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For more information, contact:

Jim Mathis, President

North Georgia Community Foundation

770 533-7393

jmathis@ngcf.org

Bagwells Named NGCF's 2014 'Philanthropists of the Year' Award Winners

GAINESVILLE, Ga. (Oct. 6, 2014) – The North Georgia Community Foundation has named Tommy and Chantal Bagwell as its 2014 Philanthropists of the Year award winners.

They will be honored at the Foundation's 10th annual Philanthropy Day Luncheon scheduled for noon on Nov. 20 at the First Baptist Church of Gainesville Banquet Hall.

The Bagwells, who reside in Forsyth County, were selected because of their strong community support of area causes throughout the years, including the Northeast Georgia Council of the Boys Scouts of America, Medical Association of Georgia's "Think About It" campaign for prescription abuse awareness, public and private schools, literacy initiatives, food pantries and other programs that provide support for needy families.

The Philanthropist of the Year honor is given annually to individuals known for their humanitarianism and good will. A committee of former recipients, NGCF board chairs and three at large members select the finalist each year from nominations submitted from a 15-county region in northeast Georgia.

"Tommy and Chantal are great examples for service, philanthropy and civic responsibility," North Georgia Community Foundation President Jim Mathis said. "Their giving has touched the lives of many people in northeast Georgia and beyond."

Previous winners include: Lorry and Sherrie Schrage, Dr. Richard and Phyllis Leet, Walter and Winkie Boomershine, Martha and John Jacobs, Anne and George Thomas, Mike and Lynn Cottrell, Lessie Smithgall, Philip and Mary Hart Wilheit, and Jim Walters.

Founded in 1985 by Lou Fockele and other business leaders, the North Georgia Community Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the spirit and quality of life in the Northeast Georgia community by building,

managing and awarding charitable grants from a pool of community funds valued in excess of \$43 million. To date, more than \$50 million in grants have been awarded. The organization also promotes training and networking among the region's nearly 300 non-profits. For more information on the foundation and this event, please contact the foundation at www.ngcf.org or call (770) 533-7391.

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