

## STRIDE E-News March 2017

### War Heroes Welcomed for 12th Annual Snowfest!

Each year STRIDE welcomes Wounded Warriors with their families, for four days in camaraderie to learn adaptive skiing and snowboarding. The public welcomed STRIDE honored regional Warriors and their families, for a Welcome Ceremony at the Troy Hilton Garden Inn on March 3 at 6 pm.

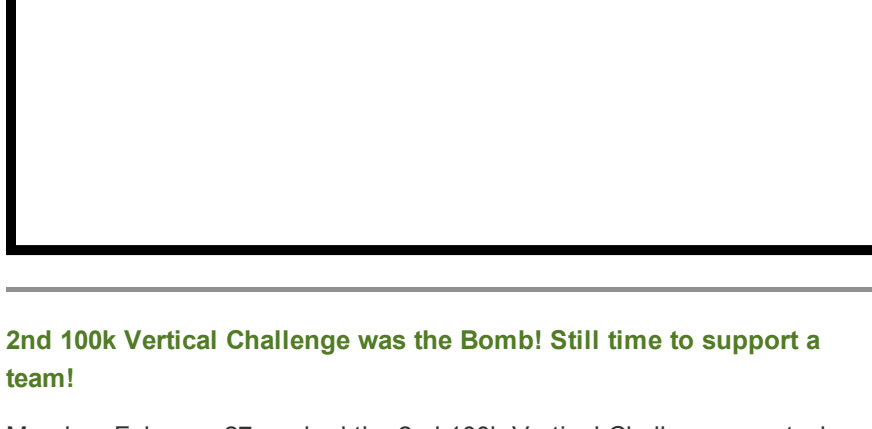
Keynote Speaker, CPT William Reynolds III inspired everyone with his story and advise on how to be positive into the future through transitioning from military to civilian life. The Welcome Ceremony procession, held at the [Hilton Garden Inn](#), led by [The Schenectady Pipe and Drum Band](#), the LaSalle Institute Color Guard who escorted the Warriors and families to honor and thank them for their service and sacrifices. [WNYT News 13](#) Anchors Subrina Dhammi and Phil Bayly, along with many elected officials gave proclamations. Entertainment by the [Mendelssohn Choir](#). Thanks to generous sponsorship from [DSUSA Warfighter Sports](#), [Tenth Mountain Division Foundation](#); [Direct Retirement Solutions](#), [Brown Coach](#), [Plastic Extruded Parts](#), [Lavelle & Finn Attorneys at Law](#); [M & T Bank](#), and many VFW's and American Legion Posts.

The weekend of skiing and activities was most successful, after a cold blast allowed Jiminy Peak, our most trusted supporter, to make snow all over the mountain. Donations for the event [can still be made here](#).

### STRIDE Great Race

On March 18, once again STRIDE will host it's showcase event, the Great Race, at Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort, where all abilities shine in a fun and competitive day on the mountain. We look forward to seeing all skiers and riders at this fun showcase event for them. [Register here NOW!!!](#)

Great Race Registration



### 2nd 100k Vertical Challenge was the Bomb! Still time to support a team!

Monday, February 27 marked the 2nd 100k Vertical Challenge event where skiers/riders tested endurance with 87 runs off the top of the mountain with their teams. This 12-plus-hour adventure raised over \$47K just shy of our \$50K goal for STRIDE's adaptive sports programs for youth with disabilities and Wounded Warriors. Congratulations to #1 Team [GE Veterans Network](#), #2 Team Ain't No Mountain High Enough and #3 team Red Jackets for most funds raised. Highest individual fundraiser went to Steve Bravo, event organizer extraordinaire. Sixteen teams competed and the day was just perfect.

The 80's themed Kick-off party at Wolf's 1-11 in Albany NY was a blast raising a few extra bucks; but the biggest thanks goes to [Jiminy Peak](#) for their amazing support to this event all around. We couldn't do it without them! Click below if you want the recap of the fun that happened!

### Our Capital District Sled Warrior team Won the Bronze medal at the Empire State Games, Lake Placid!

We are very excited to announce that our team is growing and competing in more and more tournaments with great results.

Next tournament is scheuled for March 11-12 for Central NY in Syracuse. Go Warriors!



### CEO Message

Permits have been submitted for zoning and occupancy and our new site plans for the new adaptive SHARE Center. Lots of paperwork required before getting to the fun stuff!

Project SHARE Building Fund campaign is underway, for creating our new adaptive multi-purpose gym space, Warrior lounge and training center. SHARE (STRIDE Health and Recreation Education ) Center will be a cornerstone facility for Rensselaer County, offering a space to share and collaborate with community partners and hope you will consider future support in financial, services or goods to help us acheive our goal! Thanks to NYS CFA grant for their support in the amount of \$100,000 to this project!

Donate to Support a Team Here!

### Congrats to our Alpine Race Team - Racking up Gold!

Recently at both the NY Regional Special Olympics at West Mountain, and the New York State SO competitions at Holiday Mountain in Poghkeepsie our team worked hard to bring back medals! Regionals: Congratulations to Noah Salz on gold for Giant Slalom and a gold for Slalom. Sarah Hoffman won a gold for Giant Slalom and a gold for Slalom. Matt Coleman won two silvers; and Bridget Hotaling won gold for Slalom. States: Noah Salz - 2 silver; Sarah Hoffman - 2 gold; Bridget Hotaling - 1 gold.

Our new team uniforms...make us look amazingly official!

### Good Luck to our STRIDE Bowling Team as they head into Regional Special Olympics competition this Sunday in Schenectady!

Seen here, Eddie Vendetti 'strikes' again! Talent and high scores lead the team! Go STRIDE! Interested in volunteering or joining the team? We play at 2 locations in Latham and East Greenbush NY. on Saturday mornings. Contact: [mevans@stride.org](mailto:mevans@stride.org)

### STRIDE Wish List!

~ Fitness supplies: Steps, hand weights, yoga mats, fitness balls, kettle bells, dyna-bands

~ bike pump

~ dustbuster

~ 8 foot racetrack Board table (cherry)

~ 2 small bookshelves (cherry)

~ a big office shredder

~Keurig coffee cups!

~toaster;electric can opener

~ set of silverware; paper towel holder;

~set of dishes ( corelle or easy stack mugs for our new kitchen

### STRIDE Donations Since January! We Are Grateful!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following groups, clubs and individuals for their financial and in-kind support. There are a large number this month due to our February and March events, so we needed to reduce the size of print. For a full readable list, [click here](#).

### STRIDE Cares!

~ Deepest Sympathy to the family of Dick Miller, Board member, on the loss of his mother

~ Congratulations to Fox 23 reporter John Gray for being nominated for an emmy on journalism human interest story about Steve Ferro

~ Congratulations and Thank you to future Eagle Scout Zachery VanAmburgh for building 6 new picnic tables for SCORE camp

~ Thank you to our amazing photographers for all our events and programs Ottmar Klaas, Mike Hoffman, and Sean Coffey!

- STRIDE Great Race March 18 @Jiminy Peak
- Central New York Hockey Tournament @ Syracuse. Wish our Sled Hockey team Good Luck!
- NYSO Bowling Tournament 3/12 @ Schenectady

### March Testimonial

" We have skied at several mountains in the area through their adaptive programs, but we choose to recieve lessons from STRIDE. I am a special needs teacher in the school system and I know how difficult it can be just to have children in a classroom, let alone a mountain. All of your instructors & staff made me confident that they were knowledgeable not only in skiing , but my child's special needs. That is not the case at other mountains. Other adaptive lesson instructors know how to teach skiing, but have a hard time with teaching special needs or disabled students. Thank you STRIDE, for training your instructors so well."

### Swimming is Back!

Our programs are full, once again with both learning to swim, and Stingrays race team . We realize how popular this program is and are seeking new faicilities for volunteers. We also seek volunteers to get into the water with our kids! Join us! Contact [mevans@stride.org](mailto:mevans@stride.org)

### SPRING Programs are just getting started!

Check our calendar at [www.stride.org](http://www.stride.org) for all the upcoming spring programs and events.

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