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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANN TAYLOR LOFT INVITES CLIENTS TO
CLEAN OUT THEIR CLOSETS FOR GOODWILL**
LOFT Pant-Drive Event Benefits Goodwill Industries' Job Training Programs

Rockford, IL— LOFT, a division of Ann Taylor Stores Corporation, and Goodwill Industries of Northern IL and WI Stateline Area, Inc. are giving customers a chance to clean out their closets to make room for new spring styles with the "Out with the Old, Save on the New" event. Customers who donate their gently-worn pants at any LOFT store will receive \$15 off each full price pant purchase from Monday, March 2 to Sunday, March 8. All donated pants from the partnership will be sold in Goodwill retail stores and the revenues will help fund Goodwill job training programs and support services.

LOFT is a feminine, casual lifestyle brand that provides high quality and on-trend fashions at a surprising value. LOFT is known for universally flattering pants, and the "Out with the Old, Save on the New" event will feature fit experts to help clients discover their perfect pant personality. LOFT offers three feminine and fashionable pant fits to suit virtually any body type: Ann, a classic fit; Marissa, a modern fit; and Julie, a curvy fit.

"This event offers our clients a wonderful opportunity to give back within their own local communities, while receiving personalized style advice from our in-store experts and a great discount on our new spring pant styles," said Gary Muto, President of LOFT. "We are delighted to be partnering with Goodwill Industries to help make a difference for families in need, and we believe that our clients will share this excitement and join us in this very relevant event."

Through the company's ANN Cares program, LOFT has partnered with Goodwill Industries, North America's leading nonprofit provider of employment training, job placement services and other critical community programs for people who have a disability, lack education or job experience, and other job seekers. In 2007, more than one million people benefited from Goodwill's programs nationwide.

"By participating in the LOFT partnership with Goodwill, people are making an investment in their communities," said Sam Schmitz, President of Goodwill Industries of Northern IL and WI Stateline Area, Inc. "Each pant donation at LOFT stores nationwide will support vital employment services in local communities to help people find and keep jobs."

The "Out with the Old, Save on the New" event begins on Monday, March 2 and ends on Sunday, March 8 and is only valid at LOFT stores. Ann Taylor LOFT is located locally inside the Cherryvale Mall at 7200 Harrison Avenue in Rockford.

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ABOUT LOFT

LOFT is the ultimate casual, fashionable and fun retail destination for women. LOFT offers women clothing that is feminine and on-trend as well as versatile wardrobe staples in the latest colors and styles—all at unexpected prices. LOFT operates 520 stores across the United States and online at www.AnnTaylorLOFT.com. LOFT is a division of Ann Taylor Stores Corporation.

ABOUT ANN Cares

ANN Cares is the philanthropic and social responsibility program of Ann Taylor Stores Corporation that supports causes to which the Company is firmly committed – women, children, the environment, and Ann Taylor associates. For more information, visit www.ANNCares.com.

ABOUT GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF N. ILLINOIS AND WISCONSIN STATELINE AREA, INC.

Goodwill Industries is a community-based not-for-profit organization that provides education, employment and job placement for persons in need. Goodwill stores in northern Illinois (Rockford, Machesney Park, Freeport, Sterling), Beloit, Wisconsin, and online at www.shopgoodwill.com employ more than 170 people.

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