

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SOUTH COBB CITIZENS ARCHETYPES OF PHILANTHROPY

[Smyrna, GA]. Unless you live in the five-city district of South Cobb, Vinings, Smyrna, Mableton, Austell or Powders Springs, you would not believe the extent to which philanthropy goes in the area. Countless activists in these neighborhoods organize for causes, such as the Taste of South Cobb that benefits C.A.M.P. a food pantry supporting hundreds of families per month with food, clothing and utility assistance, as well as Amateur Advocate Association, a group responsible for the positive guidance of youth and community. There are other charities too people rally to help, like The Bullock Hope House for cancer and rehab patients and their families; The Austell Task Force to improve Six Flags Drive; MIC preserving the history of Mableton; The Pebble Brook Jr. Falcons inspiring team sport in teens; the South Cobb Rotary benevolent in numerous local non-profits, and the list goes on and on.

Sharie Bassett a member of the **South** Cobb Alliance and a volunteer for Mableton Day and the Taste of South Cobb is an archetype of the South Cobb citizen. Serving for at least three years, she is a stay-at-home mom of two young children, and can be seen carrying one or both of her kids in tow as she maneuvers vending set-ups for the Festivals. Albert McRae III, the President and Co-Founder of Amateur Advocates Association, admits, "She is an invaluable part of the community for all she does in these efforts. She is a vending czar, and people love interacting with her wonderful spirit."

Amateur Advocate Association and C.A.M.P host several programs to raise funds needed to continue their patronage to local residents. The Spring Chicken Run was held in March of this year. Despite pouring rain, District 4 Commissioner Lisa Cupid, two hundred other runners and some 75 volunteers turned out to support the Run. "I was amazed to see these all athletes come to the race. It is this kind of passion in South Cobb that makes my job [Executive Director of C.A.M.P.] so rewarding, says Darlene Duke.

It is no wonder, then, this village will have a marquee affair in November, called the Taste of South. Again, members of the region will assemble to showcase *What South Cobb Has to Offer*. The line up of the Taste will include a **First Responders Cook-off**, when local firefighters, EMS and police engage in a food battle for the 501c3s. South Cobb high schools, colleges and universities will present their schools' culinary programs as **South Cobb School Cooking**. **The FOX5 TV** news anchors and team will appear, along with their **Storm Tracker** vehicle. **Executive Chef Eric Spivey** sponsors the **WellStar Cobb Hospital** *Eat Well with Farm Fresh Food*. More activities of the event include the customary **Taste Row**, highlighting local restaurants and caterers; a **Kids Corner** with karaoke, Make It and Take It and first responders training; **Corporate** and **Small Business Vendors**; plus a Live Music Stage and **Music on the Amph**, featuring local and national acts.

It is because of the population's generosity that in his message to attendees of the promotional Taste South Cobb Mini Taste and Business After-Hours in March, Former Governor Roy Barnes said, "South Cobb is possibly one of the best places to live, work and play." The Taste takes place November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre of Floyd Road.

For more information or to become a sponsor, vendor or volunteer for the Taste of South Cobb, please contact us 770-944-7005.