

Portage Lakes Polar Bear Club Presents

16TH Annual POLAR BEAR JUMP



PORTAGE LAKES



POLAR BEAR JUMP

Saturday, February 23RD, 2019



KISLING, NESTICO & REDICK, LLC

Attorneys At Law



Thank you to some of our amazing VIPB's and returning Corporate Sponsors-
FirstEnergy and Team KNR- we appreciate your continued support!

FirstEnergy



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FirstEnergy and Team KNR- we appreciate your continued support!

Not Just a "One Day" Annual Event...

For the last fifteen years, on the third Saturday in February, we here at the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Club host our annual Polar Bear Jump. The day after each jump, we are always amazed at how much people care, and the people are amazed at the amount of money we raise in one day. But there is a lot more to it. Last year, thanks to your help, we were able to raise over \$160,000 for the Akron Ronald McDonald House and the Rotary Camp. However, that amount was not raised in one day.

Our corporate sponsors organize their teams several months before the jump. Contributions are ongoing during this time. Our regular jumpers (some who have jumped in all 15 of our events) are also busy preparing. Online registration starts in December, so they are soliciting contributions for months leading up to the jump.

The Board is ordering tents, supplies, t-shirts, arranging meetings with the sponsors, and coordinating the event with our charities. Our volunteers (which has grown to an army of over 60) are preparing and distributing fliers, contacting advertisers, writing articles for this booklet, and attending meetings leading up to the day of the event.

It does indeed take a village, so many many thanks to our corporate sponsors, advertisers, vendors, police, fire and rescue teams, the City of New Franklin, Portage Lakes State Park, jumpers and spectators, and everyone else who continue to help make this unique and fun family event more successful every single year. Enjoy!

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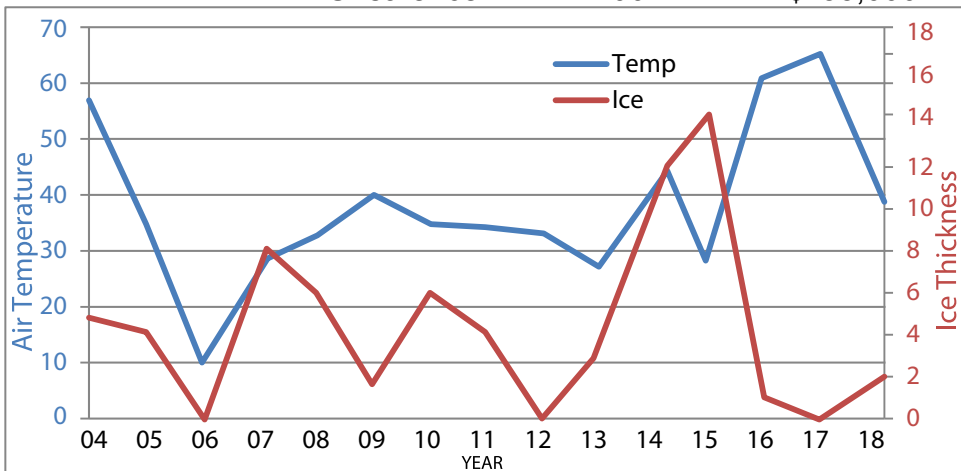
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Fifteen Year Jump History

Year	Temp	Ice Conditions	Jumpers	Fundraising
2004	57°	5" Solid Ice	74	\$13,000+
2005	35°	4" Sturdy Ice	104	\$16,000+
2006	10°	Open Water	145	\$18,500+
2007	28°	8" Solid Ice	160	\$27,000+
2008	33°	6" Solid Ice	210	\$22,000+
2009	40°	2" Unsafe Ice	220	\$22,000+
2010	35°	6" Solid Ice	400+	\$50,000+
2011	34°	4" Weakening Ice	400+	\$40,000+
2012	33°	Open Water	750+	\$85,000+
2013	27°	3" Unsafe Ice	750+	\$85,000+
2014	45°	12" Solid Ice	800+	\$100,000+
2015	27°	14" Solid Ice	700+	\$110,000+
2016	61°	1" Unsafe Ice	700+	\$110,000+
2017	64°	Open Water	750+	\$160,000+
2018	38°	2" Unsafe Ice	700+	\$185,000+





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the After Party at
The Ramp**

*The Ramp is proud to welcome
all Polar Bears to celebrate
today's event*

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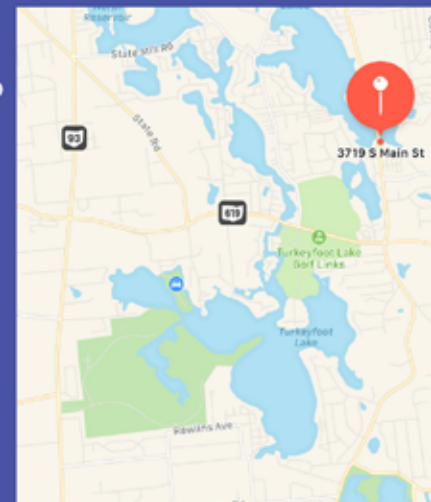
Turn right from the State Park onto
Manchester Road

Turn right onto 619/Turkeyfoot

Turn left onto South Main Street

The Ramp Restaurant is on the
right side

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Akron Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs: Creating a world where there are only abilities!

Akron Rotary Camp was founded in 1924 to meet the needs of children with physical disabilities, so kids with polio and cerebral palsy had a place to spend their summers. A place where disabilities and limitations did not matter. A place where they could participate in activities that helped build their self-esteem and physical endurance. Since its inception, Rotary Camp has been the primary project of the Rotary Club of Akron. In 1995, Rotary Camp formed a successful partnership with the Akron Area YMCA. The Y provides professional staff and manages the daily operations of the camp.

Today, the mission of serving children and families is still very much alive in all our programs staying true to providing the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in a camp setting. Campers are given the opportunity to experience traditional camping activities, develop relationships, learn life skills and create memories that last a lifetime.

Annually, we currently serve over 1,800 children and adults with a wide range of developmental and physical disabilities and mental health disorders into our day, overnight and year round respite camping programs.

Meet Peyton:

"Peyton is a loving energetic beautiful child. She loves the outdoors, hiking, and running around. With her condition she faces many challenges daily. Being a hundred percent non-verbal, understandably can make her become easily frustrated. She also has challenges in regulating her emotions, repetitive behaviors, and other aspects of her daily life. She has been attending Rotary Camp for over two years."



recharge my batteries so that I can continue to be an amazing mother to such a deserving child."

-Jesica, Peyton's Mom

Like Peyton, all our campers are provided the opportunity to do the impossible! Whether it's their first canoe ride, first campfire or first time away from home, Rotary Camp provides opportunities to help everyone grow.

No camper is ever turned away from attending camp for their family's inability to pay! Donations such as those raised through the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Jump are critical in allowing us to continue to strengthen our mission that embraces differences and provides opportunity for children and adults with special needs, regardless of financial background. In 2018, Rotary Camp was able to provide over \$240,000 in direct financial assistance to campers and their families.

For more information on Akron Rotary Camp, visit www.gotcamp.org or call 330.644.4512.

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Every meal has a story like Darlene's



More than 50 percent of the individuals and families served by the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank are children under the age of 18 and senior citizens living on a fixed income. Because of the support of dedicated partners like you and the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Club, the Foodbank and its hunger-relief network will be there for families like Darlene's.

Darlene is extremely engaged in her three grandchildren's lives. She encourages healthy eating habits, helps with homework and attends school meetings. She's also their full-time caregiver.

Darlene has seen much heartache during her 57 years. She's lost a husband, survived divorce and battled cancer. As a single mother of four, she has a child with mental health issues and another in prison due to drug use. She has full custody of three of her grandchildren, ages 4 to 9 years old.

Darlene receives some help from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) but providing for a family of four on a fixed income can be difficult.

"The end of the month is a little tight. It means no extra things for the kids; no recreational activities."

Her grandson, Cameron, is a student at the newly-opened I PROMISE School in Akron. In partnership with the LeBron James Family Foundation and Akron Public Schools, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank operates a food pantry within the Family Resource Center at the school.

Darlene enjoys fresh produce, bread, milk and healthy food options from the pantry. "The pantry feels a lot like family. You feel loved and respected."

When looking toward the future, Darlene hopes her grandchildren find success in anything they do. "I want them to have the chances that other kids have. I want them to have a dream and go for it."

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving." -Mother Teresa

Good Luck Polar Bears!!!

The Ramp Restaurant is proud to support the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Jump and the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank as they work to make a difference in the lives of those in need in our community.



3719 South Main St
Akron, OH 44319
(234)678-7745



Every meal has a story like April's



More than 1 in 5 children struggle with hunger in the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank's eight-county service area. Together, with partners like you and the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Club, we can be the difference between hunger and hope for families like April's.

April, a mother to four boys and a caregiver to elderly in-laws and sick parents, typically has her hands full. On any given day, she is transporting children to sporting activities, taking someone to an appointment or working as a waitress.

April is diligent about talking with her boys about their futures, emphasizing the importance of education and college. She believes they each have a good head on their shoulders, and hopes they strive to have a better life than her. She openly talks about having her first child at 15 and not finishing high school. "The choices we make in our lives dictate our future, and I hope my boys don't have to struggle like I do."

To help her food assistance benefits last the entire month, April is resourceful. "I'm really good at living below my means. By the end of the month, after all my bills are paid, I have \$150 for groceries and other expenses."

She bases her grocery list on the items she's able to get from the local pantry, buys items in bulk and finds affordable protein at meat markets. Most recently, she began bartering to pay for sporting activities. Volunteering to be the team mom gives her a discount on registration fees; helping the coach's wife wash dogs at their local business means football fees will be covered.

"My kids didn't ask to be here; they didn't ask for this life. It's my job as a parent to succeed."

Even though times are difficult for their family, April reminds her boys how much they have compared to others. Until circumstances change, she'll be able to turn to the food pantry for help when she needs it.

Thank you for supporting your Foodbank, and for helping families in our community just like Darlene's & April's have access to nourishing meals when they need it most. Every \$1 donated helps provide 4 meals to our neighbors in need. For more information, please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org.



MONTHLY HALF-HOUR BROADCAST TV SHOW ON WESTERN RESERVE PBS - WEAQ 49



The Portage Lakes is known for good eats and fun times...

The Portage Lakes will maintain its reputation with the opening (and reopening) of new restaurants in the area. The Ramp, an already popular restaurant, opened in October of 2018. Pick's At PLX restaurant opened in May of 2018 and continues to open other restaurants in the large building where it's located. Danos Lakeside Pub and Caston and Main, two well known restaurants and bars, reopened with some changes. Here are some highlights of the new eateries.

After much anticipation, Jim and Zana Genovese opened the Ramp Restaurant. The Ramp opened with a bang, with many attending its soft opening. The parking lot has been full ever since. The Ramp is conveniently located on Main Street near the Sandy Beach Marina. The restaurant sits on Cottage Grove Lake with a large deck and 24 dedicated docks so that people can come to the restaurant by water. People may order food from their boats or enjoy the view of the Lakes from the large deck.

Inside the Ramp, large windows line the walls giving patrons a breathtaking view of Cottage Grove Lake. The ceiling is 35 feet high with more than 14 TVs lining the walls. The long bar faces the lake and multiple TVs. One table was made from a Chris-Craft boat located in the center of the restaurant. Patrons must reserve this unique table in advance.

Along with the ambience, the Ramp boasts delicious food. The locals' favorites include sauerkraut balls, lamb lollipops, hamburgers, steaks, and firewood oven pizzas. The prices of the food and drinks are reasonable considering the high quality of the food and the experience that goes along with the food. The Ramp will be generously hosting the party after the Polar Bear Jump.



After a brief closing and extensive renovation, Ron and Sharon Robinson reopened Caston and Main. The owners describe the restaurant as a "craft beer gastropub." The ceilings of the restaurant were raised and two new patios were added, giving the restaurant nearly double its original space. The restaurant now includes a bourbon tasting room that can also be used to host small parties. Favorites on the menu include brew cheese pretzels, nachos, tacos, and the Main Squeeze Rueben.

Dano Mundy reopened his popular dive bar, Danos Lakeside Pub, this past year. Portage Lakers were devastated when Danos burned down in June of 2015. Many hoped that it would reopen in its original location on South Main Street. Just when Lakers believed that Danos would only be a fond memory, it reopened in a new location, on a new lake. The restaurant/bar is now located on Turkeyfoot Lake where Howies Restaurant used to be located. Danos has revived its famous Thursday taco night and is working to restore its original atmosphere. People will not find a kinder host than Dano Mundy, who frequently greets every customer on Thursday nights.

Donnie Boyer opened Pick's At PLX on 16,000 square foot property located West Reservoir. Brothers Tom, Bob, and Herb purchased the building in 2016 after Nicoletti's Park Place restaurant closed. The establishment has two kitchens, four bars, and a banquet hall for private events. Pick's has multiple restaurants in one location. The third level of the restaurant is Table 530 at Pick's. The 530 menu is upscale and offers food that is not on the menu of the customers eating on the patio. The 530 menu includes seafood and steak while the outside patio menu includes simpler items like burgers and fries. The outdoor patio is large, seating 200 people at full capacity. The Patio is located on level one and is the largest outdoor patio on the Portage Lakes. Level two of the building is sports bar called "Local on the Lakes." With indoor and outdoor dining, Lakers can enjoy Pick's all year long.



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THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS

As you could imagine a lot of planning goes into having this event. We at the Polar Bear Club would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone that has made this event a success:

- Dragon Dream Team
- The Staff of Portage Lakes State Park
- Chris Conn for his photography skills
- Paul Adamson, Mayor and Steve Leslie, Fire Chief of New Franklin
- Portage Lakes Rowing Association for lending us their floating dock
- Employees & volunteers from Ronald McDonald House of Akron, Rotary Camp of Akron, & the Akron Canton Regional Foodbank
- Beach Boyz Entertainment for DJ service
- Sully's Tool & Party Rental for tables, tents, heaters and chairs
- Caston & Main for hosting packet pickup
- Corporate teams from FirstEnergy, Kisling, Nestico & Redick, Ameriprise Financial and Akron General Orthopedics
- Kelly Pariso of Ameriprise Financial for sponsoring this year's t-shirts
- Ad Direct for postcard printing
- Mike Studeny & all of the park personnel
- New Franklin Fire/EMS
- Blue Green for help on the pamphlet design.
- Cintas
- Stitches & Screens
- Hudson Printing

Finally, a **BIG THANK YOU** to all of the volunteers in Bright Green shirts. Without your efforts this event would not be possible.

Please support our local sponsors who placed ads in this program.

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TODAY'S ESTIMATED SCHEDULE

1:45 - Registration Closes

2:00 - National Anthem

FIRST HALF JUMPER ORDER

2:05 - VIPBs (Very Important Polar Bears) with \$500+ raised!

2:10	2:15	2:20	2:25	2:30
Red Checker	Orange Checker	Green Checker	Blue Checker	Purple Checker


2:35 - Intermission - Selection of 50/50 Drawing Winner!
Chilly Chicken jumps on behalf of all the chickens!

SECOND HALF JUMPER ORDER

2:40	2:45	2:50	2:55	3:00
Red	Orange	Green	Blue	Purple

Volunteers Jump

After Party at The Ramp



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