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the huge traffic problems of Atlanta which makes their day to day travel so unreliable. We are also in a non-attainment area, which puts less regulatory burdens on companies here.

Q. Union County talks about the excellent “quality of life” here in the mountains. What is this?

A. We have the highest quality of life of any rural county in Georgia based on the following: First, I think we have some of the friendliest people of any county I know. We have a strong faith community and an abundance of caring people who are always ready to offer a helping hand, either financially or physically. In addition, we have an exceptional recreation park system in Meeks Park. We have low crime rates, without all the personal safety concerns they have in Atlanta or any other metro area. We tend to have a much calmer environment and relaxed life style. We have a New Library, Community Center, Fine Arts Center, Senior Center, Fire Department, Horse and Livestock Arena, Farmers Market and Cannery, Top Ranked School System and Top Ranked rural hospital and adjacent healthcare facilities, just to name a few.

Q. What all does Union County have to offer outdoors?

A. Union County is an outdoor paradise. Almost 50 % of our county is owned by the US Forest Service and TVA. These areas offer superb hunting, fishing, camping, and hiking. There is

also Vogel State Park which is the most visited State Park in Georgia, and the Appalachian Trail has several access points and traverses all along our Southern border in our county. Lake Nottely is here for fishing, skiing, and other water sports. Brasstown Bald is a major attraction in Union County, with its amazing vistas and also being the highest elevation in Georgia. Lake Winfield Scott is a hidden mountain treasure near Suches, Georgia which is also located in Union County. Suches has a historic small community school, Community Center, and Fire Department. There is also the Trackrock Archeological Area, Helton Creek Falls, and the Richard Russell Scenic Highway and many others. We have many walking/jogging trails, disc golf, dog park, and kayak put-in just to name a few more.

Q. How would you sum up Union County and the City of Blairsville?

A. Incredible, amazing, fantastic, unbelievable, and we are so blessed to be able to live in or visit this paradise. Our job is to properly get the word out as to what we have available here. While we may not be a large city or have everything larger cities would, we are a very family friendly community, and it is safe to raise your family here with wholesome living. Blairsville and Union County is also a great place to live, work, play or retire. We are blessed. To utilize our new tag line, it may be hard to believe that such a place as Union County exists, but #BelieveIt!

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boys. Lon's oldest daughter, Mabel (Papa's sister), had an idea. She bought her papa a brand new pair of overalls. She asked everyone to bring a gift for the old man. Mabel gathered all the gifts and stuffed them into the overalls. Next she sewed the leg openings together so the gifts would not fall out. John was so old he had trouble seeing, but, he knew the overalls were new so he tried to put them on. But, he could not get his leg into them. So, he turned them upside down and reached his arm into the legs and began pulling out his gifts. Old John soon had about 10 gifts lying at his feet. Papa said the old man had tears running down his face while laughing at the same time. John got more than he bargained for that Christmas. He received the gifts. But, more importantly, he received the forgiveness of his family. I think that is why Papa loved Christmas. He was able to experience first-hand the true meaning of Christmas. The true meaning of Christmas is demonstrated when we give of ourselves to others. That is what God did for us. So, we now carry on that tradition at Christmas by purchasing and

giving gifts at Christmas. But, many gifts can be given that cost nothing but time and effort.

For example, a few days ago our Kris Kringle Market was held at the Farmers Market. Many people gave their time and effort to help us operate the Market. Mark Carr came out to serve as Santa Claus. Fred Bruder played Santa and performed Christmas music for us. The High School Chorus Ensemble led by Alicia Covington performed for us on Friday evening. James Bridges brought out the Christmas Train for us to use to ride children in on Saturday. Bob and Lynn Kirby as well as Tim and Susan Babcock drove the train for us for 2 hours each on Saturday. The Woody Gap Band of Steel led by Doug Roberts performed at the market on Saturday. Ray Long donated a Christmas Tree for use at the Market. But, late Saturday a child wanted to speak with Santa. But, Santa had already left. So, Ray Long volunteered to play Santa for one little boy. These people truly demonstrated the true meaning of Christmas with their efforts at the Kris Kringle Market.

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we be that an executive branch administration will not choose to ignore a ruling and continue its own executive action decisions in contravention of the ruling? There are a number of examples of this including a current case affecting Medicare expansion (WSJ - Associated Press April 28, 2015). How comfortable can we be that Congress will stand up against an overreaching administration? Given our contemporary situation, I doubt its fortitude. And in DC, they are just making new laws that ignore the decision. My conclusion – counting on a Supreme Court ruling for a fundamental right is not a logical decision.

He says that gun show sales are a loophole. No they are not. They are private sales between two individuals with significant restrictions and penalties enacted in federal law – 18 U.S. Code Sec 922 and 924. An article in American Hunter (October 2015) tallied the worst case scenario of multiple offenses “... 15 human life spans...” Restrictions include: cross-state resident sales, convicted felon sale, fugitive, drug user among others. Worried about private sales? Advocate enforcing the laws and leave law-abiding people alone.

His solution is licensing people (owners, possessors, users of firearms and ammo). For example his solution means that if you show your child how to shoot (license required for both of you), gun range shooters renting a gun (license required), high school marksmanship team or 4H (license required), etc. He does not qualify the type weapon nor ammo because he is licensing people. And then there are the restrictions: proof of citizenship (sure thing – some states don't even require proof to vote), age (does this prevent young

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za of his life's lyrics as he experienced a changed life complete with new lyrics. An authentic encounter with Jesus Christ has that effect, giving hope for the most lost, depressed, ruined person. The Psalmist calls, “Sing to Him a new song!” (Ps 33:2-3). Welcoming the coming of the

Savior brings the gift of a new song to sing, new lyrics to live.

Before Martin died in 2011 at age 96, he said, “It was my pleasure to talk about Jesus. There's nothing I'd rather do.” I share his sentiments and his wish that you “have yourself a blessed little Christmas!”

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Here we go. Let's start with the filets. First, I will take the bacon off of them and set it aside. Now I will create a rub for the filets, comprising of ½ teaspoon each of salt, black pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, ground coriander (or crush 1 teaspoon of coriander seeds in your garlic press if you don't have ground) and one tablespoon of liquid smoke. Mix it into a paste, smear all over the filets, wrap them individually in foil, and place in a preheated oven at 450 degrees, and immediately lower the temp to 225 degrees. They'll be ready to serve in 25 mins., just enough time to finish up the rest of the meal.

Bring 8 cups of boiling water (with a tablespoon of salt added) to a boil. While you are waiting for the pot to boil, let's work on the topping for our pasta. I'm going to assume that the squash we are working with is zucchini, since its available 12 months out of the year. Skin and cut the zucchini lengthwise, in half, then cut each half lengthwise, and then cut each long section into ½ inch chunks.

On the show, contestants can use other items from the stocked fridge and pantry. So, I always have onions, shallots, garlic and olive oil in the house. I'm going to use two cloves of chopped garlic, a small shallot finely chopped and a small sweet onion, finely chopped. I'm also going to chop those two slices of raw bacon I took off the filet. I'll sauté the bacon up first, in a medium size skillet. Before they can get too crispy, I'll add two tablespoons of olive oil and heat it over medium heat. Now I'll add my onion and sauté until translucent then add my garlic and shallot and sauté, stirring for one minute. Now it's time to add my zucchini, raise the heat up to medium high and stir for about 3 minutes, adding a little more olive oil, if necessary, to keep the pan from sticking. Now salt and pepper to taste and also sprinkle the ingredients in the pan with 1 teaspoon of turmeric. Add a ½ cup of sweet coconut flakes (Baker's flaked coconut), lower

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real problem of how and where to sell the books. John Grisham recalls how he and a friend drove carloads of his first book all over the South, virtually begging bookstores to stock it.

A local writer of an “inspirational” (religious) book managed to solve this particular problem by having two articles (essentially free advertisements) printed in the *North Georgia News*, telling of her planned appearance at a book signing (and selling, of course) at the Union County Library, with the offer of light refreshments to boot. She would be there until the refreshments were gone. Ah, the power of positive thinking!

I consider myself fortunate in having parents who made clear that there are things in life one does and one does not do. To my mind, using a public library to sell one's wares is something one does not do. It is chutzpah of the first order, comparable to the money-changers in the temple.

Ruth Elizabeth Ramsey

Roseboom ...

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whole right side of the board walk. The garbage can was also dumped upside down.

I think it is sad and pathetic, when someone does things like this. If anyone sees a rope like that, I hope they report it to the police. I don't think it is something that the average person just has laying around!

Alice Roseboom

Riley...

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Forest Service/NRCS Joint Chiefs Land Restoration Proposal – A wildfire mitigation grant project around the Chattahoochee and Sumter National forests in North Georgia and South Carolina. The proposal is for mitigation crews to help Forestry agencies reduce the wildfire risks in the Wildland Urban Interface and also develop Fire Adapted Communities in the area. Chest/Chat will be the administrator of the grant with our partners: US Forest Service Chattahoochee and Sumter NF; The Nature Conservancy; Georgia and South Carolina Forestry Commissions; Georgia and South Carolina NRCS; and other partners for wildfire education. The goals of this project are to: 1. Reduce and mitigate wildfire threats to communities and landowners, 2. Protect water quality and supply for communities and industry, 3. Improve habitat quality for at-risk or ecosystem surrogate species. 11. Cooperative Agreement between GACDS and Chest/Chat RC&D Council – This is similar to the agreements many counties have with NRCS to share an employee in the NRCS county office. Chest/Chat will share an employee with the NRCS office in Eastanollee and is the first agreement between an RC&D and NRCS in Georgia with this program. This will allow Chest/Chat to add staff to help administer our programs and we need the help! For more information on Chest/Chat and its programs contact: Frank Riley @ frank.ccrd@gmail.com