

LETTER FROM BUFF LEAVY, PRESIDENT AND EDITOR OF THE BRUNSWICK NEWS

The Brunswick News is changing its print schedule

We appeal to our loyal readers and advertisers for your support as we announce an upcoming change to our publication schedule.

First, we ask that you please make no mistake in drawing conclusions to our viability and value to our community. The Brunswick News has been significantly blessed to have survived challenging times within the past

20 years as the newspaper industry in our country has seen the decline of 2,900 newspapers since 2005. We've gone through unparalleled events — The Great Recession, the COVID-19 pandemic and our recent years of inflation rates recorded as the worst on record in the last 40 years.

Through this The Brunswick News has not wavered in its commitment to the importance

of investing in its Local coverage by retaining a news team with more journalists, freelance writers, photographers and reporters in its 121-year history. We have been remarkably blessed to carry on through challenging times from covering high school sports, to garden clubs, to public safety, to making sure without hesitation one of our reporters is present across the vast spectrum of local

government meetings that routinely occur to represent the public.

The Brunswick News is committed and will remain committed to the mantra "Local, Local, Local" from the calling of our reporters fulfilling their duties to the opening of our pages to the public for clubs, businesses and individuals to submit their own news and letters to the editor for publication.

Our staff in the front office was

just reminded Wednesday of the value of our local coverage when state Senator Ken Yager from Tennessee, who with his family has wintered on Jekyll for the past 38 years, made a special trip to The News to renew his subscription and tell us how important our local news coverage was to him.

Sadly there are those stories of

Please see **LETTER, 3A**

10-year-old reels in youth world record redfish catch

By MICHAEL HALL
mhall@thebrunswicknews.com

It was a slow day fishing Sept. 24 at the East Beach on St. Simons Island.

Tom Lewis and his son Graham, 10, had been out since daybreak, sand spikes placed properly for the incoming tide, surf-ready rods standing tall and the father-son team watching rod tips intently hoping to see one bend with the bite of a fish.

By 10 a.m., however, nothing much was happening and the day was about to be done.

"We had only planned to be out a few hours, so we were about ready to leave," Lewis said.

That's when Graham's rod showed the telltale sign that makes every surf fisherman's heart race.

"Then the rod just doubled over," Lewis said.

He raced to the rod, picked it up out of the sand spike and handed it to Graham, who followed closely behind. On the other end was a new youth world record redfish.

"The rod went off and my dad told me to reel it in," Graham said.

And reel it in he did. For the next several minutes Graham put all his 10-year-old weight and strength into the fight, gripping the rod with two hands to pull the rod tip back, then reeling down to gain ground on the big bull redfish that had no intentions of coming to shore easily.

"I just was bent backwards trying not to let the line snap," Graham said. "It felt like a normal sized redfish at first. But when I caught it, I was surprised."

With one final pull in which Graham walked backwards while Lewis met the whopper in the shallow water, the new International Game Fish Association youth world-record redfish for length had

Please see **RECORD, 6A**



Provided photo

Tom Lewis poses for a photo with his son Graham and the record redfish Graham caught in September on St. Simons Island.

RETURN OF THE KINGS

ELVIS FESTIVAL KICKS OFF AT EPWORTH BY THE SEA



Terry Dickson/The Brunswick News

Braxton Sykes, 13, of Brunswick, above, performs a gospel song Thursday afternoon in front of a kalaidioscopic background at the Elvis Festival at Strickland Auditorium at Epworth by the Sea. Below, Alex Mitchell, a producer and performer, at the Elvis Festival at Strickland Auditorium at Epworth by the Sea performs a soulful version of a gospel song. The festival continues through Saturday.



Home Depot asked to consider risks of mining near the Okefenokee

By GORDON JACKSON
gjackson@thebrunswicknews.com

A Home Depot shareholder proposal filed Wednesday asks the company to "address risks associated with potential titanium mining" near the southern

boundary of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.

The Atlanta-based company is a leading retailer of titanium dioxide-based paint, the mineral Alabama-based Twin Pines Minerals is proposing to mine near the world-famous swamp.

Green Century Capital Management was joined in the filing by the Felician Sisters of North America, a national order of Catholic nuns that seek to leverage societal change through

Please see **MINING, 6A**

Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign in full swing

By LAUREN MCDONALD
lmcdonald@thebrunswicknews.com

Throughout his career with the Salvation Army, Capt. James Dillingham has seen firsthand the value of making sure donors know the impact their contributions make.

The Red Kettle campaign, an annual fundraiser for the Salvation Army, offers an opportunity every Christmas season for residents to make donations that stay local.

"Out of every dollar that's donated at a red kettle during the year, 82 cents...stays right here in Glynn and McIntosh counties to support people that are having hard times," said Dillingham, corps officer and pastor in Brunswick. "It goes to help with utility assistance and rental assistance as well as a big food pantry here."

Money raised through the campaign also supports the overnight shelter the Salvation Army runs and provides meals to people who stay there.

"Those dollars that are donated here in Brunswick really do a lot," Dillingham said.

It's giving season, and the Salvation Army focuses significantly at this time of year on its Red Kettle fundraising campaign and Angel Tree gift-giving program, through which community members donate presents for local children by adopting "angels" and purchasing gifts for low-income families.

The Red Kettle campaign, which began in 1891, raises money through donations made to bell ringers who stand with the kettles outside local businesses during the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Bell ringers include volunteers and paid ringers. Elaine McNeal, volunteer organizer for the

Please see **KETTLE, 3A**



Terry Dickson/The Brunswick News

The Salvation Army in Brunswick aims to raise \$80,000 this year through its Red Kettle campaign to help support local support services for individuals and families in need.

DAYBREAK



FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE
CALL 912-265-1104

WEATHER

High 74, Low 63.
Mostly cloudy. 2A

Worth knowing

Looking for a way to help The Brunswick News? We have eight tips that you can do to support our efforts. **Local, 7A**

Worth knowing

The Glynn County Health Department is hosting an event to help vaccinate people against COVID-19. **Local, 2A**

INDEX:

- Local 2A, 7A
- Coffee Break 2A
- State 3A
- Editorial 4A
- Life 5A
- Obituaries 6A
- World 6A
- Sports 1B
- Pigskin Picks 2B
- TV 3B
- Comics 4B
- Classifieds 5B