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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2011 GOOD NEIGHBOR OF THE YEAR WINNERS ANNOUNCED

WAKE FOREST, NC – September 20, 2011 – The Wake Forest Human Relations Council (HRC) announced the following winners of the 2011 Good Neighbor of the Year Award during the Sixth Annual Good Neighbor Day on Sept. 18: Holden McLemore (Youth); Albert Barneto and Gene Adams (Adult co-winners).

Holden McLemore is a senior at Wake Forest-Rolesville High School. According to information submitted in support of his nomination, McLemore has been instrumental in implementing the Youth Leadership Wake Forest program for the Wake Forest Area Chamber of Commerce. He also created Hearts from Home in conjunction with the Wake Forest-Rolesville High School Student Government Association. The initiative, which honors families of deployed servicemen and servicewomen, raised over \$2,000 last year. He has also volunteered on a number of political campaigns and sits on multiple committees.

Albert Barneto is the owner of the Wake Forest Coffee Company in downtown Wake Forest. Among the comments submitted with his nomination: “He cares deeply about the community and is very active in making things happen in town, and also in getting other people involved and excited;” “As a business owner, he provides a tremendous benefit to the community. His coffee shop is a microcosm of the Town itself – people come there from all walks of life to gather, share stories and to care for each other. He touches all areas of the Town – all geographic areas and all demographics;” “The Wake Forest Coffee Shop has not only revitalized that small corner of Downtown Wake Forest, but has given a new liveliness to the area after hours so groups of students, single walkers, and young families can feel safe while enjoying the rest of White Street;” He gives back to the community by giving of his time and often gives on-profits and charities gift cards to help in their fundraising efforts.”

Gene Adams is the former principal at Wake Forest Elementary School. According to the information presented to support his nomination, Adams “has made a real impact in the community with his kind, helpful ways in his church and community.” He volunteers for the Deacon’s Ridge Community Board and was instrumental in the installation of “much-needed” lighting in the neighborhood. Among his other activities, Adams volunteers on

election day at Heritage Middle School by registering, guiding, and answering questions for voters. He was described as “a great attribute to the Town of Wake Forest.”

The HRC created the Good Neighbor of the Year Award to recognize the efforts of Wake Forest residents who make exceptional contributions to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. The program is also designed to honor those who make a difference in our community without seeking or receiving recognition for their service.

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For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov.