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MB Financial Bank Gallops in as Equestrian Unit Program Sponsor for 75th McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade

Chicago-Based Financial Institution to Present 12 Equestrian Units

CHICAGO – No horsing around, the Chicago Festival Association is proud to announce that MB Financial Bank will be the Equestrian Program Sponsor in the 75th McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade, taking place on State Street, Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. CST.

MB will be presenting 12 units including new and returning favorites. New Equestrian Units include: Budweiser Clydesdales, Mid America Cowgirls Rodeo Drill Team, Red Hats & Purple Chaps aka Galloping Grannies, and Zydeco Cowboyz and Cowgirlz. Also returning are favorites Bertrand's Miniature Horse Ranch and Southern Ohio Ladies Aside.

"With nearly 100 successful years in the Chicago area, MB is proud to help its hometown celebrate this holiday season as the exclusive bank sponsor in the 75th McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade," says Karen A. Perlman, senior vice president, chief marketing officer. "With a strong commitment to businesses, individuals and the communities we serve, we are well-positioned to help our customers navigate through these challenging economic times."

Starting as the *Christmas Caravan* in 1934, the parade was created to help lift the spirits of residents suffering through the Great Depression. Economic conditions forced the floats to be pulled along with trolley carts. Through the years, the parade has seen a few changes, but has always remained a local Downtown Chicago staple.

WGN-TV9 and WGN-DT 9.1 will air the parade live and in high definition from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. CST on Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008. WGN America will also broadcast the parade nationally, establishing it as one of only three parades in the country to be covered live, in its entirety, on a national television broadcast.

For more information about the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade, contact the Chicago Festival Association at (312) 235-2217 or log on to www.chicagofestivals.org.

MB Financial Bank is a locally-operated financial institution that has been delivering competitive personalized service for nearly 100 years to businesses and individuals who live and work in the Chicago metropolitan area. MB Financial Bank is approximately \$8.4 billion in assets and has over 70 locations throughout the Chicagoland area. For more information about MB, visit www.mbfinc.com.

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