

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Transition To New Facility Complete As Country Maid, Inc. Approaches 20th Year In Business**

*2011 becomes another year of change and growth for Country Maid in West Bend, Iowa*

March 2, 2011 – West Bend, IA – From a farmhouse basement to a newly constructed production and office facility, Country Maid makes yet another move to accommodate steady growth in its nearly 20 years of business in frozen food manufacturing and small business development.

The community of West Bend has always held a special spot in the hearts of those within Country Maid. The new building further demonstrates the company's commitment to remain an active and long-term part of the community.

The project broke ground in October 2009. The rough Iowa winter caused timelines to slow; however, progress continued as the new 26,000 sq ft. production facility took shape. Through the efforts of Fort Dodge based Woodruff Design, LLC, Woodruff Construction, LLC, many local subcontractors, and dedicated Country Maid team members, production facilities were ready for move-in by June 2010.

"Not only has the new production facility allowed Country Maid to accommodate increased capacity demands, it has provided the opportunity for us to completely re-design food safety practices and procedures from beginning to end. This has allowed for expansion of programs and implementation of procedures never before possible," states CEO, Darin Massner. "The new facility has also allowed for improvements and opportunities in many other areas of the company."

After the June 2010 production transition, construction continued on the remainder of the facilities to complete the 14,000 sq ft. office space which includes offices, conference rooms, employee break room, test kitchen, restrooms, and locker rooms. The final move came in February 2011 with the transition of office and administration team members to the new facilities.

"Having everyone under the same roof is something we have looked forward to for a very long time. Team members have been spread out between two and three different locations within West Bend for about five years now," said Brand & Communications Manager, Mollie Clark. "This move will help to improve communication and cooperative team efforts across the company."

Country Maid team members are excited to serve customers from the new facilities and look forward to what the future may hold. To celebrate this exciting transition, Country Maid will be hosting an open-house and food-drive event on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 3PM to 6PM open to the public. Those attending are asked to bring non-perishable food items which will then be donated to local food pantries. The production area will be inaccessible during this time, but video of the current production process will be on display. For those interested in a full facility tour, another open-house event will take place in August in celebration of Country Maid's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

Country Maid, Inc., a 100% employee-owned company, has long manufactured the "famous" Butter Braid® brand pastry available only through fundraisers for the purpose of helping non-profit groups raise funds for various causes. Country Maid has also been actively supporting the West Bend and other area communities since incorporation in 1991. Employing approximately sixty-nine full-time and part-time/seasonal workers, Country Maid continues to grow and live out the mission of "Helping Others Help Themselves." Visit [www.countrymaid.net](http://www.countrymaid.net) for additional company information.

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