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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26.2 with DONNA Updates 2.14.14

Event: *Race Day Street Closures*
Community: *The Weaver Challenge Returns with \$125,000 in Matching Funds!*
Competition: *Notable Elite Athletes to Compete in 26.2 with DONNA*

Event Update: Race Day Street Closures

The 7th Annual 26.2 with DONNA, to be held Sunday, February 23, 2014, will start at ATP Tour Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., continue through the four beach communities, over the Intracoastal Waterway Bridge, and finish at Mayo Clinic. Access to communities along the route may be inhibited for up to seven hours beginning at 6:00 a.m. on race day. Beaches residents are encouraged to plan for delays.

No vehicles will be permitted to park on impacted city streets beginning Saturday, February 22 after 6 p.m. through Sunday, February 23, until the streets are opened for access.

Significant road closures include:

- J. Turner Butler Blvd. closed eastbound at Hodges Boulevard starting at 5:30 a.m.
- A1A northbound at ATP Tour Blvd. closed to Corona Road starting at 7:30 a.m. until approx. 8:30 a.m.
- A1A southbound at ATP Tour Blvd. closed at 7:30 a.m. until approx. 8:00 a.m.
- Ponte Vedra Blvd. from Corona to 37th Ave South, closed at 7:30 a.m. until approx. 9:30 a.m.

Download a complete list of course street closures at <http://breastcancermarathon.com/volunteer/spectators/>.

Community Update: The Weaver Challenge Returns with \$125,000 in Matching Funds!

Last year 26.2 with DONNA fundraisers were challenged to build teams to raise \$10,000 for a matching donation from the Weavers of \$10,000. Supporters met this challenge and their efforts resulted in a \$100,000 match from Delores and Wayne Weaver, former owners of Jacksonville's NFL Team the Jaguars.

The Weavers are back again challenging participants to raise more funds to finish breast cancer! This year, the Weavers challenge teams of fundraisers to raise \$10,000 or more for a matching donation from the Weavers of \$10,000 for a total match of \$125,000!

"We are so excited that Delores and Wayne Weaver have not only challenged us again this year, but increased the match!" said Donna Deegan, founder of 26.2 with DONNA. "This type of incentive will push us to our goal of ending breast cancer so much faster."

Fundraising efforts continue beyond Marathon Weekend through March 31, 2014. The event is expected to raise more than \$400,000 in raised funds, with 100 percent of the dollars going to breast cancer research at Mayo Clinic and to care for the underserved with breast cancer through The Donna Foundation.

http://breastcancermarathon.com/weaver_challenge/

Competition Update: Notable Elite Athletes to Compete in 26.2 with DONNA

26.2 with DONNA is expecting 40 national and world class runners from all over the world to compete in the 7th Annual 26.2 with DONNA Marathon event to be held Sunday, February 23, 2014 on Florida's First Coast.

In the Men's race, top runners will include James Kirwa of Kenya, the Men's Champion of the 2013 Pittsburgh Marathon with a time of 2:13, and Joseph Ekuom, who placed second in the Masters division at the 6th Annual 26.2 with DONNA.

In the Women's race, top runners will include Irina Alexandrova of Russia, the Women's Champion of the 2013 Philadelphia Marathon with a time of 2:39:00, and Valentyna Poltayska of Ukraine, an experienced master marathon runner and the 2013 Grandma's Marathon Master Champion with a personal best time of 2:38.

According to Keith Brantly, Olympian and 26.2 with DONNA Elite Runner Liaison: "Elite runners are attracted by the fast qualifying times, the \$64,150 prize purse, and the unique course that includes a 2-mile stretch along the beaches of Jacksonville. Our race is the probably the most competitive marathon in the United States in the month of February. Runners seeking good competition to help push them to a great performance are drawn to 26.2 with DONNA."

<http://breastcancermarathon.com/run/elite-field/>

About 26.2 with DONNA

The 26.2 with DONNA mission is to passionately produce world-class events to raise funds for groundbreaking breast cancer research and empower those living with breast cancer. Seventy percent of all race proceeds go to the Mayo Clinic for bench top cancer research. Thirty percent of all race proceeds go to The Donna Foundation to help breast cancer patients with critical financial needs. To learn more, visit www.breastcancermarathon.com.

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