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person to assist with the education component. They are a real asset to our county and we rely on Leslie George and NGRMA all the time.

**Q.** What other recycling efforts are being done in Union County?

**A.** Through the North Georgia Resource Management Authority we have an electronics recycling event for Union and Towns County once a year, usually in the fall.

We also try to have

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extra special.

The core will keep you in business between economic cycles and between fringe customers. A small business who is sincere will win the hearts and love of their customers.

Saying what you mean and meaning what you say has and will always win the loyalty of customers. Remember to deliver exactly what you promised to deliver, no matter what.

Once a customer believes you are sincere then trust is the next step that keeps the loyalty of your business carried to the finish line of every sale or delivery made.

Some small businesses offer increased service by giving product education with the sale. You can increase customer loyalty by sharing with your customers or educating them about which products or services they need.

Educating the customer can build both a business and personal bond. If your price happens to be high, then tell your prospects why your price

a scrap tire recycling event for Union County each year. We are also eligible for grant funding when it is available.

Unfortunately, since the budget shortfalls of the state, the available grant funding has been utilized to help balance the state budget.

We hope this will once again be available to counties, as the funding comes from the \$1 per tire fee that is paid on all new auto tires we purchase.

es are higher than others.

The more factual, believable and credible information you can give as to the reasons why they should do business with you will compel them to patronize your business. When you do, your profits will soar.

Last, make the relationship more important than making the sale. Believe in your heart that your small business is the best at what you do. That confidence along with customer loyalty will be rewarded with new sales that will benefit you for years.

We invite you to experience the Blairsville-Union County Chamber, designated as a Georgia Certified Chamber, by exploring our website at [www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com](http://www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com) or by calling the Chamber at (706) 745-5789.

References for this column came from [www.smallbiztrends.com](http://www.smallbiztrends.com), [www.inc.com](http://www.inc.com) and [www.jlmandassociates.com](http://www.jlmandassociates.com).

I may be reached anytime at [Chair@Blairsville-Chamber.com](mailto:Chair@Blairsville-Chamber.com).

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holidays; it is hope for heaven with all of God's family.

Yes, Christmas is hope. Each sparkling light declares that Jesus is the light of the world. Every Christmas tree communicates the death of Christ upon the cross. Each gift exchanged carries the message that Christ is the ultimate gift of God to a world of lost sinners.

We not only have a hope to live by now, but we have a hope that is good enough to die by.

Several years ago one of our nation's submarines became disabled and sank off the coast of Massachusetts. Ships were rushed to

the scene to see if anything could be done. The men were trapped and clung desperately to life as their oxygen slowly dissipated.

The divers communicated with the men inside in Morse code. As time was running out, a question was tapped from inside the submarine: "Is.....there..... any.... hope?"

Thank God, in a war torn world, Christmas declares again that there is hope!! Our hope is anchored in the Past. Jesus arose! Our hope remains in the Present. Jesus lives! Our hope is completed in the Future. Jesus is coming!

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it was to hear her refer to her step children as "hers."

She said that's the way it was in her home. "In fact," she explained, "my daughter has always said that the only 'steps' in our house were the ones leading to the front door."

So, for those of you who are trying to keep within a reasonable gift buying budget this holiday season, here's a wonderful gift idea.

Sit down with a piece of paper and write "his children" and "her grandkids" a letter.

Tell them that they are "your children" too. Let them know that you will always love them and will try to be there for them.

This is a gift that won't

break the bank and will enlarge your heart and theirs. And the dividends from this investment of love and commitment will last a lifetime.

At the Union County Farmers Market there is a family of kindred spirits that will be gathering for the last time this season.

Join us, your neighbors and community friends as we present the Third Annual Kris Kringle Market this Friday from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Bring the kids to meet Santa on Friday and to sing carols around the bonfire with s'mores. Visit [www.UCFarmersMarket.com](http://www.UCFarmersMarket.com) for all the details. See you soon.

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state and has absolutely nothing to do with Blairsville. So why is this story dredged up from who knows where and presented with a color picture of the offending priest as a front page story in the *North Georgia News*?

Why was it printed at all? Printing such a sensational and irrelevant story and giving it front page exposure by the editor of the *North Georgia News* is nothing less than an act of subliminal defamation of St. Francis Catholic Church and Catholics in general.

St. Francis Catholic Church of Blairsville and its many parishioners have been and are an unquestioned asset to this community. This church's individual parishio-

ners and its social outreach programs have both directly and indirectly helped and continue to help many destitute and physically threatened persons in this community.

To cast aspersions on our good name and reputation by this presentation by the *North Georgia News* by citing despicable transgressions of a priest who long ago left this area is not journalism.

Rather, it is an instigation of bigoted slander by some sort of ignorant, narrow-minded, self-righteous individuals.

One would like to think such thinking is a thing of the past. But, apparently the KKK is alive and well in places one would not suspect.

**Richard Fiser, Blairsville**

## Now recruiting for the North Georgia Honor Guard

Veterans, looking for a way to continue serving your country? Did

you serve and were you Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces? The North Georgia Honor Guard may just be the thing you've been looking for!

Comprised of Honorably Discharged men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, the North Georgia Honor Guard's primary function is to be a Funeral and Honor Detail to pay the final respect for veterans at their funerals. The Honor Guard also participates in parades and in various Memorial and Veterans Day festivities.

Sharing in comradeship, fellowship, and a sense of patriotism that only those that have served can fully appreciate, the North Georgia Honor Guard is a way to continue serving your country and provide the final honor for the veterans of your community.

For more information contact Grant Ingersoll, Jr. Vice-Cdr. of the Eastern Unit of the North Georgia Honor Guard at 706-994-3446 or come by the Book Cellar located at 112 Wellborn Street, in the red brick building with the green tin roof, at the corner of Wellborn Street and Veterans' Memorial Drive. N(NoV21,22)CA

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the next day she worked the morning shift.

Over the past few weeks Cora had become weak and Mom knew her time would come soon. So, she went by Cora's room before leaving work. Miss Cora smiled, patted Mom's hand and said, "It will be over soon."

When Mom came back to work the next morning a young orderly met her and said you should have been here last night. A nurse working the night shift fussed at Mom for not being at work.

Mother explained that her schedule had been changed. The nurse looked at her and said you missed two miracles.

Miss Cora had died at 4 a.m. The nurse was with her when she passed and as she was attending to Cora the nurse heard singing. So, the nurse walked into the hall and there was Mr. Brown walking down the hall singing "Jesus Loves Me."

Then the nurse felt a tug of her arm and there was Mrs. Jones. Her eyes were shining and she asked, "Do you see that and she pointed down the hall toward Cora's room?"

The nurse asked Mrs. Jones what she was seeing. Mrs. Jones said, "I can see them as well as I can see you.

I can see Jesus and Cora walking down the hall."

By the time Mom got to Mr. Brown and Mrs. Jones rooms, the miracles had passed.

Mr. Brown was once again mute and confined to a wheel chair. Mrs. Jones could no longer see and was bed ridden.

However, one nurse and three other staff members all witnessed Mr. Brown singing and walking. They also saw Mrs. Jones walking around looking at things she hadn't seen in years.

Every time my mother gets worried about something, she thinks about those miracles that occurred in a nursing home in Dunlap, Tenn.

As we think about all the bad things going on in this world, we should remember that God loves all of us. He cares about what we are experiencing. He loves us even though we may be unlovable. Isn't that the reason for this season? So, we should celebrate God's love for us during this time of year.

Let's start that celebration by coming out to the Farmers Market on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st to attend the Kris Kringle Market. We will open at 3 p.m. on Friday the 30th and we will open at 10 a.m. on Saturday the 1st.

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be Santa Claus and give, give, give, spend, spend, spend.

Someone once said, many, many years ago, that democracies will collapse once the majority realizes it can elect leaders who will give them "free things." Isn't that amazing?

Folks, the "gimme" generation is here. They will vote for a president based on what he will give them rather than how wisely he will lead our nation. This is called the "entitlement trap."

Our leaders blame the rich because they "made it." But according to Obama, "hey, you didn't build that." They

think we are dummies. Well, some of us are. That's why we are in this mess. Americans voted for a president who openly supports abortion, same-sex marriage (first president to do this); forcing religious institutions to violate their moral and spiritual codes; bypasses Congress to get his agenda passed, and is hostile to Israel.

This will surely bring us ever closer to the End of this Age. It's prophetic. Some do not believe it. Well, it's true. In spite of all that's happening we are still the most blessed nation on earth.

**Richard Paolillo, Blairsville**

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to attend school, that we have a president who values diplomacy over rushing to war and who values middle class participation in our economy as well as that of the top 1 percent.

We do have a president who meets the criteria Ms.

Ramsey puts forward.

Maybe she should look at the whole picture, face honestly the challenges that President Obama has overcome and see how fortunate we are to be able to continue to move forward.

**Sandra Miles, Blairsville**