



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2010

Local Blues Legends to Support Food Bank Summer Food Drive Event on Saturday at Historic Durham Athletic Park

Will McFarlane and Mel Melton offer talents to childhood hunger awareness event

DURHAM, NC - The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina kicked off its annual food and funds campaign on June 3 called Kids Summer Stock. The month long series of events bring awareness to childhood hunger during the summer. **Kids Summer Stock** events have provided a combined total of 3 million meals to children and their families over the past two summers. With a line up of events schedule for the entire month of June at each of its branches, the Food Bank's Durham branch has some legendary supporters lending their talent to the Kids Summer Stock event in Durham, Blues Brews and Ques, on Saturday, June 5 at the Historic Durham Athletic Park. With blues and barbeque being the main attractions of this event, **Will McFarlane and Friends** will open the show at 12pm and **Mel Melton**, owner of Papa Mojo's Roadhouse in Durham, will take the stage at 7pm to close out the evening with his band **The Wicked Mojos**.

WILL MCFARLANE has joined the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina for a second time to bring awareness to childhood hunger during the summer. He and his band first performed at a Food Bank event in July 2009. McFarlane spent six years playing guitar with Bonnie Raitt, from 1974 to 1980. Seeing the Beatles play the Ed Sullivan Show when he was 12 inspired McFarlane to take up guitar. He developed a taste for R&B in high school, focusing on Motown material while developing as a rhythm guitarist. McFarlane learned how to listen as well as play while in Raitt's band. His musical education was a versatile one, encompassing straight blues, country blues, folk, country, rock 'n' roll, as well as singer-songwriter material.

After a spiritual awakening, McFarlane has continued to work in secular and gospel music, both traditional and contemporary styles. He has added full-fledged minister to his list of occupations since coming to the Triangle area seven years ago, and has been **one of the pastors at Grace Church in Chapel Hill**. He has continued to work in Muscle Shoals, Nashville, and other places around the country and world, as well as doing many sessions and live performances in the Raleigh/Durham area. He was just recently inducted into the Musician's Hall of Fame in Nashville as a friend of the Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section (The Swampers).

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MEL MELTON, a North Carolina native, went to Lafayette, Louisiana in the summer of 1969 to visit a college friend and play a little music before going back to UNC. His plans changed when he became totally immersed in the rich culture and physical beauty of southwest Louisiana. He moved permanently to Lafayette at the end of the summer and began playing in a band he co-founded.

To help support his new musical career, Mel took a series of jobs in the best Cajun restaurants in the city and discovered a new talent and another part of Cajun lifestyle, Louisiana cooking.

The year 1990 found Melton back in North Carolina, where he still continues to spread his interpretation of the food and music he grew to love down in the bayou country. Mel is back in the spotlight, cooking on stage with his band, The Wicked Mojos, as well as off-stage. He has served as executive chef and independent restaurant consultant to many of the Triangle's most notable restaurants and food service organizations and parlayed his unique cooking and musical innovation into a new restaurant venture **Papa Mojo's Roadhouse** in 2008. Melton's restaurant blurs the lines between food and entertainment, taste and sounds, visual and musical.

The BLUES Lineup (Saturday, June 5, 2010)

12:00 PM	WILL MCFARLANE & ARMAND LENCHEK & FRIENDS
2:00 PM	JO GORE & THE ALTERNATIVE
3:40 PM	ROOTZIE
5:20 PM	HELL CAMINO
7:00 PM	MEL MELTON & THE WICKED MOJOS

The Kids Summer Stock event in Durham, Blues, Brews and Ques (BB&Q) benefits the Durham Branch of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina and is sponsored by The NC Pork Council, Bojangles, Carolina Packers, Pepsi Bottling Ventures, US Foodservice, Harris Wholesale, The Herald-Sun and Durham Coca Cola.

Admission for the event is \$5 with children under 12 admitted for free. Doors open at 11:30am on Saturday, June 5. Donations of nonperishable food items or funds are encouraged at all events.

Additional Kids Summer Stock events will take place in Southern Pines on Friday, June 4; in Cary on June 12; in Wilmington on June 10 and in Greenville on June 20.

Go to www.foodbankcenc.org for complete details on each event to determine the Kids Summer Stock event that you and your family will attend!

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About the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is a nonprofit organization that provides food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina through warehouses in Durham, Greenville, Raleigh, Southern Pines and Wilmington. The Food Bank serves a network of nearly 800 partner agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults. In fiscal year 2008-2009, the Food Bank distributed nearly 37 million pounds of food and non-food essentials through these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 500,000 individuals struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org.

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