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## **FOOD ROCKS!**

ATLANTA GEM SHOW BRINGS FLAVORFUL EXHIBITS FOR ALL AGES

**Mt. Pleasant, S.C.** (Dec. 3, 2007) – Imagine a lavish food banquet laid out for a large family gathering. Breathe in the aroma of southern ham, beans and croissants. Savor the tang of key lime pie or succumb to your sweet tooth with cherry cheesecake. Is your mouth watering?

Don't bite in just yet. Every item is made of rocks.

The North Atlanta Christmas Show – a gem, mineral, fossil and jewelry show – is welcoming the “Rock Food Table,” a highly sought after exhibit by Bill and Lois Pattillo of Robstown, Texas, for its first appearance in Georgia this weekend (Dec. 7-9) at the North Atlanta Trade Center in Norcross.

The show runs 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$3 per day for adults, and free for children under 16. The Pattillos will be on hand to welcome visitors and explain where their exhibit's different “food” items came from.

Another exhibitor, Atlanta-area children's author Gail Langer Karwoski, offers another way for visitors to get a taste of rocks in her 2007 release, “Julie the Rockhound” (Sylvan Dell Publishing). The book tells the story of a young girl who finds a quartz crystal in her backyard and learns to dig for minerals.

The last few pages feature a “For Creative Minds” section that includes, among other educational activities, recipes for edible rocks. More activities are available for free on the publisher's Web site, [www.SylvanDellPublishing.com](http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com). Karwoski will sell and sign books at her booth.

A total of 45 dealers will be exhibiting with fossils, minerals, gemstones, meteorites, stone carvings, beads, pearls, jewelry and other related items.

Want to give your kids a taste of earth science before the show? Roll up your sleeves, and dig into these educational recipes for edible rocks (from Karwoski's “Julie the Rockhound”):

- **Sedimentary Rocks:** Take one slice of white bread and one slice of wheat/rye bread and remove the crusts. Spread a layer of margarine on the top side of one slice of bread. Make a sandwich by adding a slice of yellow cheese and a slice of ham or turkey as the filling. Pretend that each of these layers is made of particles sand, mud or shells. Can you see the layers you might see in a sedimentary rock? Some are very thin (like the margarine), some are medium (like the meat and cheese) and some are thicker (like the bread).
- **Metamorphic Rocks:** Get an adult to help you with the waffle iron or the stove! Put your “sedimentary sandwich” onto a hot waffle iron or flat frying pan. Close the sides of the waffle iron or press down with a spatula to apply both heat and pressure. After a minute or two, take out your sandwich. How have the

layers changed? Like a metamorphic rock, it was changed by heat and pressure into a (delicious) new form.

- **Igneous Rocks:** With an adult's help, melt chocolate chips over a double boiler. Place a cookie pan on a table, but lean one end of the pan on a stack of napkins to create a tilt. Pretend the heated chocolate is lava and pour some onto the sheet pan. Watch it flow down the surface, just as though it had poured out of the top of the volcano. Can you see how it cools and hardens quickly? This is how some igneous rocks form. Now turn off the burner and allow the rest of the chocolate "magma" in the pot to cool. Because it is such a thick layer, it will harden and cool more slowly. This is how some igneous rocks (like the granite in countertops) form.

For more information about this weekend's show and its exhibits, visit [www.MammothRock.com](http://www.MammothRock.com). For more information about Karwoski's "Julie the Rockhound," visit [www.SylvanDellPublishing.com](http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com).

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#### **Visuals and Interviews:**

To schedule an interview with Karwoski, please contact Sylvan Dell's publicist at (877) 958-2600 or [AngieDzalamanow@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:AngieDzalamanow@SylvanDellPublishing.com).

For Karwoski's headshot and/or "Julie the Rockhound" cover art, please visit <http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com/ImageGallery.htm>.

To view an eBook version of "Julie the Rockhound" for immediate review, use the following temporary viewing code:

Temporary eBook Viewing Code: **Q7X94K**

Code expiration date: **12/12/2007**

Please click on the following link:

<http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com/ebooktrials.php?e=Q7X94K>

For information and pictures of the "Rock Food Table" exhibit, please visit <http://www.rockfoodtable.com/>. ("Rock Food Table" is unrelated to Sylvan Dell.)

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