

Business Idol award winners

By Margaret Menge

When Julie Bush and her husband, Ralph, gave a presentation to judges at the 16th annual Business Expo on Sept. 19, they brought along a posse of small children dressed in costumes — one as a door with mouldings, one as a faucet, and another as a white picket fence. “We tried to get across that they were small jobs so we used small children,” says Julie.

Julie is the owner of Jack of All Trades, a small business she runs with her husband, Ralph, out of an office on Willow Avenue in Cornwall. They specialize in minor fix-it jobs — insulating doors and windows, repairing broken tiles, and changing out light bulbs (no job is too small!) The Bushes sold the judges with their presentation at the Business Expo, sponsored by the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, and were named the second-ever winners of the Business Idol Award. Along with a big banner that now hangs in their office, they were awarded a \$15,000 package of marketing and advertising help that includes radio ads, cable television ads, a written marketing plan and free membership in the Orange County Chamber of Commerce for 2008.

Julie and Ralph Bush have lived in Cornwall for nine years. They



Photo by Margaret Menge
Julie Bush and her husband, Ralph, got a \$15,000 boost from the Orange County Chamber of Commerce when they won the Business Idol Award at the Business Expo at Anthony's Pier 9 on Sept. 19.

started Jack of All Trades three and a half years ago in Salisbury Mills, and moved it to Cornwall in January.

With all of the advertising they're going to be doing in the coming months, they're expecting a lot of new business. Are they

ready to grow? “Absolutely,” says Julie. Ralph now does all of the fix-it work, and they have just one employee helping in the front office. They expect to be looking to add another handyman to help Ralph with all of the work.