



dateline: UVI

The monthly newsletter of The University of the Virgin Islands

February 28, 2006, vol xii, number 2

'You are Appreciated' UVI Tells Physical Plant & Security Staff

When newly appointed St. Croix Campus Executive Administrator Dr. Monique Guillory met with the St. Croix campus Physical Plant and Security employees she expected to hear their concerns about UVI, instead they were more concerned about her – asking if she and her family in Louisiana weathered Hurricane

Katrina OK. It is that spirit of caring and selflessness, and countless hours of hard work that were rewarded on Feb. 8 when UVI honored its Physical Plant and Security employees. A total of 96 men and women on the St. Croix and St. Thomas campuses were acknowledged at the Recognition Day Ceremony which was videoconferenced between the two campuses.

"I've seen many campuses across the Caribbean and the United States, but there is none, none, like the St. Croix campus and the St. Thomas campus," said Vincent Samuel, vice president for Finance and Administration and a long-time UVI



Dina Ryan, right, a custodian in the Physical Plant on the St. Thomas campus poses with her daughter Clara at the Security and Physical Plant Recognition Day Ceremony. Physical Plant and Security employees stand to be recognized.



employee. In a speech peppered with humor and anecdotes, Samuel spoke of the employees' integrity.

"They're such dedicated employees . . . and such good people," he said. "There's nobody that can appreciate you all more than I do. As I walk around campus I just admire you."

In her short time at UVI, Dr. Guillory realizes just how much everyone depends on the Physical Plant and Security staff when organizers attempted to plan and set up for the ceremony, and the luncheons that followed, without calling on any of the Physical Plant and Security employees for assistance. That proved to be tough.

"We realized how much we depend on you," Dr. Guillory said. "We do call on you and rely on you much more than we realize each day." At luncheons following the ceremony the Physical Plant and Security employees were given certificates of appreciation.

Enjoy a Fun Mix on the Green Sunday

It's going to have food. It's going to be fun. And you should be there. The 17th Annual Afternoon on the Green will be held from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, on the UVI St. Thomas campus golf course. This year's theme is "Food, Fun – an Educational Mix – On the Green for 2006."

Afternoon on the Green Committee Chairwoman Gail Steele urges the entire community to attend the event. "It is an opportunity to enjoy great food and listen to wonderful local music," she said. Entertainment will be provided by the Superior Court Rising Stars Steel Orchestra.

"Most cooks, whether novices or professionals, love people to enjoy their cooking. Green gives people the opportunity to present their favorite dishes, and for the public to enjoy the cooking of our island's finest chefs," Steele said.

Green continued on next page

Events Calendar

March 1	Child Protection Act Forum	STT/STX
March 3	Lecture by DA Prime Minister	STX
March 3	Class of 2006 Meeting	STT
March 4	Youth Leadership Forum	STX
March 5	Afternoon on the Green	STT
March 7-10	Student Spring Recess	STT/STX
March 7	Spring Break Get-Away	STT
March 12-18	Charter Week	STT/STX
March 14	Randall Robinson Lecture	STT/STX
March 16	Childhood Obesity Conference	STT
March 16,17	CLEP Exam	STX
March 17	MBA Comprehensive Exam	STT/STX
March 23	CLEP Exam	STT
March 25	Glen Washington at Reichhold	STT

St. Croix Hosts Largest Ag Fair in the Region

Never mind the back breaking work, lack of sufficient water, and other hardships that farmers in the territory face – agriculture was on grand display during President's Day weekend at the 35th Annual Agriculture and Food fair held on St. Croix. This year the fair, which usually spans three days, was held for four days. And if that wasn't enough, the opening day ended with a spectacular 15 minute fireworks display over the fair grounds.

"This fair is the largest in the Caribbean," said V.I. Tourism Commissioner Pamela Richards, who was delighted with this year's theme "Agriculture and Tourism: A Perfect Mix in 2006."

"Agriculture acts as a catalyst for other things, including tourism," Richards said at the opening ceremony, listing agriculture-based initiatives that would attract visitors. Those included living history farms. Customers are willing to pay more money for unique products and experiences, Richards said.

While welcoming the expected 50,000 guests



Top: Shopkeepers cut, package and weigh cheese in the Old Time Shop at the 35th Annual Agriculture and Food Fair. Bottom: Senepol cattle from UVI's Agriculture Experiment Station.



to the fair, Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Lawrence Lewis used his time to advocate on the behalf of agriculture.

"Many of our farmers seem to be getting older and older," he said, adding that recruiting young farmers is difficult. Dr. Lewis challenged current and potential politicians to step up their support for agriculture on several fronts:

"First of all, to buy additional land for agricultural purposes." He also called for more money and better infrastructure for agriculture.

While the business of agriculture is serious, the opening ceremony took a competitive turn as presenter after presenter made bets on who would win the St. Thomas versus St. Croix Vienna Cake Contest. In the contest held later during the fair, the St. Croix competitors made a sweep, taking first, second and third places.

The most coveted awards, farmers of the year, were awarded as follows: Crop Farmer of the Year – Oswald Jackson and Livestock Farmers of the Year – Dale and Yvette Browne.

Green Continued

All food will be categorized as either main dishes, breads, soups, side dishes, seafood, native drinks or desserts. All of the dishes are offered for sampling at \$2 a taste.

While the event is mainly food driven, there will also be display tables from UVI's academic divisions along with representatives from UVI's recruitment office who will accept student applications on site. There will also be an array of children's activities, including a special attraction by Kids Entertainment Company.

Food is the key for Afternoon on the Green and more cooks are needed. To donate a dish call the UVI Institutional Advancement Office at 693-1040 and contribute your family's favorite dish.

dateline:UVI is a production of the UVI Public Relations Office. Contact us by telephone at (340) 693-1056
FAX: (340) 693-1055

dateline:UVI

**2 John Brewer's Bay
St. Thomas, VI 00802**