



STRIVE



STRIVE Monthly E-Newsletter

February 2012

Greetings!

Thank you for reading our February e-newsletter! We are excited to bring you a new style of e-newsletter. Let us know what you think!

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Wright Express Dance Marathon

Can YOU dance all night? The [Wright Express Dance Marathon](#) is the largest 12 hour dance-off of its kind in Maine!



This year's DM will have live bands, DJ's, inflatable castles, jousting, Velcro wall, bungee run and obstacle courses, theme hours, group dances, a pageant, and amazing prizes!

The DM will kick off at 8:00pm on Saturday, March 3rd and finish at 8:00am on Sunday, March 4th.

Participants can fill out registration forms online at FirstGiving - [create your page today!](#) Dancers can

3 Point Shoot Out Contest



On January 21st, STRIVE held their 3 Point Shoot Out Contest at the Portland Expo. It was a great event - we had 16 teams, many spectators and a visit with Crusher! [Check](#)

[out the pictures from the event on our Facebook page.](#)

Visit our website to learn more about [3 Points for STRIVE](#) or [print a pledge card](#) to donate money every time the Red Claws make a 3 pointer!

Thank you to our sponsors - [the Maine Red Claws](#), [Hammond Lumber Company](#), [Anthem](#) and [WMTW News 8](#).

also pick up packets at STRIVE.

For more information, contact STRIVE at 207-774-6278 or info@pslservices.org.

Thank you to our sponsors - [Wright Express](#), [MEMIC](#), [Unified Technologies](#) and [Rowe Westbrook](#)!



STRIVE U Students Looking for Apartments in Greater Portland

This May/June, 6 [STRIVE U](#) graduates will be looking for 1 bedroom apartments in the Greater Portland area.

We are always looking to add trustworthy landlords to our continuously growing contact list. All of our graduates have active section 8 vouchers, great rental histories and strong landlord references.

To learn more about our STRIVE U. Transition Program or if you are interested in learning more about renting an apartment unit to one of our graduates please contact Mara Sullivan, STRIVE U. Transition Coordinator at 207-774-6278 ormsullivan@pslservices.org.



STRIVE Presentation

STRIVE will be hosting a [series of presentations](#) in 2012 directed to parents of youth with disabilities. Our first presentation will occur on the evening of Thursday March 8th. We will provide activities for STRIVE aged participants during this series.

We will have representatives from Social Security, STRIVE, and DHHS to discuss benefits and services as young people transition to adults. We will specifically cover Social Security, MaineCare, and



STRIVE U Works

Beginning in February, Second Year students will choose from a series of skills assessment tests in preparation for more permanent employment after graduation. Titles such as Office Filing, Telephone Etiquette, Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet Basics, Writing Sample - Email and Math Skills will be included.



[Read the full article](#) about student placements at Clark Insurance, Dress for Success, Goodwill, Macdonald Page and L.L. Bean.

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

Next STEP Update

[Next Step](#) would like to welcome Rory Nickerson and Kristine Beigel to the program. Rory and Kristine bring a tremendous amount of experience and enthusiasm to the program.

We look forward to new and exciting adventures over the coming months. Our walking program is going very well, even with the challenging weather and many folks are on their "way to the gold". We are all members of the Portland Public Library and participants are really enjoying going each week. Our work continues in the area of budgeting, money management, and emotional health. We will continue with these areas in February.

If you are interested in finding out more

Adult Services for people with Developmental Disabilities.

For more information about [this series](#), please contact Bill Hughes, the STRIVE U/Next STEP Program Manager, at bhughes@psslservices.org or 207-774-6278 x 217.

TWEENS

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!



TWEENS February Schedule:

February 3: Game Show Night
February 10: Crafts and games with UNUM
February 17: Theme Night: Valentines Day
February 24: Movie and Popcorn

February Camp February 21st - 24th

Have some fun with STRIVE on your school vacation! Camp runs from 9am-5pm and we have a packed schedule of fun activities!

[Visit our website for more information.](#)

To register, contact Brianna at bmccabe@psslservices.org or 207-774-6278.



STRIVE's December Camp Goes Snow Tubing!

Aktion Club

about [Next Step](#) or would like to visit the program please call Bill Hughes at 207-774-6278 or email abbhughes@psslservices.org.



January Donors

Cynthia & Larry Vaughan
Foreside Tavern
United Technologies

In Memory of Rose Sinclair:
Beverly & John Jannace
RF & KF Ouellette
National Philanthropic Trust
Paul Meserve
Jean Jordan and Deborah Jean Richio
Roger and Sharon Hoyt



Learn more about STRIVE's Legacy Program

February Birthdays: Happy Birthday from STRIVE!

Shane Hancock	February
Linda Donovan	February
Adam Clark	February 4
Thomas Brown	February 5
Scott Johnstone	February 5
Cody Wood	February 5
Michael Lewis	February 7
Christopher Pritchard	February 8

Did you know that the Aktion Club is selling Valentine's Candy-grams leading up to Valentine's Day? You can buy yours at the February 10th STRIVE Night!

Aktion Club Meeting Schedule:
Wednesday, February 1st, 15th
and 29th at 3:30



If you would like to get involved with Aktion Club please contact Kristina Smalley at 207-774-6278 or ksmalley@psslservices.org.

Brittany William	February 11
Deanna Kelly	February 12
Joshua Canning	February 13
Joshua Monk	February 14
Nick Vaughan	February 15
Lindsay Fectea	February 16
Justin Rackliffe	February 17
Matthew Brown	February 17
Brian Prentice	February 18
Daniele Brown	February 19
Ron Jordon	February 20
Kelly Frankl	February 20
Amy Lane	February 20
Brian Burnham	February 20
Emma Campbell	February 24
Nathaniel DiBiase	February 26
Cody O'Brion	February 27
Harrison Snyder	February 28
Tricia Penney	February 28

Member Spotlight: Thomas Bourdeaux

How old are you? 15 years old. On April 13th I will be 16 years old!

What is your favorite movie? Any Indiana Jones or Harry Potter movie

What is your favorite color? It used to be Blue, but now it is Green

What is your favorite holiday? Christmas! And I love my birthday too!

What is the coolest thing you've done at STRIVE? Tubing with Strive friends in Oxford, Maine

What is your favorite song or band? I love musicals, so I can sing any song from Mary Poppins or the Sound of Music!

What is your dream job? A policeman, fireman, or astronaut

What is something you are really good at? I am a really good swimmer and am on the Cape Elizabeth JV swim team.



Thomas with his dog, Daisy

Monday and Wednesday Classes

Zumba Gold Dance Craze: Mondays, March 26th -May 21st

Zumba is a popular class at STRIVE! It involves a mix of aerobics and Latin dance. Certified Zumba Gold Instructor Becki Jacques leads you through the fun way to get in shape for summer! Great for a wide range of physical abilities! Class runs from 5:30-7pm.

Community Connections: Wednesdays, March 7th-May 2nd

Do you know all the amazing opportunities your community has to offer you? Come and learn about the different opportunities that are right in your own community! Class runs from 6-8pm.



Each series cost \$20. For more information or to register, contact Lisa Yanzer at lyanzer@psservices.org or 207-774-6278.

February Events and Meetings

STRIVE U Applications Due: February 1st

Advisory Board Meeting: February 3rd

Valentine's STRIVE Night: February 14th

STRIVE Presentation: March 8th

Bayside Bowl Nonprofit Day: March 19th
(5% of Bayside Bowl's revenue for the day go to STRIVE!)

Easy Ways to Support STRIVE



Change your search Engine to GoodSearch and pick STRIVE as your charity! For each search you do, 1¢ is donated to STRIVE!



Get a Green Bag at STRIVE & drop off your cans at a Hannaford Grocery Store. The deposits will go to STRIVE!



Make a donation online now!



Like STRIVE on Facebook!

Thank you for your support! If you have any questions about a STRIVE program, feedback on our e-newsletters or any other information you'd like to share, please contact us at info@pslstrive.org or 207-774-6278.

Sincerely,

STRIVE
PSL/STRIVE



Thank you from the STRIVE Staff - click on the photo for staff contact information.

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