



www.pslstrive.org

STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2010

Mission Statement

To assist teens and young adults with intellectual and emotional disabilities in utilizing resources within their community so they can participate as viable members of the community.

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STRIVE Receives Hometown Hero Award from Red Claws

On Wednesday, March 17th, STRIVE was honored on the court of the Maine Red Claws, and presented with the Hometown Hero Award. STRIVE was recognized for going above and beyond in our community!

Program Director Peter Brown accepted the award on behalf of STRIVE, while the PA announcer read a description of STRIVE's achievements over the past 10+ years!



We are very proud of our relationship with the Red Claws: the Three Points for STRIVE campaign has been very successful. Watch next month's newsletter for a full update! In the meantime- the Red Claws are headed towards the playoffs! If you would like to purchase playoff tickets please contact Ray Mathew at 207-210-6655. There are only a few home games remaining this year!

Recent Grants Bring Capital Campaign Near Completion!

Did you know that STRIVE U has been conducting a Capital Campaign to purchase the 3 student apartment buildings that make up our residential campus?

To date, we have raised over \$1.2 million dollars and purchased two of the three apartment buildings! In March, STRIVE received two foundation grants for the Capital Campaign. **Bangor Savings Bank** awarded a \$5000 grant to the Campaign, and the **Davis Family Foundation** awarded STRIVE U a \$15,000 grant. These grants bring the total amount remaining in the campaign to \$161,000. Ownership of these apartment buildings will enable STRIVE U to generate income and assist in funding the residential staffing of the program. If you would like to learn more about the Capital Campaign, or to get involved, please contact Peter Brown at pbrown@pslservices.org or (207) 774-6278.

STRIVE thanks Bangor Savings Bank and the Davis Family Foundation for their support!

STRIVE NEWS



Another Great Success Raising \$30,000!

March 6th & 7th marked STRIVE's 6th Annual STRIVE ROCKS! Dance Marathon. Over 450 Dancers participated in the 14 hour dance party raising over \$30,000.

The evening was filled with live music by East Wave Radio, The Sea Captains & El Grande, followed by DJ Daddy Cain & J.Rob, who kept the dancers rocking the night away.

Dancers filled the USM Sullivan Gym and participated in many activities: Henna Tattoos, Psychic Readings, Moon Bounce, Obstacle Course, Dance Dance Revolution, Rock Band, Pin Ball and tons of Food!

Thank you to all our community supporters who helped to make the marathon a success!

Top Three Fundraisers Were:

Chandler Hawks: Deering High School \$1600

Allison McCorry: STRIVE Volunteer \$1400

Kathleen Shevenell: STRIVE U Student \$900

Top High School

that brought in the most money & dancers:

Deering High School

Thank you to the 450 dancers, over 100 volunteers, sponsors and countless donors & supporters!

Support STRIVE Every Time You Use The Internet!

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

Visit <http://www.goodsearch.com/> and select STRIVE (South Portland, ME) as your designated cause!!!

Thank you to those who donated to STRIVE in March.

Patrick & Karen Callaghan

Gloria Lamiette

Dale and Linda Wilson

Laura Son & Kathleen Son

Allan McHale

John and Zoe Veasey

Judith Garland

Richard Doyon

Anne and Mervell Cronin

Stephen and Gayl Sinclair

Linda Zager

Karen Pelletier

Carol Steele

William and Marie Taplin

Maureen and Daniel Butler

Suzanne Ryan

Cynthia and Lawrence Vaughan

Margaret Gormley and Don Heck

Mary Burt

George Hutchins

Thomas McKeon

James and Jennifer Clair

Bruce McFarland

Gorham Savings Bank

STRIVE appreciates your generous support!

STRIVE WISH LIST

General Office Supplies

Sports Equipment

Children's rug

Craft Supplies

Volunteers to work shifts at Bookworks!

Paper Cutter

xBox 360 and/or Wii video games

Frozen Pizzas

Storage Shed

STRIVE NEWS

BookWorks! Sale: April 3rd

BookWorks! will be having a
GIANT BOOK SALE
 on Saturday, April 3rd from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Stop by 47 Atlantic Place (off of 311 Darling Ave in South Portland) for great books at great prices!

Buy Three Books, Get One Free!
 Fill-A-Bag with books for only \$10!



Strive U News

The STRIVE U Admissions Committee is close to selecting the Class of 2012! Decision letters will go out to all applicants on April 1st.

Want to learn more about STRIVE U? Applications will be available on May 3rd for the STRIVE U Experience. The weekend long camp will be held October 1st—3rd at Camp Tall Pines in Poland. The first 25 qualified candidates will be accepted. For information: contact Erin Berg at eberg@psslservices.org or (207)774-6278.

STRIVE U is Hiring!

STRIVE U is currently hiring- we are looking for both live in staff and more traditional shift staff. If you would like more information or to discuss opportunities, please contact Heather Free at hfree@psslservices.org or (207) 899-0035.



TWEENS SCHEDULE

April 2: Sand Art

April 9: Folk Singer Katey Branch

April 16: USM Chemistry Club

Watch cool science experiments & see how science can be fun!

April 23: Earth Day Planting

Decorate a pot & plant seeds: sponsored by Broadway Gardens

April 30: Ice Cream Social

Make ice cream from scratch & enjoy it with all the toppings!

May 7: Safety City

Sponsored by Central Maine Power

Beach to Beacon 10K Spots Available!

Do you want to participate in the ***sold out Beach to Beacon 10K?*** The 6.2-mile run, starting at Crescent Beach and ending at Portland Head Light attracts over 6,000 runners, along with over 10,000 spectators making it the largest road race ever in Maine. Did you get shut out in the registration process? As a past race beneficiary, STRIVE is fortunate to receive 25 race entries every year, which we use for fundraising. We ask that individuals that are interested in running the race for STRIVE, using one of our spots raise a minimum of \$300 to participate. We give you a free fundraising website to help your efforts, and nearly everyone raises more than the required \$300!

If you are interested in a spot, please contact Kristina Smalley at ksmalley@psslservices.org or (207) 774-6278. These spots are going quickly, contact Kristina today to reserve yours and support STRIVE!

Planning Underway for STRIVE Auction Get Involved Today!

STRIVE's 6th Annual Auction will be held on Wednesday, October 13th!

While that seems like a long time from now, the auction takes months of hard work and planning!

We'd love for interested volunteers to get involved in the planning process.

The Auction Committee decides the theme, activities, solicits items, confirms sponsors, and plans the entire event. Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday night, April 14th at 6pm here at STRIVE. Can't commit to serving on the committee- consider getting some items donated or talking with companies about being a sponsor. FMI- attend the meeting on 4/14 or contact Kristina Smalley at ksmalley@psslservices.org.

Mark your calendars for the auction on October 13th!

Volunteer News

Aktion Club has been very these past few months!

In March the volunteer club made Spring Time Cheer Cards for the elderly folks at the Birchwood's in Portland. The group will be continuing their service in April while participating in an Earth Day Trail Clean Up on April 21st on the Clark's Pond Trail in South Portland. Aktion Club is also participating in an ongoing collection of soda can tabs- if you would like to help us collect the tabs please drop them off at STRIVE. Also mark your calendar for a May Bake Sale!!! Aktion Club is part of the Portland Kiwanis and is an all ages volunteer club for individuals with developmental disabilities.

If you would like to get involved please contact Kristina Smalley.



Easter Origins: By Kevin Mooney

The Zoroastrians painted eggs for the New Year celebration of Nowrooz, which falls on the spring equinox. The Saxons held a feast for the spring goddess Eostre (whose animal was the spring hare), celebrated at the equinox on or around March 21. Some scholars believe Eostre was associated with eggs and hares, and that the land's rebirth in spring was symbolized by the egg. Pope Gregory the Great ordered his missionaries to use old religious sites and festivals and absorb them into Christian rituals when and where possible. There are also good grounds for the association between hares (later termed "Easter Bunnies") and eggs through folklore confusion between hares' forms (where they raise their young) and plovers' nests.

Easter Recipe: Hot Cross Buns from www.allrecipes.com

Directions:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Ingredients:</i> | 1 egg white | |
| 3/4 cup warm water (110 degrees F) | 3 cups all-purpose flour | 1. Put warm water, butter, skim milk powder, 1/4 cup sugar, salt, egg, egg white, flour, and yeast in bread maker and start on dough program. |
| 3 tablespoons butter | 1 tablespoon active dry yeast | 2. When 5 minutes of kneading are left, add currants and cinnamon. Leave in machine till double. |
| 1 tablespoon instant powdered milk | 3/4 cup dried currants | 3. Punch down on floured surface, cover, and let rest 10 minutes. |
| 1/4 cup white sugar | 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon | 4. Shape into 12 balls and place in a greased 9 x 12 inch pan. Cover and let rise in a warm place till double, about 35-40 minutes. |
| 3/8 teaspoon salt | 1 egg yolk | 5. Mix egg yolk and 2 tbs water. Brush on balls. |
| 1 egg | 2 tablespoons water | 6. Bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for 20 minutes. Remove from pan immediately and cool on wire rack. |
| | 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar | |
| | 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract | |
7. To make crosses: mix together confectioners' sugar, vanilla, and milk. Brush an X on each cooled bun.

We hope you'll check out our selection of Easter books on display at Bookworks!

Do you have a love of books and an hour to donate to STRIVE each week?

BookWorks! currently has many volunteer shifts available. Individuals typically volunteer 1-2 hour shifts weekly and help out with sorting and alphabetizing new donations, providing customer service, restocking shelves, and helping with opening and closing the store daily.

Contact Kim Kelley at kkelley@pslservices.org or 774-6278 for more information on how to help out!

Shifts available include:

Mondays: 4:00-5:00
 Tuesdays: 10:00-12:00; 3:00-6:00
 Wednesdays: 11:00-1:00; 5:00-6:00
 Thursdays: 10:00-12:00; 5:00-6:00
 Fridays: 12:00-3:00; 4:00-5:00

 **BookWorks!**

STRIVE is on Facebook!
 Check out our page for the latest STRIVE news, it is updated daily!

Visit:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/STRIVE/129076679535?ref=ts>
 to sign up for Facebook and connect with STRIVE!

SPRING FLING

April's Theme Night is sponsored by the
AmeriCorps Alums



FRIDAY APRIL 9th
STRIVE NIGHT: 6:00 - 9:00pm

Please Join Us for a night filled with fun
activities, music, treats and most
importantly great friends!

Face Painting by a local artist

Inside Yard Games!

Decorate
Cupcakes & Cookies

Crafts

Plant Flowers

CAMP STRIVE APRIL 19-APRIL 23

Tired of sitting at home bored during school vacation?? Come to **CAMP STRIVE** instead, and have a blast making new friends, enhancing your skills and exploring the community!

Cost is \$45 per day, or sign up for the entire week for only \$200! We offer early drop off for an additional \$35 for the week. Pre-registration is required. Please let us know the day before you will be attending camp. This is our tentative schedule. *All activities are subject to change.*

Monday: Indoor Soccer Game & Pineland Farm

Tuesday: Downtown Portland & Picnic Lunch

Wednesday: Portland Sea Dogs Game

Thursday: Clarks Pond Path Nature Scavenger Hunt
& Earth Day Activities

Friday: Carnival Day & Basketball Game

Please contact Kim Kelley at (207)774-6278 or kkelley@pssl-services.org to request a registration packet with complete schedule, or to reserve your spot!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Jackie Ziniel	April 1
Robert Fairbrother	April 3
Megan Miller	April 3
Anthony Van Etten	April 4
Kevin Cordier	April 4
Devan Libbey	April 5
Jeremy Ricker	April 5
Rebecca Libby	April 7
Danielle Gaudette	April 9
Gus Recknagel	April 9
Michael Thompson	April 10
April Watson	April 10
Dorothy Stanley	April 11
Bradley LaPointe	April 13
Trevor Perry	April 14
John James Gallagher	April 15
Nick Helgeson	April 16
Karen Esposito	April 16

Sylvia Lynn Landry	April 17
Stephanie Sinclair	April 17
Jonathan Edwards	April 17
Michael Norton	April 18
Allie Fredette	April 19
Joel Spadinger	April 19
Joannah Napoleone	April 19
Timothy Nason	April 21
Tyler Bals	April 21
Charlie Rhode	April 22
Abby Theriault	April 24
Keith Conley Johnson	April 24
Ben Valle	April 25
Sabrina Nixon	April 26
Erica Gervais	April 28
Mary Jessica Cooke	April 28
Yajira Dueno	April 30
John Paul Brower	April 30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM STRIVE!!

Members' Page

Uncle Sam Wants YOU To Join STRIVE's ADVISORY BOARD!



**Sign Up today either at
STRIVE or Call us.
Elections are
April 23rd at 5pm**

**Help us to plan Theme Nights &
Activities. Plus give your input on
how to make STRIVE better!**

APRIL WORD SEARCH

T S N I G E B L L A B E S A B
D H E W N A M E O F T H E P M
O I Y A D I R F D O O G N H T
H A A R P R I L M A Y A A R H
T A D M H T N O M H T R U O F
A V S I O E C O M E I B M D F
U R L N O N M A Y E P O H I G
R R O G O D D F S S O R I T N
U T O U E T L H E L I D N E I
S A F P M O E O B F T A H R T
E G L S W E E T P E A Y D E N
R E I E E K G O D D E S S T A
B I R D S M I G R A T E O S L
F S P R I N G R E V O S S A P
L P A L M S U N D A Y O V E E

APHRODITE, FLOWERS, APRIL FOOL'S DAY, FOURTH MONTH, ARBOR DAY, GOOD FRIDAY, ARIES, PALM SUNDAY, BASEBALL BEGINS, PASSOVER, BIRDS MIGRATE, PLANTING, BLOOM, SPRING, DAISY, SWEET PEA, DIAMOND, TAURUS, EASTER, WARMING UP
http://www.printactivities.com/Word_Search_Puzzles/April-Word-Search.html

APRIL EVENTS

BookWorks! Book Sale

Saturday, April 3rd from 10:00am-2:00pm

Germbusters

Monday nights from 5:30-7:00pm
(4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26)

Independent Living Skills

Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm
(4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28)

TWEENS Program

Every Friday afternoon from 3:30-5:30pm

STRIVE Night Social

Every Friday evening from 6:00-9:00pm

Aktion Club Meeting

Every other Wednesday from 3:30-4:00pm
(4/7, 4/21)

Member Advisory Board Meeting

Every other Friday from 5:00-5:30pm
(4/9, 4/23)

STRIVE Theme Night: Spring Fling

Friday, April 9th from 6:00pm-9:00pm

CAMP STRIVE

April 19th– April 23rd from 9:00am-5:00pm

New Monday Night Class Offering: Germbusters!



Zap! Zap! Zap! Germs are all around us, but the upcoming Germbusters class will teach students how to zap those germs and stay healthy! Topics will include lessons from germ basics, to personal and home hygiene, to food safety, to homemade Germbusting

kits! This fun and helpful class will run from April 5th-June 7th on Monday Nights from 5:30-7:00pm. Class costs \$20 for the entire series. Please contact: Kim Miller at kmiller@pslservices.org or 774-6278 if you have any questions or would like to secure your germ-free spot!

STRIVE PICTURES



Stephanie Sinclair shows off the leprechaun she made at the After School Program St. Patrick's Day Party.



Emma Campbell and Chandler Hawkes make posters to advertise a BookWorks! Saturday Sale.



Hundreds of high school students and STRIVE members & alumni danced the night away at the 6th Annual STRIVE ROCKS! Dance Marathon!



TWEENS enjoyed a visit from South Portland Police Dog, Baron



Program Director, Pete Brown hangs out with a snake during Sparks Arks visit to TWEENS



Emma Campbell and Chandler Hawkes explored Fort Williams with the After School Program



STRIVE U students and alumni pose for a photo at the STRIVE ROCKS! Dance Marathon!

Do you have pictures that you would like to share with us? If so please send them to info@pslstrive.org



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*Serving teens and young
adults with developmental
disabilities*

**Visit our website:
www.pslstrive.org**

- Sign up for the STRIVE e-mail list
- Latest news
- Upcoming events
- View past newsletters

Has your address or phone
number changed?

*Email us at
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