



www.pslstrive.org

# STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

## Mission Statement

To assist tweens, 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 Night at the Portland Sea Dogs!



Niels Doughty, a STRIVE U student has also been hired to sell 500 **Sea Dogs** tickets, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit **STRIVE**. Join us Thursday, **June 9<sup>th</sup>** for STRIVE Night at Hadlock Field as the Portland Sea Dogs battle the Richmond Flying Squirrels. Buy your tickets directly from Niels and save \$1.00 per ticket! For more information, call 207-774-6278, or use the order form below to purchase tickets.

### SEA DOGS TICKETS ORDER FORM

Game: Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM (doors open at 5:30 pm) against Richmond Flying Squirrels

Tickets are **\$6.00 General Admission**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$6.00 per ticket) Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type:

Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (please make payment to **STRIVE**)

Credit Card Payment: *circle one*

Mastercard Discover VISA

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## STRIVE has a limited amount of Beach to Beacon spots!



**Weren't able to register for the Beach to Beacon?**  
Good News... STRIVE has a limited amount of spots!

As a past beneficiary of the Beach to Beacon Race, STRIVE is given a limited amount of bibs to use as fund raiser. It is asked that each runner raises \$300 to support STRIVE.

If you would like to run for STRIVE please contact our offices at 207-774-6278.

Don't delay- sign up today!

# STRIVE NEWS

## April Vacation Camp

### Calling All Campers! April 18-22<sup>nd</sup>

April Camp is right around the corner!  
Make sure you sign up today!  
Contact: Kristina Smalley at 207-774-6278

Activities will include:

- Arts & Crafts
- Cooking
- Sports
- Games
- Movies

And much more!

## STRIVE NIGHT - Dinner Theater

### Anthony's Italian Kitchen Spring Italian Fiesta



Variety show with Songs,  
Comical skits & Surprises!



April 30<sup>th</sup>

Anthony's Dinner Theater is graciously donating 20%  
of all proceeds to benefit STRIVE!

Buy your tickets now

Ticket Price is \$39.95 per person and  
includes a 5 course Italian Dinner as well as  
the Musical Entertainment!

To Purchase Tickets please call the Anthony's Broadway Line at  
207-221-2267

## STRIVE U News



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual STRIVE U Experience

Are you thinking about applying to STRIVE U? Want to learn  
more about the program? Pack up your stuff and join us at  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual STRIVE U Experience.

When: September 30<sup>th</sup>-October 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Where: Camp Tall Pines in Poland, Maine  
Cost: \$285.00 (includes everything!)

Applications will be available beginning May 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Applicants will be accepted on a first come first served basis,  
subject to program eligibility.

For more information, please contact Erin Berg at 774-6278  
or [eberg@pslservices.org](mailto:eberg@pslservices.org)

## STRIVE U Employment News

STRIVE U has some exciting new employment and volunteer  
placements to announce! Kate McHale, a first year student recently  
started her new job at **Mad Gab's** in Westbrook. President/Founder  
Gabrielle Melchionda reports that Kate has a positive attitude, is very  
productive, and everyone at Mad Gab's enjoys working with their new  
co-worker! Katie Christensen, a second year student was hired by  
**Berry, Dunn, McNeil and Parker**. BDMP's Office Manager, Michael  
Seed said that Katie is a conscientious, hard worker and has learned  
the tasks of her new job very quickly. Katie's coworkers appreciate her  
eagerness to help during their busy tax season! Kelsie O'Sullivan  
accepted a job offer from **LL Bean**. She will begin working with Mary  
Sleeper and her team in the Corporate Mail and Reprographics  
departments in Portland the first week of April. Sarah Michaud is  
volunteering at the **Portland Center for Assisted Living**. Staff and  
residents alike look forward to Sarah's vivacious personality and social  
visits each week. She spends time with senior citizens and helps out  
with various activities such as Arts and Crafts and Music. Sarah is  
enjoying the time she spends brightening the lives of residents at  
PCAL. Niels Doughty has teamed up with lunchtime volunteers at the  
**Preble Street Soup Kitchen**. The kitchen staff is impressed with Niels'  
excellent culinary skills and welcome having such a talented and  
dedicated volunteer help out every week.

Please contact **MaryAnn Schwanda**, Employment Coordinator to find  
out the many benefits of becoming a STRIVE U Employment Partner:  
[mschwanda@pslservices.org](mailto:mschwanda@pslservices.org) or call 207-774-6278.

# STRIVE NEWS

## Features At Fenway STRIVE Bus Trip!



Don't miss your chance to join STRIVE for this year's Futures at Fenway!

STRIVE will be chartering a VIP Bus leaving from STRIVE going to Fenway for both the Portland Sea Dogs game & the Pawtucket Red Sox!

To Reserve your spot please call STRIVE at 207-774-6278

Tickets are \$40 per person

## Three Points for STRIVE Update

It is not too late to pledge through the "3 Points for STRIVE" campaign with the Maine Red Claws! For each three pointer hit during this season your donation will go to benefit STRIVE!

To download a pledge card visit: [www.pslstrive.org](http://www.pslstrive.org)

**TOTAL 3 Pointers to Date: 193**

STRIVE is honored to be working with the following supporters



## Next STEP Update

The Next STEP Program is a private pay Transitioning Educational Program -focusing on additional educational opportunities and social, recreation and personal wellness.

Next STEP is accepting applications for the summer and fall semesters! If you would like more information on how you or your student could benefit from this unique program please contact the STRIVE Offices. The Next STEP program runs daily Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. Students have the option to participate at a full time or part time schedule. Each day is comprised of educational classes, as well as a focus on social, recreational and wellness activities.

Sample topics include: money management, independent life skills, nutrition, transportation, personal safety and have incorporated a variety of transferable skills through each class.

Please contact the STRIVE Offices if you would like us to work with your student and personalize a schedule!

*Please visit [www.pslstrive.org](http://www.pslstrive.org) to obtain more information, a fact sheet and the application.*

*If you have any questions or would like to schedule a visit please contact*

*Our offices at 207-774-6278 or email [info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org)*

## Breakfast at the Ballpark!

Join STRIVE and the 2011 Portland Sea Dogs

Memorial Day- May 30, 2011

**For a Breakfast at the Ballpark!**

Tickets will be on sale soon!

For more information visit our website at [www.pslstrive.org](http://www.pslstrive.org) or call the office at 207-774-6278



Make sure to bring a pen and your autograph book! The players will be signing!

# Volunteer News

## Thank you STRIVE Supporters!

Thank you to everyone who donated to STRIVE in March  
We appreciate your generous support.

Thomas McKeon  
Glenn and Doris Meehan  
Rose Sinclair  
Mary Burt  
Carlos and Julie Montgomery  
Henrietta LaRou  
Lawrence and Cynthia Vaughan  
Florence Johnson  
David and Fella Shapell Family Foundation  
Marjorie Twombly  
Michael and Ellen Monaghan  
Judith Garland  
Dale and Linda Wilson  
Malcolm and Sandra Philbrook  
Margaret and Craig Wilson  
Leon and Lisa Gorman  
Allan McHale

## TWEEN Friday Afternoon Socials

Are you between the ages of 11 and 14?  
Are you looking to make some new friends?!  
Then join us every Friday afternoon from  
3:30 to 5:30 at the STRIVE Center!

### April's Calendar of Events:

Yoga  
Dance Lessons  
Musical Entertainment  
Spring Fling with Face Painting

Plus weekly surprises!



## Easy Ways to Help Support STRIVE!

**Follow Us on Facebook**  
Daily Updates  
STRIVE Pictures

To stay connected visit:  
[facebook.com/STRIVENation](https://facebook.com/STRIVENation)



**Can Redemption Program**  
Get a Green Bag at STRIVE &  
drop off your cans at a  
Hannaford Grocery Store.  
The deposits will go to STRIVE!  
Every 5 cents counts!

*There's no reason not to.  
You search... We give!*

**Change your Search Engine**  
Change your search engine to  
GoodSearch and pick STRIVE  
as your charity!

For each search you do, 1¢ is  
donated to STRIVE!



**Donate to the Wish List**  
Office Supplies  
Video Games  
Sports Equipment  
Storage Shed  
Frozen Pizzas  
Markers, Scissors, Paper Cutter

## Softball Tournament



Sunday May 22nd  
Wainwright Sports Complex, South Portland

For more information on putting together a team please  
contact Meg Robinson at [Mrobinson@reliantloan.com](mailto:Mrobinson@reliantloan.com)

This event will be supporting the STRIVE Programs and is being  
put on by Reliant Mortgage Company!

## STRIVE Legacy Program



**Introducing the STRIVE Legacy  
Program**  
**Leave A Gift. Leave A Legacy.**

STRIVE would like to introduce it's newest venture in  
fundraising as well as sustainability. What better way to give to  
STRIVE than to plan ahead and incorporate STRIVE into your  
planned giving. We understand that times are economically diffi-  
cult for many people these days. That is why STRIVE has started a  
"Legacy Program" and would be happy to discuss how to write in  
our organization into your planned giving account.

For more information on STRIVE's Legacy Program please contact Peter  
Brown at (207) 774-6278 or [pbrown@pslservices.org](mailto:pbrown@pslservices.org)



**THEME NIGHT!**

**APRIL**

**8<sup>th</sup>**

**Join STRIVE for  
the  
SPRING FLING!**

**Activities planned by  
Deering High School Key Club!  
Plant Flowers  
Face Painting  
Dancing, Snacks & Tons of Fun!**



**Member Spot Light:  
Niels Doughty**

**Favorite Food:** Shrimp

**Favorite Movie:** Avatar

**Any Siblings?** Brother & Sister

**If you could have 1 holiday every day, what would it be?**  
Christmas it's a beautiful holiday

**Coolest thing you've done at STRIVE:**  
Hang out with friends

**If you could choose an actor to star in your life story, who would it be?** Jonny Depp

**Favorite song right now:** Burn It To the Ground

**If you could go anywhere for Spring Break where would you go & why?** Bahamas because it's a tropical place

**Favorite Color:** Green



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Megan Miller	April 3
Kevin Codier	April 4
Devan Libby	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

Karen Esposito	April 16
Sylvia 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 Johnson	April 24
Stephanie Merrill	April 24
Ben Valle	April 25
Sabrina Nixon	April 26
Erica Gervais	April 28
Mary Cooke	April 28
McKensy Brown	April 28
Donald Tibbetts	April 29
Kevin Brown	April 29
Yajira Dueno	April 30
John Paul Brower	April 30
Brendon Young	April 30

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM STRIVE!**

# Members' Page

## Aktion Club Update



*Aktion Club has set its 2011 calendar and will include a variety of volunteer projects throughout the year! If you would like to get involved with Aktion Club please contact Kristina Smalley at 774-6278.*



During the Month of March—  
 Aktion Club made Spring Time Flower Arrangements  
 And President, JJ Sarapas delivered the arrangements to the residence of  
 Harbor Terrace and Franklin Towers!

### Monday Night Wellness Series



### **ZUMBA Gold Dance Craze April 4 - June 20**

What do you get when you combine plain old aerobics with Latin dance? ZUMBA! Certified Zumba Gold Instructor Becki Jaques leads you through the Fun way to get in shape for the summer! Great for a wide range of physical abilities.  
 \$20 for STRIVE Members  
 \$40 for Anyone Else

Questions? Contact Kate Reingold at 774-6278 ext. 216  
 or

### April Events

- Advisory Board Meeting:  
 April 1, 15 & 29 from 5:00– 5:45pm
- Aktion Club:  
 April 13 & 27 from 3:30-4:00pm
- Monday Night Wellness Series:  
 ZUMBA - April 4- June 20 from 5:30-7:00pm
- Wednesday Night Educational Class:  
 Be Green! Sustainable Living-  
 May 4- July 20 from 6:00-8:00pm
- Theme Night: Spring Fling!  
 April 8 - from 6:00-9:00pm
- April Vacation Camp: April 18-22
- Italian Fiesta” at Anthony’s Italian Kitchen: April 30

### Wednesday Night Educational Series

### **Be Green! Sustainable Living**



This class will focus on sustaining our world from the ground up! Students will plant and care for a STRIVE garden throughout the 12 week series, while also learning how to compost, recycle, and how to “go green” in everyday life.

Questions? Contact Kate Reingold at 774-6278 ext. 216 or  
[kreingold@psslservices.org](mailto:kreingold@psslservices.org)

#### Upcoming Events

- Transition Fair: May 14 from 9:00– 2:00pm
- Breakfast at the Ballpark: May 30
- STRIVE Night at the Portland Sea Dogs: June 9
- Camp STRIVE: June 20
- STRIVE U Graduation:Class of 2011 - June 25
- STRIVE U Move-in Day: Class of 2013 - June 26
- Features at Fenway Bus Trip: August 20

# STRIVE PICTURES



Mara & Emma  
Working on a Puzzle during Afterschool



Mary  
Enjoying some pizza during  
Tweens Program



Tweens Program  
Planting Sunflowers for Spring!



Aktion Club  
Working on Spring Flower Arrangements

Do you have pictures that  
you would like to share  
with us?  
If so please send them to  
[info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org)



Volunteers & Members  
Dancing during STRIVE Night!



STRIVE Staff working on Campaign Letters!



Aliza, Amanda & Tim  
Next STEP program working on Money management



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South Portland, ME 04106

Phone: 207-774-6278

Fax: 207-774-7695

Email: [info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org)

*Serving tweens, teens and  
young adults with  
developmental disabilities*

[www.facebook.com/strivenation](http://www.facebook.com/strivenation)

**Visit our website:  
[www.pslstrive.org](http://www.pslstrive.org)**

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

Did you Know...

STRIVE sends out a monthly  
electronic newsletter!

*Sign up online  
to make sure you are up to date!*

**STRIVE U Staff**

**Mara Sullivan:**

STRIVE U Transitions Coordinator  
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**Erin Berg:**

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