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PRESS RELEASE

INDYCAR MEDICAL AND SAFETY TEAM DRIVER SET TO PREPARE AND SERVE A MEAL TO FAMILIES AT CAMBRIDGE HOUSE, RONALD MCDONALD CHARITIES - PHOENIX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHO:

Racers Who Care spokesperson, Gail Truess, a Phoenix-based IndyCar Medical and Safety Team Driver, is set to prepare and serve a meal to parents and relatives staying at the Cambridge House location of Ronald McDonald House Charities - Phoenix to be near sick young family members on **Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.** The event has been planned and organized by Racers Who Care's Phoenix Region Quick Tips on Winning in Life Racer Presentation Team Coordinator, Janna Hitchcock, along with locally-based nurses,

WHERE:

**CAMBRIDGE HOUSE
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES
OF PHOENIX, INC.
1980 E. CAMBRIDGE AVE.
PHOENIX, AZ 85006
602/374-7921**

CONTACT:

**NELSON EVANGELISTA
VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS COORDINATOR
NEVANGELISTA@RMHCPHOENIX.COM
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GAIL TRUCESS:

During her lengthy car racing career, Gail Truess was the top ranked woman driver in the Sports Car Club of America's Michelin PRO Rally Series and one of rally racing's best-known stars, famous for her "Tango" orange Mazda 323.

Gail began racing in 1985 at auto club events. By 1988, she was second in the Central Division Rally Championships, third in National runoffs and second in class in the National Rally of Jamaica.



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She was factory driver for the BMW/Skip Barber team for the 1991 One Lap of America, and in 1992, was hired as factory driver by Subaru for the Winter Alcan 5000 Snow Rally. She scored a class win in the 1993 National Rally of Jamaica. By 1998, she and co-driver, Pattie Hughes, took the orange Mazda 323 to sixth overall in the US Championships Open class, and tenth in the Lake Superior Rally, one of America's most prestigious international rallies.

Gail and Pattie came in fourth in the 1998 Lake Superior Rally (with a win in the Production GT class), took second in the Headwaters event, and sixth overall in Production GT for the season. By 1999, Gail and new co-driver, Cindy Krolkowski, were the Production GT season champions.

For some years, Gail was also a member of the elite all-female PPG Pace Car Team for the CART Championship Series - now called IndyCar. In 1994, as a member of the Pace Car Team, Gail began to make Quick Tips on Winning in Life presentations for Racers Who Care across the U.S. and in Canada. She and all the PPG Pace Car Drivers made "Quick Tips" presentations for nearly 10 years. More recently, Gail has participated, along with the IndyCar Safety and Medical Team, in RWC's annual Quick Tips on Winning in Life Field Trip Program for hundreds of elementary school students at the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach.

Gail retired from rally racing in 2003. From 2008 to the present, she has been an official IRL/IndyCar Medical and Safety Team Driver. Alongside various motorsports projects, Gail has devoted her attention to her race car preparation firm, Rally Dynamics, and to conducting automotive training and consultancy programs, including work with the electric car industry.

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES:

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix is a welcoming "home away from home" for families with children facing medical challenges, providing an atmosphere of comfort, hope and courage.

In the early 1970's, Kim, the daughter of Philadelphia Eagles football player Fred Hill was treated for leukemia at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. Hill and his family were shocked at the number of families sleeping in the waiting rooms and on the floors of their children's rooms, so they could be close to their children during this crucial time. With the strong support of the Oncology department and Dr. Audrey Evans, head of the department, the team began to search for a way to have a "home-away-from-home" near the hospital for these families.

The search led to McDonald's owner/operators in the area who supported the concept and who were willing to hold a fundraiser to benefit this new home. It was only natural that the home be named the Ronald McDonald House after the positive clown that children love. Thus, the first House was established. It was 1974.

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The Arizona Houses...

In 1980, two members of the Junior League of Phoenix, Judy Schubert and Suzanne Hanson, began a feasibility study regarding the need of a Ronald McDonald House in Phoenix. Finding a strong need for such a home, they formed a steering committee consisting of members of the Junior League, pediatric medical specialists, hospital representatives and key people with expertise in areas needed to make the House a reality.

In 1984, the McDonald's restaurant owner-operators of Phoenix and Northern Arizona joined the effort and the organization officially became the Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix. In 1985, The Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix was built with 16 guest rooms and in 2005 the Phoenix House Expanded from 26 to 45 Rooms.

The Cambridge House is the newest addition to the RMHC Phoenix facilities. The House, located on the campus of Phoenix Children's Hospital, recently opened its doors in June of 2008. The 18 room, four story facility will allow RMHC to continue providing housing for the growing number of families traveling to Phoenix to receive treatment for their seriously ill or injured children. The 17,300 square foot facility is just steps away from PCH and features a full-service kitchen, dining area, and family friendly activity room.

WHY:

The Quick Tips on Winning in Life life skills presentations are an avenue through which professional racers can give back to the communities where they live and race, by inspiring, affirming, empowering, and fueling the dreams of children and teens and encouraging them to believe in themselves.

Quick Tips presentations center on key universal truths RWC calls Quick Tips on Winning in Life, applicable to all children and teens regardless of age, cultural background, or life experience: find something to do in life that you really love, study, learn the art of teamwork, find a mentor, take the long view, be flexible with your dreams and goals, avoid the path of least resistance, and more.

Racers Who Care, Inc. is a West Hollywood, California-based 501c3 charitable corporation, founded in 1993, that works with auto, boat, motorcycle and truck racers dedicated to making a positive difference for our next generation. In Southern California, and throughout the U.S. in communities surrounding their tracks, RWC's racers have unforgettably impacted kids with exciting observations on how to succeed, presented by people who have -- very publicly, and in a field perceived as ruthless, tough and unforgiving.

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FURTHER INFORMATION:

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WWW.INDYCAR.COM
WWW.RACERSWHOCARE.ORG
WWW.NATIONALFAMILYWEEK.NET

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