



January 2, 2019

Dear Dipper,

HAPPY NEW YEAR from Friends of River Hospital! We are excitedly making plans for the **29th Annual Polar Bear Dip on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the Bonnie Castle Resort** and hope that you will want to make another appearance and thrill the crowd with your style & bravery. This year, funds raised will be designated for critical patient care equipment that will be used in the new Emergency Department's trauma room (with construction starting in mid-2019).

It's time to begin your appeals to family, friends and business buddies to raise the minimum registration fee of \$100.00 (per dipper). Of course, the object of the event is to raise as much money as we can while having fun. You can still raise money for your Dip by using GoFundMe.com. Please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/?route=charitysearch>, search for River Hospital. Select River Hospital, Inc. (EIN# 810600548) and begin your campaign. Please bring a print out of your GoFundMe campaign dashboard on the day of registration.

Remember that our distinguished panel of judges will rate your dipping technique AND your costume. We encourage you to get creative with your costume this year! With the expectation of more than 200 dippers this year, registration will begin at 9:00am in the Holland Room in order to accommodate increasing numbers of dippers and alleviate the congestion around the bar. There will be no pre-registration. **If you are part of a team, all team members must register together – no exceptions will be made this year.**

Your Pledge Form, Rules and Release of Liability are attached. Please bring the completed forms and money with you to registration.

If you have questions, feel free to contact The Friends of River Hospital by e-mail at apfeiffer@riverhospital.org or phone 315.482.1270. Look for updates, information and forms on River Hospital's website (www.riverhospital.org) and River Hospital's Facebook page. Be sure to 'like' River Hospital on Facebook for event updates.

See you at The Dip!

THE FRIENDS OF RIVER HOSPITAL



Additional Dipper Information

Requirements:

- Dippers must be 18 years of age
- Registration inside Bonnie Castle Resort and Marina from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon; dipping starts at 1:00
- Registration fee \$100 [or more]. All monies collected must be turned in at time of registration. All checks must be made out to “Friends of River Hospital.”
- Each dipper **MUST** wear shoes to protect your feet in the water, climbing the ladder and walking on the docks and sidewalks.
- If partaking in alcoholic beverages, Dippers are asked to drink responsibly.

Awards:

- Each dipper will receive an official Polar Bear Dip T-shirt and Certificate. Be sure we have the correct spelling of your name, the correct mailing address & email. Additional souvenir items will be available to purchase the day of the dip.
- First prizes will be awarded to the individual raising the most money and to the team raising the most money. Other prizes will honor the best “dip” technique and the best costume. **The last two categories are at the discretion of the judges.** We encourage dippers to be creative and go wild with costuming.

Accommodations and Parking:

- Accommodations are available at:
 - Bertrands Motel (315) 686-3641 (Clayton, NY)
 - Bonnie Castle Resort and Marina (315) 482-4511 (Alexandria Bay, NY)
 - 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel (315) 686-1100 (Clayton, NY)
 - Riveredge Resort (315) 482-9917 (Alexandria Bay, NY)
- The Polar Bear Express shuttle will be available on the day of the Polar Bear Dip to take people to and from Bonnie Castle Resort and Marina. Parking will be in the main lot of Uncle Sam Boat Tours. The shuttle will run every 30 minutes from 11:00am until 4:00pm.



Friends of River Hospital Polar Bear Dip Release of Liability

This form must be read and signed before the participant is allowed to take part in the Polar Bear Dip.

Participant Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

IN CONSIDERATION for being permitted to participate in the Polar Bear Dip, I acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

1. I am a guest on the property of the Bonnie Castle Resort and Marina and have no expectation or understanding that Bonnie Castle owes me any duty of care or duty to warn me of any hazards or dangers on their property;
2. The risk of injury from the activity is significant, including the potential for permanent disability and death, and while personal discipline will minimize the risk, the risk for serious injury does exist;
3. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE of those persons released from liability below, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
4. I acknowledge that event staff and/or Bonnie Castle Resort and Marina staff reserve the right to refuse Dipper entry if intoxication level appears dangerous to dipper;
5. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS, Bonnie Castle Resort, the Friends of River Hospital, River Hospital, Inc., the owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the Polar Bear Dip activities and its sponsors and beneficiaries, their families, officers, agents and/or employees [“Releasees”], with respect to any and all injury, disability, death or loss or damage to person or property, whether caused by negligence or otherwise.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT INDUCEMENT.

Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Witness: _____

