

## 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

- 04/05/17 Jason Lynn Arnett, age 40, Blairsville, GA Pedestrian under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- 04/07/17 Jonathan Dewayne Davis, age 39, Dahlonega, GA Possession of controlled substance, theft by taking, possession of drug related objects, obstructing or hindering law enforcement officers, possession of marijuana less than 1 oz.
- 04/04/17 Jina Erin Garrett, age 35, Blairsville, GA Distribution of controlled substance
- 04/05/17 Aaron Leslie Gomez, age 38, Dahlonega, GA Probation violation (felony)
- 04/08/17 Franklin Kenneth Gosnell, age 55, Blairsville, GA DUI alcohol, open container, failure to maintain lane
- 04/09/17 Collin Richard Griggs, age 34, Blairsville, GA DUI alcohol, endangering child under 14 YOA while DUI, speeding in excess of maximum limits (state speed and zone limits)
- 04/05/17 Randall Lee Jones, age 33, Blue Ridge, GA Probation violation (felony)
- 04/06/17 William Huey Jones, age 58, Blue Ridge, GA Possession of marijuana less than 1 oz.
- 04/05/17 Joshua Dale Killian, age 30, Chatsworth, GA Probation violation (felony)
- 04/06/17 Joshua Ryan Lowe, age 30, Hayesville, NC Burglary 2nd degree (2 counts)
- 04/07/17 Randy Lee Maarref, age 18, Blairsville, GA Serving time
- 04/06/17 Michael Andrew Moore, age 27, Blairsville, GA Serving time court ordered
- 04/05/17 Lonnie Curtis Powell, age 40, Nashville, GA Probation violation (felony)
- 04/07/17 Tiffani Lynn Stroud, age 25, Hiawasse, GA Probation violation (misd)
- 04/03/17 Travis Lee Timspon, age 36, Marble, NC Theft by shoplifting (misd)
- 04/05/17 Beverlene W. Torbush-Griffith, age 75, Blairsville, GA Exploitation and intimidation of disabled adults, elder person and residents (4 counts), theft by deception (4 counts)
- 04/06/17 Arthur Matthew Velasco, age 28, Blairsville, GA Cruelty to children, first degree
- 04/05/17 Stacy Hollis Waldrip, age 48, Blairsville, GA Exploitation and intimidation of disabled adults, elder person, and residents (2 counts), theft by deception (2 counts)
- 04/06/17 Darren Jeffrey Ware, age 45, Blairsville, GA Possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana less than 1 oz.

There are 72 inmates now being housed in the Union County Jail. 5 inmates housed outside county.



### Blairsville Police Department

ARRESTS AND INCIDENT REPORT

Chief Johnny Carroll

- 04/01/17 Funeral escort, funeral escort
- 04/02/17 Escort, theft by taking, funeral escort, escort
- 04/03/17 Business alarm, 911 hang up, funeral escort, misc. traffic, escort, lost property
- 04/04/17 Private property accident, private property accident, bank alarm, escort
- 04/05/17 Escort
- 04/06/17 Private property accident, deposit account fraud, assist other agency, misc. traffic, escort
- 04/07/17 Escort, arrest-public intoxication, private property accident, arrest-possession of marijuana, welfare check
- 04/08/17 Arrest-no insurance, arrest-suspended tag, arrest-suspended tag, furn/purchase alcohol under 21
- 04/09/17 Funeral escort



### Union County Fire Department Incidents

Union County Fire Chief David Dyer



- 04/03/17 2 Medical Calls-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 10-Blairsville
- 04/04/17 Grass Fire-Deep South Farm Rd; Grass Fire-Cleveland St; Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 4-Ivy Log; Medical Call-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog
- 04/05/17 Kitchen Fire-Picklesimer Rd; Structure Fire-Studio One Rd; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog; Medical Call-Station 10-Blairsville
- 04/06/17 Medical Call-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call-Station 10-Blairsville; Medical Call-Station 12-Choestoe
- 04/07/17 Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 5-Suches; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog; 3 Medical Calls-Station 10-Blairsville; Medical Call-Station 12-Choestoe
- 04/08/17 Medical Call-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 7-Dooly; Medical Call-Station 10-Blairsville
- 04/09/17 Brush Fire-Mtn Top View; Medical Call-Station 2-Jones Creek; Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 5-Suches; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call-Station 10-Blairsville; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog

## YHC presents Jazz Band Concert with UCHS Jazz Band

Young Harris College's Division of Fine Arts will present the YHC Jazz Band in concert along with guest band Union County High School Jazz Band on Monday, April 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Union County High School Performing Arts Center. The performance is free and open to the public.

Under the direction of Adjunct Instructor of Music Dr. Mike Campbell, the YHC Jazz Band will perform jazz favorites and a variety musical styles including swing, Latin, ballads, fusion, and funk. Performing members of

YHC Jazz Band include sophomore music education major Donovan Anguelo, of Blairsville, GA, trumpet and senior business and public policy major Chloe Cook, of Blue Ridge, GA, bass, and YHC's Adjunct Instructor of Music Alan Denmon.

In addition, the Union County High School band will perform several sections during the concert from artists like Gordon Goodwin, Hoagy Carmichael, Bart Howard and Charles Mingus.

For more information, call YHC's Division of Fine Arts (706) 379-5182. N(Apr12,Z15)CA

## Leadership for Fire and EMS Training Courses

Union County Fire Department would like to congratulate Firefighter James Rosser on his completion of 36 hours of training courses on Leadership 1, 2, and 3 for Fire and EMS.

These three 12-hour courses provide the company officer with the basic leadership skills and tools needed to perform effectively in the fire service environment. These courses were developed to meet a universally expressed need in the fire service. That is, to enable midrange managers, especially Company Officers (COs or their equivalent) to be more effective in their role as leaders. Whether the CO carries out these responsibilities in a small rural volunteer department, a suburban "combination" part-volunteer/part-paid department, or a fully-paid metropolitan/urban department, there are certain critical skills and a degree of experience needed to be effective as a mid-manager in the fire service.

Leadership 1 for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Company Success:

This 12-hour course includes techniques and approaches to problem-solving, ways to identify and assess the needs of the company officer's subordinates, methods for running meetings effectively in the fire service environment, and decision-making skills for the company officer.

Leadership 2 for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Personal



Firefighter James Rosser

Success:

This 12-hour course addresses ethics, use and abuse of power at the company officer level, creativity in the fire service environment, and management of the multiple roles of the company officer.

Leadership 3 for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Supervisory Success:

This 12-hour course covers when and how to delegate to subordinates, assess personal leadership styles through situational leadership, discipline subordinates, and apply coaching/motivating techniques.

Completion of these courses will enable Firefighter Rosser to apply these leadership skills during emergency operation in Union County..

## Arrest...continued from Page 1A

following an investigation that stemmed from allegations of elder exploitation, according to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

The investigation, which began last month, has been a joint effort between the Criminal Investigations Division of the Union County Sheriff's Office, the GBI and Georgia Adult Protective Services.

According to authorities, Torbush and Waldrip met their victim, Fain Griffith, 85, through their traveling Gospel Music ministry earlier this year.

Griffith, who suffers from dementia, had been staying in a Blairsville facility when Torbush and Waldrip initially approached him with their ministry in February, according to UCSO Lt. Daren Osborn.

The mother and son gained Griffith's confidence over a brief period of time, after which they removed him from the facility to perform a marriage ceremony, according to Lt. Osborn.

Waldrip, who had received a minister's license through an online program, married his mother to Griffith on Valentine's Day, and they then moved him into their home, according to Lt. Osborn.

A few weeks later, Torbush and Waldrip placed Griffith into the geriatric/psychiatric unit of Chatuge Regional Hospital and never returned, according to Lt. Osborn.

Within two days of Griffith's placement in the hospital in early March, Torbush and Waldrip had transferred more than \$150,000 of Griffith's money into their own accounts, leaving Griffith with about \$300 of his own money, according to Lt. Osborn.

Griffith remained in the hospital for a little more than a week, and when the hospital reached out to Torbush about his return home, she expressed that she had no interest in coming to get him, according to Lt. Osborn.

Sometime during Griffith's stay at Chatuge Regional Hospital, a report came in to authorities alleging elder abuse against Torbush and Waldrip, leading to the investigation that in turn led to the mother and son's arrests, according to Lt. Osborn.

Torbush was arrested and charged with four counts of elder exploitation and four counts of theft by deception, and her son, Waldrip, was arrested and charged with two counts of elder exploitation and two counts of theft by deception, according to Lt. Osborn.

Bond was set at \$20,000 per charge, with Torbush's bond totaling \$160,000 and Waldrip's coming to \$80,000, according to Lt. Osborn.

Waldrip made bond on Friday, April 7, and Torbush on Saturday, April 8, according to Lt. Osborn.

Torbush's marriage to Griffith has been ordered annulled by the court, according to Lt. Osborn.

"The law is very clear on this," said Lt. Osborn. "Exploitation of any elder adult or any disabled adult is against the law. When we get reports of this, we're going to fully investigate."

Exploitation of elders appears to be on the rise, according to Lt. Osborn, who said that he has worked several such cases just in the last month.

"Families need to keep a close eye on their loved ones," said Lt. Osborn. "We're seeing more of this now because we're in a retirement community up here, and more of the elderly are moving here to retire. That's what we are now, we're a retirement community."

Lt. Osborn, on behalf of the Union County Sheriff's Office, would like to thank the GBI and Adult Protective Services for their

## Allegheny Spring BBQ April 28th



The Allegheny Spring BBQ will be held on Friday, April 28, 2017 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Allegheny Masonic Temple, 60-B Rogers Street, Blairsville, GA. Price for Whole Butts is \$32, and plates are \$7 each. (Plates: large BBQ sandwich, chips, dessert pie and drink). Dine in is available. Delivery is available within the city limits of Blairsville.

If ordering whole butt, please place your order with one of the contacts no later than April 20th: Ivy Smith (478) 731-6050; William White (478) 997-1011; Doug Shae (404) 556-3898; Ron Benfield (706) 897-5907; Bobby Overstreet (678) 409-7234. N(Apr12,Z15)CA