

September 14, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*(Editor and news directors: Runners will be training on the course at Granite Peak this Saturday, September 17 and Saturday, September 24 beginning at 7:30 a.m. Photo opportunities and interviews can be arranged through Patrick Bradley noted above.)*

## **Wausau Rotary Run Up Granite Peak Defies Gravity While Aiding Area Youth**

(Wausau, WI) Hundreds of runners from Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota are expected to compete in the Rotary Club of Wausau's fourth annual Ultra Trek and Fun Run at Granite Peak in Rib Mountain on Saturday, October 1. The event offers runners and walkers of all abilities several options for testing their endurance going up a slope most people come down---at Granite Peak, Wisconsin's highest vertical downhill ski area.

Proceeds from the event support the Rotary Club of Wausau's commitment to college scholarships as well as local, regional and international projects. Races begin at 10 a.m. and conclude shortly after 2 p.m.

The "Fun Run" event, billed as "Central Wisconsin's most challenging 5 K," takes place on the lower ski area. Runners and walkers of all ages can set their own pace in this event. Four loops equal a 5k race. Past participants have ranged in age from 11 to 77, all completing the 5k.

The toughest race may be the one- to four-person relay race that lasts four hours and covers a two-mile Ultra Trek loop including a 700-foot vertical rise. Known affectionately as "The WRUT," (or Wausau Rotary Ultra Trek), this event challenges each team to complete as many loops as they can in the four hour time period. Awards are presented to the top three Ultra Trek teams who complete the most loops and to the single racer logging the fastest one-loop time.

Individuals not up for a four-hour run can do a solo run on the same WRUT course and compete with other individuals to see who can complete the most loops in two hours. Six or seven loops would be equivalent to roughly a half marathon. Awards for the top male and female solo racers will be presented in each age bracket.

Spectators are welcome, and there will be plenty to do. Family games and music will be provided; Granite Peak's Fall Color Rides on the ski hill's six-seater chair lifts will be operating, the Boy Scouts will be grilling brats and burgers, and Starbucks will be handing out complimentary coffee.

Runners and walkers can register online at [active.com](http://active.com) or [wausaurotary.org](http://wausaurotary.org). Registration will also be open from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. on Friday, September 30 at Noodles & Company, 1800 Stewart Avenue, Wausau and on the day of the race, October 1 from 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. at Granite Peak Ski Area.

Rotary International is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian services, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary Clubs all over the world have played a critical role in eradicating polio from all but a few remaining nations. Past WRUT and Fun Run events at Granite Peak have generated funding for local area youth organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers and Big Sisters and Junior Achievement.

For more information, visit [www.wausaurotary.org](http://www.wausaurotary.org).

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