Greetings from José

My name is José Gálvez Contreras and I'd like to introduce myself as the new Outreach Coordinator for Sustainable Community Development at GMC.

I’m honored and proud to have the opportunity to work with both Green Mountain College and the Poultney community.

In this position, I will lead and help generate discussions with the purpose to build an even stronger town-college relationship.

An initial step to meet this goal is the publication of this small newsletter that tells you about programs, events, and activities available to you at GMC or the town of Poultney.

Please contact me at galvezcontrerasj@greenmtn.edu with any questions, suggestions, or ideas.

Take Classes at GMC

Community Tuition Rate: $888 per three-credit course or $296 per credit hour; this rate is applicable only for part-time, non-matriculating students who enroll for 6 credit hours or less per term, and who are permanent residents of the town of Poultney.

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 Program: 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.

Contact the GMC Sustainability Office:
José Gálvez: galvezcontrerasj@gmail.com
Aaron Witham: withama@greenmtn.edu
(802) 287-8277

Annual Poultney Earth Fair

Each year the Poultney Earth Fair draws hundreds of people from the local region to celebrate the Earth. This year, the event is scheduled for Thursday, April 25 at Poultney High School from 2 - 5 p.m.

Our theme this year is “A Balanced Life, A Balanced Earth.” We explore the concept of finding the balance of building a sustainable community. Balance is an essential aspect for developing a sustainable future for our families and children. We acknowledge that perpetually increasing living standards is not possible without further attending to environmental concerns. Therefore, at the Fair we aim to bring families together to help us discover what each of us can do to find this equilibrium.

If you are interested in reserving a free space for a display, participating in the planning process, or creating a project for the Earth Fair, please contact José Gálvez Contreras (225-936-9973 galvezcontrerasj@gmail.com).

Poultney 2020 Conference April 24

The Poultney 2020 conference on Wednesday, April 24 is the kick-off of a new partnership between Green Mountain College and the greater Poultney community to revitalize the town. The long-term goal is to create a more vibrant town that is highly attractive to residents, students, visitors, and business owners.

The conference will be a day to celebrate Poultney’s progress and potential, and create a fresh new vision of our town’s future. Working together, we will identify the highest priority projects to be implemented.

Prior to the conference five focus groups (arts, food, place, sustainability, and goods and services) will work on identifying Poultney’s assets and revitalization priorities within each group. If you’re interested in joining one of these groups please contact Matthew Mayberry (mayberrym@greenmtn.edu) or José Gálvez.
Wellness Programs at GMC

The Wellness Center offers a variety of activities including Yoga, massage therapy, Shakti tribal dance and energy healing. Take a look at our weekly schedule to see what is being offered today. Most of these activities are open to the public and are free of charge.

Monday
- Yoga with Suzanne Denison
  4 - 5:30 p.m., Ackley Chapel

Tuesday
- Guided Meditation with Shirley Oskamp
  4 - 4:30 p.m., Ackley Chapel
- Shakti Tribal Dance (Beginner)
  6 - 7:15 p.m., Bogue Movement Studio
- Shakti Tribal Dance (Advanced)
  7:30 - 9:15 p.m., Bogue Movement Studio

Wednesday
- Yoga with Suzanne Denison
  12 - 1 p.m., Ackley Chapel
- Massage therapy with Darya McNolty and Maureen Ryan is available at the Wellness Center on College Street every Wednesday and alternating Saturday. Call 287-8376 to schedule an appointment.

Thursday
- Yoga with Suzanne Denison
  12 - 1 p.m., Ackley Chapel

GMC Community Conversation

Residents of the Poultney area are encouraged to join Green Mountain College in attending a community-wide conversation about how the College plans to measure progress toward authentic sustainability. The event will take place on Wednesday, February 27, from 2:30 - 5 p.m. in the East Room, on the second floor of Withey Hall in the center of campus.

Green Mountain College has worked hard to gain a national reputation for sustainability. The biomass plant on campus burns locally-sourced woodchips instead of fossil fuels, every student takes a core of environmental literacy courses, and in 2011, the College became the first in the country to achieve carbon neutrality through a comprehensive approach of displacing number six heating oil, increasing efficiency of the residence halls, and purchasing local carbon offsets through the Green Mountain Power (formerly CVPS) Cow Power Program. But, the College has decided it needs to do more, and spread sustainability initiatives into social and economic areas to achieve a more authentic level of sustainability by the year 2020. For more info on the Sustainability 2020, visit greenmtn.edu/sustainability2020

Poultney Area Events this Month

February 19
- Food & Environment Documentary Series: Premier of Glean, Freeze, Give
- Tiny Theater, 7 & 8 p.m. (free)

February 20
- Yoga with Cathy Ward
- Tiny Theater, 10 - 11 a.m., 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

February 21
- Winter Break Family Matinee: The Goonies
- Tiny Theater, 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m. ($3)

February 22
- Ryan Dubois’ Night of Art, Noise & Singing
- Tiny Theater, 7 p.m.

February 23
- Kindermusik “Family Time” with Heidi Brown
  Movie: Argo
- Tiny Theater, 9 - 11 a.m. ($10)
  Tiny Theater, 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m. ($3)
- Live Americana/Bluegrass: John & Sarah
- Taps Tavern, 8 p.m. (free)

February 26
- Movie: Lunch Line
- Tiny Theater, 7 p.m.

February 27
- Yoga with Cathy Ward
- GMC Community Conversation: Sustainability 2020 Strategic Plan
- Tiny Theater, 10 - 11 a.m., 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Bill McKibben Presentation
- East Room (GMC), 2:30 - 5 p.m.
- GMC, Time & Location TBD

March 2
- St. David’s Day Dinner, sponsored by Poultney Area St. David’s Society
- The Station, 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m.

March 4
- Poultney Earth Fair meeting
- Tiny Theater, 5 p.m.