



NEWS RELEASE

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Cleveland Better Home Town Teams up with Cabbage Patch Kids® to Celebrate 25 Years! Ten Year Old Tyler Dorsey to Chair Event

Cleveland, Georgia (June 30, 2008) – Cleveland Better Home Town today announced that it is teaming up with BabyLand General Hospital to host the **“Cabbage Patch Kids 25th Birthday Party & Fall Leaf Festival.”** “Cleveland has been home to the Cabbage Patch Kids for 25 years and this is a great way to not only celebrate their great success, but to celebrate the things that make Cleveland a great place to live,” said Garrison Baker, Chairman of the Board for Cleveland Better Home Town.

The event will take place Saturday, September 20th from 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM in downtown Cleveland and at BabyLand General Hospital with Birthday cupcakes, punch and all activities on the grounds free from 10:00am – 4:00pm. In addition to the Cabbage Patch Costume Characters and Carnival Rides at BabyLand, Cleveland Better Home Town is coordinating several other community events that day that include a Fall Leaf Parade hosted by the White County Chamber of Commerce, a Vintage Car Show at Mountain Valley Community Bank, an Agri-Fest and Farmer’s Market on the parking lot behind the White County Courthouse, an Old Fashioned Bake-off Competition on the Square as well as Arts & Crafts Vendors, a Beard Contest, book signing at the Historic Courthouse with Senator Zell Miller and a live music stage sponsored by Community Bank & Trust.

“After the Sesquicentennial Celebration last year several people approached us to do an annual event for the community,” said Cleveland Better Home Town Manager, Maria Jurado-Flynn. “Almost every town in North Georgia has its own annual event so we wanted to do that for the citizens of Cleveland and White County. Our partnership with the Cabbage Patch Kids will make this event even more exciting this year,” added Flynn. Last year’s Sesquicentennial was a celebration of the community’s history. It’s all the things that make a community special and remind us of the reason we live in small towns - friends, neighbors, tradition and time with our children and families. What better way to celebrate what makes Cleveland special than to include our children. Cleveland Better Home Town is honored to name 10 year old Tyler Dorsey as the Chairman of this year’s Fall Leaf Festival.

The Steering Committee met for the first time today to make plans for the event. Garrison Baker introduced young Tyler Dorsey to the committee. White County School Superintendant Dr. Paul Shaw attended the meeting and congratulated Tyler on being named Chairman. He emphasized the importance of children having a voice in planning events like this. The committee plans on involving children in all areas of planning and will be reaching out to various classes and departments at the school. The meeting proceeded with each committee member reporting on their individual plans for September.

Tyler turns 10 on Tuesday July 1st. He has lived in Cleveland all his life. He will be going into the 5th grade at White County Intermediate School. He enjoyed being on Student Council at school and will be a 2nd year Webelo with the Boy Scouts of America this year. He likes swimming, fishing, camping, riding his 4 wheeler, playing video games, and spending time with his family. Tyler enjoys learning about the history of Cleveland and White County. He attends Tesnatee Baptist Church and would like to be in politics when he grows up. Or maybe one day even President.

Plans are underway for the Fall Leaf Festival and if you are interested in being a vendor or a sponsor of the event, contact Cleveland Better Home Town at (706) 969-3336.

Sponsors of the Fall Leaf Festival include Community Bank & Trust, Cleveland Better Home Town, The City of Cleveland, White County Chamber of Commerce, Mountain Valley Community Bank, White County News, WRWH 13 50 Radio, and Georgia 105.1.

Cleveland Better Home Town, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (C) 3 charitable organization. In 2007, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs officially designated Cleveland as a *Georgia Better Home Town*. Cleveland Better Home Town is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and works to promote the 4-Point Approach to downtown revitalization (*Organization, Design, Economic Restructuring, and Promotion*). Donations to the Fall Leaf Festival are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and assist with Cleveland Better Home Town's Historic Preservation and downtown revitalization projects.

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