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more women here who were either expecting or about to deliver, and we didn't know who was going to get here first.

"We live probably 15 to 20 minutes away from the hospital, and I just barely got Crystal here before her water broke. Anastasia was ready to get here, for sure."

Although Anastasia decided to make her own due date, coming more than a week after her expected delivery, her parents did not have to wait long for their little bundle of joy to get here once they reached Union General.

"We got here and he rolled me into the emergency room," said Bryant. "I started banging on the clipboard on the counter and I just wanted her out of me. She came nine days after her due date, all of my children came late, but there was just something about her. She was ready to be here and there was no stopping it or waiting around."

"They got me up on the bed, and the doctor wasn't even in the room yet, but I couldn't hold her any longer. So, she got here before the doctor could even make it to us."

A short 11 minutes after stepping foot into the hospital and there she was, happy and healthy, weighing in at 9 pounds 2 ounces and being 22-inches long.

"She's got long legs," said Bryant. "She's not the biggest of my children, though. My other little girl was bigger than her. Our son was the runt, and he was still a pretty big baby."

While the couple decided against learning the sex of the baby before she arrived, the decision of picking a name was still a difficult one. Since



Anastasia Skye Radford

the pair already has a son and a daughter whose names were the first on their lists, the two had to think long and hard about what to name their third child.

"We have one boy and one girl," said Bryant. "The first time we were pregnant, the first thing we did was get names out of the way. So, it's one of those names that we picked from that pile of names. Ever since I was little, I've always loved the name Anastasia after the Russian princess."

"Corey went to school with a boy named Skye and we both liked that name, and it was the only thing that really went with Anastasia, cause it's such a long and foreign name."

As for the couple's choice of hospital, both Radford and Bryant said they preferred Union General over anywhere around, speaking highly of the doctors, nurses and care they received during the duration of the pregnancy and the delivery.

"This is a better hospital, better doctors," said Bryant.

"It's better care, better service. The nurses here are just wonderful."

The happy family was thankful for a gift basket for baby Anastasia, provided by the hospital, which included many useful items such as bonnets, bibs, blankets, baby wash and more for the new bundle of joy.

After months of anticipation and waiting, the couple was almost at a loss for words, overwhelmed by the happiness and thrill of finally having their beautiful little girl with them at last, and they could not wait to take her home.

"I had my eyes closed the whole time during the delivery," said Bryant. "I could feel Corey lean over to announce what it was, and you could hear the excitement in his voice."

"It took me a while to finally be able to hold her, but it just felt good having her in my arms and not inside me anymore. And this right here, she's happy. She's content."

indictments for its January Term 2017, though the *North Georgia News* had not obtained copies of those documents as of press time Monday, and was therefore unaware of any such movement in the above cases.

The scope of the investigation conducted by the sheriff's office dates to when Dr. David Gowder was arrested in Fannin County in April of 2015, up to and beyond the February 2016 arrests of Gowder, four of his relatives and Dr. Heaton.

According to authorities, a multiagency investigation is still ongoing in the case.

Agencies involved in the investigation at the time of the Union County arrests were the DEA Tactical Diversion Squad, the DEA Digital Forensics Lab, the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency, the Union County Sheriff's Office, and the Cherokee County NC Sheriff's Office.

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controlled substance by forgery, according to Cherokee County, NC, Sheriff Derrick Palmer at that time.

Previously, Gowder and Dr. Heaton received 2016 continuances in their North Carolina cases from March 28 to April 4, then from April 4 to July 11, from July 11 to Nov. 7, and now each to a Feb. 27 administrative session.

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, one count of conspiracy.

Dr. David Gowder, Mike's brother, was also arrested for 36 counts of fraudulently obtaining a controlled substance and

seven counts of unauthorized distribution and dispensation of controlled substances. Three other Gowder family members were arrested in connection with the incidents in question.

When asked in November about these cases in Union County, which did not appear on either of the two sessions of the July Term 2016 Indictments of the Union County Grand Jury, Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney Jeff Langley said that his office was currently going through evidence recently provided by the Union County Sheriff's Office.

He did add that there will be movement on the Gowders/Heaton cases in the "near future," though he said he couldn't comment on when that might be.

The Union County Grand Jury met recently to hand up

# Alcohol...continued from Page 1A

anything in his hand or possessions. We do not allow our underage operatives to carry IDs in there with them, whether real or fake. When they enter the store, they have to relay their correct day of birth, and age, if asked.

"When he came out of the store, he had a white bag with a six pack of Miller High Life and the change from the purchase."

"I contacted the local law enforcement and they came out to handle the seller, and I served an administrative citation against the state alcohol license."

According to the employee, the store was very busy during the sale of the alcohol, and they simply became nervous from the volume of customers in the store, resulting in the failure to properly confirm the date of birth. The employee accepted full responsibility for the violation and did not deny the incident.

The employee who sold to the minor was also the managing agent for the gas station, meaning they held the alcohol license for the store. Due to this, both Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley and the council decided it was best that the store be required to find a new managing agent before being allowed to sell alcohol again, in concordance with the alcohol ordinance.

In addition, the council voted unanimously that the Blairsville Marathon would be fined \$150 for the violation since this was the management's first offense.

"It will take 60 days before we can get a new person in there to be a managing agent," said Mayor Conley. "The Marathon will have to go through the same routine as someone applying for a new license for a new business that sells alcohol."

Blairsville Marathon is not an alcohol vendor at



Blairsville City Councilwomen Rhonda Mahan and Betty Easter



The Blairsville City Council was glad to be back in session for the new year.

this time, and all alcohol has been removed from the store until both the fine is paid and a new managing agent is determined.

Also during the meeting, the council voted on council department liaisons and mayor pro tempore. These appointments are as follows.

Councilwoman Martha Cone will serve as liaison for the Blairsville Airport.

Councilman Buddy Moore will act as liaison for the City Water and Sewer Department.

Councilman Tony Dyer will serve as liaison on behalf of city streets upkeep.

Councilwoman Rhonda Mahan will act as a liaison for the Blairsville Police Department.

Councilwoman Betty Easter will continue her work with the Union County Historical Society, as will Mahan with the Downtown Development Authority.

Moore was also reappointed as mayor pro tem.



Dr. Heaton was arrested in Union County on Feb. 4, 2016 at his Blairsville office by investigators with the Union County Sheriff's Office.

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