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"Some of the best movie people in the business have moved to Atlanta. We don't have to bring anybody from Los Angeles anymore, they're already here."

Caruso bought the book rights to *The Goats* a decade ago from Cole; he's written the screenplay for the film and is now set to film the movie in Towns and Habersham counties. The film will be shown at The Sundance Film Festival in January 2012.

Caruso, 46, packs a Hollywood punch at the box office.

Caruso directed the Sci-Fi Thriller *I Am Number Four* that hit the big screen earlier

this year. He's also directed the box office smash *Disturbia* and *Eagle Eye*, both starring Shia LaBeouf. Other big screen directing credits include *Taking Lives* starring Angelina Jolie, Ethan Hawke and Kiefer Sutherland and *The Salton Sea*, starring Val Kilmer. His television directing credits include *The Shield*, *Over There*, *Smallville* and *Dark Angel*.

Annalise Basso has been cast to play one of the lead characters in *The Goats*. Her film credits include *Bedtime Stories* with Adam Sandler, *Alabama Moon*, and guest starring roles in *Desperate Housewives*, *Lie to Me*, and *True Blood*.

The Goats is the first of what could soon be many motion pictures filmed in Towns County, thanks to the state of Georgia's incentive program for the movie industry.

Tom Cruise was in town last week scouting locations that include mountains and lakes. Cruise is in pre-production on two films, *Horizons* and *One Shot*. The former is scheduled for release in 2012, while *One Shot* is scheduled for release in 2013.

For the most part, Cruise was in the air in a helicopter.

It's not known what film Cruise was scouting locations for last week.

Qualifying...continued from page 1A

partisan special election with no party primaries. However, each candidate's party affiliation, if any, will be listed on the ballot. The date for the special election is Tuesday, Nov. 8. Run-off elections, if needed, will be held Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Citizens must be registered to vote by Tuesday,

Oct. 11 to take part in the Nov. 8 special election. Voter registration forms can be obtained at the Towns County Registrar's Office at 91 Berrong Street in Hiawassee.

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Festival...continued from page 1A

troups will perform.

Other top performers at the 2011 Fall Festival include The Quebe Sisters, Steven Phillips and the Midnight Express, The Redhead Express and Freddie Way.

The Annual Georgia State Fiddlers' Convention marks the festival's final day on Oct. 15 as two-time defending champion Bryan McDowell attempts to collect his third consecutive Fiddle King Award.

On Oct. 8, Skaggs is the man to see at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Skaggs was on top of the Country Music world in

the 1980s with hits like *Uncle Pen*, *Highway 40 Blues* and *Honey (Open That Door)*. He returned to his roots performing Bluegrass in the 1990s, and went full-time Bluegrass in 1997.

He started his own record label, Skaggs Family Records and travelled the music circuits performing Bluegrass. However, his fans still wanted to hear his Country Music hits.

"The songs on the *Treasure Chest Tour* itself are a little more indicative of the original hits from the 1980s," Skaggs said.

"We're using a piano player, a drummer and a guitar player, and we're doing some of them even a little more country than they were originally done. It's a whole different approach, but it's a blast to get to play these old songs again."

Skaggs has won a total of eight Academy of Country Music Awards and eight Country Music Association Awards, including CMA Entertainer of the Year in 1985. His newest CD, *Country Hits Bluegrass Style* was released July 19.

stumbled upon the festival.

"Wow, good music, great art and beautiful weather," she said. "It just doesn't get any better than this."

The Fourth Annual event, sponsored by the Towns County Tourism Association, was a masterpiece, said Tourism Association Executive Director Jane Holland.

"It's been outstanding," Holland said. "We've had terrific weather and we've had lots of visitors and they're not all local visitors, they're coming from outside of Hiawassee. Our vendors are extremely

happy; everyone wants to return next year. They've had a successful and profitable weekend."

Almost 40 vendors participated in the two-day event on the Downtown Square.

"We're looking forward to bigger and better next year," Holland said.

Kiss Committee member Susan Wyman said the event was blissful for everyone.

"We have had just an amazing weekend," she said. "We've got some of the best artists we've ever had. The food vendors have been incredible. Our enter-

tainment is better than ever before. You couldn't ask for anymore than what we've experienced this weekend."

"Summer's Last Kiss has the potential to be a huge event in the future for Hiawassee," she said. "We're always trying to improve what we're doing to make it successful. With the way the economy is, people are choosing where they spend their money and this year, it was at Summer's Last Kiss."

Among the artists, Kotah Moon, William Dealy and Deborah Bryant finished one, two and three respectively for Best in Show.

New Attractions...continued from page 1A

It costs \$7 for 5 minutes of fun inside the ball, but it really looks like a lot of fun.

Also new this year, Nicole Hayes comes to the Fall Festival for the first time. Hayes is actually two entertainers in one. She performs both as a stilt-walker and a living statue.

Also new to the Fall Festival, Swampmaster!

The Swampmaster is educational and entertaining for eight hours each day. The most daring event of the festival comes as the

Swampmaster attempts to catch an eight-foot, 200-pound alligator.

Expert gator handler, Jeff Quattrocchi is the Swampmaster. Quattrocchi will also educate youngsters on all aspects of alligators and their habitats. He'll even provide the opportunity for youngsters to safely hold a baby gator. Also, it's a rare opportunity for youngsters to get a photo of themselves holding a gator and getting advice from Quattrocchi.

Quattrocchi says holding baby gators isn't just for

kids, grownups are allowed to participate as well.

The festival also features helicopter rides, scooter rentals, Thomas the Trackless Train, face painters and more. The festival also includes daily arts and crafts exhibits as well as vendors with much to offer.

Come on out Oct. 7 through Oct. 15 and experience the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds Fall Festival.

The festival is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Everyone was smiling at Summer's Last Kiss over the weekend. The two-day event attracted record crowds to the Downtown Square. Photos/Lowell Nicholson and Charles Duncan

New adventure novel travels back to a simpler time

"Beyond Belief" by Peggy Inez continues the series of "The Summer Adventures of Maggie Sue and Terry D" with danger, adventure and a shocking twist.

Local author Peggy Inez has her characters facing death and danger in the deep South in the latest installment of the series. Inez's latest effort follows its adventurous brother-sister duo back to 1948 Mississippi for a reunion with their grandmother and Marine sergeant older brother that culminates in a shocking surprise twist.

"I feel 'Beyond Belief' is different from most books on the market today," says Inez. "Keep in mind, this was written for the young and old, with appropriate language for

all age divisions. Yet, it's not a goody-goody novel where everyone is perfect, because we are not!"

Perfect for audiences aged eight and up, "Beyond Belief" is a mix of drama and family-friendly subject matter Inez believes will appeal to both children and their families. The author says she hopes the latest installment in her series will remind her readers of the family-oriented classics she enjoys herself.

"My book is decent, it is exciting, it is loving, it is humorous... everything that I grew up reading and appreciating," says Inez. "If one enjoyed the 'Little House on the Prairie' series, 'Tom Sawyer' or even my favorite 'To Kill a Mockingbird,' then they will

enjoy my books."

"Beyond Belief" is available for sale online at Amazon.com and other sites. Locally it is available at The Bargain Zone, up on the hill behind the post office, in Blairsville.

Peggy Inez is a retired educator who spent 40 years teaching the performing arts to children and young adults. Peggy is now devoting her retirement to her life-long passion of writing. She started writing at a very young age and continued to develop her craft with the magazine she owned and edited for several years. A licensed amateur radio operator, Inez and her family also owned and edited three international ham radio newsletters for 18 years. N(Sep28,Z11)CA

Did you know?



**By: Lynda Farren
Property Manager**

score. Something just was not adding up. There was a snake in the wood pile. The previous address was on a very short street in Towns County. I called an acquaintance, who lived on the street and asked her if she knew the applicant. She said, "Yes."

Something told me to go to the tax records and see who owned this house. It was not on the tax records. I then drove by the house. When I did, I realized that the acquaintance's husband owned the house. She was the

applicant's stepmother.

Here was the outcome. The acquaintance lied. Previous landlord lied. Applicant falsified their application. When I called the applicant and confronted her on this, she said, "I don't know what the problem is. I really lived in Hayesville not Hiawassee. I just wrote down the wrong address."

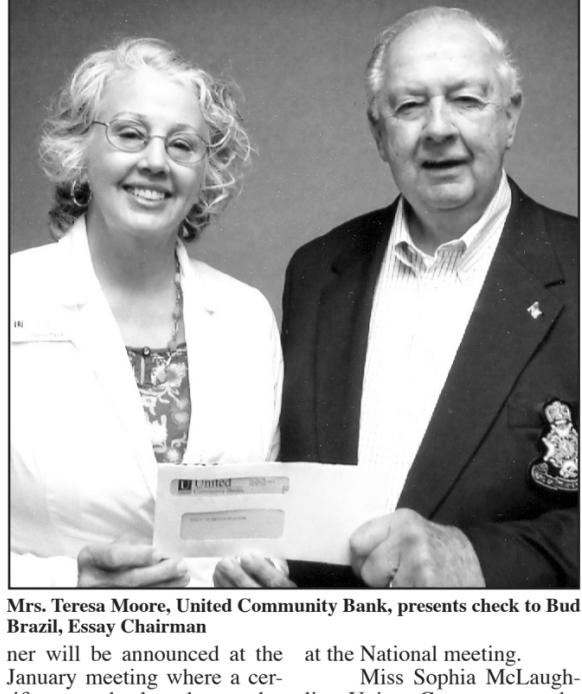
If the applicant lies on their application, is this the kind of person who will take care of the property?

United Community Bank co-sponsors S.A.R. Knight Essay Contest

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, takes this opportunity to thank the United Community Bank of Blairsville for their contribution and support of the Chapter's George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest open to all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students in the five counties served by the Chapter (Union, Towns, Fannin, Gilmer and Rabun). Private and home schooled students are also eligible.

The contest is for an original researched and proven topic written in English. The topic of the essay shall deal with an event, person, philosophy, or an ideal associated with the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. The essay must have a minimum of 800 words and not exceed 1,250 words excluding title page, footnotes, bibliography and biography.

For additional information, please contact William O. Brazil, Committee Chairman at 706-781-3500 or email wbrasil@brmenc.net The completed essay should be to Mr. Brazil no later than December 2, 2011. The local contest win-



Mrs. Teresa Moore, United Community Bank, presents check to Bud Brazil, Essay Chairman

ner will be announced at the January meeting where a certificate, a check and a revolving trophy for the school will be presented and the essay will then be sent to State for judging in that contest. The State winner will be announced in January and the National winner will be announced in July at the National meeting.

Miss Sophia McLaughlin, Union County, was the 2010 local winner. Our very best wishes go to Sophia as she enters college this fall. Mrs. Scott was her sponsoring teacher. Miss McLaughlin attended Mountain Area Christian Academy. N(Sep28,Z15)CA

Did you know that many people feel that if you make good money that you would be a good tenant. This is not necessarily true. Good tenants are people who pay the rent, pay on time, take care of the property and let the landlord/property manager know of repairs that are required. Just because they make good money does not mean they are responsible.

Once you receive an application from a prospective tenant it is imperative that all information is verified. Many landlords do not call the previous landlord. This is a major mistake on their part. Here are some questions to ask the previous landlord.

Did they leave the property in good condition? Did they pay their rent on time? Did they have any late payments? Did they have a lease and if so, did they fulfill the lease? Did they receive their security deposit back?

After you have gotten good responses on all of the questions above, there is one more very important question to ask the previous landlord.

Are you related to the applicant? If they hesitate at all then you know that they probably are related. Everything they just told you is probably not true.

If they said the applicant paid on time, no late fees etc, there is no guarantee that they even paid the rent.

Just recently, I had a situation where the applicant had a good report from the previous landlord. The applicant had great income but had a horrible credit

score. Something just was not adding up. There was a snake in the wood pile. The previous address was on a very short street in Towns County. I called an acquaintance, who lived on the street and asked her if she knew the applicant. She said, "Yes."

Something told me to go to the tax records and see who owned this house. It was not on the tax records. I then drove by the house. When I did, I realized that the acquaintance's husband owned the house. She was the

19th Annual Sorghum Festival Golf Classic October 7th

The time is fast approaching. October 7th is the date for the 19th annual Sorghum Festival classic golf tournament. This year's tournament is sure to continue in its traditional excellence.

The tournament will be held at the Old Union Golf Course with lunch, goodie

Union County Rotary Club Sponsorship Form

I wish to sponsor the Union County Rotary Club's 19th Annual "Sorghum Festival Golf Classic" at Old Union at Owen Glen Golf Course in Blairsville, GA on Friday, October 7, 2011.

Sponsorship amount: \$ _____ (\$100 minimum per sponsorship)

Name of sponsor: _____ (As you want it listed in the program and on the sign.)

Individual approving sponsorship: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Door Prizes/Certificates:

You may contribute a value-in-kind gift (minimum value of \$25) to be raffled at the tournament:

Item 1: _____

Item 2: _____

Deadline: Please return this form with a check/door prize/certificate by October 3, 2011. Mail to: Melanie Hughes, P.O. Box 1908, Blairsville, GA 30514 or give to Scott Carter or Darrin Sparks.

Tournament Committee: Melanie Hughes, 706-439-6213 office, 828-361-1639 cell; Scott Carter, 706-745-7359; and Darrin Sparks, 706-781-6633.

Thank you for your support of the tournament. Proceeds are used to fund local Scout troops, local student scholarships, PolioPlus, Children's literacy and many other projects to benefit our community. N(Sep28,Oct5,Z3)CA