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For Immediate Release

Contact: Patrick A. Heller at Liberty Coin Service 800/933-4720

Michigan's Only Living U.S. Coin Designer To Kick Off "Cans For Quarters" Campaign!

On January 26 at 2:00 PM, Liberty Coins in the Frandor Shopping Center will open its doors to begin "Cans For Quarters," a food drive to benefit the Greater Lansing Food Bank. Steve Bieda, Michigan's only living U.S. Coin designer, will kick off the campaign by making the first donation.

Said Patrick A. Heller, owner of Liberty Coin Service, "We are thrilled that someone of Mr. Bieda's renown is taking time out of his busy schedule to show his support for the greater Lansing community."

In the "Cans For Quarters" campaign, Liberty Coin Service is accepting non-perishable food donations for the Greater Lansing Food Bank and will give donors a brand new 2004 Michigan Quarter for each of the first four items. People may also bring in cash donations to the Food Bank and will receive a Michigan Quarter for each fifty cents donated. "Cans For Quarters" will continue through April 3, 2004.

Donors will be eligible to enter a drawing for a variety of prizes. The Grand Prize is a Series 1929 U.S. \$10.00 National Currency Note issued by The Capital National Bank of Lansing that bears the printed signature of Oldsmobile founder R.E. Olds as bank president. First Prize is a 1936 Cleveland-Great Lakes Exposition Commemorative Half Dollar, which was the first U.S. coin to depict a map of the state of Michigan.

Steve Bieda of Warren, who designed the reverse side of the U.S. 1992 Olympics Commemorative Half Dollar, was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 2002 from the 25th District covering part of Warren and Sterling Heights. He is the first designer of a U.S. coin ever elected to a State or Federal legislative office. He recently designed the medal commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the State Capitol Building in Lansing. He was also one of the major proponents of the forthcoming U.S. 2004 Thomas Edison Commemorative Silver Dollar, a coin that will be publicly launched in a ceremony at the Edison laboratory at Greenfield Village in Dearborn on February 11. Over the past decade, Bieda has worked extensively in Lansing.

Liberty Coin Service, in the Standard Federal Bank Building at Frandor, was established in 1971. It is Michigan's largest rare coins and precious metals bullion dealership. Owner Patrick A. Heller was appointed by former Governor John Engler to the Michigan Quarter Commission to work on the design of the Michigan Quarter.

The Greater Lansing Food Bank, established in 1981, is a non-profit organization that provides emergency food to tens of thousands of individuals and families in need. It works through an extensive network of food pantries and community kitchens located throughout the greater Lansing area, including Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton counties.

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