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NEWS RELEASE:

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Aging Care Connections' Sports Ball Benefit Gala Raises Funds to Serve Seniors

Aging Care Connections' eleventh annual Sports Ball benefit gala, held Saturday, May 5 at Harry Caray's, Lombard, raised \$82,000 to benefit services offered to older adults. Sarah Spain, ESPN W columnist, SportsCenter Anchor for Chicago's ESPN 1000 and reporter for ESPNChicago.com, emceed the event that attracted a capacity crowd.

Celebrities Kurt Becker, of the 1985 Super Bowl Chicago Bears, Dutchie Caray, and John Lattner, headlined an evening of tailgate cocktails, skybox dining featuring a surf and turf dinner, auctions and dancing. Sports Ball is Aging Care Connections' major fundraising event held to support the organization's social service programs to assist those 60 years of age and older in suburban Cook County.

Guests had the opportunity to meet celebrities who autographed memorabilia and answered questions about the outstanding careers they enjoyed.

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Auction items showcased trips to the 2012 ESPY Awards (Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Awards), a Sonoma wine experience, Lake Tahoe, Siesta Key, a Chicago “staycation,” Scottsdale, Blue Harbor Resort, and a one-week stay at any one of 6,500 resorts around the world, in addition to tickets to the famed The Ryder Cup Tournament, and the “Heisman Experience” including a Notre Dame football autographed by alumnus and Heisman Trophy winner John Lattner, and the opportunity to “borrow” John Lattner’s Heisman trophy for two weeks.

Aging Care Connections is a non-profit organization which is the connection to the most comprehensive, expert information, programs and services enabling older adults to remain independent and their families to make the best, most informed decisions regarding needed care in their lives. Serving 22 communities in Lyons, Riverside and South Proviso Townships and an additional ten communities in Leyden and Norwood Park Townships for elder abuse investigation, Aging Care Connections’ programs and services are made possible by community support and donations, and, in part, by the Illinois Department on Aging (IDOA), AgeOptions, Community Memorial Foundation and local United Ways. To learn more, visit www.agingcareconnections.org.