



Erin Levy-Paul, FIXit personnel specialist and Kathleen Farrell, FIXit housekeeping manager. See page 2 for a look at the FIXit department.



SU welcomes youth from the CNY Works Summer Youth Employment program back to campus this year. See page 2 for more information.



Winter 2009

Questions? Contact Sharon Cole at
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Keep Skills Current in a Lagging Economy: Stay Active!

Thank you to CNY Works for hosting the Diversity Network Quarterly Meeting on January 29, 2009 in the Ontario Room in their office at Franklin Center in Syracuse. The topics were timely and the presenters were knowledgeable. Highlights from the meeting are organized below in tips about keeping your skills active in a lagging economy.

Know Your Resources

Lenore Sealy, executive director, CNY Works, spoke about the unemployment statistics locally and nationally. Although she feels that Central New York is not as affected as other areas in the nation she was sensitive to the fact that there are still unemployed, anxious residents that are looking for a job. Lenore challenged all of the agencies to encourage job seekers to approach their career search and professional development with an entrepreneurial spirit. She pointed out the resources that are available including programs and services available through CNY Works, the local one-stop career center. Resource information is available at the CNY Works web site (www.cny-works.com).



Know Your Community

April Palozzola, a team leader from JobsPlus!, coordinates a volunteerism pro-

gram that connects clients from JobsPlus! with not-for-profit groups and agencies. April has seen the volunteers, and the people who supervise them in their volunteer roles, build valuable skills. The volunteer learns about the nature of the not-for-profit and skills directly related to the tasks they are assigned. The supervisor learns or practices leadership skills.

Know Syracuse University

Corey Driscoll, community relations associate for the Office of Government and Community Relations at Syracuse University, spoke of resources at the University available to the community. Examples included cultural events, recreation programs, and the expertise of faculty and staff on campus. Visit the web site of the Office of Government and Community Relations (<http://gcr.syr.edu/>) for event calendars and other information.

John Longtin, SU HR staff relations manager, spoke of the challenges associated with offering non-academic internships on campus, including the limitations of wage and hours, child labor laws, risk management, safety and insurance concerns.

Thanks again to our presenters, hosts, and participants. Watch your e-mail for information about the next Diversity Network event.

March Calendar

March

Deaf History Month

Greek-American Heritage Month

Irish-American Heritage Month

Mental Retardation Awareness Month

National Chronic Fatigue

Syndrome Awareness Month

National Multiple Sclerosis

Education and Awareness Month

National Women's History Month

Spiritual Wellness Month

1 - St. David's Day (Welsh)

2 - Mothering Sunday (England)

6 - World Day of Prayer

8 - International Women's Day (United Nations)

8 - Daylight saving time begins

10 - Purim (Jewish)

17 - St. Patrick's Day

(Ireland, United States)

20 - Spring Begins

21 - Naw-Ruz (Baha'i, Persia)

21 - New Year's Day (India)

25 - Feast of Annunciation

(Christian)

Source: <http://www3.kumc.edu/diversity/march.html>

Upcoming Events

April 30

Diversity Network Quarterly Meeting in the Community
Syracuse Stage
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Last Tuesday of each month –
Diversity Network Open House

July 23

Save the Date

SU Department Spotlight: FIXit

Syracuse University's Housing and Food Services Maintenance Department (FIXit) is committed to serving the students of Syracuse University, with pride and commitment, using teamwork, trust, and respect for all individuals.

FIXit is responsible for all maintenance and housekeeping in the residence units and dining centers. Headquartered in the Carriage House on South Campus, the 136 staff members in the department have a diverse range of skills to serve maintenance and housekeeping needs. Janitors and general maintenance staff work in all residence halls every day, seven days a week. Twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-week emergency service is also provided. The Housekeeping staff is supported by a trades staff of electricians, plumbers, carpenters, and others,

who work out of the central office. The skilled professionals work together to repair problems and ensure that student living conditions are clean, comfortable, and safe.

FIXit embraces the diversity of its workforce by striving to provide opportunities to job seekers in the community and has had great success in assisting persons with disabilities and refugees with job placement, both temporary and permanent. FIXit not only offers employees a job, but a diverse and enjoyable work environment and experience. These efforts, supported by FIXit employees, Erin Paul, Kay Farrell and Rusty Tassini led to the FIXit Department's recognition with the 2007 Diversity Network Appreciation Award for an SU Hiring Department.

CNY Works Summer Program

Syracuse University is continuing a four year partnership with the CNY Works Youth Summer Employment Program to bring local high school students, ages 16-21, to campus departments to work up to 30 hours per week this summer. The students are paid through CNY Works; departments are not responsible for compensation.

The program provides opportunities for students to grow through hands-on work experience gained through assignments in our departments and through the coaching, mentoring and support provided by department mentors.



To qualify, students must apply for the Youth Summer Employment program through CNY Works. For more information about the application process please visit www.cnyworks.com.