

North Georgia News

Hometown newspaper of Blairsville, Suches and Union County

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Veterans Day program at First United Methodist

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Every Veterans Day, First United Methodist Church holds a special program to honor veterans, both living and dead, for their service to their country.

The Veterans Day program will take place in the church's Methodist Activities Center on Wednesday, Nov. 11, starting at 11 a.m. and lasting until about 1 p.m.

The program will run concurrently with a luncheon put on by Jim's Smokin' Que, and everyone is invited, though seating is limited.

Tickets for the event are \$6, and to RSVP or purchase tickets, stop by Early Bird Antiques/The Book Cellar, located at 112 Welborn St. in Blairsville, or call (706) 835-9534.

The service is sponsored



and directed by several local veterans groups, including the American Legion Ira T. Weaver Post 121 & Auxiliary, Disabled American Veterans Woodrow Wilson Chapter 11, Veterans of Foreign Wars Brown-Davis

Elliot-Woody Post 7394 and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1101.

The guest speaker for the event will be Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Bernie Fontaine, and the program will include a Missing Man Table

and Honors Ceremony to pay tribute to missing comrades; recognition of honored guests and attending POWs; a recap of the great service provided

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Two World War II Veterans honored with free tags



By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Union County residents D.L. Martin and Carl Bonham share a singular distinction among other county residents – they both now have World War II Veterans license plates

provided free by the Union County Tax Commissioner's Office.

Martin, 94, and Bonham, 90, both served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and as veterans, they were eligible for free veterans license plates

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UC Schools to honor veterans on Nov. 10

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Now in its third year, the Union County School System will host a Veterans Day program on Tuesday, Nov. 10, to honor veterans for their service.

The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. in Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium, and veterans can attend a free breakfast before the ceremony, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., in the Union County High School cafeteria.

Parking for the event will be next to the stadium at Union County Elementary School, and veterans attending the breakfast can take a bus from the parking area to the high school, then back to the



stadium for the program.

"We believe our Veterans Day Program is the best overall program we do each year," said Union County Schools

Superintendent Gary Steppe. "It is an opportunity to thank our veterans for their service and sacrifice for our country and all who live here. Our students

and teachers are proud to have the opportunity to honor these brave men and women, and they have taken a lot of ownership in making it a real success."

For Steppe and the school system at large, Veterans Day offers the community and its students an opportunity to study American history, including the living testaments to freedom that endure in the nation's population of veterans.

"We study in our school books about the threats and wars our nation has faced since its origin, but reading about it isn't the same as sitting in the bleachers at Mike Colwell Stadium and honoring these

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Four charged in drug bust



Marie Danielle Waugh



Kenny Aaron Greene



Courtney Nicole White



Sean Anthony Hensley

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

The Union County Sheriff's Office arrested four individuals from other counties in connection with a drug investigation from Fannin County around 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29.

Courtney Nicole White, 25, was arrested and charged with five felony counts of possession of a controlled substance; felony possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime; and misdemeanor possession of marijuana less than 1 ounce.

Sean Anthony Hensley, 41, was arrested and charged with felony distribution of marijuana; felony possession of a controlled substance; and misdemeanor possession of

marijuana less than 1 ounce. Marie Danielle Waugh, 31, was arrested and charged with five felony counts of possession of a controlled substance; felony possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime; and misdemeanor possession of marijuana less than 1 ounce.

Sean Anthony Hensley, 41, was arrested and charged with felony distribution of marijuana; felony possession of a controlled substance; and misdemeanor possession of

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A message from your EMC Board of Directors

Special to the
North Georgia News

Your Blue Ridge Mountain EMC Board of Directors is committed to Transparency, Accountability, and Responsibility. We will from time to time be placing articles in the *North Georgia News* in order to provide our members with timely information about what is going on with the board. We want you to know that our highest priority is to continue to provide

your home and business with reliable electricity. We want to be sure that our employees, who often work in hazardous conditions, are supported in doing their jobs each day to be able to safely keep your electricity on.

Some of the changes since September 2014 implemented by YOUR Board of Directors include: A conflict of interest policy that prohibits Board Members from having a profitable business relationship



with YOUR EMC. Board members and the Board attorney are no longer offered medical insurance through YOUR EMC. At the September

2015 Annual Meeting, YOUHEMCO voted overwhelmingly to implement term limits for board members. Board members now may serve no more than three terms on the board. Board minutes are now posted on the website once they are approved. Minutes from one month are approved at the next month's meeting, so there is a delay of one month in posting minutes on the website. The board

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Along with candy, Halloween 2015 is in the bag

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Halloween brought big crowds this year, as the Blairsville Downtown Development Authority and Union County Fire Station 10 each organized successful community events.

Hometown Halloween on the Square, the yearly trick or treat fest featuring local businesses and organizations handing out candy to kids in

costume, drew hundreds to the Blairsville Square.

Stephen Thompson of Blairsville took his two children, 11-year-old Emma dressed as Indiana Jones and 5-year-old Will dressed as Superman, as well as 11-year-old family friend Cora Spratlin, who went as an enthusiastic Georgia Fan.

As for himself, Thompson masqueraded as the infamous Captain Jack Sparrow of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise, and his costume and persona were so



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Death by Chocolate, first Middle School play ever



By Mason Mitcham
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

The Union County Schools Fine Arts Center hosted the system's first ever middle school production, "Death by Chocolate," a murder mystery in two acts, on Thursday, Oct. 29, and Friday, Oct. 30.

The play, a dark comedy involving a psychic, twins, several disguises, a detective, and of course a delicious beverage that may or may not be to die for, is also the first ever held in the Fine Arts Center.

"We have been practicing since Sept. 1," said Director Karen Massey, who

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FFA Blue & Gold Auction returns this weekend



By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

The Union County FFA Blue & Gold Auction returns this Friday, Nov. 6, and Saturday, Nov. 7, to take care of all the county's small animal and farm equipment needs.

Things kick off Friday with the Show Pigs, Market Hogs and Small Animals

Auction, which starts at 6 p.m. at the Union County High School Ag Barn located at 153 Panther Circle.

The animal sale will include show pigs for winter 2016, slaughter-ready market hogs and small animals such as chickens and rabbits.

"We'll sell for about an hour or so on small animals, and

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