

Murray's miscues pick off UGA's chances

Sports, 9A



Aaron Murray

MONDAY

Discover the world of dinosaurs

Mini Page, Inside

THE BRUNSWICK NEWS

EST. 1902

The Voice of the Coast

Volume 109, Number 45



www.TheBrunswickNews.com

NOVEMBER 1, 2010

35¢ or less home delivery • 75¢ newsstand



DAYBREAK

Your day in Brunswick and the Golden Isles

The Weather

HIGH
79
LOW
58



Mostly sunny skies start off the day

Today we'll see mostly sunny skies in the morning, then becoming partly cloudy. Highs will be in the lower 80s inland and in the upper 70s on the coast. Tonight will be partly cloudy with lows in the upper 50s inland and in the lower 60s on the coast. Northeast winds will be 5 to 10 mph. The record high temperature for this date was 89 degrees in 1941. **Tides and five-day forecast, 14A**

Worth doing

Take in some new artwork at library

Suzette Collins and Ben Foster exhibits, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Brunswick-Glynn County Library, 208 Gloucester St., Brunswick. Opening reception, 5 p.m. Thursday. Details: 267-1212.

Worth knowing



Ryan Blount

Student has passion for filmmaking

A video camera at age 7 sparked a desire to be a film director for Ryan Blount, a student at Brunswick High School. **Coastal People, 3A**

Talk about

Conservative values earn endorsement

The News gives its endorsements for political office with those reflecting conservative values and a belief in less government and one that has a loose grip on the daily lives of Americans and their pocketbooks. **Editorial, 6A**

Get involved

Save a life, give blood today

American Red Cross blood drive will be from noon to 5 p.m. at the St. Simons Island Police Precinct, 1927 Demere Road, St. Simons Island. All presenting donors in November may enter a drawing to win round-trip tickets from Delta Airlines.

Sea Island resolves objection

Former resort executives reportedly reach agreement on compensation

By NEVIN BATIWALLA
The Brunswick News

Sea Island Co.'s plan to emerge from bankruptcy and be sold appears to have cleared another hurdle through an agreement forged with a group of former executives who said they were not being treated fairly.

The six men filed an objection to the plan in U.S. Bankruptcy Court last week, saying that it prevented them from recovering any of a combined \$25 million in deferred compensation they are owed.

The claims, held by Billy Gibson, Dennie McCrary, Robert Flight, Matt Hodgdon, David Everett and William C. Smith, arose

from the luxury resort operator's long-standing deferred compensation program involving stock appreciation rights designed to attract and retain key executives.

According to the objection, Sea Island Co. has always declared deferred compensation as debt to the Internal Revenue Service.

But the bankruptcy plan, which

is set for a confirmation hearing Thursday, would re-characterize the claims as equity – or an ownership interest – in the company. That would mean the men would not share in the money pool left for creditors. Reclassifying the debt as equity would violate federal bankruptcy law, the objection stated.

The company and the former executives have worked out a resolution, said Mike Geczi, a Sea Island spokesman.

"A response will be filed on (Tuesday), indicating that the matter has been resolved," Geczi said.

Please see SEA ISLAND, 5A

Resources make a difference



Bobby Haven/The Brunswick News

STAR Foundation director Ellen Murphy looks on as students Cynthia Zanders, from left, Maleta Simmons, Robert Pinson and Delon Lemon work on required labwork.

United Way's impact endures

Umbrella organization aids 28 community programs, 49K people

By LINDSEY ADKISON
The Brunswick News

Ellen Murphy knows first-hand how important the United Way is to the community.

As executive director of STAR Foundation, a nonprofit organization that offers adults job and life skills training, Murphy depends on funds donated by the umbrella fundraising group.

"Without funding from United Way and other organizational support, we would not be able to have the long-

Donate

United Way of Coastal Georgia is trying to raise \$1.1 million in its umbrella fundraising campaign for social service agencies. Contributions can be made online at www.uwcga.org.

term impact on this community that we do, by decreasing the rate of poverty, increasing the number of qualified employees for our work force and improving the quality of life for so

many of our neighbors," she said.

"Last year's grant provided funding to hire another classroom instructor in order for us to increase the number of individuals we serve. We also receive recognition for being a United Way agency, which adds to our credibility."

The STAR Foundation is not alone in its appreciation of the United Way. It's one of the 28 community programs that benefit from the organization. There are also 49,000 individu-

Please see UNITED WAY, 5A

Official: Wildfires may rage this winter

La Niña weather pattern, drought not a good mix

By SHANESSA FAKOUR
The Brunswick News

Wildfires could become more common in Georgia because of a dry and warm winter ahead, an official with the Georgia Forestry Commission says.

Drought conditions extending across parts of the state, coupled with a La Niña winter climate pattern, which means a warmer and drier winter on the coast, will contribute to the spread of more wildfires, said Alan Dozier, chief of protection for the Georgia Forestry Commission.

"It depends on how the weather actually plays out, but we haven't forgotten the big wildfire season of 2007," Dozier said.

During that year, in which Gov. Sonny Perdue declared a state of emergency during Georgia's worst drought in recent years, more than 9,500 wildfires burned about 500 percent more acres than normal.

"We hope that doesn't happen this year," Dozier said. "The (weather) conditions are beginning to resemble those (2007) conditions

Please see FIRES, 5A

Be safe

The Georgia Forestry Commission recommends the following safety tips for burning debris:

- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Have tools nearby, including rakes, shovels and a water hose, that can be used to extinguish a fire.
- Burning of debris should be about 50 feet away from a structure.
- The fire should be out half an hour before dark for smoke management.

To register for a burn permit, call 877-652-2876 or apply online at www.gatrees.org.

School system sets long-term goals

Adoption of 3-year-plan will allow for quarterly updates, modifications

By ERIKA CAPEK
The Brunswick News

Glynn County school administrators have a revamped, long-term plan they say will help them improve student performance and overall school operations. "This helps keep us in line," Superintendent Howard Mann said.

While the overall mission of the school system doesn't change from year to year, strategies on how to meet specific goals often do.

Rather than adopt a new plan year-to-

year, which was done previously, the new approach is a three-year plan that will be continuously updated, officials said.

"It just makes more common sense to have the long-range goals of the school system (set out)," Mann said.

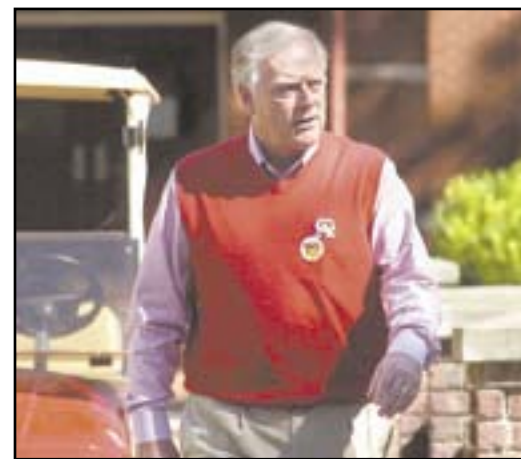
The plan, which is expected to be approved by the board of education in January, will be updated or modified as needed every quarter. The document matches standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, a regional accrediting association.

Among goals in it are to establish

and communicate a shared purpose and direction for improving student performance and system effectiveness. It also seeks to provide governance and leadership, and to foster effective communications and relationships for everyone involved with the school system.

Listed under each goal are detailed ways the school system will go about achieving it. For example, the system will communicate with parents, students, teachers and residents by posting

Please see PLAN, 5A



Nick Nichols/The Brunswick News

Glynn County Schools Superintendent Howard Mann walks through the Glynn Academy campus.

Inside The News

News A Life B Sports A

2 sections / 26 pages
Advice 2B
Billy Graham 6A
Classified ads 5B
Comics 4B

Commentary 6A
Crossword 4B
Entertainment 3B
Local & State 2,3A
Lotteries 3A
News 7,8A
Obituaries 4A
Sports 9-13A
Sudoku 4B
TV schedule 3B

Digital services

Read The News online at www.TheBrunswickNews.com as either free access or as a digital subscription (separate from print) for expanded features. Also online, order prints from an open access photo gallery, place classified ads, search news archives and manage your subscription.

Video and Podcasts at www.TheBrunswickNews.com



Daily television-style news available at 1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and in an archive library

Today: Watch reports on how important the United Way's annual fundraising campaign is to the community and learn about a long-term plan for schools.



Sports talk: Looks back at the Georgia-Florida game and updates the latest college poll.

News: Daily radio-style news beginning in the mornings Mondays through Fridays.

In the next



Look for these stories exclusively in The News:

Local: Reporter Nevin Batiwalla will provide an overview of Sea Island Co.'s plan to emerge from bankruptcy.

Sports: Reporter Buddy Hughes will chat with Glynn County's Steve Mellinger about the county's recent national youth sports award.

Life: Reporters Mary Starr and Lindsey Adkison will take a look at what's happening around the Golden Isles.



Call 265-1104 for convenient home delivery