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The alcohol-related drowning of an Appalachian State University student in September has now led to some 100-plus arrests in an operation undertaken by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. The operation was aimed at deterring underage purchase and possession of alcoholic beverages, specifically targeting ABC-permitted outlets surrounding Appalachian State University and the High Country area, according to the release. Special agents in the Alcohol Law Enforcement division of the Department of Public Safety conducted several covert enforcement operations, leading, so far, to103 people arrested on 155 charges. Most of the charges were for underage possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages, aiding and abetting underage possession of alcohol and using a fraudulent ID to obtain alcohol. The release said ALE agents said several types of fake identification documents being used by the suspects, who obtained them through the Internet from sources in foreign countries. More than 30 fake IDs were seized. Agents also found underage people buying alcoholic beverages by using legal IDs belonging to other people 21 and older. Appalachian State University student Tyler Blalock, 19, drowned in the creek flowing through Durham Park on campus after using someone else's ID to obtain alcohol back in September. ALE special agents and the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Commission hosted a training seminar for ABC retailers on March 7 to help retailers and their employees identify fake IDs that may be used to buy alcoholic beverages. ALE will continue efforts in the Boone area to prevent underage people from purchasing, possessing and consuming alcoholic beverages, according to the release. ALE special agents have authority to arrest and take investigatory action for any criminal offense anywhere in the state. Their primary responsibility is the enforcement of the state alcoholic beverage control and drug laws.