

Arrests Surrounding Festival Fill Area Jails

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The music played—and hundreds of arrests were made. It was the Gnarnia Festival in Beech Mountain, and like Woodstock, it may be talked about for decades for events other than music. A tremendous NC ALE operation, backed by local law enforcement from a number of agencies, including the Watauga and Avery Sheriff's Offices, circulated through the crowds inside and outside of the festival, and the number of felony arrests filled both county jails by Saturday. Drug, alcohol, and associated charges were filed by the team of officers, meaning many of the music lovers—many from out of state—will get to return to the High Country in September—for their court dates.