

# Hussion named new principal at Union County High

By Shawn Jarrard  
North Georgia News  
Staff Writer

Starting the 2017-2018 school year, C.T. Hussion will be the new principal at Union County High School.

Hussion was promoted from his current position of assistant principal to principal by the Union County Board of Education in a called board meeting on Wednesday, May 24.

The decision to place Hussion at the helm of the high school came after the position opened up for the next school year, following the appointment of current UCHS Principal John Hill to the board office.

Moving forward, Hill will be serving as director of human resources and operations for the system, and he has already begun the job.

According to Union County Schools Superintendent Dr. Fred Rayfield, Hussion was one of three internal candidates considered for the high school principal position by the board and School Governance Team.

"Knowing that Mr. Hill moved to the central office position and was approved in that position not too long ago, we immediately advertised our high school principal position internally," said Dr. Rayfield to the board on Wednesday.

Continued Dr. Rayfield: "We did that because we felt like we had a really good pool



C.T. Hussion will take over as principal of Union County High School to start the 2017-2018 school year. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

of internal applicants, and that did not disappoint us. We had three very good applicants, and after the deadline had passed, as per your charter, the Governance Team at the high school met and considered those three applications."

Dr. Rayfield said that the recommendation of the Governance Team aligned with his personal recommendation to hire C.T. Hussion for the position.

"He's been a very successful assistant principal under Mr. Hill, he's very familiar with the high school," said Dr. Rayfield. "He was

named the state Assistant High School Principal of the Year this past year.

"He's done an outstanding job, and I have every confidence, as does the Governance Team, the students and the faculty and staff have every confidence in Mr. Hussion, that he will continue to take the high school forward to the next level."

The board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of Hussion as upcoming high school principal, and the meeting promptly closed.

Hussion taught at the

high school for seven years and coached for much of his time as a teacher before moving up to the administrative level.

He has been assistant principal for four years, and he looks forward to the challenges ahead as principal of the high school.

"We're one of the best high schools in Northeast Georgia, and that's not something to be taken lightly," said Hussion following the meeting. "It's a big job. You've got 850 kids, you've got their families, you've got almost 100 employees in the building.

"So, this is something that is a great honor, it's something that I'm excited about. It's been a goal of mine as I move up through administration.

I've got children in the middle school and elementary school coming up through, and so it's exciting. It's a family environment, so I'm happy to be able to continue at the school in a higher leadership capacity."

The high school has experienced an increased graduation rate and greater test scores over the past four years that Hill and Hussion have been administrators there, and Hussion looks forward to picking up the torch of leadership at UCHS.

"John and I have worked really good as a team," said Hussion. "I'll miss him, but I'm proud of him going to the board, because I know he's going to do a great job in his

new position."

Continued Hussion: "We all have the same vision, and that's of excellence and employability, and creating opportunities for all students."

Hill attended the meeting where his friend and colleague was hired to fill his shoes at the high school.

"I could not be happier with the choice that the school system has made for the high school principal, to be my successor, and I feel very confident in his ability to take our school to the next level of success," said Hill. "Getting to the top is the easy part, and he's about to have the hard part, staying on top. And he's the man for the job."

## MECHS...continued from Page 1A

the importance of a strong working relationship with the (school) system, the county and the MECHS and we all work together for the betterment of our students."

Prior to the presentation of diplomas by MECHS Superintendent Dr. Wayne Lovell, local businesses, churches, along with other clubs and organizations from within the community presented scholarships to deserving students.

Scholarships were awarded by: The Blairsville Kiwanis Club, Blue Ridge Adventure Wear, Blue Ridge Kiwanis Club, Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation, Corrugated Replacements - The Jake Lee Scholarship, Fannin Rotary Club, Glenda Gooch Foundation, J. White Electric, Lakewood Capital Group, Lance Law Firm, MECHS Fannin faculty, North Georgia Technical College Pearson Learning Systems, Shining Star Scholarship, Tri-State Business Women, Tri-State EMC, Union-Towns Employer Committee, United Community Bank, Unity Church of the Mountains, Wade Smith Scholarship, Wesley Mountain Village Resident Association and Woodmen of the World



MECHS Administrator Roy Perren. Photo/Todd Forrest

Fannin County.

Honor graduates from the MECHS Class of 2017 not previously mentioned include: William Wade Allen, Joshua Stuart Jones, Joseph Rush Mauney, Nathaniel Alasdair Mauney and Jericho Daulton Moore.

Remaining members of the class include: Megan Ashley Bailey, Abraham Mendoza Beltran, Enoch Ronald Bruce, Colton James Cochran, Alyssa Nicole Colasuonno, Nathaniel Benjamin Cowan, Jordan Nicole Dyer, James Warren Flud, Megan Faith

Foster, Damon Kieth Gibbs, Ashley Lauren Jones, James Cole Jones, Emma Dalynne Kaylor, Ezra Kain Linderman, Jordan Lynn Lunsford, Boyd Michael Lynch, Alexis Hunter McCulloch, Machalia Marie Nelson, Thomas Richard Nickerson, Tyler Steven Pack, Tyler Wade Persall, Gabrielle Reece Petrunio, Park Cameron Pigott, Rayce Hunter Rivers, Joel Farrell Saunders, Ashton Blake Shook, Bryan Austin Smith, Tinsley Elaine Sosebee, David Daniel Thompson, Mitchell Slade Thompson and Toni Denise Wilson.

## Here's your chance to win \$1,000

If you have ever been to the 4th of July Fireworks Show in Blairsville, I am sure you will agree with me that it is a lot of fun and a great display. Each year, the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce is excited to bring this event to our community. This year's show will be even bigger than last year's! To help raise funds to cover the cost, for a \$10 donation, you can get a raffle ticket for a chance to win \$1,000!

This year, we have added something extra for each person that gets a ticket. Pigs Gone

Amuck Mini Golf has a buy one round and get one round free coupon on the back!

Thank you Jim and Donna Guess for your generous support of the Chamber and the annual 4th of July fireworks display.

Thank you to Woodmen Life for your generous support in sponsoring this year's fireworks show. Thank you also to Budget Blinds for sponsoring this year's Preferred Parking Event.

Raffle Tickets will be available at the following businesses in Blairsville: Wood-

men Life, Budget Blinds, Jim's Smokin' Que, Cabin Coffee, Ingles, From Me 2 U and also at the Chamber of Commerce Office. Thank you to all of these businesses participating. We really appreciate your help and support!

We would like to also thank the community for your help so we can continue to bring this great show to Blairsville-Union County. Be sure to get your raffle ticket today before they are all gone - we only sell 1,000 so your chances of winning are better odds than the lottery!

# LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**Olive Tree Art Centre**  
Art Gallery \* Pottery Studio \* Art Classes  
563 Gainesville Hwy...1 mile south of town  
Blairsville GA 30512  
(706) 835-1257  
www.OliveTreeArtCentre.com

**WAZOO! QUILTING**  
Longarm Quilting  
Commission Quilts  
Quilt Restoration  
Quick Turn Around  
Located in Blairsville, GA  
**706-781-1423**

**SHAWN'S HOME FURNISHINGS**  
Mattresses, Porch Rockers & More!  
"From the Front Porch to the Back Door We've Got You Covered!"  
568 Blue Ridge St. • Blairsville, GA  
FREE DELIVERY! **706-835-1209**  
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm • Sat 9am-4pm • Closed Sun

Declare your financial independence. Call today.  
**Flip Varney**  
Financial Advisor  
178 Bracketts Way Suite 2  
Blairsville, GA 30512  
706-835-1385  
www.edwardjones.com  
**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING Member SIPC

**TOTAL RECOVERY**  
PAINT & BODY  
(706) 745-9703  
391 BLUE RIDGE HWY  
ALL INSURANCE ACCEPTED

**ASPAVING DIVISION INC.**  
706-400-2988  
DRIVEWAYS  
PARKING LOTS  
SUB DIVISIONS  
TAR/GRAVEL  
Commercial • Residential

**Southeast Geothermal & Spray Foam**  
706-745-8685  
1442 Blue Ridge Hwy.  
www.segeothermal.com  
www.sesprayfoam.com

**COPELAND'S**  
BURGERS & SOUTHERN EATS  
Monday - Thursday 11AM-9PM  
Friday & Saturday 11AM-10PM  
Sunday 11AM-3PM  
Downtown Blairsville, One Block from the Square, across from City Hall

**Horse Camp**  
Summer at Trackrock Stables  
Daily or Weekly  
Beginning June 5  
Get up to \$50 off!  
706-745-5252  
Complete hands-on experience with horses and riding. \*See website for discount details. Advance reservations required.  
www.Trackrock.com

Michelin BFG Uniroyal  
Specializing In:  
Alignment • Computer Balancing  
Brakes • Auto Repair  
Industrial Foam Fill  
Oil Changes  
**Thomas Tire, Inc.**  
Auto & Big Truck Service  
Oscar Thomas - Owner (706) 745-0264  
76 Shoe Factory Road  
Blairsville, Georgia 30512

**Budget Blinds**  
The best in custom blinds and window coverings  
Free In-Home Consultation!  
Shutters • Wood Blinds • Honeycomb  
Roller/Solar Shades • Roman Shades • Vertical Blinds  
Woven Woods and Much More!  
www.budgetblinds.com  
Call Today! 706-745-0009

**We Make Loans.**  
Personal Loans • Starter Loans • Consolidation Loans and more  
www.1ffc.com  
417 Blue Ridge Street, Suite 1  
BLAIRSVILLE  
706-745-6111  
**1st Franklin Financial**  
\* All loans subject to our liberal credit policy and limitations, if any. 1st Franklin Financial Corporation, NMLS#141654, Georgia Residential Mortgage License #5656.

**Impact Design, Inc.**  
Owner, LuAnn Head  
307C Cleveland Street • Blairsville, GA 30512  
706-400-5674  
Laser Engraving • Custom Apparel • Promotional Products  
Website: impactdesigninc.co

FREE ESTIMATES  
All Materials Furnished  
Installing Insulation  
Hanging Sheetrock  
Finishing Texturing  
**RICH DRYWALL**  
Young Harris Hwy.  
Blairsville, GA  
706-745-5307

**BRASSTOWN PHARMACY DRUG AND GUN**  
A shot... above the rest  
706-745-2303  
LOCATED AT 23B MURPHY HWY BLAIRSVILLE GA

706-400-5716  
**Rustic Mountain Decor**  
Hours: Monday-Friday 10-5 Saturday 10-4  
294 Hwy. 515 Suite A • Blairsville, GA 30512  
"Affordable Quality" in Locally Handcrafted Furniture & Cabinetry, Custom Wood-Carved Screen Doors and Unique Decor!

**Sandra Nix Custom Cakes**  
Cakes & Cupcakes for any Special Occasion  
Gluten Free Available  
Blairsville & Surrounding Areas  
917-595-7230

Tax Problems? Tax Solutions!  
**TAX SOLUTIONS**  
Accounting, Payroll & Tax Solutions  
Serving North Georgia for 30 years  
417 BLUE RIDGE STREET, SUITE N  
BLAIRSVILLE  
706-745-3856

**ARMADILLO GRILL**  
24 Scott Drive • Blairsville, GA  
706-745-GRUB

**North Georgia Sales LLC**  
Monday thru Friday 9:30-5:30 • Saturday 9:30-2:00  
NorthGeorgiaSales.net • (706) 632-2727  
950 Appalachian Hwy, Blue Ridge, GA 30513.  
We understand that finding the perfect combination of quality and affordability can be difficult. So we have made it our goal to provide the best buying experience possible.