

Manhunt...continued from Page 1A

O'Neal has been charged with child molestation and sexual battery for events that allegedly occurred during a holiday get-together in the early morning hours of Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 5, according to Mangifesta.

He at first fled the area with the help of a friend, though O'Neal ended up returning to the Bunker Hill area and living in the woods, according to Mangifesta.

O'Neal spent his time on

the lam camping and migrating between the Bunker Hill and Cooper's Creek areas, up to the vicinity of Voyles Town Road, according to Mangifesta.

O'Neal has also been charged with two counts of violation of probation stemming from this incident, according to Mangifesta.

The U.S. Marshals Service out of Atlanta assisted the Union County Sheriff's Office with the manhunt.

GEMA...continued from Page 1A

Union County government officials met with representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and GEMHSA on April 6 to kick off the collection of paperwork accounting for all of the storm damage around the county.

Storm damage had to be filed using the following categories: Category A for debris removal, Category B for emergency protective services, Category C for roads, and Category G for recreation damages, which occurred along banks in the Nottely River in Meeks Park, and in Butternut Creek inside the Butternut Creek Golf Course.

FEMA reviewed all of the paperwork, spreadsheets and supporting documents associated with the damage, which took nearly four months to compile from start to finish, before awarding reimbursements.

The following damage totals were approved by FEMA for the purposes of distributing aid: Category A, \$3,873.73; Category B, \$6,108.74; Category C, \$64,918.73; and Category G, \$83,960.80.

All told, Union County was approved for \$158,862 in damages. According to the funding formula, FEMA contributed 75 percent of this amount, while the county and state split the remaining 25 percent down the middle.

The state paid the county for 12.5 percent of the damages, while the local match had the county paying its fair share of 12.5 percent.

This led to the final aid disbursement from FEMA and GEMHSA of \$139,197.94, with a local match of just under \$20,000.

Normally, the county would be responsible for a 15 percent local match, but thanks to the hard work of Union County EMA/911 Director Charles Worden over the years, the county received an

additional 2.5 percent toward the state's match.

Union County has qualified for this enhanced federal/state/local match going back at least a decade, after having completed and maintained a list of proactive safety measures.

Some of the reimbursement for Category A, or debris removal, came at federal aid percentages of 80 and 85 percent, which was based on documented time of removal due to Union County's involvement in a special pilot program FEMA started to reward early debris removal practices.

Pam Hawkins, Union County's purchasing agent, worked hard coordinating the local paperwork effort. She would like to give a special thank you to the following individuals: Union County Fire Chief David Dyer, Program Coordinator Joe Edwards with the Union County Road Department, and Chris Nelson with FEMA.

Union County's own C.J. Worden, a field coordinator with GEMHSA, helped to coordinate the state's involvement, with help from fellow GEMHSA representative Tara Teuta.

"Union County has clearly placed a great deal of effort into performing great work in the wake of the flooding last winter," said Worden. "This has contributed significantly to the safety of everyone present within our beautiful county."

Of course, Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris expressed his appreciation for this process, which allowed the county to spend \$20,000 in repairs in order to get nearly \$140,000 more in aid money.

"We had hoped we'd get this money, but we never were sure, so we didn't budget to get it," said Commissioner Paris. "The fact that we're going to be getting this money will free up a little bit more money so that we can do some more roadwork."

Deputy...continued from Page 1A

Facebook.

Henderson graduated the Basic Law Enforcement Training Class No. 5 at the Cherokee County Georgia Public Safety Training Academy in December of

2014. He immediately came on board as a Union County Sheriff's Deputy that very same month.

No further information was available at press time.

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