

Stephanie Moss...continued from page 1

won't make a student the best that they can be," she said. "We have to approach each student according to their individual needs. We have to do a lot of things that makes learning interesting."

As the state's core curriculum appears headed to eliminate cursive writing from the classroom, Moss said she believes educators should still work with children to help them acquire that talent.

"I have mixed feelings about that," she said. "I don't know that it's as important as it used to be (given the use of computers and keyboards), but I still believe that people need to be able to sign their name. It still plays an important role in society."

"Children don't always have a computer in front of them, and they need to be able to hand-write a letter, or sign a document," she said. "I think until everyone has a computer in front of them, we'll still need to teach some cursive writing."

Moss said one of her goals is to make sure parents understand exactly what their child is experiencing at Towns County Elementary School.

"Being a parent myself, I try to explain things in terms that parents understand," she said. "I let them know how things are related to their child and how it affects them."

Moss said she expects her role as an assistant principal to be a totally different atmosphere from which she presently is accustomed.

"I'll be able to interact with more children during the day than I have been interacting with, but on a shorter amount of time," she said. "It'll be different because I've been in the classroom for 16 years."

Moss said she hopes to be able to make the children feel comfortable in their learning environment. She understands that some children have experienced a difficult time given the current

state of the economy.

"I think young children sometimes pick up on the stresses at home," she said. "When they're at school, we need to make this a positive environment so they won't have to worry about all the problems that they hear Mom and Dad talking about."

"We're going to make sure they're fed, and when it's snack time that they're taken care of also," she said. "We want them to focus on school while they're here and we need to make this a positive experience for them."

Her experience as a parent will help her as an assistant principal.

"As a parent, I would want to know that what's supposed to be going on at school is going on," she said. "I would want my kids in a safe learning environment that encourages them to learn. That's one of my goals, to assure that our children are in an environment that enhances their learning experience."

Did you know?



By: Lynda Farren
Property Manager

All property managers are not the same. Their services vary as much as their qualifications. If you are looking for a property manager, take the time to decide if they are the right property management company for you. Interview several before making a decision. The company that you decide upon will be handling your investment which is, more than likely, one of the largest investments that you have.

Here are a few questions that you may want to ask them: How many properties do they manage? How many leases do they do each month? How many houses do they have available for rent? How long does it take them to lease a house? How do they collect rent? How do they handle repair requests? Do they only handle rentals or do they also sell properties?

One of the most important question is:

How long have they been managing property? If they are a start up company, you don't

need them to get experience on your dime. It is hard to beat experience as a teacher. Do they know the procedures for evicting a tenant. There is nothing negative about being the new kid on the block. The question is, have they done their homework. Are they familiar with handling mold, a tenant paying partial rent, dealing with roommates, monies owed after the tenant moves out and the list goes on and on and on.

Being in the mountains and a rural area, many might forget that technology does drive businesses and property management is no exception. How do they collect rent. Do they allow credit cards, ACH or tenants paying online? Is their website secure? Property managers need to be on the cutting edge of technology.

Real Estate companies generally don't have this stuff. They are doing their best to sell property, not be a property management company. This tells you that they are not serious about being a property management company. All they want to do is sell property and are bidding their time by doing property management until the sales start coming back.

Take the time to be informed before you decide who you will use to manage one of your largest assets. You can always change your mind but it will cost you more in the long run if you choose someone that is not qualified but is "So reasonable". Take your time and ask questions and then more questions. Call me if you have any questions. 706-896-8907.

NT(Mar23,A5)

Castaway Critters fundraiser trip to Harrah's Casino

Join the Castaway Critters Fund Raising Committee for a day trip to Harrah's Casino in Cherokee, NC on Wednesday, April 6th. On board our deluxe motor coach, leaving from Hiawassee, we'll serve a nutritious breakfast of orange juice, champagne and sweet rolls.

At the casino you'll receive a \$5 voucher for free play and a delicious buffet lunch. This was a sell out in January so reserve early for your seat on the bus. Price is \$65 per person.

For information or reservations contact Sue Silverman at 706-379-1329, or email: suesteve@windstream.net.

NT(Mar23,30,23)CA

Bass Tourney... continued from page 1

took about a half-second for him to realize he had hooked into a very nice large-mouth bass.

"I knew it was a good one. He was in shallow water and he just took off," Pack said.

The lunker bass was playing hard to get and Pack was concerned that his first quality strike of the day was apt to come off.

Once in the boat, a hoist of the Chatuge bass left both Pack and Prince feeling good about the day's prospects.

The bass weighed in at almost 7 pounds, almost a third of the 24-plus pounds of bass that netted them not only the \$100 Big Fish prize, but the overall first place prize of \$1,000.

"This morning and all was pretty slow," Pack said. "We didn't do all that good. I caught (that) one good one early on with a jig (around a dock)."

"Later on, today when a little bit of the clouds came out we caught the rest of our fish off the Shooting Creek end...off jigs around the

docks," he said.

Pack and Prince were honored to be a part of the fund-raiser designed to help send the Towns County Indians' football players to football camp and help purchase equipment.

"We love to fish and it was an honor to be a part of this tournament today," Pack said.

"I'm glad, any time we can help out around here and help the locals out around here; it's all for a great cause."

After the payouts, Head Coach Kyle Langford said the Indians' football team netted about \$1,850.

"It was a good day for us," Coach Langford said. "The turnout was good and, it was about as good a day weather-wise as you could ask for."

Coach Langford thanked the anglers and the volunteers, including some of his players, for helping to make the event a second-year success.

"It was a really outstanding day for our boys of

Towns County High School football," Coach Langford said. "The community really showed up and supported us. Gosh, we must've had a couple hundred people there at the final weigh-in. We had 50 boats which is up from the 21 that we had last year. Just the support and everything was so positive. Everybody had a great time just working and helping these kids out."

The Towns County Touchdown Club would like to thank the following sponsors for supporting the Second Annual Bass Tournament:

United Community Bank; R & S Sports; Lake Chatuge Marine; Community Bank & Trust; Kim Farmer Insurance; Bank of Hiawassee; Community Cash Title Pawn; VFW Men's; VFW Women's; Mountain Realty; Noblet's 5 & 10; C & J Mountain Outfitters; Stephanie McConnell; Blue Ridge EMC; Suburban Propane; ReMax of Hiawassee; Turpin's Wrecker Service; and Southland Pawn & Jewelry.



Heath Pack and Trevor Prince accept checks from Indians Head Coach Kyle Langford after winning the 2011 Touchdown Club Bass Tournament. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Artworks class schedule for March and April

We offer a Monogramming Service, call the store for more details. Evening classes are now available! Coming soon, a schedule of summer children's arts & crafts classes.

Couldn't get up the stairs to the ArtWorks Classroom? Well, we have another classroom that will be available upon early registration of the class you want.

Saturday, March 19 - 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Sew a Pillowcase Dress in Joy Garcia's Class. Class fee is \$25. There is no supply fee since each student will bring 1 1/2 yards of cotton fabric, a spool of thread to match, and 2 yards of 7/8" wide grosgrain ribbon. Student Level - Beginner; last day to register is March 12.

Wednesday, March 23 - 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Learn to make intricate patterns in polymer clay which will be used to make beads. The instructor is Cheryl Gehring. These beads will be strung and made into a bracelet. You will be able to wear your bracelet home. Student Level - Beginner. Class fee \$28; supply fee \$10. Last day to register is March 22. Another class from 5:30 p.m.

- 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 31 - 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Make a flower pattern pendant out of polymer clay with Instructor Cheryl Gehring. Student Level - Beginner. Class fee \$28; supply fee \$10. Last day to register is March 30. Another class from 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 13 - 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Learn how to make a rose pattern in polymer clay, create a beautiful pendant of your own design, and wear the pendant home! Instructor is Cheryl Gehring. Student Level - Beginner. Class fee is \$20; supply fee is \$10. Last day to register is April 12. Another class from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Artworks is a subsidiary of Mountain Regional Arts and Crafts Guild, located above the Holiday Inn off of Big Sky Drive in Downtown Hiawassee.

Call 706-896-0932 or visit the store to learn more about classes or go online at www.mtnregartscraftsguild.org. Registration for classes may be done by calling 706-896-0932. NT(Mar23,28)CA