

HILSGROVE HAPPENINGS



HIGHLIGHTS

- Unit Updates
- Upcoming Socials
- Director's Corner

UPCOMING SOCIALS

- April 4, Botanical Gardens
- April 9, Wellness Night
- April 18, Make Your Own Pizza
- April 21, Iggy's & Oakland Beach
- April 29, Employment & Education

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Director's Corner

AT HILLSGROVE CLUBHOUSE WE LOVE TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK. THIS IS GOOD BECAUSE WE GET A LOT OF IT EVERYDAY. OFTEN THE FEEDBACK IS VERY GOOD, WONDERFUL MEAL TODAY, THANK YOU FOR THE BIRTHDAY CARD, GREAT JOB ON THE DAILY NEWS. MIXED IN WITH THE GREAT FEEDBACK IS A LOT OF USEFUL UPDATES, THE BATHROOM IS OUT OF TOILET PAPER, THERE IS A GROUNDHOG MAKING HOLES IN THE GARDEN, THE FOOD PROCESSOR IS BROKEN. THIS TIME OF YEAR, THE MOST CONSISTENT FEEDBACK IS THE MINUTE-BY-MINUTE CRITIQUE OF THE CLUBHOUSE TEMPERATURE, IT IS TOO HOT AND/OR TOO COLD THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE AT THE SAME TIME. WE NEED FEEDBACK TO HELP US DO MORE OF A GOOD THING AND MAKE ADJUSTMENTS WHEN THINGS AREN'T WORKING.

ONE OF MY FAVORITE WAYS WE ASK FOR FEEDBACK IS OUR ANNUAL MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY. EACH APRIL WE SPEND A FEW WEEKS GATHERING SURVEYS FROM ACTIVE AND INACTIVE MEMBERS AND WELCOME EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE. THE SURVEY PARTLY MEASURES HOW STRONGLY THE CLUBHOUSE SUPPORTS INDIVIDUAL MEMBER RECOVERY PRACTICES, ALONG WITH CAPTURING HOW WELL THE CLUBHOUSE PROMOTES MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS, WHILE ALSO COLLECTING OPEN FEEDBACK ON WHAT WE ARE DOING WELL AND WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER.

I AM PROUD TO SAY THAT THE RESULT OF THIS SURVEY GUIDES THE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS OF THE CLUBHOUSE AND IS SHARED OPENLY WITH OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY, OUR ADVISORY BOARD, AND STAKEHOLDERS. IT GREATLY INFLUENCES OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS AND IS A BIG PART OF OUR ANNUAL PLANNING DAY AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE GOALS. COMPLETING THE SURVEY CAN TAKE ABOUT 15 MINUTES AND THE IMPACT IS OFTEN FELT FOR YEARS TO COME. IT IS HARD FOR ME TO RECALL A SINGLE MAJOR IMPROVEMENT TO OUR CLUBHOUSE THAT WASN'T DIRECTLY INFLUENCED BY FEEDBACK FROM OUR SATISFACTION SURVEY OR OTHER MEMBER INPUT. THAT IS THE PARTNERSHIP MODEL IN ACTION.

WE ENCOURAGE ALL OUR READERS TO TAKE TIME SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK WITH US AND IF YOU CAN, COMPLETE A SATISFACTION SURVEY. THE RESULTS OF OUR SURVEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN LATE APRIL AND WE MAKE THEM AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE THAT DROPS BY. AS ALWAYS, WE ALSO WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK ON THE TEMPERATURE OF THE CLUBHOUSE.

SEE YOU SOON,
MARK

Employment & Education Unit

Employment and Education Dinner: This month we did a group workshop on Stress Management. We learned about how stress can affect us, starting creating our own “tool kits”, and tips for recognizing our stress cues.

Next Dinner: Will be Wednesday April 29th from 4-6:30pm. Dinner will be served between 4 and 5 with conversation and catch-up. This month’s presentation and group discussion be on the topic of how past work and life experience provides transferrable skills for workplaces. Please sign up at the desk in the Employment and Education space and/or reach out to Pauline or Jeff at the club.

Education: Our students at local colleges enjoyed a spring break week this past month. Also, many of the GED programs had a week or two off. We want to recognize all of their hard work and efforts to achieve their learning goals.

Employment: Congrats to Noli on getting a new position at Job Lot. We wish you the best of luck!

Upcoming Job Fairs:

April 9th We Make RI job fair 10:30 - 1pm

reach out to Pauline for more details

MISC: This past month we had an in-house social, Movies with pizza and popcorn. This social was a huge success with over 20 members in attendance. Clearly, we might need to do this again.

Cafe Unit Updates



The cafe has had the pleasure of seeing a lot of new faces this month! One of the benefits of working in the Cafe Unit is getting to greet many new members on their first day when they stop by for a coffee or a snack.

We've had a pretty solid team helping out in the cafe, whether it be with cashiering, baking, restocking, or cleaning up. However, we're always welcoming when members swing by to lend a hand and fill in the gaps!

If you're interested in getting involved in the Cafe unit work, feel free to come on by!

Business Unit Update

BY DARLENE, KEVIN, AND JEFF



ADMIN. TEAM: As usual it has been a busy month in the Front of the House (FOH) and on the Admin team. New, veteran, and returning members have been learning new work-ordered-day(WOD) tasks. With members learning new tasks, we have a larger pool of people to volunteer for the various tasks which need to be completed daily.

Returning member Jeanie jumped right back into covering the Reception Desk and Answering Phones. She did not “miss-a-beat” keeping back into the routine of both tasks. New member Laurie has made a commitment to providing phone outreach to members we have not seen in a little bit. She has a very calm and welcoming phone demeanor which enables her to connect with members. Laurie reports: “I like doing outreach the because I love people”. Additionally, Laurie has tried Billing, answering phones and covering the Reception Desk and helping out in the Cafe. Annie continues to be a great support to the team by volunteering to answer phones while being a core member in covering the Receptionist Desk in the afternoons. She has learned the finer points of the position well, especially when members want to sign-out before their transportation has actually arrived at the clubhouse. One of the highlights of this months Education and Employment Dinner was Alexis’ attendance at the dinner. She reports: ”I’ve missed coming to the clubhouse but I’m planning on attending at least once a week starting in April” Alexis shared she has more time in her schedule now that she is not involved in Housing committees at her apartment complex. She continues working part-time processing insurance claims but her boss is getting ready to sell the business. The team had a great turnout for the Spring Fling on the first day of Spring. All gathered enjoyed lots of food, fun, and festivities.

Kitchen Unit Update

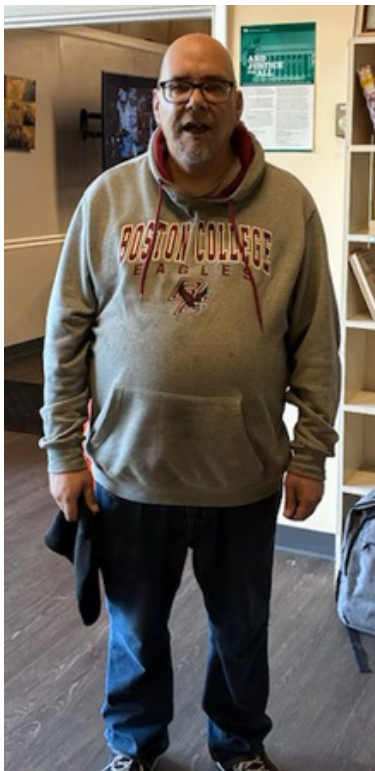


THE KITCHEN CONTINUES TO RESEARCH NEW RECIPES. MEMBERS ARE ALSO DISCOVERING GREAT ALTERNATIVES FOR VEGETARIAN MEALS. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL KITCHEN CREW MEMBERS FOR BEING A TREMENDOUS HELP TO THE UNIT. WE HAD A SUCCESSFUL BREAKFAST BUFFET TO CELEBRATE OUR ANNUAL SPRING FLING. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO PROVIDE MEALS ACCORDING TO THE CACFP WHICH INCLUDE A PROTEIN, FRUIT, VEGETABLE, HEALTHY DAIRY (USUALLY 1% OR LOW FAT MILK), AND A WHOLE GRAIN. FOR MARCH BIRTHDAYS WE HAD A DELICIOUS CARROT CAKE WITH CREAM CHEESE FROSTING.

In-House Movie Night Social

Photo credits: Pauline

We had two movies playing on two different screens. 'A Night at the Museum' and 'Ghostbusters.' Staff and 22 members enjoyed pizza and freshly popped popcorn for dinner. One of our members, Joe, joined us. It's been a long time since he has been to a social. His story is below.



An interview with Joe

How long has it been since you've come to a social? 8 or 9 years.

What made you decide to attend? To get to know people, get out of the house. I like to watch movies.

What was the social? Pizza, popcorn, and a movie (A Night at the Museum).

Did you have fun? Yes I did!

Will you be joining us again? Yes, on the 9th for yoga.

Garden Update

By Bob W.



SPRING HAS....SPRUNG. THE WARMER WEATHER IS FINALLY HERE. IF YOU REMEMBER THE PREVIOUS HILLSGROVE GARDEN REPORTS, WE HAD GOTTEN THE LAST GARLIC PLANTED ON HALLOWEEN DAY. WHILE THIS IS USUALLY NOT A PROBLEM, NOVEMBER WAS UNUSUALLY COLD, AND THEN WE HAD OUR BIG DUMPS OF SNOW. THE ONE SECTION OF GARLIC THAT PASCO HAD PLANTED WAS THE ONLY PART THAT WAS UP IN THE FALL. PEOPLE WILL BE REMEMBERING THE BLIZZARD OF '26 FOR A LONG, LONG TIME. AND WE HAD BEEN WORRIED THAT THE FALL PLANTED GARLIC THAT USUALLY HAS LITTLE GREEN SHOOTS BEFORE THE HARD WINTER WEATHER THIS YEAR, FOR THE MOST PART, (EXCEPT WHAT PASCO PLANTED) WEREN'T ABLE TO PRODUCE THOSE SMALL GREEN SHOOTS. BUT, AS FATE HAS IT THEY HAVE COME UP THIS SPRING AFTER ALL. IF I HAD TO GUESS, THE HEADS OF GARLIC WE WILL BE HARVESTING LATE SPRING, EARLY SUMMER WILL BE A LITTLE SMALLER THAN USUAL BUT NONETHELESS SHOULD BE 100% FINE. WHEW! SO GLAD!

I WANT TO GIVE A BIG, BIG SHOUT OUT TO ANGEL AND PASCO FOR HELPING PLANT LETTUCE AND SNOW PEAS THAT WILL HOPEFULLY BE ON OUR PLATES BEFORE TOO LONG. THEIR HELP CREATED FREE TIME FOR ME TO WEED OUT THE ASPARAGUS BED IN PREPARATION FOR ONE OF THE FIRST VEGETABLES WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO THIS SPRING.

EVEN THOUGH THE HEAVY SNOW PACK DIDN'T SEEM TO AFFECT THE GARLIC CLOVES PLANTED LAST FALL FOR THIS YEAR, THE AFFECTS OF PLOWING DID AFFECT ONE OF OUR RAISED BEDS. WE WILL BE SOON REPAIRING THAT, AND ADDING NEW COMPOST TO THE BEDS SO THE PLANTS WILL THRIVE. ANOTHER CONSEQUENCE OF THE HEAVY SNOW PACK THAT WE 100% DID NOT EXPECT IS THAT WITH THE SNOW PILING UP THREE FEET HIGH, THE APPLE TREES WERE DEVASTATED BY HUNGRY RABBITS WHO CHEWED OFF THE BARK OF THE TREES. AT LEAST ONE OF THE TWO IS DEAD AS A RESULT. WHILE WE HAD THE BOTTON OF THE YOUNG TREES WRAPPED IN HEAVY PLASTIC, WE DIDN'T THINK TO WRAP TWO OR THREE FEET UPWARDS. WELL, WITH THE SNOW PACK, THE LITTLE CRITTERS JUST HOPPED ONTO THE SNOW AND HAD BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND SUPPER ON US. BOB FEELS A LITTLE LIKE ELMER FUDD TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH. WE'VE BEEN MONITORING THE MOTHER GARDEN PEST OF GREAT RENOWNED, THE GROUNDHOG, AND WE HAVEN'T SEEN SIGHT OF HIM. MAYBE, JUST MAYBE HE'S LEFT THE AREA. WE'LL SEE. IF YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER IN THE GARDEN, WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELP

APRIL SOCIALS

April 4, Saturday, 10-2 - Botanical Gardens & Lunch

April 9, Thursday, 4-6:30 - Wellness Night

April 18, Saturday, 10-2 - Make Your Own Pizza

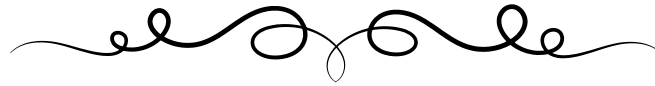
April 21, Tuesday, 4-6:30 - Iggy's & Oakland Beach

April 29, Wednesday, 4-6:30 - Employment &
Education Dinner

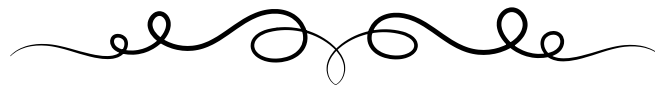


Announcements

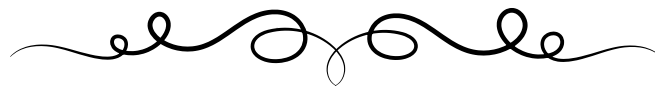
WE ARE OPEN 8-4 ON MONDAY, APRIL 6TH. COME ON IN AND GET INVOLVED IN OUR WORK ORDERED DAY!



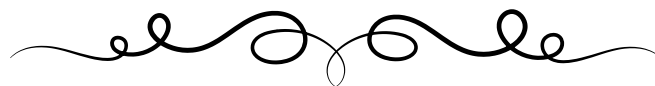
BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OUR MEMBERSHIP SATISFACTION SURVEY, WHICH WILL BE OUT SOON!



CLUBHOUSE GIVING DAY OPENS ON FRIDAY, MAY 1ST. 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.



MONDAY, MAY 25TH, MEMORIAL DAY, WE WILL BE OPEN 10-2 FOR A SOCIAL.



THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH, WE WILL BE HOSTING OUR ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE.

**We hope our readers have enjoyed reading our
April 2026 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



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