Getting to Know Our Snow Experts

It's awesome to receive from one of our employees a request to “run an article on the hard working employees at the Dartmouth Skiway.” Recognizing and appreciating our own is the highest form of praise!

The Dartmouth Skiway is an absolute treasure whose mission is “to be the heart and soul of skiing for Dartmouth College and the Upper Valley community.” While guests enjoy interacting with Skiway employees who create a fun and friendly atmosphere, they don’t often get to know the employees who do the heavy lifting – handling the snowmaking equipment and grooming the slopes to perfection.

According to Skiway Director Mark Adamczyk, there are 10 employees who, when weather allows, keep the system running 24 hours a day. In teams of three, these employees work 12-hour shifts from 6 to 6, walking and driving up and down the slopes in temperatures ranging this season from -22 to 28 degrees Fahrenheit. With shifting winds, changing temperatures, and uncertain snowfall, the weather makes this job particularly challenging. From the photos opposite, you can get a sense of their views of snow-blinding darkness to early-morning sunrises.

“Snowmaking started one month earlier than usual this year,” Mark wrote, “to attempt to provide the NCAA ski team with early training. [While] the weather didn’t quite cooperate, the early start gave us an advantage with the warmer winter.” Thus far “the snowmaking team has pushed over 33 million gallons of water through the system this winter, “which keeps the Skiway on pace to be open two more days than last season.” That’s impressive, given the sub-par winter weather we’ve had.

HUGE thanks and congratulations on a great season to Gerren Goodwin, Ivan Stanhope, Marcello Shelzi, Scott Swart, Tom Leonard, Ed Tessman, John Boyle, Mike Grover, Clay Dawson, and Eli Russ.

NOTE: The Skiway announced this week the first ever Spring Pass Sale from March 1-10. Purchase next season’s pass at this year’s Early Bird Rate and use it for the end of this season, too. Passholders receive 25% off in the Retail Shop through the end of the season. What great deals!

In late 2022, 228 employees participated in the 2nd annual Campus Services DEI survey whose results will be used to identify how we’ve improved our work culture and where to continue focusing our efforts. Are you curious about the survey results? Great—we are too!

At the March 7 Town Hall, Deo Mwano will share summarized results and major survey themes, we’ll discuss the topics/questions you’ve raised, make several announcements, and celebrate Employee Appreciation Day with ice cream sundaes! It’ll be fun to be together, so please join us from 2-3:30 p.m. or 10-11:30 p.m. at Murdough’s Cook Auditorium.

To wrap up our celebration of Black History month, we hope the following quote resonates with you.

“An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.”

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

What’s New

The Central Stores Stockroom has relocated to 56 Etna Road, room 102. The building is a bit of a maze and is occupied by multiple businesses, so Stockroom staff request that visitors press the call button when they arrive. The call button is located next to the loading dock door and will directly connect you to Dana Kennedy or Mike Lessard. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Dartmouth Printing and Mailing Services has moved to 100 Whaleback Mountain Road in Enfield, NH. Customers won’t see any changes in service and they hope to have an Open House this summer. Stay tuned for details.