Page One, part 2

Jail: Roadblocks remain downtown

Continued from 1A

Both Callaway and Coleman have said that they plan to push the other commissioners to rethink the expansion idea.

Callaway, who will replace Commissioner Carl Johnson in the District 1 post, said she hopes the commission can come together and make a decision that will best suit the community.

"Despite the fact that I disagree with some commissioners regarding the location of the new detention center expansion, I am looking forward to working with all of them on the jail issue," she said.

"There is no question in my mind that Glynn County is in need of a detention center expansion. Overcrowding is going to

get worse as time goes on. The state of Georgia is closing down prisons and mental health facilities because of budget cuts. Now it is up to Glynn County taxpayers to pay for these inmates to be housed in our detention center because there is no other place to put them."

In the meantime, Callaway said she is looking into short term options to solve the issue.

"I am researching options that could apply to Glynn County," she said. "Some examples of what I have come across in my research are a mental health court, lower bail amounts for low risk inmates, and pre-trial release programs."

The options she refers to are not something she just dreamed up. "These three options came

from the Carter Goble Lee study that was done in 2006," she said. "Carter Goble Lee reports that many counties have had success with these programs."

Sublett, who ran unopposed to replace retiring District 2 Commissioner Uli Keller, has remained mute on the issue but has noted that he is in favor of a complete analysis of all options available.

"I'm not an expert on the jail, but I do take the sheriff and county at their word that there is an overcrowding situation," he said. "I favor an in-depth, detailed analysis of all the options because there is more than just one or two to think about."

Coleman, who will replace retiring at-large commissioner Cap Fendig in January, favors housing inmates outside the city. He said the new space available in the temporary facility the county built this ear at the public works site has proved to be ample enough to take care of the overflow from the detention center.

Of course, right now, the issue is stalled and will remain so until the Georgia Supreme Court rules on a legality issue involving an eminent domain decision that went against Bob Torras Sr., the last holdout of property the county needs to expand the detention center.

The county has no choice but to wait, especially after the city said it will not officially close streets needed to accommodate the expansion of the detention center into the adjacent block.

Fire: Community support helps family

Continued from 1A

and compassion, Williams said. "The community support has been amazing. It's really just tremendous," Williams said. "All kinds of items have been donated. Everyone has just stepped up.

"It's really rewarding to be part of something like that.

The outpouring has helped Kris Walthour and her family cope with their losses.

"We are very grateful that we were able to get out safely. We are truly blessed," she said. "My mother and I still cry, but we know it will get better."

Now, the major hurdle the family faces is to find replacement housing, and even that has been made easier by community support, Williams said.

Currently, the family is living with a relative in the area and has received a voucher from the

Brunswick Housing Authority to help out. Real estate agents are trying to help the trio find a new place to call home, Williams said.

"Hopefully, by the new year, they'll have a new place to live," Williams said.

The influx of support and kindness the family has received has done more than replace material possessions. It has done wonders to lift the family's spirits, and proven, both to Williams and the Walthours, that the Golden Isles is filled with loving hearts and open arms.

"We live in a place like no other," Williams said. "This was a family that was feeling so much shock and it was a very upsetting situation. Because of the rally of support they have received from this community, it has really sped up the healing process. There are a lot of good people out there."

Trailer: Standards differ among states, counties

Continued from 1A

In January 2007, a homemade trailer became unattached from a pickup truck on the F.J. Torras Causeway. The trailer crossed the centerline. striking the vehicle driven by Karen Simpson. The 48-year-old was killed.

Melancon, who dove into a crusade for stronger trailer laws after slamming into one himself earlier this decade, said he can't believe Georgia and other states are ignoring what is a well-publicized danger to all motorists.

Among other things, states should mandate a safety course

Online

Check out Ron Melancon's trailer safety site at www. dangerous.trailers.org

for anyone who uses trailers and adopt uniform design standards. While there is a standard for trailer hitches, there is no standard for trailers, he said.

"Every county has different standards," he said. Every state has different laws. We should have a definition for what a trailer

"We have 80 people killed in

Ford Pintos and what happens? Ford recalls the cars (built prior to 1976). Seven astronauts die in the space shuttle Challenger and suddenly all the other shuttles are grounded. We have 2,239 people killed by trailers, and we do nothing. Can someone explain that to me?"

He said it was an uphill struggle just convincing Virginia to pass a law requiring reflector tape on trailers.

"With lawsuits and damages, common sense."

Right now, Melancon is writing and speaking to anyone and everyone who will listen, especially those in the upper layer of government. So far, it's been like trying to go up against a 200 mph headwind.

"I've sent emails to governors," he said. "I'm trying to get Congress involved, too.'

There's no headway there, either, but don't count on him guitting anytime soon.

"I'm not going anywhere," he said. "I will continue to monitor this. I can't give up. If I do then my son will (think) this country doesn't care anymore."

Blagojevich lawyer asks for subpoena of Obama staff

The Associated Press

CHICAGO - An attorney for Gov. Rod Blagojevich has asked the Illinois House committee considering whether to impeach the governor to subpoena more than a dozen witnesses, including President-elect Barack Obama's incoming chief of staff and a senior adviser.

State Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie told The Associated Press on Thursday that the House committee received a letter from Blagojevich attorney Ed Genson asking it to subpoena Rep. Rahm Emanuel, Valerie Jarrett and more than a dozen others, including Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr.

Currie, the head of the committee, said she didn't yet know what the committee's response to Genson's request would be.

However, she noted that the U.S. Attorney's office has already denied the panel's request to in-

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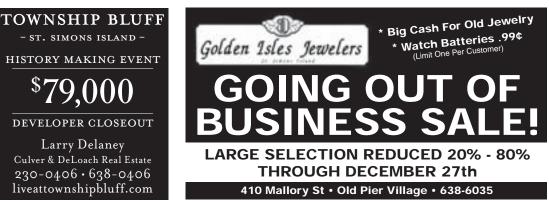
Culver & DeLoach Real Estate

230-0406 · 638-0406 liveattownshipbluff.com terview a list of people named in the criminal complaint against Blagojevich.

There was no immediate response Thursday to calls seeking comment from Genson, the Obama transition team and Jackson. Blagojevich was arrested Dec. 9 and charged with trying to sell

Obama's vacant Senate seat to the highest bidder. He has denied any wrongdo-

ing.



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we'll are paying for this," he said. "We should not have to sue in this country to force states to use

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Meeting Dates

Glynn County Board of Education

By official action (per O.C.G.A., 20-2-58) at its December 15, 2008 meeting, the Glynn County Board of Education has set the following meeting dates.

Unless otherwise noted in the agenda announcements, board meetings will be held at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 1313 Egmoat Street, Brunswick, Georgia.

> Tuesday, January 27, 2009 Tuesday, February 10, 2009 Tuesday, February 24, 2009 Tuesday, March 10, 2009 Tuesday, March 24, 2009 Tuesday, April 21, 2009 Tuesday, May 12, 2009 Tuesday, May 26, 2009 Tuesday, June 9, 2009 Tuesday, June 23, 2009 Tuesday, July 14, 2009 Tuesday, July 28, 2009 Tuesday, August 11, 2009 Tuesday, August 25, 2009 Tuesday, September 8, 2009 Tuesday, September 22, 2009 Tuesday, October 13, 2009 Tuesday, October 27, 2009 Tuesday, November 10, 2009 Tuesday, December 8, 2009 Tuesday, January 12, 2010

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