

Narcotics Activity Complaints End in Arrest on Northside Drive, Valdosta

By Carol A. Gasser Moore

VALDOSTA, Georgia – The Valdosta Police Department (VPD) has provided information regarding their January 26th investigation. VPD Narcotics Detectives with the assistance of the Power Squad and K-9 Units, executed a search warrant at an apartment in the 1700 block of Northside Drive. The VPD Detectives had received complaints about narcotics activity from the apartment. As they investigated,, the VPD Detectives seized cocaine, oxycodone, marijuana, and tools that are indicative of narcotics transactions.

As a result of their investigation, VPD Detectives arrested Dillion Hunter(31), while inside the residence. Hunter was found to have active arrest warrants, which were not related to the VPD’s January 26th search warrant.

Hunter was transported to Lowndes County Jail, and he has been charged with:

- Possession of cocaine with intent to distribute-felony;
- Possession of oxycodone-felony;
- Possession of marijuana-misdemeanor;
- Possession of drug-related items-misdemeanor; and
- 3 active unrelated arrest warrants.

The public’s help is requested by the VPD. If anyone has any information regarding this case or any others, they are asked to contact the Valdosta Police Department Bureau of Investigations at 229-293-3145, crime tip line at 229-293-3091, or file a tip online at www.valdostacity.com/police-department/.



House Fire Results in Injury and Dislocation

By Carol A. Gasser Moore

LOWNDES COUNTY, Georgia – The Valdosta Fire Department (VFD) has released information regarding a house fire. The fire occurred on Monday, January 29th about 9:00 p.m. An E911 caller alerted emergency responders to the fire which was reported to be in the 2300 block of Camden Circle, Valdosta.

VFD official’s report that upon their emergency fire department personnel’s arrived, they immediately saw heavy smoke and flames coming from a bedroom window. Firefighters were able to quickly get the residential fire under control. Reports indicate that everyone inside the residence was able to escape. One person was taken to a local hospital for possible smoke inhalation.

According to VFD, this residential fire is still under investigation. More information will become available after that investigation.

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City of Valdosta Receives Georgia ReLeaf Grant to Restore Tree Canopy after Hurricane Idalia

The City of Valdosta is pleased to announce that it was awarded a \$6,300 grant from the Georgia ReLeaf program, a collaborative initiative by the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC), the Georgia Tree Council (GTC), and the U.S. Forest Service. The grant aims to support communities affected by Hurricane Idalia by providing funds for tree-planting projects.

The Arbor Division is responsible for Valdosta’s tree management and will utilize the grant to plant 64 trees at Sunset Hill Cemetery. This funding aligns with the city’s ongoing efforts to maintain a sustainable community forest with native species and enhance diversity within the urban landscape. While the Arbor Division and Valdosta Tree Commission regularly select sites for tree installation each year, the city faced a substantial loss of tree canopy in 2023 due to Hurricane Idalia. The additional funds from the Georgia ReLeaf program are crucial for the community to extend its planting efforts and address the significant impact on the local tree population.

Increasing the tree canopy in Valdosta will not only contribute to the aesthetic beauty of the city but will also have positive effects on environmental health. The planted trees will provide essential shade, improve air quality, reduce noise, and help minimize stormwater runoff.

The City of Valdosta will host Georgia Arbor Day at Sunset Hill Cemetery on Thursday, February 15, at 10 am to showcase and celebrate this impactful project. This event will bring together city officials, community partners, and residents to highlight the importance of trees and acknowledge the benefits they bring to our environment.

As a proud Tree City USA community, the City of Valdosta remains committed to strategic planning, fostering partnerships, and promoting education about the significance of trees. The Georgia ReLeaf grant will enable Valdosta to take a significant step forward in replacing its city-owned trees and enhancing the overall green infrastructure.

For more information, contact Angela Bray at akbray@valdostacity.com.

BENEFITS OF TREES

- Improves air & water quality
- Supports biodiversity
- Stormwater absorption
- Provides shade & mitigates heat
- Carbon dioxide absorption
- Improves mental health

GEORGIA ARBOR DAY
VALDOSTA

Arbor Day Celebration

- Feb 15
- 10 am
- Sunset Hill Cemetery

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