

# Grants awarded for youth programs

## Daily News staff

NEWPORT — Biking, ballet, rugby, squash, hiking, tennis and sailing are among the activities Newport Hospital's Frederick Henry Prince Memorial Fund is supporting to promote physical activity and good health among area children and teens.

The fund awarded nearly \$56,000 Tuesday to nine local organizations committed to promoting physical activity as a way for youngsters to have fun. The recipients include Child & Family, Island Rugby, FabNewport, the Norman Bird Sanctuary and Star Kids.

"Kids often need motivation to stay healthy and realize the benefits of fitness and exercise," Newport Hospital President Arthur Sampson said in a prepared statement. "We received an incredible array of proposals for this year's program. And, we're pleased to be able to help support programs that show that exercise can be fun and become a part of everyday life."

Established in 2010 through a grant from the Frederick Henry Prince 1932 Trust, the Frederick Henry Prince Memorial Fund focuses on ways to fight child and adolescent obesity as well as alcohol and drug abuse. In the past four years, nearly \$140,000 has been awarded to local organizations that promote physical activity as a way to better enjoy life.

Guillaume de Ramel is a member of the family that provided the initial grant to start the fund and has served on the committee that oversees it.

"Our goal is to encourage and support 'athletic entrepreneurs' who can think creatively about ways to incorporate exercise into activities that kids will love," de Ramel said in a prepared statement.

"Since the fund was established, it has been exciting and rewarding to see the ways local organizations are thinking about providing fitness opportunities to kids, especially to those kids who ordinarily would not have the financial means to participate."

The recipients of this year's funding and the programs they will provide include:

◆ Bike Newport, \$9,200: The Bike Garage North program encourages children



Daily News file photo

Island Rugby player Marquise Scott of Newport tries to get past a Bishop Hendricken defender last April during the Beast of the East tournament at Glen Farm in Portsmouth. Island Rugby is one of nine local organizations to receive grants from Newport Hospital's Frederick Henry Prince Memorial Fund.

to ride bicycles and explore their surroundings. The program is designed to keep children physically active, to bolster their confidence and to promote fun.

◆ Child & Family, \$5,000: The Ophelia and Iron John After-School Program is geared toward teenagers experiencing tough emotional times. The funds will provide them with opportunities to socialize and to engage in yoga, kickboxing, hip-hop, martial arts and weight-lifting classes.

◆ FabNewport, \$5,000: The Float Your Boat project provides city residents from 14-18 years old the opportunity to build and sail boats on Newport Harbor.

◆ International Tennis Hall of Fame, \$5,000: To provide junior tennis programs for local youths.

◆ Island Moving Co., \$7,500: Its after-school scholarship program provides local second- and third-grade students with the chance to attend weekly ballet classes and a recital in June.

◆ Island Rugby, \$5,000: The Rugby Boys U16 & U19 Project invites local boys 13-18 to play and compete on rugby teams.

◆ Norman Bird Sanctuary, \$6,780: The Teen Trail Guide Program has been designed so teenagers can be trail guides and role models during summer camp. They also will lead hikes through the sanctuary on weekends.

◆ Rhody Squash, \$10,000: Its after-school program teaches squash to students after they complete an hour of academic tutoring. The members of the squash team will volunteer in the community once a month.

◆ Star Kids, \$2,500: Will provide after-school and summer activities for at-risk children.

The grants were awarded Tuesday afternoon during a presentation at Newport Hospital. For more information about the Frederick Henry Prince Memorial Fund, visit [www.newporthospital.org/about-the-frederick-henry-prince-memorial-fund.html](http://www.newporthospital.org/about-the-frederick-henry-prince-memorial-fund.html).