Hello Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you full of peace, love, and happiness! Please try to make some time to read it, as you may find some useful information about events or partnerships that are happening between the college and the town.

The summer is almost gone, but nonetheless it left us with many joyful memories! Some of the highlights include the free community meal sponsored by the GMC Cerridwen Farm and the Summer Farm Intensive Program, the celebration of our local history during East Poultney Day hosted by the our Poultney Historical Society, and the continuous revitalization effort from the Poultney 2020 action teams.

As the fall begins and now that classes are back in session at GMC and Poultney local schools, it is breathtaking to feel so much vibrancy and young energy in our town. Particularly, it is exciting to think of the many strong relationships we can continue if we stick as one community, Poultney!

In the meantime, while we accomplish this, if you have questions about any outreach programs or partnerships between the college and the town, or if there is anything you think I can do for you please feel free to contact me at galvezcontrerasj@gmail.com.

Always shine your smile,
José Gálvez

FYI! Program Builds Community

During the last week of August, Green Mountain College and the town of Poultney joined forces to welcome new and returning students through the First Year Impressions! (FYI!) Program. FYI! is a brand new pre-orientation designed to help new students develop a sense of place within the GMC and Poultney communities and connect to the surrounding area through community service stewardship.

Six new students, accompanied by a Program Coordinator, six upper-class leaders, and several members of our community went on road trips to tour the town and the Poultney area, learned about the history, people, organizations and involvement opportunities. The group spent part of each day participating in numerous community service projects with local organizations such as the Poultney Historical Society, Poultney Food Shelf, Young at Heart Senior Center, Poultney Town Hall Office, the Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District, and Rutland City organizations. Some of the service learning projects ranged from accessioning historical objects to weeding and thinning the rain gardens at the Town Hall, Stone Bridge, and Poultney High School to vegetable gleaning to food shelf and roads clean up to planting trees. Together the group contributed over 1,000 hours of community service during the week. Additionally, new students also had the opportunity to cook a meal for four different Poultney families.

“I am so happy that I participated in FYI. It was such a great experience. I got to meet so many wonderful new people during my first week here due to this program. I am very grateful for having the chance to get acquainted with my new town and the people in it. ”, new student Maggie Parson ‘17 said.

Community Resources

Poultney Historical Society
The Poultney Historical Society museums located around the East Poultney Green will be open every Sunday until the end of September from 1-4p.m.

Poultney Food Shelf
The Poultney Food Shelf is located in the Stone Bridge Building on Beaman Street and is open every Tuesdays from 3-5p.m. Volunteers are always welcome!

Poultney Public Library
Please visit them during business hours: Mon. and Fri. - 10:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Tues., Wed., Thurs. - 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. Saturday - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Champlain Valley Native Plant Nursery
Fall Open House on Saturday, Sept. 21st

The Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District with the Nature Conservancy and Green Mountain College announce the fall open house for the public at the Champlain valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery on Saturday, September 21, 2013, from 10:00AM until 2:00PM. Come visit the nursery located on the west side of the campus behind Sage Hall and the Waldron Athletic Complex. The nursery is in full operation and is open to the public with plants that have grown during the summer. Staff will be on hand to conduct tours and answer questions. Select native trees, shrubs, and perennials will be available for purchase.

This year the Conservation District’s “Plant 1000 Trees” campaign and restoration projects along the Mettowee River have required many native trees and shrubs. Help us meet our goal by stopping by and purchasing a few stems. Come increase your knowledge of planting techniques, plant sustainability, ecology, seed collection, soil health, and water quality. When you participate you become more aware of land use and a better steward of Lake Champlain in your own backyard!

Some free public events worth checking!

Sept. 18 Job Opportunities at Rutland Mental Health, Withey Lobby, GMC, 11:30a.m
Sept. 19 Speaker, Russell Comstock, Co-Director of Metta Earth Institute, GMC Bogue Movement Studio, 1:00p.m
Sept. 20 A Day in the Life of the Vermont Farmer Photo Exhibit, GMC Surdam Hall, 5:00p.m.
Funktionlust, Live music and Performances, GMC Ackley Theatre, 7:30p.m
Sept. 22 GMC Men’s Soccer vs. Me.Presque Isle, GMC Soccer Field, 1p.m.
GMC Women’s Soccer vs. Me.Presque Isle, GMC Soccer Field, 3:30p.m.
Sept. 28 Rotary Chili Cook-Off, Main Street, 10:00a.m-2:00p.m.
GMC Men’s Soccer vs. Me.Presque Isle, GMC Soccer Field, 1p.m.
Oct. 11 Speaker, Fr. Kimery Levering, Location TBD, 1:00p.m.
Oct. 12 Townwide Yard Sale, Town of Poultney, 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.
Oct. 16 Poultney 2020 Meeting, Poultney High School, 6:30-8:15p.m.
Oct. 19 Pumpkin Festival, Town of Poultney, 1:00-3:00p.m.
Welsh Harvest Festival, GMC Cerridwen Farm, 3:00-6:00p.m

Ongoing Partnerships

GMC Classes Open to Poultney Residents!

Did you know that you can take classes at GMC at a discounted rate if you are a Poultney resident, senior citizen, or Poultney High School student? Check this out:

Community Tuition Rate:
Permanent residents of the town of Poultney, part-time, and non-matriculating students who enroll for 6 credit hours or less per term, You pay $888 per three-credit course or $296 per credit hour.

Senior Scholars:
Available to persons 60 years of age and older – preference to Poultney residents. One course per semester may be audited without charge; courses taken for credit will be available at $520 per course. A total of two courses or 6 credit hours (including an audited class) may be taken by non-matriculating seniors.

Poultney High School Scholars:
Available to gifted and talented Poultney High School students, subject to recommendation of the High School. The program is limited to two courses or up to 8 credit hours per semester if course(s) include a lab. Tuition is $200 for the first course plus applicable course fees (which are paid by the high school) and $250 for the second course plus applicable course fee payable by student/family prior to the start of the first class.

Need Wheels!? Rent a Zipcar at GMC

Zipcar is a nationwide car-sharing service available right on GMC’s campus! More affordable than a personally owned vehicle, a Zipcar membership includes gas, insurance, and maintenance fees that are often not factored into the cost of owning a car. Sign up online at www.zipcar.com/greenmtn to get wheels when you want them.

Sustainability at Green Mountain College

Contact Us:

If you would prefer an electronic copy of this newsletter please email collegeandmain@greenmtn.edu. For any other information about sustainability and community outreach initiatives at GMC contact your Office of Sustainability Coordinators:

José Gálvez,
Outreach Coordinator
galvezconterreras@gmail.com

Aaron Witham,
Sustainability Coordinator
withama@greenmtn.edu