

Kiwanian



John Croyle

Founder and Executive Director



Big Oak Ranch

A Christian home for children needing a chance

John Croyle and his wife, Tee, have seen their dream of building the best children's home in America grow into three separate facilities in Northeast Alabama: Big Oak Boys' Ranch in Gadsden, Big Oak Girls' Ranch in Springville, and Westbrook Christian School, Inc. in Rainbow City.

The Big Oak ministry grew out of John's desire to give hurting children a chance. John successfully played football at the University of Alabama under the legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. Faced with one of the most important decisions of his life -- whether to play professional football or to start a children's home -- John followed the Lord's leadership and established Big Oak Boys' Ranch in 1974. Big Oak Ranch, Inc. was incorporated in the State of Alabama as a **501(c)(3)** Corporation in that same year.

Since then, John and Tee, along with the Big Oak Ranch staff, have been called to meet the needs of hundreds of children by giving them a solid, Christian home and a chance to fulfill God's plan for their lives. Like every family, they've enjoyed great success stories and heartbreaking failures. Yet the "cornerstone," and even the name of Big Oak Ranch, has remained fundamentally rooted in *Isaiah 61:3*, "**And they shall be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord that He may be glorified.**"

This Tuesday, John will speak about the choice he made after college to start The Big Oak ministry. His words will surely encourage and inspire area athletes, the best in the area in their respective sports, to be the best they can be in whatever they do in life.

Due to the parking deck construction we encourage you to arrive early for any available parking in Deck 3 across from The Harbert Center. If Deck 3 is full, parking is available in Deck 4 on the corner of 4th Avenue North and 22nd Street.



John and Tee Croyle

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Next Tuesday's Program May 19, 2009 12:00 Noon



John Croyle
Founder and Executive Director
Big Oak Boys' and Girls' Ranch



**Guest Speaker for the 2009
Athletic Awards Program**

Upcoming Programs

- | | |
|---------|--|
| May 26 | Jay Grinney, CEO
HealthSouth |
| June 2 | Ambassador of Liechtenstein
Her Excellency Claudia Fritsche |
| June 9 | Jere Peak and George Thornton
National Wild Turkey Federation |
| June 16 | Major General James O. Barclay
Commanding General
Fort Rucker, Alabama |
| June 23 | Frank Stitt, Chef-Owner
Highlands Bar and Grill |

KIWANIAN on the web www.kcob.org

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Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday,
May 19, 2009 at 11:15 a.m. - Room A
3rd Floor of The Harbert Center

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE PAID
AT BIRMINGHAM
ALABAMA

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