

Media Release
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TILLING UP GOOD FAMILY FUN FOR 38 YEARS
~ SUFFOLK PEANUT FEST ~

SUFFOLK, VA: After more than 30 years as a Suffolk Peanut Fest volunteer, Jimmy Bryant knew exactly what he was going to do when he became the Festival Chairman. He would pay tribute to the farmers who have worked tirelessly to build a strong community through tilled soil, hard work and endless crops of peanuts, soy beans and cotton. Naturally, that same desire lead Bryant to select, "Tilling up Good Family Fun for 38 Years," as the 2015 Suffolk Peanut Fest theme. Slated for October 8-11, 2015, Suffolk Peanut Fest is four days of concerts, amusement rides, arts and crafts, fest food, camel rides and silent discos, along with a truck and tractor pull, motorcycle rally, fireworks and more. General admission is free and open to the public. Parking is \$15 per vehicle upon entry. Four-day parking passes are available for \$25. More details may be found at SuffolkPeanutFest.com.

Suffolk Peanut Fest has always been near and dear to Bryant's heart. First as he began working with a festival food vendor, then as he transitioned into a regular festival volunteer. Typically, Bryant manages the parking functions of the four-day event, from staffing and schedules to lighting and signage. Despite being selected as this year's Chairman, Bryant shows no signs to letting go of the parking committee as he has spent years developing a successful strategy to move people in and out of the festival smoothly, safely and as quickly as possible.

"I find great joy in seeing the smiling faces of the families who attend Suffolk Peanut Fest. You see a lot of the same folks year after year and get to see their children practically grow up before your eyes. Of course, we're always thrilled to see newcomers and for the opportunity to show off our

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community,” said Bryant. “One of Suffolk’s greatest strengths is our deep agricultural roots; the blood, sweat and tears, of hardworking farmers and their dedicated families. I hope this year’s theme serves as a reminder of our community’s heritage and spirit.”

Bryant knows a lot about our community as he retired from the Virginia Department of Transportation after 32 years as a Permit Subdivision Specialist in Land Development. After retiring, he spent a few years working with the public school system. Bryant has been married for 17 years to wife, Debra, and they share a daughter whom they adopted from Guatemala.

The 38th Annual Suffolk Peanut Festival is scheduled for October 8-11, 2015. For more information about Suffolk Peanut Fest and associated concerts, events and games, contact Suffolk Festivals at 757.539.675 or visit SuffolkPeanutFest.com or facebook.com/SuffolkPeanutFest

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