



# THE BRUNSWICK NEWS

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**DAYBREAK**

Your day in Brunswick and the Golden Isles

**The Weather**

HIGH **83**  
LOW **53**



**Mostly sunny with pleasant temps**

Today we'll see mostly sunny skies with highs in the lower 80s and northwest winds of 5 to 10 mph. Tonight will be clear with lows in the lower 50s inland, to 60 on the coast. **Tides and five-day forecast, 16A**

**Worth doing**

**Stop by Glynn Art and make a bid**

Silent Auction for the Donna Foundation for Breast Cancer will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Saturday at the Glynn Art Association, 529 Beachview Drive, St. Simons Island. Homemade quilts and fiber arts will be auctioned to benefit Glynn County women with breast cancer. Final bids will be accepted during the closing reception, which will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday. Details: 638-8770 or www.glynnart.org.

**Worth knowing**



**New group celebrates 'La Dolce Vita'**

Bella Italia (Beautiful Italy) is a club that was recently formed for people of Italian heritage or those who love all things Italian, from soccer to limoncello. **Coastal Life, 3A**

**Talk about**

**Planning office needs to improve**

If those in the Glynn County planning office forget something as simple as advertising a rezoning hearing, then who in this community – mainland or St. Simons Island – feels at ease with the recommendations they make to the men and women who serve on the community's two planning commissions? **Editorial, 6A**

**Get involved**

**Buy some used books, help library**

St. Simons Library League Fall Book Sale will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. today, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday in the Casino Atrium, 530 Beachview Drive, St. Simons Island. Today's event is early-bird.

# Jail overcrowding 'serious'



Sheriff Wayne Bennett

## Housing inmates elsewhere costs taxpayers

By **LOUIE BROGDON**  
The Brunswick News

Overcrowding continues to be a serious problem at the detention center, says Glynn County Sheriff Wayne Bennett.

On Wednesday, a total of 510 inmates were housed in the 344-

bed jail, he said. Housing inmates in jails in other counties has been costly to taxpayers. In the first two months of fiscal year 2011, July and August, the sheriff's office spent \$30,000 holding inmates in the county jails of McIntosh, Brantley and

Wayne to free up space, Bennett said.

The amount only accounts for the cost of housing the inmates in other counties. Additional officers, transportation and secu-

Please see **JAIL, 5A**



The Glynn County Detention Center in downtown Brunswick. **The Brunswick News/File**



Nick Nichols/The Brunswick News photos

Glynn Middle School eighth-grader Shelby Westberry tries to bounce a ping pong ball into a cup to win a prize in seventh-grader Jake Hickox's, left, probability game.

# Odds are games make learning fun

By **SHANESSA FAKOUR**  
The Brunswick News

The odds that students at Glynn Middle School will grasp probability math concepts and enjoy the learning process double when games, candy and prizes are involved.

Sheryl Davis, seventh-grade math teacher, witnessed this first hand during a math competition Wednesday in the school cafeteria.

Three classes of eighth-grade students scattered throughout the room, equipped with tickets and eager minds, to tackle probability games created by three seventh-grade accelerated math classes. The games incorporated the rules of probability and required the students to explain the odds of winning to each contestant who presented a ticket to play.

About 30 teams of seventh-grade students tried to acquire the most number of tickets by designing

Please see **ODDS, 5A**



Glynn Middle eighth-grader Charlie Williams, right, tries to pick up a plastic bottle with a small ring to win a prize in seventh-graders Rachel White's, center, and Sarabeth Sutton's probability game.

# Glynn closer to 'work ready'

## Certification ensures presence of skilled workforce to new industry

By **SHANESSA FAKOUR**  
The Brunswick News

Glynn County's workforce is steadily responding to the call from business leaders to take Georgia's Work Ready assessment test.

Gaining status as a Work Ready Community will place Glynn County among one-third of the state's counties that are already certified, including nearby Camden, McIntosh, Wayne and Ware counties, and ensure the presence of a skilled workforce to new industries that may move to the area.

Six of the eight sectors of the workforce in The Isles have already passed the three-hour test on math, reading for information and locating information on charts and graphs, said Hank Martin, vice president of economic development for Altamaha Technical College.

The remaining two are the private and government sectors. "We need 74 more people tested in the private sector and 18 in the government sector," Martin said.

The county chose an accelerated pace to meet the certification requirements in 18 months rather than the standard three years. If the remaining work force is tested and the community maintains at least a 70 percent high school graduation rate by December, it will earn grant money from the state.

The designated number of people to test per sector is based on Glynn County's total population of more than 75,000 people, according to figures released in 2008 by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Woody Woodside, president of the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, said it's possible to test the remaining 92 people by December.

"We'll try to get additional

support from those who have taken it," Woodside said. "We're talking to two different groups who are major employers to get on board."

Also, he added, "We will continue asking small business people and get the word out at chamber meetings."

In Glynn County, the Star Foundation at 1907 Gloucester St. offers two computer rooms for people to take the free test.

A staff member will go to businesses that prefer to have employees tested on-site, said Katie Orrel, program director. The test can be broken into one-hour intervals over several days.

"I just need everybody's help to call us and schedule (a time to take the test)," she said. "Please call us."

Camden County became the first coastal county to earn Work Ready Community status in February, said Christina Daniel, president of the Camden County Chamber of Commerce. She said it took two years to attain the status.

Daniel, who led the Work Ready team, helped get the word out by giving presentations and providing incentives for people to take the assessment test.

"During the presentations we talked about the importance of the assessments," Daniel said. "It's a resume builder. It helps to hire the right person the first time."

"We stressed the whole picture. This puts any community at an advantage for when state economic development groups are looking to bring business to Georgia. They're looking at communities that are Work Ready certified."

Daniel said she sought help from businesses, College of Coastal Georgia, Altamaha

Please see **WORK, 5A**

# Commissioner plans town hall on sports complex

By **NEVIN BATIWALLA**  
The Brunswick News

A member of the Glynn County Commission has picked two favorite spots for a proposed gym and multi-purpose center on St. Simons Island and is now ready to find out what residents think.

Glynn County Commissioner Tony

Thaw's top choices for construction of a \$1.7 million sports complex/senior multipurpose center: the county-owned Epworth Park, adjacent to Epworth by the Sea Methodist Retreat Center, and land at McKinnon St. Simons Island Airport, near county fire station No. 2 on Demere Road.

But one of those may already be out of the running or close to it – the airport.

Glynn County Commissioner Tom Sublett, who has been involved with trying to find a suitable and agreeable site for the gym, said Thaw, who's now pushing the project, is focusing on Epworth.

Sublett said Wednesday that Thaw is leaning in that direction after learning that getting clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration to build a public gym

near the airport would be difficult. The Epworth Park site may be least liked by residents who live near the area.

At the outset of its search last spring, the county set its sights on Epworth Park. With space available and already the site of a baseball field and tennis courts, the park

Please see **COMPLEX, 5A**

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**BRUNSWICK NEWS CHANNEL**  
 Daily television-style news available at 1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and in an archive library  
**Today:** Watch video reports on students using games and other incentives to learn about math and what the sheriff says about jail overcrowding.

**Sports talk:** Weekly Bulldog Update with special guest Murray Poole, sports personality.  
**News:** Daily radio-style news beginning in the mornings Mondays through Fridays.

**In the next issue**

Look for these stories exclusively in The News:  
**Local:** Reporter Erika Capek delves into what school spirit means in the 21st century.  
**Sports:** Reporter Buddy Hughes breaks down and previews the annual City Championship game between Brunswick High and Glynn Academy.  
**Life:** The News staff will provide a look into all the activities and events around the Golden Isles this weekend.