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PRESS RELEASE

RETIRED RALLY CAR DRIVER & DRAG RACER SET TO PREPARE AND SERVE RONALD McDONALD HOUSE MEAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHO:

Racers Who Care spokesracers, Gail Truess and Jason Wieck are scheduled to help prepare and serve a meal to parents and relatives staying at the Roanoke House location of Ronald McDonald House Charities - Phoenix to be near sick young family members on **Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at 6:30 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, with the help of several locally-based nurses,

WHERE:

**ROANOKE HOUSE
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES
OF PHOENIX, INC.
501 E. ROANOKE AVE.
PHOENIX, AZ 85004**

CONTACT:

**NELSON EVANGELISTA
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702/798-5093**

GAIL TRUCESS:

During her long 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.

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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.

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 early 2013, she was the official IRL/IndyCar Safety Car Driver. Between 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.

JASON WIECK:

Jason Wieck is an up and coming NHRA Super Comp Dragster competitor based in Glendale, Arizona, who also plans to compete in the Arizona Drag Racing Association's (ADRA) 2014 season.

Wieck earned his NHRA Championship Drag Racing Competition Drag Racing License at Frank Hawley's Las Vegas NHRA Drag Racing School in October 2009. Prior to that, he worked for eight years as a crew member for Rocketman Racing.

During the 2011 race season, he drove for Jim "Bear" Chapman on the ADRA Series. At one point, he made it to the finals and won runner up in a field of 31 cars, earning a mention in the *National Dragster Magazine*. In other races, he made it into the semifinals and the quarterfinals. Also, in 2011 Wieck, scored sponsorships from

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Allstate Transmission & Auto Repair, Southwest Diesel & Electrical, and from 1st Impressions Truck Lettering, all located in the Phoenix area. Additionally, in 2012 he partnered with title sponsor Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers, a nationwide company famous for steakburgers and frozen custards. This year, Jason Wieck Racing began working in conjunction with Doug Herbert's B.R.A.K.E.S., a 501(c) (3) nonprofit charity.

Filming of a web series following Jason Wieck Racing as the Team ventures through the ups and downs and trials and tribulations of racing and making it happen has begun. The series will be launched in March 2014.

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.

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.

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WHY:

The Quick Tips on Winning in Life life skills presentations and events like this one 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, truck and even snowmobile 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.

CONTACT:

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