

# Walmart Hunger Challenge

Augusta and the CSRA truly knows how to rally for a cause and the Walmart/Facebook Challenge was no exception. In the on-line voting contest taking place over the month of April, Golden Harvest Food Bank started slow, not in contention for the grant leading in to the last week of the month.

However, as we've seen countless times, everyone came together for the food bank, with Golden Harvest finishing in thirteenth place to be one of the top forty food banks in the United States receiving a \$45,000 grant to go towards youth feeding program. In this national contest, 302 food banks including Golden Harvest participated in the challenge this year. Thank you for making this a reality.

Golden Harvest will use the \$45,000 for their Backpack Program. Each Backpack costs \$5 per weekend; \$180 for the 36-week school year. Donations to the Backpack Program are extremely an important source of funding and thanks to your votes we received a \$45,000 donation. The grant money will provide 9,000 Backpacks to local children in the Central Savannah River Area, weighing 3 pounds each, meaning over 27,000 pounds of food will be provided to hungry children in our area.

Golden Harvest began the contest in 62nd place and struggled to obtain votes during Masters week, moving to 58th place half way through the month. With less than one week left though, Augusta really came together and roared from 48th to 13th place securing the win last night with 3,314 votes.

"We are truly thankful to all the community members that participated in the Wal-Mart Fighting Hunger Facebook Challenge. This was very much a community effort in that those who didn't have Facebook accounts encouraged those who did, to vote every day," said Travis McNeal, Executive Director for Golden Harvest. 🍷



# Augusta Attorney Wins Small Division Title



Attorney General Sam Olens presenting Nathan M. Jolles, P.C. the Georgia award for state winner in the Small Firm Division for Per Capita and Total Acutal Pounds. Jolles collected over 7,000 pounds.

A total of 26 firms and legal organizations participated in the annual Georgia Legal Food Frenzy. For the second year in a row, Attorney General, Sam Olens asked Georgia lawyers to challenge each other outside the courtroom during the statewide food drive benefiting the State's seven regional food banks. Augusta law firms collected a total of 852 pounds of food and \$15,184.43, which is the equivalent 61,590 pounds of food.

In Augusta, the following law firms won first place in their division. The winner for large firm is Fulcher Hagler Attorneys

at Law collecting the equivalent of 22,382 pounds of food, for small/medium firm, Nathan M. Jolles, P.C., collecting 7,093 pounds and for the sole proprietor division, a tie between the Law Office of Marty Puetz and The Honorable Judge James G. Blanchard collecting 1,000 pounds.

Nathan Jolles is also the winner for the small firm division for the state of Georgia. Mr. Jolles attended the award ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia on June 12th to accept his award from Attorney General Sam Olens. "This is an enormous difference compared to last year's collection – a 43% increase. We hope to have more firms participate next year," said Carolann Uteley, Communications Manager for Golden Harvest Food Bank. The Augusta division won three awards this year, Small Firm Per Capita and Total Pounds, and Most Participating Law Firms.

"It's a way for those of us in the legal profession to give back to the community and help families in need," said Amanda Heath, assistant district attorney in the Augusta Judicial Circuit. Olens announced that the Georgia legal community raised the equivalent of 842,317 pounds of food during the 2013 Georgia Legal Food Frenzy, a 38% increase from last year. 🍷

