

Parade...from Page 1A

but the wind gusts continued.

"It was going to take a really hard rain to stop this parade," Mayor Conley said.

Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris and Mayor Conley rode in the parade in different vehicles. The idea, both could throw out as much candy as they could to the anxious children waiting along the parade route.

"This is a great event to take part in," Commissioner Paris said. "The kids were so anxious to get as much candy as they could carry. It's a storied tradition that kids young and old alike have come to appreciate."

The final participant in the 2014 parade was Union County Fire & Rescue, with Chief Charles Worden riding shotgun.

By 5 p.m., a brave few parade patrons were on hand to witness the lighting of the Union County Historical Society's Christmas Tree at the Historic Courthouse.

Santa and Mrs. Claus served as the parade's Grand Marshals. Santa took note



of all the boys and girls that watched the parade. He seemed pleased by the turn-

out, given the nasty weather conditions.

As Santa waved to the

crowd, the local Christmas Season began in earnest. Santa urged the crowd to buy local this holiday season and keep all that holiday spending in Blairsville and Union County.



Kringle...from Page 1A

the Union County Farmers Market manager.

Nevertheless, no one complained that Cummings was missing during the event. He was sited in street clothes a couple of times.

It was then that the children had their suspicions about Santa.

However, when Santa was nowhere to be found, there were more worries about Kris Kringle's whereabouts

than that of Cummings.

Crowds perused the Market searching for the perfect Christmas gift and Christmas produce; a good time was had by all.

Santa said for all boys and girls to be on their best behavior.

Kris Kringle has connections with Blairsville Police Chief Johnny Carroll and Union County Sheriff Mack Mason.

He's ready to help with Shop With A Cop and Give A Gift Christmas. He's also expected to be at the Vogel State Park Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday evening.

If you haven't had a chance to sit with Santa, he invites you to attend the Vogel Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday evening.

Hint: free hot chocolate and cookies are available.

