



www.pslstrive.org

STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2009

STRIVE 10th Anniversary Gala!

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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Please join us for a very special night! December 5th marks STRIVE's 10th Anniversary. We will be celebrating at the Italian Heritage Center and everyone is invited!! Join us for great food, reconnecting with old friends, music by Sly Chi and some very special guest surprises!

This is a semi-formal event and we are excited to announce our newest partnership with Tuxedo's on Broadway in South Portland! The owner has offered to outfit the first 100 current and or former members in Tuxes for just \$10! Girls don't worry because he is also working a deal with local dress shops for the same offering! For more information, please visit our website www.pslstrive.org. Make sure you take advantage of this very generous offer!



For our out of town friends, Comfort Inn is offering a \$55 per night room rate. Make your reservation before **November 27th** and mention STRIVE 10th Anniversary to get this great deal! Call (207) 775-0409 or visit <http://www.comfortinnportlandjetport.com>.

Thank you to following host committee members for funding this special evening!
If you are interested in joining, please contact Kristina Smalley or Pete Brown at (207)774-6278.

Mark Voyvodich & Linda Lamberson, Timothy & Aileen Agnew, Gina Barnes, Jeff Young & Betsy Mahoney, Dan & Sara Boxer, Peter & Ann Marie Brown, Phil & Barbara Brown, Sara Brown, Kevin & Amanda Buckley, Chris Cameron, Matthew & Catherine Campbell, James & Jennifer Clair, James & Peggy Cloutier, Pierre & Deborah Corbeau, Eliot & Taffy Field, Stephen Frawley, Richard & Karen Gauthier, David & Emily Ghiorse, Peter & Rosemary Goranites, William & Lewanne Hughes, Peter & Karen Jannace, Florance Johnson, Terry & Karen Johnson, Robert Junkins, Scott & Meredith Kerr, David & Patti Kristiansen, Lynn & Elizabeth Markee, Allan McHale, Charles Mercer, David & Sharon Michaud, Catherine Sanders, Kristina Smalley, Steve & Sharon Smalley, Kathy Son, Mike & Lynn Spadinger, Donald & Doreen Theriault, Marjorie Twombly, Larry & Cynthia Vaughan, John Veilleux, Aric & Jessica Walton, Richard & Bridget Whiting, William & Jennifer Willard, Bob & Pat Wilson, Monaghan Woodworks, Inc., DeMont & Associates, Inc., and Saco & Biddeford Savings Bank

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL CAMP STRIVE DAY!

Camp STRIVE will be running a special day of camp on **Wednesday, November 25th from 9:00am-5:00pm**. Camp STRIVE is a place to make new friends, learn skills, and have fun in a safe environment. If you have attended camp before, this will be a great day to reconnect with friends made over the summer. If you have not been to camp before, this special camp day will allow you to experience what camp is like before Winter Break camp in December.

Activities will include crafts, games, cooking, and special trips in the community!

Please contact Kim Kelley at (207)774-6278 or kkelley@pslservices.org for more information or to reserve your spot. Cost is **\$45** for the day.



STRIVE NEWS

STRIVE AUCTION: A SUCCESS

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the 5th Annual Live & Silent Auction to benefit STRIVE! What a great night it was! With over 300 guests, 400 items and 18 sponsors- STRIVE successfully brought in over \$40,000!

Some of the evening's highlights included an autograph session with TD Bank Spokesperson & Hall of Famer Ray Bourque, speeches by Advisory Board President Caroline Frawley and Vice President Eric Hughes, live auction with Jason Briggs & MPBN Jennifer Rooks, great items for all price ranges, and delicious food & desserts. The night was not possible without all the support from local stores, donors, and volunteers. STRIVE would like to say **thank you** to everyone involved and we look forward to making next year just as successful!



STRIVE Advisory Board President Caroline Frawley addresses the crowd and explains what STRIVE means to her.

“3 Points For STRIVE” Pledge Cards

The *3 Points for STRIVE* program is a partnership with the Maine Red Claws, Hammond Lumber Company and STRIVE. This season-long program begins on the home opener, December 4th and ends when the Red Claws conclude their season this spring.

Funds raised by the *3 Points for STRIVE* program helps to provide social, educational, and employment training programs for teens and young adults with developmental disabilities.



There are two ways that you can help:

- 1. Make a one time donation:** Would you rather make a flat donation? If so, send your donation to the STRIVE program any time. Checks can be made out to STRIVE and sent to 28 Foden Road, South Portland, ME 04106.
- 2. Make a per "3 Point" pledge:** For example, if you pledge \$.10 per 3 pointer and there are 1,000 total 3 pointers during the season, your total pledge would be \$100. You will be invoiced in May, after the Red Claws season is over and the total amount of 3 pointers have been calculated. **Kindly visit <http://pslstrive.org/node/92> to download your pledge card.**

**Thank you to those who donated to STRIVE in October!
We really appreciate your support.**

Bruce and Maureen Adams, Judy Armstrong, Peggy Cloutier, Francesca Eastman, Richard and Karen Gauthier, Ray and Ruth Hefflefinger, Robert L. Junkins, Michael and Stacy McDonald, Charlene McHale, Kenneth Nelson, Howard and Margaret Rowe, Steve and Sharon Smalley, Brian Stevens, Donald and Doreen Theriault, Marjorie Twombly, David and Susan Webbert

<h2 style="margin: 0;">STRIVE WISH LIST</h2>	
General Office Supplies	Volunteers to work shifts at Bookworks!
xBox 360 and/or Wii video games	Frozen Pizzas
Sports Equipment	Children's rug
Storage Shed	Paper Cutter
	Craft Supplies

STRIVE U Work Partnership With Stenhouse Publishers

STRIVE’s college program, STRIVE U, provides young adults with developmental disabilities many ways to learn necessary skills for independence, including college classes at USM, residential skills classes with STRIVE U staff, and paid internships with dynamic professional companies. One such internship is the partnership between Justin Rackliffe, a first-year STRIVE U student, and Stenhouse Publishers. A division of the Ohio-based Highlights Corporation, Stenhouse publishes professional development books for teachers written by teachers. This September, Justin joined the company’s editorial, production, and marketing divisions, which are located at Monument Square in Portland.



Justin’s job brings him to work at Stenhouse three mornings each week, where he assists with marketing projects. Most recently, Justin has been working on scanning more than twelve years of book reviews into digital format in order to make them searchable. Justin is gaining not only valuable computer skills, but also learning how to relate to co-workers and be accountable for his work. Justin attends the company’s weekly staff meetings, during which each staff member reports on their current projects. Elaine Cyr, Operations Manager at Stenhouse has high praise for Justin’s work, telling us that he “takes his responsibilities seriously, is extremely prompt, and a great addition to our staff. Justin has helped us accomplish projects that have been on the back burner for months.” She also says, “this partnership has taught us what STRIVE has to offer, and Justin has been a perfect match for our company.”

For more information about Stenhouse Publishers, please visit their website at www.stenhouse.com. For more information on how your company could benefit from partnership with STRIVE U, please contact Sam Heck at 774-6278 or sheck@psslservices.org.



Applications for the STRIVE U Class of 2012 are still available!

To request an application or if you have any questions about the admissions process, please contact Erin Berg at (207)774-6278 or eberg@psslservices.org

Info Session on E Street Home Ownership for adults with developmental disabilities

Thursday, Nov. 5th 6:30pm
South Portland Main Library
483 Broadway St.
South Portland, ME 04106

Meet E Street families and staff of Specialized Housing

Learn more at www.20estreet.com

This is not a STRIVE program

INAUGURAL STRIVE U EXPERIENCE WEEKEND: A SUCCESS!

STRIVE U, our post secondary education program for young adults with developmental disabilities recently held the first *STRIVE U Experience Weekend*, from Sept. 25-27th. This opportunity, held at Camp Tall Pines in Poland, ME, was for individuals interested in STRIVE U to have a chance to go through the STRIVE U curriculum in a condensed format. Eighteen participants from throughout Maine learned more about STRIVE U and participated in workshops based on STRIVE U’s four components- residential living, post secondary education, employment, and transition. Students cooked their own meals, budgeted their "STRIVE U bucks", and learned how to be more independent. Students left the weekend with new friends, the opportunity to experience STRIVE U firsthand, and an increased sense of independence.

Look for more information about our next STRIVE U Experience-coming in September 2010!!



STRIVE U Experience participants pose for a photo at the beginning of the weekend

Volunteer News

A Special *THANK YOU* to all Auction Volunteers!

Thank you to all of the volunteers that made the 5th Annual Live & Silent Auction such a success!
No event is possible without the help of dedicated volunteers- and STRIVE would like to thank the following folks:

Christian Boileau, Jason Briggs, Brian Clark, Val Clark, Justin Cleveland, Sarah Connolly, Brittany Gooch, Lizzy Garnatz, Caroline Frawley, Heather Free-Merrill, Michele Hallett, Sam Heck, Amy Hodges, Eric Hughes, Portland JVC, Kim Kelley, Paul & Sue Lamb, Sean Lisk, Allison McCorry, Mike Merrill, Kim Miller, Brad & Betsy Morrison, John Posey, Casey & Gerri Prentice, Jesse Robinson, Penny Roy, Lori & Pete Sanville, Judith & JJ Sarapas, Noreen Savage, Sam Smalley, Lynn Spadinger, Libby Squires, Chadd Taplin, Doreen Theriault, Kristen Tully & Evelyn Whalen

BookWorks! is still looking for dedicated volunteers to help out with shifts! Shifts can be one-time, or on-going.

Shifts available include:

Mondays: 2:00-5:00

Tuesdays: 3:00-6:00

Wednesdays: 3:00-4:00 (biweekly); 5:00-6:00

Thursdays: 10:00-12:00; 5:00-6:00

Fridays: 1:00-3:00; 5:00-6:00

If you would like to help, please contact Kim Kelley at (207) 774-6278 or kkelley@pslservices.org



STRIVE is looking for volunteers to serve on our STRIVE ROCKS Dance Marathon Planning Committee.

Are you a high school student with lots of ideas and a love of dancing for STRIVE? Are you a parent or a STRIVE supporter? We want YOU to take part in our Dance Marathon planning committee. Committee members play a crucial role in helping STRIVE staff plan a fun event and recruit other volunteers and dancers.

Meetings will begin on November 18th, and will run every other week until the Dance Marathon on March 6th!!!

Please contact Kristina at (207)774-6278 or ksmalley@pslservices.org if interested!

Find us on Facebook:
www.causes.com/strive

We also have a fan page, so make sure to become a fan of STRIVE and pass the word onto other Friends of STRIVE!



Brian Clark, J.J. Sarapas, and Kristen Tully volunteered at the STRIVE Auction.

Congratulations to the Aktion Club!

Aktion Club raised \$86 during the STRIVE Auction through the coat check! All money raised will go to supporting a local family through the holiday season.

November has Aktion Club gearing up for the holidays! They will be purchasing gifts for the family that they are sponsoring as well as helping the Portland Kiwanis Club with their holiday lunch for the elderly in December.

If you are interested in joining Aktion Club, please contact Kristina at (207)774-6278 or join us at one of our meetings! Aktion Club meets every other Wednesday from 3:30 until 4:00pm at STRIVE.

Members' Page



Join Us
for:



SPORTS THEME NIGHT

Friday, November 20th
6:00pm-9:00pm

Wear your favorite New England
Sports Jersey!

For more information, please contact Kristina at
(207)774-6278 or ksmalley@pslservices.org



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

KELSIE O'SULLIVAN



Favorite STRIVE moment:

community outings to Fort Williams

Favorite food: **lobster**

Do you have any pets?: **chocolate lab, named Echo**

Favorite color: **pink**

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

Florida or California

Favorite Band: **D12**

Favorite Movie: **Barney**

If you could have one holiday everyday, what would it be?

Christmas

Favorite thing about fall: **colorful leaves**

Interesting fact: **Kelsie has a secondary white belt in martial arts! (soon to be blue)**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Paulina Kilmek-Cornett	November 2
David Vail	November 3
Ted Prescott	November 3
Morgan Albair	November 4
Bart Kayle Brown	November 5
James Finlay	November 7
Mark Hoglund	November 8
Sarah Libby	November 10
Cullen Whiting	November 10
David Estes	November 13
George Little	November 14
Ashley Elliot	November 14
Michael Blodgett	November 16

Scott King	November 17
Sherry Reynolds	November 18
Denise Boyle	November 21
Ryan Barnes	November 22
Grace Decker-Fetherolf	November 22
Fred Warren	November 23
Lisa Caiazzo	November 25
Requel Glidden	November 28
Melissa Perkins	November 28
Jeff Duplisea	November 28
Patrick Cox	November 28
Savanna Andrews	November 29



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM STRIVE!

Members' Page

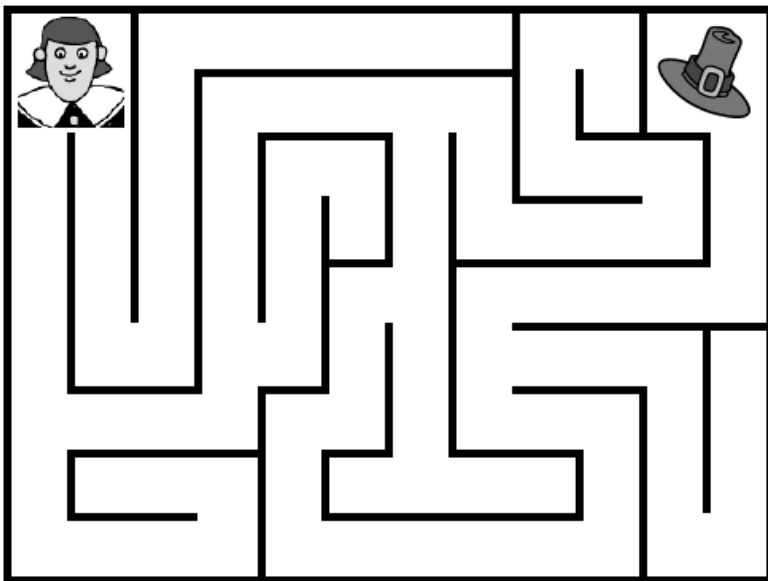
New Wednesday Night Class Series: *JOURNALISM*

Do you want to learn about how they make the nightly news or put together the morning newspaper? Do you want to see your face on tv? Then join us for the upcoming Wednesday Night Series: Journalism! Classes run from 6-8pm on Wednesdays from November 18th- December 16th.

Throughout the 6-week class, students will learn about a variety of media topics (print, radio, broadcast, photography) and will have the opportunity to make their own productions and meet local news anchor Shannon Moss!

This highly interactive class will be educational and tons of fun! Classes are \$20 for the series; \$40 if the student signs up less than 1 week prior to the class start. Class size is limited to 15 students.

Contact Kim Miller at kmiller@pssliveservices.org or 774-6278 ext 216 to secure your spot!



NOVEMBER EVENTS

Member Advisory Board Meeting

Every other Friday from 5:00-5:30pm
(11/13, 12/4)

Money Management Class

Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm
(last class, November 4th)

Stress Relievers Class

Monday nights from 5:30-7:00pm
(11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30)

Aktion Club Meeting:

Every other Wednesday from 3:30-4:00
(11/18, 12/2)

Veteran's Day: STRIVE CLOSED

Wednesday, November 11th

Volunteer Orientation (by appointment)

Journalism Class

Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm
(11/18 & 11/25)

Dance Marathon Planning Committee

First meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 18th

STRIVE Sports Theme night

Friday, November 20th from 6:00-9:00pm

CAMP STRIVE

Wednesday, Nov. 25th from 9:00-5:00pm

Thanksgiving Break: STRIVE CLOSED

November 26th & November 27th

ON THE HORIZON:

10th Anniversary Gala

Saturday, December 5th

Winter Break Camp!

December 28th-December 31st

STRIVE PICTURES



STRIVE Program Director: Pete Brown



STRIVE U students, Caroline Frawley, Caitlin Killarney, and Patrick Diehl perform their signature dance move.



Susie Cloutier shows off her dance moves during STRIVE NIGHT.



The After-School Program spent the afternoon playing sports at Deering Oaks.



TD Bank Spokesperson and NHL Hall of Famer Ray Bourque signs a photo for STRIVE member Eric Hughes



STRIVE's live auctioneer: Jason Briggs kept the crowd entertained



Chandler Hawkes rides the Merry-Go-Round at the Cumberland Fair with the After-School Program.

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
info@pslstrive.org*

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