call for entries contest for the cover of the new phonebook, the winner was photographer, Patricia Mahoney. While they may not have been winners, a number of displaying artists from the gallery have been published throughout the yellow pages. Look for the works of these artists: Cyndi Brewer, Linda Geiger, Ken Grimes, Joanne Hall, Al Phillips, and Patricia Sevensing. Next weekend is the opening reception of "Down Under"- Aussie Art Exchange. An Australian Sister Group has sent over 20 pieces of work for sale along with photos and information about the island of Tasmania. The show will run through the 27th of May. For more information on the Orange Beach Art Center please call 251-981-ARTS (2787).



The Southern Breeze Coastal Wine Tour is coming to Orange Beach May 19 through the 21st at Waterfront Park. This ticketed event is a unique way to learn about wine, enjoy delicacies prepared by excellent chefs and relax in a waterfront environment. Find out more about the Coastal Wine Tour presented by the City of Orange Beach at www.coastalwinetour.com. Waterfront Park will be the site of the event which means parking is restricted and traffic will be limited on Saturday and Sunday of that weekend. If you are planning a party or trip to the Kids Park or Fishing Pier, make note of the parking to best suit your plans. The public can still utilize all park facilities although many areas will be marked off limits unless you have a ticket to the Coastal Wine Tour. The Orange Beach Art Center will be open for special hours during the Tour. Here's to a great weekend.

As promised here is the next edition of Orange Beach softball and baseball rosters. With just two weeks left in most of the regular seasons, the teams have done very well. The 8U Softball team for Orange Beach is as follows: Girl Power sponsored by Columbia Southern and coached by Chris and Misty Collins and Shirley Lowe. Players include Baylee Alford, Kendell Campbell, Ashton Collins, Madison Henry, Abby Hornsby, Brittany Lowe, Jaqueline Lowe, Austin McNeil, Brenna Middleton, MacKenzie Shultz, Sissie Simmons. The Orange Beach Teeball is pleased to have three teams in 2006. The Teeball Red Sox sponsored by Coastal Homes and coached by Mark Schlauder. Players include William Glisson, Alex Jackson, Samuel Melton, Jessica Minish, Rand Newton, Avery Ouellette, Vincent Russo, Maddie Scarbrough, Luke Schlauder, Meredith Campbell, Ethan Chamblee, Caden Goodrich, Dylan Simmons, John Chambliss. The Orange Beach Teeball Marlins coached by Jeff Silvers, Paul Uter and Jerry Bates and sponsored by Swift Supply. Players include Bates, Descalzo, Haag, Jones, Creamer, Lee, Taylor, Warren, Wyman, Rochester, Whiton, Boyer, Blake, Silvers, Uter. The Teeball Braves coached by Mark Keel and Scott Russell and sponsored by All State – Scott Russell Agency. Players are Rocky Baker, Anna Herbert, Tatum Keel, Billy Kehoe, Joseph Long, Mitchell Payne, Chase Russell, Dalton Spohn, Jacqueline Lowe, Alexia Williams, Tripp Stuart, Hunter Harrelson, Angelo Jaye, Chandler Walker, Jeni Walker, Kaytlyn Neese. Congratulations on a great 2006 baseball / softball season in Orange Beach.



Sara Peralta steals 3rd for the Tropical Breeze

The next meeting of the Orange Beach Garden Club is on Tuesday, May 23 at 1:00 at the O. B Community Center on Canal Road. For information please call Doris Milford at 980-6235. The Orange Beach Public Library will host a guest lecturer on Suduko puzzles. These Japanese number puzzles have become extremely popular and can be found in local daily newspapers. Guest lecturer James Jennings will present lessons on Sukudo strategies that are guaranteed to make these puzzles easier to complete. He has developed a structured approach to solving even the most difficult puzzles in a logical way. Suduko is fun and challenging, and demands concentration and a willingness to follow a detailed plan without jumping to conclusions. It is not a game for math wizards as some people believe but really a game of common sense and a willingness to create and follow hints. According to Jim, most people, after only one class, will be able to solve "three star" (out of 5 stars) puzzles. The Suduko lecture/lessons will take place on Wednesday and Thursday evenings in the Orange Beach Library meeting room at 6 PM. Lesson one begins on May 17 and continues through May 18, 24, and 31. Light refreshments will be served. This program is free and open to the public. The library is located at 26267 Canal Rd. in Orange Beach. For more information contact Angela at 251-981-8179 or through email: arand@cityoforangebeach.com. The Orange Beach Public Library Laptop Users Group (LUG) meets on Mondays at 10 a.m. in the library meeting room. This group is designed for the new to intermediate user looking to learn computer skills. Attention is given to learning computer skills such as blogging, downloading audio books, burning CDs, and using RSS readers. Web searches and general computer laptop care are also covered. All skill levels are encouraged to attend with their wireless accessible laptop computer.



Remember to keep your ear to the ground in finding the scoop around Orange Beach. Let us know what's going on around Orange Beach by sending your community news to obecon@gulftel.com. Have a great week.

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