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seeking the community's help in raising funds to bring four sovereign Native American nations to Union County in a celebratory homecoming.

Blairsville Field Office Manager Bob Spaulding of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service coordinated the parade effort as well as the ceremony afterward, which took place at the Union County War Memorial.

Many of those involved in the parade attended the subsequent ceremony, including a number of veterans and several World War II veterans, such as Anceberry Burnette of Union and Clarence E. "Bud" Johnson of Towns.

Father and son team Bill and Chuck Honaker led the ceremony, with assistance from the North Georgia Honor Guard, the leaders of Union County's veterans organizations and the Boy Scouts of America Troop 101 Northeast Georgia Council.

The Union County High School Band and the Appalachian St. Andrews Pipes and Drums provided music for both the parade and the ceremony, and CW4 Jerry Cannon, U.S. Army (Ret.), who is also a member of Appalachian St. Andrews, delivered the keynote address.

"As you know, there are three distinct military holidays that we observe: Veterans Day, where we celebrate the living veterans of our great military and naval forces; Armed Forces Day, where we honor the men and women currently serving on active and reserve duty; Me-



Vietnam Veteran Mike Priven was the 2016 Grand Marshal for the annual Memorial Day Parade. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

morial Day, where we are this weekend, honoring the brave men and women who have paid so dearly for our freedom," said Cannon.

Added Cannon: "Since the beginning of our nation, men and women have paid the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives in defense of our country's principles and ideas. On this day we celebrate and remember the lives of more than 1 million Americans who have died in the service of our great country."

The ceremony included: the posting and retiring of the colors by the North Georgia Honor Guard; the laying of the memo-

rial wreath by BSA members and veterans organization leadership; a firing party conducted by the Honor Guard; and a playing of taps by the UCHS Band.

Along with area veterans, several civic leaders paid homage by visiting the ceremony and taking part in the parade that day. Veteran Union County Sheriff Mack Mason, Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris, Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley and state Sen. Steve Gooch all attended Saturday's events.

The Memorial Day holiday will take place on Monday, May 30

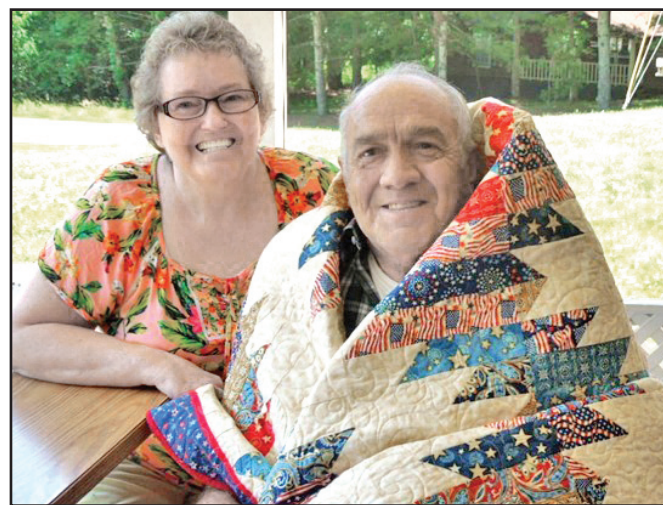
## Veteran Waymon Albert Lovell receives Quilt of Valor

Waymon Albert Lovell was born December 12, 1946 to Watson and Ruby Lovell. He married Patricia Potts on March 4, 1966 and they have three children Danica, Stephen, & Stephanie.

Mr. Lovell was unable to attend the Courthouse Ceremony but received his quilt at his home on May 14, 2016.

Waymon did basic training at Ft. Hood, TX and received the Machine Gun Expert Badge & Rifle Marksman Badge. He also received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon w/ Device, and eventually the Purple Heart.

While in the 198th Infantry Brigade as a Recon Scout he achieved the rank of Sergeant (E5). After being sent to Vietnam he was severely wounded and spent many months in hospitals overseas where he received lifesaving surgeries. He then spent 11 months in the hospital at Ft. Benning, GA where he underwent several more



Patricia and Waymon Lovell

surgeries to recover the use of his legs.

Once recovered & acclimated to his new life back in Blairsville, GA, he helped to restart the Disabled American Veterans organization in this area and serves as a member. He is also a member of the VFW, American Legion, and the Honor Guard. He volunteered at the Department of Family & Children

Services for many years taking hundreds of people to doctors, dentists, and other various appointments as far as Augusta, GA, Asheville, NC and many other distant locations. He and his wife were the first foster parents in Union County & he has been a pastor for 37 years. He is loved and respected by many in Union County and surrounding states. NT(Jun1,20)CA

## Career Coach in Union County

The Career Coach will be visiting Union County on Thursday, June 9th. The career coach will be at St. Francis of Assisi between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. The address for the event is 3717 GA-515, Blairsville, GA.

The unit will be available to assist individuals with

searching and/or applying for jobs online, writing a resume and/or cover letter, discerning career interests, or would like to learn about tuition assistance and on-the-job training programs, please stop by! Please share this event with anyone you know that might benefit from our services. NT(Jun1,23)CA

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District 51 State Sen. Steve Gooch thanks members of the North Georgia Honor Guard during Saturday's annual Memorial Day Remembrance at Veterans Memorial Park. Photo/Shawn Jarrard