# North Georgia News

Hometown newspaper of Blairsville, Suches and Union County

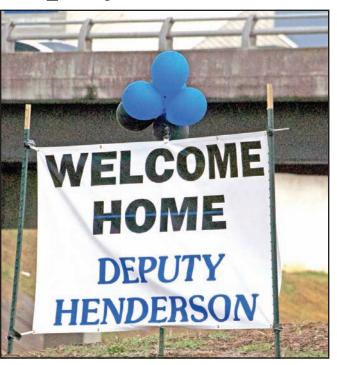
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**Legal Organ of Union County** 

**Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1909** 

March 8, 2017

## Deputy Mitchell Henderson receives warm welcome home



"Welcome Home Deputy Henderson!"

By Shawn Jarrard North Georgia News Staff Writer

Welcome home, Deputy

After a long and trying ordeal that started with a Sept. 19 car accident that took him first to Northeast Georgia Medical in critical condition, then to Atlanta's Shephard Center in October, Union County Sheriff's Deputy Mitchell Henderson is finally "Mitchell is continuing

therapy in Blairsville and is doing very well," the family told the North Georgia News and Towns County Herald. "Please continue to pray for him as he continues down the road to recovery. Thank you to the community and officers for such a warm welcome home." Henderson's journey

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UCSO Deputy Mitchell Henderson's "Welcome Home" escort, by fellow deputies at the Union County Sheriff's Office. Pictured here entering Blairsville by way of Cleveland Street.

# Students celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with family night

North Georgia News Staff Writer

Theodore Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, was born on March 2, 1904, and Union County Primary School students celebrated his birthday all last week with various at promoting literacy.

Kindergarten, first and second-grade students participated in a week's worth of events leading up to the March 2 after school celebration, including "Silly Sock Day," "Wacky Tacky Dress-Up Day," and a take on Dr. Seuss' book, "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" where students dressed in the garb of the profession they want to be in when they grow up.

And on Thursday, March 2, students attended a "Dr. Seuss Family Night" at the

See Seuss, Page 2A



# Corn specialists visit GMREC to give industry updates

North Georgia News Staff Writer

Dozens of area farmers participated in the annual Northeast Georgia Corn Production Meeting, hosted by Union County Extension Agent Melissa Mattee at the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

The corn production meeting brought in experts from the University of Georgia, who spoke to area corn growers about best corn production practices, as well as pest and disease management.

'Part of my job is to provide resources that keep producers up to date on the latest varieties and strategies in crop production," said Mattee.
"One of the ways I can do this is inviting specialists from the University of Georgia to come and present their research



Dr. Bob Kemerait, associate professor of plant pathology at the University of Georgia, spoke to local farmers recently on disease management best practices.

directly to producers."

Throughout the day, attendees heard from four UGA professors, who covered various aspects of corn production and production

management. Those in attendance were also treated to a delicious lunch from Jim's Smokin' Que, provided by the

See Corn, Page 2A

### Seabees honor 75th anniversary with military ball Saturday, March 4th

By Lily Avery North Georgia News Staff Writer

Both retired and active duty veterans dressed to the nines and dined together at the Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-3's military ball to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Navy Seabees on Saturday, March 4, at the Union County Community Center.

Last year's event was the first of its kind for the area and it went out with a bang, but this year took the cake with almost double in attendance.

Veterans from Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina, from all branches of the military, gathered together

See Seabees, Page 1B



#### Chief Carroll home after stay in Atlanta hospital

From Staff Reports North Georgia News

Blairsville Police Chief Johnny Carroll spent several days in Atlanta's Piedmont Hospital last week, after experiencing chest pains while on patrol in Blairsville on Wednesday, March 1.

Due to the chest pains, Chief Carroll drove himself to Union General Hospital around lunchtime last Wednesday, and he was later transported to Piedmont in Atlanta, according to Blairsville Mayor Jim

Chief Carroll was moved to a regular room following his arrival at Piedmont, where he underwent medical testing to determine the cause of his chest pains, Mayor Conley

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**Blairsville Police Chief** Johnny Carroll

# Paris recognizes Master Gardeners

North Georgia News

Members of the Towns-Union Master Gardener Association with the University of Georgia Extension Volunteer Program gathered at the Union County Courthouse on Friday, March 3, in preparation for the annual Master Gardeners Appreciation Day, which will take place on March 18.

In April 2010, nine horticulture enthusiasts began serving Union County through the UGA Cooperative

See Gardeners, Page 3A



Commissioner Lamar Paris on Friday, March 3

#### Gowder, Heaton granted continuances in North Carolina

By Shawn Jarrard North Georgia News Staff Writer

MURPHY, NC - Former Union General Hospital CEO Mike Gowder and Blairsville physician Dr. James Heaton were granted continuances once again in North Carolina Superior Court.

Their cases came up in Feb. 27 administrative sessions at the Cherokee

County Courthouse in Murphy,

resulting in both Gowder and Heaton receiving June 26 continuance dates for future administrative sessions, according to the Cherokee County (NC) Clerk of Courts Office

Heaton and Gowder were arrested in North Carolina on Wednesday, March 2, 2016. following indictment by a Cherokee County, NC, grand jury, both for five counts of See Gowder, Page 3A

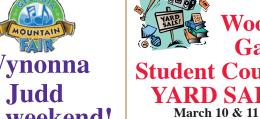


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Wynonna **Judd** this weekend! See page 7A





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**SOCCER** Fri Mar 10 vs. Lumpkin Co. 5:30 & 7:30 **BASEBALL** Wed Mar 8 vs. Rabun 5 PM Mon Mar 13 vs. Lumpkin 5:55 PM