

Murder ...from Page 1A

and other forensic identification techniques, according to the Towns County Sheriff's Office.

According to murder warrants for Brittany Elizabeth Ledford, 21, and Rebecca Ann Stokes, 32, Ledford shot Adams-Donaldson in the throat and back on June 17th at 500 Hickory Hill, in Hiawassee.

Also, Ledford is accused of moving the body to another location and disposing of it down a well, and destroying evidence related to the crime, arrest warrants show.

The caliber of weapon used in the murder has not been disclosed by authorities.

Stokes is charged with murder for her part in the crime, which includes willingly and knowingly assisting Ledford in concealing the murder of Adams-Donaldson, destroying evidence of the crime, assisting in the transport of Adams-Donaldson's body, and helping dispose of the body down a well, arrest warrants show.

Ledford and Stokes have confessed to the crime following extensive interrogations by Towns County investigators and GBI agents, according to the Towns County Sheriff's Office.

Ledford and Stokes were already inmates at the Towns County Detention Center at the time of their confessions, sheriff's reports show.

Ledford was being held on charges that include first-



Dee Dee Adams-Donaldson

degree forgery, eight counts of deposit account fraud, and criminal trespass, Towns County arrest warrants show.

Stokes was being held on an obstruction charge, Towns County arrest warrants show.

The two women are being held without bond following a first court appearance on Friday in Hiawassee before Towns County Probate Judge David Rogers.

The case has been handed up to Towns County Superior Court, where a Superior Court judge must decide bail for the two women.

Adams-Donaldson's remains were recovered approximately at 7 p.m. on Thursday from a hand-dug well at the old Roper farm on Turner Turnpike.

The well was in close proximity to the residence where

Adams-Donaldson was reported missing on June 24th by family members.

The Criminal Investigations arm of the Towns County Sheriff's Office launched an immediate inquiry and began a missing person investigation.

Investigators placed Adams-Donaldson's physical information on state and national databases and investigators began to follow leads.

The ongoing investigation included obtaining cell phone records and dissemination of flyers, as well as interviewing multiple witnesses in two states.

On Wednesday, July 10th, Sheriff's investigators simultaneously acted on two separate leads, one involving a possible location of Adams-Donaldson, and one involving the need to interview a possible witness.

Deputies discovered what appeared to be human remains in the archaic well just a short distance from where Adams-Donaldson lived.

Sheriff's investigators were able to obtain a confession from Ledford and Stokes, who were already in custody in the Towns County Detention Center on unrelated charges.

Sheriff Clinton and Towns County Chief Deputy Jeff Edge arrived at the scene where deputies had discovered what appeared to be human remains. Once this was confirmed, Sheriff Clinton requested the Crime Scene

Technician from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Region 8 office in Cleveland.

Assistant Special Agent in Charge Brad Parks sent a Crime Scene Technician as well as several agents who assisted in conducting additional interviews.

Agent Parks also traveled to Towns County to provide assistance.

Sheriff's Office investigators, assisted by GBI agents, conducted interviews with possible witnesses late into the night of July 10th, and Sheriff's Office deputies were assigned to secure two separate crime scenes.

GBI Crime Scene technicians and Sheriff's deputies conducted an initial inspection of the well at the old Roper farm and surrounding area and plans were made to begin an excavation adjacent to the well.

Because of the proximity of the well to the old house, and the need to preserve evidence, the task of recovering the body required many hours and much manpower and equipment.

Sheriff Clinton and investigators were on site during the interviewing of witnesses until approximately midnight on July 10th, and then on site at the crime scenes until Adams-Donaldson's remains were recovered at approximately 7 p.m. Thursday.

The case remains under investigation, according to the Towns County Sheriff's Office.

Butternut ...from Page 1A

chainsaw carving, Butch Dey's blacksmithing, Jerry King and his foot pedal woodturning, Hans Meier's jigsaw puzzles, Linda Woody's pottery and Holly Williams will be there with her alpaca weaving.

The Blue Ridge Dulcimer Players will be playing on Saturday.

Taking the gazebo Stage Saturday will be Cody and Carlee Savage, from Cleveland, Highway 76, from Blairsville, and Fastgear, from Robbinsville, NC.

Sunday's lineup include

Victorious of Blairsville, Chloe Sanguine and Crista Lynn.

Fifteen art categories have been filled. Stained glass, jewelry, wildlife painting, woodturning, pyrography, functional stoneware pottery, silk flowers, wood furniture, nature photography, decorative gourds, old world santas, purses & totes, glass and metal crafts, yard art, hand turned wood crafts are only a few to be offered.

Admission is free and so is the parking. There's also a free shuttle service that

awaits you.

In addition there is a playground for the youngsters and walking trails for the young at heart.

Remember no dogs are allowed in the park.

The Butternut Creek Festival is one of the finest juried arts and crafts shows in the Southeast.

The two-day festival showcases the work of the more than 70 artists and craftsmen in categories ranging from basketry, fine art, fabric art, and decorative painting, to glass, jewelry,

metal working, photography, pottery, scrimshaw, woodturning, and more.

The event attracts people from all over the Southeast and has been a frequent top Southeast event for several years.

The festival is held each year on the shady banks of Union County's Meeks Park - one of the most beautiful venues in Georgia.

Come on out and enjoy one of the most treasured community events in Union County history.

12th Annual Mountain Heritage Festival in Blairsville Labor Day Weekend

Mountain handcrafts, music, food, and other traditions of the north Georgia mountains are in store for Saturday - Sunday of Labor Day weekend in downtown Blairsville, GA. Free and open to the public, this annual heritage event celebrates the rich Appalachian history and culture of our mountain community.

A community outreach event of the Union County Historical Society, the Labor Day weekend "Mountain Heritage Festival" celebrates the cultural heritage of the north Georgia mountains.

This family festival will feature locally produced handcrafts, traditional foods, bluegrass music, craft demonstrations, "old ways," and live animals. Members of pioneer

families will be on hand to share their colorful memories of Union County's history.

The Mountain Heritage Festival is a fun-filled family event, with something for all ages, including: live performances by talented local musicians; high-quality locally produced handcrafts such as jewelry, home-canned goods, pottery, gourd art, fiber art, wood crafts, photography, wooden toys, and more; traditional items such as handmade soaps, handcrafted candles, homemade preserves, and locally produced honey; heritage activities such as gold-panning, quilting, spinning, caning, blow-gun, tomahawk throwing, and basket weaving; living history around the Civil War-era log cabin; and farm animals.

These heritage activi-

ties help tell the story of life in this rugged land a century ago, giving us a glimpse of the inventive, hardworking, and self-sufficient mountain people who settled this area.

The event will take place August 31 - September 1, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Mountain Life Museum, one block south of the Old Courthouse on Hwy. 129 in downtown Blairsville. The event is held at the historic Butt-Mock house, the 1861 Payne Cabin, Duncan Cabin, and other log structures preserved by the Union County Historical Society.

Free and open to the public, this is a unique event promising wholesome family fun and teachable moments for all ages. Contact the Historical Society at (706) 745-5493 or history1@windstream.net

The Wilson Family to be featured at Folk School



(L-R): Front row: Anna Wilson, Karen Wilson, Jessica Wilson. Back row: Bill Pruet, Jimmy Wilson

The Wilson Family will be featured in concert at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC, on Friday, July 19 at 7 p.m. The concert will be held in the Festival Barn, weather permitting. Those attending are urged to park near Keith House or the Dining Hall and walk to the Festival Barn where there will be only a limited number of handicapped parking spaces available. In the barn there is hay bale seating, so audience

members may wish to bring a lawn chair or blanket for comfort. Admission is free and donations are welcome.

The Wilson Family has been singing as a group for about eight years. Jimmy Wilson grew up around traditional gospel music, listening to his father and uncle, The Wilson Brothers, winners of a North Carolina Heritage Award. Jimmy sings lead and harmony and plays guitar. His wife, Karen Wilson, sings lead and

harmony and plays bass. Their daughters Jessica and Anna both sing lead and harmony while playing mandolin and guitar respectively. Bill Pruet from Robbinsville, NC plays the banjo and brings years of experience playing bluegrass music, including a stint with Bill Monroe's Bluegrass Boys.

The Wilson Family has performed at festivals, community centers, and other events. They love the sound and harmonies of bluegrass and gospel which have been an important part of their family's heritage.

Upcoming Folk School performers include a Dulcimer Celebration (July 26) and Cornbread Ted and the Butterbeans (August 9). The Folk School concert schedule is available on the world wide web at www.folkschool.org. For further information call the Folk School at 828-837-2775 or 1-800-FOLK-SCH. NT(0717,A3)SH