

Checkpoint Targets Impaired Drivers

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There were blue lights and lots of officers, and most interactions were a casual check of a driver's license. But for others, where impairment was suspected, there was another conversation with an officer, testing, and maybe a conversation with a magistrate. It was part of what is promised to be an increasing use of traffic checks, random dates and locations where police say they've had more traffic incidents—wrecks, complaints, and more drunk driving. Last night, the setup was led by Boone Police on East King at College Street, dozens of officers from agencies across the county joining together for the effort. And there also was one of the state's DWI vans, affectionately known as the Batmobile, with this one newly assigned to the area west of I-77 and based in Asheville. Totals on vehicles checked and charges made to come from Boone Police Monday.