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FAST NEWS

Neptune Fun Zone set to open again

The Neptune Fun Zone pool will open for the 2015 season on Saturday, May 9. The pool will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays in May and from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays.

After Memorial Day, the pool will be open seven days a week through Labor Day. Season passes can be purchased at the recreation office at Mallery Park on St. Simons Island or at the main office at Ballard Park in Brunswick.

For more information, call 279-2836.

New Oak Grove homes on agenda

New development could start up soon in an established Brunswick neighborhood.

The Glynn County Mainland Planning Commission will consider at its regular May meeting the approval of two preliminary subdivision plats, consisting of 34 new home lots in Oak Grove Island Plantation.

The commission convenes at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the old Glynn County Courthouse on G Street with only one item up for discussion and possible approval.

The group will consider approval of two preliminary plats; one for an 18-lot subdivision on 11.8 acres and one for a 16-lot subdivision on 10.1 acres, both located in Oak Grove Island Plantation. Robert "Bud" Myrick, agent of Oak Grove Island Limited, LLLP, is making the request.

The parcels are currently zoned planned development, meaning no zoning changes are necessary. The land is currently vacant, with single-family residences planned for the subdivision.

MAP seeks volunteers to help Nepal victims

MAP International is looking for local volunteers to help with a global mission. The Brunswick-based international medical relief and aid organization is hosting a medical mission pack Tuesday, to load up medical aid bound for earthquake victims in Nepal.

Teams will pack 100 medical mission packs, with nearly \$200,000 worth of medical materials to treat 18,000 people who have been devastated by the earthquake which hit last week.

The mission pack will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the organization's Brunswick distribution center, 4700 Glynco Parkway.

To sign up to volunteer or for more information, contact Katie Pace at kpacem@map.org or 828-329-2988.

Correction

to NAME

An article published Friday on page 8A incorrectly identified members of McIntosh High School's No. 1 girls doubles tennis team. Margaret Eldredge and Cassandra Wincek comprise the school's No. 1 doubles team.

Annual May Day celebration a hit

By ANNA HALL
The Brunswick News

Craig Johnston stood among a crowd of parents, grandparents and students, rapidly snapping photos of his daughter, Greta. The fifth grader was among a host of fourth- and fifth-grade students at Frederica Academy in the school's May Day celebration, donning pastel-colored dresses and flower wreaths on their heads.

"This is a wonderful event and I am excited to be here and have my daughter get to experience this great tradition," Craig Johnston said as he proudly watched his daughter and her peers dance barefoot around the tall steel Maypole, braiding colorful strands of ribbon through an expertly executed routine.

Moving from New Jersey to St. Simons Island last summer, Craig Johnston enrolled both his daughters in the private school. Over the course of the past few months, Johnston has been overly pleased with the decision, as the school commonly hosts events such as the May Day celebration to unite the school community.



Bobby Haven/The Brunswick News

Frederica Academy fourth- and fifth-grade students perform the traditional May Pole dance Friday during the school's annual May Day celebration.



View more photos related to this story

in the online photo gallery at www.TheBrunswickNews.com

"Events like this go beyond an education, to show how engaging this school environment is for students and their families," he said.

Held on May 1 every year on the Sea Island lawn of the school's

campus, the annual springtime ceremony is a time for the school to show parents they are a part of its efforts to further education through diverse learning experiences. As an ancient festival, May Day is typically celebrated with the Maypole dance tradition. Frederica Academy added to the dance by using the event to showcase the talent of its lower schools,

Development authority, county close on bonds

By LINDSEY ADKISON
The Brunswick News

The head of the Brunswick and Glynn County Development Authority says the authority and the Glynn County Commission are sending a strong message to industries looking for a place to expand or build.

The closing of bonds Thursday to fund improvements at the Brunswick Golden Isles Airport tells industries "we're open for business," says Mel Baxter, interim executive director of the authority.

"It shows that we're all on the same team and presents a united front," Baxter said. "It shows that we are all committed to economic growth in Glynn County."

The process to secure \$8.7 million from bonds to fund airport expansion took roughly 18 months from start to finish. The county, which funds the authority, agreed to partner in the process, allowing for up to \$10 million in bonds to be issued for the project, which will include construction on the north and east sides of the airport.

Baxter said the move will allow the authority to offer more options for industries looking to relocate or expand. That will be key for aviation related industries looking for facilities near a viable airport.

"We can advertise this expansion to those people out there looking to make a move," he said.

The airport improvement project will include adding 130,000

square feet of ramp space on the north side near Stambaugh Aviation. The project will allow Stambaugh to expand and add 100 jobs to its employment roster.

Another company, which the airport has not identified, has agreed to locate in the area and bring 50 jobs.

Money from the bond sale will also be used to fund the east side terminal project.

It's been a long time coming since the plans were originally proposed. In October, the board of the development authority approved a proposal to spend \$500,000, previously earmarked for construction of an industrial spec building on infrastructure improvements at the airport.

"We had that money set aside for a spec building for about four years," Baxter said. "We never felt comfortable moving forward on that so we moved it out of the budget over to the design and engineering work on the airport."

Work on the north side of the airport is expected to begin in the fall, most likely in October or November.

Work on the east terminal project will not begin until after the airport's master plan, an FFA requirement, is completed. That is expected by year's end.

The east terminal project will take around a year to complete once construction begins.

"East of the terminal, in that area, we want to expand because we anticipate further growth of the aerospace industry," Baxter said.

While Baxter feels the greatest benefit is showing industry that Glynn County is united in its commitment to economic development and expanding inventory options, he also feels it shows the FFA that they are willing to invest their own money in the airport's future.

"The FFA likes to see you spend your own money. We hope to apply for some airport improvement grants in the future and they are a lot more likely to consider you if they see that you are spending your own money," he said.

with a literacy-based song and skit performance, as well as a parade of the May Court nominees in each grade. Senior Caroline Worthy won the overall crown.

"This is a lovely annual tradition we are always excited to host," said John Pope, associate head of the school for advancement at Frederica Academy.

Likewise during the event of pomp and circumstance, students invite their grandparents to the ceremony, who are honored by school officials. That extra aspect of the celebration only makes the event more special, Pope said.

"We love to honor the grandparents who stand behind their students," Pope said. "The purpose of the invite is to, first, create a sense of community among our students and their families, as well as honor and celebrate the wonderful blessings we are lucky to receive. This is a joyful occasion and it's always a beautiful day."

• **Reporter Anna Hall** writes about education and other local topics. Contact her at ahall@thebrunswicknews.com, on Facebook or at 265-8320, ext. 322.

CRIME Scene

Paintball battle spills into street

Among reports filed with police:

Reckless conduct
• **2400 block of Johnston Street, Brunswick:**

A woman reported that people in two different vehicles were shooting at each other. Upon arrival, the officer discovered they were shooting paintball guns. No injuries or damage was noted beyond paint on the people's cars. A report was taken and reckless conduct charges are pending.

Theft
• **1000 block of Egmont Street, Brunswick:**

A man reported someone had stolen some of his children's prescription medications. He suspected they were taken by someone who had stayed at the house recently who has a history of drug problems.

• **Business in the 2000 block of Norwich Street, Brunswick:** A man and woman reportedly attempted to steal a bottle of cooking oil from the business. Employees believe the couple took the item, but had no evidence.

Stalking
• **1700 block of Niles Avenue, Brunswick:** A man who had been told by a judge to have no contact with someone went that person's house after court to get clothes, which was in violation of the court order.

— Michael Hall
The Brunswick News

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