



www.pslstrive.org

STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 5

MAY 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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Congratulations to the 2010 Volunteers of the Year!

The Following Individuals and Businesses have been chosen as the 2010 Volunteer winners. STRIVE appreciates all individuals and the hours spent volunteering with our program. We would like to highlight this year's winners and the work they have contributed to bettering STRIVE.

Volunteers of the Year:



Judith Sarapas

Judith Sarapas has been a volunteer with STRIVE for many years. Judith volunteers weekly at BookWorks, as well as helps with Aktion Club and always at major fundraising events!



Anthony Barrasso

Anthony Barrasso, owner of Anthony's Italian Kitchen has been a strong STRIVE supporter for many years. This year, Anthony donated over 70 Large Pizzas to the STRIVE Dance Marathon!

Businesses of the Year:

Hammond Lumber Company and The Maine Red Claws



Thank you to Hammond Lumber Co. for being the first corporate sponsor of the "3 Points for STRIVE" campaign in partnership with the Maine Red Claws Basketball Team. Hammond Lumber Company donated \$12,500 to STRIVE during the inaugural season. The Year the Red Claws hit 135 3 Pointers!

Alumni Volunteer of the Year:

Noel Thompson



Noel Thompson has been a STRIVE volunteer since he turned 25. Noel volunteers every Friday night in the snack bar, is a member of the Dance Marathon Planning Committee and volunteers regularly during major events.

"Volunteered" of the Year:

Jesse Robinson

Jesse Robinson has been volunteering for STRIVE for three years. Jesse has helped out at many STRIVE events including the auction, STRIVE nights, and most notably DJ'ed the 5th Annual STRIVE ROCKS Dance Marathon for 11 hours!!



If you would like to attend the 10th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, please contact Kristina Smalley at (207)774-6278 for tickets.

STRIVE NEWS

Three Points for STRIVE Program a Success!

The Maine Red Claws season recently came to an end, and along with it came the end of the inaugural “Three Points for STRIVE” Campaign- sponsored by Hammond Lumber Company. The Red Claws had a great first season- and team representatives are already working with STRIVE to make this program even more successful next season! One area that we plan to promote more for the 2010-2011 season is the fan pledge component of the program. Fans can pledge a donation for every 3 Point basket made by the Red Claws at their home games- with the donation going to STRIVE.

This year we would like to thank the following fans and supporters who made pledges:

- Jason Briggs
- Katie Collins
- Anthony Barrasso
- Jeff Goranites
- In Honor Of Niels Doughty



This year the team made **135** three pointers at home games! With every made basket there was an announcement made “That’s another 3 Points for STRIVE, compliments of Hammond Lumber Company!” Thanks to both the Maine Red Claws and Hammond Lumber Company for their support!

Thank you to those who donated to STRIVE in April.

Tom and Tina Bourdeaux

Richard and Barbara Wigton

R.J. Grondin & Sons

Hub Furniture

Jeffery and Alison Nathanson

E.C. and Catherine Sanders

Gregory and Lorraine Cyr

Cynthia and Lawrence Vaughan

We appreciate your generous support!

BookWorks! Sale: May 1st



BookWorks! will be open on Saturday May 1st from 10am-2pm for a giant book sale!

Buy three, get one free!
Fill-A-Bag for only \$10!!
 Support STRIVE and find great books from popular authors.

Contact Kim Kelley at (207)774-6278 or kkelley@pslservices.org for more info!

STRIVE WISH LIST

General Office Supplies

Craft Supplies

xBox 360 and/or Wii video games

Sports Equipment

Storage Shed

Volunteers to work shifts at Bookworks!

Frozen Pizzas

Children’s rug

Paper Cutter

Picnic Table for STRIVE U

STRIVE NEWS

STRIVE U Experience Weekend

Here's your chance to learn more about the STRIVE U program. We will be hosting a weekend-long seminar October 1st-3rd at Camp Tall Pines in Poland, Maine. The cost is \$285.00 and includes everything!

25 applicants will be accepted on a first come first serve basis, subject to program eligibility.

Applications are available beginning May 3rd!

To request an application, contact Erin Berg at (207) 774-6278 or eberg@psslservices.org

2010 Auction Planning Committee

Interested in Planning one of STRIVE's most successful fundraisers? Love Event Planning? Enjoy collecting items?

We need your help!

2010 Auction Planning Committee
Next Meeting: May 4th @ 5:30
STRIVE Center



This group meets once a month for about an hour. Looking for individuals who would be willing to contact community partners for donations.

Contact Kristina Smalley FMI:
ksmalley@psslservices.org or (207)774-6278



**Calling All Runners!!!
Didn't get into this year's race?
STRIVE HAS SPOTS!!**

Please contact Kristina Smalley to hold a bid number. Spaces are limited. All runners must commit to fundraising \$300 for STRIVE.

KSmalley@psslservices.org
207.774.6278 x:202

STRIVE will continue to send out print newsletters quarterly. If you wish to continue to receive STRIVE news and updates, subscribe to our weekly emails and monthly e-newsletter by visiting our website at www.psslstrive.org, calling STRIVE at (207)774-6278, or emailing Kim Kelley at kkelley@psslservices.org.

BookWorks! Community Partnership Fundraising Program

Each month, BookWorks! will partner with a community group for a day of fundraising. BookWorks! will open for extended hours on the fundraising day, and **25%** of total book sales will be donated to the community group.

BookWorks! will staff the store from 10am-8pm and can provide examples for emails, posters, flyers, etc. The community organization will be responsible for promoting the event.

Please contact Kim Kelley at (207)774-6278 or kkelley@psslservices.org for more information on how to get your organization involved!



STRIVE PRIDE DAY

May 4th

10am – 4pm

Join us as we spend the day beautifying STRIVE!

We will be planting flowers, painting and general yard clean up.

Please bring rakes, brooms, & gloves.

STRIVE will be holding a BBQ and games with prizes for those who help!

Volunteer News

Aktion Club

Aktion Club is just as busy as ever! The volunteer club participated 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.



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 join please contact Kristina Smalley at (207)774-6278.

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.

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



Contact Kim Kelley at
 kkelley@pssl.org or
 774-6278 for more information!

CINCO DE MAYO: BY KEVIN MOONEY

HISTORY

When Benito Juarez stopped making interest payments to Mexico's main creditors in late 1861, the French responded by attacking Mexico in an attempt to force payment of the debt. They further decided they would attempt to take over and occupy Mexico in what is known as the French intervention in Mexico without cooperation from other European powers. The US Monroe Doctrine opposed European colonization of the New World, but the American Civil War limited America's ability to enforce the Doctrine. France was successful at first in its invasion, but on May 5, 1862 at the city of Puebla, Mexican forces led by General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguin were able to defeat an attack by the larger, better-equipped French army. Although the Mexican army was victorious over the French at Puebla, their victory only delayed the French advance on Mexico City, and the French occupied Mexico City by the following year. The French occupying forces placed Emperor Maximilian I of Mexico on the throne in 1864. The French withdrew in 1866-1867 under US pressure. Maximilian was deposed by President Benito Juarez and executed five years after the Battle of Puebla.

OBSERVANCE IN THE US

In the United States, Cinco de Mayo has taken on a significance beyond that in Mexico. The date is perhaps best observed in the United States as a date to celebrate the culture and experiences of Americans of Mexican ancestry, much as St. Patrick's Day, Oktoberfest, and the Chinese New Year are used to celebrate those of Irish, German, and Chinese ancestry. Cinco de Mayo is similar to those holidays in being observed by many Americans regardless of ethnic origin. Cinco de Mayo celebrations tend to draw from traditional Mexican symbols such as the Virgin of Guadalupe and from prominent figures of Mexican descent in the United States, including Cesar Chavez. To celebrate, many display Cinco de Mayo banners, while school districts hold special events to educate pupils about its historical significance. Mexican culture is highlighted by special events and celebrations, especially in its music and regional dancing. Examples are folkloric dance and mariachi demonstrations held annually at the Pueblo Plaza of Los Angeles near Olvera Street. Commercial interests in the United States have capitalized on the celebration by advertising Mexican products and services, with an emphasis on beverages, foods, and music.

SALSA FRESCA

4 small tomatoes, chopped small
 1/2 cup finely chopped green onions
 2 finely chopped jalapeno peppers
 2 yellow waxed chilies
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1 large clove garlic, mashed with salt to make a paste

In medium bowl combine all ingredients; mix and serve at room temperature.

If you have a chance, come by Bookworks! to see our travel guide to Mexico!



Kevin Mooney is a STRIVE Member who volunteers at BookWorks! every Thursday.

Hollywood Premiere
STRIVE Red Carpet Theme Night

FRIDAY May 21st
STRIVE NIGHT: 6:00 - 9:00pm

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

Pop Corn Red Carpet
 Photo Ops
 Prizes to the most glamorous dressed!
 Movie Trivia
 Swag Bags

NEW Weds. Night CLASS
ANIMAL PLANET
 May 19- June 25

Join us as we trek the planet and explore ecosystems around the world! Students will learn about a variety of animals in lands near and far, and by the end of the series they will have their very own terrariums!

Animal Planet will run every Wednesday night (6:00-8:00pm) from May 19th though June 23rd.

Contact Kim Miller at (207)774-6278 or kmiller@pssl-services.org with any questions or to reserve your spot!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Kyle Cutter	May 2	Josie Dunn	May 13
Lane Grant	May 3	Miranda Doughty	May 13
Michael Angers	May 4	Colleen Powell	May 14
Alisha Wade	May 7	Chantelle Blanchard	May 15
Andrew McIver	May 7	Eric Hughes	May 16
Megan Downing	May 8	Mona Cates	May 18
Andy Cormier	May 8	Jeremy Clement	May 19
Jacob Jackson	May 9	Andrea Davidson	May 23
Niels Doughty	May 10	Joshua Weidemann	May 24
Jonathan Powell	May 10	Caroline Frawley	May 29
Kristopher Kadziauskas	May 11		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM STRIVE!

Members' Page



CAMP STRIVE provides teens and young adults (ages 15-24) the opportunity to make friends, play games, and learn valuable skills in a safe and fun environment.

Each week, campers participate in activities that include: sports & games, cooking & nutrition, arts & crafts, and field trips to local attractions. Past outings have included: Sea Dogs games, Funtown, Old Port, State Parks & Beaches, Pineland Farms, & Bowling!

CAMP STRIVE: Summer Session will run June 21st-August 27th from 9:00am-5:00pm

CAMP STRIVE costs \$45 per day or \$200 if signed up for the whole week. The cost includes: CAMP STRIVE t-shirt, craft supplies, snack & all field trips. Campers should bring a bag lunch each day.

Early drop off and/or late pickup can be arranged for an additional fee of \$35 per week and must be arranged in advance. We do not accept half-day registrations. Cash, credit card, and check are accepted and payment must be received before or on the first day of camp.

The complete CAMP STRIVE: Summer Session schedule will be posted on the STRIVE website on May 14th. Please contact Kim Kelley at (207)774-6278 or kkelley@pslservices.org with questions.

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

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a dark blue rectangular background.

Please visit:

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

MAY EVENTS

BookWorks! Book Sale

Saturday, May 1st from 10:00am-2:00pm

Germbusters

Monday nights from 5:30-7:00pm
(5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24)

STRIVE Pride Day

May 4th from 10am-4pm

Animal Planet

Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm
(5/19, 5/26)

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
(5/5, 5/26)

Member Advisory Board Meeting

Every other Friday from 5:00-5:30pm
(5/7, 5/21)

STRIVE Theme Night: Red Carpet

Friday, May 21st from 6:00pm-9:00pm

STRIVE Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Monday, May 24th at STRIVE

Upcoming Wellness & Education Classes

Intro to Sports (June 28-September 13)

This active class will be a great way to get your heart rate up and make new friends. Students will learn how to play a variety of sports, including basketball, floor hockey, handball, softball, and more! No previous experience necessary!

Healthy Relationships (July 7-September 8)

Planned Parenthood will teach this 10-week course and provide students with information about dating safety and healthy relationships.

STRIVE PICTURES

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



Stephanie Sinclair, Andrew McIver, DJ Charette, and Emma Campbell played Sorry together during the After School Program.



STRIVE TWEENS made splatter paint projects on April 2nd, and enjoyed a visit from Folk Singer Katey Branch (below) on April 9th



Tony Koutsivitis helped bake cupcakes at the After School Program on April 14th.



STRIVE TWEENS learned traditional hula dance from Instructor Nirakazi from the Unicorn Cove School of Metaphysics.



Patrick Cox and Michael Laughlin get their faces painted by AmeriCorps Alums during SPRING FLING Theme Night!



Susie Cloutier made a tissue paper flower during the SPRING FLING Theme Night on April 9th.



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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
info@pslstrive.org*

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