



Media Release

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RACE FAN RALLY CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Nationwide Renews Event Sponsorship – Announces Participating Driver

Joliet, Ill. – The Joliet Race Fan Rally is celebrating its tenth year kicking off Chicago’s NASCAR race weekend. Returning as a sponsor is Nationwide Insurance, which joins in the celebration and promises to help make this year’s event one of the best yet.

NASCAR Driver Jennifer Jo Cobb will make an appearance at Race Fan Rally representing Nationwide. Jennifer Jo Cobb will be the first ever female NASCAR driver to make an official appearance at Race Fan Rally.

“Being the 10th anniversary of Race Fan Rally, we are working to produce an event that will top those from years previous and we are thrilled to welcome our first female driver to the event and welcome back Nationwide,” said Tom Mahalik, Vice President of the Joliet City Center Partnership. “This year, we are also expanding our online presence through the use of social media sites like [facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), so we can better interact with event attendees and NASCAR fans alike. We want to make this great event fun for and accessible to any who wish to attend.”

Nationwide will offer many great race-fan attractions, activities and possibly more drivers for stage appearances and autograph signing sessions.

Components of the Nationwide NASCAR set-up include:

- Nationwide Insurance Show Car Hauler
- 2011 Show Car
- Driving simulator
- Interactive exhibits and activities

“We are thrilled to be back, participating in Race Fan Rally this year,” says Eric Smith, Vice President of Midwest Regional Operations at Nationwide Insurance. “This event is an opportunity for us to bring the Nationwide NASCAR experience to our customers and local race fans. We are proud to be a part of this great family-friendly event.”

This year, Race Fan Rally will take place on Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011. The event has been changed from its usual date in July due to the moving of the NASCAR race weekend at Chicagoland Speedway.



Additional sponsors and driver appearances will be announced at a later date. Festival details can be found on the official event website, www.racefanrally.com.

About Race Fan Rally

The Joliet Race Fan Rally is an annual family-friendly festival in Downtown Joliet that kicks off Chicagoland's NASCAR race week. The event is free and open to the public and includes live bands, race car driver appearances, show cars and other motorsports exhibits. For more information please visit www.racefanrally.com.

About Nationwide

Nationwide, based in Columbus, Ohio, is one of the largest and strongest diversified insurance and financial services organizations in the U.S. and is rated A+ by A.M. Best. The company provides a full range of personalized insurance and financial services, including auto insurance, motorcycle, boat, homeowners, life insurance, farm, commercial insurance, administrative services, annuities, mortgages, mutual funds, pensions, long-term savings plans and health and productivity services. For more information, visit www.nationwide.com.

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