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## **MEDIA ALERT – WINNERS OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF**

*Douglasville, Georgia* – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is pleased to announce the winners of the 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF at O’Neal Plaza, on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. This annual fundraiser for the Cultural Arts Council, offered in conjunction with the 29<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CITY OF DOUGLASVILLE HALLOWEEN MOONLIGHT RUN, was attended by more than 2,500 people this year, according to Douglasville police estimates.

Our panel of celebrity judges – City Councilman Terry Miller, West Georgia Realtors’ Ed Carlton, chef Josh Gibson, Downtown Development Authority Chair Jack Tysor, and City of Douglasville’s Jeff Noles – deliberated long and carefully before awarding the honor of “**Best Tasting**” to a first-time competitor **Lane Blair**’s delicious chili; second place went to Douglas County Chair Tom Worthan with a five-way tie for third place was to chili cooks Mayor Mickey Thompson, candidate Beau McClain, Southern States Insurance, Blues Brothers Don Brown, and the Downtown Development Authority. CAC Board Vice President Vicki Harshbarger of GreyStone Power, and Douglas County Arts Guild President Linda Britt awarded the “**Best Presentation**” to **Brides Atlanta** for the most creatively decorated booth with second place in this category going to Southern States Insurance and third to the Downtown Development Authority with honorable mentions awarded to First Commerce Bank and Douglas County Coroner Randy Daniels. **Don Brown** with his “Blues Brothers Chili” won the highly competitive award of “**Most Sold**” this year with County Chair Tom Worthan in second place and Coroner Randy Daniels and Mayor Mickey Thompson and Janice Thompson tied for third place.

The Children’s Halloween Costume Contest proved more popular than ever, and our panel of judges – Superintendent of Schools Don Remillard, Douglas County Chamber of Commerce President Kali Boatwright, and CAC Board member June Keen – faced tough decisions in awarding prizes for most creative costuming, but every child was a winner at the 2008 Chili Cookoff! **Brent Perren**, age 2, was awarded best costume in the pre-Kindergarten through second grade category; Mark Glass, age 11, won in the third to fifth grade group; **Aden Boatwright** was the prize-winner in the sixth to eighth grade group; and **Kathleen Young** received the award in the ninth to twelfth grade category.

The proceeds from this sold-out family fun event benefit the Cultural Arts Council and its educational outreach programming including arts in afterschool initiative, artists in our schools program, and spring and summer art camps; the monthly exhibition program at the Cultural Arts Center; and the CAC’s popular free spring and fall concerts series, also presented on O’Neal Plaza in Douglasville’s historic downtown.

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