

Blessings in a Backpack

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Thunderbirds, PGA TOUR Wives Association Visit Nevitt Elementary School to Combat Childhood Hunger

Phoenix, AZ – (February 3, 2016) – Students at Nevitt Elementary School in the Tempe School District, received a visit today from The Thunderbirds and the PGA TOUR Wives Association. In continued efforts of outreach, the groups participated in packing backpacks and engaging with the students in interactive activities. Nevitt will continue receiving weekend food this spring as part of the organizations' participation in "[Blessings in a Backpack](#)," a national child hunger relief non-profit whose mission is to ensure elementary school children have food on the weekends throughout the school year.

Since 2009, the PGA TOUR Wives Association and The Thunderbirds have been combating childhood hunger by bringing awareness to this cause through support of Nevitt Elementary. This year, they have increased their support from 375 to 500 students.

The PGA TOUR Wives Association and The Thunderbirds support equates to 85,500 hunger-free weekends over the past six years, sending home items such as cereal, apples, soups, spaghetti and more.

"The combined efforts of The Thunderbirds, the PGA TOUR Wives Association and Nevitt Elementary have provided a tremendous opportunity to help needy children," said Brooke Wiseman, CEO for Blessings in a Backpack. "Being a partner with wonderful organizations such as these not only provides food security, but it also demonstrates the Phoenix community's concern and care for local children."

Both organizations were on hand for National Blessings in a Backpack day on September 17, 2015, to help Nevitt and Phoenix Mayor Stanton recognize childhood food insecurities. Throughout the year and during the Waste Management Phoenix Open, they partner in an effort to bring awareness to the cause.

"The PGA TOUR Wives and The Thunderbirds have an amazing commitment to providing weekend meals for our students at Nevitt School. Their continuous year-to-year support offers a safety net from hunger for students in our school community," says Linda Rider, Director of Nutrition Services for Tempe School District. "Because of their support, our students enter the classroom Monday morning ready to engage in their personal academic success!"

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About Blessings in a Backpack: Hunger has both short- and long-term negative effects on children's health and ability to succeed in school. [Blessings in a Backpack](#) is a 501(c)3 organization that, through an all-volunteer network, mobilizes communities, individuals and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. Blessings in a Backpack currently provides nearly 3 million hunger-free weekends to more than 83,000 children in 46 states and the District of Columbia.

About the PGA TOUR Wives Association: The Association was incorporated in 1988, by wives of professional golfers on the PGA TOUR. PGA TOUR tournaments are major fundraisers for charities, and the wives recognized that they were in a unique position to be an effective source of funds and support for these charities and the children they benefit. Since inception, the Association has expanded its membership to include Web.com wives, significant others of both the PGA TOUR and Web.com TOUR, and individuals and companies who support the Association's charitable endeavors. The PGA TOUR Wives Association has given back to our golfing communities and child-related charities through volunteerism and over \$5 million in monetary contributions. In addition to fundraising, members participate in Volunteer Service Projects, performing a myriad of services ranging from Habitat builds to cooking in soup kitchens to playing with hospitalized children in communities where tournaments are held. □

About the Waste Management Phoenix Open: The Waste Management Phoenix Open will be played February 1 - 7, 2016, at TPC Scottsdale. The tournament host, The Thunderbirds, have raised more than \$100 million for charity, with more than \$68 million generated since 2003. The 2016 edition will mark the 81st playing of the event, making it one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR (not including major championships). For more information visit www.wmphoenixopen.com