

AND THE GOOD NEWS IS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

A Community Newsletter—Old Orchard Beach, Maine

APRIL 12, 2006

Go Ahead.....Check It Out !

Hello—and thank you for picking up this first issue of “The Good News”. Hopefully this will be just the premier issue of a continuing community newsletter for Old Orchard Beach. Your reaction will be the determining factor as to whether something like this is needed or even wanted.

As everyone knows, there are some major happenings going on in Old Orchard Beach. But, it’s the little known, less often heard about things that we would like to bring to residents. We would like to present a publication that deals with just the good news, and just the news of OOB.

Please take a minute to read what we’re all about—then send us your comments, complaints, praise, or suggestions. Your responses will determine whether this becomes a regular publication.

Let’s try to answer a few of your questions before we get started.

No, this is not a “town regulated” newsletter. No, we are not professional publishers. We are a couple of regular people, just like you, who want to bring our community together in a good way. We have no experience in this sort of thing—just a dream.

You may ask, “why do we need something else to read when there are already so many local newspapers around?” Good question—but this will not be another newspaper. First off, it’s a *community newsletter*. It’s all about Old Orchard Beach—**only** about Old Orchard Beach.

Now, we do like to read about what’s happening in our surrounding towns, but there are several really good publications that already deal with that. We like our neighbors. But we also feel that so much goes on in our community that we never get the chance to hear about. Sometimes it’s the little things, the good things, that we miss out on.

And that brings us to point number 2. This newsletter will be only about the **good things**. It will be about the accomplishments of our kids—the great things that our senior citizens have to offer—the wonderful programs going on at the schools and the library. It will be all about making ourselves feel good about our community.

It may not always be politically correct (in fact we will do our best to keep politics completely off our pages), and we can’t promise more than our spell check has to offer, but we will do our best to brighten your day.

So take a few minutes to read through and then offer your opinions.

What kind of news will we print? Only good news. Only local news. We'll leave the rest to the "big guys". Maybe you want everyone to know that your significant other is turning 40, 50 or whatever? We can print that for you. Maybe your child has received a scholarship, an award of some type? We'll print that, too. Do you belong to a club that has a special fundraiser coming up? Let us tell everyone all about it. Maybe you're looking for others with similar interest, trying to form a club? Let's try to get something started!

Is there someone in town who you think is particularly "good"? I know I have a few in mind already.

What's going on at the school that maybe our senior citizens would love to know about? How can we assure their enabled attendance at our kids programs?

The last page of our issue will be a **Merchant Quick Guide**. When I have visitors and am not home, it's sometimes hard for them to find numbers for things they need in the phone book. I've had trouble myself, knowing who I want to call, but not really knowing their "legal" yellow page name, or what they would be listed under. Hopefully this will be a helpful listing that may end up on your fridge or next to your phone.

If you're a merchant that would like your name and number listed here, please contact us at goodnews@maine.rr.com

So, tell us what you think

- Don't be afraid to tell us we're crazy. (we sort of already know that anyway)
- Would you be interested in having something like this available to you?
- Would you think about advertising in a newsletter of this type?
- Would you be willing to make this newsletter available in your place of business?
- What type of things would you like to see printed?
- Would this be something you would think of subscribing to if you aren't able to pick up a copy at a local business?
- Would you like to see this as a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly newsletter?
- We are using this as our "market survey". Depending on responses received, hopefully you will be hearing more from us in the near future.

You can send your comments and suggestions to:

goodnews@maine.rr.com

It's Summer Concert Time again! Check out the first two events planned at the Salvation Army Pavilion and let us know—would you like to see their calendar of events be a regular thing in The Good News?

Strafford Wind Symphony

When Saturday - June 24, 2006

Time 7:00 PM

Ticket Price \$7.00 / \$10.00 Day of Show

Ticket Fee \$1.00 per Ticket

The first musical event of our season, The OOB Pavilion is proud to bring back the Strafford Wind Symphony under the direction of Matthew Doiron. In their 16th season, the Wind Symphony brings a mix of traditional music for wind ensembles as well as the more contemporary "pops" pieces that summer audiences love.

Music is a gift, which can enlighten, educate and bring joy to all. The Strafford Wind Symphony believes in the power of music and shares their commitment to it with the audience. Please join them in their efforts to keep the music alive for another sixteen years.

Come to the Pavilion Saturday night and meet this talented and committed group of musicians.

The Portland Symphony Orchestra Independence Pops Concert!

When Thursday - June 29, 2006

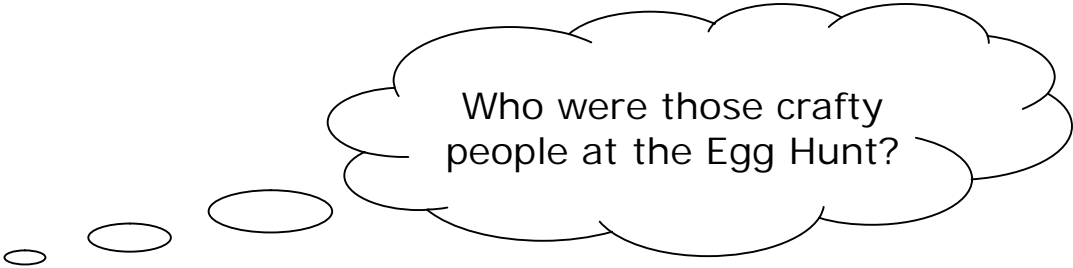
Time 7:30 PM

Ticket Price \$20.00 and under

Ticket Fee \$4.50 per Ticket

The Portland Symphony Orchestra is coming to York County this summer! Experience the "Independence Pops!" like never before at the state-of-the-art OOB Pavilion where you will enjoy the concert "rain or shine" in comfortable stadium seats inside a covered amphitheater. Finish up the evening by going to the beach and watching the fireworks spectacular!

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Who were those crafty people at the Egg Hunt?

Members and volunteers from CareLink Resource Development Center donated their time, talent, and craft materials to make the day even more special. Their tables were a great asset in helping to bring kids and parents together in a multicultural craft project. Read below to see what CareLink is all about. They also have a great website at www.carelinkrdc.com where they offer different newsletters with tips for busy families, parents, grandparents, and anyone involved in the life of a child. Check it out—you'll find plenty of great reading material. THANKS CareLink!

CareLink Resource Development Center is a non-profit state contracted agency which receives State and Federal funding. Carelink offers it's assistance to all of York County including the Biddeford - Saco, Sanford - Springvale, Kennebunk, Wells, Kittery, Berwick, Waterboro and Buxton areas as well as contributing on a statewide level.

Carelink offers:

- Voucher Subsidy Program: This program helps families afford their childcare. They must be income eligible and be either working or enrolled in an educational program.
- Childcare Referral Program: This program offers assistance to families in their search for childcare.
- Provider Training: CareLink offers Maine Roads to Quality trainings as well as trainings on a variety of other subjects of interest to childcare providers.

Childcare Benefit Network: This program is for companies who wish to offer a childcare benefit to their employees. We do enhanced referral searches, provide subsidy money, and provide training and consultation to HR departments.

- USDA Food Program: This program offers childcare providers a percentage of reimbursement on the meals they serve to children if the meals meet the nutritional guidelines of the federal government.

In addition to the above programs CareLink sponsors a yearly conference for those interested in quality childcare practices.

At Christmas time each year CareLink also partners with local businesses to distribute toys to the neediest of the families we are aware of.

We build relationships and bridges to meet the needs of the community.

CareLink's goal is to be an essential link between families & children, the community, social service agencies, businesses, and educational facilities. We strive to participate and stimulate growth in quality childcare, financial security, healthy families, and a thriving community.

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