

North Georgia News

Hometown newspaper of Blairsville, Suches and Union County

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Advanced Digital Cable to expand, add 65 jobs in Union

News Special
North Georgia News

Advanced Digital Cable Inc. (ADC), a leading manufacturer of electronic and communication wire and cable, will create 65 jobs and invest \$15 million in the expansion of its Union County facility, Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal announced today.

The new jobs will include positions in manufacturing and operations, Gov. Deal said.

"Georgia continues to attract and retain prominent manufacturing companies such as ADC to our business-friendly climate," Gov. Deal said. "ADC will continue to hire from Georgia's deep talent pool while using our robust transportation infrastructure network to efficiently serve a growing customer base."

"We look forward to strengthening our partnership

with ADC as the company invests and expands in Union County," Gov. Deal said.

ADC's Blairsville manufacturing facility in Blairsville currently employs 70 individuals. With this expansion, the company will add 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space to the existing facility, said Steve Payne, president of ADC.

"ADC is pleased to announce the expansion of our manufacturing facility in Union County," Payne said. "This expansion will enable ADC to better serve our customer base by giving us the capacity to increase the volume of our current product lines made in Blairsville."

"ADC expects to add 65 employees with this expansion and would like to express its appreciation to both the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Union County Development



Advanced Digital Cable Blairsville Facility

Authority for their assistance with this project," Payne said.

Union County Development Authority is excited about ADC's expansion in Union County, said Scott

Carter, chairman of the Union County Development Authority.

"ADC is an outstanding company and a great corporate citizen," Carter said. "We

appreciate their continued investment in our community and the jobs they provide for our people."

Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris

was ecstatic about ADC's expansion plans.

"I want to thank ADC for expanding in our community," said Paris. "We try to create a great environment for businesses to locate and grow and look forward to helping ADC continue to be successful here."

Mitch Griggs, executive director of Economic Development for Union County Development Authority, said the expansion of Advanced Digital Cable means only good things for Union County.

"It's definitely a great project for Union County," said Griggs.

Georgia Department of Project Manager Tammy Caudell represented the Global Commerce Division in partnership with the

See Cable, Page 2A

Lady Panthers runner ups in Dizzy Dean World Series

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Southaven, Mississippi – By the time the finals of the Dizzy Dean 12U Softball World Series got underway on Sunday morning, one thing was obvious: Union County and the Saltillo (Miss.) Wildcats were head and shoulders above the rest of the field.

Unfortunately, when the dust settled, the Lady Panthers were on the wrong end of a 6-0 score and Saltillo were crowned as champions.

Union County opened the tournament on Thursday with a 6-0 shutout victory of its own when they took down the host team, Southaven, Mississippi. Immediately following the win, the Lady Panthers met up with the Houston All Stars and found themselves in a 6-1 hole after three innings.

Union battled back to

pull within a run at 6-5 but Houston managed to tack on a run to stretch its lead to 7-5. With their backs against the wall, the Lady Panthers exploded for five runs to take game two 10-7 and guarantee themselves a spot in the top three.

With a bye until Saturday, Union could sit back while the field thinned itself out on Friday. When the weekend got underway, only four teams were left standing: Union and Saltillo in the winner's bracket with Houston and Bolivar surviving from the loser's bracket.

The Lady Panthers and Saltillo squared off for the first time on Saturday morning with the Wildcats picking up the 4-0 victory. Union's first loss of the tournament forced a rematch with Houston – who defeated Bolivar 12-5 – in an

See Panthers, Page 2A



The Union County 12U Dizzy Dean Girls Softball Team

Union County grand jurors indict Heaton, Mike Gowder

By Charles Duncan
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A Union County Grand Jury handed up a four-count indictment last week against former Union General Hospital CEO Mike Gowder.

In addition, the same grand jury handed up a 45-count indictment against Dr. James Heaton, Union County Superior Court records show.

Heaton and Gowder were arrested in Union County on Feb. 4, 2016, Gowder for three counts of fraudulently obtaining a controlled substance, one count of conspiracy, and Heaton for 40 counts of unauthorized distribution and dispensation of controlled substances, and one count of conspiracy.



Jeff Langley, Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney

Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney Jeff Langley presented the cases for



Mack Mason, Union County Sheriff

indictment last week before July Term grand jurors, court See Indictments, Page 2A

New airport terminal building to have August grand opening

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

The new terminal building at the Blairsville Municipal Airport reached completion last month, and its grand opening will be held sometime in August, pending an announcement by Blairsville City Hall.

In its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 11, the Blairsville City Council voted to approve the purchase of furniture to go inside the terminal building.

Fortunately for city taxpayers, said Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley, three friends of city hall supplied pro bono interior design work, collaborating to pick out what furniture would best fill the new space at the airport.



Blairsville City Councilmembers Betty Easter and Tony Dyer

Furniture going into the terminal building will include sofas and chairs, as well as an oak table and dining-type chairs for the snack-bar room.

The invoice for furniture from Alexander's Store is right

at \$2,600, while furniture from Town & Country out of Blue Ridge will cost \$5,400 plus delivery.

"What we're getting from Alexander's, they had See Airport, Page 2A

Union County Gun Club becomes reality in sheriff's meeting

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

It's official – the Union County Gun Club has been formed.

The club sprang to life quickly last week, resulting from the interest of more than 200 people who attended an informal meeting held by Union County Sheriff Mack Mason on Monday, July 10, at the Haralson Memorial Civic Center.

In that meeting, which followed a Weapons Carry Class conducted by the sheriff's office, the sheriff put out a call



Hiawasse attorney Russell Stookey and Union County Sheriff Mack Mason. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

Friedly honored by fellow Sons of Confederate Veterans

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

The David W. Payne Camp 1633 Sons of Confederate Veterans paid tribute to one of their own in a regular meeting of the camp on Thursday, July 13, inside the Community Room of United Community Bank.

Sons of Confederate Veterans Compatriot David Friedly passed away on April 22, 2017, and the group honored his memory and contributions to the camp by holding a special presentation



David Friedly giving an address during a past observance of Confederate Memorial Day. Pictured here at the Union County War Memorial.



Sweet Corn Day Saturday

See page 7A



NRA Top Shot Competition Saturday, July 22nd

See page 7B



Starts Friday

See page 1D

Vol. 108 No. 28 Inside
4 Sections 28 Pages
Arrests 7A
Weather 5C
Churches 2D
Thurs: Sunny Hi 90 Lo 67 Classifieds 2C
Fri: Sunny Hi 92 Lo 69 Opinion 4A
Sat: Cloudy Hi 90 Lo 69 Legals 5D
Obits 6C
Sports 2C