

June 11, 2007

by Ken Grimes, Jr.

Tasty barbecue sandwiches and all the fixins' were the hot items in Orange Beach this weekend as the Orange Beach Volunteer Fire Department held its 41st Annual Bar BQ selling lots of meals and hundreds of pounds of meat. There is no doubt that many local picnics this summer will be hosting some delicious pork from the event. Despite a nasty mid afternoon thunderstorm with quite a bit of lightning, the sales were sharp and congratulations go out to Battalion Chief Jeff "Smitty" Smith, this years event chairman, and the whole crew of men and women who gave their time and energy to raise funds for the OBVFD organization. Personally, I have already done my part to eliminate a few barbecue sandwiches since Saturday and feeling good about supporting my community with each scrumscious bite.

Orange Beach welcomes Dr. Alan McBride as the new pastor at United Methodist Church on Canal Road. Dr. McBride will bring his first message on Sunday, June 17 and the public is welcome to attend. McBride follows many years of service from Rev. Dick Brooks who retired earlier this month. For more information about the church call 981-6751 or log onto www.orangebeachumc.com and send out a hearty welcome to our coastal community. Over at First Baptist, "The Bridge" summer camp for middle schoolers got underway this week after a great week of Camp OB Outfitters last week. Seeing the youngsters excel at hobbies and learn new creative interests is great to see and Wanda Price, Camp Director, sends her appreciation to all volunteers who are beating the heat to help the youth of our community learn about life and Christ.



Thanks Rev. Dick Brooks for your years of service to the Orange Beach community and to OB United Methodist Church. Best wishes on your retirement!

Orange Beach Parks and Recreation has a lot to offer young people this summer from golf, marksmanship and art lessons to programs like Eco Rangers Science Camp and the Summer Music Theatre. Find out more by calling 981-6028 today as most camps are filling fast or have already begun their scheduled fun. Nominal fees are charged for participants and they vary by program! One of the newest programs offered this summer is the kayak class which is a joint effort of the City of Orange Beach Parks & Recreation Department and the



American Canoe Association Certified Instructors. The class is a half-day skills courses for people who want to learn the basics of paddling a kayak and will be held at Waterfront Park on Canal Road. The courses will focus on safety, equipment, rescue and instruction on proper stroke and maneuvering techniques and all paddling equipment is provided. Instructors for the courses will be Steve & Michelle Baker, both certified American Canoe Association instructors and Orange Beach residents. The first course will be held Saturday, June 30, from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. with additional courses offered the last Saturday of July and August. The kayak course fee is \$65 per person and the minimum age is 13. Advance registration is required and space is limited. To register, contact the Parks & Recreation office at 981-6039. Applications are available at Orange Beach City Hall, Recreation Center, Aquatics Center, Tennis Center, Golf Center and Art Center and can also be printed from the web site www.obparksandrec.com. Just another way Orange Beach is taking it to the water for summer fun and safety.

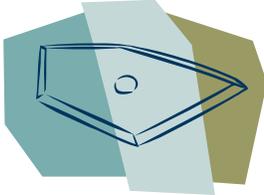


Orange Beach Community News

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Orange Beach, Alabama

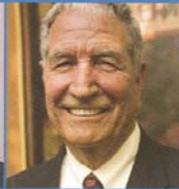
Another recent addition of sports camps is the Sports Clinic Summer Softball Camp at the Orange Beach Sportsplex from June 22-24th. The 3 day fast pitch softball clinic is open to girls age 8-18 led by Troy University assistant coach Rob Robinette. Cost of the camp is \$100 prior to June 20. Call 981-PLAY for more information.



Cleveland Browns General Manager, Phil Savage, Jr. is coming back to town for his 17th annual Camp Savage football clinic at Ladd Peebles Stadium in Mobile in the mornings of June 19-21 and in Baldwin County at the Fairhope Municipal Stadium in the afternoons with a purpose to provide quality football instruction in an organized and wholesome environment. While "at home" Phil joins brother Joe Savage and dad Phil, Sr. in hosting a WIN Conference to reach area youth leaders, coaches, recreation mentors and educators in sharing tips on building quality leadership ethics in a challenging world. Winners Influence and this WIN Conference are building a foundation for another camp in south Baldwin County in future years to reach young athletes who may need additional mentoring from community leaders. Watch for more info on this special efforts and thanks to the Savage family for giving time to help young athletes achieve more than just trophies. Remember, the big AC Celebrity Weekend is just around the corner, the weekend of June 28 and you can meet many legends of football at Sidelines at San-Roc. For more information call Steve Hanich at 251-981-9790.

ERIE H. MEYER CIVIC CENTER | GULF SHORES, AL | FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 8AM

A gathering for those who care about youth in Baldwin County

				<p>WIN Conference 2007 A Conference for Leaders</p>
<p>PHIL SAVAGE Senior Vice President & General Manager, Cleveland Browns</p>	<p>PAUL WARFIELD Member, Pro Football Hall of Fame</p>	<p>GENE STALLINGS Former Head Football Coach, University of Alabama</p>	<p>DR. JOE SAVAGE President & Founder, Winners Influence</p>	

Hosted by business, civic, educational, athletic, and church leaders of Baldwin County in conjunction with Winners Influence Network.

 winconference.org/gulfshores 216.812.3400

Looking out for hazards around the house is important for each of us and the Orange Beach Fire and Rescue wants to help by offering a Senior Citizens Fall Prevention and Around the Home Fire Safety presentation on June 25 from 11am – 2pm at the Orange Beach Adult Activity Center on Canal Road. This is an informative and helpful way to become more conscious of the possibilities of falling or trip hazards in the home as we age in years. Take a step toward preparedness by calling Carolyn Vines at 251-981-3440 to reserve your spot for the luncheon or call Orange Beach Fire Marshal Todd Posey at 251-981-6386. Lunch is provided by the Fire Department.



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Orange Beach, Alabama

Catching up on the summer Bridge winners at the Orange Beach Adult Activity Center are as follows: Tuesday, May 22: 1st: Buddy Martin; 2nd: Tom Cox; 3rd: Barbara Martin; for Thursday, May 24: 1st: Gene Grant; 2nd: Barbara Martin; 3rd: Chuck Ogle; for Tuesday, May 29: 1st: Yvonne Travis; 2nd: Avis Bass; 3rd: Tom Cox and for Thursday, May 31: 1st: Chuck Ogle; 2nd: Bobbie O'Farrell; 3rd: Barbara Martin; and for Thursday, June 7: 1st: Barbara Martin; 2nd: Ruth Bishop; 3rd: Marv Maudlin. Come on down to the air conditioned comfort of card playing paradise by the bay. Find out more at 981-3440.

Independence Day preparations are getting underway with many family fun events around the island to enjoy. The Bear Point Civic Association will hold its annual Independence Day Celebration on Saturday, July 7th at its Bay La Launch waterfront park in Orange Beach. Activities will include a raffle, a silent auction, a bake sale, children's activities, a children's beauty pageant (to age 16) and a cookout with fried fish plates, hotdogs, hamburgers and gumbo for sale. Activities run from 10 am until 3 pm. The children's beauty pageant starts at 1 pm and has a \$5 entry fee. Everyone is encouraged to come and join in the fun! For more information you can call Judy Moore at 981-5734 or 228-2105.

Got some news around Orange Beach? Let us know what's going on by sending your community news to kgrimes@cityoforangebeach.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.



As Summer heats up along the Alabama Gulf Coast the beautiful Gulf of Mexico shores can turn nasty in a hurry. Summer 2007 has already seen several drownings to the west of Orange Beach and there are many safety precautions and measures being taken each day to warn beach goers of the dangers lurking with each wave. Orange Beach is providing a Daily Beach Report by calling 251-981-SURF and posting warning flags at public beaches and access points. Remember to call for emergency assistance

at 9-1-1 for a swimmer in distress or such event. Be aware of the flag for each day and at each location as these warnings are serious and for your safety. Have A Safe Summer in Orange Beach, Alabama.

BEACH WARNING FLAGS
BANDERAS DE ADVERTENCIA EN LA PLAYA

- Water Closed to Public**
Agua Cerrada al Público
- High Hazard**
High Surf and/or Strong Currents
Peligro Alto. Resaca Alta y/o Corrientes Fuertes
- Medium Hazard**
Moderate Surf and/or Currents
Peligro Medio. Resaca Moderada y/o Corrientes Fuertes
- Low Hazard**
Calm Conditions, Exercise Caution
Peligro Bajo. Condiciones Calmas. Tenge Cuidado
- Dangerous Marine Life**
Vida Marina Peligrosa

Absence of Flags Does Not Assure Safe Waters
La Ausencia de Banderas No Asegura Aguas Seguras

RIP CURRENTS
Break the Grip of the Rip!

Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer out to sea.

IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- ◆ Don't fight the current
- ◆ Swim out of the current, then to shore
- ◆ If you can't escape, float or tread water
- ◆ If you need help, call or wave for assistance

SAFETY

- ◆ Know how to swim
- ◆ Never swim alone
- ◆ If in doubt, don't go out

More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:
www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov
www.usla.org