

# Rome Campus Newsletter

## Fall 2017 Semester

### ROOTED IN ROME



To celebrate the opportunities and assets of the City of Rome, Mohawk Valley Community College Rome Campus showcased community programs in a public open house called Rooted in Rome. This event was offered together with the City of Rome, MVCC Rome Campus, Rome City School District, Rome Memorial Hospital, Mohawk Valley Community College, and Griffiss Business and Technology Park.

The free open house was hosted on October 18 and ran from 4-

7pm in the spacious Plumley Complex Atrium. Rooted in Rome included a job fair, Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) demonstrations, culinary arts presentations and free food, beverage samples, art displays, music performances, interactive presentations, and more! MVCC contributed to the event with an Airframe & Powerplant display, UAS and culinary art demonstrations, and appetizers from the Hospitality Program.

This event placed many of the City of Rome's greatest assets in the spotlight in a community effort to encourage people to move to Rome.



### IDOOLocal MVCC ADVENTURE

On September 16, MVCC Rome Campus hosted an Idoolocal event to highlight some of the College's programs. Idoolocal plans excursions to local eateries, cultural venues, and events with behind-the-scenes experiences that are not normally offered. Each Idoolocal experience is a series of trips to public food and entertainment places. Location details for the events are not revealed to the adventurers beforehand. Instead, clues are sent to each attendee's smartphone to unlock the location of the next experience.

The event started at the MVCC Aviation Center with a special backstage view of private planes. Attendees then made the short trip to the MVCC Rome Campus to fly Unmanned Aerial Systems and work with the Hospitality Program in the high-tech kitchen area to make a dessert.

Tickets were limited to 20 people, and attendees left glowing comments about the Idoolocal adventure and MVCC technology and programs.

## CARLETTA JOINS MVCC AS EVENTS AND GUEST SERVICES ASSOCIATE

Aubrey Carletta, formerly a part-time Student Engagement Assistant within the Student Services Office, has taken on a new part-time position as Events and Guest Services Associate. Her responsibilities include assisting in the creative development, coordinating Cultural Series, and coordinating events organized by the President's Office and/or events that include high-profile guests.

This semester's Cultural Series events have been selling out on the Rome Campus, and recently included magician events, movies, digital art, painting, a comedian, documentaries, and more!

## ROME CAMPUS FALL THEMED POTLUCK

The Rome Campus hosted a fall-themed potluck for faculty and staff on October 31st. The potluck ran from 11am-2pm as an open-house style to accommodate many work schedules.

Over 20 dishes were created and enjoyed. The potluck included a contest (determined by popular vote) for the best apple, pumpkin, or squash dish. The luncheon was very well attended and everyone had fun getting to know their coworkers better.



## MVCC OFFICIALS CUT RIBBON ON SOLAR PROJECT



Renewable Energy Company GroSolar recently led officials in a ribbon-cutting to commemorate the completion of the Mohawk Valley Community College Solar project for the Rome Campus. GroSolar officials welcomed project stakeholders and community members to celebrate the conclusion of construction.

“We are excited about this new venture that is good for our environment and will benefit our students,” MVCC President VanWagoner said.

The MVCC Solar Project partnered with the Rome Industries Development Corporation and is another application of a net-metered project supported by a grant from New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. Electricity generated by the project will directly offset MVCC electricity costs. The project is expected to generate enough electricity to power nearly 300 homes and offset more than 2,500 metric tons of carbon dioxide produced by more traditional energy generation sources.

GroSolar is a commercial and utility-scale solar engineering, procurement, and construction firm with projects including design and applications atop brownfields/landfills, commercial, educational, municipal facilities, and manufacturing plants. GroSolar has built more than 2,000 solar projects.



## STUDENT SUPPORT

Below are highlighted some of many student support events Rome Student Activities hosted this fall.

**CAREER AND COLLEGE WORKSHOPS** – Mohawk Valley Community College’s Student Services helps students prepare for career and college success! This semester Career Services hosted weekly workshops from 11:00am-12:00pm alternating career and college programs. Workshop topics included résumés, college searches, college applications, transfer, interviews, and more!

**JAVA JIVE** – Every Tuesday, Rome Student Services provides coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and donuts to students in a fellowship time called Java Jive. The coffee time is open for several hours during the morning to allow students to attend between their classes.



Java Jive is an excellent opportunity to encourage students to visit Student Services and connect with staff and faculty in a friendly, casual setting. During conversations, students sometimes give staff a glimpse into their college goals, such as transfer, which allows Student Services to provide resources and advice aligning with their goals.

Each week, Java Jive has a new theme to inform and engage students about campus programs. Themes have included iServe Mohawk Valley with a presentation about the program and volunteer opportunities, Hawks Against Hate with information about Title IX and ways to get involved, American Red Cross Blood Drive promotion and sign-up details, transfer services with guidance booklets and opportunities to meet with transfer staff. Approximately 40 students each week participate.

**SUBS & CLUBS** – On September 25, Rome Student Activities sponsored an involvement-fair event with free subs and an atrium full of information tables staffed by representatives of student clubs & organizations. This event raised awareness about clubs and opportunities to strengthen the connection between the college and student population.

**COFFEE WITH THE DEAN** – On October 5<sup>th</sup>, Rome Student Activities (RSA) members had the opportunity to meet MVCC Rome Campus Dean Franca Armstrong. Over coffee, the students discussed future events and activities for RSA with Dean Armstrong.

## FRESH FOODS PROGRAM BREAKS ITS DISTRIBUTION RECORD

For the months of September and October, over 500 individuals received fresh produce, dairy, and baked items for free through iServe Mohawk Valley’s Fresh Foods program on the MVCC Rome Campus. This translates to over 5,000 meals to community members in need and breaks iServe Mohawk Valley’s Fresh Foods distribution record.

Fresh Foods is open to the public (no qualifiers required) and is held the first Friday of each month at 3:30pm. For more information, contact Kelly Fleming at (315) 334-7752 or [kfleming@mvcc.edu](mailto:kfleming@mvcc.edu).



## HOSPITALITY FALL LUNCHEON SERIES

This fall semester, the college's Hospitality Program hosted a series of 6 luncheons in the new Dining and Community Hall on the Rome Campus.

The meals were open to the public and achieved multiple purposes including: Raised awareness to the community about the Hospitality Program, gave students practice preparing and serving gourmet luncheons, and showcased the talent of Hospitality students.

The Culinary Arts, Dining Room Service, and Baking class created the meals with the guidance of Hospitality staff. Students gained hands-on experience planning menus, cooking a variety of dishes, presenting the food in an appealing way, and serving attendees.

Reservations were booked far in advance for each luncheon.



## DAMARIS PHILLIPS TOURED ROME CAMPUS KITCHENS



In a meet-and-greet event, Food Network celebrity chef Damaris Phillips toured the newly renovated Mohawk Valley Community College Rome Campus kitchen area.

Phillips signed autographs, took photos with fans on campus, and spent time with Hospitality faculty and students. Hospitality students had the chance to interact with the famous chef and ask her questions.



Phillips was very impressed with the cutting-edge facilities and equipment of the kitchen and food lab. During her time at MVCC, Phillips also conducted a food demonstration on the Utica Campus.

## ROME CAMPUS RAISED AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND BREAST CANCER

During the Domestic Violence Awareness and Breast Cancer Awareness month of October, the Rome Campus showed support with a fundraiser table in the atrium, purple decorations in the shape of a ribbon on the lawn to represent domestic violence, and the MVCC sign was lit up at nights in pink and purple.



The fundraiser table was a Team MVCC and Healthy Lifestyle Committee effort and sold pink and purple carnations, chocolate covered pretzels, ribbons, and wristbands. Proceeds supported the YWCA for Domestic Violence Awareness, and the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Student Advisor and Engagement Specialist Dan Eddy was featured in an interview with WKTV as a volunteer during the fundraiser.

