FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ready, set, go! Runners and walkers of all ages expected at Alaska Heart Run, Apr 26
Olympic skier Holly Brooks to announce Red Dress Award winner; Mini Heart Run on April 25

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – Thousands of runners and walkers are expected at the start line for a springtime tradition in Anchorage: the Alaska Heart Run. The 5K/3K race will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2014 and will start and finish by University of Anchorage Arts Building, 3640 Alumni Drive, Anchorage.

“Each year the Alaska Heart & Vascular Institute looks forward to being the Alaska Heart Run's premier sponsor because this event is an important way that our community raises funds for the American Heart Association and it also reminds all of us about the importance of living an active lifestyle,” said Alaska Heart & Vascular Institute CEO Keli Hite McGee. “AHVI is proud to show its ongoing commitment to heart health, cardiovascular research and our community through its participation in events like this throughout the year.”

Now in its 36th year, the Heart Run is open to runners and walkers of all ages and abilities, and proceeds from the event benefit the local American Heart Association. “This event is not just important for personal health, but as a way to help our community prevent and survive heart disease and stroke, the No. 1 and No. 4 leading causes of death in the nation. In addition to finishing the race, we encourage all participants to challenge themselves to set a fundraising goal for the event,” said Heart Run chairperson Lou Pondolfino, principal, King Career Center.

The Heart Run is also a way for Alaskans to pay tribute to individuals touched by cardiovascular disease. Two of the largest teams this year were formed as a tribute to individuals: Mad Love, in honor of 27-year-old Madisyn Brown who suffered a heart attack one-week after delivering her precious baby girl, and Joe’s Army, in memory of Joe Hebert, who died from a pulmonary embolism at the young age of 33.

This year the American Heart Association and its sponsor, Kendall Auto, will also honor a local woman with an inspiring heart story by announcing the statewide winner of the Red Dress Award. Olympic cross country skier Holly Brooks will be at the event to announce the winner during opening ceremonies.

There is still time to register for the Heart Run. Online registration for the untimed 5K and 3K will be available until April 25, and participants can also register at the event on race day.
Bib pick-ups are scheduled for April 19, 23 and 25 at the King Career Center on 2650 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage. Registration will also be available.

On Friday, April 25, children at the Providence Center for Child Development will make a mad dash to the finish line during the Mini Heart Run. The event is part of efforts by the child center to teach preschoolers and toddler twos about healthy hearts, and each one child that participates will be rewarded with a medal. The Min Heart Run will take place at the Health Park Courtyard behind the Providence Alaska Medical Tower, 3760 Piper Street, Anchorage.

For more information about the Alaska Heart Run and the American Heart Association, visit AlaskaHeartRun.org or call (907) 865-5300.

The Alaska Heart Run is presented by the Alaska Heart & Vascular Institute, and sponsored locally by Alaska Children’s Heart Center, Kendall Toyota of Anchorage, Providence Alaska Medical Center, BP, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Seattle Children’s Pediatric Cardiology of Alaska.

ALASKA HEART RUN 2014 SCHEDULE

Presenting Sponsor:

Registration ($10 late fee applies after April 18)
Available online until Friday, April 25
During bib pick-ups at the King Career Center (schedule below)
Available on race day, April 26, 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Bib Pick-Ups at the King Career Center, 2650 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage
Wednesday, April 23, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Friday, April 25, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Race Day, Start/Finish at UAA Arts Building Parking Lot, 3640 Alumni Drive, Anchorage
7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration, bib pick-up and T-shirt sales
TIME – Opening Ceremonies
9:30 a.m. – Competitive 5K Timed Event
10:00 am – 5K/3K Non-Timed Run/Walk
10:30 am – Formal awards ceremony and prize drawing for Alaska Airlines tickets

Complete Race Day Information and Route