

Winter Storm...from Page 1A



The sign at Fairview Baptist Church off Old Blue Ridge Highway fell victim to high winds over the weekend.
Photo by Shawn Jarrard



This power pole at North Georgia Technical College broke in Saturday's big winter storm, causing power lines to drop across Georgia 515.
Photo by Shawn Jarrard



Heavy winds lifted this airplane on Saturday, flipping it onto its top at the Blairsville Municipal Airport.
Photo by Shawn Jarrard

area, and storm debris lay everywhere, including limbs, sticks and leaves scattered in the intensity of the storm. The Union County Fire Department responded to a structure fire at a home on Eagles Nest Lane in Suches on Sunday morning. Nobody was home at the time of the fire, and it was unknown at press time whether or not the storm caused the fire. Fire Chief and Emergency Management Agency Director David Dyer said the area did

experience significant rainfall, but that no flooding occurred. Many people reported receiving an "Emergency Alert" Saturday from the National Weather Service advising them to "take shelter now" amid a tornado warning, and the Union County Wireless Emergency Notification System issued a severe thunderstorm warning that evening. According to the National Weather Service, a severe thunderstorm warning is issued when a severe thunderstorm "is

happening or is imminent in the warning area." "Severe thunderstorms have wind 58 mph or higher and/or hail 1 inch or larger," according to the weather service, which asks that people "seek shelter inside a sturdy building, away from windows" during thunderstorms. Residents can register for the local Wireless Emergency Notification System by visiting tinyurl.com/ucwens.

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