

Carter ...from Page 1A

fugitive status.”
 Tiger was given a \$5,000 unsecured bond and will appear in court on May 6 regarding his alleged crime.
 According to a GBI arrest warrant, Carter allegedly shot Henderson around 7 p.m. on Sept. 8, 2018, at or near a home located at 11 Lindsay Lane, which has a Young Harris mailing address but is actually in Union County.
 Per state law, the crime of aggravated assault occurs when a person uses a deadly weapon or any object “offensively against a person” in such a way that “is likely to or actually does result in serious bodily injury.” Aggravated assault carries with it a prison sentence of up to 20 years.
 As previously reported, deputies with the Towns County Sheriff’s Office responded to Chatuge Regional Hospital in Hiawassee the evening of Sept. 8, 2018, in reference to a male subject with a gunshot wound to the chest.
 The subject was identified as Henderson, who survived the shooting but had to be airlifted to a nearby trauma center.
 After allegedly dropping a wounded Henderson off at

Chatuge Regional, Carter is said to have left the scene in his Chevrolet Tahoe. The truck was discovered abandoned later that night in the parking lot of the Marathon gas station on Georgia 75 North in Hiawassee.
 Detectives determined that Carter left the Marathon in her own red Ford pickup, which was located the next day at Tiger’s residence in Clay County, North Carolina.
 Within hours of the shooting, the Towns County Sheriff’s Office had filed warrants on Carter for aggravated assault and criminal attempt to commit murder.
 The Sheriff’s Office also requested GBI assistance at the time, after which the GBI took over as the lead investigating agency.
 Further investigation revealed that the crime most likely occurred in Union County, and the GBI, after receiving assistance from the Union County Sheriff’s Office, took out an aggravated assault warrant for Carter in Union County on Sept. 11, 2018.
 Subsequent to the GBI taking out an arrest warrant in Union County, Towns County Sheriff’s Investigator Aaron

Deyton requested that the charges in Towns County be dismissed.
 Ultimately, what charges and where to bring them will be up to Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney Jeff Langley following completion of the investigation.
 “There is still investigative work taking place to verify the exact location,” said Langley previously. “It is believed that a shot was fired from within a motor vehicle, and there was some question as to the location at that time being in either Towns or Union County.
 “The law requires that charges be brought and, if necessary, a trial take place in the county where the crime occurred. If after due diligence it cannot be clearly determined whether the vehicle was in Towns or Union when the crime occurred, then Georgia law would allow it to be tried in either county.
 “After the investigation is completed, there would likely be a grand jury presentation in July in the appropriate county.”

Fiber ...from Page 1A



Commissioner Paris speaking to those gathered for the Fiber Optic Dedication Celebration at Mountain Crossings on April 24. Photo by Mark Smith

At first blush, Nelms thought it would take weeks, maybe months, to run fiber optic cable across a deep gorge up to the top of Blood Mountain, fighting 100-foot tall pine trees and sheer cliffs all the way. And that would have been an exorbitantly expensive undertaking.
 But then Nelms came up with an innovative, outside-the-box idea to employ a drone to help with the project. After a bit of research, he contracted with Southern Company Services for their expertise in drone technology.
 In late 2018, the EMC and Southern Company Services partnered and, together, ran the fiber optic cable necessary to connect with the GDOT weather station and sensors at Neels Gap. It was a race to get the job completed before winter set in, but they got it done.
 The upgraded weather station and cameras were connected on Dec. 13, 2018, after obtaining a permit from GDOT and permission from the U.S. Forest Service. Paris said that the equipment should be accessible to the public before the winter of 2019.
 “I want to thank our utility partners at Southern Company Services that had the means and expertise to introduce us to drone technology and its many uses in utility construction,” said Nelms at the dedication

ceremony.
 Nelms also thanked the co-op’s “engineering and operations team that had the tenacity and ingenuity to tackle such an out-of-the-box effort. This crew is hands down one of the best in the nation.
 “But most importantly,” continued Nelms, “a great value will be added to all those in our community that travel this road as part of their daily and weekly routine in the winter months.”
 The Road Weather Information System installed at Neels Gap by GDOT includes a remote road surface sensor, a remote road surface temperature sensor, a visibility and present weather detection system, a wind speed and direction sensor, a humidity and ambient temperature sensor, and a barometric pressure sensor.
 There are multiple real-time cameras that cover both the road and the Appalachian Trail as well.
 “Having these cameras will give us the capability of being able to monitor the trails,” said Union County Fire Chief and EMA/911 Director David Dyer, adding that this can lead to critical information for search and rescue operations in that area, of which there are several every year.
 Continuing, Dyer said that winter weather in Union County can be very deceiving. It might be a nice, dry day in

Blairsville, yet icy and slick with diminished visibility up on the mountain. This is why it’s so important to have access to this weather station information 24/7.
 Union General Hospital CEO Kevin Bierschenk said that not only do many of the hospital staff commute using the Gainesville Highway through Neels Gap daily, but so does he. Having access to real-time weather information will make it much safer for commuters like him and the hospital staff.
 Paris also noted the importance of US 129 as “our medical lifeblood in Union County.” It’s the most direct route to the Northeast Georgia Medical Center from Blairsville, especially in emergency situations.
 Present at the dedication were Paris, Nelms, Dyer, Bierschenk, Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley, Assistant Union County Schools Superintendent David Murphy, Dean Barefield of Southern Company Services and Keith Murphy of GDOT.
 Chamber President Steve Rowe was the master of ceremonies and gave a special thank you to Logan and Georganna Seamon, owners of Mountain Crossings, for allowing the chamber the use of their property.

Free Veterans Appreciation Fishing Rodeo at Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery May 3rd

Mark your calendars! Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery located in the beautiful North Georgia Mountains of Fannin County on Rock Creek Road off GA Hwy. 60 near Suches, will host a Veterans Appreciation Fishing Rodeo on Friday, May 3, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, rain or shine.
 The free event will be open to all U.S. Military Veterans and Active Duty Service men and women. Participants must register for free upon arrival and bring their own fishing gear and bait. Enjoy fishing in Rock Creek for the beautiful trout that will be stocked at the hatchery especially for this event. All Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations will apply. Free BBQ lunch will be provided for participants. All other non-eligible family members are welcome to fish after 12 noon for remaining stockings.



Veterans Appreciation Fishing Rodeo participant Larry Akins with his catch last year.

For more information, please contact Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery by phone at 706-838-4723, website www.fws.gov/chat-tahoocheeforest, Facebook www.facebook.com/chattahoocheeforestnfh and Friends of the Hatchery www.friendsofchattahoocheefnh.org. NTMay1Z5CA

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