

# Plane Crash...from Page 1A



**Air Life Georgia life-flighted the lone survivor of the Dec. 19 plane crash off Kings Road near the Blairsville Municipal Airport.** Photo by Frank Uhle

The NTSB investigator will also be looking to establish a history of the flight, including "where they were going, when they were going, where were they coming from, etc.," according to Weiss.

All told, the investigation could take anywhere between 12 to 24 months to complete.

"We have to look at not only what's on the scene and in the records, but we have something like over a thousand cases, so sometimes it takes longer to get certain tests done

or examinations scheduled, or an investigator has to come out to the location, etc.," according to Weiss.

Local agencies that responded to the scene the night of the crash were the Union County Sheriff's Office, the Blairsville Police Department, the Union County Fire Department and Union General EMS.

"I was very pleased with the way my deputies, the fire department, Blairsville PD and EMS responded," said Union

County Sheriff Mack Mason. "They handled themselves professionally, and I'm proud of their rapid response to the accident."

Atkinson ran Our Hometown Pharmacy on Brackett's Way in Blairsville, which opened with limited hours the day after the accident. Thanks to support from the community, the pharmacy announced on Facebook that it would remain open with normal hours.



**Union County firefighters near the scene of the Kings Road plane crash.** Photo by Shawn Jarrard

# Murder ...from Page 1A



**The Cliffs at Lake Nottely.** Photo by Mark Smith


Lakota Ricky Cloer, 16. Dye, Hill and Manuel have all been charged with murder, and Cloer has been charged with being a party to the crime of murder, according to the GBI.

"On Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018, at approximately 1:38 a.m., the Georgia Bureau of Investigation was requested to assist the Fannin County Sheriff's Office with a murder investigation," according to the GBI. "At approximately 12:50 a.m., the Fannin County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to the area of Elrod Lane, Morganton, Fannin County, Georgia.

"Deputies were dispatched to the area as a result of a 911 call in which the caller indicated she and a male subject were shot. When deputies arrived on scene, the male subject, McKinney, was deceased. The female, Anna Franklin, 35, of Morganton, was taken to the hospital for treatment."

Upon completion of the investigation, the GBI has said it will provide the case to the Appalachian Judicial Circuit District Attorney for prosecution.

**Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse**



**December 2, 2018**  
In loving memory of our son  
**Brandon Young**  
Praying for a cure for cancer  
by Brandon's Family

**December 10, 2018**  
In honor of  
**Shirley Walker Birthday**  
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