



JOHN DEERE CLASSIC

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**PGA TOUR WIVES AND RIVER BEND MOBILE PANTRY
PROVIDE LOCAL HUNGER RELIEF**

EAST MOLINE, Illinois (July 7, 2010) – Members of the PGA TOUR Wives Association today donated both time and treasure to some 200 needy local families when they helped distribute food via the River Bend Mobile Pantry and the John Deere Classic Birdies for Charity program.

The PGA TOUR Wives Association presented a check for \$2000 to the River Bend Food Bank at a brief ceremony at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 800 17th Street, Silvis, Ill. Some 12,000 pounds of food were then distributed to the families.

The cost of feeding 200 families via the River Bend Mobile Pantry is approximately \$2000, with the retail value of the food approaching \$20,000, according to River Bend officials.

“The PGA TOUR Wives Association is very excited to participate with Birdies for Charity and the River Bend Mobile Pantry to help achieve a very immediate and tangible result: feeding needy families,” said Shauna Matteson, vice president of charity for the PGA TOUR Wives Association. “In these times when many people are feeling the pain of economic distress, it is more important than ever that those who are fortunate enough to have give back.”

Birdies for Charity will provide the River Bend Mobile Pantry with a five percent bonus on top of the Wives’ \$2000 donation and any other donations to River Bend from members of the public, according to Birdies for Charity director Kristy Ketcham Jackson.

Tom Laughlin, Executive Director for River Bend Mobile Pantry, thanked the TOUR Wives and the Birdies program.

“The River Bend Mobile Pantry is thankful that the PGA TOUR Wives have been so willing to contribute monetarily to the cause of fighting hunger and to utilize their high profile to bring attention to what is a growing crisis in a nation of abundance,” Laughlin said.

The Mobile Pantry is a new program operated by the Quad Cities-based River Bend Foodbank (www.riverbendfoodbank.org). The purpose of the program is to deliver food to specific, mostly rural communities. The John Deere Foundation contributed \$90,000 for one of the refrigerated trucks used in the program.

“John Deere’s contribution to the Mobile Pantry is consistent with the company’s commitment to be a good corporate citizen and aligns with the John Deere Foundation’s signature program, Solutions for World Hunger,” said Mara Sovey, President of the John Deere Foundation and Director of the Corporate Citizenship Center of Excellence.

About the River Bend Foodbank

River Bend Foodbank is the largest hunger relief organization in the Quad Cities and surrounding communities, distributing 6 million pounds of food annually to more than 300 charitable feeding programs throughout a 22 county service area in Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. The Foodbank also operates four Kids Café sites serving over 10,000 individuals each week and providing more than 5,000 free meals to children at risk of hunger each year. The organization’s Backpack Program provides over 1200 children with nourishing food to take home on the weekends during the school year.

PGA TOUR Wives Association, Inc., is a Florida not-for-profit corporation organized to render support and provide assistance to needy children and their families by means of charitable events. Incorporated in 1988 by wives of professional golfers on PGA TOUR, the Association has raised more than \$3 million for child and women related charities. In addition to monetary contributions, its members have given back through personal time, participating in a wide range of service projects from Habitat for Humanity builds to cooking in soup kitchens to playing with hospitalized children in communities where PGA TOUR tournaments are held. For more information about the Association, visit the website at pgatourwives.org.

The John Deere Classic helped raise \$4.6 million for 500 charities in 2009, ranking it first on the PGA TOUR overall in per capita contributions at \$12.26 for each of the 375,000 residents of the Quad City area and fifth overall on the PGA TOUR. The John Deere Classic, which includes Birdies for Charity, is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in the John Deere Classic tournament offices at 15623 Coaltown Road, East Moline, Illinois. Since its founding in 1971, the tournament has helped raise \$33.6 million for charity.

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