



dateline: UVI

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Sliding for the Holidays



Photo by Marthious Clavier

Members of the UVI family dance the Electric Slide at the St. Croix campus Holiday Gala held on Dec. 9 at Elizabeth's at the Palm. The St. Thomas campus Holiday Party was held on Dec. 11 at the Dining Pavilion.

UVI's Entrance Gets a Facelift



Photo by Dale Morton

Groundskeepers Weston Rivers, left, and Roy "Ibo" Sterrod care for newly-planted ixoras in front of UVI's St. Thomas campus entrance. The plants and soil in front of the University's western signage were found to be diseased so Grounds Supervisor Ashley "Ashanti" George had the 75-foot area excavated. It took 10 truckloads of soil, from UVI grounds and from the construction site of the new Humane Society, to fill in the space. The excavation, backfilling and replanting of the ixoras were all done in two days. Ixoras were also replanted in front of the eastern signage. Colorful mulch forming a U-V-I was added to enhance the aesthetics until the ixoras fill out.

Woodworkers Shine at First-Ever Expo



Bien Brignoni in the beginning stages of making a vase at a demonstration at the first annual Virgin Islands Woodworkers Expo held Dec. 8 and 9 at the UVI Sports and Fitness Center.

Sometimes the idea comes to him before he touches the wood, sometimes it comes after. Other times he begins with one idea and it turns into another. The latter was the case when Afreekon Southwell created the "Emerging Women" piece. He had the idea of sculpting a hibiscus out of a four-foot piece of wood, but the idea to feature five generations of women emerging out of the hibiscus came later. That detailed sculpture and several others were on display at the first annual Virgin Islands Woodworkers Expo held Dec. 8 and 9 at the UVI Sports and Fitness Center. Southwell was one of the

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Events Calendar

Dec. 22-Jan. 3	Holiday Break UVI Closed	
Jan. 5	Festival Children's Parade	STX
Jan. 6	Festival Adult's Parade	STX
Jan. 9	New Student Orientation	STT/STX
Jan. 11	Classes Begin	STT/STX
Jan. 13	Angelique Kidjo-Reichhold	STT

Contract Allows Peers to Educate Others About HIV/AIDS

The World AIDS Day message was brief and to-the-point on Dec. 1 at the University of the Virgin Islands St. Thomas campus Dining Pavilion. Student Peer Educator (SPE) Tameka Browne began her presentation without any fanfare. She gave the basic history of HIV/AIDS, spoke about national and local statistics, then encouraged everyone to be responsible.

“The problem isn’t about the statistics, but about real people being affected each day,” Browne said. Know your status and be aware of your actions she said, standing above an HIV/AIDS informational poster board. As the SPE leader on the St. Thomas campus, Browne is accustomed to giving those presentations. Over



UVI Student Peer Educators Latisha Weekes, left, and Tameka Browne discuss HIV/AIDS information at a World AIDS Day event on the St. Thomas campus.

the past two years she has made similar presentations in the dorms, and to Freshman Development Seminar and Personal Life Skills classes.

The presentations by Browne and other SPEs on both campuses are made possible through a McFarland and Associate, Inc. contract. UVI was recently awarded another McFarland and Associate, Inc. contract to continue the implementation of peer-led class presentations on HIV/AIDS, substance abuse and hepatitis. The two-year contract is in the amount of \$85,000 and runs through Sept. 30, 2007. The contract was secured by

Dr. Doris Battiste, St. Thomas campus associate campus executive administrator.

Expo Continued

several wood turners whose work was featured at the event which brought together wood turners from the four Virgin Islands.

Some items were decorative, like Southwell’s Emerging Women, others were practical like Albion George’s pens and toothpick holders, while others were both practical and decorative like Carol Spanner’s standing mirror in the shape of St. Thomas and Al Smith’s flashlight-shaped clocks.

Attendees were treated to live demonstrations by Southwell and Bien Brignoni. An estimated 3,000 people attended the two-day event. Next year’s expo will be held on St. Croix.

The expo was sponsored by the UVI Cooperative Extension Service in partnership with the West Indian Company

Oil lamps by Vegan Ellis on display at the first annual Virgin Islands Woodworkers Expo. The lamps were some of the hundreds of pieces of wooden crafts on display and for sale at the expo.



Ltd., the V.I. Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the V.I. Resource, Conservation and Development Council, Inc. and the V.I. Department of Agriculture.

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