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**June 29, 2005**

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**TONY LA RUSSA HITS A HOME RUN AT CELEBRITIES FORE! ARF**  
***St. Louis Cardinals manager's charity golf tournament a huge success***

**WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA** (June 29, 2005) – The greens at the magnificent Old Warson Country Club in St. Louis, Missouri turned into a baseball lover's dream Monday June 27, 2005 when a bevy of St. Louis Cardinals and other celebrities showed their support of St. Louis Cardinals Manager, Tony La Russa and the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) which he co-founded in 1991.

Not only did Cardinals superstars such as Chris Carpenter, Mark Grudzielanek, Jason Istringhausen, Jason Marquis, Mark Mulder, Albert Pujols, Reggie Sanders and So Taguchi hit the links for this fabulous fundraiser, many other Cardinals lent their support by arriving early to sign autographs for the golfers, including David Eckstein and Cardinals owner, Walt Jocketty. Rounding out the celebrity field included were Sal Bando, Rick Carlisle, Bob Knight, John Mabry, Hal McRae, Jose Oquendo, Joe Pettini, Kelvin Sampson, Mike Shannon and many others.

Prior to the shotgun start, Tony La Russa even predicted the outcome of the tournament and brought his SBC foursome home with a first place finish! Second place was wrapped up by the Grey Eagle Distributors team led by Gerry Clinton, while Ed Curtis' group came in third. Additionally, Tony La Russa was the winner of one of the Closest-to-the-Hole on-course games which also featured a lively and fun Power Ball game which was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The hot summer day featured groups of four amateurs with one celebrity and included an awards banquet, raffle and silent auction which featured many terrific golf packages and sports memorabilia items, including a personally autographed game-used driver belonging to Albert Pujols.

More than \$155,000 was raised from Title Sponsor, SBC, along with Celebrity Party Sponsor, Nestle Purina PetCare Company and many other tremendous sponsors including American Airlines, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., Ed Curtis, Grey Eagle Distributors, Inc., John and Debbie Kastner, John Notter/Effen Vodka, St. Louis Cardinals, SouthWest Bank and The Westin St. Louis.

Funds raised from this fantastic fundraiser will be used by ARF to save the lives of loving dogs and cats who have run out of time at public shelters. ARF gives another chance at life to dogs and cats who otherwise would have been killed. ARF provides the care and attention they need, including spay or neuter surgery, until ARF finds them a new home of their own.

ARF's People Connect programs strengthen the human animal bond for the elderly; residents of assisted living centers, teens at juvenile hall, high school students, grade school students and young children through programs that are national models of excellence. ARF programs allow people to experience the unconditional love and acceptance of dogs and cats. People rescuing animals...animals rescuing people...™.

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