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ST. JOHN

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TRADEWINDS

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V.I. Unity Day Group Property Tax Lawsuit To Continue

Judge Gomez Cancels 2006 Property Tax Bills and Finds Government in Contempt – Page 3



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Shape of Things To Come

The roundabout intersection project in Cruz Bay took a major step forward when construction crews lopped off the point of the former Texaco gasoline station. Crews also created a walkway, which gives pedestrians a safer path between Centerline Road and South Shore Road.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

This 10-wheel dump truck flipped over along King Hill Road, taking out a stone wall and leaking hundreds of gallons of diesel into the ground.

Flipped Dump Truck Leaks Diesel on TPL-owned Estate Maho Bay Property

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

A 10 wheel dump truck loaded down with more than 20 tons of rock drove through the stone wall on King Hill Road and flipped over the hillside spilling about 100 gallons of diesel into the ground.

No one was injured in the accident, which took out about 20 feet of the stone wall located on the steep corner of lower King Hill Road leading to North Shore from Centerline Road.

While the accident occurred on Thursday, September 4, around 3:30 p.m., it wasn't cleared until more than a week later when a crane was transported to St. John.

"There was not a tow truck on St. John that could have gotten that truck out," said V.I. National Park Superintendent Mark Hardgrove.

A crane finally removed the truck on Saturday, September 13, but the smell of diesel was still thick in the air on Monday, September 15.

"We've probably got about 100 gallons of diesel fuel, oil, hydraulic fuel and transmission oil down there," Hardgrove said.

There were two people in the truck at the time of the accident, both of whom climbed out of the cab safely, according to the VINP Superintendent.

"No one was hurt," said Hardgrove. "Both men were able to get out of the driver's side window and through the brush up the hill. I suspect they got more

cuts and bruises climbing up the hill than they did in the accident."

The damaged wall is owned by VINP, but the site of the accident is part of the Estate Maho land recently purchased by the national non-profit group Trust for Public Land.

TPL worked for years to acquire the more than 400-acre Estate Maho Bay in a deal that was finalized just last year with a reported several million-dollar price tag.

The group plans to survey the fuel-laden area, according to officials.

"We're going to have an environmental firm go out and survey the area and tell us the extent of the spill and what would be involved in cleaning it up," said John Garrison, TPL's southeast regional director.

Although Garrison would not state who owned the truck, the incident will most likely be covered by insurance, according to the TPL official.

"The truck is personally owned and I would imagine that the truck owner has insurance which would pay for the damage," Garrison said.

VINP officials will also work with the truck owner to repair the wall, Hardgrove explained.

"I have a feeling there might be enough rock down in the hole, which was in the truck before it flipped, to repair the wall," said Hardgrove. "I'm looking forward to hearing from the responsible party or their insurance company and we'll work with them."

St. John Chapter of STT/STJ Chamber of Commerce Meeting Is Sept. 23

St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce will now be meeting on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 23, at 5:30 p.m. at St. Ursula's Multi-purpose Center. The meeting will end promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Subjects on next week's agenda include: an update on the tourism greeter initiative; and update on the VIPA turnstiles and fees; an update on the traffic circle and upcoming events including Chamber Business After Hours on St. John in October and Festival of Lights in December.

Your participation and input is important and so is your membership in the chamber. If you have not yet submitted your application please contact Kate Norfleet at 513-0647 or by email to stjohnchapter@gmail.com.

Prostate Cancer Screening Sept. 27

St. John Tradewinds

A prostate cancer screening clinic is scheduled for Saturday, September 27, at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Prostate Cancer is the most common type of cancer found in American men. Screening is recommended for all men over 40 years old.

The rate is higher among African-American men and men with a family history of prostate cancer.

A simple blood test and an optional digital rectal examination will be offered. There is a minimal fee of \$25 to cover lab costs, but participants might qualify for the service at no cost by calling the American Cancer Society at 775-5373. For more information call 693-8900.

KATS Basic Skills Program Starting October 18; Applications Available

St. John Tradewinds

KATS stands for Kids And The Sea — kids safely having fun on the water, through an educational program bringing together the Virgin Islands' greatest human resource — its youth and its greatest natural resource, the sea.

The program seeks to increase the enjoyment, understanding and safety of youngsters in their relationship with the sea that surrounds them through hands-on experience in boat handling and basic seamanship skills. It is very important for reasons of safety, recreation and careers in the marine industry or tourism fields that an island community's children be trained on the water.

The KATS Basic Skills Program is a series of eight to 10 three-hour sessions consisting of classroom instruction, shore side and on-the-water activities. The children learn rowing, knot tying, anchoring, docking, man overboard, capsizing recovery, weather and rules of boating. The program is intended to expose kids to basic principles and techniques of seamanship in order to prepare them with knowledge of life on, in or by the sea.

Interested children age 8 (by December 2008) or older should meet at Skinny Legs in Coral Bay on Saturday, October 18, at 9 a.m. Children can be picked up at 12 p.m. at Skinny Legs. The program runs from October 18 through December 20, with no session the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

A swim test will be administered the first session, in which the child must demonstrate basic swimming skills. A bathing suit, towel and water shoes — anything that can be worn in the water — are necessary.

Applications must be returned to Jennifer Robinson at Connection East or West by October 13. For more information call 514-3718.



PAST INSTALLMENTS OF "LIVE-ABOARD" CAN BE FOUND AT: www.stjohnvitoday.com/liveboard.html

Unity Day Group Continues Lawsuit Against Government Over Property Taxes

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

The V.I. government had a busy week in court earlier this month.

On the heels of District Court Judge Curtiz Gomez finding the V.I. Government in contempt of court for issuing 2006 property tax bills (see related story), the V.I. Unity Day Group filed a motion

on Thursday, September 11, for preliminary injunctive relief in its lawsuit against the government.

Property taxes in the territory have been scrutinized since 2003 when the District Court ruled that the government had been setting tax rates unconstitutionally. The court ordered the government to reevaluate all properties across the

territory and placed an injunction on tax rates, freezing them at 1998 levels.

2006 Bills Rescinded

Government contractor BearingPoint completed property revaluations earlier this year. Despite the ongoing injunction, government officials issued 2006 property tax bills reflecting the new rates.

Gomez ordered those bills rescinded last week, found the government in contempt of court and levied a \$5,000 a day fine until the government complied with the order. Government officials filed an appeal with the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, which is pending.

Many residents on St. John saw their property tax bills skyrocket after BearingPoint's revaluations. The V.I. Unity Day Group filed suit against the government on behalf of all Love City property owners alleging major inaccuracies with the revaluations.

"The revaluation project is so fundamentally flawed that it violates constitutional rights to due process," said Attorney James Derr, who is representing the V.I. Unity Day Group. "We'd like to move forward at least into the discovery phase to get some of the raw data that BearingPoint used to generate the values."

IAAO Expert Introduced

The group's suit seeks to stop the government from issuing tax bills until assessed property values are in accordance with International Association of Assessing Officers standards. The latest motion in the V.I. Unity Day Group case introduced Robert Gloude-mans, an Arizona-based attorney who specializes in assessment administration and author of many IAAO assessment standards, as an expert witness.

Gloude-mans reviewed BearingPoint's data and St. John property sales between 2002 and 2005, and found the revaluations seriously flawed, according to court documents.

"Based on these documents I conclude that one can have no confidence that the revaluation was in fact conducted or completed in compliance with IAAO and USPAP standards," according to Gloude-mans' declaration in support of the Unity Day Group's motion for preliminary injunction.

High End Properties Under-Assessed

Throughout the entire revaluation process, high end properties were under-valued and low end properties were over-valued, according to Gloude-mans' declaration.

"Assuming that the sales data provided to me was properly selected and calibrated in accordance with the IAAO Publication 'Standard on Ratio Studies' these figures indicate that high end properties on St. John are being

systematically under-assessed and low end properties are being over-assessed," according to the declaration. "In any event, the numbers themselves fall far outside of IAAO standards."

As both motions are currently pending before Judge Gomez, V.I. Unity Day Group property tax committee chairperson Myrtle Barry hailed Gomez's finding the government in contempt of court.

On the Right Track

"This is a major step in the right direction for us relative to requiring the Virgin Islands government to acknowledge the District Court injunction," said Barry. "This is exactly what the V.I. Unity Day Group is addressing because the revaluation has not been properly addressed yet. The court acknowledged that from the backlog of formal appeals which haven't been completed that the injunction has been violated."

"St. John property owners know that the property revaluations are still incorrect," Barry said.

The group is not trying to get out of paying property taxes, they just want property values to be correct, Barry explained.

"We've asserted it over and over again that we are not against paying taxes," she said. "We want to pay our taxes. However, the evaluations have to be correct."

Continued on Page 24

Judge Finds V.I. Government in Contempt of Court, Rescinds '06 Property Tax Bills

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Disregard those 2006 property tax bills the government sent earlier this month.

On September 11, District Court Judge Curtiz Gomez found the Government of the Virgin Islands in contempt of court for violating a 2003 injunction freezing property tax rates at 1998 values.

Gomez ordered the government to rescind the 2006 property tax bills and levied a \$5,000 per day fine on the government until it comes into compliance with the order.

Government officials backed themselves into a corner by arguing in court that since the V.I. Legislature passed Act 6991 in March — which repealed several sections of the previous tax law — bills reflecting 1998 rates could not be issued.

\$70 Million Shortfall Expected

Since Gomez found the government in contempt of court for violating the injunction — and ordering the 2006 bills rescinded — the government essentially can't issue any property tax bills this year and officials expect a \$70 million shortfall in funds.

As of press time, officials were still analyzing how the \$70 million shortfall will impact government services, according to Government House spokesperson John Greaux.

"The budget office is analyzing the impact the decision will have on the budget shortfall and how it will affect the 2009 budget," said Greaux. "It has not been determined but clearly it will be significant. The budget was balanced on the assumption of two property tax bills being sent next year."

The government issued a notice on Tuesday, September 16, rescinding the 2006 property taxes.

2006 Bills Rescinded

"The Government of the Virgin Islands has been directed by the District Court to rescind all 2006 property tax bills; therefore, all property owners are advised to withhold payments of their 2006 property tax bills until further notice," according to the order.

The notice, however, also warned residents that the bills will eventually be sent.

"Property owners should also be aware that while the court's ruling directs the rescission of the 2006 bills, they should continue to make provisions for the eventual payment of these taxes once the legal issues are resolved," according to the order.

The ongoing property tax saga plaguing the territory began in 2003 when the District Court ruled that the government had been issuing property taxes unconstitutionally and ordered the government to conduct a territory-wide property revaluation. The court issued an injunction at that time freezing property taxes at 1998 levels.

The government contracted Georgia-based BearingPoint, to the tune of more than \$8 million, to conduct the property revaluation project.

While BearingPoint completed the territory-wide revaluations several months ago, many St. John residents still have problems with their newly assessed property values.

The St. John Unity Day Group, on behalf of all St. John property tax owners, filed a separate lawsuit against the government of the Virgin Islands (see related story on this page).

Looking for Fair System

Plaintiffs in the ongoing case against the government are not trying to avoid paying property taxes, according to Attorney James Derr, who represents several parties including the VI Unity Day Group.

"I sympathize with the government's need for property tax revenue, but they are going about it all wrong," said Derr. "All the plaintiffs want is a fair system — they aren't trying to get out of any tax responsibility. I think there are just some fundamental problems with the system."

The property tax rate injunction will stand until a properly functioning board of tax review is in place, according to the court ruling.

Gomez previously stated that he will review the board on a quarterly basis, so no action is expected on the injunction for at least 90 days.

Gomez's conclusion noted that both citizens and government must abide by the law.

Government Must Obey Law Too

"Indeed, the government appropriately expects its citizens to comply with all of its laws, including the payment of taxes, failing which they risk severe legal consequences," according to Gomez's ruling. "The obligation to abide by the rule of the law is not limited to the citizenry, however. That obligation is shared with the government."

"Neither the governed nor those who govern may decide when and if the rule of the law is applicable," according to Gomez.

The government filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit on Friday, September 12.

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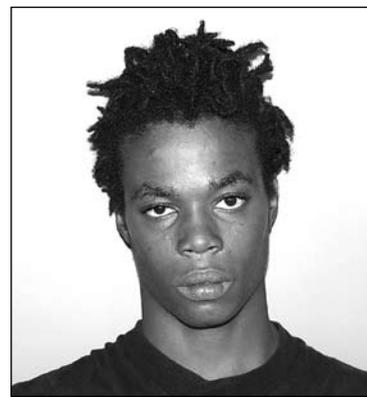
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Judge Joins Three Defendants' Cases in Jamie Cockayne Murder Case Trial

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Superior Court Judge Brenda Hollar joined the cases of all three defendants facing first-degree murder charges in the June 2007 murder of 21-year-old Pennsylvania resident James Cockayne.

Cockayne was stabbed to death in front of Fashion Palace in Cruz Bay during the early morning hours of June 19, 2007.

After Cockayne's parents launched a national media campaign lambasting the V.I. Police Department's perceived inaction, officials arrested two local men.

Kamal Thomas, an 18-year-old Georgia native living in Estate Gift Hill and 31-year-old St. Croix native Anselmo Boston were arrested in August 2007. Both men face first-degree murder, first-degree assault and weapons charges, and are under house arrest.

More than a year after the murder, VIPD officials arrested 20-year-old Jahlil Ward on June 27 when he returned to the territory from the mainland. Ward also faces first-degree murder, assault and weapons charges.

Defense Attorney Spurs Third Arrest

Ward's arrest came after Thomas' attorney Michael Joseph submitted an affidavit naming the St. John man as a suspect in a May pre-trial hearing.

At the latest pre-trial hearing on August 19, Assistant Attorney General Renee Gumbs-Carty filed a motion to consolidate all three men's cases, a move which Judge Hollar recently granted.

Despite it being Gumbs-Carty's motion, the move does not bode well for the prosecution, according to Attorney Joseph, who maintains his client's innocence and Ward's guilt.

"It's really bureaucratic inertia," said Joseph. "It's hard to say 'I was wrong.' Basically the prosecution would rather just throw the dice and see what happens."

Thomas and Boston did get into an altercation with Cockayne at the Front Yard Bar before the night of the murder — as the prosecution alleges — but neither of the men were with Ward when the stabbing occurred, Joseph explained.

Not All Three

"It's either my client and Mr. Thomas or Mr. Ward — but it's certainly not the three of them together," said Joseph. "The witnesses said they saw one person walk away from the murder scene."

"The jury is going to see the defense attorney act like a prosecutor," Joseph continued. "I intend to tell the jury that the killer is in the court room and he is

"I intend to raise a reasonable doubt about my client. If the jury sees reasonable doubt than everyone walks."

— Attorney Michael Joseph, defense for Kamal Thomas

sitting right next to me — his name is Jahlil Ward."

The prosecution's theory that all three men were involved in the murder makes it easy for the defense attorneys to raise doubt, Joseph added.

Witness Account

"If the prosecutor is not convinced, then the jury is going to say they don't know what happened," said Joseph. "I intend to raise a reasonable doubt about my client. If the jury sees reasonable doubt then everyone walks."

Joseph maintains his client's innocence and says a witness will back up that claim, he explained.

"At least one witness will testify that he was at Hawksnest Beach with my client when the murder happened," said Joseph. "And that witness is a continental. Why would a continental testify for a little rasta boy against a continental?"

Boston is a mature person and Thomas, unlike Ward, does not have a history of violent crimes, according to the defense attorney.

"When you see Mr. Boston you can tell Mr. Boston is a mature individual who doesn't have time to get involved with this kind of stuff," Joseph said. "Mr. Thomas doesn't have any record of violence. The only thing that might come out is that my client smokes marijuana — but who doesn't at that age?"

Criminal History

"Now Ward, his record is a real record," Joseph continued. "He's a common thug."

The defense attorney is still hoping Gumbs-Carty will dismiss charges against his client, Joseph added.

"I hope the people see the light," said Joseph. "They should do a dismissal without prejudice. They can always refile the charges if they find some evidence later because there is no statute of limitations for murder."

"Right now they don't have sufficient evidence," Joseph said.

The murder trial against Thomas, Boston and Ward is scheduled to begin on Monday, October 6, with jury selection set for Friday, October 3.

Barshinger Prevails in Primary Election, Christensen To Run Unopposed

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Democrat Senator at Large candidate Craig Barshinger prevailed in the primary election and will face incumbent Senator at Large Carmen Wesselhoft, a member of the Independent Citizens' Movement party, in the general election on Tuesday, November 4.

Barshinger beat out fellow Democrat Senator at Large candidates Harry Daniel and Lorelei Monsanto when residents across the territory hit the polling booths on Saturday, September 13.

Despite low voter turnout on all three islands, Barshinger garnered 3,062 votes territory-wide while Daniel collected 1,676 votes and Monsanto netted 1,212 votes.

Barshinger Takes GBS, Daniel Tops at JESS

On St. John Barshinger came out on top at Guy Benjamin School where he received 19 votes to Daniel's 12 and Monsanto's 11 votes.

Daniel received the most votes, however, at Julius E. Spruave School, the island's only other polling station. Barshinger picked up 68 votes at JESS while Daniel collected 75 and Monsanto received 52.

Securing his victory, Barshinger came out ahead at most of the other polling locations across the ter-



Craig Barshinger

ritory especially at Paul B. Larsen School on St. Croix and Joseph Sibilly School on St. Thomas.

This is not Barshinger's first time throwing his hat into the Senator at Large ring. He served one term before being unseated by Wesselhoft in the 2006 election.

After the votes were tallied, Barshinger acknowledged his fellow Democrat candidates in the primary election.

Key Issues Top Agenda

"I would like to give a big 'Thank You' to the voters for the strong support in the primary elec-



Carmen M. Wesselhoft

tion," said Barshinger. "Congratulations to my opponents Harry Daniel and Lorelei Monsanto for running good campaigns. They are both dedicated to the good of St. John."

If elected, the Democrat's Senator at Large candidate will focus on energy issues and ongoing problems plaguing St. John, he explained.

"For the upcoming term, I would like to offer the voters my firm commitment to working on key issues," Barshinger said. "For the territory, my priority is lowering

"For the territory, my priority is lowering WAPA bills by building modern plants that use renewable energy such as sunlight, supplemented by inexpensive fuels such as pet-coke."

— Craig Barshinger
Senator-at-Large candidate

WAPA bills by building modern plants that use renewable energy such as sunlight, supplemented by inexpensive fuels such as pet-coke."

ternet is particularly effective, and I urge St. John residents to visit me at www.barshinger.net."

Delegate Christensen Wins Big

In the Delegate to Congress race, veteran incumbent Donna Christensen garnered a big victory over fellow Democrat candidate Victor Frazer. Christensen collected 5,631 votes territory-wide compared to Frazer's 1,456 votes.

Christensen came out on top by large margins at both St. John polling stations. At GBS, the Delegate to Congress collected 40 votes compared to Frazer's three. At JESS, Christensen collected 179 votes and Frazer netted 23.

A total of only 281 residents cast their votes in the primary on St. John, a number which officials hope to see rise dramatically in the November 4 general election.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of VINP

Superintendent Hardgrove poses with the crew from San Juan, Puerto Rico.

San Juan Crew Finishes VINP Project on Time, Under Budget

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Employees from the San Juan National Historic Site completed installing pavers in front of the V.I. National Park Visitors' Center last week as part of continued work on a new interpretative display.

The first part of the display, which highlights the importance of philanthropy in the National Park Service, was finished in December 2007 in time for the VINP's 50th anniversary.

Funded by Friends of VINP, the display currently includes several interpretive signs, a bench, covered walkway and pavers. The next phase of the project will include installation of planters and a low sitting wall designed by St. John architect Glen Speer.

While the pavers added an aesthetic element to the area, they have also leveled the ground, making the VINP Visitors' Center entrance more accessible.

VINP Superintendent Mark Hardgrove praised the work done by San Juan National Historic Site employees.

"The San Juan National Historic Site Preservation crew finished the job, on time, under budget, and it has made a huge improvement to our plaza," said Hardgrove. "The next steps will be when Glen Speer will start his sitting walls, planters and plantings. This partnership project will be complete by December 2008."

Giff Hill School Is Going Green; Officials Considering Wind Power

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

With a new academic year in full swing, Giff Hill School officials have big plans for the private school and are considering alternative energy sources as part of their future.

Classrooms in the upper campus, located on about eight acres in Estate Gift Hill, are currently conducted in what will eventually become the gymnasium, after a campus is constructed.

The school's lower campus is separated from the upper campus by about five acres of land owned by the Catholic Church, which GHS officials are hoping to purchase.

Even if the land is not acquired, however, school officials plan to construct a pod-type of low-impact campus akin to the layout of eco-resort Estate Concordia, explained GHS Head Ben Biddle.

Construction would center around green materials, solar energy and natural lighting and ventilation, Biddle explained.

The school head envisions walkways connecting the eco-friendly buildings spread over the school's campus, he added.

While plans for the campus are still in the formative phase, officials are considering taking one step in the eco-conscious direction with wind turbines — the same technology which will be installed at Tutu Park Mall soon.

Florida-based Green Power Electric CEO Gordon Anderson toured the school last week and selected an ideal site for a wind turbine, or two, he explained.

"We're looking at initially putting in one wind turbine at the school," said Anderson. "It would be a 50-kilowatt unit which can generate about 165,000 kilowatts a year, based on an average wind speed of 13 miles and hour."

"GHS is in an excellent wind corridor," Anderson continued. "I expect their average wind is a lot higher than 13 miles an hour."

While the turbines are tall structures, they are a lot quieter than most people think, according to Anderson.

"The base is about 18 feet by 20 feet, or 20 feet by 20 feet depending on the soil," he said. "The base is about 100 feet tall and the blades are another 25 feet or so. It puts out about 65 decibels, which at 150 feet is totally inaudible."

"It makes about the sound of a Honda Accord engine in idle when standing next to it," Anderson said. "No matter what the wind speed, the blades turn at 6.5 rpm."

Despite the height of the towers, their location would not interfere with any view-sheds in the area, according to Anderson.

"It won't block anyone's view whatsoever," he said.

Allaying anyone's fears during hurricane season, the turbines

are constructed to withstand high winds, Anderson added.

"Our towers are rated for winds up to 145 miles per hour," said Green Power's CEO. "There are three sets of breaks on the structure and it will shut down in winds over 50 miles per hour. We've designed the foundation and towers which are under warranty for 25 years."

If GHS officials plan to pursue wind turbine power from Green Electric — which still depends on board approval and several other factors — the school will not have any up-front costs, explained Anderson.

"This is an item that we would lease to GHS," he said. "We would install it, insure it and maintain it."

Green Electric would generate the power and sell it to GHS at a rate lower than that of the Water And Power Authority, Anderson explained.

"We base our rate on WAPA," he said. "It's based on a reduced kilowatt output charge. It's a rate tied to the WAPA rate."

While wind turbines are not a definite at GHS, school officials are dedicated to reducing their carbon footprint.

"We installed bamboo floors in the lower campus this summer and we'll be pursuing alternative energy sources as we move ahead with our plans," said GHS development director Beth Jones.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Susan Mann

St. John seniors entertain the crowd with a song during the opening celebration of the Adrian Senior Citizens' Center.

Island Seniors Celebrate New Center

By Susan Mann
St. John Tradewinds

The 45 senior citizens who were displaced when their Calabash Boom center was closed to make way for the construction of an affordable housing development have been enjoying their brand new Adrian Center for the last month and they made it official by hosting a celebration on Monday, September 8.

No amount of rain could dampen the spirits of those in attendance at the Adrian Senior Citizens' Center grand opening celebration which included more than 35 visitors and dignitaries who gave speeches, performed and helped celebrate with the island seniors.

At the end of the day, no performer or even Governor John deJongh could top the musical numbers performed by the talented Adrian Center musical group, "Seniors in Harmony."

Department of Human Services Assistant Commissioner Michal Rhymer-Charles was Mistress of Ceremony. The celebration opened with a prayer led by Pastor Carlyle Sampson.

When Senior Citizen Affairs Administrator Eva Williams of St. Croix introduced deJongh she nearly brought the house, or in this case the tent, down.

On Intimate Terms

"I want to welcome Pursey deJongh here today," said Williams, referring to the governor by his grandfather's name, and dropping his designation of governor.

"Now that lets me know that we really do have a 'senior' here, to remember when my grandfather was an elected official," exclaimed the delighted deJongh.

Department of Human Services Commissioner Christopher Finch tickled everyone's funny bones when he told about his recent ill-fated experience in the St. Croix Donkey Derby.

"I rode a St. John donkey named 'Calabash Boom' — or at least I tried to," said Finch. "After it threw me

twice, I knew Calabash Boom was trouble."

Senator-at-Large Carmen Wesselhoft spoke about her work to ensure that the seniors secured a center.

Wesselhoft's Work

"I don't usually toot my own horn, but it was my efforts that led to getting this center established," said Wesselhoft. "When are we getting our buses for our St. John seniors?"

The buses are already on order, explained deJongh, who added that the process had also been started to actually purchase the new facility.

"I will make sure you get your buses, computers and flat screen TV," said Wesselhoft. "I will be here for you all the way."

After acknowledging Wesselhoft's efforts in helping the seniors with the project, Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen expressed her appreciation to several people for their contributions in making the center a reality.

The delegate commended them for "not giving up along the way."

Securing Social Security

Christensen also spoke about the need for qualified citizens in the territory to have access to the same federal social security benefits for which state-side residents are entitled. Her office has made that a priority, Christensen explained.

"Are you ready to have that first dance?" Lieutenant Governor Gregory Francis asked Eirleen January.

The territory's second in command said he had already asked Mrs. January's husband, George January, for permission to have the first dance with his wife as soon as the center was open.

Mr. January reportedly gave his blessing to the soft shoe prospect, and then had a question for Francis.

"Are you all going to open this new center before I die," asked Mr. January.

Shifting gears, Francis concurred with the delegate

Continued on Page 24



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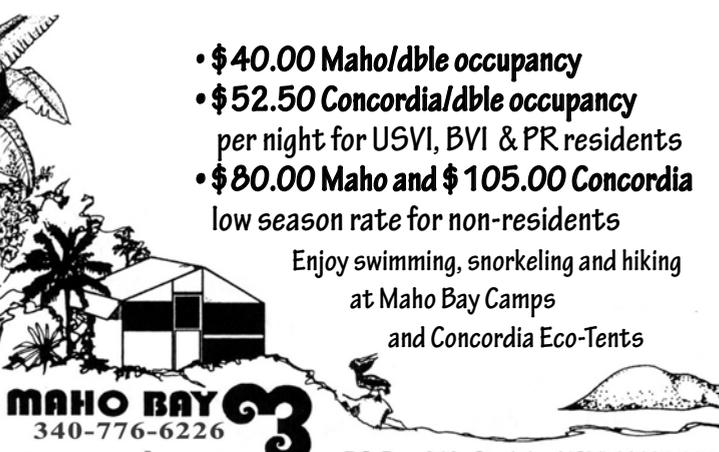
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Tennis Anyone?

St. John Tradewinds

Pat Harley has retired from teaching and has "time on her hands" — so guess what? There's a big meeting scheduled at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 27, at the Cruz Bay tennis courts.

Everyone is invited to reorganize the St. John Raquet Club! Whether you play or would like to learn, please join in the fun!

Everyone Must Read Water for Elephants

What a marvelous story by Sara Gruen! She even mentions my hometown Norwich, New York (half-way between Utica and Binghamton) as she tells about the traveling circuses of the 20s and 30s.

It brought back memories of my running to the tracks of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad to see the long line of boxcars full of animals as they passed through town on their way to Binghamton. My father took me to their yearly performances — it was always thrilling and to this day, I can remember the sounds and smells of the big tent shows!

I saw Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey later on, but the intimate original circuses were unforgettable.

The railroad followed the path of the Chenango Canal where the horses pulled boatloads of vehicles and freight from the Adirondacks to central New York state.

The story of circus life and its adventures is different and thoroughly entertaining. Do read this book — you'll love it!

Steve Simon Ready To Go Again

His second trip to Iraq is coming up — the troops are waiting for another taste of the blues!

I wonder what Steve would do if he didn't have a whirlwind trip to think of? I forgot to ask about his performance-to-be in China.

Do you know what ZUMBA is?

Sunday Jazz Featured a Gifted Violinist

Last week's Jazz at the Beach Bar stepped up a notch when Brett O'Mara played her violin. A beautiful young lady who brought the audience to its feet. What rhythm! I'm sure that Steve will ask her to return.

Joe Ramsay Swings on His Flute

Sure, we know he's terrific on sax, but just listen to those soft tones on the flute. Drop in at the Beach Bar from 4 to 7:30 p.m. on Sundays. Just like 52nd and Broadway.

Youngsters Take Yoga

There's a special young man, Ezzius Ashly, who reads to me from the Bible when his mother is cutting my hair. Now he's showing me how much he's learned in his yoga class at the Art School. He's only eight years old and shows great promise for the future. It's a joy to see such a bright boy who takes advantage of the educational programs offered to him. The St. John School of the Arts challenges the students of our public and private schools with music, art and dance and they love it!

We are Blessed, So Far, No Storms

The heat is pretty bad, but the heavy downpours have made everything luscious and green. Those electrical storms are scary, but no damages. We feel for our other Caribbean islands and the southern states.

You'll love Zumba! Wait and see!

Cruz Bay Freedom Walk Honors Lives Lost

St. John Tradewinds

On Thursday, September 11, St. John American Legion members joined communities across the country who paused to remember the many lives lost on September 11, 2001.

American Legion Viggo E. Sewer Post 131 members gathered in Cruz Bay on September 11 for the first annual Freedom Walk to honor the memory of the thousands who died on September 11, 2001, in the World Trade Center terrorist attacks in New York City.

St. John Administrator Lenoa Smith and about a dozen residents joined American Legion members in the walk, which started at V.I. National Park Visitors' Center and wound around the Frank Powell Park.

Back at the visitors' center the crowd observed a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m., the time when American Airlines Flight 11 hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center in downtown New York City in 2001. United Airlines Flight 175 hit the South Tower at 9:03 a.m.

The Freedom Walk was organized by the American Legion in conjunction with the V.I. National Guard and officials of the V.I. Veterans Affairs Office.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of J. Runyon

Members of the American Legion Auxillary group march in Cruz Bay.

"After the march, we observed a moment of silence to honor those who passed away and at the same time we honored our service men and women who are serving to ensure our way of life," said Jerry Runyon, American Legion Post 131 Commander.

The group plans to host yearly Freedom Marches, explained Runyon.

"This will be an annual march and next year we hope to have even more participants," Runyon said.

2008 Coastweeks: Island Residents Start Cleanup at Drunk Bay

By Katie Tarta
St. John Tradewinds

This past Saturday, September 20, marked the start of the 2008 V.I. Coastweeks as Drunk Bay got a make-over.

September 20 was also an internationally identified cleanup day where organizations like Ocean Conservancy work with local organizations to improve the environment. Coastweeks runs through October 31.

On St. John the focus is on cleaning up our bit of land for everyone's enjoyment and improving the island's waters. Not only does this cleaning improve beaches and trails, but the data collected from Coastweeks is reported to national organizations and helps to prevent future pollutants from ending up on our shores.

Improving Paradise and Beyond

In the past these coastal cleanups have been able to identify a variety of specific debris and dumping problems. For instance a few years ago the island's Coastweeks efforts identified large quantities of food and beverage receipts being dumped in the bushes at Trunk Bay.

This simple discovery led V.I. National Park officials at Trunk Bay to take action. Now when visitors are buying their snacks, they are asked if they need a receipt, significantly cutting down on the amount of paper being distributed.

Undoubtedly, this also led to not only more trash bins but ones that are more accessible to the food and



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Volunteers, organized by Friends of VINP, cleaned Drunk Bay of debris to kick-off Coastweeks this year on Love City.

beverage stations.

International efforts have also identified problems with Coca-Cola cans being retrieved from specific locations over and over again. This discovery jump started investigations and a relationship with Coca-Cola which encourages the recycling of their cans.

Now Coke cans include prominent information about the importance of recycling.

Love City's Three Weeks of Waste Removal

V.I. Coastweeks lasts for three

weeks, during which time volunteers will participate in removing hundreds of pounds of garbage and debris from 14 beaches and trails.

Volunteers last year reported picking up more than 990 pounds of garbage. This debris is not just unsightly, but can also be very dangerous for marine life.

VI Coastweeks officials work with Friends of V.I. National Park, University of the Virgin Islands' Marine Advisory Service, Coastal Zone Management Program and V.I. Waste Management Authority

to do the most possible during the 21 days of local action.

To find out more about VI Coastweeks coordinated cleanups throughout the territory or Friends' Adopt-A-Beach/Trail Program contact Audrey Penn at Friends of VINP at 779-4940, or email apenn@friendsvinp.org.

National Public Lands Day Meets Coastweeks

2008 Coastweek's marks a new relationship as VINP Superintendent Mark Hardgrove is working with Karen Brady, Friends' De-

"It is a good time for the whole community to get together and be a part of something bigger. The cleanups also extend to beaches out of the park and those that may not get as much attention throughout the rest of the year."

— Audrey Penn,
program coordinator
Friends of VINP

velopment Director, to promote a partnership to continually remove trash from problem areas on St. John.

Hardgrove has issued "Fee Free" days at Trunk Bay on Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28. While beach access is free to all, volunteers who join a beach cleanup those days will also enjoy free food and music.

Friends' officials are still looking for volunteers to clean up beaches across the island.

"It is a good time for the whole community to get together and be a part of something bigger," said Penn. "The cleanups also extend to beaches out of the park and those that may not get as much attention throughout the rest of the year."

Contact Penn at 779-4940 for details on which beaches and trails are in need and how you can help.

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Community Meeting on Domestic Violence Draws Few Attendees

By Susan Mann
St. John Tradewinds

The first of three community forums slated to take place throughout the territory hosted by Dr. Iris Kern, Domestic Violence Policy Advisor to Attorney General Vincent Frazer and V.I. Police Department Commissioner James McCall, drew only a few residents and agency officials.

Paul Jordan, on behalf of St. John Rescue and Animal Care Center of St. John (ACC), Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council director Lynn Spencer and Bill Needham were the only attendants at the Wednesday evening, September 17, meeting at the Cruz Bay Legislature Building.

No other St. John public service agencies, including the St. John Community Crisis Center, attended the event.

In her new role, Kern hopes to create department-wide policy, she explained.

"I want to introduce a new policy effort that has been initiated for police," said Kern. "I am sorry there are not others here this evening."

In addition to strengthening existing laws, Kern hopes to consolidate efforts to address the problem, she explained.

"I want to help providers function as more of a team, and this meeting was a step in that direction," said Kern.

The Domestic Violence Policy Advisor is also focusing on educating the public about domestic violence and sexual assault by writing columns in two newspapers. Kern also plans to host a radio program, she added.

Child abuse and animal abuse are closely related, according to Jordan, who read a two-page statement from ACC president B.J. Harris.

"Studies by child protection and social service agencies in the northeastern part of the U.S. show that more than 80 percent of families being treated for child abuse were also involved in animal abuse," Jordan said. "In two-thirds of those cases the abusive parent killed or injured the pet. The FBI considers animal cruelty to be one of the reliable predictors of violence, and in fact, uses it as a consideration when profiling serial killers."

"One university study found that people who abused animals as youth were five times more likely to commit violent crimes," Jordan continued.

A recent St. Croix animal abuse incident will be the first case to proceed to court in the territory, according to Kern, who added that she does not know of any cases of reported animal abuse on St. John which have actually been prosecuted.

Kern has received a verbal commitment from between 13 and 15 senators who will support her domestic violence initiatives, she explained.

Getting VIPD officials to respond appropriately, such as writing reports is a major concern, according to Jordan.

"As a member of the rescue squad, when we re-

"Studies by child protection and social service agencies in the northeastern part of the U.S. show that more than 80 percent of families being treated for child abuse were also involved in animal abuse."

— Paul Jordan, member
St. John Rescue

spond to a woman in the street who has been beaten and raped, how many times does it result in an actual arrest and prosecution," said Jordan.

Training does not exist for first responders, he added.

The problem goes back to VIPD officers following the law, and domestic violence laws should not be regarded by the VIPD any differently than any other laws, according to Spencer.

"The law is the law," she said.

While Kern is trying to initiate training workshops for VIPD officers, she is not getting any assistance from the St. John Community Crisis Center, she explained.

"I am gathering information from domestic violence service providers on each island as a part of this initiative," said Kern. "I have reached out to the Safety Zone [now known as the St. John Community Crisis Center] and they have refused to meet with me."

Kern originally founded the Safety Zone, but broke with the group on less than friendly terms last year. Kern had filed a lawsuit against the group's board of directors and the parties reportedly came to an agreement earlier this month.

Domestic violence assessments are usually conducted at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center or the Morris F. DeCastro Clinic, according to Kern.

The technology is now in place on St. John for domestic violence victims to have their cases heard by a judge on St. Thomas, without leaving Love City, explained Kern.

Most judges, however, are reluctant to conduct hearings in this manner, preferring to have all the parties physically present in the court room, she explained.

The necessity of sending all forensic evidence out of the territory for testing is a major problem, according to Kern.

An equally difficult hurdle is the fact that there is no forensic unit on St. John, and it can take a day or more for the unit from St. Thomas to collect it, during which time the evidence may be compromised, the Domestic Violence Policy Advisor explained.

The University of the Virgin Islands' Eastern Caribbean Center is assisting Kern with data collection.

Tektite Program

As early as 1972, Great Lameshur Bay was referred to as "one of the best known marine communities in the world" (Collette 1972) because it was the focus of a great deal of research by Jack Randall (e.g., Randall 1963, 1965) and the site of the Tektite underwater habitat program (Fig. 8.5).

The Tektite Program took place in Great Lameshur Bay in 1969 and 1970 (Collette and Earle 1972; Earle and Lavenberg 1975). Divers lived in an underwater habitat at a depth of 15 m for up to 60 days. Although the objective of the program was to learn how divers could function safely and effectively under saturation conditions and not to conduct an integrated study of a single coral reef or provide a baseline for future research (Collette 1972), some of the papers provide intriguing insights into changes that have taken place at Tektite Reef in the last 4 decades. One scientist noted "maximum visible range exceeded 30 m on exceptionally clear days, and rarely fell short of 10 m under the worst conditions" (Clifton and Phillips 1975). Now, underwater horizontal visibility rarely exceeds 10-15 m.

Some observations made during Tektite missions show how fish assemblages have changed. For example, Collette and Talbot (1972) noted seven species of groupers, some quite numerous, all of which are now rarely seen. (It is currently rare to see even a single

Nassau grouper during an hour dive in most locations). They noted that most of the fishes they saw on their study reefs were benthic carnivores, particularly the larger groupers, whereas now most of the fishes at the Tektite Reef are herbivores. They reported that yellowtail snappers and bar jacks (schools of several of these up to 20 cm long) were the most common predators near the Habitat. Schools of up to 200 lane snappers were seen. Threespot damselfish (*Stegastes planifrons*) which are now very abundant (J. Beets and A. Friedlander, personal communication 2007) were only "moderately common" when the Tektite missions were conducted.

Some of the projects involved experimental manipulation, such as the use of cages to exclude herbivorous fish from small areas on the reef (Earle 1972; Mathieson et al. 1975). Earle (1972) found 35 species of herbivorous fishes in 14 families, and recorded feeding behavior. She also found 154 species of marine plants, including 26 never reported before from the USVI. Other projects included several on fish behavior, cleaner shrimps, and lobsters (Mahikien 1972; Smith and Tyler 1972; Herrick et al. 1975).

Tektite Reef is now the subject of long-term monitoring by NPS and other researchers and has been the focus of intensive research on changes in coral cover resulting from bleaching and disease (see below).



Fig. 8.5. The Tektite underwater habitat on a barge in Great Lameshur Bay (Photo: G. Davis)

Page 310 of *Coral Reefs of the USA* shows Tektite.

Local Scientists Contribute To Coral Reef Textbook

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

One of the island's greatest resources is highlighted in a new text book edited by Bernhard Riegl and Richard Dodge, "Coral Reefs of the World 1: Coral Reefs of the USA," printed this year by Springer Science and Business Media B.V., with assistance by the National Coral Reef Institute.

"This book is dedicated to our own and the children of the USA in the hope that they will still be able to experience healthy coral reef ecosystems," according to the editors.

The 800-page book includes chapters covering underwater life from the Florida Keys to Pacific Ocean atolls with work from esteemed marine biologists. Chapter eight is dedicated entirely to the U.S. Virgin Islands with contributions from the territory's top marine scientists.

"Ecology of Coral Reefs in the US Virgin Islands," cites work from Caroline Rogers, Jeff Miller, Richard Nemeth, Rafe Boulon, Barry Devine and several other scientists.

The chapter is dedicated to Judith and Ed Towle and lists the various types of reefs found

in the territory. Background history, long-term monitoring, climate and biodiversity of reefs are also covered in the chapter.

A sidebar tells the story of the Tektite Program, an underwater habitat in Great Lameshur Bay which hosted aquanauts for more than a month. The program provided important information about how divers could function safely underwater for extended periods of time. During their month underwater, the aquanauts also made observations regarding fish species and reef health.

While the chapter details the decline of local coral reefs, including the latest bleaching episode and diseases, additional research is recommended.

"More research is urgently needed on these diseases and their interaction with bleaching," according to the book. "Connectivity among mangroves, seagrass beds, and coral reefs inside and outside the marine protected areas is an important area needing further study, along with an evaluation of the effectiveness of marine reserves."

A copy of "Coral Reefs of the USA" will be available at the Elaine I. Spruave Library.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

e-mail: editor@tradewinds.vi . fax: 340-693-8885



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Susan Mann

The tennis courts in Cruz Bay might be refurbished if the U.S. Tennis Association approves a grant for the Department of Housing, Parks and Recreation.

Cruz Bay Tennis Court Upgrades Included in Federal Grant Proposal

By Susan Mann
St. John Tradewinds

Department of Housing, Parks and Recreation officials have submitted the agency's first application to the U.S. Tennis Association requesting to make improvements to some of the territory's tennis courts.

The funding proposal includes requests to upgrade the two tennis courts in Cruz Bay, according to Housing, Parks and Recreation (HPR) Commissioner St. Claire Williams.

The goal of this initiative is to renovate the playing surface of several public tennis courts to a level to attract tennis enthusiasts and put those courts into greater use, according to Governor John deJongh.

"We remain committed to identifying ways and means of upgrading our sports and recreational facilities throughout the territory," deJongh said. "The filing of the grant assistance application is but the first step to rejuvenate the sport of tennis at existing recreational facilities in the Virgin Islands."

"Through this application the Department of Housing, Parks and Recreation is seeking grant funds for the renovation and upgrade of the ten existing public tennis courts," according to HPR Commissioner St. Claire Williams.

"When we joined the NRPA we became aware of the various opportunities for funding we could apply for," said Williams. "This included money to upgrade our tennis courts and provide training."

Officials will be notified of the funding by November 9. The possible grant assistance opportunity was made available through a NRPA-sponsored, national "Tennis in the Park" initiative, which seeks to promote the sport in communities, according to the group's web site.

"The essence of this initiative is to assist park and

"With this application, we bring forward the goal of encouraging the development and proliferation of the sport of tennis locally, particularly in the public school system. Our hope is that tennis is made more accessible and more popular in the Virgin Islands community, especially among school-age children."

— First Lady Cecile deJongh

recreation agencies in leveraging their tennis facilities to promote lifelong healthy activity and improve their programming by advancing the latest tennis innovations for all program types," according to the web site.

First Lady Cecile deJongh has chosen to add "Tennis in the Park" to the list of special initiatives which she supports, according to Williams.

Cecile deJongh supports the initiative to make the sport more accessible to community, the first lady explained.

"With this application, we bring forward the goal of encouraging the development and proliferation of the sport of tennis locally, particularly in the public school system," said Cecile deJongh. "Our hope is that tennis is made more accessible and more popular in the Virgin Islands community, especially among

Continued on Page 24

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OFF-SEASON RESTAURANT CLOSURES

Aqua Bistro – 776-5336 – bar open, kitchen reopens October 7

Big Belly Deli – open all summer

Asolare – 779-4747 – open all summer

Baked in the Sun – 693-8786 – open all summer

Balcony – 774-8470 – open all summer

Banana Deck – 693-5055 – unknown

Beach bar – 777-4220 – open all summer

Cafe Concordia – 693-5855 – reopening sometime in October

CANEEL BAY RESORT – 776-6111

- **The Equator** – open
- **Estate Turtle Bay** – closed until season
- **Beach Grill/ Breezeway Bar** – closed until season
- **Beach Terrace** – unknown

Chateau Bordeaux – 776-6611 – closed on Sundays

Chloe & Bernards – 714-6075 – open all summer

da Livio's 779-8900 – open all summer

Donkey Diner – 693-5240 – closed until early November

Fish Trap – 693-9994 – open all summer

Happy Fish – 776-1717 – closing for october

Inn at Tamarind Court – 776-6378 – closed Sat. and Tues.

Island Blues – 776-6800 – open all summer

JJ's Texas Coast Cafe – 776-6908 – open all summer

La Tapa – 693-7755 – closed until the end of September

Lime Inn – 776-6425 – closed until October 13

Maho Bay Pavilion – 776-6226 – open all summer

Miss Lucy's – 693-5244 – reopening November 2 for brunch

Morgan's Mango – 693-8141 – closed for one week in October

Ocean Grill – 693-3304 – reopening October 1

Paradiso – 693-8899 – open all summer

Pastory Gardens – 777-3147 – open all summer

Rhumb Lines – 776-0303 – reopening October 1

Sun Dog – 693-8340 – so far open all summer

SoGo's – 779-4404 – open for now

Hinds Restaurant – 775-9951 – closing October 1 to 6

WESTIN RESORT – 693-8000

- **Snorkles** – open all summer
- **Beach Cafe** – open all summer

Woody's – 779-4625 – closing September 22 to 29

Satyamuna – 774-3663 – open all summer

Shipwreck Landing – 693-5640 – closed until November

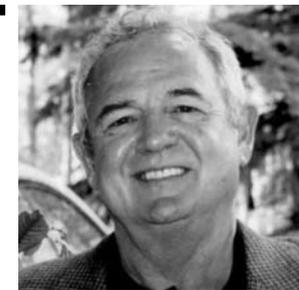
Skinny Legs – 779-4982 reopening October 3

ZoZo's – 693-9200 – unknown

Just My Opinon

by *Andrew Rutnik*

Speed Bumps



St. John Tradewinds

Recent safety improvements to South Shore Road point out some very serious deficiencies in public safety that concern our Public Works and Police departments.

My first concern is who determines the placement of speed bumps or sleeping policeman as they are commonly called. From what I read in a recent *St. John Tradewinds* article, this duty is being performed by the Deputy Commissioner of Public works.

The article further stated that in response to complaints from residents and recent traffic accident data a decision was made to place an additional three speed bumps or humps at the new Greenleaf Commons, in addition to the already existing five bumps on this approximately one mile of road.

There seems to me to be a haphazard arbitrary process that has no end when you consider the amount of similar scenarios on many of the island's main arteries.

The article even states that they are encouraging others to come forward with more suggestions for locating speed bumps/humps. There is no doubt that the amount of speeding trucks and cars has motivated this initiative, what is in doubt is whether the methodology employed is the only way to enforce the speed limits.

My concern is that these public safety initiatives will turn into hazards and cause more problems than they solve. I also believe a more professional approach to the use of speed bumps or humps should be followed, relying less on individual events or resident concerns, and more on traffic data.

For example, study the traffic flow, count the cars on an average day, week, month, and distinguish between vehicles and trucks. Determine the need for a speeding traffic device based on a ratio of accidents versus traffic flow.

If there is a very small percentage of accidents

based on strictly speed, then a speed bump/hump may not be necessary. Keep in mind that there are lots of bad consequences that can arise from speed bumps/humps.

Car axles can be damaged, emergency vehicles lose precious time navigating multiple devices, cars divert to the edge of the road and sidewalks to bypass bumps/humps, back injuries have been documented, increased signage can become obtrusive and must be placed properly and maintained, increased fuel costs by de-accelerating and accelerating, these are just a few of the potential hazards and negative results that will follow.

My second concern is that these traffic slowing devices are substitutes for police enforcement of the speeders. Although I have no knowledge of the amount of speeding violations cited in the last year, I am presuming from experience that very few have been issued.

I also believe that a few \$100 dollar plus citations to the speeding trucks would slow them down to the speed limit. We all have heard how understaffed the police force is but a few police have made seat belt enforcement a top priority, why not have them in the areas of concern for residents in regards to speeding and public safety.

My final concern is the upkeep and maintenance of said speed bumps/humps. I have noticed that after a very short time the bright yellow identifying paint wears off and to the unsuspecting (tourists) driving rental vehicles are not seen.

If I were a car rental agency owner, I would be very concerned about this potential damage that will surely occur if these vehicles hit those bumps/humps at even the normal legal rate of speed.

To conclude, this is not to criticize the Department of Public Work, who are only interested in the public safety, but instead to enlighten them to the breadth of the issue.

Goodbye Cat!



Catherine Taylor moved back to Maine last week after calling St. John home for 25 years. Cat, as she was known by her many friends, was an EMT and a volunteer for the St. John Kids And The Sea program.

"Cat cared for animals, sick people, the elderly, the wounded and children," said Robin Clair-Pitts. "I've never seen anyone who lives for other people the way Cat does. She just lives for others."

While Taylor will be missed by many people on St. John, the community wishes her well in her future endeavors!

Olympic Shooter Ned Gerard Pleased with Performance in Beijing

By Andrea Milam
St. John Tradewinds

Local contractor and competitive shooter Ned Gerard achieved what most athletes only dream about when he represented the U.S. Virgin Islands at the Beijing Olympics last month.

Gerard competed in the men's 50 meter prone rifle at the Olympic Games. He admitted he "had medal on the brain," but his goal at the competition was to achieve a personal best. While he was pleased with his performance, he was disappointed in the results, he explained.

"I felt I had a really good performance, but the results weren't where I wanted them to be at all," said Gerard. "I was positioned in the center of the field and there was a lot of swirling wind. All the guys in the center lost points to the wind, while the guys at the end of the range had a lot better shoot than we did."

Impressive Facility

Despite the windy conditions, Gerard enjoyed shooting at the range — "one of the top notch facilities in the world," he said — just a short distance from the Bird's Nest where track and field athletes competed.

While Gerard didn't feel nervous during the competition, he felt the pressure of being at the Olympics, he explained.

"When you get to the Olympics and they say, 'start,' it's like somebody switches on the blood pressure," said Gerard. "Trust me, there is pressure."

Gerard, who works full time as a contractor and shares parenting duties with his wife Karen Gerard, was one of the only non-professional, non-full time athletes in the competition.

While he took 53rd place, according to the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games official web site, www.en.beijing2008.cn, Gerard was happy just to compete at the games.

Great Experience

"Just getting there was the victory," he said. "You learn from it and try to take what you learned to the next match. I never thought I could ever get there after shooting against these professional guys at World Cup competitions and always being in the 40th and 50th spot."

"It was probably one of the greatest experiences of my life," Gerard added.

The competitive shooter was happy to represent the Virgin Islands and the entire Caribbean in Beijing, he explained.

"I was honored to be there for the Virgin Islands, and I felt like I was representing the whole Caribbean because of the camaraderie behind me from all the Caribbean countries," said Gerard. "They told me, 'you're taking care of all of us athletes and putting us on the map.'"

Gerard was also pleased with the support he received from St. John residents, he added.

Home-town Support

"What really struck my heart was how supportive the people on

St. John were to me," said Gerard. "People that I barely knew would come up to me and say 'congratulations and good luck.' I just want to thank everybody on St. John for the encouragement and great words, and I want to let everybody know I gave it 100 percent."

Gerard is also grateful to Andy and Joy Stillman, who supported his Olympic bid; Randy and Karen Thurman, who also supported him; Rob Blakney, a long-time supporter of Gerard and his wife Karen, who is also a competitive shooter; and Sandy Hill, who allowed the couple to train on her land.

Of course, Gerard could not forget his biggest fan and number one supporter — his wife.

"Without Karen's support, the dream would've never happened," said Gerard. "I couldn't have done a quarter of what I've done without her. She's my wife, and it just so happens she's also a brilliant shooter — I've got it all."

Looking to London

In fact, Gerard's main goal is to help his wife get to the London Summer Olympic Games in 2012.

Karen Gerard Takes Gold, Silver and Bronze at Copa Caribe Competition

By Andrea Milam
St. John Tradewinds

St. John resident and sport shooter Karen Gerard won big at the recent Copa Caribe shooting competition, which pitted her against shooters from throughout the Caribbean.

Gerard took gold in the 10 meter air pistol, silver in the women's defense pistol shoot and bronze in the 25 meter sport pistol. She also teamed up with St. Croix shooter Tanya McPherson to take silver in the air pistol — the first time Virgin Islands women have won the event in years, according to Gerard's husband, Ned Gerard, who competed in the Beijing Olympics last month (see related story on this page).

The competitive shooter also won the number one overall pistol shooter trophy by a margin of more than 20 points, despite the fact she put in minimal practice before the competition.

"She went in with virtually no practice because in June she stopped shooting to take care of me," said Ned Gerard. "She went over to have fun, and ended up getting a nice trophy."

Gerard also looks forward to training junior shooters in the territory. Should he have the opportunity to compete in the Olympics again in 2012, he will jump at the chance, he explained.

"If the Olympics is laying on my lap again, I will not refuse to get on that airplane," said Gerard. "It's just an unbelievable experience. As an athlete, it does not get any better."



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Second Spirit Xpress Cheer Camp Starts Oct. 3

By Katie Tarta
St. John Tradewinds

With the end of summer and students adjusting to new class schedules and teachers, seventh through twelfth grade girls will be happy to know the fun is far from over.

For the second year in a row, Spirit Xpress is sponsoring a St. John/St. Thomas Cheerleading camp for teenage girls in seventh grade and older, who are looking to learn a new sport and be part of a team.

The camp, organized by Katie Zaytoun, a third-year kindergarten teacher at the Giffit Hill School, will take place the first weekend of October. It will be an intense two-day camp with double sessions between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., costing \$125.

Zaytoun, a University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, graduate and former cheerleader, already has 26 students enrolled this year, 20 from St. Thomas and six from St. John.

The teacher wants all eligible St. John girls to know that the camp is designed for young ladies with no previous cheerleading experience.

The camp is just as much about expanding the sport in the U.S. Virgin Islands as it is for girls to learn teamwork and camaraderie.

Cheerleading has long been

“There is no room for a superstar in cheering. It is about team work and trust.”

— Katie Zaytoun,
teacher and cheerleading coach

a tradition stateside and while many people are familiar with the sport through movies like “Bring It On,” it is important for potential participants to understand that cheering not only requires dance skills, sportsmanship and athleticism, but also the ability to be part of a team.

Cheerleading, unlike other team sports such as basketball or baseball, requires an entirely group-focused mentality, explained Zaytoun.

“There is no room for a superstar in cheering,” said Zaytoun. “It is about team work and trust.”

The cheerleading camp will focus on the girls’ ability to build that trust and interact with others, she added.

Spirit Xpress, a national cheerleading camp, is sending their best coaches to the Virgin Islands to teach the St. John/St. Thomas Cheerleading camp as a reward for their hard work during the summer months.

The company, widely known for laying inspirational groundwork in cheer squads, is committed to helping expand the sport to the Caribbean region.

Spirit Xpress officials believe that allowing teams to develop in an innovative, creative and non-competitive environment helps the coaches and girls to grow and learn together, allowing squads to achieve the best of their ability, according to the group.

In many ways cheerleading provides a good deal of life lessons to young ladies as they learn to work together to achieve something greater than what could be done on their own, explained Zaytoun.

The camp teaches a number of athletic skills including choreography, dance, flexibility and stunts. Coaches bring in the latest in dance moves to create fluid and energetic performances sure to keep spirits high, according to the teacher.

Time will be set aside each day

for practicing two different dance and tumbling routines which the girls can use during the season.

Zaytoun is coaching the new cheerleading squad at the Giffit Hill School this year, adding to the ever growing list of new athletic sports now being offered.

Her enthusiasm is obvious as she shares her sport with young ladies on St. John and St. Thomas.

“Cheerleading teaches you a lot about life but it is also really cool,” said Zaytoun. “The latest moves are hip and with it, and while it is a lot of work getting organized, it was really worth it last year.”

“It is great to be introducing kids to something they don’t have here and watching them embrace it,” she said.

Certainly the island’s feminine youth will find this new sport not only engaging but also fulfilling physically and emotionally.

There are few things in life that reflect hard work more quickly and clearly than a well-organized routine as it inspires dedication and rewards commitment.

For more information about registering for the camp contact Zaytoun at katiezaytoun@gmail.com. Check out Spirit Xpress’ web site, spiritxpress.com, for more details on their philosophy and coaching mentality.

Sign-up for Library Card

St. John Tradewinds

September is Library Card Sign-up Month — a time when the American Library Association and libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all.

Library cards are free to all residents of the Virgin Islands and cards are valid at any public library in the territory.

Proof of residency is required with either a V.I. driver’s license, a V.I. voter registration card or a utility bill and a photo ID. Children need a parental or guardian signature to complete their application.

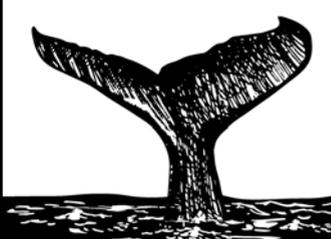
Once the information is received a letter is mailed out and the individual can bring the letter back to the library and receive his or her card.

This month while supplies last, any one who signs up for a library card at the Sprauve Public Library can pick up a free canvas book bag. Persons holding a current card may stop by to pick up a bag while supplies last.

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St. John Rescue

by Dustin Prudhomme

First Responder Certification Course

St. John Tradewinds

St. John Rescue training staff is completing the 2008 First Responder Certification Class at the Westin Resort and Villas for eight rescue members and three administrative members of the Westin.

This training will allow rescue members to respond to emergency medical calls and assist EMS.

The First Responder Course is a certification program consisting of 40 hours of classroom training and 16 hours of field exercise. Due to our island location, St. John Rescue also includes eight hours of additional training in water rescue and extrications.

The class is being taught by St. John Rescue Training Officer Bob Malacarne with additional lectures by other rescue members. These training classes provide classroom instruction ranging from vehicle extrications, water rescue, child birth, and other medical calls.

After classroom training is complete, class participants go into the field and practice the skills they have learned. St. John residents will be grateful for the newly certified members who respond to a variety of calls within the community.

Seeking Home Base

With the training underway, St. John Rescue Inc. elected officers met with St. John Administrator Leona Smith.

The meeting with Administrator Smith was scheduled to try and determine a location that St. John Rescue can call home to store their equipment, trucks, and conduct meetings and training sessions.

Management at the Westin Resort and Villas volunteered a room as a temporary meeting location to conduct training. The Westin has

been gracious enough to provide this at no cost to St. John Rescue. Administrator Smith, along with the elected officers, will meet with officials from the Department of Property and Procurement and Government House.

Training with VISAR

Elected officers were busy during the months of August and September, not only meeting with Department of Justice officials, but also with members of the British Virgin Islands Search and Rescue Team.

Members met with BVI SAR to discuss interoperable training exercises with St. John Rescue Marine One Unit and additional training for water rescue within the many bays along the island's coastline.

This is the first step in what looks to be a great working relationship between the two volunteer organizations. With this additional communication between the groups, St. John residents will be provided with an expertly trained marine unit.

Also during the past two months, St. John Rescue members participated and assisted during the triathlon race.

Members Help During Triathlon

Rescue members were along the route standing ready to provide assistance to runners or bikers as they braved the wet weather conditions. Also on stand-by was Marine One, which provided water rescue assistance during the swimming portion of the race.

St. John Rescue land crews did assist several participants who fell during the race. All injuries reported were minor and handled on-scene with many participants picking up where they fell and

continuing the race.

Race committee members extended a big round of applause and gratitude to all members of the St. John Rescue team for volunteering their services and time during the race.

Rescue Board Created

During the last regularly scheduled meeting, Rescue President Chris Jordan announced the meeting of the newly created Rescue Board which met on September 12.

"We plan to meet quarterly to discuss operations, goals, issues and ways that Rescue can continue to support the agencies of St. John and the community," said Jordan.

Two-hundred and sixty-five days into the year so far, St. John Rescue has responded to 111 calls. With the increase in calls year after year, rescue members are becoming more and more called upon by their fellow citizens.

New Members Needed

Along with this increase in demand, new members are needed. Rescue meets the first Thursday of each month at the Westin Resort and Villas Conference Center at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are typically one hour long and many topics, including training, are covered.

For emergencies please dial 911 from any landline telephone and 776-9110 from any cell phone. Please provide which island you are calling from, your exact location, and the nature of the emergency so the proper agency can respond.

The more information you provide to the operator the better prepared the responding agency can be when they arrive on scene. Until next month — stay safe.

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Anderson Family Teacher Grants Available

St. John Tradewinds

Applications for the 2008 Teacher Grants from the Anderson Family Fund at the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands are now available, announced CFVI's President, Dee Baecher-Brown.

All proposals must be submitted to CFVI no later than Tuesday, September 30, at 5 p.m. Applications can be downloaded from CFVI's website at www.cfvi.net.

Successful applicants must agree to submit a brief

written report and, if possible, contribute visual documentation, on the use of the grant at the end of the funding period.

Programs are funded by John E. Anderson, Sr. and his family of Los Angeles, California, owners of Topa Properties, Ltd., Topa Insurance Services, Dorchester Insurance, Bellows International, West Indies Corporation and Leeward Islands Management.

For more information please call CFVI at 774-6031.



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Skinny Legs will be closed September 3 and will reopen on October 3. Everyone have a safe September.

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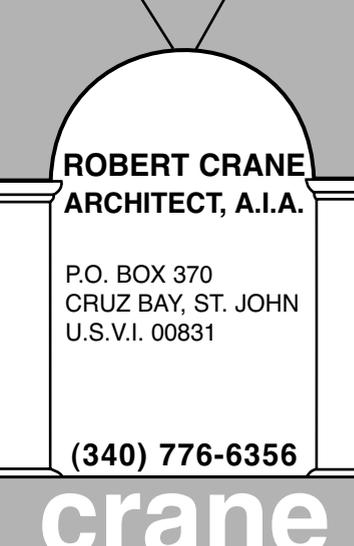
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Letters to St. John Tradewinds

An Open Letter to the People of the Virgin Islands

Editor,

This letter addresses concerns of the Virgin Islands community, in particular the residents of St. John, regarding the implementation of a one-way \$.25 per passenger terminal use fee. This fee is to be collected by the Virgin Islands Port Authority at the Urman V. Fredericks Marine Terminal at Red Hook and the Charlotte Amalie Waterfront on St. Thomas, and at the Loredon L. Boynes Sr. Dock at Cruz Bay, St. John.

Residents have complained that the fee was unreasonable, unjustified and discriminatory towards the users of Red Hook – mainly the residents of St. John.

Please allow me to clarify the facts regarding this user fee:

The Virgin Islands Port Authority is a semi-autonomous government agency that owns, operates and maintains the two public airports and the majority of the public seaports in the territory. While we do receive some federal funds, we do not receive nor do we contribute any monies to the Government of the Virgin Islands.

The Authority is required to sustain itself by generating its own revenues through rental and facility usage fees established in our aviation and marine tariffs.

In 1998 the VIPA Board approved our marine tariff which states that "inter-island passengers traveling between St. Thomas and St. John shall pay a per passenger wharfage fee of \$.25 each way to the Virgin Islands Port Authority (to be collected directly by the Virgin Islands Port Authority)."

The Board chose not to implement the fee until recently. It must be noted, however, that collection of a terminal use fee is not uncommon in the territory. In fact, VIPA currently collects per passenger fees at all of its air and marine ports — except at Red Hook and Cruz Bay.

Passenger fees are usually incorporated in the cost of a traveler's ticket. For example, VIPA charges a \$2.50 one-way per passenger fee that is automatically added to every ticket for travel between St. Thomas and the British Virgin Islands. Persons traveling to and from the BVI from Red Hook or the Edward W. Blyden Terminal in Charlotte Amalie have paid this fee for many years.

In the past, the St. John ferry companies have objected to the Port Authority attaching fees to their tickets. Therefore, the Authority has decided to collect this particular fee on its own — possibly via an automated turnstile.

VIPA anticipates that the \$.25 one-way fee will generate approximately \$500,000 in annual revenues. This fee will be used to recoup construction costs and maintenance of the new ferry and cargo facility at Red Hook, St. Thomas.

In September 2007, VIPA completed the Urman V. Fredericks Marine Terminal — which replaces what

was once an under-developed marine facility with an aging dock. A new dock was constructed, along with a new 9,500 square-foot terminal which houses the ferry ticket counters, a bar, food vendors and other stores and comfortable waiting areas inside and outside the terminal.

VIPA built a new roll-on/roll-off cargo dock, created additional parking spaces and a new passenger pick-up area, improved landscaping and built a pedestrian walkway along the main road. VIPA also plans to repair and utilize the old dock at this facility.

The \$10.5 million project was financed in part by Federal Highway Administration GARVEE Bonds (\$2.5 million) and a grant from the Federal Economic Development Administration (\$1.5 million). The remainder was funded by the Port Authority.

On St. John, the Theovald E. Moorehead Marine Facility at Enighed Pond was constructed to alleviate chronic traffic congestion in Cruz Bay due to a significant increase in the importation of cargo and construction materials to St. John. This cargo dock was constructed using federal funds (GARVEE Bonds) totaling \$16 million.

All St. John cargo traffic is now handled at this facility. VIPA plans to erect a terminal to accommodate the traveling public by providing amenities such as food vendors and public bathrooms at this facility. While this facility was constructed using federal funds, the Authority must maintain and operate it using its own funds.

In addition, VIPA is currently in the process of developing a design for a new ferry passenger facility at the Victor Sewer Marine Facility (known as "The Creek"), and we also plan to resurface the existing dock at the Loredon Boynes facility in Cruz Bay during 2009. These improvements will also be funded by revenues generated by the Authority.

Furthermore, the Port Authority is faced with a \$4.7 million deficit as of June 2008. With the rapidly escalating costs of our utility and security expenses, we expect our operating loss to be almost \$8 million by September 30. VIPA must generate enough revenues to meet its debt service, federal security mandates and other operating costs.

It is important that the public understands that user fees help us to maintain our facilities so that we can continue to provide a safe and pleasant travel experience and to meet our financial responsibilities.

However, your concerns are important to us. We will announce the date of a public meeting that will be held to provide a forum for the community to address this issue.

Sincerely,
Ken Hobsen
Interim Executive Director
Virgin Islands Port Authority

Correction:

The September 8-21, 2008 edition of *St. John Tradewinds* inadvertently omitted Derrick Athanase as a participant in the Winch-Callwood wedding. He was a groomsman for Laurien Callwood during his wedding to Barbara Winch. The pair were married on Friday, August 22. *St. John Tradewinds* regrets the omission.

Letters to St. John Tradewinds

Neighbor Opposes Rezoning Request

To Whom It May Concern,

In September 2006, the owners of Parcel No. 10-11, Estate Carolina, Coral Bay Quarter, Leslie and Myrine Hodge, applied to CZM for a Major CZM permit (CZJ-1-06L) to build a three-story, 11-unit apartment building.

It would have had the visual impact of a five-story structure. It would have been 50-feet tall, 80-feet long and 53-feet, eight-inches wide. This is 10 feet above the highest elevation of the road and would block water views of Coral Bay harbor and also breezes.

The building would affect several properties. This building would not blend into the neighborhood, which is zoned R2.

The application was withdrawn from CZM when it was noted that the re-zoning, which was done in 2000 to allow the owners to add a third apartment underneath their duplex house, had reverted back to R2.

The owners are now requesting a new re-zoning change from R2 to R3, which will give them the potential to build the above mentioned 11-unit apartment building. I have nearly 300 signatures on a petition to deny approval of the zone change to allow this building to be built.

I am not against the owners of the property building within R2 zoning. They could build two additional single-family units, or a duplex, which would be one building with two residences. With the three units in their original structure, an additional two units would give them a total of five residential units.

Please attend the public meeting on Tuesday, September 30, at 6 p.m. at the Cruz Bay legislature building to voice your opinion. If you cannot attend, please send a representative or write a letter.

Sincerely, your neighbor,
John Costanzo

Police Vehicles Seen Not Obeying Traffic Laws

Dear Editor, Police Car PD 68 & Chief of Police,

On Sunday, September 14, at 1:30 p.m. in Cruz Bay I had to stop as a police car, license plate # PD 68, pulled out in front of me after not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign! As I was following the police car it proceeded to not stop at the next stop sign! Then

at the top of Jacob's ladder it turned right without using it's directional! Way to go PD 68!! What a fine example you are setting for the citizens of St. John!

Sincerely,
Deborah Ramsay

Unity Day Group Continues Successful Lawsuit, Funds Needed

Dear Members and Property Owners of St. John and the Virgin Islands,

Thank you for your interest and support in reaching this milestone. As you know, on September 12, 2008, District Court Judge Curtis Gomez rescinded the 2006 property tax payments to be refunded.

This fundamental and critical premise was essential in establishing the order and direction for property owners of St. John and the Virgin Islands. However, what has been accomplished must be continued.

We have expended \$10,000 so far. Funding is needed to continue our efforts in addressing the flawed revaluation. If you have not yet supported our cause,

send your financial contribution payable to Virgin Islands Unity Day Group at P.O. Box 371, or drop off your payment at E&C Service Station. If you have already contributed, additional financial support is needed. Include your email address to receive updates.

If you have contributed or are contributing, send us a copy of your property tax bill. They will be used in our case for research and evaluation.

Your time and consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Virgin Islands Unity Day Group

Protecting Our Oceans

Editor,

Many of my memories of growing up on St. Croix are of swimming in the sparkling waters that surround our island home. As a child growing up in the Red Brick housing community, my friends and I would regularly swim from the beach near Red Brick to Protestant Cay, or Hotel on the Cay as it also known. I want other generations to enjoy the beauty of our beaches as much as I do.

That's why I am participating in the International Coastal Cleanup that began on Saturday, September 20, and ends on October 31. ICC is the world's largest volunteer effort to protect our ocean and gets people involved by helping us to make a difference in our own backyards.

If everyone throughout the territory committed themselves to cleaning up their favorite beaches, imagine the difference that it would make!

As someone who has grown up surrounded by the ocean, I realize that I have taken it for granted. The

beauty of our oceans hide the fact that they are in bad shape.

Beach litter, marine debris, global warming, over-fishing and other pollutants have harmed and continue to damage the delicate ecosystems of our oceans. The state of our oceans impacts the entire community.

We can't wait for "someone else" to clean up our beaches and marine environment. The responsibility to clean up our beaches lies with all of us. The government cannot do it alone.

Cleaner beaches and a healthier marine environment that the entire community and our visitors can enjoy and appreciate will take all of our combined efforts. There is room for everybody to lend a hand to keep our oceans and reefs healthy and conserve one of our greatest resources.

Join me in keeping our beaches clean.

Gregory R. Francis
Lieutenant Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands

St. John Tradewinds Keeping Track

2007 FINAL COUNT

Homicide: 3
Solved: 0

Shootings: 2
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 1

Stabbings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Armed Robberies: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

Arsons: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

2nd Degree Burglaries: 13
Under Investigation: 13
Solved: 0

3rd Degree Burglaries: 71
Under Investigation: 72
Solved: 1

Grand Larcenies: 89
Under Investigation: 89
Solved: 0

Rapes: 4
Under Investigation: 2
Solved: 2

2008 TO-DATE

Homicide: 0
Solved: 0

Shootings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Stabbings: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

Armed Robberies: 2
Under Investigation: 2
Solved: 1

Arsons: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

2nd Degree Burglaries: 10
Under Investigation: 10
Solved: 0

3rd Degree Burglaries: 53
Under Investigation: 53
Solved: 0

Grand Larcenies: 51
Under Investigation: 51
Solved: 0

Rapes: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

TRADEWINDS PUBLISHING

The Community Newspaper Since 1972

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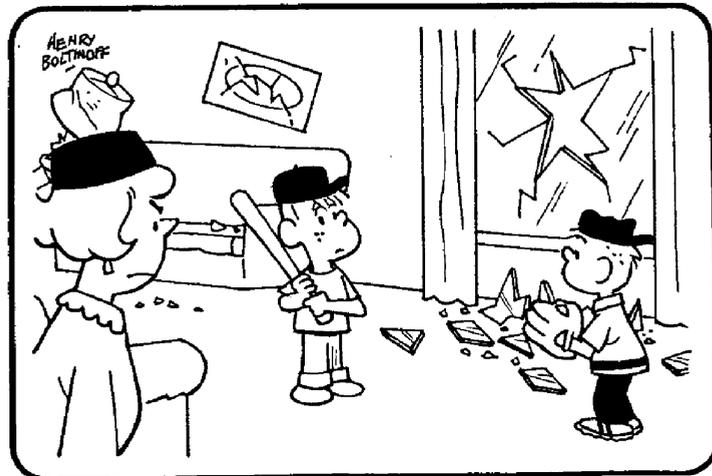
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



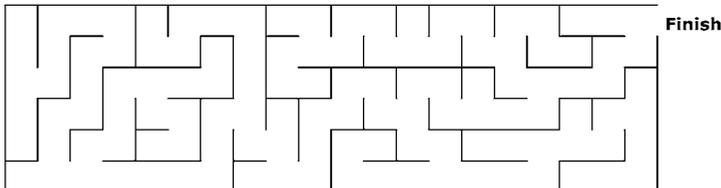
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Catcher's shirt has a stripe. 2. Batter has a hat. 3. Mom's collar is different. 4. Sofa has no ruffle. 5. Picture is tilted differently. 6. There's more glass on floor.

Kids' Maze



Start

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Super Crossword on Page 20

W	A	S	P		G	R	O	G		A	B	E	D		S	A	H	I	B				
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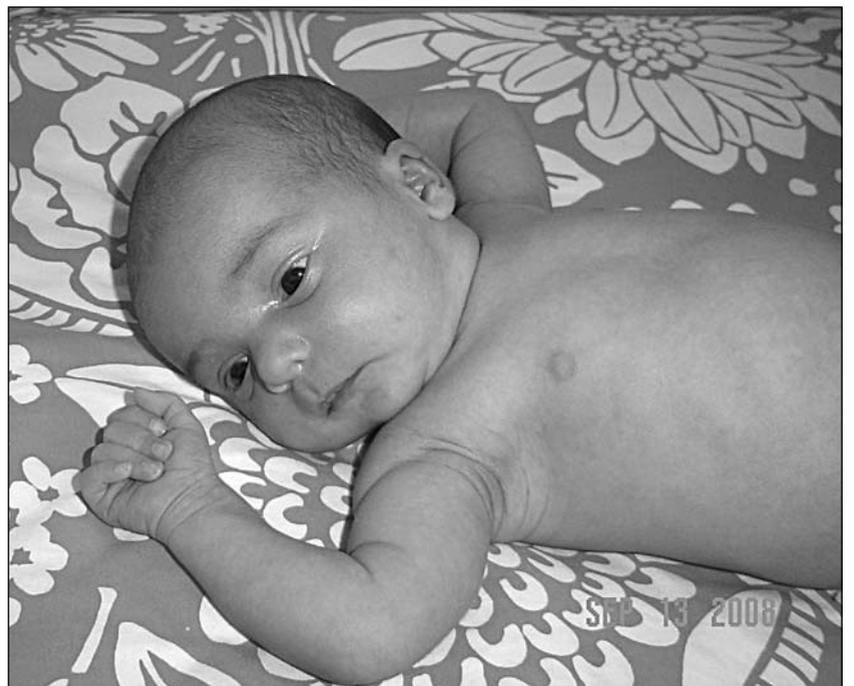
Birth Announcements

Carson Mary Barnhorst



Carson Mary Barnhorst was born on August 21 at 9:07 a.m. weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces, to parents Thomas Barnhorst and Nicole Gemmell-Barnhorst.

Gianna Gail Gottschall



Gianna Gail Gottschall was born on August 30 at 4:56 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 19 and a 1/2 inches long. Gianna was delivered at Schnider Regional Hospital to parents Robert and Jayme Gottschall of St. John.

Obituary

Althea Ellis Passes Away

St. John Tradewinds

A memorial service for Althea Louvina Ellis, who died on August 11, was scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 20, at St. John Methodist Church.

She is survived by her sister, Mildred Morris; brother, Alfred Johnson; uncle, Charles Wattley; daughters, Iva Ellis-Smith, Sherise Ellis-Rogers and Shawna Ellis; sons, Glenville and Kevin Ellis; grandchildren,

Julius II, Anwar and Isis Smith, Miriam and Elizabeth Jones, Kevin Jr., Ashley and Briana Ellis and Tiana and Daisha Rogers; sons-in-law, Julius Smith and Travis Rogers; daughter-in-law, Alphonso Morris; special neices and nephews, Desiree Barnett, Andrea, Jaun, BJ and Jamal Morris, Alfred Jr., Vanessa and Denise Johnson; and many other relatives and friends.

St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

Accommodations

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Crane, Robert - Architect, AIA
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P.O. Box 370, STJ, VI 00831

Barefoot Architect, Inc.
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Coral Bay Garden Center
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Community Calendar

St. John Tradewinds welcomes notices of community-oriented, not-for-profit events for inclusion in this weekly listing. Call 776-6496, e-mail editor@tradewinds.vi or fax 693-8885.

Tuesday, September 23

There will be a meeting of the St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, September 23, at 5:30 p.m. at St. Ursula's Multipurpose Center.

Thursday, September 25 - 28

The St. John Pentacostal Church of God invites the community to their Special Services from Thursday, September 25 through September 28. The guest speaker is Minister Jean Fullerton from Weapons of War Ministries, Jamaica.

On Thursday and Friday nights, services begin at the church at 7:30 p.m. A prayer breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, September 27, at 8 a.m. at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall. The event will climax on Sunday, September 28, with a praise and worship service at 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Saturday, September 27

A prostate cancer screening clinic is scheduled for Saturday, September 27, at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Prostate Cancer is the most common type of cancer found in American men and screening is

recommended for all men over 40 years old.

Tuesday, September 30

A public hearing for official zoning map amendment for St. John will be hosted by the Department of Planning and Natural Resources on Tuesday, September 30, at the Cruz Bay legislature building at 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 4

Saturday, October 4, is the last to register to vote in the general election in the Virgin Islands.

Saturday, October 18

The KATS Basic Skills Program is a series of eight to ten three-hour sessions consisting of classroom instruction, shore side and on-the-water activities. Interested children age 8 (by December 2008) or older should meet at Skinny Legs in Coral Bay on Saturday, October 18, at 9 a.m. Children can be picked up at 12 p.m. at Skinny Legs. The program runs from October 18 through December 20, with no session the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Tuesday, November 4

Tuesday, November 4, is General Election day in the Virgin Islands. Vote!

E-MAIL info@tradewinds.vi or CALL 340-776-6496 or FAX 340-693-8885

Horoscope by Natasha Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Personal matters claim a good deal of the Lamb's time in the early part of the week. But by midweek, pragmatic considerations (work, school, job-seeking, etc.) begin to take priority.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The seasonal shift ignites the Bovine's creative aspects. You could do well if you try to combine your penchant for innovation with the more pragmatic demands of the week.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Ideas come easily to you this week. And never mind that some might suggest they're unworkable and/or impractical. It's your vision that counts. Work them out and see what turns up.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Personal matters continue to dominate the early part of the week. By midweek, more workaday issues once again begin to emerge. Balance your time to give both the attention they need.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A new contact could provide an expanded opportunity. But be sure you get all the facts before you consider signing on. Ask questions, and be wary if you don't get the right answers.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An unexpected development could cause some supposedly resolved disagreements to reignite. Deal with the situation before it leads to some really serious problems.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A clash of work-linked viewpoints needs to be discussed

openly, honestly and calmly by all concerned before it can impede progress on an ongoing project.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The Scorpion's pragmatic side helps you accept the possibility that a change of plans might be the wise thing to do. Be sure to weigh all your considerations carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Some people might not take no for an answer. Never mind. Keep your resolve if you're sure you don't want to be involved in a potentially sticky situation.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) All other facts and figures aside, it's what you learn about potential colleagues that can be most helpful in assessing any decisions you're likely to make regarding a new project.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might want to reconsider some of your outside commitments if they continue to demand more time than you can spare. Be honest with yourself when making a decision.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Pay attention to that inner voice of Piscean wisdom counseling you to remove those rose-colored glasses and take an honest look at any decisions you might face this week.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a penchant for persuasion that would make you a fine candidate for a political career.

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St. John Police Report

Friday, September 5

No time given - Ofc. Mills r/ that an unknown individual broke into his truck back glass and removed his stereo system, hydraulic jack and bulletproof vest. Grand larceny.

5:45 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r that she was pushed in the chest by a ferry boat employee after an exchange of words. Simple assault.

Saturday, September 6

12:50 p.m. - A Cruz Bay Apartments resident p/r he was threatened by another male. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

3:20 p.m. - A citizen c/r a disturbance at Contant Enighed. Police assistance.

Monday, September 8

8:15 a.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r someone removed her bag from her vehicle in the area of Pine Peace. Grand larceny.

4:00 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident's driver's license was taken from him and handed over to the Motor Vehicle Bureau. The resident has a history of causing auto accidents. He is 74 years old and his reaction time is very bad. Confiscated driver's license.

5:10 p.m. - A Public Works employee r/ one of the employees threatened to do him bodily harm. Disturbance of the peace.

11:35 p.m. - A resident r/ that someone stole a TV from Pastory Gardens. Burglary in the third.

Wednesday, September 10

12:08 p.m. - A resident p/r someone unknown removed her bag from a picnic bench. Stolen document.

2:35 p.m. - A resident p/r that someone broke the window of his vehicle and stole some money. Grand larceny.

Thursday, September 11

7:00 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident c/r that someone burned her vehicle. Arson.

8:35 p.m. - A citizen c/r an auto accident by the tennis courts. Auto accident.

Friday, September 12

8:00 a.m. - An employee of the Westin Resort watersports c/r someone removed an item from said business. Unauthorized use of vehicle.

4:30 p.m. - A citizen p/r that someone assaulted her daughter. Assault in the third.

5:30 p.m. - A citizen c/r that someone assaulted him. Simple assault.

Sunday, September 14

3:40 p.m. - A citizen p/r that someone unknown tried to take her to an abandoned area. Police assistance.

No time given - Unit 403 c/r that while on sector patrol, he came into contact with an abandoned vehicle in the area of Virgin Grand Estates. Abandoned vehicle.

Monday, September 15

10:00 a.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r that her car was damaged due to heavy rain. Vehicle damage.

Thursday, September 18

12:45 a.m. - The manager of Parrot Club p/r that someone removed the ceiling tiles from the men's bathroom at said business. Suspicious activity.

8:19 a.m. - At 2:10 p.m on 9/17/08 a citizen r/ a vehicle tampering.

2:00 p.m. - An employee of Spencer Jeep Rental c/requesting police assistance. Police assistance.

7:45 p.m. - A Caneel Bay Apartments resident p/r a disturbance at said residence. Disturbance of the peace.

Friday, September 19

9:00 a.m. - A citizen p/r that a male came into her job threatening her. Disturbance of the peace.

AA Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meets as scheduled: Sundays, 9:45 a.m. at Hawksnest Bay Beach; Closed meeting for alcoholic only at Nazareth Lutheran Church at 5:30 on Tuesdays; Open meetings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p.m. at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6 p.m. at Emmaus Moravian Church, Coral Bay.

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 Efficiency/w/d Gift Hill \$800.00; One bedroom w/d, \$1400.00; Two bedroom condo/washer \$1600.00; Two bedroom/two bath w/d Gift Hill \$1900.00; Two bedroom/two bath w/d Oct 1 \$2000.00; Two bedroom/two bath w/d pool \$2300.00; Three bedroom/two bath/pool Fish Bay \$2400.00; Three bedroom/two bath w/d STT view \$2600.00;

Coral Bay Houses:

Two bedroom/two bath/washer \$1800.00;
 Two bedroom/one bath great view \$2000.00;
 One bedroom Cottage great view \$1500.00

CRUZ BAY APARTMENTS

1 Bedroom Apt Rental rates start at \$1263 plus utilities. Rental Assistance available to qualified applicants. Certain income restrictions apply. Rental Office located at: Cruz Bay Apts., Apt. C1, Monday and Friday, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



Quaint 1 bedroom apt. Nice quiet location, close to Cruz Bay. Fully furnished, AC in bedroom, Wifi, Cable. No Dogs No Smokers.
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3BDR /2B - AC, fully furnish house on Boatman's Rd - Rendezvous & Ditliff. Call Steve or Vera 626-4423 or 690-1514

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Legal Notice

21' Solent Swooft salvaged Coral Bay, St. John. Titled owner please contact: forseaangels@yahoo.com

Seeking

UVI students seek your help with scholarly research. We are investigating what Virgin Islanders know and think about our local coastal ecosystem. If you are 18 years of age or older, a resident of USVI, and have not already participated, please go to www.chrisstetar.com and click on the link to our survey. A moment of your time is an investment in the future of our people and our environment. Thank you!

Public Notice

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 Division of Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning

PUBLIC HEARING FOR OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AMENDMENT FOR ST. JOHN, VIRGIN ISLANDS

St. John Legislature Building Conference Room
 St. John, United States Virgin Islands
 Tuesday, September 30, 2008
 6:00pm

Application Nos.

ZAJ-08-1 Myrine Hodge - Request for official zoning map amendment for Parcel No. 10-11 Remainder Estate Carolina, No. 1 Coral Bay Quarter, St. John, USVI, totaling .565 acres (24,611ft²), to amend official zoning map SJZ - 3 from R-2 (Residential - Low Density - One and Two Family) to R-3 (Residential -Medium Density) to construct an additional residential unit.

ZAJ-08-2 Alfredo and Marie Alejo - Request for official zoning map amendment for Parcels No. 9-2, 9-3, and 9-10 Estate Enighed, No. 1 Cruz Bay Quarter, St. John, USVI, totaling .67acres (29,185ft²), to amend official zoning map SJZ - 2 from R-2 (Residential - Low Density - One and Two Family) to R-3 (Residential - Medium Density) to construct fifteen (15) residential units with associated parking.

ZAJ-08-3 Adrian Realty, LLC - Request for official zoning map amendment for Parcel No. 11K Estate Adrian, No. 18 Cruz Bay Quarter, St. John, USVI, totaling .23acres (10,020ft²), to amend official zoning map SJZ - 1 from R-2 (Residential - Low Density - One and Two Family) to R-4 (Residential - Medium Density) to construct two additional residential units for a total of four units on the site.

ZAJ-08-6 Susannaberg, LLC - Request for official zoning map amendment for Parcel No. 15 Estate Susannaberg, No 17A Cruz Bay Quarter, St. John, USVI, totaling 2.967 acres (129,242ft²), to amend official zoning map SJZ - 1, from R-1 (Residential - Low Density - One and Two Family) to R-4 (Residential - Medium Density) for the construction of 18 residential units, free residential laundry building, a community center, pool and associated parking.

For more information contact the Division of Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning, Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Cyril E. King Airport, Terminal Building, 2nd Floor, St. Thomas between 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays at (340) 774-3320

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1/4 ACRE LOT located in Coral Bay, flat lot with water views, affordable. Make Offer, Must Sell. **503-708-5467** paulm.stjohn@gmail.com

For sale by owner: 2 houses, 1/4 acre, stonework, water views, furnished, great rental history, \$850,000 St. John, USVI. Call 941-497-2325.

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Public Notice

ST. JOHN COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER REACHES AGREEMENT WITH FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The St. John Community Crisis Center (formerly known as the Safety Zone) and its board of directors are pleased to inform the Virgin Islands' community, particularly St. John, of an amicable resolution to a dispute with its former executive director, Dr. Iris Kern. We acknowledge Kern's hard work and probity and her commitment to the eradication of violent crime and treatment of those affected by crime in our community. We wish to put all misunderstandings behind us and wish her much success in the future.

Please contact us at (340) 693-7233 Fax (340) 693-7234

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NEXT DEADLINE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

Unity Day Group Continues Lawsuit

Continued from Page 3

Government officials will have a difficult time accounting for the more than \$8 million paid to BearingPoint to conduct the revaluations, according to Barry.

"Where is our \$8 million revaluation project from BearingPoint," Barry said. "What recourse will the government take since they have not received a valid \$8.5 million revaluation. That money belongs to the people of the Virgin Islands and we have ideas and concerns."

More Funds Needed For Case

While the group has made progress on behalf of all St. John property owners, additional funds are needed to keep the suit going, added Barry.

"Right now we want the word to go out to any property owners who have not contributed to our fund to step forward and make their donations because we represent you,"

she said.

Straightforward Ruling

Government officials only have themselves to blame for the projected \$70 million shortfall caused by the inability to issue property tax bills this year, according to Barry.

"I hope that the government doesn't try to put the blame on the property tax payers because since 2003, when the injunction was issued, they have had five years to comply and they haven't," she said. "Tax payers must be law abiding, and the V.I. government must be law abiding."

"I've been in court and it's just simple and very clear," Barry continued. "The District Court made a valid ruling that the government was in error."

The group is waiting for Gomez to schedule a date to hear the recently filed motions.

Lightz Out Wins Basketball Tournament



Team Lightz Out, sponsored by First Phase Datacomm, were the champions of the Caneel Bay Resort-sponsored Basketball Invitational tournament.

Pictured (bottom L to R) Lucien Sylvester, Brummell Germain and Sammy Samuel. (Top L to R) Kylan Penn, Ricardo Oquendo, Desmond Charles, Chicky Oquendo and Leopold Chinnery. Team member Joshua Germain is missing from the picture.

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Island Seniors Celebrate New Center

Continued from Page 7

about federal social security benefits.

"Social Security is a must-have for our seniors," said Francis.

Time For Change

Lt. Gov. Francis also took the opportunity to make a recommendation about the territory's young people.

"The paddle needs to be taken out from under the bed and hung over the dining room table where it belongs," said Francis. "No calling 911."

Governor deJongh just qualified for his AARP card and has joined the senior ranks, he explained.

On a serious note, the governor discussed some of the additional services needed by seniors on St. John.

"What you do makes us better at our jobs," said deJongh. "We want to do things for you before you even have to ask for it. We need more elderly housing, long term care, and yes, SSI benefits."

DeJongh was one of three speakers who

praised the work that Adrian Center director and St. John senior citizens' affairs coordinator Abigail Hendricks played in moving the center forward.

Music and Speeches

Other dignitaries at the event included Commissioner of Education Dr. LaVerne Terry, Senator Liston Davis and Senator Louis Hill.

Seniors in Harmony performed "Jesus Loves Me," and "Senior Citizens are Marching On."

The crowd was also serenaded by the smooth, upbeat music of "Caribbean Sounds." Completed arts and crafts projects were on display as participants mingled, while enjoying delicious food and drink following the official program.

To the delight of the Januarys as well as everyone else, Lt. Gov. Francis did indeed take the opportunity to make good on his long-awaited dance with Mrs. January when the two managed to take to the floor under the watchful eye of Mr. January.

Cruz Bay Tennis Court Upgrade

Continued from Page 11

school-age children."

"We look forward to the sport of tennis being more included in the Interscholastic Sports Program and are working diligently with our local partners at the HPR, the Department of Education, and the V.I. Tennis Federation to revitalize the sport locally," Cecile deJongh continued. "In particular, one of our first goals is to provide funding toward upgrading ten tennis courts in the territory — two on St. John, three on St. Thomas, and five on St. Croix."

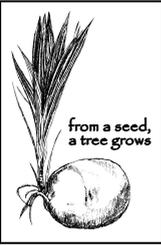
While Julius E. Sprauve School physical education teacher Lecia Richmond had not

heard about the grant, it is very exciting, she explained.

"We teach sixth graders the basics of playing tennis," said Richmond. "Seventh graders enroll in a three week elective."

"I am excited about this because tennis is a life time sport and one that keeps us physically fit," said Richmond.

In addition to the Cruz Bay courts, the application for public facility assistance grants will support the renovation of two courts at Sion Farm, three courts at D.C. Canegata Ball Park, two courts at the Alvin McBean complex and one court at the Subbase tennis courts.



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■ **MANDAHL OCEANFRONT LAND** - 0.85+/- acre parcel surrounded by National Park lands between Kiddle and Grootpan Bays. Pristine and dramatic shoreline with very accessible building envelope. May be subdivided according to W-1 zoning. Wonderful southerly water views..... **\$1,100,000.**



■ **WATERFRONT BEACH HOUSE** - Crystal water, pristine shoreline, privacy galore! If you are looking for a magical setting, this is the property for you. New home nearly complete, owner will finish, you may pick finishing details to suit your taste. Wonderful views overlooking Flanagan's Island to BVI's. **\$1,550,000.**

■ **BEST VALUE BORDEAUX LAND** - 0.50+/- acre of beautifully forested land w/ expansive views of Sir Francis Drake Channel & various BVI. Price reduced, motivated seller!..... **\$199,000.**

■ **JOHN'S FOLLY** - Views & surf sounds are yours from this desirable parcel in upper John's Folly. Great access to Concordia, Salt Pond & Ram's Head beaches & hiking trails. R-2 zoning Realistic pricing at **\$229,000.**

■ **CLASSIC CORAL HARBOR VIEW** - 0.50+/- acre in Upper Carolina has picture perfect views overlooking harbor. Easily accessible yet private in established neighborhood w/paved roads. Johnson's Bay deeded beach rights..... **\$425,000.**

■ **ADJACENT CAROLINA PARCELS** - 0.347+/- acre, & 0.323+/- acre. 2 adjacent parcels sold together. Gentle grade, large trees, fertile soil, beautiful mountain & valley views. Great opportunity to build your own home.... **\$199,000.**

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"Colibri" - Superb sunset and water views from this 3 bedroom waterfront home in Great Cruz Bay. Features include native stonework, large pool deck with gazebo, masonry construction, air conditioning, water views from every room and pool, and lots of room for expansion. Deeded rights to beach and dinghy landing. A recent refurbishing has been completed. **\$3,495,000**



"House With A View" lives up to its name with beautiful views over Rendezvous Bay and St. John's south shore. This 4 bedroom home is high enough to catch the cooling tradewind breezes but close enough to Rendezvous Bay to hear the surf and see the varied colors of the water around the coral heads and beaches. This is a large lot in a quiet, established neighborhood yet just minutes from Cruz Bay. The pool and deck are new and make this an attractive short-term rental or a great family home. **\$1,350,000 REDUCED TO \$1M CASH TIL 9/30/08**



"Southern Cross" - The location of this traditional Danish style stone home is about as good as it gets, offering privacy yet only a 10 minute drive to Cruz Bay Town. Features include large covered porches, beautiful custom mahogany cabinets and built-in bar, exposed concrete beams window sills and tile floors all create an elegant atmosphere. Cooling breezes and water views on an almost level lot with room to add a pool or spa. **\$1.395M**



"Surfside" is a three bedroom home located in the uniquely beautiful Reef Bay area of Fish Bay. Situated on the edge of undeveloped National Park land, the home is a short stroll via nature path to the white sand beach of Reef Bay where you can enjoy snorkeling, surfing, swimming and beach combing. Ample porches, sunning decks, pool and Jacuzzi, air-conditioned bedrooms and lush landscaping complete the picture. **\$2,100,000**

- FEATURED CONDOS -

"Cruz Views" unit 7 is a very popular rental, featuring beautiful views to St. Thomas and sunsets, proximity to the pool and sundeck, and walk to town. This unique air-conditioned corner unit has been recently refurbished including new tile floors, mahogany cabinets, furniture and bath. **\$625,000**



"Palm Terrace Villas"- Four of the newest and most spacious condos to be found on St. John. Completed in 2005, beautiful views, sun deck and pool area, walk to town and Frank Bay Beach. The two bedroom is over 1700 sq. ft. and the three bedroom penthouse units are over 2100 sq.ft. All feature large kitchens, granite countertops, large closets, stainless appliances, private washer and dryer and ample storage. These condos have it all. **\$975,000 to \$1,399,000** The 4 bedroom unit is also available as a fraction (25%) ownership.



- LAND -

"REEF BAY" Large lot adjoining national park with 270 feet of waterfront on pristine Reef Bay. Easterly trade winds, a vest pocket beach and sweeping views of St. John's pristine south shore and south to St. Croix. Because of it's large size (1.32 acres) and adjoining park land on the south this parcel affords one a privacy seldom found in a waterfront property. A short walk to Reef Bay beach and a short drive to Cruz Bay on mostly paved roads. **\$2.499M**



"Estate Eden" Motivated Seller, all offers encouraged! Over a 1/3 acre with beautiful water views of Hurricane Hole & beyond. Quiet neighborhood in a great location near Coral Bay & the new proposed marina. Lower portion of lot is flat. Adjacent parcel 2-3B is also available. Possible Owner financing. **REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE \$165,000**



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NEW LISTING!



BONUS! Private well maintained home in Coral Bay with ample room to add an additional unit downstairs. This home comes with an EXTRA LOT. Keep the extra lot or sell it off to recoup some of your expenses. **JUST \$425,000.**

FEATURED LISTINGS



TURN KEY SCUBA/pleasure boat business w/ impressive 4 year history. Business boasts a 2004, 26ft. Powercat, all equipment, compressor and proven website that draws new and loyal repeat clients. You are in business for just \$169,900!

NEW LISTING! JUST CONTRACTED!



NEW LISTING! Meticulously maintained home close to Cruz Bay. Two units, solid masonry, within walking distance to town. 1st unit is 3br 2ba w/spacious rooms and high ceilings in excellent condition. 2nd unit a 2br 2ba. **\$599,000.**

HOMES

PRICED TO SELL! This awesome vacation home has equal 2br, 2ba ensuite, great room leads to wall of glass capturing huge water views. Just **\$1,175,000.**

LOWER PETER BAY 4br, 4.5ba. pool and just steps away from white sandy beach. **\$6,000,000.**

TWO HOMES nearing completion. A 2br, 2ba and 1br, 1ba cottage. Huge views. Just **\$915,000.**

VIRGIN GRANDE ESTATES 5BR, 5.5BA w/ exquisite finishes & views to match. **\$2,199,999.**

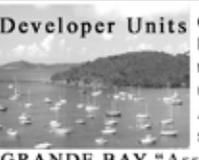
PANORAMIC views over Rendezvous Bay from this popular rental home with great Caribbean flair. 3BR, 3BA with huge deck and pool area. **\$1,060,000.**



WATERFRONT parcel in peaceful Bay. The perfect building location for your dream vacation villa w/ easy beach access. **\$925,000.**

CONDOMINIUMS

Developer Units



GRANDE BAY luxury beachfront devel. Walk to town from these (2)2br 2ba units starting at **\$875,000.** And, (2) 3br 2ba units starting at **\$1,100,000.**

GRANDE BAY "Assignment of Contract" Penthouse unit still available for **JUST..... \$875,000.**

WHY RENT - Sunset Ridge 2 new 1br, 1ba units w/ huge water views. **\$279,000 & \$299,000.**

SIRENUSA Luxury condo devel. is nearly complete. 2, 3 & 4BR avail. & begin at **\$1,100,000.**

MUST SEE! REDUCED!

This 2BR, 1.5BA unit is just one mile from Cruz Bay. Amazing sunset water views, oversized veranda and huge pool. **\$549,000.**



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LAND

BEACHFRONT



TWO LOTS! 0.50+/- acres each in Privateer Bay. 1st has 155ft of sand/coral beachfront. Adjacent lot maintains its own deeded beach path..... **\$999,000.**

PHENOMENAL waterfront parcel in peaceful Bay. The perfect building location for your dream vacation villa w/ easy beach access. **\$925,000.**



WATERFRONT parcel in peaceful Bay. The perfect building location for your dream vacation villa w/ easy beach access. **\$925,000.**

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DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY expired plans & permits for 15 unit condo proj... **\$2,750,000.**

LOWER PETER BAY prime building lot with incomparable north shore views..... **\$2,500,000.**

ON TOP OF THE WORLD! the highest point on Mamey Peak. Amazing 360 views. **\$1,599,000.**

BORDEAUX 3.3+/-ac.knoll top w/panoramic views excellent development potential.**\$1,299,999.**

WATERFRONT - A RARE OPPORTUNITY in PRIVATEER BAY. A DEAL AT.....**\$950,000.**

FREEMANS GROUND Large sub-dividable 1.73+/- ac. lot with great water views.....**\$449,999.**

BORDEAUX Fantastic down island views from Post and Sandy Cay to Leduck.....**\$429,000.**

REDUCED oversized lot in Coral Bay near proposed marina project..... **JUST \$310,000.**

WHAT A DEAL Chocolate Hole lot with active plans & permits in place..... **\$229,000.**

LOWEST PRICED parcel in prestigious Chocolate Hole! A STEAL AT JUST.....**\$195,000.**

EMMAUS A great lot at a great price with huge Coral Bay harbor views.....Now just **\$145,000.**

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ESTATE BELLEVUE - Views from Ram Head to Ditleff Pt. from this 6 acre parcel suitable for subdivision. R-1 zoning with C&R's. Access through Bellevue Village. **\$1,500,000.**

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LUMINARIA - a luxurious ridge top villa with stunning panoramic views and the National Park as your neighbor. 3 spacious bedrooms (a/c), 3½ baths, soaring cathedral ceilings, large pool w/waterfall, 4 car garage, spa, gourmet kitchen, satellite TV, multiple decks, beautifully furnished, gated entry, lush landscaping, privacy. Close proximity to north shore beaches, good vacation rental history. Priced to sell at **\$2,495,000.**

EXCLUSIVE HOME LISTINGS

PERELANDRA - is a romantic two bedroom, two bath Caribbean style villa offering stunning panoramic views and evening sunsets, privacy, convenient location and comfortable elegance. Nestled high on the hillside above Cruz Bay with lush gardens and a private pool. **\$1,235,000.**

BORDEAUX MT. - Three bedroom / two bath family home with large covered porch on beautiful, almost level, ½ acre lot. Southerly water views, including St. Croix in the distance, fragrant bay trees, lush vegetation. Take advantage of all the benefits of owning a Force 10 home. **\$675,000.**

AURORA - Luxurious four bedroom / four bath masonry villa on Contant Point. Enjoy 180° views from Great Cruz to St. Thomas, great privacy, pool, multiple outdoor areas, gorgeous landscaping, beautiful furnishings, and excellent vacation rental history. Priced to sell at **\$2,495,000.**

LOCATION, LOCATION! - Dramatic cliffside setting, on coveted Maria Bluff, with sunrise to sunset views. three bedroom / two bath stone and concrete home with large wraparound veranda, travertine floors, mahogany cabinetry, tile roof, large spa, full air conditioning, large circular drive. **\$1,995,000.**

BAYVIEW - is a very private villa bordering the National Park, just minutes from Maho Beach. Traditional masonry design with two buildings connected by sunny pool, decks and patio. Amazing 280 degree views overlooking Francis Bay and Northshore, plus Coral Bay and BVI's. Excellent vacation rental history. **\$1,695,000.**

GOLDEN DRAGON - Magnificent stone villa with exceptional craftsmanship throughout. 4 bedrooms / 4 baths, infinity pool, exquisite furnishings, multi patios/decks, lush gardens, terrific Point Rendezvous location. **\$2,395,000.**

WATERFRONT WITH DOCK - Poured concrete 3 bdrm/ 2 bath home on a flat ¾ acre site adjacent to National Park. Enjoy all watersports from shared private dock, & hiking along the secluded shoreline. **REDUCED** to **\$1,250,000.**

WINDSONG - Stately Boatman Point villa, w/separate cottage, situated on a 1ac parcel w/panoramic views. 6 bdrms., 7 baths, huge pool, excellent vacation rental history, fully furnished. **\$3,495,000.**

CHOCOLATE HOLE - Unique ruins of 1700's Great House, along with 1960's island home on a beautiful 1.42 ac. lot. **Reduced** to **\$1,099,999.**

WATERFRONT ON MONTE BAY - Spectacular 13.44ac site, located between Boatman Pt. & Klein Bay on South Shore. Ideal for subdivision or private estate. **\$4,700,000.**

CRUZ BAY TOWN - R-4 zoning, plans and permits. Walk to Frank Bay Beach. **Reduced** to **\$285,000.**

REDUCED TO \$150,000 - Water views of Coral Bay, wonderful Est. Eden location. **GREAT BUY!**

CONTANT - 3 extra large homesites overlooking Cruz Bay. Paved streets, underground utilities. **\$292,500 to \$315,000.**

POINT RENDEZVOUS - Two superb parcels w/outstanding views. Priced to sell at **\$425k & \$495k.**

LEINSTER BAY - Great Thatch to Mary's Point views, access from Johnny Horn trail. **\$265k & \$329,000.**

ZOOTENVAAL - Terrific water views of Hurricane Hole, paved streets, underground utilities. **Reduced** to **\$400,000.**

GREAT CRUZ BAY - 1.05 acre site w/fantastic harbor views & architectural plans. Walk to dingy landing. **\$895,000.**

FLANAGAN'S PASSAGE - Panoramic views, 0.89 acre lot, paved roads, house plans available. **\$350,000.**

CATHERINEBERG - Incredible north shore views, 1.05 ac. surrounded by Nat'l. Park. **\$2,100,000.**

DITLEFF POINT - 3 waterfront parcels **SALE!** 13 spectacular parcels available, starting at **\$895,000.**

ESTATE FISH BAY -

- Great Fish Bay & Ditleff views, privacy.....\$205,000
- Water views, borders green belt, paved access.....\$275,000
- Large parcel, excellent water views.....\$250,000
- Walk to beach, dingy dock, topo included.....\$329,000
- Marina Drive, ocean views, topo.....\$375,000
- Direct water view, corner parcel.....\$389,900
- Borders Nat'l. Pk., 0.87ac.....\$425,000

ESTATE CHOCOLATE HOLE -

- Pebble Way location, 0.65ac, water views.....\$299k

SEAGRAPE HILL/EMMAUS -

- Coral Hbr & Moravian Church views, 0.34ac.....\$185k
- Great Buy! 0.35ac. w/waterview, paved road.....\$186k
- Coral Bay views, downhill site.....\$280k

ESTATE CAROLINA -

- Lower Bordeaux, BVI views, paved road.....\$199k
- View of Coral Bay, plans, driveway.....\$255k
- Gentle slope, Bordeaux Mt., 0.63 ac.....\$349k
- Coral Harbor views.....\$350k
- Ironwood Rd, views, house plans.....\$360k
- Upper Carolina, great views.....\$379k
- BVI views, one acre+.....\$415,500

**NEXT AD DEADLINE:
Thursday, October 2nd**

Caribbean



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A Sampling of our Exclusively Listed Properties

"CATHERINEBERG'S 'CINNAMON RIDGE'" 5 bedroom villa on 1+ private acre, bordered by National Park, features stunning north shore views. Exotic pool, waterfall, spa, easy access to Cinnamon Bay beach.
\$5,250,000

WATERFRONT "LIME TREE BAY" HAS WHITE SAND BEACH! Private East End estate with 490' shoreline on Round Bay consists of a 5 bdrm stone & masonry home on almost 5 acres. Cooling breezes & gorgeous water views!
\$4,995,000

BEACHFRONT "HARBOUR VIEW" has upscale amenities/ luxury lifestyle/ elegant décor. Private 1 ac. estate is beautifully landscaped, and affords direct beach access, views of Great Cruz Bay harbor. Boating and swimming at your doorstep! Walk to Westin.
PRICE REDUCED! \$3,485,000

"BORDEAUX HOUSE" on .5 ac. with ultimate privacy. STUNNING down island views. This signature estate is sure to capture your heart! Charming 4 bedroom gated estate with spa, fireplace, poolside kitchen.
3,200,000

"VILLA FAR NIENTE", new construction in prestigious Point Rendezvous. 3 BR / 3 BA pool villa has great views and artistic landscaping.
PRICE REDUCED! \$1,890,000

"WINDWARD SIDE" Super privacy highlights these 2 wonderful masonry cottages. Hot tubs, bricked courtyard and wonderful décor make this a very special offering.
\$1,400,000

Exclusively Listed Land

"CANEEL HILL" - SELLER FINANCING is a very private residential community just minutes from Cruz Bay with beautiful water views to St. Thomas. The gentle grade and easy access make these 3 parcels very desirable, easily buildable homesites. Total 1.78 acres for **\$700,000**

"DREEKETS BAY ESTATES" boasts spectacular BVI views, quality paved roads, underground utilities, stone wall & planters, common beach. Just 8 minutes from Coral Bay. **12 parcels priced from \$450,000.**

"SEAGRAPE HILL". 387 ac., Coral Harbor and Hurricane Hole views, downhill slope, paved roads, cooling breezes. Priced significantly below appraised value! **\$237,500**

WATERFRONT parcels ranging from .5 - 1.36 acres in some of St. John's best areas! ***\$635,000 - \$2,500,000**

"VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES" Gated community featuring underground utilities, paved roads, & gorgeous sweeping views. Four fabulous lots ranging from **\$469,000 to \$645,000**

"FISH BAY" - Two Great oversized parcels - one with cistern slab, well, and active plans/permits in place and one lot with expansive views, cooling breezes & paved access. **\$389,000-\$438,000**

"HARBOR VIEWS" OVER GREAT CRUZ BAY Gentle .7 acre hillside home site facing east with beach & harbor access. Walk to Westin amenities! Private paved road & underground utilities.
PRICE REDUCED! now \$499,000.

"FREEMAN'S GROUND" STUNNING DOWN ISLAND VIEWS and cooling breezes from this .78 ac parcel with upper & lower access. **\$425,000**

PASSPORT TO PRIVACY! Superb view from this Upper Peter Bay parcel that borders Nat'l Park. Save a year in planning and start building, architectural plans and CZM permit included. **\$2,950,000**

"UPPER MONTE BAY ESTATES" - SPECTACULAR, PRIVATE SOUTH SHORE LOTS WITH PRISTINE VIEWS. Low density subdivision with 7 large parcels, paved road, stone walls & underground utilities; above Rendezvous Bay. **\$1,000,000 to 1,400,000.**

Commercial Opportunities

SATYAMUNA - FOOD FOR THE SOUL is a healthy vegetarian restaurant and small health food store, with friendly outdoor café seating. Large local and tourist following, tons of growth potential - perfect business for a hands on owner. Prime location, great foot traffic, ample parking. **Now \$75,000**

Unique opportunity to **"own an ENTIRE YEAR"** at the Westin in a deluxe two bedroom townhouse unit. This turn-key investment opportunity has a proven rental history. **Offered at \$1,650,000**

"PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACES" available in St John's premier mall. Various office suites, retail spaces and a built out restaurant space. Available immediately. Rents **start at \$708.83** per month.

"GALLOWS SEAVIEW" (2x2) .58 ac. R-4 & W-1 zoning allows multifamily dwellings & commercial uses. Spectacular views. Walk to beach & town. **\$3,200,000**

Condominiums

"GALLOWS POINT" 3 Premier OCEAN FRONT units (2-upper & 1-lower) each with private deck/patio, Walk to town! **\$1,400,000, \$1,275,000 & \$1,200,000**

BEACHFRONT "GRANDE BAY" RESORT Condos under construction, overlooking Cruz Bay Harbor. Walk to town & restaurants. 2 bdrm **\$799,000**

"RAINBOW'S END" Battery Hill condo, 2 bdrms, poolside, close to town. **Priced to sell! \$585,000**

EXCEPTIONAL - PASTORY 1 bedroom, great views, close to town, quiet neighborhood. Turn key. **PRICE REDUCED! NOW \$469,000**

"VILLA LEE ANNA" Cozy 2 bedroom condo with water views. Easy walk to Cruz Bay and low condo fees. **\$325,000.00**

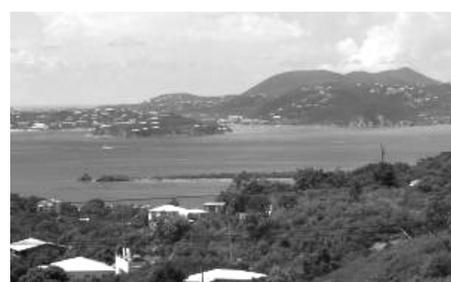
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Excellent business opportunity. Well established restaurant and mini-golf course. Breath taking views of Pillsbury sound and St Thomas from dining terrace, no better place to enjoy a good meal and view the sunset. Zoned B-2 which allows a multitude of commercial uses; ie retail, hotel, condos, apts., plenty of room for any of these uses on this 1.11 acre parcel. Adjacent 1 acre B-2 parcel available. **Just Reduced to \$3,900,000**



Spectacular view location for variety of B-2 uses. Hotel, condo, retail, offices, or a combination of all suits this one of a kind lot. Owner has plans for condo/hotel development, with feasibility study and preliminary plans. Zoning allows for 80 persons per acre, for a multi-story development. Panoramic views of Pillsbury Sound and West to St. Thomas, and south to St Croix. Minutes from Cruz Bay. **Just Reduced to \$2,800,000**

Waterfront lot located on Chocolate Hole Pond. Easily accessible lot with gentle slope to waters edge, easy build.. Located a stones throw away from the planned prestigious high end Pond Bay Club Development. This quiet residential neighborhood has great breezes and deeded access to Chocolate Hole beach. **\$475,000**

Mostly Flat 1/2 acre + lot, part of Guavaberry Farms Sub-division. Overlooks fresh water pond, off main road for easy access. Good breezes and quiet neighborhood with covenants and restrictions. Last lot in 7 parcel sub-division. **\$185,000**

Spectacular view from this 1/2 acre + Fortsberg lot(s). Moderate grade, with sweeping views of East End, Tortola, and Coral Bay. Easy access off main sub-division road. **Priced to sell at \$350,000.** Adjacent 1/2 acre lot also available for joining parcels together to make a very private 1 acre + lot for **Just \$700,000.**

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HOMES

CVISTA is a magnificent open air villa overlooking the alluring turquoise waters of Rendezvous Bay. Situated in prestigious Klein Bay and featuring all amenities including gourmet kitchen, and tasteful furnishings, custom mahogany doors & windows, entertainment room, outdoor bar and a/c in all bedrooms. This stunning residence exudes comfort, class & elegance. **\$3,895,000**

CRUZ BAY Prime .75 acre property on the knoll of the hill above Cruz Bay Town offering panoramic views of Cruz Bay Harbor and St. Thomas. Zoned R-4, this very large site is ideally suited for development. Also featuring a 3 bedroom short term rental home known as "Tamarind" and an enormous inviting pool. **\$2,950,000**

YOUR OWN SECLUDED BEACH is just steps outside this Hart Bay waterfront villa. "Rendezview" has been extensively renovated and features 4 bdrms & 4 baths with tasteful furnishings, enormous swimming pool, expansive decks, & stonework. Also enjoy the lower 3 bdrm beach house. Excellent short term rental income **\$2,895,000**

BAREFOOT Newly constructed 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath guest cottage in quaint Coral Bay neighborhood with paved roads, expansive Sunrise water views of BVI, Leduck, Flanagan & beyond and steady gentle breezes. .5 acre with room for expansion of main house & pool. Lower level has plumbing roughed in. **\$899,000.**

FLANAGANS PASSAGE VILLA is a brand new classic 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath villa with superior craftsmanship, Caribbean stonework, Spanish tile roof and wonderful attention to every detail. Stunning 180 degree view from every room with a huge deck surrounding the large pool and sunken hot tub on this .61 acre parcel. The luxurious home features mahogany cabinets, doors and furniture, a gourmet kitchen, ac in bedrooms and much more. A must see! **\$2,850,000**

L'ESPRIT DE LA VIE Gorgeous home in upscale Pt. Rendezvous. 180° sea views, spacious great room, dining for 8, gourmet kitchen. 4 large bdrm/bath suites. Infinity edge pool w/spa. Excellent rental income. **\$2,950,000.** Virtual tour available at: www.americanparadise.com

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