



June 16, 2009

BRANSON CHAMBER CHATTER

Performers Reunion at Baldknobbers

On Friday, June 19, The Baldknobbers Jamboree is holding a reunion of the entertainers who have performed in the show celebrating 50 years of entertainment this year.

“We have always talked about our Baldknobbers family, and we want them to join us on a special night where we recognize them and say ‘Thank you’ for their part in our history,” said second-generation producer and comedian Tim Mabe.

Mabe said there were 45 past cast members with 33 still living.

“My dad and uncles always had a great cast that continued to perform with the Baldknobbers for several years,” Mabe said. “Turnover has never been a problem.”

The Baldknobbers Jamboree Show was the first show in Branson. It’s known as “The Show That Started It All.” There are now more than 100 shows in Branson with 52 theaters.

Expected to attend the reunion is Lyle Mabe who’s hillbilly character “George Aggernite” was well-known to area TV audiences with his commercials for Empire Gas.

For tickets, call 800-998-8908 or visit www.Baldknobbers.com.

5K Walk for Meals

On Saturday, June 20, the Southwest Missouri Office on Aging will host a 5K “Miles for Meals” walk at Stockstill Park to benefit the Meals-on-Wheels program. Registration begins at 7 a.m. with the walk at 8 a.m. There will be prizes. Entry is \$20.

SMOA serves lunch at the Branson Community Center/Senior Center for anyone who wants to stop by Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is a \$3 donation for those 60 and over; \$5 for people under 60. A lot of Branson visitors come for lunch, she said. “There are an amazing amount of people who say they go visit Senior Centers when they travel,” she said.

There also are new classes including playing keyboard, oil painting and wood carving. Call 417-335-4801.

Major Award for Comfort Inn & Suites

The Myer family is thrilled that their 102-room Comfort Inn & Suites on Gretna Road was recently named Inn of the Year by the Choice Hotels International, Inc., franchisor of the Comfort Inn brand. It’s the “best of the best” among the 1,995 member properties, said Bruce Haase, executive vice president of global brand operations. The hotel was judged on guest satisfaction, quality and unannounced on-site inspections. It has been a past finalist for “Comfort Inn of the Year” five times.

Also this year, the Comfort Inn at Thousand Hills, also owned by Myer Hotels, was in the top five finalists for “Comfort Inn of the Year.” “To have two properties in the same town in the top five is incredible,” said Vice President of Marketing Chris Myer. General Manager Steve Graber celebrated the award with owners Carroll and Janice Myer, Chris and Sonja Myer, and Gail Myer. Myer Hotels owns five hotels in Branson. Visit www.myerhotels.com.

“20 Under 30” Honors

Amy Lynne Coibion recently joined the staff of the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce as Internet Image Management Specialist. She also has been named among this year’s “20 Under 30” by Go Magazine, a publication of Whitaker Publishing which also does “417 Magazine.”

The 20 were selected for “doing amazing things,” Go says. In addition to her Chamber work, Coibion also books entertainment for Outland Ballroom/Remington’s Downtown in Springfield. She’s also a singer, and loves to perform. At college, she majored in entertainment management, and performed in college musicals including “Cabaret” and “Joseph.”

Hometown Honors

Congratulations to Steve Willoughby and Janet Ellis who won top honors for their “Steve and Janet in the Morning” on KRZK from the Missouri Broadcasters Association. And the News Department took a first place for its series on last year’s flooding. Also, the station was recognized for “The Year In Review,” Hometown Radio's "Teacher of the Month" program and "Putting our Community First."

Send your news items to Kathryn Buckstaff, Membership Public Relations with the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce at kbuckstaff@bransoncyb.com or call 417-334-4084.