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Energy Campaign enters fifth year

The University Energy Campaign has been going strong in its effort to decrease the amount of electricity used in the dorms and academic buildings. The university emits about 24,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year in equivalence of our electricity use. The energy campaign’s goal is to reduce our usage during the 10 week period from September to November by 10%. This is the fifth year that the energy campaign has been underway, and we have seen gradual improvement in energy reduction ever since. The dorms first saw an average decrease in electricity use of 4 to 5%, and now that figure has improved to double digit returns. Currently our leading residences are: Freedom Quad seeing a 35% drop, Empire Commons, a 14% decline and Colonial Quad, an 11% decrease. The academic buildings have also seen a decrease in consumption of 6% from their baseline level.

We’ve almost achieved our goal with an overall reduction of 8% as of this bulletin. This year, we’ve added some incentives to the campaign for the academic buildings. A breakfast will be awarded to the building that achieves the largest percentage decline from their baseline. Occupants in top performing buildings will receive free beverage coupons, a reward that has already been bestowed on the Fine Arts building. In addition to their accomplishment, special recognition goes to the Education and Social Science buildings for their efforts.

The campaign is designed to raise awareness about energy conservation practices. The energy saved is not only good news for the environment, it means saving money for the school which has helped prevent more layoffs from occurring. Some of the money is returned to the dorms for their role in reducing costs. This has helped to fund the purchase of new recreational tables, bicycles for the bike share program and recycling bins for the students to use and enjoy.
Energy campaign

(continued from page 1) Everyone is a part of this effort, by ensuring that lights are off in classrooms, offices and dorms when leaving the room, turning off any computer equipment (don’t forget monitors and printers!!) or appliances and keeping chargers unplugged when not in use.

You can also see how much electricity buildings are using in real time by visiting:

http://www.albany.edu/facilities/energy/dashboard.html and clicking on the icon of the types of buildings you want to observe.

Let’s all work together to save energy and improve sustainability!

Kudos to High Performing Academic Buildings

Our leaders in the academic buildings are:

- Fine Arts
- Education
- Social Science

We also have several academic buildings that have achieved a 10% reduction or more:

- Arts & Sciences
- Earth Science
- Lecture Centers
- Performing Arts Center
- Science Library

Great work everyone!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residential Building</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>KWH Saved</th>
<th>Carbon Dioxide Saved (in tons)</th>
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<tr>
<td>FREEDOM</td>
<td>35% ↓</td>
<td>39,363</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPIRE</td>
<td>14% ↓</td>
<td>58,494</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLONIAL</td>
<td>11% ↓</td>
<td>49,396</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>INDIAN</td>
<td>8% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>7% ↓</td>
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<td>DUTCH</td>
<td>5% ↓</td>
<td>23,705</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALUMNI</td>
<td>1% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>DORMS TOTAL</td>
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<td>242,547</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACADEMIC PODIUM</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMPUS TOTAL</td>
<td>8% ↓</td>
<td>568,304</td>
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Farmer’s Market Returns

The Farmer’s Market is back! Jim will be here every Thursday (weather permitting) from 11 am to 3 pm. He will be located in the lower level of the Campus Center, on the Dutch Quad side. Stop by and get some cider donuts!
Community Service Month has begun

October has been designated community service month at UAlbany. An inspiring kick off event was held on October 5th featuring the results of a mini-camp held earlier in the day between members of UAlbany student organizations and students from Albany Middle and High School. This featured dancing by Organized Chaos and a stomp group, singing by Earth Tones and cheering from the Cheer Squad.

There are lots of activities during the month, for a complete list go to: http://www.albany.edu/outreach/10919.php

Sustainability featured at community service forum

As part of community service month at UAlbany, several professors and students participated in a panel discussion on environmental sustainability community initiatives. Biological sciences Associate Professor Dr. George Robinson spoke on his recent work concerning environmental exploitation of the Marcellus Shale, a controversial issue in New York State because of the hydraulic fracturing (or “hydrofracking”) used to free natural gas from the shale. Dr. Robinson’s work creates a model that could limit natural gas drilling in ecologically sensitive or technically unfeasible areas, such as streams, protected areas, sloped surfaces, or areas that provide a habitat for protected wildlife. While Dr. Robinson is still developing this model, he hopes to eventually work with legislators and the DEC to implement these ecological concerns legislatively.

Dr. Gary Kleppel, Professor of Biological Sciences, spoke at the forum regarding his work on using ungulates (grazing animals) in place of pesticides to tackle invasive species. New York State spends money on man hours, chemicals, and fossil fuels to eradicate invasive plants, but ungulates could do this job for free. Having independent farmers graze their animals on state land would be free for the state, while also providing land to farmers who have no money to buy pastures on which they can graze their animals.

The final speaker was Brad Machado, a senior majoring in Public Administration & Policy and the Community Chair of the Sustainability Council. Brad discussed initiatives including the “Give and Go” program that collects furniture, household supplies, and food from students as they move out at the end of the school year. These are then donated to homeless shelters, animal rescues, and refugee centers in the Capital Region. Brad also discussed the Council’s recent initiative to do sustainability programming in local elementary schools. This project is just getting off the ground, but has promise as an effective means of environmental outreach to local schools that feel their budgets shrinking, and might otherwise cut out such curriculum.
Helping Hurricane Victims

Several student groups have been conducting work parties to help victims clean up from the devastating effects of Hurricane Irene. Rev. Sandy Damhof of Cornerstone Campus Ministry has partnered with other groups on campus to hold two “Community Service Days in Schoharie,” and has another service trip coming up on Sunday, November 13. Campus Ambassadors took a group out to Prattsville in early September. Professor of Biological Sciences Gary Kleppel brought students to help farmers who lost this season’s crop in the flooding. He also delivered materials collected from the university bins that were located in the Campus Center. More recently the Sustainability Council joined ODK for a clean up effort in Schoharie County on Saturday, October 22. (see related story at right) This weekend, the Student Association is sponsoring a trip to Broome County in collaboration with the SUNY Binghamton Student Association to help there.

Much help is still needed in these areas so consider joining a work party in the future as we continue to lend a hand to those in need.

Thank you to all who contributed to the hurricane relief fund and donated items to the collection bins in the Campus Center. There will be many months and even years of recovery in the future for our neighbors in surrounding counties.

A message from the Director

I would like to show you the sights I saw when I went out to Esperance in Schoharie County this past Saturday. But I couldn’t bring myself to take any pictures. It seemed too disrespectful to those who are living the nightmare of having their entire home and its contents swept away with little warning. Even two months after the flooding, residents in this small neighborhood spend their weekend searching for their belongings amid the wreckage of trees, dirt, and metal. We were told on arrival that this neighborhood once contained 40 homes, 26 of which were destroyed in the flooding. Of those remaining, many are not structurally sound enough to be lived in. We made three piles; salvageable, unsalvageable and metal. What struck me most was how things would show up in the oddest places. I found a knife from a silverware set sticking straight out of the ground with none of its accompanying utensils anywhere in the vicinity. We found ourselves spending large amounts of time to save even the littlest item. One volunteer spent 20 minutes digging out and untangling a chime set. Others struggled for two hours to dig a bike out of the ground, only to find its frame too bent to salvage. One heartbreaking sight was an older couple digging through the remnants of their lawn looking for items buried there, next to them the cinder blocks that once served as the foundation for their home. It is completely amazing how much clean up there is still to do and despite having a crew of thirty people, we impacted so little of an area. If you can spare a Saturday or Sunday of labor during this academic year, take a day to help out. The numbers for the Schoharie volunteer center is 518-390-8826 or 518-390-8529 or even 518-390-2811.

THE WORLD WITHIN REACH
Students Becoming Better Global Citizens

In our previous bulletin, we brought you information about Dan Sellers, who is organizing a student team to Ecuador over winter break to engage in community building programs as part of the Global Student Embassy organization. Last month, the Offices of International Education and Environmental Sustainability sponsored a session from Anugraha John, the Executive Director of Global Citizens for Sustainable Development. GCSD, an organization based in Bangalore, India, that brings sustainable development to impoverished areas of the world through initiatives like the “We Build” program. “We Build” has students from around the world—including students from UAlbany—build homes for impoverished women in India.

When building these homes, John integrates his three pillar philosophy on sustainability, which includes economic, societal, and environmental sustainability. Not only does “We Build” use environmentally sustainable materials, they also help women learn tangible skills to enable them to continue living an economically stable life. To communicate a sense of social sustainability and responsibility in the women receiving this gift, “We Build” only builds the houses to 70% completion. The women and their communities then develop a sense of ownership over their new home by finishing the building process. Students from UAlbany can volunteer for this program as a winter or summer session course through the Office of International Education.

To end the presentation, John took the group through an exercise that challenged the participants to redevelop society. Tapping into the imagination of the attendees as they created a vision for a new world was a very interesting experience, especially to observe what was left behind and what suddenly became much more valuable and vital. Ironically the valuable items are the things we usually take for granted (like access to water and food) and the things we might see as valuable in our world became worthless in this new one (like cable TV).

John’s main point is that if people are concerned about our world they need to connect, converse and commit to action. The kind of events John organizes crosses borders but we don’t need to replicate this on such a large scale. Setting up a simple local program or discussion group can be the first step towards creating a larger global community and becoming better global citizens.
Wrap Up of Sustainability Events This Semester

Fallbany!

UAlbany’s community day, this year entitled “Fallbany” was held on October 15th. We wanted to share some of our favorites from the weekend.

1. Dogs!!!! We love dogs—this year featured some loveable ones from the Great Dane Rescue society. To see these towering dogs up close is quite a sight.

2. Dogs!!! Who doesn’t love Tori, Professor Kleppel’s sheepdog who gave us an impressive demonstration.

3. Sheep!! Ok the sheep were pretty cool too.

4. Food!! What a great selection from the Farmer’s Market and ooh, those cider donuts.

5. We won!! The football team scored an impressive win and the Green Scene recycling team reports lots of good recycling behavior at the game too.

Green Scene Team at Great Danes Football

The UAlbany Green Scene Team dominated at the Great Danes football games this year, but lucky for the opposing team, they were in the stands and not on the field. Students patrolled the stands with green recycling bags and “Green Scene” T-shirts, collecting bottles and cans from fans and tailgaters. UAlbany’s homecoming game and the accompanying “Fallbany” festival were as successful for the Green Scene as for the University as a whole. The Green Scene collected four full bags of recyclables from the packed stadium and parking lots. Look for the green bags at the next game!

Colonial Wins Clash of the Quads and the Sustainability Sort and Shoot

Colonial Quad has certainly been on a streak, winning last year’s Recyclemania prize, leading the quads in terms of energy savings and now they can add Clash of the Quad champ on top of that. Members of the quad also came in first for the Sustainability Sort and Shoot activity during the competition. Teammates earned shots into the recycling bin based on the number of items they correctly sorted into their appropriate category of “trash”, “recycle” or “compost.” This year’s clash also featured a canned food drive as part of the community service month activities with 3,262 non-perishable food items being collected for the JC Club in Arbor Hill.
Downtown Campus Sustainability Forum

Join Dr. Mary Ellen Mallia, Director of Environmental Sustainability and Eli Leveston from UAS on Thursday, November 3rd to discuss food sourcing, nutrition and sustainability. The program begins at 12 pm and will be held in Husted 114. See the flier on page 15.

Group Exercise Classes—Now No Charge to Undergrads!

Undergraduate students are no longer charged for group exercise classes! To participate, undergraduates must take a print out of their current academic schedule and bring this and their SUNY ID to the membership sales office in the SEFCU (adjacent to the fitness center) and get their access card. They must show this access card AND student ID card to participate in the group exercise class of their choice. This card is only good for the fall term, which means repeating the process to get a spring term access card.

If you are an undergraduate student who purchased a Group Exercise access card this semester, before you ask for a refund, consider this: starting next term there will be a charge for certain specialty classes like yoga, Pilates, and indoor cycling (this is due to the higher cost of providing these classes). You can use your current purchased Group Exercise access card for these classes, so please consider this option.

Graduate students, faculty and staff can purchase access cards at the SEFCU Membership Sales Office. Cards are $36 for 6 classes, $60 for 12 classes or you can pay a $7 walk in fee for each class you attend. Below is the schedule for the classes for the remainder of the semester.

Aqua classes are held in the PE Pool, other classes; with the exception of the 8 pm Kickboxing, are held in the Dance Studio (3rd floor of PE building). For more information on other campus rec activities and facility hours, go to: http://www.albany.edu/campusrecreation/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 to 7:55 am</td>
<td>Yoga</td>
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<td>5:30 to 6:30 pm</td>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>Zumba</td>
<td>Bootcamp</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 to 7:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 to 7:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bootcamp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 to 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Aqua Action</td>
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<td>7:30 to 8:30 pm</td>
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<td>Kickboxing</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 to 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Kickboxing@ Empire Commons</td>
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</table>
Community Events

Safely Dispose of Unwanted Medicines

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has scheduled a National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 29, 2011, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. DEA in conjunction with state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States conducted National Prescription Drug Take Back Days on Saturday, September 25, 2010 and April 25, 2011. Nearly, 4,000 state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the nation participated in these events, collecting more than 309 tons of pills.

There will be a site at Crossgates Mall in the parking lot near Ruby Tuesdays and Borders.

To find other collection sites near you, go to: http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html

Save the Date—Community Events

We’d like to highlight some special events coming next month that are open to the public:

November 14—Bike Clinic—Preparing for Winter, 7 pm, SEFCU lobby. Members from the Albany Bike Rescue and UPD Bike Patrol will be on hand to do demonstrations and discuss bike safety.

November 15—Electronics Recycling Collection, 11 am to 2 pm, State Quad Student Parking Lot. Bring your personal electronics—anything with a cord, except refrigerators and air conditioners—to be recycled. There is no fee for this.

November 17—This Land is Your Land, Young Farmer’s Colloquium and screening of “The Greenhorns”, 6:30 pm in the D’Ambra Auditorium, Life Sciences Building. Hear from young people who have made sustainable farming their life’s work.

November 28—If You Love this Planet, 7 pm, Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center. Hear from Dr. Helen Caldicott, an internationally known authority on the health effects of nuclear radiation and founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility. Dr. Caldicott will be joined by Peter Iwanowicz, the former Director of the New York State Climate Change Office. Come for a thought provoking evening on the issue of nuclear energy, its health effects and climate change implications.

Thank you to UAS for providing sponsorship of these events. Fliers on these events will be available on our webpage at www.albany.edu/gogreen.
Upcoming Events

October
29 Broome County Clean up
29 Prescription Drug Takeback,
    10 am to 2pm, Crossgates

November
3 Downtown Forum, 12 to 1 pm, Husted 114
3 Farmer’s Market 11 am to 3 pm, Campus Center Lower level near Dutch Quad
5 Football game recycling collection
6 Green Apartment Demo, 7 pm, Empire Commons C2 101
10 Farmer’s Market 11 am to 3 pm, Campus Center Lower level near Dutch Quad
14—18 Sustainability week, tabling each day in the Campus Center between
    10 am and 2 pm.  See page 10 for details
14 Destination Green
    12 pm info session on car pooling and car sharing, Assembly Hall, light refreshments;
    7 pm Bike Clinic, prepping for winter, SEFCU arena lobby
15 America Recycles Day
    11 am to 2 pm, Electronics Recycling Collection State Quad Student Lot
16 Energy Awareness Day
    9 pm Energy usage demonstration, Tuscarora Indian Quad
17 Know Your Food Day
    11 am to 3 pm, Farmer’s Market, Campus Center Lower level near Dutch Quad;
    6:30 pm, This Land is Your Land; Young Farmer’s Colloquium, D’Ambra Auditorium,
    Life Sciences Building
18 Energy Campaign final numbers revealed and recognition ceremony, 3 pm, University
    Hall 306
19 Football game recycling collection
28 If You Love this Planet; the impacts of nuclear energy on health and the climate.
    Dr. Helen Caldicott, keynote speaker, 7 pm Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center

December
1 Farmer’s Market 11 am to 3 pm, Campus Center Lower level near Dutch Quad

Got an event or program related to sustainability??? Then, email us at gogreen@albany.edu
to be included in upcoming bulletins.
From November 14 to 18, the university will celebrate sustainability week. Spearheaded by the UAlbany Student Sustainability Council and assisted by the Office of Environmental Sustainability, the week will highlight a different aspect of sustainability each day and feature several special events.

Monday, November 14 is Destination Green, our tribute to alternative transportation. Exhibitors from CDTA, Hertz on Demand, the UAlbany bus shuttle and our bike share program will be in the Campus Center lobby from 10 am to 2 pm to discuss their services.

At noontime on that day in Assembly Hall, there will be a brown bag lunch and learn demonstrating how to sign up for our carpooling service and describing our car share program. This event is co-sponsor by EAP. Cookies and fruit will be served. See our flier on page 11.

In the evening, a bike clinic will take place at 7 pm in the SEFCU lobby. Representatives from Albany Bike Rescue and UPD bike patrol will be on hand to demonstrate how to prep yourself and your equipment for winter biking. See flier on page 12.

Tuesday, November 15 is America Recycles Day. Sustainability Council members will be in the Campus Center between 10 am and 2 pm to hand out information related to recycling and asking trivia questions. An electronics recycling collection event will occur from 11 am to 2 pm in the State Quad Student Lot. See related flier on page 13.

Wednesday, November 16th is Energy Awareness Day. Come to the Campus center between 10 am and 2 pm to hear about the kinds of alternative energy we use at UAlbany. In the evening, come see a demonstration on the amount of energy common appliances use in Tuscarora 3rd floor lounge on Indian Quad at 9 pm.

Thursday, November 17th is Know Your Food Day. Hear about the importance of sustainable food production and knowing the source of your food. Council members will be in the Campus Center between 10 am and 2 pm with information on this topic and holding a farmer’s market. In the evening, come to our capstone event entitled “This Land is Your Land.” The event will begin at 6:30 pm in the D’Ambra Auditorium in the Life Sciences building and will feature the screening of the movie “The Greenhorns” along with a panel of young farmers discussing their experiences implementing sustainable agricultural practices. See the flier on page 14.

Friday, November 18th is Reveal and Recognition Day. We’ll wrap up the week by revealing the final energy campaign numbers and recognizing those buildings, departments, and people who have gone the extra mile to further sustainability on campus. The program will begin at 3 pm in University Hall 306. Light refreshments will be served.

Thank you to UAS for providing funding for Sustainability Week and Destination Green.
Don’t Drive Alone!

Learn how to cut your driving costs!

Date: Monday, November 14
Time: 12 pm
Location: Assembly Hall
Campus Center

Part of Sustainability Week and Destination Green:
A day devoted to alternative transportation

Come to this brown bag lunch and learn how to use UAlbany’s carpooling service. Stay for an informational session on car sharing. Light refreshments will be served.

Questions? Email gogreen@albany.edu

Sponsorship provided by: UAS ALBANY
Is your bike ready for winter?

Winter Bike Prep Clinic @ UAlbany
Part of Alternate Transportation Day

Winter Bike Prep:
The Albany Bike Rescue will present how to prepare and maintain your bike for the winter. They will also share tips on bike riding skills.

Bicycle Safety:
The UAlbany Police Dept. Bike Patrol will present bike safety.

November 14th @ 7pm in SEFCU lobby

Open to the public!
Electronics Recycling Day

NOVEMBER 15
11AM-2PM

STATE QUAD STUDENT LOT

All Personal Computer & Electronic Equipment

- TV’s
- Answering Machines
- Wires
- Cell Phones
- Telephones
- Telephone equipment
- Electronic game systems
- Electronic Games
- CD’s/DVD’s
- VCR’s/VCR tapes
- DVD players
- Floppy Disks
- Projectors
- Cameras
- Blenders
- Coffee Makers
- Fans
- Lamps
- Microwaves
- Toasters
- Typewriters
- Wires/adapters

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

***No refrigerators, air conditioners, hazardous waste, light bulbs, batteries or state property will be accepted.***
YOUNG FARMERS

THIS LAND IS OUR LAND

The future of food belongs to you

With an aging population of farmers, half of the farmland in the US will change hands in the next 15 years.

To preserve American farmland and ensure the future of our food supply, it is critical that young people consider careers in agriculture.

Is farming for you?

This Colloquium will feature:

A panel of young farmers:

Ben & Lindsey Shute
Pistil & Hearty Roots Farms, CSA

Seth McEachron & Yvonne Steiert
Battenkill Valley Creamery

Clemens MacKay
Solstice Hill Farm,
CSA & Farmers’ Market

Screening of ‘The Greenhorns’

Documentary film about young farmers produced by Severine von Tscharner Fleming of the Greenhorns nonprofit and the National Young Farmers’ Coalition

Discussion and Q & A Session

Thursday November 17th, 2011
6:30 - 9:00 pm
D’Ambra Auditorium    Life Sciences Building    University at Albany, SUNY
Do You Know Where Your Food Comes From?

Open Forum on Campus Food & Dining Services

Do you have suggestions for healthy alternatives?

Join the School of Social Welfare, the Office of Environmental Sustainability, and University Auxiliary Services for an open forum on where our food comes from, how it is made, and what we can do to be more sustainable.

Thursday, November 3rd from 12-1 PM in Husted 114
Get involved in sustainability

There are three main ways people can become actively involved in the efforts here:

**Students** can join the Sustainability Council. This meets every Friday at 3 pm, usually in University Hall room 306.

**Faculty and staff** can join the Sustainability Coordinators program. This meets on the first Tuesday of each month during the academic year, in University Hall room 306.

**Faculty** can take part in our special forums and join the THINKGREEN listserv.

If you are interested in any of these, email our office at gogreen@albany.edu

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

~ Margaret Mead