

For immediate release  
November 2, 2009

Contact:  
Bonnie Johnson (515) 232-3679  
North Grand Mall  
bonnie@northgrandmall.com

### **'Tis the season for giving at North Grand Mall**

AMES, IA --- North Grand Mall invites shoppers to spread holiday goodwill and joy to those most in need. This holiday season North Grand Mall is hosting the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation, the Youth & Shelter Services Holiday Giving Tree and the ABWA/ASWA gift wrap station and coat check.

North Grand Mall is an official drop-off site for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots, accepting new, unwrapped toys through December 13. Donation boxes are located in center court and next to the customer service center.

In coordination with Youth & Shelter Services, Inc., News•Talk 1430 KASI Radio, and ABWA/ASWA, North Grand Mall is sponsoring the Holiday Giving Tree, conveniently located in the hallway next to Sports Page in the mall's north wing.

"We expect the need for holiday assistance to be great again this year. In hard economic times our services are in even higher demand than usual and affect families that under normal circumstances would be giving assistance, not receiving it," said Teresa Glover, Youth and Shelter Services, Inc. community resources coordinator. "We are expecting to serve more than 200 youth and families this year through our holiday giving programs, up from just 80 in 2007," added Glover.

Shoppers are invited to pick an "angel" ornament listing specific needs for local families in need. Generous shoppers can drop their donations at the customer service center by December 4. Gifts will be wrapped and delivered to area children and families in time for Christmas.

-more-

ADD 1 – 'Tis the season for giving

The American Business Women's Association (ABWA) has been wrapping gifts for North Grand Mall customers for 35 years. For the past three years they've partnered with the American Society of Women Accountants (ASWA) to provide gift-wrapping and coat check services for shoppers. This tradition will continue again for the 2009 holiday season. These services will be located next to the mall customer service center. Money raised provides scholarship for local students.

North Grand Mall holiday hours begin Friday, Nov. 27 when the shopping center is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on extended mall hours and Santa's hours, visit the mall website, [www.northgrandmall.com](http://www.northgrandmall.com) or call the mall office at (515) 232-3679.

North Grand Mall, located at 2801 Grand Avenue, is home to JCPenney, North Grand 5 Theatre, Younkers and nearly 50 fine shops and services.

North Grand Mall supports the community with multiple programs throughout the year. Past activities include: Toys for Tots, Holiday Giving Tree and semi-annual Community Fairs.

North Grand Mall is owned and managed by GK Development, Inc.

**About GK Development, Inc.**

GK Development, Inc acquires, re-develops, manages and leases well-located properties in growing markets. The Barrington, Illinois-based company owns 5 million square feet of space located in nine states. The company was founded in 1995. For more information visit [www.gkdevelopment.com](http://www.gkdevelopment.com)

###