

On August 20th the Ashe County Sheriff's Office, along with the US Marshals Service, Alleghany County Sheriff's Office and Division of Adult Correction conducted a two day operation named Operation Child Safe. Local law enforcement agencies worked with members of the U.S. Marshals Service to accomplish its mission under the Adam Walsh Act - to track down sex offenders and verify their information. During the two-day operation, a total of 24 sex offenders were checked to make sure they were in compliance with all federal, state and local laws concerning the sex offender registry. There were 4 arrests on various charges including drug charges, firearms charges, and probation violations. Arrested during the operation were the following:

Larry Elliott age 67 of Lansing for possession of a firearm by a felon.

Danny Matkins age 26 of Fleetwood for probation violation.

James Osborne age 74 of Creston for possession of firearm by a felon.

Charles Taylor age 35 of Jefferson for parole violation.

During the checks, seized materials included 22 guns from Ashe, 21 guns from Alleghany, multiple boxes of ammunition, pornographic materials, drugs and paraphernalia were also seized from both counties.

Also there are 4 open investigations as result of the checks with possible charges pending later.