



CRACKER BARREL OLD COUNTRY STORE® DONATES ONE MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF MEALS TO AMERICAN RED CROSS HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORTS

Courtesy Meal Cards will be given to hurricane evacuees and American Red Cross volunteers

LEBANON, TN (September 28, 2005) – Cracker Barrel Old Country Store (“Cracker Barrel”) will provide up to one million dollars worth of meals to hurricane evacuees and volunteers providing assistance in American Red Cross shelters across the country. The Cracker Barrel donation will be given directly to evacuees and volunteers in the form of courtesy meal cards that will be distributed via local Red Cross chapters throughout their operating regions.

“This donation will help families spend some time together at the dinner table,” said Cy Taylor, President and Chief Operating Officer of Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. “The devastation left by these hurricanes reminds us that we’re one big family – an American family. We want families to come to Cracker Barrel and feel like our home is their home.”

Taylor announced the donation last night during the nationally televised “Country Reaches Out: An Opry Benefit for the American Red Cross.” Beginning next week, Cracker Barrel representatives will work with local Red Cross chapters to distribute 100,000 courtesy meal cards. Cards will be given to hurricane evacuees, their families and relief volunteers. The program will provide thousands of people with hot meals, friendly service and the opportunity to relax with their families.

“The American Red Cross is grateful for the generosity that Cracker Barrel has shown to those devastated by the recent hurricanes,” said Kathleen Loehr, Vice President of Strategic Fundraising for the American Red Cross. “Supporters like Cracker Barrel will enable those affected to transition back into everyday activities that many of us take for granted.”

This donation marks another step Cracker Barrel has taken to assist relief and recovery efforts along the Gulf Coast. Earlier this month, Cracker Barrel employees voluntarily purchased enough emergency relief supplies to fill more than 2,000 shipping containers. Approximately 1,100 containers have already been shipped to Cracker Barrel units in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

Cracker Barrel’s corporate efforts have also focused on providing support for affected employees. The company continued to provide paychecks to employees at stores that were closed for an extended period of time. Cracker Barrel representatives personally delivered cash to employees in Louisiana and Mississippi because banks were still closed.

“We had employees wading through waist-deep water to collect their paychecks,” said Taylor. “Our employees needed help and we did everything we could to help them get through some incredibly challenging situations. Cracker Barrel employees are a big family. Families do whatever they need to do to take care of each other.”

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About Cracker Barrel

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of the publicly held CBRL Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: CBRL). Cracker Barrel was established in 1969 in Lebanon, Tenn.

Each Cracker Barrel Old Country Store® unit is modeled after a 1900-era country store, featuring old photographs, authentic antiques, memorabilia and a real wood burning fireplace with a stone hearth to add a warm cozy touch to the dining room. The restaurant serves up classic comfort foods such as meatloaf and homemade chicken n' dumplings as well as made-from-scratch biscuits using an old family recipe. The retail store has more than 2,700 gift items including accessories for the home, old-fashioned candies, books on audio, nostalgic items, and children's games and puzzles, including classic favorites such as Raggedy Ann® & Raggedy Andy® and Slinky®.

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. operates 535 company-owned locations in 41 states. Every Cracker Barrel unit is open seven days a week with hours Sunday through Thursday, 6 a.m. – 10 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 6 a.m. - 11 p.m. For more information, visit www.crackerbarrel.com.

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