

Penobscot Job Corps Academy

Our Mission

We exist to serve the greater community by providing young people a safe and healthy environment to live, grow, and become productive citizens.

Through individualized training, quality staffing, and innovative programming, our students gain knowledge, employability skills, and confidence to enter the work force.

Opportunities are created and barriers overcome in a Core Values driven culture where Commitment, Integrity, Safety, Growth, Accountability and Respect are the ideals.

FALL 2010

VOL 5, NO. 1



Penobscot Job Corps Culinary Arts students volunteered once again at this summer's Senior Little League World Series in Bangor — preparing and serving some 2,500 player meals. (Story and more photos can be found on pages 4.)

**DRIVEN
BY OUR
CORE
VALUES
FOR
SUCCESS**

Individual
Accountability

Growth

Safety

Commitment

Integrity

Respect

*The Penobscot Job
Corps Academy is
proudly operated by:*

Career Systems
Development
Corp for the U.S.
Department of
Labor



A recipe for success

Students 'rise' to the challenge in new Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts class

Students are "rising" to the challenge in the Penobscot Job Corps Academy's new Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts program as they prepare for careers in this specialized field of Culinary Arts.

The advanced trade, open to Culinary Arts graduates from the 20 centers in Job Corps Region I, got underway in July with Chef Eric Duplisea overseeing the program. Chef brings his love of

baking to his 10 students now learning in the Academy's new classroom kitchen.

"I love doing this stuff, it's a real passion of mine,"

continued on page 2



PJCA students work in the Academy's new Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts kitchen (story/more photos can be found on pages 2-3).



Interim Director Dr. Tracey Cooley

Dr. Cooley named PJCA Interim Academy Director

Dr. Tracey Cooley has been named Interim Director of the Penobscot Job Corps Academy. She replaces Chris Kuhn, who left in September after four years to become Director of the Oneonta Job Corps Academy in New York State.

Dr. Cooley, a former PJCA Administrator, returns to the Academy to oversee the transition

continued on pages 3



PJCA Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts student, Michael Carlton, takes a tray of fresh-made cream puffs out of the oven. Michael says he loves the program because “it offers students more of a scientific approach to baking.”

“There are a lot of institutional shortcuts being used in this business today. But in this program, most everything is made from scratch. You have to enjoy using your hands and working with raw ingredients.”

PJCA Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts instructor, Chef Eric Duplisea, works with a student on her dough preparation techniques. “Baking is a real passion of mine and I love sharing that passion with my students,” Chef Duplisea says. The new advanced trade program got underway at the Academy in July.



... PJCA Advanced

- continued from page 1

Chef Duplisea says, “And our students have that same passion. They are Job Corps’ top Culinary Arts graduates who come to me highly recommended by their instructors.”

In the program, students are exploring new career opportunities as they learn more advanced culinary techniques and preparations such as cookie and pie doughs, sponge cakes, hearth breads, flat breads and chocolate desserts. They study a variety of baking processes as they learn how to prepare standard bakery products such as cookies, muffins, basic yeast doughs, mixes and bases and seasonal baking. They also learn advanced baking as they create French pastry: petit fours, meringues and pate a choux as well as Danish pastry, croissants, brioche and wedding cakes.

The program also offers completers professional certifications by the American Culinary Federation and prepares students for the Junior Culinary Pastry Chef exam.

“One of the benefits of Job Corps is we offer a full scale training program,” Chef Duplisea explains. “What do I mean by this? In this microwave generation, the art of baking and pastry is getting dummed down so almost anyone can make a pastry. People are using a lot of institution shortcuts out there. But there are no shortcuts here. In our program, most everything is made from scratch. You have to enjoy working with your hands and using the raw ingredients. This means students will leave us for jobs with a whole scope of knowledge in the industry so they can excel no matter where they work.”

One of those students is 19-year-old Elizabeth Schwartz, who enrolled in advanced baking from the Pittsburgh Job Corps Academy. Her love of baking developed early in life in her great grandmother’s kitchen. Pies are her specialty. When she completes Job Corps’ advanced baking she hopes to further her training in a college apprenticeship program.

Baking/Pastry Arts

"I love this program and it's free," Elizabeth says. "Otherwise, I'd be like \$100,000 in student loan debt right now. After all, it's not where you learn it's what you learn and we learn so much here."

Her classmate, 22-year-old Michael Carlton, couldn't agree more. Michael transferred to PJCA from the New Haven Job Corps in Connecticut. His specialty is preparing and baking "sweet doughs" such as muffins, baguettes and eclairs.

"I really like this program because it offers students more of a scientific approach to baking," says Michael, who sees himself working in a test kitchen some day. "We learn how precise you have to be for baking to truly work. Temperatures have to be right and the (ingredient) amounts have to be dead on or else you will have a disaster on your hands." ■



Students learn quickly in the Advanced Baking and Pastry Arts program that everything is made from scratch including the pastry dough, which is carefully rolled out by hand.

Community Connections

Academy partners with community on fall programs

The Penobscot Job Corps Academy is partnering with the community this fall to offer a variety of support programs on and off campus. Take a look ...

- Some 20 leaders from the local community will be campus in September to assist the Penobscot Job Corps in conducting a student speeding interviewing program. The guests will serve as employers conducting mock interviews with students as they hone their job readiness skills. The students will travel from table to table spending three minutes with each employer. At the end of the session, the community volunteers will critique the students and offer suggestions for improvement. The program will conclude with a barbecue and a "dress for success" fashion show.

- The Academy will host a team from the Penquis Teen Service program of Bangor in September to give them a firsthand look at what Job Corps has to offer in making student referrals.

- PJCA students and staff volunteered at a September yard sale at the Brewer Eagles Club to help raise money to construct a new food pantry for the Neighbors Supporting Neighbors organization in Hermon.

- PJCA students and staff volunteered in September to help out at the third annual Bangor Car Show: Wheels on the Waterfront sponsored by the Great Bangor Convention and Visitors Bureau.

- The Penobscot Job Corps is hosting in October a regional staff/board meeting of the Jobs for Maine Grads (JMG) program. Nearly 30 JMG specialists will be attending. JMG is a not-for-profit organization that works with Maine high school students who face barrier to education. Like Job Corps, JMG helps guide these teens on a path toward education, a meaningful career and a productive adulthood. ■

... Interim Director

- continued from page 1

in administration. Most recently, she has worked for the Academy's corporate operator, Career Systems Development Corp (CSD) of Rochester, where she is Director of CTT and Academic Programs for the Eastern Region and in charge of corporate oversight of the PJCA and Loring Job Corps Academy, also in Maine.

In her short time as Interim Director, Dr. Cooley says her goals are to oversee a smooth transition in leadership and to ensure PJCA continues to operate as a high performing center. ■



An 'all star' performance

PJCA students volunteer at Senior Little League World Series in Bangor

In what has become a summer tradition as true as the baseball season itself, Penobscot Job Corps volunteers once again put on an “all star” performance at this year’s annual Senior Little League World Series.

Volunteers are what make this event run since Bangor began hosting the competition at Mansfield Stadium in 2001, and Job Corps students are always eager to step up to the plate in that role.

During the eight days of festivities in August, Culinary Arts students prepared lunch and dinner — some 2,500 meals in all — for the teams from America and around the world with many of the foods native to the players’ countries. They also cooked and worked at the concession stands. This year players represented Italy, Aruba, Saipan, Alberta, Canada and the United States. Aruba won the event.

This is the Academy’s largest off-campus project of the year, with about 100 Job Corps volunteers logging 3,000-5,000 hours of community service at this event.

Those Job Corps volunteers also included students from the Facility Maintenance program, who cleaned the stadium after the games. ■

The Academy’s largest off campus project of the year is volunteering at the Senior Little League World Series in Bangor.



*PJCA Community Relations Council Chair
Amy Kenney*

Kenney new head of PJCA Community Relations Council

Amy Kenney, Director of Marketing and Public Relations for OTT Communications in Bangor, is the new chairwoman of the Penobscot Job Corps Academy's Community Relations Council (CRC).

The role of the CRC, made up of business and community leaders, is to promote Job Corps in the local area for further student training opportunities, job placements and volunteer initiatives.

OTT Communications develops and implements voice and data communications solutions for business. A resident of Hampden, Kenney serves on the Board of Directors of the American Folk Festival, the Eastern Maine Community College Advisory Board, Fusion Bangor and the Tri-City Work Force.

She accepted her new CRC role to help the students. "These young adults work hard and want a hand up, not a hand out," said Kenney, who hopes to bring new ideas and industry knowledge to the council. "Community leaders and businesses can, do and should benefit from what goes on here." ■

Reaching an important milestone

Academy donates 1,000th pint of blood to American Red Cross Pinetree Chapter

"Giving the Gift of Life" took on new meaning at the Penobscot Job Corps this summer as the Academy reached an important milestone.

Students and staff donated their 1,000th pint of blood to the Pinetree chapter of the American Red Cross during a campus blood drive in August. The Academy has held a quarterly bloodmobile on the Job Corps campus for the past three years.

Two local businesses teamed up to help celebrate the accomplishment. Bangor Cinemas and Texas Roadhouse Restaurant offered every donor a chance to win dinner and a movie for four.

The milestone was especially gratifying that it was reached over the summer months, said Victoria Coffey, PJCA Business & Community Liaison, because that's the time when blood supplies are critically low with many regular donors on vacation and out of town.

"Our staff and students understand the importance of donating to the Red Cross," Coffey said. "A half hour out of their day can save up to three lives."



The Red Cross appreciates the effort as last fall, the Academy was named the first recipient of the "Extra Mile" Real Hero Award for providing "extraordinary" volunteer services to the people of Maine.

Trudy Darling, Red Cross Account Executive for Marketing & Media, nominated the Penobscot Academy for the award.

"If we did not have programs in our community like Job Corps there would be a lot less good will going on," Darling said. "You offer students that once in a life time opportunity and guidance to be productive, professional, and responsible adults. I have seen so many student volunteers come through the Red Cross that you know are going to make a real difference in the world." ■

"If we did not have programs in our community like Job Corps there would be a lot less good will going on."

**Our Core Values
for success ...**

The Penobscot Job Corps and its operating company — Career Systems Development, Inc. (CSD) — embrace a system of Core Values defining who they are as an organization and what they expect from each other.

Individual Accountability

- Responsible for our own actions
- Provide timely, responsible feedback
- Follow through with commitments
- View obstacles as opportunities
- Be proactive & have fun

Growth

- Learn to let go
- Embrace change
- Celebrate success
- Continuous learning
- Promote innovation

Safety

- Physical and emotional safety are the top priority
- Responsible communication will be protected
- Maintain a Drug Free Zone

Commitment

- Model Core Values
- Exceed client expectations

Integrity

- Be trustworthy & honest

Respect

- Listen for meaning
- Be approachable
- Value each person
- Challenge assumptions
- Open, clear & honest communication
- Express appreciation for work well done



PJCA Facilities Maintenance students like Ambassador Zackery Terrio (working above) use their career skills from the Home Builders Institute classroom to construct a two-bay garage at the Academy to house the new electric maintenance vehicles.

Academy goes green with three electric maintenance vehicles

The Penobscot Job Corps Academy is continuing to put the wheels in motion to launch new and innovative “Go Green” initiatives on campus.

Over the summer, the Academy replaced some of its gasoline-powered maintenance fleet with three new electric-powered vehicles.

Two new electric trucks are now being used on campus as well as a new four-wheel-drive Gator. The Gator, among other things, is used to mow the Academy lawns and plow the snow this winter.



PJCA Facilities Maintenance Ambassador Zackery Terrio, with the new electric Gator vehicle use to mow the lawns and plow the snow.

The new additions are just a small part of a yearlong campus-wide initiative aimed at helping to save the environment. The Academy’s motto (in this order) is to Reduce, Re-Use and Recycle.

Job Corps students and their Go Green Club have been the driving force behind an energy conservation, management and recycling program to preserve the world’s natural resources and save the center money.

Coinciding with that effort last spring, as part of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, PJCA held a week-long campaign in April encouraging students and staff to adopt green practices for a lifetime. Earth Day Every Day — an initiative by the National Office of Job Corps — included a variety of events and activities aimed at making the world a better place to live. ■



Facilities Maintenance student Jason Gabriel

“I’m a hands-on kind of person. I don’t learn very well through books — I learn by doing it. That’s what Job Corps is all about. The teachers take the time to show you how ... that’s how you improve.”

Jobs Corps program worth the wait for PJCA Facilities Maintenance student Jason Gabriel of New Hampshire

Jason Gabriel had big plans for his future after high school. But first, “Why not take a year off?” he thought.

Problem was — one year led to two years and two years led to three years and so on ... Before Jason knew it, he was 22 years old and didn’t know where the time went.

“I always planned on doing something great but I guess I never got around to it,” he says.

Living in Nashua, New Hampshire, Jason bounced around from odd job to odd job, paycheck to paycheck. Then one day he found himself unemployed.

“My family was pressuring me to do something, but what?” he says. “College was too expensive and out of the question. I thought I was out of options. Then I heard about Job Corps.”

Jason enrolled in the Facilities Maintenance program offered through the Home Builders Institute (HBI) last May. It was the best decision he ever made.

“It’s a great program,” he says. “I’m a hands-on kind of person. I don’t learn very well through books — I learn by doing it. That’s what Job Corps is all about. The teachers take the time to show you how — they watch you and they critique your work. If it’s not right, they show you how to do it right. That’s the only way you improve yourself.”

Being an older student when he arrived on campus, following the rules was a little bit of a struggle for Jason at first. For students who don’t follow the rules, they face the Academy’s Behavior Review Board. Once on the wrong side of that board, today, Jason is a student representative on the right side of the board — helping to advise troubled student on how to straighten out.

“I tell them my story and that’s all they need to hear,” he says. “If I could turn myself around and find success here, so can they. I think it sinks in when they hear it from a peer.”

Since then, Jason has been a model student, volunteering to help others whenever he can. He has also logged many hours of community service and planned and organized a campus cleanup last spring.

When he completes the Job Corps program Jason would like a job in his trade and eventually manage his own Facilities Maintenance company — having others work for him.

As for Job Corps, Jason says the program has taught him great skills for his future. “The No. 1 benefit is a better life,” he says. “And the services they offer you here are free and second to none. They train you then help you find a good job. What more could you ask for?” ■

Celebrating
Success

Penobscot Academy congratulates our Summer, 2010 program and GED completers

Penobscot Job Corps is pleased to announce the following student successes for Summer, 2010:

Grant, Maynard Aiken, Tyler Hourigan, Sumner Sewall, Brad Bryan, Chris Burnett, Marcus Gaymon, Bruce Romano, Kyle Crafts, Joshua Spears, Stephanie Taylor and Tyson Velez.

GED Completers

Elizabeth Whitney, Matt D'Angelo, James Robbins, Robyn Bouthiette, Skye Muchmore, Rebecca Brown, Caitlin Bradeen, Shandra Velazquez, Nicole Mitchell, Anthony Pierce, Brad Bryan and Jimakea-Jean Woodard.

Medical Office

Cayen Haycock.

Accepted to EMCC

Cayen Haycock.

Certified Nursing Assistant

Waleska Otero, Olivia Owens, Amanda Paradis, Ryan Simoneau, Stephen Liles, David Kampfman, Kaitlyn Keen, Dawn Philipponne, Kirsti Drexel-Spencer, Ashley Robinson, Breanna Roy, Chelsea Cherniske, Alisha Hunt, Jacob Page, Devon Colby, Tasha Ouellet, Kristina Plourd, Anthony Pierce, Ashley Pendexter, Shajana McClain and Jacob Sadosky.

Home Builders Institute

Tracia Clark and Briant Hunt.

Culinary Arts

Joseph Lewis, Andrews Rollins, Steven Libby, Kyle Billings, Kim Weston, Kirstie Pike, Sean Dunton and Crystal Wilson.

Facilities Maintenance

George Christie, Scott Morgan, Charles



PJCA students experience college life

Nine Penobscot Job Corps students had an opportunity over the summer to experience college life at the University of Maine at Orono. They had lunch on campus, heard presentations from UMO staff and toured the grounds and facilities including the lecture halls, classrooms, dorms and gym. The experience is part of PJCA's "Getting Your Act Together" campaign which encourages trade completers to continue their education in college or Job Corps Advanced Training programs so they can better compete in today's competitive job market.

Interim Director

Dr. Tracey Cooley

Business & Community Liaison

Victoria Coffey

Editor

John K. Noetzel

Academy Phone

(207) 990-3000

Job Corps is a U.S. Department of Labor Equal Opportunity Employer Program.



Penobscot Job Corps Academy

1375 Union Street, Bangor, Maine 04401

How do I find out more about the Penobscot Job Corps?

Our beautiful campus is located at 1375 Union Street, Bangor, Maine. Campus tours are given every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and any time by appointment. Our staff is eager to meet you and help you on your way to a successful future. So why not call now?

Call (207) 990-3000 today!