



United Community Bank Names New Regional Presidents for North Carolina/Tennessee and North/Coastal Georgia

BLAIRSVILLE, GA -- (MARKET WIRE) -- 11/09/11 -- United Community Banks, Inc. (NASDAQ: UCBI) announces that Tim Schools has joined its subsidiary, United Community Bank, as Regional President of North Carolina and Tennessee banks. In this newly created position, Schools will be responsible for the oversight and direction of the banks in these two states which are expected to be great growth markets.

Schools comes to United Community Bank with extensive banking experience, including service as Chief Operating Officer and President of American Savings Bank. He previously has served as Chief Risk Officer and Chief Financial Officer of The South Financial Group. Since 1992, Schools also has held various leadership roles at National Commerce Financial, SouthTrust, Sonat (energy holding company) and Price Waterhouse.

Concurrently, United Community Bank announces the promotion of Bill Gilbert to Regional President of north Georgia and coastal Georgia. Gilbert has served as Senior Vice President - Retail Banking since 2003 and has been a valuable contributor to the strategy and growth of our retail banking and product growth over the past several years. Gilbert joined United Community Bank in 2000 as CEO and President of Peoples First Community Bank in Summerville, GA. He previously served as CEO and President of Farmers and Merchants Bank, Head of Operations at Farmers and Merchants Bank, and President of the Regal Textile Credit Union in South Carolina.

"Tim is a solid and beneficial addition to the United family," says Jimmy Tallent, United Community Bank President and Chief Executive Officer. "Likewise, Bill's promotion is well-deserved and one that will certainly be very positive for all of our north and coastal Georgia banks. We are fortunate to have bankers of this caliber and experience at the helm of two of our growing, high-potential markets. They join a team of equally qualified leaders, bankers and support staff that makes United Community Bank one of the finest banks in the country."

About United Community Banks, Inc.

Headquartered in Blairsville, United Community Banks is the third-largest bank holding company in Georgia. United Community Banks has assets of \$7.2 billion and operates 27 community banks with 105 banking offices throughout north Georgia, the Atlanta region, coastal Georgia, western North Carolina and east Tennessee. The Company specializes in providing personalized community banking services to individuals and small to mid-size businesses. United Community Banks also offers the convenience of 24-hour access through a network of ATMs, telephone and on-line banking. United Community Banks common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol UCBI. Additional information may be found at the Company's web site at www.ucbi.com.

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