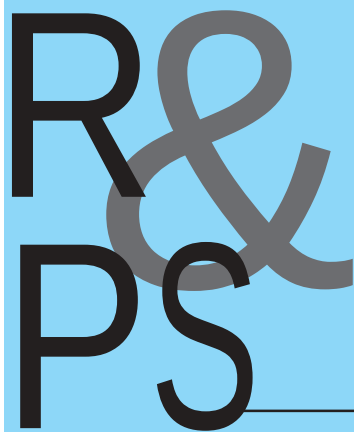




RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Volume 7, No. 2

News from the UVI Research and Public Service Component

JUNE 2004

THE ECC COMPLETES STUDY ON VI YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS

The University of the Virgin Islands' Eastern Caribbean Center has released the findings from A Study of Juvenile Offenders in St. Thomas and St. Croix, USVI. The study, which was conducted by support of a \$120,000 grant from the Law Enforcement Planning Commission (LEPC), collected and examined data on youthful offenders who had passed through the Virgin Islands juvenile correctional unit and the Department of Human Services from 1987 to 1997.

The data items collected and examined in the study included demographic attributes of juveniles such as age, race, gender, education, school enrollment, place of birth, and employment. The psychological assessment of the juveniles, the number of children living in the household, characteristics of the parents of juveniles (age, place of birth, employment, and marital status) were also considered. Finally, the study explored several characteristics of delinquent activities such as the number of offenses committed, type of offenses committed, outcome or disposition of the offense, and, when applicable, the type of weapon used and duration between first and second offense.

Table 1. Presence of Risk Indicators - St Croix

	Total	Yes		No	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Felt like a failure or worthless	448	163	36.4	285	63.6
Had trouble controlling anger	498	313	62.9	185	37.1
Had frequent arguments & fights	495	291	58.8	204	41.2
Ever been suspended from school	460	306	66.5	154	33.5
Ever been expelled from school	465	23	4.9	442	95.1
Used drugs or alcohol	415	199	48.0	216	52.0
Getting hurt (physically abused)	347	100	28.8	247	71.2

Examination of the data on youthful offenders who passed through the St. Croix Youth Investigation Bureau indicated that just over 70 percent of the youthful offenders were male and 80 percent were born in the Virgin Islands. The data also suggested that 96 percent of the juveniles were enrolled in school at the time of their first offense. The majority of the youthful offenders (79 percent) lived with their mother only. Further, examination of the St. Croix Department of Human Services youthful offender cases indicated that nearly 30 percent of the juveniles had reported being physically abused (Table 1). Approximately 50 percent of the youth reported they had used

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UVI LEADS THE WORLD IN EVALUATION OF GENETICALLY ENHANCED CASSAVA



The UVI-AES-Biotechnology & Agroforestry program has been conducting research to improve the starch quality of the fleshy storage roots of cassava (*Manihot esculentum*), also known as yucca, tapioca or manioc. Through collaboration with two European entities, AVEBE, a farmer's cooperative based in the Netherlands, and Wageningen University of the Netherlands, genetically enhanced cassava has been developed and is being field grown at UVI. This is the first time that genetically engineered cassava has been grown under field conditions.

Prominent cassava researchers Drs. Nick DeVetten (AVEBE) and Krit Raemakers (Wageningen University), who are also collaborators on the project, visited UVI-AES in February 2004 to view the field trial of genetically engineered cassava being grown by Dr. Tom Zimmerman, Biotechnology & Agroforestry Program Leader. They also presented seminars to the campus community on the tissue culture and development of transgenic cassava (Dr. Krit Raemakers) and starch modification in potato (Dr. DeVetten).

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From left, Drs. Zimmerman, Raemakers and DeVetten evaluating the 22 pounds of cassava roots from a year-old plant

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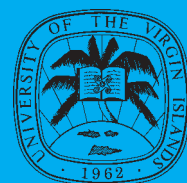
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THE CARIBBEAN WRITER RECEIVES ANOTHER PUSHCART HONORABLE MENTION

HONOR GIVEN TO STORY IN VOLUME 16

The Caribbean Writer, an annual literary anthology published by the University of the Virgin Islands, has received another honorable mention from the Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses. Indeed prestigious, this honor was given to the story "Cadillacs and Thunderbirds" by Melissa Lugo, which appeared in Volume 16.

Each year, the editor of *The Caribbean Writer* nominates six poems or short stories from the current issue of its anthology for The Pushcart Prize. A board of established editors and writers based in New York selects those works they think are most worthy to be included in the annual Pushcart anthology. Additionally, several pieces are chosen for honorable mention in the publication.

The Pushcart Prize is the most praised literary series in America. The volume has been named a Notable Book of the Year by the *New York Times Book Review* and has been picked for several Book-of-the Month Club selections. It has been called "the single best measure of the state of affairs in American literature today" by the *New York Times Book Review*. It should be noted that about 5,000 nominations are received each year from various high-powered publications across America.

Melissa Lugo is a Harvard graduate currently teaching at Manhattan College. She is also the editor of *Inkwell Magazine*, and her work has appeared in several anthologies.

The Caribbean Writer has received two Pushcart Prizes and an honorable mention in the past. The Pushcart Prizes were received in 1994 and 2001, respectively and the first honorable mention was received in 1996. For more information on *The Caribbean Writer* please visit its website at www.TheCaribbeanWriter.com.



CES: "FROM GARDEN TO TABLE" SCHOOL PROJECT

The University of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service (UVI-CES) in collaboration with the V.I. Department of Education received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to implement a school-based program entitled "From Garden To Table." This program will enable teachers to develop and teach an agricultural science curriculum in the classroom. This curriculum will supplement other classroom instruction, especially relating to nutrition, biology, and general sciences.

Three public elementary schools per district will be awarded mini grants on a competitive basis to implement this project during the 2004 - 2005 school year. The curriculum will consist of theoretical presentations as well as practical, hands-on exercises, with technical support provided by the UVI-CES. Schools will also develop garden plots to reinforce concepts taught in the classroom.

Requests for proposals will be issued during the Spring 2004 semester; and the successful applicants will be announced by the end of May 2004. Awards ranging between \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00 will be granted for program implementation in the Fall 2004 semester.

This project addresses the need to reinstate a curriculum in agricultural science in the public school system. Most of our students are unaware of the wide field of agricultural science, related career opportunities, and the professional disciplines that contribute to food production.

The UVI-CES will assist in the preparation of the project application package, program promotion, and the review and screening of applications. The Cooperative Extension Service will also provide technical support to participating schools.

As a result of the "From Garden To Table" pilot project students will have increased awareness of agricultural science, food production issues, and careers in agriculture. Students will have also acquired practical experience in food production techniques through box gardening projects. Through this project, the UVI Cooperative Extension Service will work in partnership with the V.I. Department of Education to address a need to enhance the public school educational program by including an agricultural curriculum.

For more information, please call the Cooperative Extension Service at (340) 693-1071 (STT) or (340) 692-4071 (STX).

CMES PROMOTES FISHERIES MANAGEMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS IN THE BVI



Research expedition to study the red hind spawning aggregation on Lang Bank, St. Croix. Scientific crew included members from the British Virgin Islands Conservation and Fisheries Department (CFD) and H. Lavity Stoutt Community College (HLSCC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and UVI's Center for Marine and Environmental Studies (CMES). From L to R: Joel Martinez (TNC), Albion Llewellyn (CFD), Gerson Martinez (TNC), Orville Phillips (HLSCC), Steve Herzlieb (CMES), Anthony Ortiz (TNC) and Rick Nemeth (CMES not pictured)

During the past year, CMES scientists and outreach staff were very active in the British Virgin Islands establishing partnerships with local scientists and promoting fisheries management. In November 2003, the University of the Virgin Islands was well represented by six CMES scientists at the 56th Annual Gulf and Caribbean Management Council meeting in Tortola which was hosted by the BVI Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour.

Over 200 participants from all over the Caribbean, the US, and Central and South America attended the conference and gave presentations on a range of topics from management and socioeconomics of commercial and recreational fisheries, marine protected areas, human impacts on essential fish habitat, aquaculture, and emerging technologies in fisheries research. CMES staff attending the conference, including Dr. Richard Nemeth, Dr. Elizabeth Whiteman, Steve Herzlieb, Shaun Kadison, Kenny Turbe and Mayra Suarez, contributed oral presentations and presented three posters on current CMES research, spoke on historical aspects of commercial fishing in the Virgin Islands, and attended a special roundtable session to discuss marine science education in the Gulf and Caribbean regions.

From December through February, BVI researchers joined CMES marine biologists in two studies for the purpose of collaboration and to receive technical training in fisheries techniques. Both projects were designed to locate and characterize red hind grouper spawning aggregations in USVI and BVI waters and combined local knowledge, expertise and human resources by involving local scientists and commercial fishermen. Dr. Nemeth has been studying the red hind grouper spawning aggregation in the Marine Conservation District (MCD) south of St. Thomas intensively for the past four years. BVI researchers, now working with aggregations in the BVI, were interested in learning new methodologies used by Dr. Nemeth such as ultrasound imaging of live fish for gender and reproductive information and tag and release techniques for identifying migratory patterns.

During the week around the full moon in early January, Albion Llewellyn of the BVI Conservation and Fisheries Department (CFD) and Orville Phillips of H. Lavity Stoutt Community College (HLSCC) joined CMES in St. Croix to observe specific techniques used to assess red hind spawning aggregations. Work off St. Croix focused on locating and studying red hind grouper aggregation

"RESEARCHERS AND MANAGERS FROM BOTH TERRITORIES ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING WHICH MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES ARE MOST EFFECTIVE FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RED HIND AND POSSIBLY OTHER GROUPER SPECIES."

areas on Lang Bank. On Lang Bank red hind have been closed to commercial fishing seasonally since 1990, but the actual aggregation sites on the bank have never been scientifically investigated. This was an opportunity for researchers from both territories to work together in an area that was new for everyone. Staff from The Nature Conservancy and the VI Division of Fish and Wildlife also participated in this research.

In a second study CMES scientists worked with researchers from CFD and HLSCC for several days during the full moons of December, January and February, on assessing historic red hind spawning aggregation sites south of Ginger and Norman islands, BVI. The objective was to compare red hind spawning populations in the BVI with those in the MCD south of St. Thomas. In the BVI, a seasonal closure for red hind grouper is enforced during the spawning season (December through February). During that time possession of the fish is illegal. In the USVI, red hind grouper possession is legal during the spawning season, but fishing is prohibited in the MCD year-round. Researchers and managers from both territories are interested in learning which management techniques are most effective for the sustainability of red hind and possibly other grouper species.

Both projects and attendance at the GCFI conference promoted international and local marine research and the exchange of management philosophies and ideas. CMES also partnered with commercial fishermen in an effort to integrate local fishery knowledge and scientific technology and information for a greater understanding of the status of fishery resources in the USVI and BVI. Funding for the St. Croix project was provided by a research grant from the National Institute of Health to Dr. Nemeth, research conducted in the BIV was funded by an international fisheries program within NOAA, and travel for the BV Islanders was funded by The Nature Conservancy, which promotes and supports international education and collaboration in the Caribbean. For more information, contact Dr. Rick Nemeth, (340) 693-1381 or rmemeth@uvi.edu.

LEPC STUDY

Continued from p. 1

drugs or alcohol and 67 percent reported being suspended from school. The majority of juvenile offenders also reported that they were frequently involved in arguments and that they had anger control problems.

The examination of St. Thomas youthful offenders revealed results similar to those found in St. Croix. For instance, 71 percent of the St. Thomas Juvenile Investigation Bureau cases that were examined involved males and 73 percent of the youth were born in the Virgin Islands. The majority of the St. Thomas youthful offenders (88 percent) were enrolled in school at the time of their first offense. Just over half (55 percent) of the juveniles lived with their mother only. An examination of the St. Thomas Department of Human Services data revealed that 13 percent of the youthful offenders reported being physically abused and just over a quarter (26 percent) indicated that they had used drugs or alcohol (Table 2). Nearly 60 percent of the juveniles reported that they had been suspended from school. Just over 40 percent of the youth indicated that they were frequently involved in arguments and 43 percent of the juveniles suggested that they had anger control problems.

The study also found that 61 percent of St. Croix juveniles and 55 percent of St. Thomas juveniles committed their first offense between the ages of 14 and 16 (Figure 1). Further, 85 percent of the St. Croix youthful offenders and 63.7 percent of the St. Thomas juveniles had committed only one offense, rather than being repeat offenders (Figure 2).

There were several other notable findings from the study. For instance, in both St. Croix and St. Thomas, males were nearly twice as likely as females to be repeat offenders. Additionally, a first-time offender who admitted feelings of failure or worthlessness had twice the risk of being a repeat offender compared to those who did not admit such feelings. This was the case for both St. Croix and St. Thomas youthful offenders. The analysis of St. Croix juvenile offenders also indicated that juveniles who used drugs or alcohol had odds of recidivism that were nearly three times higher than those youth who did not use those substances. The findings from the St. Croix data also suggested that a juvenile offender who had a relative that had been previously charged with a criminal offense was almost seven times more likely to be a repeat offender than those juveniles who did not have such relatives.

It is expected that the findings produced from this study will be used

Table 2 Presence of Risk Indicators - St Thomas

	Total	Yes		No	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Felt like a failure or worthless	171	44	25.7	127	74.3
Had trouble controlling anger	196	84	42.9	112	57.1
Had frequent arguments & fights	186	76	40.9	110	59.1
Ever been suspended from school	213	123	57.7	90	42.3
Ever been expelled from school	174	40	23.0	134	77.0
Used drugs or alcohol	167	43	25.7	124	74.3
Getting hurt (physically abused)	124	16	12.9	108	87.1

Figure 1 Age at First Offense

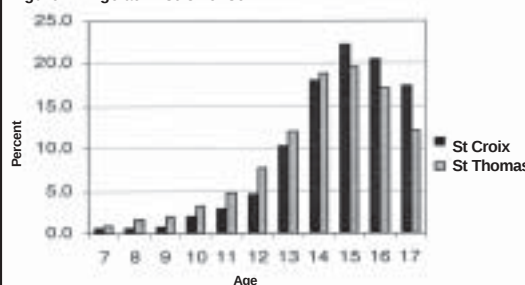
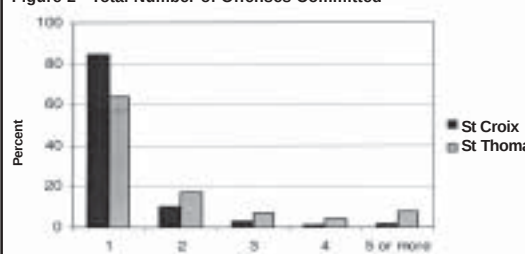


Figure 2 Total Number of Offenses Committed



by legislators to identify resources to fund necessary preventive programs. Executive officers may also use the data to establish policies geared to the reduction of juvenile offenses. For additional information on the study, contact the Eastern Caribbean Center at (340) 693-1020.

CDC CELEBRATES 'GIS DAY'

The Conservation Data Center (CDC), a unit of the Eastern Caribbean Center at UVI, celebrated GIS Day 2003 with the students and staff of the University of the Virgin Islands, Family Life Center (UVI-FLC) program.

Stevie Henry, CDC's Data Manager, introduced the at-



UVI-FLC participants collecting data using a GPS

Virgin Islands produced by CDC were exhibited at the presentation.

The students were most excited about using the GPS equipment to capture information about places of interest in the Michael J. Kirwan housing development. After collecting the field data, the students wit-

nessed the processing of their GPS data and saw how their data displayed in a GIS.

As a result of the participants' enthusiasm about their experience, staff from the UVI-FLC are attempting to collaborate with the CDC on a more significant GIS project that would benefit the Michael J. Kirwan community.

tendees to Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. The presentation demonstrated how geography relates to our daily lives. Participants colored maps to show how the population on St. Thomas is distributed by Census subdistricts. Marine and vegetation community maps for the U.S.

CASSAVA

Continued from p. 1

This research and field trial of genetically enhanced cassava is significant to the Caribbean because cassava has been part of the island culture from the time of the native Carib and Tiano Indians. They cultivated the bitter cassava and used it as a source of starch in their diet. Throughout the tropical regions it ranks third, after rice and corn, as a food source for people.

The cassava being grown at UVI was genetically engineered to produce a uniform starch. Starch, processed from cassava, is commercially used in pastries and bread, snack foods, the paper industry and as a thickening agent in soups and sauces. Evaluation of the genetically enhanced cassava under tropical field conditions is the first step in selecting superior cassava plants for commercial use.

The Biotechnology & Agroforestry Program has been micropropagating the genetically enhanced cassava through tissue culture to produce 1,000 plants for the field trial. Latashia Joseph, Jay Wiltshire and Kevin Dupigny, UVI MBRS-RISE students, have been involved in tissue culture projects with the cassava under the guidance of Dr. Zimmerman.

SBDC INTRODUCES NEW CUSTOMIZED BUSINESS COUNSELING SERIES

The University of the Virgin Islands Small Business Development Center (UVI-SBDC), in its mission to provide free business counseling assistance to the USVI residents, recently introduced its FY 2004 Business Counseling Series to the community. More specifically, to assist the community's residents, prospective and existing business owners with effective planning, management tools, best practices, preventive measures, and helpful hints for various business subjects, free business counseling has been routinely coordinated and provided in very small interactive group sessions.

The SBDC gathers at most five individuals/module to meet within its private conference room for a roundtable discussion and presentation led by an SBDC Business Counselor. These sessions provide for great networking opportunities, business exchanges, information sharing, and, most notably, opportunities to gain generalized assistance/insight from the Business Counselor on the subject matter as needed.

These hugely successful series are usually presented in morning and afternoon sessions over a five day work week on various business applications, subjects, and principles. Helpful hints/tips were provided on the following subjects at earlier roundtable business counseling sessions:

☞ "Personal Credit/Effective Money Management": ways to better manage your budgeting, spending, repayment habits re: overall personal and business finances.

☞ "Effective Product Selection, Pricing, and Placement": best practices to gain maximum exposure on product investments.

☞ "Effectively Interviewing, Selecting, and Managing Your Employees: keys behind successfully conducting interviews, selecting the right candidate, and managing your employees.

☞ "Innovative Advertising/Marketing Techniques": conventional and unconventional mediums available to help certify ultimate market exposure.

☞ "Writing and Implementing an Effective Business Plan": preparing a winning business plan, road map, sense of direction for your business.

☞ "Effective Cash Flow Management for Emerging and Existing Business Owners": ways to best identify the cycle of inflows and outflows of cash on your business.

More topics will be presented on the basis of client survey needs assessments. Attendees have responded in an overwhelmingly positive manner to this small group offering and insist that we continue to offer these sessions on an ongoing basis. These sessions are not to be confused or mistaken for the SBDC's regular training programs or seminars. The SBDC training seminars are all open to as many attendees as can be accommodated and are held under different circumstances and locations. These business counseling series provide for more personalized hands-on, interactive instruction to group sizes of no more than five persons per session.

Please stay tuned for future announcements of the free business counseling series offerings. If you are ever interested in attending, please call immediately because the sessions fill up quickly. The SBDC in its customary service offerings conduct one-on-one confidential business counseling sessions with clients daily and any of the aforementioned subject areas (and more) can be presented on an individual basis as needed. However, an appointment needs to be confirmed for such private counseling meetings.

For more information on these sessions, please call the SBDC at (340) 776-3206.

CYFAR AWARDS COMPUTER CERTIFICATES

What do you get when 12 committed adults face their computers, and one dedicated instructor takes them from fear to expertise? In only six weeks, twice weekly, these 11 ladies and one gentleman converged on the CYFAR Computer Lab on the West Campus at the University of the Virgin Islands to engage in Basic Training.

An April 5th program marked the culmination of the training, with opening remarks by Ms. Lois Sanders, Assistant Director of the 4-H/Family & Consumer Sciences Program. Mr. Kwame Garcia Sr., State Director-CES remarked on the program, and the importance of being computer literate.

Before they received their well-deserved certificates, the participants shared their experiences. Most of them said they had seen the advertisement in the newspapers, but by the time they called, the program was closed; therefore, they were put on a waiting list.

Ms. Linda McIntosh, who uses the computer on her job, was thrilled when Mr. Marthious Clavier, the Extension Agent 1/CYFAR Program, called her when the new class was about to begin. McIntosh said that the class "reinforced" her skills,



CYFAR participants were awarded certificates at the April 5th program

and has proved to be very beneficial. She had high praise for Mr. Clavier who, she said, is "perfect for the class, has vast knowledge, and is always willing to share." She thinks Clavier has "a gift" to relate to others.

Mr. Collins, the sole male in the group, admitted that he "always wanted to learn to use the computer." As a salesman, he thinks his newly acquired knowledge will enhance his performance on the job. Having learned how to surf the internet, and how to send e-mails, he has ordered a computer so that he will be able to

expand his knowledge.

All participants concurred with Jayne Santa, an employee of Olympic Car Agency, who said: "I definitely want more."

This program was one in CES' Community Outreach series. The next two programs will be geared toward farmers, then the Basic Computer Training Program will be repeated. The 12 certificate recipients know that they are not on their own, because they "have Mr. Clavier's number." Clavier clarified, smilingly, that "that's a part of the course-lifetime tech. support."

MODEL FARM HAS OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony for the Integrated Model Farm (IMF) at AES was held in December 2003 and was attended by 25 people from the community. Senator Luther Renee, Chair of the Committee on Agricultural and Economic Development, attended the ceremony. Senator Renee gave a presentation in which he acknowledged the excellent work done by AES and the potential benefits of the Integrated Model Farm project for the agriculture industry in the USVI. Other people who gave presentations were Dr. Jim Rakocy, Director AES; Mr. Kwame Garcia, Director CES; Mr. Stafford Crossman, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture; and Mr. Mike McGuire, Research Specialist and project leader.

The Agricultural Experiment Station at UVI has developed the 5-acre IMF that collects rainwater to grow tilapia in tanks and uses the water from the fish to irrigate vegetables and fruit trees. The farm is being studied to determine how integrated production practices can be adapted for use in the Virgin Islands. The project is funded by a grant from USDA - Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems awarded to University of the Virgin Islands Agricultural Experiment Station. The project has both internal and external cooperators. Within UVI the cooperators are AES, the Cooperative Extension Service and Water Resources Research Institute. External cooperators are University of Guam - College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, USDA Agricultural Research Service - Tropical Agriculture Research Station and the VI Department of Agriculture.



Senator Luther Renee is shown speaking to the attendees at the Opening Ceremony of the Integrated Model Farm hosted by AES

The objectives of the project are to demonstrate a 5-acre whole farm system that integrates fish, fruit and vegetable production. Most of the water for the farm will be obtained through rainwater harvesting. The farm will operate with four people and it is hoped that it will generate more than \$150,000 in gross income.

The farm is now in full production. The fish

tanks are stocked and the vegetable and fruit crops are being harvested. Some of the vegetables that have been produced and marketed include tomatoes, cucumbers, hot peppers, plantains and papayas. Financial and water budgets will be developed for the IMF and this information will be published so that VI farmers can use it to develop integrated farms of their own.

CES PREPARES STUDENTS FOR AGRICULTURE CAREERS

The UVI Cooperative Extension Service (UVI-CES) in partnership with the V.I. Resource Conservation & Development Council (VIRC & D), the USDA Forest Service/International Institute of Tropical Forestry, and Alcorn State University developed an opportunity for eight students to participate in an eight-week training institute in Sustainable Agriculture during the Summer of 2004. The objective of this initiative is two-fold. First, as the territory prepares to diversify the local economy by developing the agricultural sector, there is a need to encourage young adults to pursue careers in agricultural science. Second, according to the latest census data on the US Virgin Islands, the average age of farmers is approximately 55 years. This initiative, therefore, seeks to address the need to prepare and train young farmers in the latest scientific techniques in crop and livestock production.

The training will be free of charge to participants, and conducted from June 7 through July 30, 2004, at Alcorn State Uni-

versity in Lorman, Mississippi. Alcorn State University will provide classroom lectures, hands-on field and laboratory exercises, and technical tours of University facilities and farms. Thanks to a \$50,000.00 grant received by the VIRC & D from the USDA Forest Service, eight successful applicants will receive scholarships that will cover expenses associated with airfare and ground transportation, meals, dormitory accommodations, and a weekly stipend.

As a result of this training and exposure, the participants will develop a comprehensive overview of the science of agriculture and related career opportunities. The technical knowledge acquired may also be used to improve farm management skills. Furthermore, this training will hopefully serve as an incentive to encourage further studies in agriculture at the post secondary level.

In addition to publicizing and promoting the Summer Institute initiative, the UVI-CES will assist with the screening and selection of applicants, and conduct an orientation session to prepare the participants for

university (campus) life. The orientation session will include a general overview of Sustainable Agriculture and the courses to be taught during the eight weeks of training. Upon completion of the Summer Institute, CES will also provide counseling and advisory support for participants who desire to do post secondary studies in agricultural science.

This initiative represents another effort on the part of the University of the Virgin Islands to become involved and engaged in the VI community to address local needs and improve the quality of life for the residents of the territory. The future of agriculture in the Virgin Islands depends upon the preparation of another generation of farmers and scientists. The UVI-CES is proud to contribute toward the growth and development of young adults who will, in turn, contribute to the growth and development of the Virgin Islands' community.

For additional information regarding the Summer 2004 Sustainable Agriculture Training Institute, please call CES at 693-1071 (STT) or 692-4071 (STX).

SBDC AND PARTNER GAIN FAST 2004 START TO WNET ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM

For approximately five years, the UVI-Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the New Image Foundation Corporation (NIFC) have collaborated in sponsoring the annual Women's Network for Entrepreneurial Training (WNET) Roundtable Program Series. NIFC is the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) U.S. Virgin Islands representative responsible for administering this program. Through collaboration with the SBDC, monthly roundtable discussions, training programs, workshops, and seminars have been presented in the St. Thomas-St. John and St. Croix districts. These programs aim at orienting and nurturing the Virgin Islands business women, through practical application, to the concept of business ownership and small business management.

During this current fiscal period, the NIFC and SBDC have co-sponsored several successful monthly WNET meetings. One of the

highlights in these gatherings is the recognition of the Entrepreneur of the Month, whereby an official award is presented to the honoree in acknowledgement of her dedication, commitment, and small business successes in the Virgin Islands community. The SBDC and NIFC are pleased to announce the names of the two most recent honorees who received this distinction: January 2004, Ms. Beverly Clarke (Owner) and daughter, Ms. Karen Clarke of Discount Travel; March 2004, Ms. Bonnie Erb (Owner), Bonnie's By The Sea Restaurant.

The Policy Board of the New Image Foundation, in collaboration with the UVI-SBDC and FirstBank Virgin Islands, recently launched its annual "Dollars and Sense" programming series. This series has been implemented to cover a series of quarterly personal financial seminars on various related subjects to assist individuals seeking more financial empowerment. These low cost (fees) train-

ing sessions are very comprehensive and incorporate the varied expertise of the SBDC, New Image Foundation, FirstBank, and invited Keynote Speakers, accordingly. Recently, a program was held in St. Thomas on "The Road to Home Ownership." This module was very well attended and featured Ms. Audrey Morton of the VI Housing Finance Authority and Ms. Karen Sprauve of FirstBank.

The NIFC Policy Board Leadership, FirstBank and the Management and Staff of the SBDC extend many thanks to the presenters and the attendees alike. It is the collective wish that everyone will continue to support these programs and gain as much information as they can as it relates to home ownership, money management, investing, etc.

Future programs in this series are expected to cover such areas and more. For more information, please call the New Image Foundation Policy Board at (340) 777-8883 and/or the SBDC at (340) 776-3206.

SBDC BRIEFS

SBDC SEMINAR ON IDENTITY THEFT AND FRAUD PREVENTION

In February, the SBDC presented an Identity Theft Seminar in St. Thomas. This seminar, which featured Mr. Ronald Roberts, former Bank Compliance Officer and Owner of Roberts Resources, focused on the risks associated with identity theft, customer/consumer privacy, credit card fraud, and other related security issues to over 40 individuals. The SBDC firmly believes that the community at large needs to become more cognizant of threats linked to identity theft in order to better implement preventive measures and minimize the probability of being victimized. The issues that surround this dynamic have many adverse consequences for individuals and businesses alike.

Mr. Roberts put it this way: "What is identity theft? It's when someone steals your personal information, such as your name, address, bank/credit account number(s), social security number, or EIN number, and then poses as you. Using your personal identifiers, identity thieves can obtain credit, employment, health care services, rentals, phone bills, file bankruptcy, or if arrested, use your name as a result. Other results of identity theft include bank fraud, credit card fraud, tax refund fraud, mail fraud, wire fraud, passport fraud, check fraud, terrorist activities, etc."

Mr. Roberts and the SBDC caution everyone to please take proactive steps to secure and protect privacy and personal identifiers. Mr. Roberts correlated these practices to local USVI news headlines of recent years so as to not have anyone take these issues for granted. Among the helpful hints offered were the following: check your credit report at least once per year; review new checks, to ensure none were stolen in transit; safeguard all PIN numbers; if your bills or bank statements are late, contact the company; check verifiable signatures and matching ID when processing credit card swiping transactions, etc. The SBDC and Mr. Roberts, an SBDC partner, are available to provide consulting references and more details as needed. Please contact Mr. Roberts (Roberts Resources) in St. Thomas at (340) 776-1687 or the SBDC at (340) 776-3206.

ANNUAL ST. CROIX AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD FAIR

The SBDC had another successful showing as part of the University's committed RPS involvement and presence in St. Croix's 33rd Agricultural and Food Fair, "Agriculture, an Open Door in 2004," held in February. SBDC's primary focus was to present literature on "How to Start a Business," "How to Write an Effective Business Plan," as well as "How To Actively Pursue Agri-Tourism." These brochures, among others, helped to provide a wealth of information to existing and prospective entrepreneurs seeking greater formal organiza-

tion and or results. The SBDC was particularly pleased to have experienced a constant buzz at its display booth over the three-day event. The SBDC offers its congratulations to all of the Ag Fair Coordinators and Organizers and looks forward to being present once again in 2005!

SBDC'S YOUTH 2004 OUTREACH PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The SBDC Youth Outreach program has become an inspirational presentation in collaboration with the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). On St. Croix, the SBDC was an integral part of designing and assisting in the indoctrination program for over 20 new candidates to the FBLA. SBDC assisted in providing speakers and overall encouragement for these future entrepreneurs. To culminate that particular indoctrination, an SBDC employee was even awarded an honorary membership to FBLA. Since then the SBDC has worked with FBLA, especially during the National FBLA Week, in helping design effective workshops for this set of local youths, including "What it Means to be an Entrepreneur" and "Dressing for Success."

Additional youth programs were held at St. Thomas' Jane E. Tuitt, Sts. Peter and Paul, and Seventh Day Adventist Schools to provide hands-on information on the principles of business management. SBDC personnel met with dozens of students who were each provided packets of information

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CMES RECEIVES NSF FUNDING TO RENOVATE THE VIERS LABORATORY ON ST. JOHN

The Center for Marine and Environmental Studies received a grant for \$185,000 from the National Science Foundation to renovate the Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station (VIERS).

The primary goals of the NSF funding are to: 1) renovate and transform the VIERS research laboratory from a facility with uncomfortable and difficult general use areas to a facility with functional and complementary workspaces, 2) purchase major research equipment to expand research capabilities from very basic ecological observations to more sophisticated experimentation and measurements and increase research capabilities at both spatial and temporal scales within the biosphere, and 3) modernize the information technology, communications and data management systems which will foster greater collaboration among researchers and strengthen the linkages between research and education.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF VIERS

VIERS has provided nearly 40 years of continuous service as a learning center for environmental education and research. Formerly known as the Virgin Islands Ecological Research Station, VIERS was established by the College of the Virgin Islands in November 1966 under the authority of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Virgin Islands National Park.

The first laboratory at Little Lameshur Bay was originally designed to be a low-cost scientific base camp for professional ecologists seeking to undertake laboratory and field research on both marine and terrestrial biodiversity. Shortly after its establishment, VIERS was selected as the site of the US Department of Interior ocean-floor human habitat experiment, Project Tektite I and II, and was moved to its present location at Great Lameshur Bay.

The current facility was built in 1968 by the U.S. Navy Sea Bees to house scientists and support staff for Project Tektite. In

"BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF ALL REPRESENTATIVE TERRESTRIAL AND COASTAL MARINE ENVIRONMENTS, VIERS PROVIDES SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE COMPARISONS AMONG THESE DIFFERENT TROPICAL BIOMES. VIERS IS ALSO UNIQUE IN THAT IT IS IDEALLY SITUATED FOR INTEGRATING RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES BY PROVIDING A VENUE WHERE THE CULTURALLY DIVERSE POPULATION OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS AND EASTERN CARIBBEAN CAN INTERACT WITH SCIENTISTS FROM LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS."

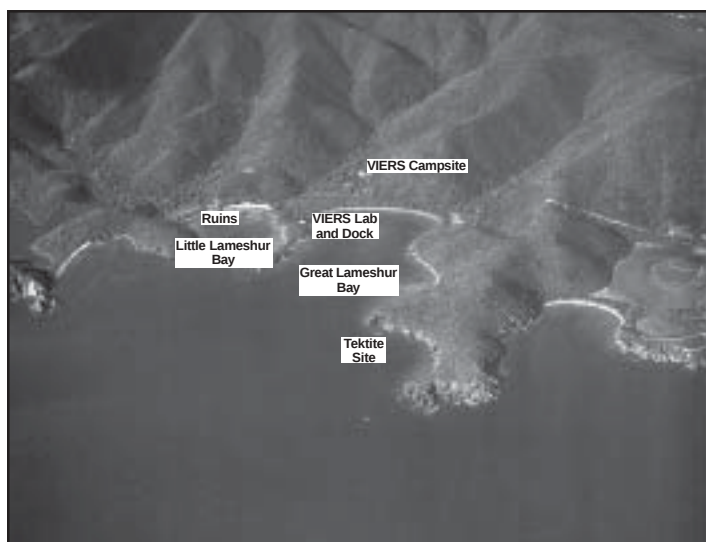


Figure 2. Map showing VIERS campsite and laboratory nestled within the pristine environments of the Virgin Islands National Park

1969 and 1970 Projects Tektite I and II were the first of their kind to utilize underwater habitat technology that allowed scientists to live underwater for several weeks at a time while performing a variety of biological experiments on coral reef organisms and biomedical and engineering studies (Figure 1).

At the end of the Tektite projects in 1970, the camp was turned over to the University of the Virgin Islands. During this research intensive time period world-renowned scientists used the VIERS facility including Dr. Sylvia Earle and Dr. Jack Randall. In 1992, the camp's name was changed to Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station to reflect UVI's commitment to providing unique research and learning experiences for students and scientists interested in environmental education, training and research of terrestrial, coastal and marine communities of small tropical islands.

Since 1997 VIERS has been managed and operated for UVI by Clean Islands International, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit environmental educational organization. In 1999 oversight of VIERS activities and operations was taken over by the Director of UVI's Center for Marine and Environmental Studies.

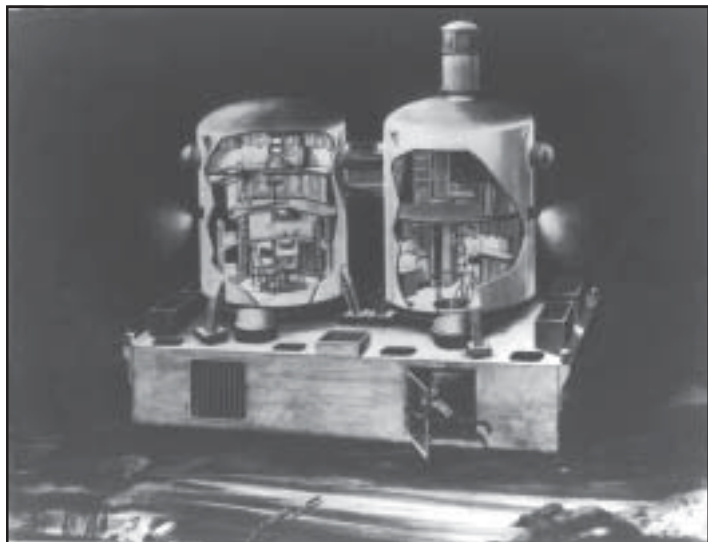


Figure 1. Schematic image of the Tektite II underwater habitat in Great Lameshur Bay



Figure 3. The VIERS lab as it exists today on the shore of Great Lameshur Bay

THE IMPORTANCE OF RENOVATING VIERS

VIERS is located on Great Lameshur Bay, St. John within the boundaries of the Virgin Islands National Park and United Nations (UNESCO) Biosphere Reserve, which offer protection to the surrounding pristine coastal scrub, dry forest and moist forest habitats (Figure 2).

VIERS is also directly adjacent to the 12,708 marine acres of the Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument established in 2001. The high biological diversity represented within these ecosystems is within walking or swimming distance of the VIERS facility.

Because of the close proximity of all representative terrestrial and coastal marine environments, VIERS provides significant opportunities to make substantive comparisons among these different tropical biomes. VIERS is also unique in that it is ideally situated for integrating research and educational activities by providing a venue where the culturally diverse population of the Virgin Islands and Eastern Caribbean can interact with scientists from local, regional, and national institutions. The rustic nature of VIERS, its remoteness and the outdated laboratory facilities has maintained usage of the facility for research at a very low level.

The \$185,000 received from NSF, however, will allow UVI to modernize and improve VIERS' research and technology infrastructure to increase the quantity, quality and dissemination of research results by UVI faculty and visiting scientists.

More specifically the VIERS laboratory (Figure 3) will be completely renovated to provide an analytical lab, a semi-wet lab, a wet lab, running sea water system with sea tables and aquaria, a computer lab with high-speed internet access, major research instrumentation like microscopes, balances, image analysis system and environmental data loggers, dive compressor, scuba equipment and a boat.

For more information on this project please contact Dr. Rick Nemeth at 340-693-1381 or rnemeth@uvi.edu. You can also visit the VIERS website from: <http://marsci.uvi.edu/>.

UVI TRANSFERS AQUACULTURE TECHNOLOGY TO AMERICAN SAMOA

Dr. James Rakocy, Aquaculture Program Leader, was invited to provide aquaculture technical assistance to a group of about 20 tilapia farmers in American Samoa. The invitation came from Mr. Alosina To'omalatai, President of the Samoan Family Sunfish Cooperative. Dr. Darren Okimoto, the American Samoa Sea Grant Extension Agent, organized the visit and obtained funding for the trip from the Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture Center in Hawaii. The 4-day visit took place during March 8-12.

Dr. Rakocy presented two early evening workshops on the tilapia production systems that have been developed at the UVI. The workshops covered greenwater tank culture and aquaponics, the combined culture of fish and plants in recirculating systems. The workshops addressed the development of these technologies, construction techniques and production management. About 28 people attended each workshop and expressed a high level of enthusiasm for applying these systems in American Samoa.

A challenge that American Samoa faces is its isolation. Supplies reach the island by an ocean freighter from Los Angeles once every two weeks. There are for four jet flights a week from Hawaii with a flying time of 5 hours, but there are no direct flights to the U.S. mainland. The importation of high quality fish feed from the U.S. is needed to increase tilapia production and efficiently utilize UVI's culture systems.

After the workshops, Dr. Rakocy had the opportunity to visit five fish farms and a hydroponic vegetable operation. In addition to raising tilapia, one farm grows freshwater prawns, and another farm is in the process of building a facility to grow giant saltwater clams and marine finfish. One luxury that American Samoa has is abundant supplies of freshwater resulting from annual rainfall of more than 200 inches. American Samoa is located in the South Pacific at 14 degrees latitude south and is the home of StarKist Samoa, a tuna cannery, which employs nearly 3,000 people and processes approximately 350 million pounds of tuna annually.

The workshops were held at the American Samoa Community College, which is a Land Grant institution. Dr. Rakocy gave a guest lecture on aquaculture to Dr. Okimoto's Natural Marine Resources Course and had the opportunity to meet Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i, President of American Samoa Community College; Ms. Laura Laumatia, Agriculture Extension Program Manager; and Dr. Don Vargo, Research Coordinator of the Land Grant Program.

R&PS

[HTTP://RPS.UVI.EDU/](http://RPS.UVI.EDU/)

CDC SCIENCE BRIEFS

CORAL BAY SEDIMENT DEPOSITION AND REEF ASSESSMENT PROJECT

The Coral Bay Sediment Deposition and Reef Assessment Project, funded with \$22,000 provided by the VI Department of Environmental Protection, has been completed. Final results indicate an alarming increase in the sedimentation rate in the harbor and bay as a result of unprecedented development in one of the largest and fastest growing watersheds in the Virgin Islands. An increase of 10-20 times the natural rate was detected as having begun less than 15 years ago, at the same time that residential and road development increased dramatically. Coral reef assessment shows only 10-15% live coral and deteriorating water quality. Several presentations of the results were made at the NPS conference, the Coral Bay Community and the St. John Rotary. Residents are concerned and have organized a Community Council and Watershed Committee to address concerns.

RECOVERY AND LOSS OF REEF BUILDING CORALS

The Conservation Data Center (CDC), partnering with USGS Marine Biologist Dr. Caroline Rogers, has developed a surface water GPS/GIS mapping technique to assess Elkhorn Coral colonies, the primary near-shore reef builder. USGS has contracted \$10,000 for CDC to develop an Access database tied to GIS spatial mapping of colony size, disease, predation, and live cover. The database and GPS technique developed will be used at the V.I. National Park, Buck Island and Florida National Marine Sanctuary to track coral recovery. The project is ongoing but the database and colony maps are completed, and the USGS staff has been trained in their

use. Results indicate that coral disease occurs and sometimes lesions heal much more quickly than previously thought.

"A FIELD GUIDE TO THE PLANT AND MARINE COMMUNITIES OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS"

Partnering with Cooperative Extension Service (CES) staff member Ms. Toni Thomas, the CDC and CES are getting close to completing this new publication that highlights the Rapid Ecological Assessment maps produced by CDC in 2000. This field guide, paid for with \$20,000 provided by a VI Department of Agriculture Urban Forestry Grant and \$8,000 from CES, is in the final stages of layout and peer review. For the first time, residents and visitors will have a map and guide to the diverse natural communities that make the Virgin Islands such a rich and remarkable place. Publication is planned for the summer of 2004.

THE WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN AREAS INVENTORY

Partnering with Island Resources Foundation, CDC is leading a \$120,000 Phase I pilot study to characterize the watersheds and wetlands of the Virgin Islands. Inventory maps of wetland types and locations, along with field sampling within 18 priority watersheds for sediment deposition rates, water quality and plant communities, have been completed. The CDC and IRF are analyzing results and preparing final map products for DPNR. A subsequent \$100,000 Phase II study will expand on the work and sample the additional 32 VI watersheds to establish a wetland inventory based on ecological value, potential land use threats and preservation priority.

As a continuation of the first project, the UVI Water Resources Research Institute is

providing \$38,000 to continue the work of creating a model for watershed management in Coral Bay. These funds will assist with development of a Watershed Association to address sediment and non-point source pollution issues. In addition, a Watershed Brochure and Watershed Atlas will be developed to assist with future planning. Reef assessment and water quality sampling will expand, and an engineering firm will be hired to provide an innovative conceptual design for a stormwater management and catchment system for the Carolina Valley.

The Center for Marine and Environmental Studies at UVI has contracted with CDC to provide \$16,000 for services to complete mangrove restoration at Lameshur Bay, St. John, by providing GIS maps of existing and planted mangrove communities. In addition, CDC will conduct some field sampling to characterize the plant and animal communities to develop a baseline for comparison of recovering populations in the future as a result of the mangrove planting.

NEW GRANT APPLICATIONS AND PROJECTS

Non-Point Source Grant - "Sediment Deposition and Coast Watershed Impact Area Mapping for Priority Bays and Watersheds in the Virgin Islands." \$24,500.

NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Grant - "Mapping and Assessing Changes in Marine Populations within the East End Marine Park." \$42,500.

EPA Wetlands Program Development Grant - "Developing a Comprehensive Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program for the Virgin Islands." \$460,000.

The Ocean Conservancy - "Mapping Grouper and Snapper Spawning Aggregations in the Virgin Islands." Contract for services: \$16,000.

CES RECEIVES GRANT TO TRAIN AGRICULTURAL PROVIDERS

The University of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service (CES) received a grant of \$20,965 for two years to train agriculture service providers. The training will include a collaborative team of agricultural trainers and professionals who will develop a two-day training workshop about organic production, certification, and regulation. This will be a comprehensive "train the trainer" program.

In 2003, the University of Florida received a Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) grant to execute a training program to help agriculture service providers in understanding and communicating to agricultural producers the provision contained in the Organic Food Production Act. Included as collaborators in the two-year project are the University of Kentucky and other national, public and private organizations.

The short-term goal is that these agriculture service providers will understand and be able to communicate the regulations regarding organic production in the U.S. to agricultural producers in the territory. The long-term goal of the project is to increase the amount of acreage and number of certified organic producers in Florida, Kentucky, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Extension Specialist Carlos Robles is the team leader for the Virgin Islands. On the local team are representatives from CES, Department of Agriculture, USDA Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Local Farmer's organizations. To learn more about the SARE grant, contact Carlos Robles at (340) 693-1083 or Clinton George at (340) 692-4070.

AES PROGRAM MENTORS EXCHANGE STUDENT

Ms. Elizabeth Chamberlain is an undergraduate Animal Science major at Louisiana State University who is conducting research in the lab of Dr. Bob Godfrey, Animal Science Program Leader at the Agricultural Experiment Station. Ms. Chamberlain sought out Dr. Godfrey a year ago when she was first exploring the opportunities in the National Student Exchange program at LSU. She found that the directors of the program at LSU were more supportive of her application because she had contacted Dr. Godfrey and made arrangements to work in his lab while she was attending UVI.

In addition to other classes at UVI, Ms. Chamberlain signed up for several credits of BIO 495-Directed Independent Research in Biology. Her project is to develop a new method for counting sperm cells in the lab. The Animal Science Program conducts research to evaluate fertility of livestock, and one method of evaluating the fertility of bulls and rams is to evaluate their semen. Part of the semen evaluation consists of determining the concentration of sperm. The current method of using a microscope and a hemacytometer to count sperm and determine concentration is slow and costly in terms of human labor and time.

Ms. Chamberlain's project was designed to calibrate and validate the spectrophotometer and plate reader for use in counting sperm cells of bulls and rams. Both of these pieces of lab equipment use

the percentage of light absorbed by a solution to measure intensity of color or opacity of the solution. A benefit of the plate reader is that it can analyze up to 96 samples in a matter of seconds and download the results to a computer, whereas the spectrophotometer in the lab can only read one sample at a time and is not integrated with a computer.

By comparing the absorbance values of the unknown samples to those of a set of standards, the concentration of sperm in the samples can be determined. The results of Ms. Chamberlain's work so far have shown that the concentration of bull and ram sperm can be determined using either the spectrophotometer or the plate reader. The difference between the highly accurate hemacytometer counts and the results of the two new techniques is less than 8% and is within acceptable limits. Ms. Chamberlain presented the results of her project at the Spring Research Symposium held on the St. Croix campus.

The procedures developed by Ms. Chamberlain will assist the Animal Science Program by making the lab more efficient when evaluating semen samples of bulls and rams as part of research projects or as an extension function for local livestock producers. It is also a good example of the fact that UVI and AES have much to offer students in the way of research opportunities.



Liz Chamberlain counts sperm cells under the microscope to determine concentration prior to analyzing the sample using the spectrophotometer

R&PS

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SBDC

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covering Banking and Saving, How to Start a Business, Effective Money Management, and How to Run a Successful Student-run Concession Business. For more information on the SBDC's Youth Outreach program, please call the STT/STX offices at (340) 776-3206 and (340) 692-5270, respectively.

SBDC COLLABORATES WITH VETERANS

Over the past recent months, the SBDC actively participated in the annual Veteran's Expo in St. Croix and St. Thomas presented by the USVI Veteran's local chapter, as part of the celebration of Veterans' Month. The SBDC was available to help attendees make informed decisions about starting one's own business with business counseling and training assistance. Additionally, the SBDC provided information on potential SBA loan guaranty and other programs geared for veterans.

SBDC AND THE WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER E-COMMERCE SUMMIT

The SBDC was an attendee at the annual WBC E-Commerce Summit entitled "Bridging the Gap" held at Divi Carina Bay Resort. The SBDC also participated as an exhibitor at the WBC E-Commerce Expo event held in the Sunshine Mall with approximately 50 other vendors. The SBDC provided information to the public regarding the counseling and training aspects of SBDC available to aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners.

SBDC AND HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT

The STX/SBDC has been an active participant in Helping Children Work (HCW) multi-series programs, initiated by the Department of Human Services for individuals who have been displaced from jobs or need additional training in order to seek/

secure employment. As part of the first three-week session, HCW requested the assistance of SBDC to present the module Money Management for Personal Success. The success story surrounding that session is that all attendees are now gainfully employed. This program will continue throughout the fiscal year and SBDC continues to support this initiative.

SBDC AND IRB DISCUSS 2003 BUSINESS TAXES

The SBDC and the VI Internal Revenue Bureau held two seminars in February on Filing your 2003 Business Taxes. The first session, held at the Legislature's Conference Room in St. John, was attended by over 20 individuals. The keynote presenters, Mr. Clifford Charleswell and Mr. Alonzo Brady, helped simplify the tax process. The second session, held at the SBDC's Nisky Center Training Facility, saw an equal amount of attendees who also benefited from the expertise of these IRB Agents.



RESEARCH & PUBLIC SERVICE UPCOMING EVENTS JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2004

JUNE

- 14-18 CARIBBEAN URBAN FORESTRY CONFERENCE/CES*
- 15 NEW IMAGE POLICY BOARD SEMINAR/SBDC
- 16 THE BEST OF THE SBA PRODUCTS AND SERVICES- STT/SBDC
- 17 THE BEST OF THE SBA PRODUCTS AND SERVICES-STJ/SBDC
- 20-26 AQUAPONIC & TILAPIA AQUACULTURE SHORT COURSE/AES
- 21-JULY 30 4H SUMMER ACADEMY/CES
- 29 DESIGNING A WEBPAGE DAY I (INTERMEDIATE)/SBDC

JULY

- 1 DESIGNING A WEBPAGE DAY II/SBDC
- 6 DESIGNING A WEBPAGE DAY III/SBDC
- 8 DESIGNING A WEBPAGE DAY IV/SBDC
- 9 BASIC BUSINESS EXPOSURE/SBDC
- 15 BASIC BUSINESS EXPOSURE/SBDC
- 19-23 CARIBBEAN FOOD CROPS SOCIETY/CES
- 21 DETAILS OF BUSINESS OWNERSHIP: INSURANCE PLANNING/
SBDC
- 28 DETAILS OF BUSINESS OWNERSHIP: INVENTORY CONTROL/SBDC
- 23 & 26 WNET ROUNDTABLE/SBDC
- 24 DIABETIC WORKSHOP/CES

AUGUST

- 3 HOW TO BUY AND SELL A HOUSE/SBDC
- 5 HOW TO BE A GOOD LANDLORD/SBDC
- 5 DETAILS OF BUSINESS OWNERSHIP: MARKETING
STRATEGY/PRICING PRODUCTS & SERVICES/SBDC
- 12 DETAILS OF BUSINESS OWNERSHIP: MARKETING
STRATEGY/ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS/SBDC
- 18 MARKETING STRATEGIES/SBDC
- 19 DETAILS OF BUSINESS OWNERSHIP: INTERVIEWING &
HIRING THE RIGHT PEOPLE/SBDC
- 31 INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT PUBLISHER/SBDC

SEPTEMBER

- 11 MINI CONFERENCE/SBDC
- 13-18 COASTWEEK/CMES
- 16 DETAILS OF BUSINESS OWNERSHIP: BASIC
ACCOUNTING/BOOKKEEPING/SBDC
- 21 WNET ROUNDTABLE/SBDC

**for more information on these events, contact the sponsoring department.*



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