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LOCAL BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS PARTNER FOR A CURE **Cause and business bring together Athena™ bottled water** **and Gretchen's Shoebox Express**

KIRKLAND, Wash. – Combining their mutual dedication to the women's cancer cause and healthy living, Athena Partners founder Trish May and Gretchen's Shoebox Express founder Gretchen Mathers announce a partnership to include Athena bottled water in all Gretchen's box lunches and catering.

"Being breast cancer survivors, Gretchen and I both have a shared connection to the women's cancer cause," said May, founder and CEO of Athena Partners. "We want to use our collective energy, passion and business affiliation to create a partnership that promotes health and wellness and contributes to finding a cure."

"Athena Partners bottled water is a tremendous complement to our box lunches and catering menu," said Mathers, operating partner of Gretchen's Shoebox Express. "Helping to raise awareness and funds toward the research of women's cancers and providing a nutritious, healthy lunch option to those in the Puget Sound region is what this partnership is all about. I am thrilled that people who purchase a Gretchen's box lunch will be making a difference in the lives of people who are touched by cancer."

In addition to their partnership with Athena Partners, Gretchen's Shoebox Express has collaborated with the American Cancer Society to provide "Meeting Well" approved healthy boxed lunch menu options.

Athena Partners has created a special 11.8-ounce bottle to be included in the box lunches. Athena Partners devotes 100 percent of the net profits of Athena bottled water to Northwest research on women's cancers. For 2003, proceeds from the sale of Athena water will benefit leading research institutions including The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, University of Washington Medicine and the Marsha Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Research.

Offering the highest quality lunch and catering options, Gretchen's Shoebox Express is a partnership between Gretchen Mathers and Schwartz Brothers Restaurants. Mathers previously owned and operated five "Gretchen's of Course" restaurants in Seattle and an off-premise catering business. Celebrating more than 30 years of business in the Northwest, Schwartz Brothers Restaurants is a premier multi-concept restaurant and food service company headquartered in Bellevue, Wash. For more information about Gretchen's, please visit www.gretchensshoebox.com or call (206) 623-8194.

Athena Partners, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) venture philanthropy company, is dedicated to advancing research and education to eliminate breast and reproductive cancers. A full 100 percent of the net profits from sales of Athena bottled water are devoted to forward-thinking research to find a cure. Athena bottled water is available through Western Washington grocery stores, coffee shops, cafés, caterers and other specialty outlets. Athena Partners Web site, www.athenapartners.org, provides a comprehensive Internet search directory to leading national and Seattle-area cancer information and resources about women's cancers.

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