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department. We will never forget that day and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.”

Everyone remembers where they were on Sept. 11th 2001, when two planes struck the World Trade Center in New York just minutes apart.

Nobody will ever forget what they were doing when their lives were suddenly paused in a stunned silence when the twin towers crumbled more than 1,300 feet to the earth below.

The vast majority could only stare in disbelief as 2,753 innocent men, women, and children perished as a result of that fateful day.

However, for first responders across the nation, including Bryant, who was with his wife in a Florida hospital, watched firefighters in New York race into the smoking towers, knowing that they were likely to not walk out.

“There is a creed with firefighters,” Bryant said. “If there is a greater likelihood that you could save someone's life by losing your own, you do it. Regardless of the circumstances, whether it's the twin towers or a burning building. That's our creed and it has been carried out many times and many have lost their life.”

On that day, heroes were born out of the smoldering ashes in Manhattan, and our nation set aside its differences to mourn for the thousands of casualties, pray for their families, and finally recognize that we have always had guardian angels among us in the form of our firefighters.



A closer look at the new memorial to New York's fallen World Trade Center twin towers. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Although it's nearly 12 years later, and Americans have once again reached for the low hanging fruit of divisiveness, across many different lines, the men and women of the Union County Fire Department will never forget the feeling of unity that our nation felt in early September 2001.

“Ira Bryant and Chief Worden were essential in get-

ting this done,” Union County Fire & Rescue's Brent Long said. “We're hoping to get a podium made for it so it can be on display for the public, through a window, 24 hours a day. One of the policies that came with getting the steel, is that it must be on display, 24/7 for the public to view.”

Bryant who has been working for the UCFD for

more than three weeks, came to Union County after working for the Lakeland, Fla. Fire Department from 1962-76, the Montana Fire Services Training Academy from 1978-81, the Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office in Anchorage, Alaska, from 1981-83, the ARCO Fire Brigade in Kuparuk, North Slope, Alaska from 1983-85, and the Red Lodge Fire Department from 1987-91.

He also is a decorated Vietnam Veteran and served in the United States Air Force and the U.S. Army. He also worked in law enforcement, as well as teaching college fire science courses in Florida and Montana.

“I love it here in Union County,” Bryant said. “I think the world of Chief Worden, he is a very progressive chief. He and his staff did everything in getting the steel here. I just knew the contacts and played the role of matchmaker, and put Chief Worden in touch with the right people. I forwarded the contact information to him and he ran with it. They deserve all of the credit. Union County is lucky to have someone like him.”

## Busts ...continued from Page 1A

rived and questioned Brown.

“He told me that the only thing he had was synthetic marijuana,” Investigator Miller said. “Based on Mr. Brown's statements and pipes being in plain view, I conducted a search of the 2011 Ford Shelby Mustang.”

During the search, Investigator Miller located a package of Devil Eye synthetic marijuana, along with three smoking devices, Sheriff Mason said.

“Miller then placed Mr. Brown under arrest for possession of schedule one controlled substance and possession of drug-related objects,” the sheriff said.

Brown, of 5525 Sandy Hollow Road, in Norcross, was booked into the Union County Jail. He is free on \$10,000 bail, jail records show.

Sheriff Mason also said that investigators attempted

to serve search warrants last week on Suches' Old Mill Road at the home of Marvin Travis Thompson. However, Thompson wasn't at his Suches home.

“We have warrants for this individual's arrest,” Sheriff Mason said. “We didn't get him, but, we used the search warrants to confiscate his marijuana. We'll pick him up later.”

Sheriff Mason said that Investigator Miller had been purchasing marijuana from Thompson for a month.

“On June 13th the narcotics division executed a search warrant on Thompson's residence located at 540 Old Mill Road in Suches, to serve arrest warrants on Marvin,” Sheriff Mason said. “When they got there, Marvin wasn't at home. A search of the residence and property was conducted.

“During the search they

found a quantity of marijuana along with drug-related objects inside the home. During the search outside the home, Miller discovered marijuana growing.”

Sheriff Mason said investigators have secured arrest warrants on Thompson, but, have yet to locate him.

“Marvin's got some charges on him, two counts distribution of marijuana, manufacturing marijuana, and possession of marijuana,” Sheriff Mason said. “Any help the public can give us in locating Marvin, we'd be greatly appreciative.”

Anyone with information about the whereabouts of Marvin Travis Thompson, of Suches, call the Union County Sheriff's Office at (706) 439-6066.

All calls will be kept confidential, Sheriff Mason said.

## Aladdin comes to town at the Peacock Playhouse

Every floor of the Peacock Playhouse, in Hayesville, NC will be buzzing with the song and laughter of children for the next two weeks, as they practice for their big produc-

tion of “The Great Adventures of Aladdin” on Saturday, June 22nd and Sunday, June 23rd. The children range in age from 4 to 16 and come from 4 states: Georgia (Duluth, Young Harris, Hiawassee, Cumming, Atlanta), Tennessee, (Chattanooga), North Carolina (Murphy, Asheville, Hayesville) and 2 even flew here from Los Angeles, CA.

This will be the 6th year of Ms. Robbie's Performing Arts Camp and Show, well known for its songs, costumes and stories that are always customized by Ms. Robbie for the children she has.



(L-R): Palmer Mireille and Zach Richter

Princess Jasmine will be played by the 2012 North Georgia Idol, Palmer Mireille, and Aladdin will be played by Carter Helm of Chattanooga.

Don't miss this fantastic show! It's a guaranteed treat for young and old.

For ticket information call the Peacock Playhouse, 828- 389-2787. NTUJun19,28/CA

## 9-12 Project

The 9-12 Project presents “Surviving in Tough Economic Times,” Thursday, June 20, 6 p.m., Brasstown Community Center, 255 Settawig Road, Brasstown, NC. Topics include Stretching Your Food Shopping Dollar, Long-Term Food Storage, and Medicine and First Aid Necessities. Buy your gun raffle tickets for drawing later in the evening. Dinner served at 5:15 p.m.

Canned Food Drive - don't forget your canned food donations. No charge - everyone is welcome. For additional information 828-837-0055 or www.912murphync.com.

## Glenda Gooch House available

The Glenda Gooch House is now available for use by families, from the tri-state area, of patients in Union General Hospital as well as local nursing and assisted living homes. For more information please contact Leslie Daniel at 706-745-2050, or log on to glendagoochhouse.org.