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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Top Chefs Set to Judge Cowles Clinic BBQ Grill Off

Greensboro, GA (April 5, 2007)— Excitement is building to see who will be this year's BBQ champions at the 2nd Annual Cowles Clinic Health Fair and BBQ Grill Off. The competition is attracting wide interest with 10 local BBQ enthusiasts now entered. On board as judges are the professional talents of Executive Chef Gerald Schmidt of Reynolds Plantation and former chef, turned CEO Andrew Ward of Cuscowilla. Each has a distinguished culinary career and a love for good BBQ.

Chef Gerald Schmidt is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. He has served in numerous top chef positions in leading hotels including the Grand Hyatt New York, Trumpets Dining Room owned by Donald Trump; Maidstone Club, East Hampton Long Island, N.Y with an exclusive membership of elite families and Hollywood celebrities including Dina Merrill, Chevy Chase, the Ford family and the Wainwrights. Schmidt was executive chef at Stanhope Hotel, New York, N.Y., a European-grand luxury hotel where he catered functions at various New York landmarks such as Tiffany's. He has received numerous culinary awards and worked with renowned chefs including Chef François Forreu, of the Restaurant Cheval Rouge near Champagne, France. As executive chef for Reynolds Plantation, Schmidt manages a team of master culinarians for the community's four restaurants and catering services. He is a wine connoisseur and an active member and officer of "Culinaire" of the Lake Oconee Chaine des Rotisseurs which he formed as the third largest starting chapter behind Atlanta and New York.

Andrew Ward originally trained in Hospitality Management and worked for 10 years in the UK. His early career was in the kitchen where he headed a team of 30 Chefs in Cambridge England at the Garden House Hotel. He also served as Executive Chef in Bermuda prior to moving into Food and Beverage Management and later General Management. Ward notes his personal catering highlights were cooking on separate occasions for Prince Charles and Princess Diana in the UK. Ward has been a member of the International Culinary Chaine des Rotisseurs Association for over 15 years and holds the rank of Maitre Hotelier as well as Founding Honoree Baillie. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Health.

"No one makes great BBQ like the Southerners do. I am very excited to be joining the Judging Team for this years' Cowles Clinic Grill Off," said Ward.

The Health Fair and BBQ Grill Off Competition is free to the community on Saturday, April 14 from 1-5 PM. Free food, facility tours, live music from The Apostles of Bluegrass and kids' activities will be included. This year's event is expected to attract over 1,000. BBQ awards will be given in two categories: judges choice and peoples choice and will include cash prizes for the top winners.

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The physicians and staff of Cowles Clinic will be exhibiting along with the following local community partners: Platinum Sponsors- BankSouth, DreamBuilt, Lake Oconee Center for Dental Health and Saint Joseph's Hospital. Gold Sponsors - Athens Neurological Associates, Coldwell Banker, Cuscowilla and Putnam General Hospital. Silver Sponsors -Care South Home Care, Lake Oconee Shooting Club, Lakeside Cleaning, Piedmont Financial Partners and Surgical Associates of Atlanta. Bronze Sponsors- Advance Rehabilitation Physical Therapy, Alliance Imaging, Center for Women's Care and Reproductive Surgery, Custom Printing and Office Supply, East Ridge Community Church, First Call Pregnancy Center, Hallman Wood Products, Madison CVB, Oconee Cabinets, Southeastern Pain Specialists, Sycamore Oconee Real Estate, Watson Specialty Products, We Care Home Healthcare Services and Willow Run Retirement Home.

Cowles Clinic is located on Linger Longer Road just off Lake Oconee Parkway towards the Ritz Carlton Lodge. For more information, go to www.CowlesClinic.com or call (706) 454-0111.

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