

JUKE JOINT

A new restaurant on Jekyll Island is a blast from the past, **FOOD & SPIRITS, 5A**

BUILDING DECOYS

Glynn Middle School students help out FLETC by building animal decoys, **LOCAL, 2A**

AMBASSADORS

Glynn County Sports Hall of Fame announces its ambassadors for 2021, **SPORTS, 1B**

Thieves pull canine capers at animal control shelter

By **LARRY HOBBS**

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Dog rustlers have struck twice in the past week at Glynn County Animal Control on U.S. 17, breaching the animal shelter's security fences during the dark hours and absconding with a total of four pooches, according to animal control officials and county police reports.

Security video at the aging animal control building captured the suspects in both canine capers, say county police and animal control

officials.

The two thefts do not appear to be related. Police are investigating.

During the midnight hour of May 19, a man with an accomplice allegedly wedged his way through a gap in the front gate "and walked toward the rear of the complex on the southside," police reported. The suspect returned moments later with "a puppy on a leash," the report stated.

He signaled an awaiting driver with a flashlight. Then he slid back out of the gate, stepped inside the

vehicle with the puppy "and the vehicle fled the scene," police reported.

Some time before sunup Monday, someone slipped inside the animal shelter and escaped with three large pit bull mixes, police and animal control officials reported.

A veteran in the animal care field, Glynn County Animal Control Manager Tiffany Hill said animal thefts from a governmental animal control shelter are unusual, to say the least.

"It's very rare, especially this,"

Hill said. "To have two separate incidents in less than a week. That is mind-blowing. It's very strange, for sure."

In addition to having them on camera, the suspects in both incidents are known to Hill and other animal control officers, she said. Like most burglaries, whether it is pilfered jewelry or purloined pooches, the motive is greed, Hill said.

One of the three suspects in the heist of the of three pit bull mixes has made himself heard by staff at

the shelter, bluntly sharing his objections to neutering and spaying, Hill said. He made no bones about his desire to breed dogs for money, she said.

All adopted dogs from the county shelter are neutered or spayed before put up for public adoption.

The staff's interactions with the suspect "haven't been pleasant," she said.

"We highly suspect that the three dogs stolen (Monday) were stolen

Please see **CAPERS, 3A**

MONGERO RETIRES

GA BASEBALL COACH STEPS DOWN AFTER 5 YEARS WITH TERRORS

By **DERRICK DAVIS**

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After building a legacy that spans 30 years, four programs, and countless athletes, Glynn Academy baseball head coach Trent Mongero is retiring.

Mongero informed The News of his plans Tuesday, citing his health and a desire to spend time with family as reasons for stepping away from his role as a full-time teacher and high school baseball coach.

"It's God's timing. It's meant for me to step away at this point in time in my life and turn it over to somebody who has their full health and can give these boys everything that they need," Mongero said. "I wish I could be that guy, but reality is that I would be short-changing them, myself, and even my staff to a degree, if I tried to continue on as head coach."

Last year, Mongero revealed heart problems that would require open heart surgery, though in pre-op, doctors decided to push pause two days before the procedure.

Mongero made concessions this season, coaching exclusively from the dugout for the first time, but surgery was still just a matter of time.

"That's on the horizon, and the



Savannah Richardson/The Brunswick News

Glynn Academy coach Trent Mongero coaches his team during the GHSAA Class 6A state playoff game against Grovetown earlier this season.

Committee recommends new police substation

By **GORDON JACKSON**

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A Glynn County Police Department substation could be coming to Glynn Place Mall.

The county finance committee unanimously approved the recommendation, pending approval by the county attorney with funding provided by the department's operating budget.

A one-year contract to provide 911 emergency service to the College of Coastal Georgia will be recommended to county commissioners.

Families with multiple children enrolled in county recreation programs could soon see a break in cost. The committee is recommending a 50 percent discount for each additional child in a family after the first one pays the full fee for recreation programs. If approved, the programs will be implemented during the fall 2021 programs.

The live Oaks Garden Club will receive a fee waiver to hold its annual poinsettia fund raiser sale at

Please see **FINANCE, 6A**

Port still 2nd busiest for Ro/Ro imports

By **HANK ROWLAND**

The Brunswick News

An investment the Georgia Ports Authority made in Glynn County in 1962 is continuing to pay off.

That's the year it paid \$1.2 million for Colonel's Island, today the second busiest port in the U.S. for total Roll-on/Roll-off cargo and second busiest for Ro/Ro imports in the United States.

In a world still struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic, the auto-port experienced another robust month in April, according to the state ports authority. Cargo crossing the Roll-on/Rolloff docks increased by 50 percent — or by 21,200 units — during the period.

Please see **PORTS, 6A**

Health and job fair brings resources to Rise Risley

By **LAUREN MCDONALD**

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The Rise Risley campus in Brunswick offered a glimpse Tuesday of what will be possible when the community resource center is fully open and serving the neighborhood.

Numerous local nonprofits, organizations, health care providers and employers came together on the historic campus at 1800 Albany St. for a health and job fair addressing two critical needs in the community — access to health services and promotion of employment opportunities

COVID-19 vaccines were offered during the event by Coastal Community Health Services.

Glynn County Schools, Golden Isles Development Authority, STAR Foundation, Coastal Coalition for Children, Coastal Outreach Soccer and others were on hand for the outdoor fair.

"We're trying to let the community know what Rise Risley is going to be all about because the purpose of Rise Risley is to have one stop where the community can walk and receive all the resources," said Kemso Moore, one of the event's organizers. "This is giving a preview of what Rise

Risley is going to be for the community."

The Rise Risley project is a coalition that envisions a resource and referral hub housed in a community center where a variety of groups that provide services related to education, trauma-informed care, economic improvement and more will come together and offer easy access to some of Glynn County's most underserved residents.

Katie Hagin, program director for MDC Healthcare in Brunswick, manned a booth at the event in hopes of recruiting new employees.

"We're hiring for PSAs and

CNAs. We do home care. We have an adult daycare," Hagin said. "... Just like everybody else in town, we're short-staffed."

Suzanne Walker, program assistant for the University of Georgia Extension office's food and nutrition education program, shared information about free local resources, including recipe demonstrations and health classes.

"We have a total of eight classes, and they're free to the public," she said. "We teach them how to cook and do quick and easy recipes that take 15 minutes or less typically."

Please see **RISLEY, 6A**

DAYBREAK



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WEATHER

High 90, Low 71.
Mostly sunny. **6A**

COVID-19 stats as of 3 p.m. Tuesday from the DPH

GEORGIA		GLYNN COUNTY	
CASES	DEATHS	CASES	DEATHS
894K	17,962	6,788	157

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