

HILLSGROVE HAPPENINGS



Our New England Tech interns, along with their teacher. L-R: Kathryn, Dominique, Sue (teacher), Kelsey and Avery. Seated: Robert.

Table of Contents

- Director's Corner: Page 2
- Employment Unit: Page 3
- Business Unit - Admin: Page 4
- Business Unit - Membership: Page 5
- Cafe Unit: Page 6
- Kitchen Unit: Page 7
- Garden Update: Page 8
- Social Events : Page 9
- Friendly Reminders: Page 10

April Socials

- APRIL 3, 4-6:30** - Indoor Games
- APRIL 12, 10-2** - Make your own Pizza
- APRIL 24, 4-6:30** - Wellness Night
- APRIL 26, 10-2** - Hiking at Ninigret Park
- APRIL 30, 4-6:30** - Employment & Education Dinner



DIRECTORS CORNER

AT THE CLUBHOUSE WE ARE WELL INTO THE SPRING SEASON ALREADY. IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH FOR US TO FEEL LIKE WE HAVE TURNED A CORNER ON WINTER. IT USUALLY STARTS WITH AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM OUR HORTICULTURE TEAM THAT THE SEEDLINGS ARE PLANTED AND QUICKLY PROGRESSES FROM THERE. NEW CENTERPIECES, WITH BLOOMING DAFFODILS AND TULIPS HELP A LOT, AND THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF NICE WEATHER BRINGS IT HOME.

WE ALWAYS HAVE A VERY FULL CALENDAR IN APRIL AS WE LEAD INTO OUR BUSY SEASON. EARTH DAY IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO CLEAN UP THE CLUBHOUSE GROUNDS AND PICK UP LITTER IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE TYPICALLY REGISTER FOR CLUBHOUSE GIVING DAY AND START PLANNING FOR THIS EVENT, BEING HELD THIS YEAR ON JUNE 6TH WITH OUR OPEN HOUSE. WE ALSO BEGIN PREPARATIONS FOR MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH WHILE WE COMPLETE OUR ANNUAL SPRING CLEANING. LOTS TO DO BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLUBHOUSE AND EVEN MORE PLANNING FOR OUR CELEBRATION OF LIFE ON MAY 20TH AND OUR ANNUAL OPEN MIC NIGHT ON JUNE 3RD. THIS YEAR WE WILL BE ADDING SOME NEW TRADITIONS INCLUDING ATTENDING AN EVENT WITH MUSIC ON THE HILL IN JUNE.

WITH WARMER WEATHER COMES SOME OF OUR FAVORITE SOCIAL EVENTS, NINIGRET PARK, PICKLEBALL, AND OUR TRIP TO IGGY'S ARE VERY POPULAR. THERE IS SO MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. IT ALL COMES AT A GREAT TIME, WITH NEW ENERGY AND EXCITEMENT SPURRED ON BY LONGER DAYS AND SUNNY WEATHER.

COME ON BY AND HELP US GET READY FOR ALL OUR UPCOMING EVENTS. PLEASE JOIN US AND STAY TUNED FOR ALL OF THE SPRING HAPPENINGS.

SEE YOU SOON,
MARK

EMPLOYMENT UNIT

Employment and Education Dinner: This month we had Chris from the Department of Labor and Training speak to us. Chris works with employers when they have employee needs. Chris is an extremely valuable resource to us here at the clubhouse and we were thrilled to have him here again to talk with our members.

Take-aways:

Melissa: Really enjoyed the presentation. He was very knowledgeable, personable, and helpful. The dinner company was also good.

Krystal: I would like to see him come back, I would love to hear more. He was a very good speaker. I really liked that he listened and interacted with everyone individually.

Sandy: One of the most informative speakers we have had. I really found the information very helpful. Also, dinner was delicious.

Ethan: I thought it was phenomenal. Lots of information to assist with questions we had regarding barriers. He also provided resources for necessary things related to work.

Next Month's Dinner: The next dinner is **Wednesday April 30th 4-6:30pm**. After reviewing recent suggestions from our open forum dinner in February, we have decided to do another presentation on interviews skills. This one will have new materials and interactions. Hope to have you join us. Please contact Pauline or Jeff if you are planning to attend.

Employment: Job Fair season is coming up. So are many seasonal positions. Be on the lookout for dates and deadlines.

WeMakeRI Job Fair: April 10th 10:30-1pm

City of Providence Job Fair: May 14th (Roger Williams Park Casino)1-3pm

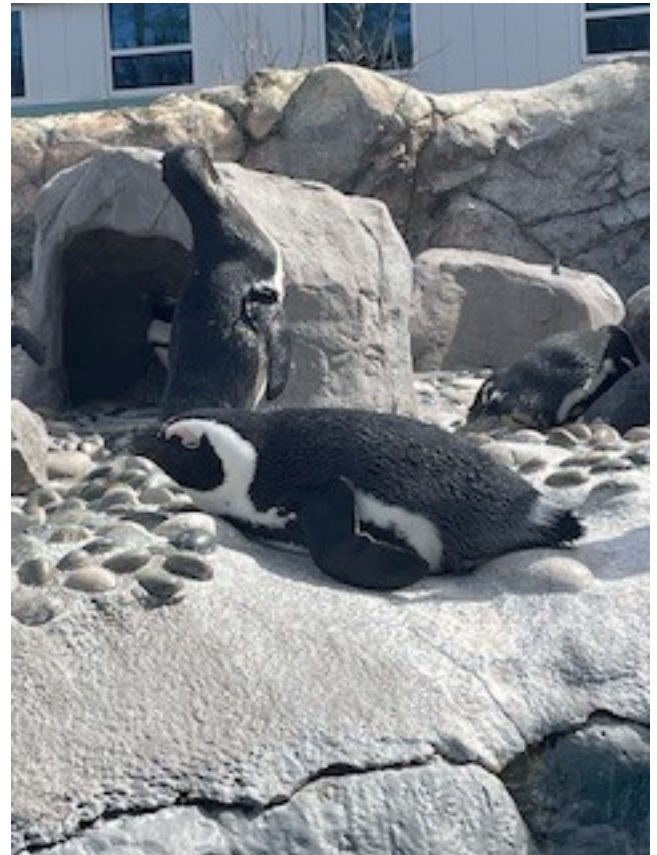
Education: Our RIC and CCRI students enjoyed a nice week off for Spring Break this past month and are already back to the school grind. We have several members in GED programs who recently participated in learning assessments and we are so proud of how well you are doing. Keep reaching for your goals!!!

MYSTIC AQUARIUM SOCIAL

Possibly our biggest out of house social happened in March 22nd. Members and some staff hit the road to check out the Aquarium. This large group opportunity was only possible due extra rides and assistance from the Barrington House. The penguins, beluga whales, large turtle, and stingrays were just a few of the groups favorites. Many members took advantage of the touch tank opportunities and got to “pet” the stingrays. Some really loved it and some thought they felt a bit slimy and do not need to ever touch them again. It was great that so many had the opportunity to experience it.

From one of our members:

Hello, my name is Stephanie Gyamfi-Darkwah and I attended the Mystic Aquarium on Saturday, March 22nd in Connecticut. I really enjoyed my time with my peers exploring the aquarium with the different attractions like the sea lions and the sting rays, which we got to touch also. Then, after we had lunch and headed on our way back home. I wished we stayed longer, but due to the distance we stayed a short time, hopefully we do it again in the near future.



BUSINESS UNIT



FRONT OF THE HOUSE APRIL 2025 UPDATE CO-AUTHORED BY: Jeanie, Jeff, Kevin, & Peter

It is hard to believe that another month has flown by already and we are authoring another newsletter article. Jeanie has settled into her new apartment. She comments: “I love the quietness, having my own space, and there is a community of people at the building who share similar life experiences. We come together to share with each other like we do here.” Jeanie has continued to be a reliable receptionist signing members in and out of the clubhouse while also covering the phones when needed. Kevin continues to share his skills and talents with the team while pursuing his job search efforts with the support of Pauline and the Education and Employment Team. His hard work has resulted in obtaining two phone interviews and one in-person interview. Kevin is hopeful that his efforts will pay-off with a job offer. John continues working in the Thrive Behavioral Health (TBH) Copy/Data Clerk TEP position. His tenure in the position will be finishing in the next few months. John’s performance in this TEP has been outstanding. Members interested in pursuing this TEP should see Jeff to sign up to start the TEP process. Team members participated in a wide variety of Hillsgrove Clubhouse social activities. Members enjoyed playing indoor pickleball and decorating flowerpots. Staff and members were treated to a delicious lunch of hamburgers, tater tots, and fresh fruit. Staff and members were treated to ice cream novelties. Later in the month, members enjoyed our Spring Fling (3/20), a road trip to Mystic Aquarium (aka “the water zoo” 3/22) and our Education and Employment Dinner (3/26). The dinner’s special guest presenter was Chris Tanguay, DLT Coordinator of Employment and Training Program. Chris is a member of the Hillsgrove Clubhouse Advisory Board and a dynamic presenter and advocate for members and staff. Thanks to all the members and staff that made March such an active, enjoyable, and fulfilling month.

CAFE UNIT



THE CAFE TEAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL MEMBERS WITH THEIR EFFORT ON CUTTING BACK ON BUMMING.

WE HAVE BEEN BUSY BAKING COOKIES, BANANA BREAD, AND THE MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CAKE. I REALLY ENJOYED BAKING FOR THE COMMUNITY.

IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE WORKING WITH MY FELLOW CAFE MEMBERS. IT CAN GET BUSY!

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO LEARN HOW THE CAFE IS RUN, PLEASE FIND MYSELF (MELISSA) OR THE OTHER CAFE MEMBERS.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO SPRING AND THE BAKING PROJECTS.

LOVE AND LIGHT
MELISSA AND THE CAFE TEAM.

KITCHEN UNIT



This month the kitchen worked on creative ways to offer vegan options to our lunches for our health & wellness goals. Research had led us to shitake & oyster mushrooms, which were absolutely delicious alternatives for shrimp & clam dishes. This month's new dish was shrimp scampi with shitake mushrooms as a vegan alternative. We are always looking for new recipes to try. The kitchen has also completed a cost comparison analysis for the CACFP. We are trying to stay on a budget due to an increase in food prices, while still being able to offer healthy foods on a budget. We are always looking for new recipes to try. A special thank you to our OT assistant students for creating a more inviting wellness room for our members. Members now have a playlist of songs, meditation, & yoga. We would like to thank Melissa, Darlene, Azalea, & Kristal for making a delicious carrot cake for our March birthdays. Shout out to Melissa for making a homemade cream cheese frosting!!!

APRIL SOCIALS

APRIL 3, 4-6:30 - Indoor games and dinner

APRIL 12, 10-2 - Karaoke and make your own pizza

APRIL 24, 4-6:30 - Wellness night

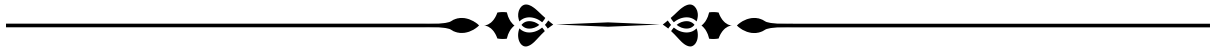
APRIL 26, 10-2 - Hiking at Ninigret Park

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Save The Dates

Clubhouse Giving Day opens on Thursday, May 1st and will be recognized at the clubhouse on June 6th. This is an online fundraiser, so please let your family and friends know. For more information, see staff, visit us on social media, or check out our Giving Day Page.



Tuesday, June 3rd, we will host our annual Open Mic Night. Come show off your talents, whether it's singing, playing an instrument, reciting poetry, comedy, etc. Sign up sheet will be posted at the front desk at a later date.



Friday, June 6th, we will be hosting our annual Open House.



The clubhouse will be commemorating June 19th (Juneteenth) with a social program from 10-2.

**We hope our readers have enjoyed reading our
April 2025 edition of our newsletter!**



**If you're interested in learning more about Hillsgrove
Clubhouse or would like to get in touch with us to schedule
a tour, please contact us at one of the links below:**



401-732-0970



hillsgroveclubhouse@gmail.com



www.hillsgroveclubhouser.org



www.facebook.com/hillsgroveclubhouse