

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

- 08/20/18 Sharon Lynn Allman, age 34, Murphy, NC Theft by deception (22 counts)
- 08/24/18 Barbara Vanessa Bates, age 38, Blairsville, GA Child molestation, sexual battery
- 08/22/18 Steven Riley Beaver, age 29, Blairsville, GA Probation violation (misd)
- 08/26/18 Tiffany Lynn Bollman, age 35, Murphy, NC Probation violation
- 08/23/18 Sarah Jane Carden, age 33, Blairsville, GA Manufacture of marijuana
- 08/22/18 Alex Brenton Cookfair, age 33, Blairsville, GA Unlawful to possess, control, manuf., deliver, distribute, dispense, administer, purchase, sell, or
- 08/24/18 Gale Michele Crawford, age 39, Calhoun, GA Probation violation (felony)
- 08/21/18 Cody Stewart Dockery, age 27, Blue Ridge, GA Obstructing or hindering law enforcement officers, fleeing or attempting to elude police officer, aggressive driving, no proof of insurance, removing or affixing license plate with intent to conceal or misrepresent, no registration
- 08/21/18 Danny Dewayne Dockery, age 33, Blairsville, GA Terroristic threats and acts, probation violation (3 counts)
- 08/24/18 Timothy Edward Dowell, age 33, Blairsville, GA Serve 72 hours
- 08/25/18 James Cory Franklin, age 30, Blairsville, GA Aggravated stalking
- 08/23/18 Robert Curtis Parker, age 26, Murphy, NC Failure to appear
- 08/23/18 Robert Francis Poole, age 41, Marietta, GA Criminal damage to property 2nd degree
- 08/21/18 Jason Matthew Stepp, age 34, Blairsville, GA Hold for court
- 08/20/18 James Michael Stroud, age 50, Blairsville, GA Simple battery (FVA), theft by taking, obstructing or hindering law enforcement officers (2 counts)
- 08/24/18 Carrie Rae Swafford, age 37, Ringgold, GA Failure to appear
- 08/26/18 Louis Tarantino, age 37, Murphy, NC Probation violation
- 08/24/18 Noel Iseinnour Thomas, age 65, Blairsville, GA Possession to open alcohol container, failure to obey stop sign, too fast for conditions
- 08/20/18 Jason Matthew Thompson, age 45, Blue Ridge, GA Financial transaction card theft, financial transaction card fraud, theft by taking

There are 76 inmates now being housed in the Union County Jail. 15 inmates housed outside county.



Blairsville Police Department

ARRESTS AND INCIDENT REPORT

Chief Johnny Carroll

- 08/22/18 Jimmy Charles McCoy, age 49, Morganton, GA Hold for other agency
- 08/23/18 Christopher Shane Pendergrass, age 27, Blairsville, GA Probation violation (misd)
- 08/20/18 James Adison Singleton, age 41, Morganton, GA Failure to appear
- 08/23/18 Justin Lee Williams, age 32, Young Harris, GA Theft by shoplifting, expired tag
- 08/20/18 Escort, 2 assist other agency, arrest-probation violations, VIN verification
- 08/21/18 Assist other agency, civil stand by, escort
- 08/22/18 Accident, arrest-probation violations, misc. traffic, arrest-wanted person, escort
- 08/23/18 Arrest-probation violations, suspicious person, escort
- 08/24/18 2 assist other agency, arrest-probation violation, harassing phone calls, arrest-probation violations, 911 hang up
- 08/25/18 Financial transaction fraud, accident, lost property, escort
- 08/26/18 Investigation-child molestation, arrest-probation violations
- 08/27/18 Suspicious vehicle



Union County Fire Department

Incidents

Union County Fire Chief David Dyer

- 08/20/18 Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call-Station 10-Blairsville; Motor Vehicle Accident-Hwy 129/Hwy 515
- 08/21/18 Motor Vehicle Accident-Industrial Blvd/Young Harris Hwy; Rubbish Fire-Station 7-Dooly; Medical Call-Station 4-Ivy Log; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa
- 08/22/18 2 Medical Calls-Station 3-Trackrock; Medical Call-Station 4-Ivy Log; Medical Call-Station 7-Dooly; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call, Smoke Alarm Installation-Station 12-Choestoe; Smoke/Fire Investigation-Station 6-Pat Colwell
- 08/23/18 Controlled Burn, 2 Medical Calls-Station 10-Blairsville; Motor Vehicle Accident-Hwy 515 W; Controlled Burn, Medical Call-Station 6-Pat Colwell; Medical Call-Station 3-Owltown; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; Medical Call-Station 12-Choestoe
- 08/24/18 Controlled Burn, Medical Call-Station 12-Choestoe; Motor Vehicle Accident-Wolf Pen Gap Road; Vehicle Fire-Station 5-Suches; Parking Detail-High School Stadium; Public Service, 2 Medical Calls-Station 10-Blairsville; Medical Call-Station 2-Jones Creek; Medical Call-Station 3-Trackrock; 3 Medical Calls-Station 4-Ivy Log; Medical Call-Station 7-Dooly; Smoke Detector Install-Station 6-Pat Colwell
- 08/25/18 Parking Detail-Farmers Market; Medical Call-Station 3-Trackrock; Medical Call-Station 3-Trackrock; Medical Call-Station 5-Suches; 2 Medical Calls-Station 6-Pat Colwell; 3 Medical Calls-Station 8-Gumlog; Medical Call-Station 9-Coosa; 2 Medical Calls, Fire Alarm-Station 10-Blairsville
- 08/26/18 2 Medical Calls-Station 10-Blairsville; Medical Call-Station 7-Dooly; Medical Call-Station 8-Gumlog

NT(Aug29,X1)CA

District 2 Public Health: Flu myths and why you should not believe them

Influenza experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognize that most people who get the flu will have mild illness, will not need medical care, and will recover in less than two weeks. Some people, however, are more likely to experience flu complications that can result in hospitalization and even death. Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus infections, and ear infections are examples of flu-related complications. People with chronic conditions like asthma and chronic heart failure may experience worsening health when triggered by influenza. Therefore, it is important for everyone six months and older to get vaccinated against influenza.

The flu vaccine prevents the spread of the flu virus. Even during flu seasons like last year's (2017-18) when the virus changed slightly and the vaccine was not a perfect match, the vaccine provided some level of protection for those who had been vaccinated. When you are vaccinated, you protect not only yourself, but your family, friends and community.

Many myths persist about seasonal flu vaccine. Some of the most common are:

1. Myth: The flu shot will give me the flu. The flu shot is made from an 'inactive' virus and cannot give you the flu. However, some people experience mild symptoms from getting the flu shot, such as fever.

2. Myth: I have never had the flu so I don't need to get the flu shot. Many people are fortunate that they haven't been infected with the flu virus. However, many people are more susceptible to illness. The flu vaccine is important to protect others, especially young children and the elderly. Everyone benefits when more of the population is vaccinated.

3. Myth: I got the flu shot and still got the flu. When this happens, most likely the person was exposed to the flu virus right before getting vaccinated and the symptoms of flu had not yet appeared. In a few cases, research has shown that some people's immune system may not respond well to the vaccine and their bodies only build partial immunity. If this happens, the person generally has milder symptoms of the flu. Also, during the flu season, you could be exposed to other rhinoviruses, like the common cold, and you get sick.

4. Myth: It's no big deal to get the flu. Influenza is a serious illness that can lead to hospitalization and death, especially for high-risk populations such as the elderly and very young. Depending on the severity of the flu virus, each year the flu kills anywhere from 3,000 to 49,000 people and sends about 200,000 to the hospital.

5. Myth: I'm young and healthy, so I don't need the flu shot. The CDC recommends everyone six months of age and older get vaccinated. That's because flu is a contagious disease that anyone can get. Flu can lead to serious illness, including pneumonia, even in healthy, young people. Healthy people can also spread the virus to others who are susceptible to illness, including newborn babies, senior citizens, and those with weakened immune systems.

6. Myth: The flu shot

has many side effects. The flu shot has one of the best safety records of any vaccine. Most side effects from flu vaccination are mild with the most

common complaint being soreness or tenderness at the injection site.

District 2 Public Health strongly encourages everyone

who can to get vaccinated against influenza. For more information visit www.phdistrict2.org, www.cdc.gov.

NT(Aug28,Z5)CA

Bomb Dogs...from Page 1A

was for the upcoming Super Bowl, it's the same kind of training the teams undergo on a regular basis, making sure the dogs are recognizing the explosive odors associated with bombs.

"With the Super Bowl, we're going to be doing a lot of sterility sweeps for buildings, for venues, for events, so we're ... mimicking those events, those buildings down at the Super Bowl area," said Keys. "Also, we will run a lot of unattended package calls with our strike teams, so we're particularly paying attention to that."

The Georgia EOD K-9 Program has trained in the area for many years, and Keys said they keep returning to the mountains because of the level of support the program enjoys in these communities.

Dogs in the program include Belgian Malinois, German Shepherds, Labradors and German Shorthaired Pointers, and the canines work both special events and respond to developing incidents in law enforcement.

"These K-9s are part of the handler's family," said Keys. "They live with them. This is a commitment that you're going to have for eight to 10 years."



Looks like this EOD K-9 found what it was looking for at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center. Photo by Lowell Nicholson

Meggie is a black Lab who served with a U.S. Marine Corps unit during active combat in Afghanistan. She and her handler, Sgt. Shane Head of the Fayette County Sheriff's Office, have been a team for about six years now, and they participated in the recent training up here.

Head is a husband and father of two, and he echoed Key's sentiment, stating that Meggie has become a part of his family.

"She knows when I'm

ready to go to work, she's at the door waiting," said Head. "She knows when I'm not going to work, because she won't budge, she'll be sitting there looking at me like, okay, you're just leaving."

"She has good days and bad days, just like humans. She has emotions, just like humans. It's literally like having another child. I rely a lot on her, especially at work. Whatever we search, whatever venue we search, we rely on her and her nose."

Retired Firefighters Breakfast

The Retired Firefighters Breakfast is held the first Friday of each month, 9 a.m. at Cook's Country Kitchen, Blairsville, GA. NT(Aug29,Z2)CA

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



August 6, 2018
Alvin D. Todd Celebration
Week of August 6 - 10
by Todd Family Descendants

August 9, 2018
In memory of
the families of
Joiner, Hughes, Swanson,
Carroll, Jackson, Wimpey,
King, and Stiles
by Teresa McCullough

August 26, 2018
In memory of
Dr. William T. Meeks, Sr.
Birthday
by Ginger and Terry Meeks
Bell ringing information
at 706-745-5493