

County & City Reports

Local law enforcement provide the following information for publication. Names are spelled as they were received from the law enforcement agencies. It is important to remember that the following individuals have been charged only and are presumed innocent until such time as they are found guilty by a court or enter a guilty plea.

Union County Jail Arrest Report	
Mack Mason, Union County Sheriff	
01/20/17	George Norman Barlow, age 36, Murphy, NC Serving weekends
01/20/17	Charles Winfield Burton, age 18, Blairsville, GA Distribution of controlled substance (2 counts), criminal attempt, use of communications in committing or facilitating a drug transaction (3 counts)
01/17/17	Jacob Michael Haynes, age 19, Murphy, NC Driving while license suspended/revoked
01/17/17	Cory Justin Heffley, age 26, Blairsville, GA DUI alcohol, no proof of insurance, operating vehicle with susp/canc/rev registration
01/21/17	Robert Henry Houser, age 59, Athens, GA Probation violation (fel)
01/22/17	Kimberly Jean Hutson, age 45, Alto, GA Probation violation (fel)
01/17/17	Kevin Alan Johnson, age 53, Blairsville, GA Burglary 1st degree, burglary 2nd degree (2 counts), theft by taking, possession of firearm or knife during certain crimes, possession tools for commission of a crime
01/20/17	Joshua Soomyung Kim, age 21, Cleveland, GA Distribution of controlled substance
01/18/17	Daniel Eugene Mort, age 39, Blairsville, GA Possession of controlled substance, possession of firearm or knife during certain crimes, driving while license suspended/revoked, seat belt violation
01/17/17	Robert Eugene Tutterow, age 44, Homeless Probation violation
01/21/17	Chad Michael Vesely, age 19, Morganton, GA DUI/alcohol/0.08 grams or more 21 YOA or over, possession of marijuana less than 1 oz., failure to maintain lane

There are 65 inmates now being housed in the Union County Jail.

Blairsville Police Department

ARRESTS AND INCIDENT REPORT
Chief Johnny Carroll

01/20/17	Angela Leona Ashe, age 54, Blairsville, GA Disorderly conduct, criminal trespass
01/21/17	Amanda Lynn Bales, age 37, Blairsville, GA Driving while license suspended/revoked, driving with suspended tag, no proof of insurance
01/14/17	Arrest-no drivers license, arrest-driving on susp. license, arrest-theft by shoplifting, business alarm, funeral escort, welfare check
01/17/17	Assist other agency, traffic stop
01/18/17	Assist motorist, obstruction of law enforcement officer, funeral escort, welfare check, theft by taking less than \$500, accident
01/19/17	Assist other agency, battery
01/20/17	Suspicious person, civil stand by, private property accident, assist other agency, assist other agency, arrest-disorderly, criminal trespass
01/21/17	Arrest-suspended license, suspended tag, no insurance, accident
01/22/17	911 hang up

Union County Fire Department

Incidents
Union County Fire Chief David Dyer

01/16/17	3 Medical Calls, Vehicle Fire
01/17/17	5 Medical Calls
01/18/17	4 Medical Calls, Motor Vehicle Accident
01/19/17	4 Medical Calls, Controlled Burn
01/20/17	8 Medical Calls, 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents
01/21/17	Smoke Detector Install, Medical Call, Controlled Burn
01/22/17	3 Medical Calls, Smoke Investigation

UC Lions Club Annual Trash/Treasure Sale

The Union County Lions Club will be holding its annual trash/treasure sale on February 25, 2017 at the Civic Center on Well-born Street, Blairsville.

We plan to have over 40 vendors selling many different wares plus the Lions kitchen will have chili and hot dogs for sale. Come and enjoy the indoor shopping in this heated facility. The time for this event is 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. and those who would like to take advantage of early shopping, you can come at 8 a.m. for a fee of \$1 per person.

For you sellers call 706-745-8053 to reserve your place. For any questions call Gene or Louise Little at 706-374-6638. N(Jan25.22)CA



If you like old cars, what better way to start the new year off than to be involved in a car club. The Blairsville Cruisers would like to invite you to our club meeting on Thursday, January 26th at 6 p.m. in the Veterans Building off Hwy. 515. Our Cruise-ins will start in April. Come out and join us and let's make this a great year for some kids. For more information call 706-994-2500. N(Jan25.21)CA

The GBI announces distribution of Demonstration Dolls

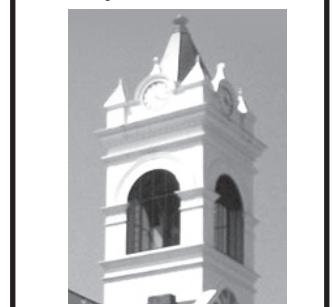
Decatur, GA – On Thursday, January 19, 2017, at 1 PM, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Child Fatality Review Unit hosted an event to announce the planned distribution of 300 demonstration dolls to law enforcement agencies throughout the state for use in the investigation of serious child injury and/or death cases. The dolls are the approximate dimensions of a 3-month old baby and are a realistic tool for investigators in reenacting and photographing incident scenes. First Lady Sandra Deal served as a guest speaker at the event. Representatives of the Child Fatality Review Panel, the Division of Family and Children Services, the Department of Public Health, the Office of the Child Advocate, and the Prosecuting Attorney's Council were also in attendance.

Sleep-related infant deaths are one such investigation in which the dolls are utilized. Sleep-related deaths continue to be a leading cause of preventable infant fatalities in Georgia. A total of 170 infant deaths were determined to be sleep-related in 2015. Demonstration dolls will aid in identifying factors contributing to such deaths.

The mission of the Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel is to provide the highest quality child fatality data, training, technical assistance, investigative support services, and resources to any entity dedicated to the well-being and safety of children in order to prevent and reduce incidents of child abuse and fatality in the state.

Every county in Georgia has a local child fatality review committee. These committees are comprised of professionals from multiple disciplines that analyze the critical aspects of child deaths to aid in reducing preventable child deaths in Georgia. A child's death is eligible for review when the death is sudden, unexpected, unexplained, suspicious, or attributed to unusual circumstances. NT(Jan25.21)CA

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



January 2, 2017
In memory of **Virginia B. Meeks**
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

January 21, 2017
In memory of **Dollie Colwell Meeks**
Anniversary
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

Burglary...from Page 1A

on Pat Haralson Memorial Drive.

This would be an important bust if they could get it – several homes in the Pat Haralson Drive area had been burgled leading up to that point, and UCSO investigators were itching to get their hands on the culprit.

The caretaker of the most recently burgled home was the one who noticed the break-in, on Monday, Jan. 16, and after he'd notified the sheriff's office, they set up the equipment and waited for a bite.

As it turned out, the one who bit was a man who lived nearby on Pat Haralson named Kevin Johnson, according to the sheriff's office.

And not only had he been caught on camera, he'd been caught red-handed in the act by none other than Sheriff Mason the day after the cameras had been installed, according to the sheriff's office.

"As I was going out Pat Haralson Drive Tuesday afternoon, I noticed a car at this residence that had no business being there, I was quite sure," said Sheriff Mason. "I was unable to get stopped and turn into the driveway, so I went and made a turnaround.

"I suspect that the perpetrator saw me, because by the time I got turned around and pulled back in the driveway, he came driving around the house real fast. At that time, I had

him blocked in. I got out and made him get out of his car, and asked him, what are you doing here?"

"He said, 'Well, I do lawn work, and I was going to see if these people need anything done.' And I said, no you're not, you're stealing."

The sheriff said that he pointed out items in the man's car that were once piled up outside the vacant home. He went ahead and handcuffed Johnson, confiscating "a large fixed-blade knife in a scabbard stuck down in his waistband in the small of his back."

After making the arrest, Sheriff Mason contacted his investigators within the Criminal Investigations Division, who took over from there.

"Our investigation led to the search of another residence where Johnson had been living," said UCSO Lt. Daren Osborn. "We found items that had been stolen from approximately six other places on Pat Haralson in the last month. We were able to close out four cases, and we expect to close a couple of other cases soon."

One of the cases UCSO investigators were able to close was a separate theft call made by the caretaker of the home where Johnson was arrested, according to the sheriff's office.

A week prior to Johnson's arrest, the caretaker had called

the sheriff's office to report that his personal shed had been broken into and some items stolen from his property, also on Pat Haralson Drive.

As for what Johnson was doing with the stolen items, the sheriff's office said he was selling what he could at area flea markets.

"We were able to recover numerous items and return them to their rightful owners," said Lt. Osborn following Johnson's arrest. "If you have power tools, chainsaws, items like that, take pictures of them and write your serial numbers down, put them in a safe place, because that's the key to finding these items after they're stolen."

So far, Johnson has been charged with burglary in the first degree, two counts of burglary in the second degree, theft by taking, possession of a firearm or knife during certain crimes, and possession of tools for the commission of a crime, all felony charges, according to the sheriff's office.

Sheriff Mason would like to thank his investigators for their due diligence in working cases, as well as Chief Deputy John George, whom the sheriff credits with handling enough of the administrative work of his office to allow him to get some time in the field.

K-9 Deputy Lacey and her handler Deputy Jeff McConnell also played a part during the initial stages of the burglary investigation.

SMART Recovery program

SMART Recovery (Self-Management And Recovery Training) helps individuals gain independence from addiction (substances or activities), by providing an educational and supporting environment

based on SMART Recovery 4 – Point Program.

We teach self-empowerment for recovery from addiction, drug abuse, alcoholism, and alcohol abuse, by teaching how to change self-defeating

thinking, emotions, and actions; and to work towards long-term satisfactions and quality of life.

For more information call 706-994-3692; 76 Hunt Martin Street, Blairsville, GA.

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Children's Story Time	Every Monday:	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club		Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol		Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101		United Methodist Ch	7 pm
	Every Tuesday:		
Tri State Bus. Women		Blairsville Restaurant	8 am
Tuesday Strippers		Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	9:30-2:30 pm
Get Fit		First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies		United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers		Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
	Every Wednesday:		
BINGO		Civic Center	7 pm
	Every Thursday:		
Masonic Luncheon		Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club		So. Bank & Trust	Noon
Get Fit		First UMC	5:15 pm
	First Monday of each month:		
Lockheed-Martin Ret.		Blairsville Restaurant	9 am
Volunteers/Handicap		First Baptist, H Bldg.	6 pm
CERT		St. Francis of Assisi	6:30 pm
Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114, Masonic Lodge			6:30 pm
	First Tuesday of each month:		
Brownie Scouts		United Methodist Ch	3-5 pm
Blairsville City Coun.		City Hall	6 pm
Amateur Radio Club		Branan Lodge	7 pm
Gaddistown Hmakers		Woody Gap	7 pm
Knights/Colum. #2563		place TBA	7:30 pm
Enotah Ch. #24 RAM		Masonic Temple	7:30 pm
	First Wednesday of each month:		
Exercise class		Senior Citizens Center	10:30 am
Tri-Cty Wom. Lunch		Monet's Rest.	Noon
Better Breathers		UGH Classroom 2nd Fl.	1 pm
	First Thursday of each month:		
Quilts of Valor		Coosa Methodist Ch	9:30 am-2:30 pm
MMQG		Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	10 am-3 pm
Awake America		City Hall	11:59 am
NAMI Fam. Support		New Hope Counseling	12-1:30 pm
Blairsville Sorghum Fest.		Fort Sorghum	6:30 pm
Open Road ORV		Civic Center	8 pm
	First Friday of each month:		
"Nailed" Book Club		G-N-G Bakery	10:30 am
UG Hospital Aux		UC Nursing Home	Noon
Feel Good Friday		Wellness Center	7 pm