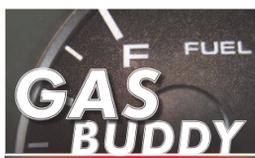


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Jekyll exceeds United Way campaign goal

The Jekyll Island campaign for the United Way of Coastal Georgia exceeded its 2014/15 goal of \$18,500.

The three-pronged campaign, consisting of the Jekyll Island Authority (JIA) work place, as well as the Jekyll Island resident and business campaigns, raised over \$26,000, according to Nancy Kring Rowan, campaign chairperson.

Successful fundraising events, such as the Georgia Sea Turtle Center's BBQ, Jekyll Island Fire Department's Chili Cookout and the Nearest Faraway Virtual Race, helped make the campaign a success.

19-year-old indicted for carrying handgun

A Glynn County man has been indicted for allegedly bringing a handgun to Brunswick High School's campus in December 2013 during a basketball game between the school's crosstown rival, Glynn Academy.

Ahmaud Marquez Arbery, who was 19 at the time, was indicted Jan. 28 for allegedly carrying a Big Bear .380 caliber pistol with him when attempting to make entry into the Dec. 3, 2013 basketball game.

Glynn County School police said at the time that an officer noticed a gun in Arbery's waistband, and he ran when the officer attempted to stop him. Officers put the campus in a lockdown mode during the foot chase.

In the course of the chase, one school resource officer fell and fractured his hand.

Arbery is now facing charges in Glynn County Superior Court of carrying a weapon within certain school areas, carrying a weapon without a license and three counts of obstructing an officer.

Frederica welcomes new school leader

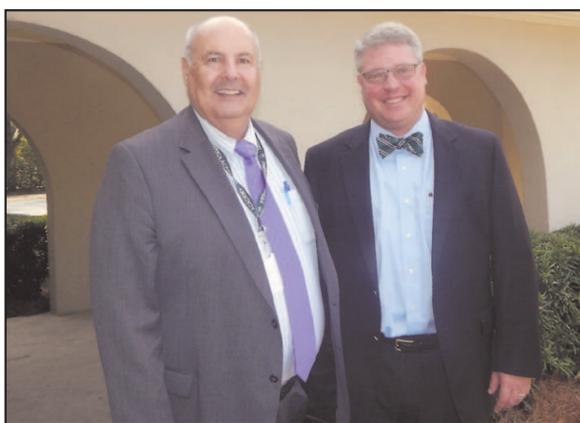
By MARY STARR
The Brunswick News

Jay St. John, interim head of school at Frederica Academy, St. Simons Island, has hit the ground running.

Since the retirement of Greg Griffith, the former head of school, in December, St. John has immersed himself in learning about the school and the community. His job is to make the transition easy when the new head of school, John Thomas, takes the reins July 1.

St. John has served as a head of school, or interim head of school, for nearly 30 years, including at Houston Academy in Dothan, Ala., Episcopal Day School in Southern Pines, N.C., The O'Neal School, also in North Carolina, and the University School of Nova Southeastern University and Trinity Preparatory School, both in Florida.

Thomas, an ordained Episcopal priest, is currently head of school at St. Andrew's-Sewanee School in Sewanee, Tenn., a role he has held for the past seven years. He has also served clergy roles at St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Potomac, Md., St. Columbia's Episcopal Church, Washington, D.C., St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Atlanta,



Mary Starr/The Brunswick News

Frederica Academy's interim head of school Jay St. John, left, poses with John Thomas, who will assume the role July 1 at the school on St. Simons Island.

Christ Episcopal Church, Pensacola, Fla., and St. David's Episcopal Church in Ashburn, Va.

Both men are here this week as part of Frederica Academy's Open House Week.

John Pope, advancement coordinator at Frederica, says this gives Thomas a chance to become better acquainted with his new school.

"It gives him an opportunity to meet not only prospective students and parents, but our current students and parents as well," Pope

clusive."

To that end, part of the head of school's job is to recruit donors to underwrite tuition and other expenses for students who may not be able to afford an independent education.

Thomas says the benefits to independent education are infinite, beginning with smaller class sizes and continuing with nearly full participation in service projects and athletic experiences.

"It's about people teaching people," he said. "It's not about getting a grade or a prestigious college bumper sticker; those are byproducts."

Independent schools, said St. John, are mission driven and can help develop a child's full potential.

"We try to engender a love of learning and develop leadership skills," he said.

Thomas says Frederica Academy is the only nationally accredited independent school (accreditation by the National Association of Independent Schools) between Savannah and Jacksonville.

Another way Frederica differs from other independent schools in the area is its non-sectarian tradition. Although founded on traditional Judeo-Christian values, the school does not promote one faith

over another.

"Understanding religious tradition is important," said Thomas. "The supreme religious value of inclusion is always underplayed and undervalued in our culture."

For the next six months, St. John will be working to move the mission and strategic plan forward until Thomas arrives July 1.

"I'll be spending a lot of time in all the aspects of the school and looking at how to improve everything we do," he said.

Thomas said learning priorities have changed and education is more about critical thinking than mastering content.

"It's not just enough to learn information and spit it back," Thomas said, adding that although technology is important, there's no way everyone is going to learn everything they need to know online. "People teach people."

And these days, there is a lot more to learn than in the past.

"We are preparing students to go into a world we do not know," Thomas said. "We're going to have to stay on our toes."

• Reporter Mary Starr writes about lifestyle topics, St. Simons and Sea Islands and other local topics. Contact her at mstarr@thebrunswicknews.com, on Facebook or at 265-8320 ext. 324.

Jekyll's Holiday Inn nearing completion

By DONNA STILLINGER
The Brunswick News

The final steps are being completed on the highly anticipated Holiday Inn Resort at Jekyll Island, which will open in just a few weeks.

While work continues on one section of rooms, landscapers are installing irrigation systems and plantings and furnishings are being placed in suites.

They are some of the last touches before the \$20 million build-out is done, and the resort opens in early March.

The Holiday Inn Resort at Jekyll Island will feature contemporary furnishings in 157 guest rooms, including 21 suites, at reasonable rates from \$115 to \$250. Amenities include an



Donna Stillinger/The Brunswick News

The landscaping crew works on beautifying curb appeal Monday at the newly remodeled Holiday Inn on Jekyll Island.

oceanfront fitness center, outdoor pool, Kids Club, nightly entertainment, a business center, a boardroom and outdoor event space, all less than a mile from

the Jekyll Island Convention Center.

Guests will also enjoy new food and beverage venues, including the poolside Rusty An-

chor Bar and Grille and the NorthShore Coffee & Cocktails, located on the third floor of the new lobby and offering sweeping views of the island and ocean.

A nautically decorated signature restaurant, Beach House, serving locally sourced seafood and coastal fare, is under construction and will open soon.

"We are excited to soon welcome guests to a new and modern resort experience on Jekyll Island," said Jason Smith, general manager of Holiday Inn Resort at Jekyll Island. "We are so proud of our stylish guest rooms and ample suites — large enough for families — spread across our environmentally friendly oceanfront esplanade."

"As construction is finalized and furnishings are installed, we

are training our staff to deliver the high level of quality service that guests expect of Holiday Inn Resorts worldwide," said Greg Winey, president and principal of NorthPointe Hospitality Management, LLC, the hotel's management company.

The property is poised to be a major addition to the overall revitalization of Jekyll Island.

The hotel features a quarter mile of prime beachfront and unobstructed views of the Atlantic Ocean.

Reservations are being taken online at www.hijklresort.com.

• Reporter Donna Stillinger writes about government and other local topics. Contact her at dstillinger@thebrunswicknews.com or at 265-8320, ext. 321.

Man pleads guilty to involuntary manslaughter

By MICHAEL HALL
The Brunswick News

A Glynn County man will spend five years in prison after pleading guilty to misdemeanor involuntary manslaughter in the 2013 shooting death of a man on a Brunswick street and lying to police about the incident during their investigation.

Samuel Tyrone Sallins, 26, of

Glynn County, entered a guilty plea in Glynn County Superior Court on Friday to involuntary manslaughter and one charge of making false statements related to the Oct. 4, 2013 shooting death of Justin Carreker.

Sallins was charged in a Dec. 17 indictment with unlawfully firing a handgun into a crowd and hitting Carreker. The indictment said Sallins fired the

shots under the reasonable belief that his life was in danger based on threats made by Carreker.

After the shooting, Carreker, 25, was found suffering from a gunshot wound by first responders who arrived at the scene early that morning. He was later pronounced dead at Southeast Georgia Health System.

Witnesses told police the two

men had been in a fight prior to the shooting.

The indictment also charged Sallins with telling detectives someone else who was standing several feet away from him had fired the gun.

It was previously reported that Sallins was also facing a charge of felony involuntary manslaughter. He was not.

Sallins was sentenced Friday

to spend five years in prison for making false statements and to one year to run concurrently for the misdemeanor involuntary manslaughter charge.

• Reporter Michael Hall writes about public safety, environment and other local topics. Contact him at mhall@thebrunswicknews.com, on Facebook or at 265-8320, ext. 320.



Frederica Academy and every member of our school family invites you to join us for your choice of enriching experiences during our **Open House Week, February 9-13!**

This is your opportunity to tour our campus, meet our faculty members and students and enjoy other special activities.

Open House Schedule for Parents of Prospective Students

Monday, February 9
9:00 am-Noon General Open House and Campus Tours
6:00 pm 2015-2016 Head of School Meet & Greet with John Thomas

Tuesday, February 10
8:00 am-9:00 am General Coffee with 2015-2016 Head of School
9:00 am-11:00 am Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Parent Coffee and Campus Tour
9:00 am-Noon General Open House and Campus Tours

Wednesday, February 11
9:00 am-11:00 am Lower School Parent Coffee & Campus Tour (Knights Reading Room)
9:00 am-Noon General Open House and Campus Tours

Thursday, February 12
9:00 am-11:00 am Middle and Upper School Parent Coffee & Campus Tour (Knights Reading Room)
9:00 am-Noon General Open House and Campus Tours

Friday, February 13
8:00 am-9:00 am Lower School Morning Meeting (Hamilton Hall)
9:00 am-Noon General Open House and Campus Tours
2:10 pm-3:00 pm Student-Faculty All-Star Basketball Game
4:30 pm-5:45 pm JV Boys Basketball Game vs. Bulloch Academy
6:00 pm-7:15 pm Varsity Girls Basketball Game vs. Bulloch Academy - Senior Night
7:30 pm-9:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball Game vs. Bulloch Academy - Senior Night

When arriving on campus, just sign in at the Administration Building for details and directions to locations and activities.

If you have questions, call us at (912) 638-9981, ext. 106 or visit fredericaacademy.org.

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Enriching the Mind, Body and Spirit.

Frederica Academy does not discriminate in the administration of its policies based on race, sex, color, religion or ethnic group.