

North Georgia News

Hometown newspaper of Blairsville, Suches and Union County

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September 28, 2016

Homecoming festivities to take place Friday

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Union County High School will crown its 2016-2017 Homecoming Queen at the halftime of Friday night's game between the Panthers and the visiting East Hall Vikings, which kicks off at 7:30 p.m.

The 2016-2017 Homecoming Court consists of 14 young ladies from grades ninth through 12th.

Five seniors, four juniors, three sophomores and two freshmen will represent their respective classes on Friday night.

Reagan Davis, Brittany Hemphill, Joanna Irvin, Braedyn Robbins and Bebe Walton are the representatives of the senior class.

Talor Evans, Katie Dixon, Jessica Palomo and Emily Rittenhouse will be the four junior class representatives.

The sophomore class representatives include Aladriel Arnold, Carolyne Stone and Madeline Tanner, and the freshman class will be represented by Cydney Rich and Grace Weldon.

On Friday afternoon, the annual UCHS Homecoming Parade will roll through the campuses of Union County Schools.

The parade will begin at the high school at approximately 1:20 p.m. with a pep rally to follow at the UCHS gymnasium.

Layne Colwell was named the 2015 Union County

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The 2016-2017 Homecoming Court

Deputy Henderson in serious condition

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

The Union County Sheriff's Office has been missing one of its own since Monday, Sept. 19, as Deputy Mitchell Henderson fights to mend in Northeast Georgia Medical Center.

As of press time, Deputy Henderson's condition was considered serious but stable, according to UCSO Lt. Daren Osborn.

Deputy Henderson sustained several injuries during his single-car accident

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Deputy Mitchell Henderson

39th Indian Summer Festival this weekend

News Special
North Georgia News

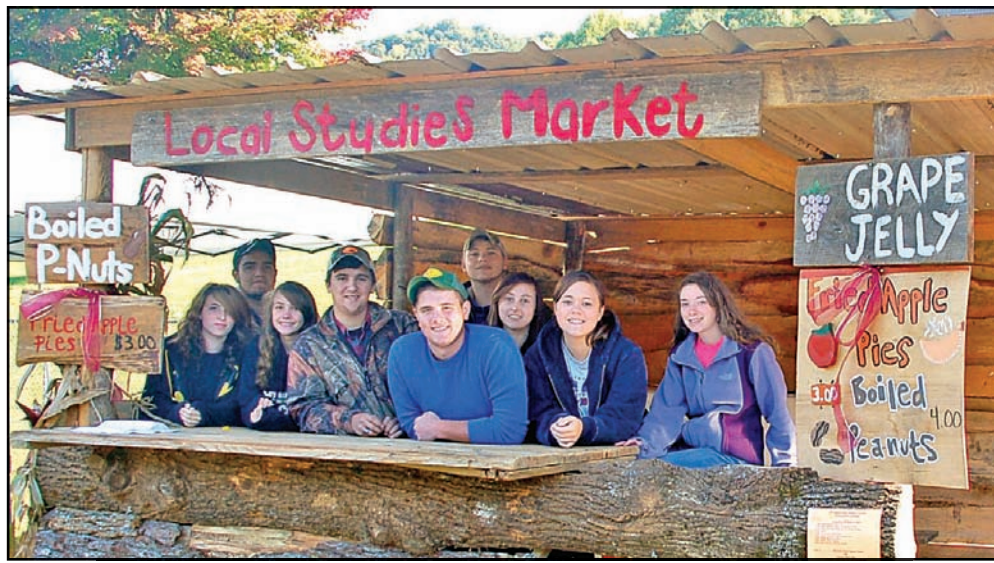
Now in its 39th year, the Indian Summer Festival returns this weekend to The Valley Above the Clouds.

The two-day extravaganza will take place on Saturday, Oct. 1, and Sunday, Oct. 2, at Woody Gap School in Suches, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Both days of the festival will feature something for everyone, including arts and crafts such as folk art, homemade goodies from the Local Studies class - jams, jellies, boiled peanuts and fried apple pies, jewelry, and local produce.

There will be good

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Students with the Local Studies Group will run the Local Studies Market during the festival, selling everything from jellies to boiled P-nuts

City holds meeting to discuss alcohol ordinance

By Lily Avery
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Continuing with a focus on the new alcohol ordinance, Blairsville City Council held a called meeting on Monday, Sept. 19, to further discuss the ordinance as well as other pressing council matters.

Earlier in the month, at the Sept. 6 regular city council meeting, the council and Mayor Jim Conley discussed the city's new alcohol ordinance.

The city is redrafting the ordinance to mirror Union County's alcohol ordinance as much as possible, hoping to reduce confusion for residents purchasing and serving alcohol in both the city and county.

One primary topic of



City Councilwomen Rhonda Mahan and Betty Easter discuss the ins and outs of the city's alcohol ordinance in a called meeting on Monday, Sept. 19.

discussion at the monthly meeting was whether businesses selling alcohol

with more than 25 employees should be required to obtain a pouring permit.

Basically, this would prevent employees who do not serve alcohol but only sell bottled containers.

However, under the ordinance, all employees of businesses with less than 25 workers would have to pay an additional charge to undergo fingerprinting and a background check to obtain a permit to work for said businesses.

"This would put convenient stores and drug stores behind the ball," said Mayor Conley.

The council voted to remove the number 25 from the ordinance, eliminating the requirement for said employees to have a permit

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Gas supplies expected to return to normal this week



Over the past couple of weeks, when an area gas station had gas, odds are it also had lines at the pump

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Gov. Nathan Deal expressed his optimism that gas supplies will return to normal this week, after yet another weekend of shortages

at stations around the area.

For the past couple of weeks, motorists in several southeastern states have gotten used to seeing bagged pump handles or signs reading

See Gas, Page 2A

Fire department holds live fire training

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

In order to save lives, the brave men and women of the Union County Fire Department must often put their own lives in harm's way.

Preparedness, then, becomes the best way to optimize everyone's chances for survival in the most dangerous of circumstances.

And this is why Union County Fire Chief Dyer routinely schedules training events for his full-time and volunteer firefighters.

On Saturday, Sept. 24, all five districts and 12 fire stations gathered at Station 12 off Richard Russell Scenic Highway.

There, they took part in controlled, live fire training exercises using an old building on the property that was recently designated for training purposes.

"This has been in the works for about three months," said Chief Dyer. "Acquiring a structure is very hard to do,



This old building in front of Station No. 12 was used for live fire training on Saturday, Sept. 24.

so you have to go through a lot of process to prepare it to make sure it's going to be as safe as possible, and then you have to go through a bunch of regulations on how to prepare the structure for EPD and such."

Several burn rooms were set up within the old building,

formerly a mobile home with additions built on to it.

"The main objectives today are for people to be exposed to fires in a safer environment," said Chief Dyer on Saturday. "They need to go in the house, and they need to be able to see how it's going to be, the conditions of a fire.

Know what the heat's going to be like, and then know how the fire is going to react in a building that's closed up, and be able to put water on it effectively."

Of course, the training did contain elements of danger

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Stolen lottery tickets find their way home



Georga Poole



Chad Cavin

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

A Clayton County man arrived in Union County several weeks ago to look for a job -

instead, he ended up behind bars.

Chad Garland Cavin, 39, has been arrested and charged with two counts of burglary in

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October 8 & 9
October 15 & 16

Kiwanis Golf Tournament

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42nd Annual John C Campbell Folk School Fall Festival

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Panthers Softball
Tues. Sept 27 @ GAC 5:55 PM
Football
Fri Sept 30 vs. East Hall 7:30 PM
Homecoming