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**NEWS RELEASE
CALENDAR LISTING:**



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RAFER WEIGEL TO HOST AGING CARE CONNECTIONS SPORTS BALL BENEFIT GALA

ABC 7 Chicago sports reporter Rafer Weigel will host Aging Care Connections' eleventh annual Sports Ball Benefit Gala to be held Saturday, May 5 at 6:00 pm at Harry Caray's at The Westin Hotel, Lombard. Celebrity athletes representing major league teams will headline an evening of tailgate cocktails, skybox dining, 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 communities.

The event will give guests the opportunity to meet celebrity athletes who will sign autographs and answer questions about the outstanding careers they have enjoyed with major league teams. Auction items showcasing a Notre Dame package including a football autographed by alumnus and Heisman Trophy winner John Lattner who will attend Sports Ball, and the opportunity to "borrow" John Lattner's Heisman trophy for two weeks; sports memorabilia; trips to Siesta Key, Florida, Scottsdale, Arizona, Napa Valley, Galena, and Lake Tahoe; and the opportunity to attend the ESPY Awards in Los Angeles, and the Ryder Cup Tournament at Medinah Country Club.

(more)

Sports Ball 2012 Planning Committee members include: Vicky Dawson, Linda Dishman and Cathy Macellaio, Burr Ridge; Lizzi Chibucos, Elmhurst; Lora Collins and Tracy Erwin, Hinsdale; LaVerne Loayza, Karen Olson and Karen Westrick, La Grange; Steve Kneifel, La Grange Park; Christy Dolan, Margaret Mary Mallon, Pat Smurawski and Debbie Stangarone, Oak Brook; Jeanne Martin, Prospect Heights; and Mike Doepke, Susan Druffel, Saranne Milano and Mike O'Brien, Western Springs.

Aging Care Connections is accepting auction items and sponsorships to support the event. Tickets are available for \$150 each and information about Sports Ball is available by calling Niki Chibucos, director of development and public relations, at 708-354-1323, extension 226.

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.