

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

- 02/04/20 Timothy Lee Brown, age 31, Blairsville, GA Simple battery (2 counts)
- 02/04/20 Jason Lee Burton, age 33, Chattanooga, TN Theft by taking, criminal trespass
- 02/04/20 Nicholas James Chapman, age 31, Blairsville, GA Driving while license suspended/revoked
- 02/05/20 Amy Lavada Clark-Hilley, age 42, Forest Park, GA Hold for court
- 02/06/20 Drew Alan Donow, age 46, Suches, GA Serving time
- 02/06/20 Jacob Vaughn Dyer, age 28, Lake Panasoffkee, FL Serving time
- 02/09/20 Michael Travis Holland, age 43, Franklin, NC Hold for Rabun County SO
- 02/06/20 Steven Michael Langford, age 27, Blairsville, GA Hold for state
- 02/07/20 Robert Theodore Lee, age 59, Blairsville, GA Terroristic threats and acts
- 02/05/20 Daniel Alan Peak, age 37, McCaysville, GA Probation violation (felony)
- 02/03/20 Mary Ena Pearce, age 51, Surrency, GA Stalking
- 02/05/20 Scott Allen Wasko, age 55, Blairsville, GA Burglary 1st degree
- 02/06/20 Pauline Patricia Ann White, age 42, Blairsville, GA Disorderly conduct

There are 49 inmates now being housed in the Union County Jail. 1 inmate housed outside county.



Blairsville Police Department Arrests and Incident Report

Chief Michael "Bear" Baxter

- 02/04/20 Arturo Manuel Maldonado, age 30, Blairsville, GA Possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug related objects, failure to appear
- 02/09/20 Christopher Perry McCrimmon, age 37, Blairsville, GA DUI-refusal, driving while license suspended/revoked, possession of open alcohol container
- 02/03/20 Christopher Brandon Montgomery, age 32, Blairsville, GA Simple battery (FVA)
- 02/04/20 Charity Hope Walsh, age 18, Murphy, NC Driving while license suspended/revoked, failure to obey stop sign
- 02/03/20 2 escorts, arrest-simple battery, assist motorist, suspicious activity
- 02/04/20 Arrest-possession of methamphetamine, arrest-driving with suspended license
- 02/05/20 2 escorts, civil standby, suspicious activity, assist motorist
- 02/06/20 Escort, driving with suspended tag
- 02/07/20 2 escorts
- 02/09/20 Arrest-DUI



Union County Fire Department Incidents

Union County Fire Chief David Dyer

- 02/03/20 Motor Vehicle Accident-Lake Cove Lodge Road/Colonsay Trace; Brush Fire-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call-Station 5-Suches; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog; Medical Call-Station 10-Trackrock
- 02/04/20 Medical Call-Station 2-Jones Creek; Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 6-Pat Colwell; 2 Medical Calls, Smoke Detector Install-Station 8-Gumlog
- 02/05/20 Medical Call-Station 5-Suches; Medical Call-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; 4 Medical Calls-Station 10-Trackrock; Motor Vehicle Accident-Hwy 515 E/Panther Cir
- 02/06/20 Structure Fire, Medical Call-Station 4-Ivylog; Emergency Operation Center Activation; Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa
- 02/07/20 Inspection-Station 1-Blairsville; Motor Vehicle Accident-Gainesville Hwy; Motor Vehicle Accident-Gainesville Hwy/Byron Herbert Reece Farm; Medical Call-Station 10-Trackrock; Smoke Detector Install-Station 4-Ivy Log
- 02/08/20 Emergency Operation Center Activation; 2 Public Assist-Station 1-Blairsville; Motor Vehicle Accident-Blue Ridge Hwy/Midnight Road; Fire Alarm-Station 3-Owltown; Assist Other Agency-Station 8-Gumlog; Structure Fire, 2 Medical Calls-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call-Station 2-Jones Creek; 2 Medical Calls-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 10-Trackrock; Medical Call-Station 12-Choestoe
- 02/09/20 Medical Call-Station 1-Blairsville; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; 2 Medical Calls-Station 10-Trackrock

GWRRA meeting February 15th

Chapter J of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) meets on the third Saturday of each month (excluding December) at Daniels Steakhouse, Hiawassee. Fellowship/food at 11 a.m. with the meeting at noon. We welcome riders of all motorcycle brands located in the north Georgia area. We focus on friends, fun, riding safety, and knowledge. Check our website for ride schedule. For further information, you may contact Bill and Barbara Schleicher at 706-379-3018. www.chapterj.gwr-ra-ga.com.

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which remained on standby throughout the ordeal.

The two CID investigators were also thankful for the cooperation of Blairsville Walmart, especially assistance offered by Coach Nicole Davis once deputies arrived on the scene to comb through the store and over the property.

Fortunately, the store was able to remain open with no evacuation or disruption to business operations, as investigators quickly determined there was no immediate threat on the premises, Osborn said.

Also last week, a Union County resident held a would-be burglar at gunpoint until deputies could arrive, Osborn said.

It all started when a man named Scott Allen Wasko, 55, of Morganton, allegedly stopped at a mobile home that was being used for storage on Loving Road on Wednesday, Feb. 5, Osborn said.

A relative of the man who owned the home spotted Wasko looking around the property, prompting a phone call to the owner, who called 911 before driving to the property in time to get the drop on Wasko as he exited the home with a box of stolen items, Osborn said.

Wasko was held at gunpoint until deputies could arrive, and he was subsequently arrested without incident and charged with burglary in the first degree, Osborn said.

He was still being held on a \$10,000 property bond at press time.

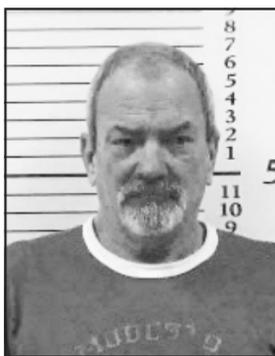
In another case last week, the Sheriff's Office put out a call for information via Facebook, asking people for help in identifying a man who had stolen a red Chevy truck from the Blairsville Park & Ride in the early morning hours of Tuesday, Feb. 4.

After taking the truck, the man - later identified as Jason Lee Burton, 33, of Chattanooga, Tennessee - traveled north, only to drive the truck into a ditch near the Nottely Market on Murphy Highway, Osborn said.

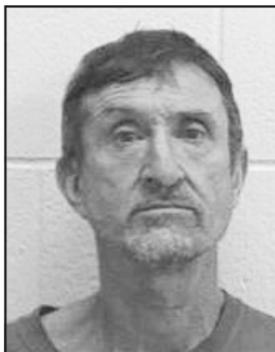
Burton then allegedly attempted to break into the Nottely Market by bashing a metal ash tray against one of the windows, triggering a silent alarm inside the store, Osborn said.

In the meantime, Deputy Bobby Cox had stopped a short distance away to check out the truck abandoned in the ditch when he was dispatched to investigate the store alarm.

When Burton saw Cox approaching, he fled into the woods, Osborn said. The Sheriff's Office used stills taken from the surveillance footage at the store to solicit help on



Robert Theodore Lee



Scott Allen Wasko



Jason Lee Burton

Facebook, which turned up a tip later that evening putting Burton at the Dollar General on Murphy Highway.

He was arrested without incident and charged with felony theft by taking of a motor vehicle and criminal trespass.

Burton's family in Chattanooga had reported him

missing the day before his Union County arrest.

As to how he came to be in Union County, Osborn said a friend of his who lived in Blairsville had picked him up in Gilmer County after he'd been arrested for allegedly driving drunk there.

Once here, he and the friend had a falling out, and Burton - intoxicated at the time - apparently walked from the residence to the Park & Ride around 2 a.m. that Tuesday.

Burton was still being held at the Union County Jail on a \$12,000 property bond at press time.

The Sheriff's Office continues to stay busy in the new year, fielding multiple

other arrests in recent weeks, including for burglaries at the Wet-N-Wild Car Wash and at a 91-year-old woman's house who had been prepared to shoot the burglar had he gained entry into her home.

Operation Care Package

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

The VFW Auxiliary Post 7807 in Hiawassee is in need of monetary donations to help support "Operation Care Package". Postage is needed to send packages to our troops serving over seas.

Make checks payable to: VFW Auxiliary, P.O. Box 624, Hiawassee, GA 30546, Attn: Operation Care Package.