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the burglaries, Union County sheriff's detectives have said.

The most heinous crime authorities believe he committed — stealing the children's offering from Blairsville Church of God, sheriff's detectives have said.

Loflin is believed to have stolen \$200 in cash and coins from the children's offering, sheriff's detectives have said.

The church break-in was realized on Oct. 15. The church leaders knew that one of the major items missing was the church's safe which held the Sunday collections and critical financial documents.

Ironically, the theft of the church's safe led to Loflin's arrest, sheriff's reports show.

Loflin is on parole,

and part of that agreement is waiving his 4th Amendment Rights regarding search and seizure, according to sheriff's detectives.

When detectives asked Loflin to search his premises, he objected to the search of a barn. That's where the church's safe was found, sheriff's reports show.

Upon his arrest, detectives discovered Loflin had

in his possession bolt cutters, wire cutters, a pry bar and miscellaneous screwdrivers, tools commonly used in the commission of a burglary, according to the indictment.

One example of the use of the tools was at the Chiropractic Health Center, where security wires were cut and the door was pried open, according to the indictment.

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erty; driving while license suspended; driving without a license.

James Roy Huggins, theft by taking; second-degree arson.

Myron Tracy Johnson, terroristic threats; simple battery in violation of Georgia's Family Violence Act; possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Amy Marie Kinchen, 22 counts lottery ticket fraud.

Daby Waddell Loflin, eight counts second-degree burglary; five counts theft by taking; two counts second-degree criminal damage to property; possession of tools for the commission of a crime.

Zackery Lee Langford, fleeing, attempt to elude officer; two counts obstruction; reckless conduct; driving without a license; no seat belt.

Timothy Jay Loyless, aggravated assault in violation of Georgia's Family Violence Act; battery in violation

of Georgia's Family Violence Act.

Christopher Michael Franklin, first-degree burglary; second-degree burglary; possession of tools for the commission of a crime; theft by taking.

Eric Christopher Martin, first-degree cruelty to children; two counts battery in violation of Georgia's Family Violence Act; two counts simple battery in violation of Georgia's Family Violence Act.

Daniel Eugene Mort, riot in a penal institution; terroristic threats; two counts obstruction of an officer; simple battery.

Jason Wayne O'Neal, terroristic threats; simple battery in violation of Georgia's Family Violence Act.

Michael Edward Parker Jr., tampering with evidence; obstruction of an officer; possession of a controlled substance; driving un-

der the influence (alcohol); suspended driver's license.

Marvin Joe Patterson, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Angela Holden Postell, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony; possession of methamphetamine; crossing guard lines with drugs.

Christopher Steven Ray, possession of methamphetamine.

Charles Henry Smith, aggravated assault; riot in a penal institution.

Michel Aaron Lloyd Smith, interference with government property; loitering or prowling; obstruction of an officer; escape.

Ronald Christopher Smith, battery in violation of Georgia's Family Violence Act; three counts terroristic threats.

Kenneth Joseph Star, second-degree criminal damage to property.

Gabriel Lindsey Watson, burglary; theft by taking.

Kenneth Brent West, possession of methamphetamine; five counts possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

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with two counts manufacturing methamphetamine; two counts possession of a controlled substance and possession of less than an ounce of marijuana, Lt. Deyton said.

Lt. Deyton said the men are believed to be connected to the Mexican Drug Cartel.

Information about their alleged operation was a result of intelligence received during another Union County drug bust related to another methamphetamine manufacturing case, Lt. Deyton said.

"We don't know where these gentlemen come from," Lt. Deyton said. "It's almost like they dropped out of the sky. They came up on our radar about a month and a half ago."

"We've been working the case since then," he said.

The three men remain in the Union County Jail, jail

records show.

In two unrelated incidents, Union County Sheriff Mack Mason says his department has solved two crimes related to theft of property.

First, Union County sheriff's Detective Darren Osborn has secured arrest warrants for Michael Millwood of Bartow County related to the theft of metal forms belonging to a local construction company, Sheriff Mason said.

The forms were cut up with a blow torch and sold for scrap metal in Bartow County, Sheriff Mason said.

According to Detective Osborn, the Union County Sheriff's Office has secured videotape of Millwood driving his vehicle over scales at the scrap yard in Bartow County with the cut up forms in the back of the vehicle.

The Bartow County

Sheriff's Office assisted in the investigation, Detective Osborn said.

In an unrelated theft, Detective Osborn drove to Monroe County, Tenn. to charge and bring back 34-year-old Donald Jason Trew related to a felony shoplifting case at the Blairsville Walmart. Trew is charged with two counts of felony shoplifting, and four counts of misdemeanor shoplifting, Union County Jail records show.

According to Detective Osborn, Trew is responsible for \$5,000 in thefts from Walmart over the last year.

Detective Osborn has secured warrants for a female accomplice related to the alleged shoplifting by Trew.

Trew, of Monroe County, Tenn., remains in the Union County Jail, jail records show.

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their intended purposes.

Present at the meeting were moderator and Towns County Community Resource Coordinator Teresa Stephens, Union County Community Resource Coordinator Ann Sullivan, United Way Director of Clay and Cherokee N.C. counties Karen Borchers, Towns County American Red Cross Chairperson Sally Varao, Towns and Union County Department of Family and Children Services Representative Darlene Haynes and Howard Wells of the First Baptist Church, Union County.

The purpose of the meeting was to approve funding for 2012.

"Although we are now in 2013, we still need to agree on the allocation of the remaining monies for 2012," Stephens said.

"We depend on the National Board for our funding so we must abide by state and federal requirements. We have seen a significant cut back at

the state and federal levels because of the cuts in their budgets so we have to make every dime count," Stephens said, as the meeting got underway.

The budget for Towns County is a total of \$3,872 for housing and energy assistance.

There would be five households that would benefit from the housing budget and eight households for the energy assistance in Towns County.

The Union County budget is a little higher for a total of \$5,059 in housing and energy assistance. There will be 10 households benefiting from the housing monies and five households receiving energy assistance in Union County.

The discussion of the disbursements was short and to the point and all attendees were in agreement.

A vote of yes was unanimous and the allocations were approved.

Stephens closed the meeting and the parties were

excited with the results.

"We just don't have the resources that we used to have and it is difficult to assist all the people we see on any given day. The waiting list is long and many times we have to turn people away because the government has cut into our budget so deeply, but we do the best we can with what we are allotted," said Stephens.

Stephens then presented the attendees with an announcement of a survey that will be conducted the week of Jan. 29-Feb. 4.

The announcement read, "During this week the Ninth District Opportunity, Inc., in partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, will be asking people in your community about their housing situation and various factors that affect people's ability to obtain housing. A simple survey asking questions about your housing status on the night of Jan. 28 will be used to help legislators and service providers determine the number of homeless and unstably housed families in communities across the state and provide justification for financial assistance to these areas."

Anyone interested in this service or make a donation should contact the Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. at (706) 896-4783.

Blairsville PTO meeting

Attention parents and teachers, the Blairsville PTO Organization Meeting (Grades K-12) will be held on Monday, January 28, 5:30 p.m. at the Union County High School Library. This meeting is to discuss the reorganization of the Blairsville PTO. All are welcome to attend. For more information, email blairsvillepto@gmail.com or call 706-835-5322. NJan23,Z5/CA

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