

## Paving Scam Reported in Valle Crucis

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After a couple of summers with little predatory paving activity, Watauga Sheriff Len Hagaman reports that the Watauga County Sheriff's Office received a report on Monday in a possible paving scam in the Valle Crucis area. The Sheriff said the paver approached the homeowner, offering to patch holes in the driveway for \$3.75 a foot. The homeowner agreed to have the holes patched, but the paver then paved the entire driveway without the homeowner's permission and demanded \$10,000.00 for the work performed. Sheriff Hagaman reminded the citizens of Watauga County that it is the time of year for citizens to be taken advantage of by unscrupulous contractors, and he encouraged citizens to use licensed, local and well recommended contractors, suggesting that citizens get recommendations from neighbors, local building contractors, and the local Chamber of Commerce. The Better Business Bureau keeps records of consumer complaints, as well, and offers ratings for companies they have had both complaints and compliments reported.