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FAST NEWS

Candidate forum planned in Darien

The Darien-McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce will hold a political forum for local and state district candidates at 6 p.m. June 24 at Darien City Hall.

The forum will feature candidates in city, county and board of education races.

Also invited to participate are candidates in the state House District 167 and state Senate District 3 contests.

Incumbent Rep. Roger Lane, R-Darien, is facing fellow Republican Neal Boatright in the July 20 GOP Primary for House 167.

Terry Carter of Glynn County is facing William Ligon of Camden County in the GOP Primary for the Senate seat. Questions will be provided by members of the Darien-McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce.

School system policy revisions in works

The policy committee of the Glynn County Board of Education will meet at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the school system's maintenance department, 200 Emory Dawson Road.

The committee will discuss proposed revisions to the student behavior code, among other things.

Residents to address city commission

Several residents have asked to address the city commission when it meets at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday for its regular session at Old City Hall, 1229 Newcastle St. Included on the official agenda to speak to commissioners are Sandy Dean and Terry Eason.

Dean is scheduled to talk about the police department and Eason will speak on behalf of business owners in the city on sanitation matters.

Commissioners also will hold a public hearing on the city's proposed budget for fiscal year 2011, which begins July 1.

CORRECTION

to grand opening

A story on 2A Friday about the new Jered facility in Glynn County incorrectly suggested that a grand opening ceremony would be a public event. Attendance is by invitation because of Jered's restricted access as a defense contractor. The headline on the story misspelled the name of the company.

Local vigil planned on Gulf oil spill

Group against offshore drilling

By SHANESSA FAKOUR
The Brunswick News

Cynthia Potter is returning to her favorite childhood vacation spot to spread a simple message: Yes to clean energy, no to offshore drilling.

Following in the footsteps of a national movement, Potter is organizing a silent vigil on June 26 at East Beach St. Simons Island, next to the Coast Guard Station, to recognize those affected by the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the potential consequences of offshore drilling.

"I've always been against offshore drilling because the potential harm caused to the Earth is not worth the risk," Potter said. "Basically, it's like our nation is

Learn more

To find out more about the event on St. Simons Island, visit www.handsacrossthesandingeorgia.webs.com or e-mail Potter at safeblueseas@hotmail.com. To learn more about the movement, visit www.handsacrossthesand.com.

smoking crack just for the feel-good energy right now."

Potter said she became an avid reader of books concerning the earth as a child and feels some of the energy policies implemented are potentially devastating not only to the coastlines where oil might be, but also to the world's ecology.

While researching the effects of the April oil spill in the Gulf on oceans and marine life, she discovered the Hands Across the

Sand website, a movement started in Florida by Dave Rauschkolb, a restaurant owner and avid surfer, that has spread around the world, she said.

Oil pouring into the Gulf since April is the largest environmental disaster in the nation's history, according to U.S. Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen, national incident commander.

The idea of a peaceful, non-partisan demonstration of unity appealed to Potter, who decided to organize the event on St. Simons Island. Others have signed up to do demonstrations in Savannah, Athens and Atlanta.

"Whoever cares about showing up, we will have 15 minutes of being seen," she said. "We really care about keeping our coastlines and our ecology and our oceans clean."

She does not know how many people will join her, but she said she hopes the message of seeking

clean energy resources reaches local, state and federal politicians and the general public.

She said it will be easier to accomplish the transition to wind and solar energy and building green infrastructures once everyone is on the same page.

"I'm hoping it spreads the word that now is the time and we can do this," she said. "Georgia is known for our barrier islands, and Georgians have been very good stewards when it comes to our barrier islands."

To participate in the event, arrive at the beach at 11 a.m. June 26. The joining of hands will begin at noon.

President Barack Obama has suspended permits to drill new deepwater wells for six months and the exploration of two drill sites off Alaska's coast last month. He also canceled lease sales off the coast of Virginia and in the Western Gulf.

CRIME Scene Argument starts over lawn, dogs

Among reports filed with Brunswick and Glynn County police:

Problems with persons • 200 block of Stouters Dairy Lane, Glynn County:

Police responded Sunday to a report of an assault. A man said another man drove by his house and started yelling at him about him mowing the other man's lawn. The man said the man then got out of his truck and punched him in the cheek. The man in the truck said he never touched the man and they had a verbal argument about his dogs getting loose.

• 2600 block of Glynn Avenue, Brunswick:

Police responded Wednesday to a report of someone breaking someone's car window. A man said he was on his way to work and noticed someone had broken the passenger window in his car. He did not report anything stolen in the car. The damage was estimated at \$300.

Thefts

• 3400 block of Brailsford Avenue, Brunswick:

Police responded Wednesday to a report of someone stealing a woman's puppy. The woman said she left the puppy chained to a stake by its dog house, and when she came home, the puppy was gone. The dog is brown with a white chest and has a red collar, the woman said. The dog was valued at \$100.

• 2100 block of Atlanta Avenue, Brunswick:

Police responded Wednesday to a report of someone stealing a man's bicycle. The man said the bicycle belonged to his son and he left it in the front yard. The man said he left the yard for five minutes when the bike disappeared. The bike was valued at \$320.

• 3400 block of Reynolds Street, Brunswick:

Police responded Wednesday to a report of burglary. A woman said two males in a white truck had been at her house the night before and she had to scare them off. When she got home that day, she found her rear door kicked in and screens missing from a few windows in her house. The only things the woman reported missing were a queen sized mattress and a twin sized mattress. Police noticed there were several other valuable items in the house that had been undisturbed. The mattresses were valued at \$1,250. The damage to the door was estimated at \$100.

— Louie Brogdon
The Brunswick News

United Way readies for yearly drive

Organizers plan new strategies for boosting help for community

By JOANNA CARVER
The Brunswick News

Fundraising season is on the not-too-distant horizon for United Way, but with a bleak financial climate awaiting it, the Coastal Georgia chapter is preparing to reach out to donors in the traditional way and with new strategies.

A new side of United Way will be visible as early as the last week of August with a mysterious kickoff event that Missy Neu, president and CEO of United Way of Coastal Georgia, promises will be different from the usual campaign start-up luncheon.

Neu hinted that the event will be more fun and possibly bigger than previous launches.

The goal is to jump-start the energy of the campaign and get more people involved with donations or volunteerism.

The economy is certainly on Neu's mind, and rightfully so. In 2008 United Way experienced a dip in donations, raising just over \$1 million.

Although short of its goal, the organization has done statistically better than other charitable organizations, Neu said.

It even managed to make up ground in 2009 by raising about \$50,000 more than the previous year.

While the fundraising goal for 2010 has not yet been set, Neu said it will likely not be significantly higher than 2009's goal,



Bobby Haven/The Brunswick News

May Castro, yoga instructor at the YWCA winds down a yoga class of girls in the Career Adventures for Young Women program. YWCA is among the 24 agencies benefitting from United Way funding.

which was met at \$1.1 million.

"We're analyzing donors and where there may be fall-off and missed opportunities," she said.

Traditionally, United Way has raised most of its donations from individuals by appealing to them during workplace presentations on how the organization uses the money.

Also helpful are the larger donations from the companies the people work for, which include King and Prince Seafood and Southeast Georgia Health System.

To defend against another dip in donations, in addition to its usual appeal and modified kick-

off, the organization is establishing a Young Leaders group. The group will be made up of individuals under the age of 40 who will reach out to a younger demographic through avenues such as Facebook.

The overall goal is to make people aware of United Way by becoming donors or volunteers so that they are invested in the organization and in the community.

United Way's recent Day of Caring event, which focused on building a playground for the Boys and Girls Club, raised awareness of the organization's presence in the community.

Among the 24 agencies that United Way currently supports are Boys and Girls Club, Boys Scouts, Girls Scouts, FERST Foundation, the YWCA of Brunswick, the STAR Foundation, the Salvation Army, Hospice of the Golden Isles, and Special Olympics.

While raising funds for 2011, United Way will be accepting applications from charitable agencies in Glynn and McIntosh counties for funding to provide food, shelter, job skills, education and further aid services to those in need.

Decisions on funding will be announced in February.

Mobile program provides pet vaccines

The Brunswick News

Paws VetCare will be in Brunswick today for a low cost vaccination clinic for dogs and cats.

The mobile vaccination clinic, which serves Florida and Georgia, will be in the parking lot of Tractor Supply, 5040 Jesup Highway, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Melanie Brooks of Paws VetCare said that with the economy

the way it is, there is a greater need for low cost pet services.

The clinic offers a package of up to seven vaccines.

A one-year rabies vaccine is \$10.

"We need all the help we can get in saving money," Brooks said. "A lot of people have multiple dogs and that can be a big chunk out of your purse."

Brooks said animals in rural areas are more susceptible to

diseases since they live closer to wildlife. Rabies is especially important to vaccinate against since it can be transferred to other mammals, including humans, she said.

"We hear about people who don't get their puppies vaccinated and they die of heartworm," she said.

Paws VetCare is not meant to be a replacement for a veterinary clinic, she said. Owners

of animals that test positive for disease are referred to a veterinarian.

The clinic says all animals in line before the hour is up will be treated.

"It's important that we understand that we have a responsibility to take care of our animals," Brooks said. "If we can't protect them, they might lose their life, when they could have been vaccinated."

BRUNSWICK NEWS CHANNEL

With Lindsey Adkison

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