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FAIRPOINT SPONSORS 'FREEZING FUN FOR FAMILIES' TO BENEFIT 8-YEAR-OLD WITH LEUKEMIA

SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt. (March 3, 2010) – FairPoint Communications is again sponsoring the world's largest snow softball game, *Freezing Fun for Families*, a fundraiser that benefits Vermont families and their children who are battling life-threatening illnesses.

Freezing Fun for Families is a three-day snow softball tournament – this year with 76 co-ed teams, who play six-inning games with appropriate winter rules like one pitch per batter, no stealing and only wooden bats.

FairPoint also is fielding three Vermont teams and one from Maine at the March 5-7, 2010, tournament at Barre's town recreation fields.

Freezing Fun for Families hopes to raise \$30,000 this year to help young Katie Grant of Williamstown, who is fighting chronic myeloid leukemia. Katie's mother is a match for a bone marrow transplant, but the family needs to move from their two-bedroom home to give Katie proper space to heal after surgery when her immune system will be depleted.

A local builder of modular and manufactured homes is donating a house and the proceeds raised this year will help make the necessary upgrades. Katie is the 11th youngster since 1999 helped by *Freezing Fun for Families*.

"FairPoint is proud to sponsor this worthy local cause," said Mike Smith, Vermont's state president. "This event shows that FairPoint employees, who live in 144 communities across Vermont, will donate their time and efforts where it matters most – at home."

In 2009, *Freezing Fun for Families* set a Guinness World Record for "The World's Largest Snow Softball Tournament," with 61 teams and 795 players, who raised \$25,000. Founded in 1999 by Cass Bresette, *Freezing Fun for Families* has raised more than \$160,000 with all proceeds going to families in need.

For more information, or to make a donation, please visit:
www.freezingfunforfamilies.com.

About FairPoint

FairPoint Communications, Inc. is an industry leading provider of communications services to communities across the country. Today, FairPoint owns and operates local exchange companies in 18 states offering advanced communications with a personal touch, including local and long distance voice, data, Internet, television and broadband services. Learn more at www.FairPoint.com.

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