Written by Steve Frank
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A check of suspicious persons on Halloween night led Avery deputies to discover two wanted persons. Deputies responding to the call on Highway 181 outside of Newland and discovered two people beside the road, one identified as Joseph Earl Hollifield, age 32 of Newland, who was found to have outstanding warrants from Caldwell County for Possession of Precursor Chemicals used in the manufacture of methamphetamines. Hollifield was taken into custody while other deputies question his companion, 45 year old Jeannie Ann Cobbler of Blowing Rock. Cobbler was found to have an outstanding warrant for Possession of Precursor Chemicals used in the manufacture of methamphetamines from Watauga County and was also allegedly found to have in her possession three different types of prescription medication that was later identified as Percocet, Klonopin, and Ambien. Cobbler was placed under arrest and charged with three separate counts of Simple Possession of a Controlled Substance. Hollifield was released to Caldwell County deputies while Cobbler was released to Watauga County authorities after posting a $6,000 bond. Cobbler has a December 12 court date in Avery County District Court.

Other Avery drug counts led to the arrest of Jennifer Lance McCoury, 38, of Roan Mountain, Tennessee after a warrant for her arrest was taken out by officers with the Municipal Drug Task Force. McCoury was charged with three separate felony charges of Manufacturing Methamphetamines, Possession with Intent to Distribute chemicals used in the Manufacture of Methamphetamines, and Maintaining a Dwelling or Place for the Manufacture of a Controlled Substance. Because McCoury's children were allegedly in the home in which these activities reportedly took place, she was also charged with Misdemeanor Child Abuse. McCoury remains in the custody of the Avery County Detention Facility under a $21,000 secured bond.