

Just CAUSES Newsletter

October 2013

Our Mission - The College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) offers research-based academic and community outreach programs that improve the quality of life and economic opportunity of people and communities in the District of Columbia, the nation and the world.

Welcome to Just CAUSES!

This newsletter has an accompanying online component at
<http://udc-causes.blogspot.com>



where you can learn more about the University of the District of Columbia's College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences. At CAUSES, we believe that healthy cities equals healthy people. Please join us as we seek to connect the urban neighborhoods we call home here in Washington, D.C. to neighborhoods around the world. Together we will find urban solutions that improve lives and livelihoods. [MORE](#)

Locally Grown Food Promoted by Hay-Adams Partnership

Locally grown food is fresh, nutritious and



delicious. The Hay-Adams will receive a regular supply of locally grown food from the CAUSES Muirkirk "Firebird" Research Farm. The farm of the District's only land-grant university uses sustainable growing methods to produce a range of fresh herbs and

vegetables that are rare in DC supermarkets. Many of them are called "ethnic crops" and do not originate on the American continent but can be grown locally. [MORE](#)

CAUSES Installs Ward 8 Urban Aquaponics Project



CAUSES celebrated the launch of a neighborhood-sized aquaponics facility located in the southeastern quadrant of Washington, D.C. The project is the result of a collaborative effort between the College and ReGeneration House of Praise Church. The ribbon-cutting was attended by representatives from USDA, the D.C. Government, UDC and the community. The new aquaponics facility will enable the church to raise fish and grow fresh food using cutting-edge technology.

[MORE](#)

CAUSES TV: Food Security

CAUSES TV turns the spotlight on the issue of

Food Security, which is the need to provide a steady,



dependable supply of highly nutritious food to every man, woman and child. Joining Dean O'Hara on this episode are Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, Dr. Dionne Fortsen Toombs and Dr. Robert Holland, all from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, a division of the USDA. [MORE](#)

Fijian Ambassador visits Muirkirk Farm

CAUSES was pleased to welcome the Honorable Winston Thompson, Ambassador of Fiji, to our farm in Beltsville, Maryland. The Ambassador was joined by his wife, Mrs. Queenie Thompson, and spent over two hours touring the farm, taking a special interest in our native, or "ethnic crops" program. [MORE](#)



CAUSES Celebrates Local School's African Food Day with DC Central Kitchen

CAUSES recently participated in African Food Day at Walker Jones Education Campus in Washington, D.C. A program of DC Central Kitchen, the demonstration was led by Yao Afantchao, UDC's Ethnic Crop Development Specialist. The 5th – 8th grade students were eager to try

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samples, although a few proceeded cautiously at first. General consensus was that the event—and the food—were both a success. [MORE](#)



UDC Hosts 5th Green Living Expo DC

Last month, UDC hosted the 5th annual Green Living Expo DC. Green Living DC is the primary community organizer of the event, in partnership with CAUSES and with the continued support of the D.C. Office of Planning. [MORE](#)



Meet the Expert: Che Axum

Che Axum is the Director for Urban Agriculture and Gardening Education for CAUSES. He leads a team of researchers at the Muirkirk "Firebird" Research Farm in Beltsville, MD, and



oversees our Master Gardening, Specialty and Ethnic Crops, and Urban Forestry programs. [MORE](#)

CAUSES Creates Community Gardens of the Senses

Last summer, CAUSES launched a community garden project. Known collectively as "Gardens of the Senses," the project created three gardens on the UDC Van Ness Campus: a garden for the sense of vision; a garden for the sense of smell and a garden for the sense of touch. The project was made possible through a grant from The Verizon Foundation, and is ongoing. [MORE](#)



Visit UDC's Farmers Market

There is still time to visit our farmers market until Nov. 10, 2013. The market is open Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 4340 Connecticut Ave., in front of the UDC Law School. Show your support for UDC and our local producers and growers by buying from the UDC farmers market! [MORE](#)



Sign up to Attend Operation Military Kids Training

The 4-H OMK Ready, Set, Go! training will be offered Nov. 22, 2013. This community training is designed to

increase non-military youth workers, educators and other community members' understanding of the unique issues facing military youth. [MORE](#)



Professor Pier Broadnax Appointed to AARP's Nursing Campaign for Action



The DC Action Coalition has been selected by the Future of Nursing: *Campaign for Action*, an initiative of AARP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, working to transform healthcare by preparing nursing to address our nation's most pressing healthcare challenges—access, quality and cost. Dr. Broadnax will serve as co-lead.

[MORE](#)

Cyber CAUSES

Did you know that you can find CAUSES on various online social media channels? Not only is [Just CAUSES](#), the online component of the newsletter a great resource for you to learn about all things related to the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences, but we are also on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube! [MORE](#)

For more information on

CAUSES visit
www.udc.edu/causes.

To submit materials for consideration, contact Leslie Malone (leslie.malone@udc.edu) or
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