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tenure of Gov. Zell Miller.

However, Dr. Sellers was best known and loved as a teacher. She inspired students old and young through her work at Young Harris College, her church, Institute for Continual Learning and frequent speaking engagements.

Her passion for living, learning and language were lifelong and the accomplishments of her students are her greatest legacy.

In essence, Trailfest was as much a celebration of Dr. Sellers on Saturday, as it was a celebration of Reece.

Somehow, through the years, the two became synonymous.

"Rarely does a person so gifted and giving appear to bless our lives," Dr. Kay said. "It is more than a cliché to say that she will be missed by the countless people who knew and loved her. Through her published works and students of all ages, she will live on."

Saturday's Trailfest became a celebration of not only Reece and Dr. Sellers, but of the mountain way of life.

The event showcased Reece through various media, including musical and dramatic presentations, storytell-



Tools of the Farming Trade at the Reece Center. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

ing, culinary art, poetry readings, and visual art.

The true secret of Reece is his work, prose about the land, the people and the labors they endured in their mountain way of life.

During his short-lived career, Hub Reece, who attended, but did not graduate from Young Harris College, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, earned two Guggenheim awards, and served as writer-in-residence at UCLA, Atlanta's Emory University, and Young Harris College in Towns County.

In his lifetime, Reece had his work published in the local newspaper, and later went on to compose four books of poetry and two fiction novels.

Trailfest included a butter-churning exhibition, a taste of mountain cuisine, including hominy succotash and cornbread, wild berries, pulled pork and walnuts.

It also included Mountain Music as David Brose of John Campbell Folk School performed on the banjo and acoustic guitar, and Jackie Elsner's renditions of Reece's poetry put to ballad song.

The day also included a tour of the Reece Farm and exhibits as visitors closely examined the tools of the historic farming trade.

All in all, Trailfest allowed for a connection with the world and words that made Hub Reece a literary legend.

"Our prayers were answered when the rains forecast did not appear to spoil our day," Dr. Kay said. "This was our initial Trailfest event as a member of the Southern Literary Trail, and we were pleased with the turnout and the positive response of attendees to the various presentations and activities."

"As a result of such events, the Reece Farm and Heritage Center is gradually becoming better known and is gaining a reputation as a venue worth visiting," Dr. Kay said.

On June 1st, the Reece Center will host the 10th Annual Reece Society Annual Meeting.

Terry Kay, distinguished Southern writer and long-time member of the Reece Society's Advisory Council, will deliver the keynote address.

The meeting will be held again in the pavilion of the Reece Farm and Heritage Center, beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 1st.

Terry Kay will speak on the topic, "A Harvest of Words."

Kay is the author of

some 12 published novels and has received many awards over the years, including being named four times "Author of the Year" by the Georgia Writers Association.

In 2006, he was inducted into the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame. He has also received the Townsend Award, the Lindberg Award, the Appalachian Heritage Award, and in 2009 was selected for the Governor's Award in the Humanities.

Three of Kay's novels have been produced as Hallmark Hall of Fame movies, including the award-winning "To Dance with the White Dog."

The musical portion of the program will be provided by Jackie Elsner, a Reece Society member who is preparing a CD of Reece poems set to the tunes of Scots-Irish-English ballads, such as those heard by Reece in Choestoe.

Elsner will share some of these poems/songs, a capella.

The CD will be available for purchase, with proceeds to benefit the Reece Society.

Also, Stephen Corey, poet and editor of The Georgia Review, will make a short presentation on the connection between Reece and the Review.



The old fashioned Smoke House at the Reece Farm and Heritage Center. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

## Business Expo...continued from Page 1A

business owners to network, let folks know that they're here and showcase what they have to offer.

"We have a lot of home-based businesses here," Wheeler said. "This event gives folks an opportunity to know who the Tupperware lady is, and the Pampered Chef lady, or the Mary Kay lady."

"We had several brick and mortar stores here today, like retail," Wheeler said. "The Gold Academy was here, The Vacuum Store was here, and we had several service businesses here. It was kind of a mixed bag of businesses that showed up today."

For seven years, the Expo had offered a point of service for the community's business women. Tri-State Business Women's group holds business meetings on Tuesday mornings at the Blairsville Restaurant.

They network, work together and are very supportive with fellow entrepreneurs.

"The Expo itself offers name recognition for the vendors, allowing them to get their name out there," Wheeler said. "We don't necessarily expect to sell anything at the Expo. If we do, that's a plus."

"In reality, the Expo is about passing out business cards, coupons and networking," Wheeler said. "That's our main purpose, it we sell something that's a bonus."

Almost 60 vendors



The Pampered Chef Lady at the 2013 Business Expo held at Union County Farmers Market. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

turned out for the event at the Farmers Market.

Wheeler is excited about the location. It's affordable and spacious. She's eager to book the Farmers Market again for the Eighth Annual Tri-State Business Women's Expo.

"We can spread out here, it's much cheaper for the vendors, and it's more of a party atmosphere here," Wheeler said. "It's just a big, fun trade show, and it's an exciting time for everyone."

The event started off small as a venue for just Tri-State Business Women as a showcase for their businesses.

"We realized we could make this a big community event," Wheeler said. "The Business Expo isn't just women anymore. We take other businesses now. Every year, we do more to be better."

Michelle Hughes of

Hughes Accounting said that the event was an unparalleled success story.

"It's a wonderful networking opportunity," Hughes said. "Folks meander through and get to see everyone. It's great for the community because it's a chance to visit and see the businesses that this area has to offer that they might not normally see."

The Mary Kay lady, Judy Muir, was ecstatic about the Expo.

"It really helps my business," Muir said. "I'm not out here to sell products necessarily, but I've got a great opportunity to network and make contacts."

"I did very well with that today," she said. "The Expo isn't about sales, it's about making new contacts and making people aware that you're here and making them aware of how to find you."