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Hope on the Slopes helps local children in need

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By Staff Writer

NORTH SUMMIT – The Third Annual Hope on the Slopes event benefiting The Kylie Jane Long Foundation will take place Feb. 26-27.

Events will include snowtubing, skiing, snowboarding, a big-air competition, cardboard box race, fireworks and a wine tasting/auction.



Immediately following the wine tasting and auction, all attendees are invited to watch the torchlight parade and fireworks, as shown above from last year's event.

Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Long

All proceeds from Hope on the Slopes will benefit The Kylie Jane Long Foundation, an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization based in Northeast Ohio that assists local children facing life-threatening illnesses in local hospitals. Kylie's family and friends formed this organization after Kylie developed cancer and they lived in the hospital with her for an extended time. They learned first-hand what children and families truly need, and after Kylie lost her battle with cancer, they decided to use what they learned to help others in need, according to organizers. Now, the foundation touches the lives of more than 1,000 local children each year.

For more information on the foundation, visit www.kyliejanelong.org.

The cardboard box race will take place Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. and consists of individuals or teams of up to six people who create a cardboard craft in which they race down the slopes of Polar Blast at Brandywine Ski Resort, 1146 Highland Road in Sagamore Hills.

All other events will take place Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. at Boston Mills, 7100 Riverview Road in Peninsula. Those who register to snowtube, ski or snowboard as a Hope on the Slopes participant will receive an all-access lift ticket, free rentals, a T-shirt, a souvenir bib and more for \$35. Teams or individuals can sign up at www.hopeontheslopes.com by Feb. 25 or in person the day of the event. The Web site also offers an opportunity to donate funds.

The indoor wine tasting and auction will begin at 6 p.m. in the main lodge at Boston Mills and will offer a variety of hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer. Auction items will include passes to Walt Disney World, airline tickets, vacation packages, signed sports memorabilia, a variety of Step 2 children's items, spa packages, sporting equipment and more. Appetizers at the event will be presented by executive chefs from Northeast Ohio, including Lanny Chin, of Naya Bistro and Lounge in Highland Heights, and Michael Anderson, of Umani in Chagrin Falls, according to organizers.

Immediately following the auction, all are invited to watch the torchlight parade down the slopes and fireworks.

Tickets are available at www.hopeontheslopes.com or by sending \$35 per ticket to The Kylie Jane Long Foundation, P.O. Box 645, Bath, OH 44210.

A limited number of tickets may be available the day of the event at the door. Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are still available. For more information, e-mail info@kyliejanelong.org or call (330) 808-5553.

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The "Pampers Cruisers" cardboard box racing team, comprised of Revere Local Schools teachers, is shown participating in the 2009 Hope on the Slopes event.