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ing weapons when his patrol car left the roadway and struck a tree near the intersection of Mt. Pleasant Church Road and Bowers Circle," he said. "Deputy Whittle was responding to a

threat in his community."

Deputy Whittle was transported to Union General Hospital that afternoon before being flown to Erlanger Hospital.

Deputy Whittle had

served with the Union County Sheriff's Office for less than one year.

In May 2012, the Union County Sheriff's Office retired Badge 221, the one worn by the

38-year-old deputy.

Deputy Whittle's service revolver also was retired and presented to the Whittle family along with the fallen deputy's uniform.

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illegal drug activity is just the beginning, said Sheriff Mason, who took office in January.

"We're making sure that the only people to profit from the illegal drug trafficking will be the taxpayers of Union County through seizures of the ill-gotten gains by drug dealers," Sheriff Mason said.

"It's our job to make sure that drug dealers bypass our community, and find another place to do business," the sheriff said.

Sheriff Mason believes that dealers looking



Sheriff Mack Mason

to make marijuana their cash crop are finding other locations to plant their crop.

A recent flyover by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and local law enforcement found no fields of marijuana in Union County.

"This is good news provided that we're being noticed by the drug people," he said.

"The lack of plants tells me that these individuals that have grown marijuana in the mountains in the past now have a fear of

being caught," he said.

"In the past, there have been large fields of marijuana found in Union County," he said.

"Because there is so much money involved in drug trafficking, people take risks and violate the law," he said.

"We're going to do our very best to deter these types of operations," the sheriff said.

"If anyone decides to make marijuana their cash crop, we're going to do our best to harvest it for them."

Kelley and The Cowboys in concert at Peacock Playhouse

Saturday, September 28 at 7 p.m., "twang" takes center stage at the legendary, Peacock Playhouse and Kelley and The Cowboys are going to bring it on!

Kelley Breiding and her posse of four will be filling the house with classic country, western swing and boot-scootin' rockabilly music.

A North Carolina native from Mount Airy, Kelley has been singing and playing music since she was a kid. She's an award-winning banjo player and in 2005 she lassoed her four cowboys to form Kelley and The Cowboys.

Her voice is reminiscent of the late, great Patsy Cline and the group's playlist includes old standards from old favorites like Patsy and Hank to original songs.

The Cowboys are an impressive team of musicians: Ray Wood, on guitar has played around the world and has toured with acts as diverse as The Coasters and The Louvin Brothers. Joe Savoy mans



Kelley and The Cowboys

the fiddle and comes from Cajun roots. He toured with the Savoy Family Band and well-known group The Red Stick Ramblers before teaming up with Kelley. Matt Sircely, on mandolin, has also done his share of touring and teaches the art of the mandolin. Nick McMillian, on upright base has been playing and making the rounds since he was twelve years old and is a founding member of Kelley and The Cowboys. Then there's the "beat man," Glen Fields on drums. He's a veteran of the

Baton Rouge music scene and has also done a stint with The Red Stick Ramblers among others. You might say he's the "heart beat" of this group.

Tickets are \$18 and are available by calling the Playhouse office at 828-389-2787 or by visiting one of these area merchants: Tiger's Department Store, Hayesville, The Curiosity Shop, Murphy or Anderson's in Hiwassee.

No need to gussy up but, load up, saddle up and hurry up, to the Peacock Playhouse to hear Kelley and The Cowboys!

NT(Sep18,Z4)CA

Steve and Penny Kilby featured at Folk School



Guitarist Steve Kilby

Flatpicking guitar champion Steve Kilby and his wife Penny will be featured in concert at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC at 7 p.m. on Friday, September 20. This will be the last concert in the Festival Barn for the season. Those attending are urged to park near Keith House or the Dining Hall and walk to the Festival Barn where there will be only a limited number of handicapped parking spaces available. Admission is free and donations are welcome.

Steve Kilby started playing guitar as a youngster to back up his fiddling grandfather at square dances and house parties in Wilkes County, NC. In the past 30 years he has won numerous ribbons including six championships at Fiddlers' Grove and two first place ribbons at the famous Galax, VA Fiddlers' Convention. In 1979 he was named North Carolina State Guitar Champion.

Kilby's first solo CD entitled *Steve Kilby, Plain and Fancy* has some special guests playing with him including three-time national champion Steve Kaufman, National Heritage Award winner Wayne Henderson, national champion Robin Kessinger, and bluegrass legend George Shuffler.

His second solo CD is entitled *Kingsberry Run*. Steve's wife Penny provides solid rhythm accompaniment.

Upcoming Folk School concert performers include Spirit Fiddle (Sept. 27) and Lone

Mountain Band (Oct. 4). The Folk School concert schedule is available on the world wide web at: www.folkschool.org. For further information call the Folk School at 1-800-FOLK-SCH or 837-2775. NT(Sep18,F3)SH

Poetry reading at Folk School



Catherine Carter

On Thursday, September 19th, John Campbell Folk School and NC Writers Network West are sponsoring a reading of poetry. The reading is free of charge and open to the public. Poets Janice Moore of Hayesville, NC and Catherine Carter of Cullowhee, NC will be the featured readers.

Janice Moore, a member of the English Department at Young Harris College, published a chapbook *Teaching the Robins* with Finishing Line Press in 2005. Her poems have appeared in such journals as *Shenandoah*, *The Georgia Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *The Atlanta Review*, and *The Journal of the American Medical Association*. An active member of the North Carolina Writers' Net-

Al-Anon meetings/times

Blairsville: Mountain Presbyterian Church, 2945 Young Harris Hwy. 76, Wednesday 8 p.m. Al-Anon Family Group Discussion, open meeting. Saint Clare's Episcopal Church, Friday 12 noon Al-anon Group Discussion, open meeting.

Young Harris: Sharp Memorial Methodist Church, Tuesday 12 noon Al-Anon Family Group discussion, open meeting.

Hiwassee: Chatuge Regional Hospital, 110 South Main Street, Sunday 7 p.m. Al-Anon Family Group Discussion, open meeting. Christ the King Church, Monday 7 p.m. Al-Anon Family Group Discussion, open meeting.

Al-Anon is open to anyone who has been affected by another person's drinking. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or a friend.

Call 706-835-5827, 706-897-0628 or 828-389-8981. for more information. NT(Sep18,Z1)CA



Janice Moore

work, she is the coordinator for the poetry critique group which meets at Tri-County Community College.

Born on the eastern shore of Maryland and raised there by wolves and vultures, Catherine Carter now lives with her husband in Cullowhee, near Western Carolina University, where she teaches in and coordinates the English education program. Her new book (LSU, 2012) is *The Swamp Monster at Home*; her first full-length collection, *The Memory of Gills* (LSU, 2006) received the 2007 Roanoke-Chowan Award from the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association; her poem "Toast" won the 2009 North Carolina Writer's Network Randall Jarrell award. Her work has also appeared in *Best American Poetry 2009*, *North Carolina Literary Review*, *Orion*, *Poetry*, and *Ploughshares*, among others. NT(Sep18,F5)SH

God's Favorite at Licklog Players

Don't miss Licklog Players' production of the Neil Simon comedy, "God's Favorite". Show dates are September 20th through 22nd. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Box Office opens September 2nd, Monday through Friday 10 a.m.--2 p.m. \$15 for adults; \$13 for seniors; and \$8 for students. For information and tickets call 828-389-8632 or e-mail Licklog at licklog-players@aol.com. NT(Sep18,Z10)gg

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