

Communi-клик

Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



COMMUNI-CLIK, MARCH, 2006

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CRICKET PROMPTS EMERGENCY RESPONSE REFRESHER

St. Kitts and Nevis will host two international Cricket matches in 2006. Thousands of visitors are expected to attend. In preparation for the events, National Disaster Coordinator Carl Herbert hosted training in handling chemical spills for fire and rescue-related agencies March 27-31, 2006. Return volunteer Joe Burgess, Clermont, headed the training. Burgess is CEO and senior instructor at HotZone USA, with more than 33 years of professional experience in emergency response. First time volunteer William McDeavitt, emergency management coordinator at Florida Hospital in Orlando, co-trained the event. The trainers provided the equipment required for the training such as a smoke machine, chemical suits, gloves, masks, vests, student supplies and other materials. An emergency response plan was drafted as part of the course.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PROMOTES PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Sister Maude Rhenau of Congregación Hijas de Maria coordinated a team of health care professionals who provided outpatient care, medical and nursing skills, March 25-29, 2006 in an area serving 150 communities around the small Dominican town of El Ciebo. FAVACA Miami volunteer Magaly Prezeau, MPH, executive director of the Haitian American Professionals Coalition, traveled to El Ceibo with first time volunteer Herard LaFrance, a Specialty Family Nurse Practitioner also from Miami. They joined a 25-member medical team of physicians, nurses, and public health specialists. The team was accompanied by ten nursing students from Miami-Dade College who provided public health and preventive health information. In addition, epidemiological data were collected to plan future missions to the area.

BAHAMAS RED CROSS IMPROVES SHELTER MANAGEMENT

Mrs. Marina Ginton, director general of the Bahamas Red Cross hosted shelter management technical assistance March 19-25, 2006 in anticipation of the 2006 hurricane season. Spencer Hawkins, deputy emergency manager, Orlando Office of Emergency Management, provided 19 participants training in mass management, prioritizing, and planning for volunteers. Hawkins has worked in disaster management for more than six years, and currently is the logistics section chief, Central Florida Region, for the US Department of Homeland Security/FEMA.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA, ST. KITTS & NEVIS, SEEK FIRE ANT CONTROL

First reported in Antigua in 1995, fire ants are considered a major agricultural and urban pest with implications for human and animal health and agricultural yields. To battle the threat, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Antigua and Barbuda Ministry of Agriculture sought technical assistance in developing an integrated pest management solution for the red imported fire ant - *Solenopsis Invicta*. Retired Florida State Entomologist Dr. Robert Woodruff, Gainesville, provided workshops on control techniques effective in Florida, March 5-7, 2006 for Ministry technical staff. He also traveled to several affected areas with Ministry staff to place traps and talk with farmers. Several chemical and biological controls were discussed and data collected for the formulation of an overall pest management strategy.

Fire ants were first reported in St. Kitts only in August, 2004. The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Ministry of Agriculture in St. Kitts and Nevis hosted Dr. Woodruff, for assistance to local farmers in developing an integrated pest management solution. Woodruff consulted with Ministry staff and members of Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) placing traps and talking with farmers throughout the island March 7-11, 2006. They also collected data to inform a pest management strategy.

DOMINICA COOPERATIVE DEVELOPS ECO-TOURISM CENTER

Last year, the Giraudel-Eggleston Flower Growers Group (FGG) decided to develop 2.6 acres of village land into a Botanical Center and Gardens.. The Center will showcase the wide variety of tropical vegetation and become the community's eco-tourism centerpiece. It will also permanently host the annual flower show. Sam Hand and Edward Duke, both of Tallahassee, traveled to Dominica March 5-12, 2006 to survey the site and initiate a landscape plan to include landscaping, pathways, gazebos and booths for local crafts. The plan will complement the natural environment, preserving existing plants and trees. Hand and Duke are associate professors at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, Tallahassee. Dr. Duke teaches ornamental horticulture and landscape design. Mr. Hand teaches landscape architecture and arboriculture.

ST. KITTS MAINSTREAMS SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS

Merging special needs students into neighborhood elementary schools, while benefitting students with mild disabilities, has necessitated inclusion training for teachers and educators, according to the Special Education Unit of the Ministry of Education . Return volunteer Jill Brookner, instructional supervisor with Miami-Dade Public Schools, consulted in St. Kitts March 1-4, 2006 on inclusion, community based instruction, supervision issues, and aspects of the United States “No Child Left Behind” program. It is reported that special education teachers attending the workshops addressed a myriad of student needs and maintain that capacity-building in inclusion and differentiated instruction should remain a priority.

"The 21st century will be the century of the social sector organization. The more economy, money, and information become global, the more community will matter. And only the social sector nonprofit organization performs in the community, exploits its opportunities, mobilizes its local resources, solves its problems. The leadership, competence, and management of the social sector nonprofit organization will thus largely determine the values, the vision, the cohesion, and the performance of the 21st century society."

Peter F. Drucker