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ST. JOHN TRADEWINDS

The Community Newspaper Since 1972 • St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

Bank Seeks to Take Over Pond Bay for $62M Debt

Developers and German Bank Battle at CZM Hearing – **Page 3**

St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Carol McGuinness

Excellent Pumpkin Patch

St. John resident Carol McGuinness takes her creative egg-dyeing talents to create these fragile pumpkin decorations from hollowed egg shells.

PSC Approves Rate Hike for Ferry Runs

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Barshinger's Ferry Bill Criticized But Senators Suppport Lower Fares

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After Two-Month Closure, Caneel Bay Resort Reopens

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"The area has always been rather shallow and after the torrential rains, it came up about two and a half feet. It's become somewhat of a hazard and a nuisance."

VINP, VIPA Dig Out Cruz Bay Creek

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Dinghies won't be getting marooned at the Cruz Bay Creek any longer.

V.I. National Park and V.I. Port Authority officials worked quickly last week to combat the rising fill level at the Cruz Bay Creek dinghy dock.

The emergency dredge project started on Thursday morning, October 29, and wrapped up on Friday, October 30. With the use of a 60-foot track excavator, officials dredged enough material out to make way for dinghies to tie up to the dock.

"With the track excavator we were able to reach out into the basin and do the emergency dredging," said VINP Superintendent Mark Hardgrove. "Dinghies had no access to that corner of the dock since it was filled in with erosion materials."

After heavy rains last fall, a roughly 80-foot section of the Cruz Bay Creek area filled with runoff and became inaccessible for boaters.

"The joke around town is that it's really formed a little island out there," said Hardgrove. "It's probably from a lot of stuff, but since last fall with Hurricane Omar and the rains, there were major deposits from the North Shore which could have come from construction sites."

"The area has always been rather shallow and after the torrential rains, it came up about two and a half feet," said the VINP Superintendent. "It's become somewhat of a hazard and a nuisance."

The dinghy dock is essential to many people, both St. John liveaboard boaters and residents who live on Lovango Cay and other off-shore cays, Hardgrove added.

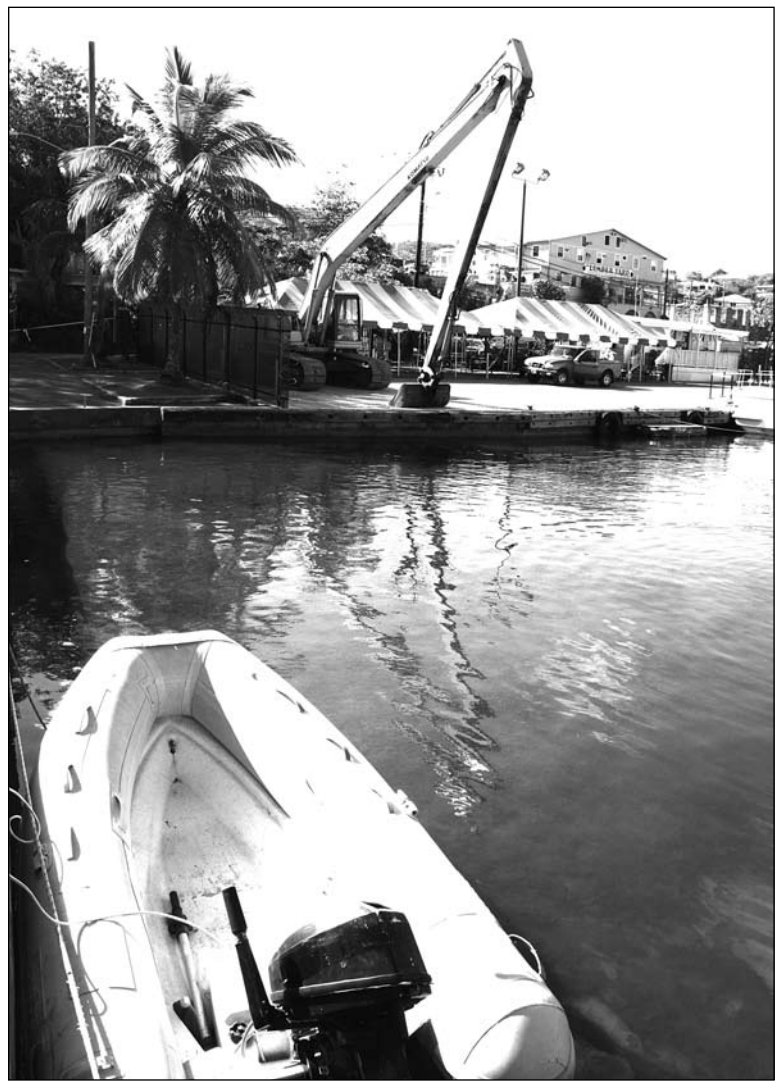
"That area is very important for the dinghies and the folks who live on the off-shore cays who come into town every day for shopping and work," said Hardgrove.

After being contacted by off-shore cay residents, VINP officials teamed up with St. John Administrator Leona Smith and V.I. Port Authority personnel to tackle the problem, according to Hardgrove.

"With their expertise and experience we were able to share the cost and put this emergency project together quickly," he said.

The $10,000 project will hopefully solve the problem until next year when a major dredging project is slated for Cruz Bay Creek, Hardgrove explained.

"We have a major dredge project which will run about $800,000 to get the basin back to the original specifications," said the VINP Superintendent. "This emergency work is to get us through to the long-range solution to the problem."



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

A 60-foot track excavtor was used to dredge the dinghy dock area of Cruz Bay Creek last week.

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DOH Diabetes Workshop Set for Nov. 3

The Office of Nutrition Services will commemorate American Diabetes Month next month with an educational workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. on November 3, at the Schneider Regional Medical Center's cafeteria.

November is American Diabetes Month and the Department's Office of Nutrition Services will host a series titled "Local Starch Diabetes Workshop" to educate residents on managing diabetes with ease.

Residents interested in attending should call 776-8311, ext. 2139.

VITELCO PSC Meeting November 5

The next round of public hearings for the VITELCO Change of Control Proceedings will take place on all three islands. Time will be allotted for the public to offer comments during the hearing at the discretion of the Hearing Examiner. The commission will meet on Thursday, November 5, at 3 p.m. at the St. John Legislature building.

Comments may also be submitted in advance of the hearing to Michael Moore at msmvi@hotmail.com or by fax at 774-4971. All comments submitted in writing will be provided to the parties.

Junior Tennis Tournament Nov. 6-8

The St. John Racquet Club will host a VITA Junior Tennis Tournament in honor of Sis Frank November 6-8 at the Cruz Bay tennis courts. The tournament is sponsored by HOVENSA and is open to boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 18. The entry fee is $15. For more information call Patrice Harley at 776-6643.

Women's Storytelling at Next St. John Historical Society Meeting

The St. John Historical Society will host its first meeting of the new season at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall on Tuesday, November 10, beginning at 7 p.m. and the program is sure to please.

Aside from a short business meeting, the evening will feature Women's Storytelling, moderated by a founding member of the society, Andro Childs.

The society has hosted a number of story-telling sessions over the past 10 years. But, it has been quite a while since ladies, who either grew up on St. John or who have spent much of their lives here, have shared their unique perspective of the island with the society.

This will be an interesting, educational and fun evening. Bring a friend or neighbor and join. All are welcome.

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German Bank Seeks to Take Over Pond Bay for $62M Debt

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

With more than a dozen liens filed against Pond Bay Club developers, work won't be resuming at the luxury fractional ownership resort's construction site any time soon.

First American Development Group, the developer behind the Estate Chocolate Hole waterfront project, is in a legal battle with the German bank which holds their $62 million mortgage and is threatening foreclosure proceedings.

The details of their legal wrangling were aired in front of about 25 people who came out to a St. John Coastal Zone Management Committee decision meeting on Friday afternoon, October 30.

The mortgage holder, West LB AG, had requested the CZM committee pledge First American's permit to them.

While St. John CZM Committee members voted unanimously to table their decision until they get more information, several facts emerged from the meeting.

First American owes more than $5 million to more than a dozen local contractors who rendered work and were not compensated. The general contractor, Wharton Smith, which also has a lien against the developers, has left the project and environmental monitoring at the site has ceased.

"The permittee is in default in many, many ways," said West LB AG legal counsel Attorney Henry Feuerzeig. "They owe West LB AG $62 million and we have a list here of more than a dozen liens against First American Development which total more than $5 million. Reviewing the liens, there are dozens of local contractors who have not been paid by First American Development Group."

"No one is being paid one dime and there is no indication First American Development is prepared to pay any of these individuals a dime," said Feuerzeig.

First American's $62 million mortgage has been spent and it will take about an additional $62 million to wrap up the project, which is roughly 65 percent complete, according to Feuerzeig.

"First American Development today is incapable of continuing the project, let along completing this development," said the attorney. "The $62 million mortgage has been spent by First American and the only way now to prevent the site from becoming a blight on St. John is to consent to the pledge request."

St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

The Pond Bay Club's Estate Chocolate Hole construction site has been padlocked for several weeks.

"In October, the bank paid $500,000 to a number of contractors to prevent additional liens," Feuerzeig said. "Without the pledge, West LB AG is not in any position to spend another dollar on this project."

With news stories in hand from "international media," First American partner Bob Emmett alleged that West LB AG is in serious financial trouble.

"What is really happening here is the bank wants the pledge so they can go to court and sell it to the highest bidder," said Emmett. "West LB AG is a German regional bank that is in serious solvency trouble with the German government. They have been mandated to sell 50 percent of their portfolio."

"The German government stepped in to keep the bank solvent and demanded they sell off part of their portfolio," Emmett said.

First American is currently negotiating with "very strong investors" in order to inject the needed funds to finish the project, Emmett explained.

"We're going to finish this project and finish it the right way," he said. "We're not going to walk away from this project. But we can't go forward until this matter is settled."

First American plans to pay all their bills in full, Emmett added.

"When we resolve this issue, we'll devise a new financial plan and paying off the liens will be at the top of the list," he said.

In the best case scenario for the developers — if First American successfully wins its expected court battle with West LB AG — the project won't be finished until summer, Emmett explained.

"If we get all of this wrapped up in four weeks, we're looking at late June to July to be operating and have heads in beds," he said.

If West LB AG prevails, the bank would take over the property and either sell it or find a new developer.

PSC Approves Ferry Rate Hike

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Be sure to take an extra dollar for the ride to Red Hook this week.

At a Thursday, October 29, V.I. Public Services Commission meeting, the body voted unanimously to increase the fares for most runs between St. Thomas and St. John — but the hike was not as high as the PSC had originally approved.

Following a rate investigation for the two franchise ferry boat operators — Varlack Ventures and Transportation Services — the public utility regulating body voted back in April to increase most fares between Cruz Bay and Red Hook by $2 each way.

At that vote, the PSC also approved a decrease in the fare for the Cruz Bay to Charlotte Amalie run, from $10 to $8.

On the heels of PSC's announcement in April, V.I. Unity Day Group members filed a petition to reconsider the rate hike. The group cited inaccuracies in the ferry companies' financial records and expense accounts.

Now it seems there was some merit to those claims.

PSC hearing examiner Attorney Jennifer Jones said the consultants found errors in previously determined net investments — which determine the companies' rates of return — and unjustified expenses, according to a report in the *V.I. Daily News*.

"What that has done is knock a dollar off of the rates," Jones was quoted in the *V.I. Daily News*.

The newly approved fares, which will go into effect on Sunday, November 8, will increase travel costs for most ferry passengers. The only fare that will not change is the child fare to Red Hook which will remain $1.

The biggest Red Hook jump is for a one-way ticket for adults, which will be $6 instead of $5. Under the new fee structure, senior citizens will pay 25 cents more each way, and commuter, bulk, student and teacher ticket fees will increase 50 cents each way.

The downtown ferry run from Cruz Bay to Charlotte Amalie — which has not been running for several weeks and will not run "until further notice," according to the PSC — will cost $12, instead of $10.

Defending the new rate structure, PSC Chairman Joseph Boschulte said the decision was fair.

"In the face of 'adverse currents' PSC maintains that the com-

Continued on Page 17

2009 RAIN DATA

at Trunk Bay

October Rainfall
2.70 inches

Average October Rainfall
4.92 Inches

Total YTD Rainfall
33.52 Inches

Average YTD Rainfall
33.54 Inches

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Male Review Fundraiser Is Nov. 7

In conclusion of October as Breast Cancer Awareness month friends are hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, November 7, for Sharon "Puppy" Lees who is currently fighting breast cancer. Crazy Cracker's will be hosting a male review and auction of the island's most eligible bachelors. Highest bidders can win dates with these local guys.

Each male participant will have gift certificates for local restaurants, bars, etc. to escort the winner on a date. A silent auction is also planned. Doors open at 3 p.m. and the auction starts at 9:30 p.m. All money will go to Puppy's medical expenses. For more information call Ashley at 715-3361.

Adopt-A-Family for the Holidays

The Department of Human Services' Division of Children and Family Services is coordinating its third annual Adopt-A-Family Program. Community sponsors and families are asked to provide a great Thanksgiving and Christmas for a less fortunate family.

There are many ways to help. For more information please call Michelle Benjamin at 774-0930 ext 4226 or 4393 on St. Thomas.

Dept. of Agriculture Hosting Open House at Coral Bay Sation on Nov. 11

Department of Agriculture Commissioner Louis. Petersen and his staff invites the public to a St. John Coral Bay Station Open House on Wednesday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.

Tour the facility, visit the nursery, and get information on programs and services rendered. There will also be a beekeeping and fruit tree grafting demonstrations and much more. For more information call 776-6274 or 778-0997 ext. 228. Light refreshments will be served.

Wha's Happ'nin'

by Sis Frank

Telemedicine Has First Client

St. John Tradewinds

The magic machines may have had some St. Thomas and St. John patients, but I was honored to be chosen as number one "official" patient with a problem to communicate with The Cleveland Clinic today!

Dr. Mercedes Dullum, my cardiologist, sat in the Ft. Lauderdale office and listened to my sources of aches and pains. Abby and Chris assisted on this end with precision, while Dr. Dullum made suggestions.

I was given an X-ray, blood test and EKG here with the results faxed to Dr. Dullum from Dr. Barot.

Believe me, I felt that I had flown to Florida and stayed several days — all at great expense. What a step forward for us — the expert at Cleveland Clinic was right there in the room with me! Just a short drive from my own house to our Myrah Keating Smith Clinic with its very capable staff.

Rotary Club of St. John enlisted a large donation from Donald Sussman. Harold Baxter and Dr. Dullum masterminded the installation and now we are the recipients of the latest telemedicine care!

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Barshinger's Ferry Bill Criticized, But Senators Support Lower Fares

By Tom Oat
St. John Tradewinds

A V.I. Senate bill seeking to lower the Cruz Bay to Red Hook ferry rates to $1 and provide each of the two St. John ferry companies with $500,000 annual subsidies met with lukewarm support at a St. John public hearing October 25.

While no one spoke in favor of Sen. Craig Barshinger's Bill 28-0101, testifiers and senators agreed something had to be done about the island's ferry service.

The ferry companies should be entitled to a 12 or 13 percent rate of return on their capital investment, according to Atty. Claudette Ferron who represents both Varlack Ventures and Transportation Services.

The V.I. government should provide federal transportation funds for the ferry operations as already provided for by V.I. law, Atty. Ferron added.

"We do need some changes in the way things are currently operated," Atty. Ferron told the senate committee hearing, but the bill's proposed $1 fare and $1 million in capital funding is not enough.

"There would be insufficient revenue from the fares," added Ferron, who said the ferry companies have lost $1 million per year in recent years. "It's been estimated that it costs somewhere between $7 and $8 million" to operate the ferry companies, she said.

St. John-St. Thomas Highway

The marine passage between St. John and St. Thomas is designated a highway, according to Atty. Ferron, who said Varlack Ventures and Transportation Services were designated as transportation providers in a 1986 mass transit plan for the territory which also included VITRAN.

"The government is obligated to provide public transportation," added Ferron.

"Unfortunately the two (ferry service) providers have not received any (federal mass transit funds)," Ferron told the senators. The V.I. Code provides for the government to purchase all vessels for the two ferry companies, the attorney added.

"We really have all the laws necessary to make the system work properly," Ferron said. "It's not because there are not enough laws on the books, but because of lack of funding by the government."

"The ferry companies are obligated by an agreement that is unenforceable by law," Ferron added. "The government of the Virgin Islands must step up. The PSC (Public Services Commission) is trying to set fees that are reasonable."

"The fares proposed are woefully inadequate," testified ferry company financial consultant Malcolm Kerwin. The PSC's technical consultant had recommended rates to provide revenue of $7.2 million for the ferry companies to achieve a rate of return for the of 8 percent, Kerwin added.

Under the Barshinger bill's proposed fares the ferry companies would generate about $3.4 million in revenues and the $1 million subsidy would not cover the shortfall, according to Kerwin.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

PSC Chairman Joseph Boschulte

"The subsidies would have to be at least $3.8 million," Kerwin testified.

PSC's Boschulte Calls Bill "Danger"

PSC Chairman Joseph Boschulte testified against the legislation, calling the bill "a danger to the territory's mass transportation system."

"No subsidies will be necessary if the (ferry) franchises are driven to bankruptcy," Boschulte told the senate hearing.

The PSC voted on Thursday, October 29, to reduce a previously approved fare increase to $6 from the $7 fare approved earlier this year after rate hearings. (See related story on page 3.)

Should Government Run Service?

Senator Terrence "Positive" Nelson questioned whether the government should run the ferry service.

"Which will ultimately be cheaper to do?" Sen. Nelson asked. "Should it be part of government services?"

"It is cheaper for the government to contract it out rather than do it itself," the ferry companies' Atty. Ferron said.

"You have to provide transportation at a reasonable cost," said Sen. Wayne James.

"How much money do you need to make this a $2 trip," Sen. James asked the ferry company officials. "$5 is too much; $10 per day is too much. "

"Should DPW be in some sort of receivership to have money earmarked for transportation spent on transportation?" Sen. James asked.

Sen. Nelson also questioned the ferry operators about other companies infringing on the franchise agreement.

"It is our responsibility to make sure we can move our people back and forth at an affordable rate," Sen. Nelson said.

The committee voted to hold the bill for further consideration.

Committee Chairman Sen. Carlton Dowe, Sen. Barshinger, Sen. Louis Hill, Sen. James, Sen. Nelson, Sen. Sammuel Sanes and Sen. Patrick Simeon Sprauve attended the hearing.

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CBCC Stemming Runoff with $300,000 EPA CARE Grant

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Despite a few setbacks, the Coral Bay Community Council is forging ahead to stem the tide of runoff into Coral Bay harbor.

About six months into a $300,000, three-year EPA Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) grant, the group has made strides and overcome a few hurdles.

CBCC hired Joe Mina as a full time storm water engineer in April, but he had to return to the sates last month and the group is now looking for his replacement, explained CBCC president Sharon Coldren.

"Joe was a storm water engineer with a lot of experience and he got a lot of work done while he was here," said Coldren. "He did several design plans for us for drainage concerns, the first one of which will hopefully be implemented within the next couple of months."

Mina's work should be visible shortly as officials work to redirect runoff along King Hill Road, Coldren explained.

"The plan is to change the water that is coming down King Hill at the swale and get that directed back into the gut system," she said. "The result will be no longer having that swale on King Hill Road. That will be the first project that should be starting soon."

During his six-month tenure, Mina also spoke to numerous community groups and home owners' associations about drainage concerns, Coldren added.

"After talking to a number of community groups, he wrote up 10 papers on the problems we're working on which should be up on our website soon," said the CBCC president. "Our volunteer web master Jean Vance does an excellent job of updating our website and we've very grateful to her. So keep checking the site, because it's expanding."

Mina also hosted several workshops for homeowners and developers on proper silt fencing and brush berm use, a service which CBCC plans to continue in the future, Coldren explained.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of CBCC

CBCC president Sharon Coldren, left, with other CARE attendees.

While Mina returned to the states last month for personal reasons, the storm water engineer is still working for CBCC on a part-time basis as the group looks for his replacement, according to Coldren.

"He's seeing us through the transition as we look for a full time storm water engineer," she said. "We'll really miss him. He had great skills for what we really need here."

CBCC is advertising for a full time storm water engineer and hopes to have a new one on board soon, Coldren added.

In the meantime, Coldren recently returned from New York City where she met with other CARE grant group leaders from across the country.

"There were about 100 people from all over the country and another 50 EPA officials," said Coldren. "I got the opportunity to hear about the experiences of other EPA CARE agencies that are taking care of toxic water and air problems that affect their communities."

"There were some people doing some wonderful things and I've brought some great ideas back here with me," Coldren said.

The trip was funded by, and is a requirement of, the CARE grant and Coldren hopes to be able to make a presentation of CBCC's work at next year's conference, she added.

While enjoying the view from Crowne Plaza Hotel in Times Square, a few technological problems made Coldren think of home.

Last month many Coral Bay residents experienced difficulty with their cell phones, from dropped calls to simply no service. After finally convincing AT&T that there was a problem, the issues seem to have abated.

But, as Coldren discovered, Coral Bay is not the only place where modern technology can go awry.

"There we were in Times Square at the center of the universe and my AT&T cell phone didn't work and the internet connection was horrible," said Coldren. "So it's not just Coral Bay where these things happen."

Looking ahead, CBCC is hosting a regional conference on sedimentation on November 16 at the University of the Virgin Islands' St. Thomas campus.

Continued on Page 21

After Two Month Closure, Caneel Reopens with Refreshed Rooms

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

The Historic Caneel Bay Resort is open again with a refreshed and refurbished look.

After closing its doors for a two-month off-season for the first time in its history, the former Rockefeller Resort re-opened for the season on Sunday, November 1.

"This season you can expect a refreshed product," said Caneel managing director Nikolay Hotze. "The landscaping has been updated, all rooms have been painted, bathrooms have been refreshed and we expect high employee morale again this season."

During its two-month closure, Caneel Bay, a Rosewood Resort, focused on infrastructure, landscaping and employee relation improvements, Hotze added.

"We did a lot of work while the property was closed," said the resort's managing director. "The kitchen was updated and everything was refreshed. I think it was a very positive closure."

While many things will remain the same at the exclusive resort — from top-notch customer service to breathtaking scenery — there will be some changes at Caneel this season, according to Hotze.

For the first time, the resort will charge for parking. The $10 parking fee will be waived, however, if people spend at least that amount on the property, explained Hotze.

"We will be charging a $10 fee for parking, but if you spend money on food or beverages or tennis at the hotel, that parking will be free," Hotze said.

Anthony Dawodu is still helming the resort's fine restaurants, which will have extended service hours until 10 p.m. this year.

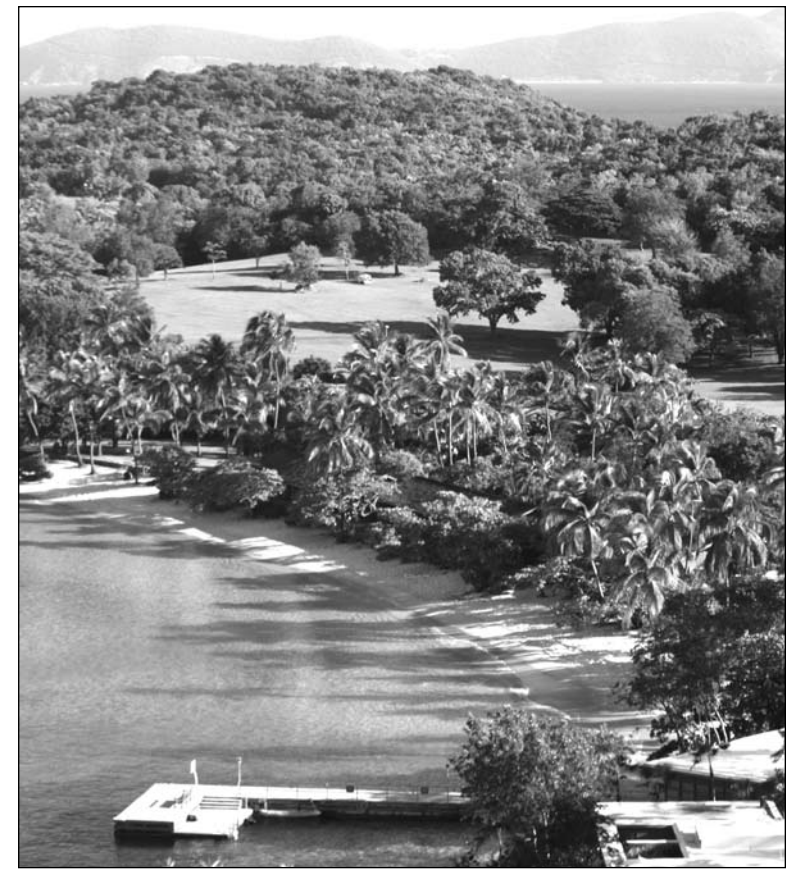
The Turtle Bay Estate House, which opens on November 18, will keep its menu inspiration firmly rooted in elegant steak houses, while the Equator will unveil a new menu by Thanksgiving.

As Caneel re-opened its doors last week, the improvements completed during the sabbatical were certain to enhance guests' stay.

"I think it's just a natural progression as far as refreshing the property," said Hotze. "We look forward to welcoming our returning guests back and welcoming new guests."

While the resevation figures haven't been totaled from October, the resort is enjoying a good booking pace, Hotze added.

For more information about Caneel Bay Resort call 340-776-6111.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Caneel Bay beaches have been relatively empty for the past two months.

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Commander's Bugle Call

American Legion Viggo E. Sewer Post #131

A Busy November for American Legion Post #131

By Jerry Runyon
St. John Tradewinds

November 1 — Wounded Warriors and Team River Runner out of Walter Reed Hospital will be arrive on Sunday for a week of rest and recouping. The group consists of 12 Wounded Warriors with family and four support volunteers from Walter Reed Hospital. They will be kayaking around St. John during their visit.

November 4, 5 and 6 — Sponsored by Post 131, representatives from Norwich University, Military College of Vermont, will meet with the Junior ROTC group at Charlotte Amalie High School on November 4, Ivanna Eudora Kean on November 5 and Central High on St. Croix on November 6. Gift Hill School on St. John will also be visited.

November 4 — Post 131 will sponsor a pig roast/BBQ at Cinnamon Bay between 2 and 3 p.m. for the Wounded Warriors.

The St. John Film Society will be showing two films, "The Rock/Transfer" and "Proudly We Served at the Cinnamon Bay Campground amphitheater at 6:30 p.m.

"The Rock/Transfer" film is about the weight of history — collective and personal. This eight-minute video made by Janet Cook-Rutnik and William Seltzer was first shown in St. Croix at the Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts in the Facing Locality exhibition last March and in the OK Comedy Video section of the 4th International film Festival of Jakarta in September.

"Proudly We Served" was produced, directed and conceived by Joan Keenan and Jean Picau. The video consists of over 30 interviews with V.I. Veterans who talk about their motivation for serving in World War II and their experiences with racial and other issues facing African Americans and Caribbean people during this period of American history.

Both films are being shown on St. John for the first time. The film "Proudly We Served" is available from the American Legion Post 131.

November 7 — Post 131 to sponsor the 2009 Veterans Day Ball at the Caneel Beach Terrace at Caneel Bay from 6 to 11 p.m. with music by Paradise People until 10 p.m.

Tickets, $75 for a single or $140 per couple, can be purchased at the door or by calling Corine Matthias at 779-4250, Aubrey Sewer at 779-4158, Maria Lett at 715-0158, or Elissa Runyon at 776-6445

All proceeds go to fund veteran, Wounded Warrior, community and youth programs.

November 8 — The VI Veterans Affairs Office will sponsor a concert at Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay in the early afternoon.

November 11 — A Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony will be in Coral Bay. The parade will start at 10:30 a.m. beginning at Crabby's Watersports on Route 107 and ending with a ceremony at the Coral Bay Agriculture Station (Post 131 Headquarters) on Kings Hill Road.

Food and drinks will be available. Come and join with Post 131 to commemorate the opening of its headquarters and participate in the island's first Mini Agricultural Fair being co-sponsored by Post 131 and the Department of Agriculture.

Special Notes — The VA St. Thomas outpatient clinic regular phone number is experiencing problems. For this reason, please use the following number and extensions to contact our clinic in St. Thomas: 1-800-449-8729, ext. 25501 or 25502.

The Veterans' Day Ball on November 7 has been relocated from the Westin Resort and Villas to Caneel Bay. Please contact Corine Matthias at 340-779-4250 for details.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Residents searched through piles of clothes for bargains.

ACC Rakes in $5,100 at Flea Market

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

With bargains galore and gourmet hot dogs available, the Animal Care Center's third annual "No Fleas Please, Flea Market" drew a huge crowd to Winston Wells ball field on Saturday, October 24.

The flea market raised more than $5,100 for the non-profit which cares for the island's feral cat and dog populations. The one-day fundraiser garnered enough funds to see the group through the next few months, according to ACC treasurer John Fuller.

"I think it went very well," said Fuller. "The weather was good and the crowds were good. We hit just over $5,100 which, without any big ticket items like a car or big furniture, was about what we expected."

"That should take us through until Christmas for the Animals," Fuller said.

One group alone raised about a fifth of the over all proceeds. The Top Dogs, selling gourmet hot dogs with wasabi and other exotic flavors, raked in about $900. With donations from Island Blues, Tyson Trucking, Cute Cozy Cottage and KateNDesign, Top Dogs raised some serious cash while having some serious fun.

"The Top Dog venders were a big hit," said Fuller. "The hot dogs were great and people just loved them."

In addition to the numerous volunteers who made the day a success, more than 20 vendors donated $25 each to set up their own tables to sell their wares, Fuller added.

The much-needed funds will cover shelter costs, food and veterinary care for the numerous animals tended by ACC. The flea market is one of three annual fundraisers for the ACC, which hosts the popular island dog show Wagapalooza in May.

The next ACC fundraiser is just around the corner. The annual Christmas for the Animals is always a big party with residents coming out in costume to dance the night away for a great cause.

Get those bell bottoms and love beads out, because this year's theme is the "Swinging 60's." The party will be at Tre Vista Estate on Saturday, December 12. Tickets will be available soon at Connections and at the ACC shelter.

For more information or to make a donation, call the ACC at 774-1625 or check out the website www.stjacc.org.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Gourmet hotdogs were a big hit at this year's fundraising event.

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GERS 50th Anniversary Party

St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

Residents enjoyed the festive party with Government Employeess Retirements System (GERS) officials on Friday, October 30 at the Cruz Battery. GERS celebrated its 50th anniversary with food and beverages and live music by Cool Sessions Brass, below.

St. John Rescue Requests Emergency Oxygen Generation System through FEMA Grant

By Michael Jordan
St. John Tradewinds

St. John Rescue recently submitted a grant request to FEMA under the "Assistance to Firemen's Grant" for an extremely important Oxygen Generation System for the island's Emergency Response Agencies.

The island's only source for medical oxygen (and for that matter, St. Thomas and St. Croix) is dependent upon a private provider to supply the oxygen bottle requirement to St. John Rescue, EMS, Fire, National Park, and the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center.

The St. Thomas oxygen supplier has to go to St. Croix to receive their supply. To further complicate this situation, the St. Croix supply is shipped from Miami, Florida.

So, a bottle of oxygen that is on St. John, goes from Miami, to St. Croix, to St. Thomas, and then to St. John and the emergency service using the oxygen. One can imagine the loose links in the chain when a natural or man made disaster occurs.

If a hurricane or any disaster occurs, St. John is without the capability of answering the possible mass casualty needs of medical oxygen for our residents and visitors. The private supplier operates during business hours and can take up to four hours to fill oxygen bottles. There will be access issues if a disaster strikes.

St. John Rescue has written this grant, however, all emergency agencies will have access to this equipment. St. John Rescue will maintain the equipment and it will either be housed at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center or V.I. National Park Headquarters.

Rescue's grant writer, Bob Malacarne, stressed the importance of this grant.

"St. John is an island with limited resources," said Malacarne. "If a hurricane or man made disaster occurs, presently the emergency service agencies on St. John cannot guarantee the availability of medical oxygen under our present conditions."

"Medical oxygen is a vital treatment for all types of patients with either medical conditions or traumatic injuries," said Chris Jordan, president of St. John Rescue.

The proposed cost of this oxygen regeneration system is approximately $67,000.

If this grant is awarded, the entire population of St. John can breathe a little easier knowing that residents will have access to an on-island oxygen supply.

Local, Federal Funding Opportunities Meeting

St. John Tradewinds

The Department of Human Services has invited proprietors of nonprofit organizations to an informational meeting about funding opportunities from federal and local sources on St. John on Friday, November 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Battery.

Information about benefit programs to assist clients with access to TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, WIC, Unemployment and other cash or health assistance programs will be provided.

Registration forms are available at the Department of Human Services main office on St. Thomas at the Knud Hansen Complex.

Completed registrations forms can be delivered to either main office, faxed to Mrs. Warrington at 774-3466, or emailed to vinonprofitmangament@yahoo.com.

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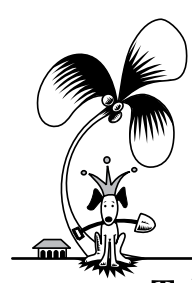
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St. John Film Society Hosting Special Event at Cinnamon Bay Ampitheater on Nov. 4

St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Film Society is hosting a special event at Cinnamon Bay Campground amphitheater featuring two locally produced films on Wednesday, November 4, starting at 6:30 p.m.

The society will screen "Proudly We Served: VI Veterans of WWII," produced for the American Legion in the U.S. Virgin Islands by Joan Keenan.

The result of over 30 interviews, this important documentary provides insight into the lives and experiences of veterans — their motivation for serving in the armed forces, their experiences with racism, their contributions and the effects of their service on their lives. Shot on location in St. Croix, St. Thomas, St. John and Maryland.

Distinguished guests will include Team River Runner, veterans of the Wounded Warriors Project, as they are hosted by the St. John chapter of American Legion Post 131.

The night will also feature "The Rock/Transfer," a short by Janet Cook-Rutnik and Bill Stelzer.

Part of the "Facing Locality" exhibition at the Caribbean Museum of Art, The Rock Transfer is about the weight of history collective and personal as well as an attempt to reconnect the past with the present through a symbolic gesture in which an object that signifies the past is moved from one historical place (Annaberg Sugar Factory on St. John) to another (Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts in Frederiksted, St. Croix).

The Rock/Transfer was included in the 4th International Video Festival of Jakarta, at the Galeri Nasional Indonesia, that opened this fall in Jakarta.

2009 Tommy Star Awards Will Honor Maho Bay Camps Founder Stanley Selengut

St. John Tradewinds

The USVI Hotel and Tourism Association is preparing for the largest hospitality recognition event in the territory, the annual Tommy Star Awards and Gala, on Saturday, November 21, at 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Great House.

These coveted awards are presented to employees who provide an unmatched level of customer service and are an asset to their companies. Tickets are $125 per person.

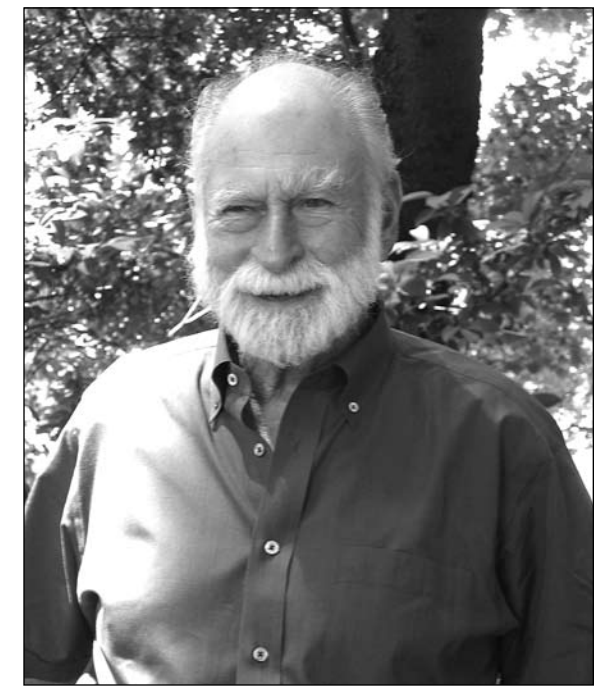
After a series of interviews, one nominee in the following categories is chosen to receive the Tommy Star Award: Hotel Supervisor of the Year; Hotel Associate of the Year; Hospitality Associate of the Year; Retail Associate of the Year; Restaurant Associate of the Year; Activities/Attraction Associate of the Year; Airline Associate of the Year; Taxi Operator of the Year; and Public Service Associate of the Year.

A new award category has been added to this year's roster — the Tommy Green Award. Jennifer McQueen, Public Relations Manager at the Ritz Carlton, will receive this award. McQueen was chosen because of her ongoing personal interest in environmental issues, for going above and beyond her normal duties, and because her initiatives are recognized by both co-workers and guests.

The association will again present a Tommy Student Award. This year's award will go to Akeiba Barnard, a 7 grader at Addelita Cancryn Junior High School.

Stanley Selengut, owner of Maho Bay Campgrounds, Harmony Studios, and Estate Concordia Eco-tents, will receive the 2009 Tommy Star Award of Excellence. The octogenarian is a civil engineer specializing in sustainable resort development.

A consulting assignment on low-income housing for the Rockefeller brothers led Selengut to the Virgin Islands many years ago. The environment remains one of his priorities and this is evident in the existing programs at his properties.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of ???

Stanley Selegut

Selengut has served as a Founding Board Member of the International Ecotourism Society and on the National Council of the National Parks and Conservation Association. Former Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbit appointed him to the National Park System Advisory Board.

For more information on the 2009 Tommy Awards, call 774-6835.

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New Flavors Spicing Up This Year's Flavors of St. John Event

By Mauri Elbel
St. John Tradewinds

St. John Rotary Club is spicing up its most delicious fundraiser of the year by adding a few new ingredients guaranteed to make the evening a success.

Kati Steinborn, owner of Kati -Lady Events and an island award-winning chef and caterer, is at the helm of the this year's planning committee and using her seasoned experience to give Flavors of St. John just the tweaks needed to generate more people, funds and winners.

"I am a Rotarian and every year someone either volunteers or gets volunteered to produce Flavors," Steinborn said. "I was volunteered — and I graciously accepted."

This year's event will take place on November 21 at The Westin Resort and Villas from 6:30 to 11 p.m. As one of Rotary's largest annual fundraisers since its 2001 beginnings, Flavors raises money for the organization's college scholarship fund which has awarded approximately $55,000 to St. John students with four $12,500 college scholarships, two $2,000 one-time scholarships and one $1,000 scholarship.

Rotary hopes to raise $35,000 at this year's Flavors in order to send two St. John students to college who would not have otherwise been able to afford it, Steinborn said.

Because this year's chairman was a participant for many years, she saw flavors from a different point of view and realized first-hand all of the effort vendors make to take part in the event.

Steinborn said while all restaurants must donate time and money to the event, some must also

Continued on Page 16

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Residential Drop-off Requirements

- Bring your electronic waste boxed
- No more than 3 of the same items per household will be accepted
- Provide manpower to unload and load items

Commercial Drop-off Requirements

- Pre-register with VIWMA. Applications and registration forms can be picked up from the La Grande Princesse or Williams Delight offices in St. Croix, the Wheatley Center office in St. Thomas or the Public Works office in St. John
- Only checks and money orders accepted and are to be made out to the V.I. Waste Management Authority
- Bring ALL e-waste boxed except for jumbo items
- Provide manpower to unload and load items

For More Information Contact:

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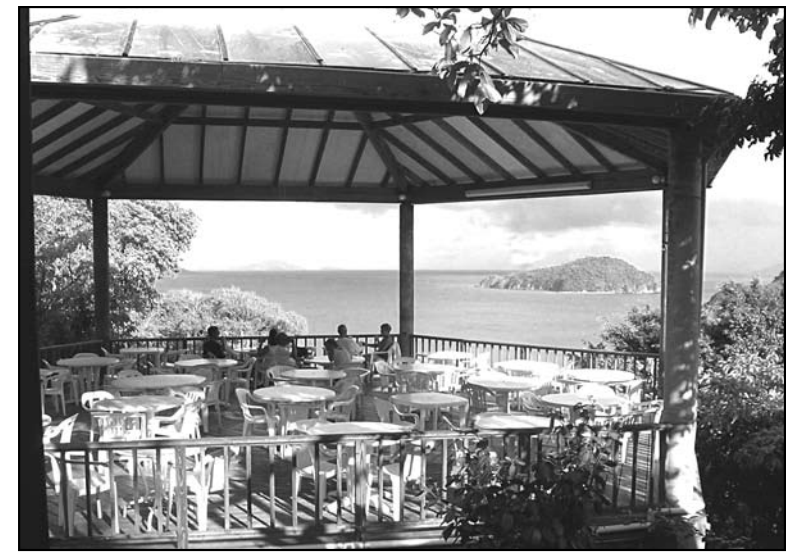

St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Maho Bay Camps

A great meal at Maho comes with an amazing view of Maho Bay.

Friday Prime Rib Back at Maho Bay Pavilion

St. John Tradewinds

High season is gearing up at the island's longtime eco-resort Maho Bay Camps and this Friday, November 6, marks the return of the one of the best deals on island — the Friday Prime Rib dinner.

Many locals who make the sojourn on Friday evenings to Maho's Pavilion Restaurant can attest to the delicious hunk of beef served with vegetables and salad bar every week. There are always at least four entrees to choose from including a vegetarian option each night ranging between $17 and $23.

As an added bonus this Friday, the Maho Art Gallery, next to the restaurant, is hosting a big sale during the dinner hours. Hand blown glass art pieces such as bowls, vases and a variety of glasses and ornaments are available at substantial discounts.

Also available at the Gallery are hand batik bags and tableware as well as pottery made at Maho Bay Clay Works. All art sold at Maho Art Gallery is created from recycled materials — glass art is made from recycled beer and soda bottles and batik is created with recycled fabric.

Maho Bay Camps and its restaurant are open every day of the year with breakfast and dinner served in the open air family-style restaurant and lunch served at the Beach Café at Little Maho Beach.

Ocean views are beautiful from the restaurant especially at sunset. The dinner menu varies daily and always features a kid's entree option.

Maho Pavilion Restaurant is open every day from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. and again from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information call 776-6226 or visit www.maho.org.

Historical Bits & Pieces

by Chuck Pishko

The National Parks — America's Best Idea

St. John Tradewinds

Ken Burns' film "National Parks — America's Best Idea" is a masterpiece containing so much beautiful nature photography, so many people and locations, and such diverse and mutually-exclusive objectives that he couldn't do the National Park Service justice in the 12 hours of programming.

Even Richard Wagner gives us a night off during the Ring Cycle, but this program offered no quarter.

Our own park and monument received no on-air exposure even though it is unique and showcases the jewel of the Caribbean.

Our park is mentioned almost as a footnote in the Historical Figures written material developed in conjunction with the series. It features a biography of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. who is credited for purchasing land and donating money (estimated at $45 million) to create and expand Acadia, Great Smoky Mountains, Grand Teton, Yosemite, and Shenandoah National Parks.

He passed his love of the parks on to his children, "particularly his son Laurance, who was responsible for the creation of Virgin Islands National Park and helped launch the National Park Foundation." The Park maps published for the series only show as far south as Florida.

Also, the series seemed to get stuck in a continuous loop on the giant western national parks: Yosemite, Yellowstone, Crater Lake, Grand Canyon among others.

Eastern parks, Acadia, Great Smoky Mountains, and the Everglades which came later were explored but not to the depth and breadth of the western parks. To his credit, Burn also brought in Marzana, the Japanese-American concentration camp.

This summer we visited the Women's Rights National Historic Park in Seneca Falls, New York, which was the setting for the First Women's Rights Convention in 1848. The interpretation rangers and the exhibits covered the progress of equal rights for women.

It's well worth a stop if only to see the progress made over the past 160 years. The parks have become more than pretty scenery; they're interpreters of our culture.

Also, Burns did explore J. D. Rockefeller Jr's problems with the Grad Teton National Park but he didn't close the loop with Laurance Rockefeller's donation of 2,000 acres to the park in 1990, part of the J Y Ranch located in the park and inherited from his father.

In 2007 the final portion of the property was transferred to the park (that 1100 acres was allegedly worth $160 million).

On September 13, 2009, the New York Times reported that Ken Burns met with "some of the nations wealthiest and most philanthropically generous citizens" at Seal Harbor, Maine at the behest of David Rockefeller, Jr., Senior Vice Chairman Emeritus of the National Park Foundation.

Burns has lost his guaranteed financing from General Motors, forcing him to spend more time hustling for support. Burns' film is a start to celebrating a century of America's national parks.

The National Parks Conservation Association, the National Parks Foundation, and the park professionals need to lead the efforts to redefine the parks in the next 100 years — based on both the biodiversity of our natural parks and the cultural diversity of our nation.

Football Game: JESS vs. GHS

St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

The island's two school flag football teams, Gifft Hill School and Julius E. Sprauve School, battle it out on the gridiron at Winston Wells ball field at JESS.

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Letters to St. John Tradewinds

Ghostly Coral Found at Jumbie

I found this ghostly piece of coral at Jumbie Beach the other day (of all places)! Perhaps you guys could feature one of the pictures on your website.

Thanks,
Christopher Bradt
Nature Photographer

Editor's Note: Christopher's photo appeared on www.stjohnnews.com on Wednesday, October 28.

The Boat Goes In First

The boat goes in first...then it's Miller time! Folks, you just can't make this stuff up!

– Submitted by Z. Hruza

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Alpine Energy Agreement Will Harm Environment

I submitted this letter to the PSC members the day before the October 6, 2009 hearing at Barbel Plaza. We now know the outcome: PSC members Joseph Boschulte, Donald Cole, M. Thomas Jackson, Verne David voted in favor of the agreements with Alpine Energy. Elsie Thomas Trotman voted against the motions. Many thanks, Elsie, you listened and rejected 30 years of experienced testimony which has resulted in the cause of global warming, air pollution and the destruction of the environment.

Commentary to the Public Service Commission:

I am requesting Public Service Commission members to make a decision that will make them famous and reject the power purchase agreement between Alpine Energy Corporation and the Water and Power Authority for a permit to build incinerators on St. Croix and St. Thomas, rather than infamous forever in collaborating with WAPA, the Public Finance Authority and Waste Management Authority in this act.

The resulting impact of incineration of petroleum coke and garbage in the Virgin Islands will contribute to air pollution, water pollution and permanent environmental damage.

Human health will suffer from the carcinogens emanating from the incinerator stacks emissions. The millions of gallons of heated water discharging into the coastal waters will raise ambient temperatures above survival levels for corals, fishes and sea life.

The stored residual waste from this incinerating process, ash and partially burned waste products, may become a potential hazard when hurricane, or flooding strikes.

In the *V.I. Daily News* of September 23, 2009, President Barack Obama, in his speech to the United Nations stated the United States is determined to act against the serious global climate change.

"The threat from climate change is serious, it is urgent and it is growing," Obama said.

Is it then rational for our Virgin Islands representatives, Governor John deJongh, Jr., WMA Director May Adams Cornwall or Hugo Hodge, Executive Director of WAPA to pursue an egregious act that will lead to more contamination to the V.I. and global ecosystem?

The incinerator stacks emissions will release into the Virgin Islands air sulfur dioxide, mercury, lead, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, benzene, vanadium, cadmium, volatile organic compounds, ozone and dioxins.

According to reports released by the Environmental Protection Agency, the consistency to which these chemicals are released "adds to the weight of evidence that coke oven emissions are human carcinogens."

For additional information access the EPA website or type in the "Yahoo" or "Bing" search engine field "pet (petroleum) coke."

The WAPA ratepayer will pay for the cost of operating these plants, and the containing and monitoring of the ash, the toxic by-products of the furnaces.

The claim that WAPA proposes to save money from reducing its need for oil by 600,000 barrels a year may be true, but the cost of replacing this oil with petroleum coke, the dirtiest fossil fuel; the transportation and pre-burn storage costs, the post burn containment cost, will far exceed WAPA's savings.

And the environmental cost and human cost in terms of health care will also have a price.

I am once again requesting the PSC to disapprove this power purchase agreement.

R. Victor Johansson
St. John Resident

St. John Animal Shelter Flea Market Raises $5,100

The St. John community once again rallies to help those in need.

The St. John Animal Care Center (ACC) would like to thank everyone who donated items, volunteered their time, or made a purchase at the 3rd annual "No Fleas Please" Flea Market Saturday, October 24.

The popular event raised more than $5,100 for the ACC shelter and drew large crowds of bargain hunters to the Winston Wells ball field in Cruz Bay.

Eager shoppers hunted for great deals among a large variety of goods and furniture generously donated by local residents and businesses. More than 20 local vendors also contributed by donating $25 for a space at the event, creating a unique and fun way to spend the day.

An energetic addition this year's event was "Top Dogs" hot dogs, who were able to raise significant funds thanks to generous donations from Island Blues Bar & Grill, Tyson Trucking, Cute Cozy Cottage and KateNDesign. A special thanks to the St. John Rotary Club, KatiLady, and Storage-On-Site, whose continued support is so appreciated.

The "No Fleas Please" Flea Market is one of three annual fundraising events sponsored by the ACC. Each event (Wagapalooza, No Fleas Please and Christmas for the Animals) raises critical funds needed to continue shelter operations, like caring for and finding homes for orphaned dogs and cats, controlling the feral cat population and educating the community on animal care.

The next ACC fundraiser is "Christmas for the Animals," is on Saturday, December 12, at the beautiful Tre Vista Estates. Enjoy an evening of great food and dancing to tunes from the "Swinging 60's" — costumes are encouraged!

Tickets will be available at the ACC and Connections in the coming weeks, and all proceeds go directly to help animals in need.

The St. John ACC shelter is located in Cruz Bay, across from the Inn at Tamarind Court, and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 8am to 4pm. For more information, please call 774-1625. Volunteers are welcome.

Jenn Dale, ACC

Letters to St. John Tradewinds

We Need More Parking in Cruz Bay Not Less

Today's issue (last week's *Tradewinds*) blew my mind.

Page three above the fold — VIPA approves plan to create 150 parking spaces at Enighed! Yippee! Huge, shiny halos!!

At last, some hope for the deplorable lack of parking situation that has been a point of contention for way too long!

Then, the bubble is burst...below the fold — VIPA to close Cruz Bay Creek parking lot! Boo! Hiss!! Sharp, pointy pitchforks instead!

One headline totally cancels out the other. How will the parking at Enighed (if it ever really happens) help if everyone has to use it (and you can bet it won't be free, except for perhaps government vehicles) because there is no longer parking in town?

In addition to the increased (not relieved) aggravation of trying to do business in Cruz Bay daily, I believe many of the already hurting businesses will suffer even more when parking cannot be found to shop or eat at the remaining restaurants.

And taking away a playground? Well, one less positive and safe place for kids to go.

There is so much more I could say about this, but what good would it do? A petition was suggested. Yeah, right. Just look up the hill at Sirenusa (now a 'white elephant') and see how much good all that community outcry did. Ditto with Grande Bay.

And Craig (Barshinger) you are so right that the group designing this needs to 'bring the plans to the public' but I submit that any plan that takes parking away is not a good plan, and cannot "have some nice ideas."

Shaking my head in disgust,
Pam Dolson

Enighed Pond Area Can Take Pressure Off Cruz Bay

Dear Governor John deJongh,

In today's *Tradewinds*, there is a description of the design you are creating for the Creek area of Cruz Bay. There is a mention of the construction of an amphitheater in the Customs parking area. I urge you to reconsider this aspect of your design as it will only further impact the Cruz Bay area.

I do believe that an interesting opportunity exists which I believe deserves consideration. Using St. John Capital Improvement Funds, I suggest that the people of St. John purchase the 4 to 5 acres of vacant land at the Enighed Pond from the Port Authority.

Then on this land, we build a parking lot, an amphitheater, a vendors village, a Carnival and Events area, all in a park atmosphere. Also, to help fund the project, we establish a leased area where all of the car rental agencies operate their businesses, cleaning up the nearly 25 agencies choking every spot in town.

The building of an amphitheater at the Enighed Pond will allow Carnival, vendors, and events to grow in a comfortable atmosphere without the cramming of it all into the Creek; thus expanding opportunities and attendance.

We need to lessen the impacts downtown and moving these activities will greatly enhance our village.

Thank you, Steve Black

A Fisherman Tries to Set the Record Straight

I would like to set the record straight on my methods of fishing out of my home community, Coral Bay. I catch tiger sharks on the outside banks of St. John. I sell some of the meat (mostly nice steaks), I mount the jaws on mahogany (with a mirror), I give the fins to people for shark fin soup, and I do give away a lot of the meat to community members for free.

Anyone that asks for a little chunk of meat will most likely get it. I just got back from the Leeward Islands to learn the process of melting the liver into oil which is a rich source of vitamins A and B.

Nothing should go to waste except the head and guts. But there are a few people here that don't want me fishing.

First the fishermen that fish with lines for yellow tail and hardnose. I don't fish those fish, because I feel I would be stepping on those toes, interfering with their livelihood.

Staying out all night is no fun for me, but sharking is. Second, some rich people on the island give me flak about "leave the sharks alone." Well let me ask you something.

Some of you have kids in the KATS program. How would you feel that someday those little sailboats catch a bad wave out there, flip over and have a tiger shark attack one of those kids? Not good huh?

You all should appreciate what I'm doing, taking these predators out. I also get flak about the area I clean them. Before I start, I make sure that I have three gallons of bleach and a bottle of soap liquid to clean the stench.

Third, let me tell you something else about these notorious tiger sharks. They are scavengers. They eat anything, but their primary diet is sea turtles and marlin, both of which are protected. They are protected from man, now who protects them from these predators?

The sport fishing community have a tag and release rule, which is all well intended and great, but after a marlin gets hooked and makes three to four jumps out of the water, now fighting for his life, he is now throwing out a distress signal, which God only knows how many sharks are homing in on.

By the time he is tagged and released, he is too tired to run so he has become their meal ticket. But then again, these sharks can eat to their hearts content, but we can't. Where's the righteousness there?

Continued on Page 21

St. John Tradewinds Keeping Track

2008 FINAL COUNT	2009 TO-DATE
Homicide: 0 Solved: 0	Homicide: 1 Solved: 0
Shootings: 0 Under Investigation: 0 Solved: 0	Shootings: 0 Under Investigation: 0 Solved: 0
Stabbings: 1 Under Investigation: 1 Solved: 0	Stabbings: 0 Under Investigation: 0 Solved: 0
Armed Robberies: 2 Under Investigation: 2 Solved: 1	Armed Robberies: 3 Under Investigation: 3 Solved: 0
Arsons: 0 Under Investigation: 0 Solved: 0	Arsons: 0 Under Investigation: 0 Solved: 0
1st Degree Burglaries: 1 Under Investigation: 1 Solved: 0	1st Degree Burglaries: 5 Under Investigation: 5 Solved: 0
2nd Degree Burglaries: 18 Under Investigation: 18 Solved: 0	2nd Degree Burglaries: 16 Under Investigation: 15 Solved: 1
3rd Degree Burglaries: 67 Under Investigation: 67 Solved: 0	3rd Degree Burglaries: 55 Under Investigation: 53 Solved: 4
Grand Larcenies: 68 Under Investigation: 68 Solved: 0	Grand Larcenies: 52 Under Investigation: 49 Solved: 3
Rapes: 0 Under Investigation: 0 Solved: 0	Rapes: 1 Under Investigation: 1 Solved: 0

St. John Tradewinds' Keeping Track data comes from the V.I. Police Department's Leander Jurgen Command Incident Log, an unofficial record of calls to the station, reports and arrests on St. John.

Alcholics Anonymous 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 Moravian Church, Coral Bay.

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings

Narcotics Anonymous has open meeting from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Saturday at St. Ursula's Church.

Al-Anon Meetings

Al-Anon meets on St. John every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the picnic table at the VINP ball field, and every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at St. Ursula's Multi-purpose center.

Alateen Meetings

Alateen will meet on Mondays at St. Ursula's Church from 6 to 7 p.m. and is open to anyone interested in attending.

October Online Readers Share Comments on VIPA, VIPD and More

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

With so much happening on St. John lately, visitors and residents have been reading the *St. John Tradewinds* website, www.stjohntradewindsnews.com, more than ever.

As of Friday, October 30, the following stories saw the most traffic for October.

"Bennett 'Trying to Save' Three Island Restaurants and Regain Ownership" had 817 readers, "Resident Questions VIPD Procedures had 798 readers and "Break-in Shatters Quiet Night for Estate Mandahl Couple," had 701 readers.

Online readers have also been taking advantage of the website's message board to share their comments on stories.

The stories "VIPA To Close Cruz Bay Creek Parking Lot," and "Callwood and Vincent Honored as VIPA Officers of the Month," garnered the most comments during the month of October.

Readers shared the following views on "VIPA To Close Cruz Bay Creek Parking Lot."

Not content with turnstiles in the ferry terminal to tax St. John, the PA (consistent with the "beautification" of the creek with iron fence) now decides that we will be deprived of the last remaining parking in town. For what? They don't enforce the 45 min limit anyway, all day/week parkers hog it. Years ago I believed the PA was one of the few quasi-governmental outfits run with any efficiency or reason. I guess those people have retired or been run out. Sad. Sad days ahead for St John indeed.

Who is going to benefit from all this? Increased retail sales and convenience for visitors? Or is this going to end up being another boondoggle for the chosen few contractors and others that will line up with their hands out? Are there concessions contemplated? Are they up for bid, or will they simply be "awarded" based on . . . ??? This all warrants close watching. If for no other reason than the entertainment value.

The new parking area should be used first and foremost by all day parkers, thereby freeing up the in-town and much more convenient parking for shoppers. I'm not sure how many people will actually use the new facility if they have to lug bags etc. 10 minutes in each direction, especially if it's rainy.

And Post Office patrons will park, where?

Readers shared the following comments about the story "Callwood and Vincent Honored as VIPA Officers of the Month."

Does anyone know what happened to the good samaritan Mr. Rudolph, that was subjected to officer Callwood's repeated abuse?

Sort of sad to honor an officer who abused his powers. Sounds like a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Isn't officer Callwood the one who in your October 8 article allegedly abused his powers by unnecessarily arresting a St. John resident who asked him to be lenient while ticketing tourists in a double parked rental Jeep? Hardly seems like officer of the month material to me.

Congratulations and here's hoping others will mirror your efforts!

Log on to www.stjohntradewindsnews.com and become a registered user for free to share comments.

Flu Shot Patients Pack St. Ursula's Senior Center

St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Residents waited for flu shots and health screenings at AARP-sponsored CARE Force last week at St. Ursula's Mulit-purpose Center.

This Year's Flavors of St. John Event

Continued from Page 12

choose between staying open for business that evening or participating in Flavors.

"The commitment we are asking of them is huge — it's not just like donating a tray of food," Steinborn said. "Not to mention when you bring a staff together to prepare 300 pieces of food, it is a significant contribution, and that is one of the reasons why we are revamping the event — so more people can get accolades for what they are doing."

Rather than awarding only one vendor out of the 30 or 40 who participate like in years past, Steinborn wanted to add a few categories to make the event more enjoyable and allow participants to look forward to friendly competition with their colleagues.

This year's culinary participants will be judged in four different categories — presentation, appetizers, entrées and desserts. Instead of one winner walking away with a $200 cash prize, four winners will be awarded weekend vacation packages on St. Croix, Puerto Rico and St. Thomas.

"With all of the labor and everything contributed to making Flavors successful, I didn't think a $200 reward was enough," she said. "So we gathered donations from different hotels and activities, so the winning vendors will get mini-vacation packages and they can go away for a weekend after working so hard."

Steinborn is also bringing in culinary professionals to allow for double-blind, non-bias judging. While evening guests will vote for the best overall presentation, celebrity judges including winners from last year's Tastes of St. Croix, an Iron Chef winner and the Ritz Carlton's pastry chef will judge the best appetizer, entrée and dessert.

"We have really qualified judges to ensure there is never any question that the judging is above and beyond," she said.

Flavors also booked the popular island band Inner Visions to provide the evening's musical entertainment — a move Steinborn hopes will generate a younger, more diverse crowd.

Taking the recent economic downturn into consideration, the chairman has also lowered ticket prices to make Flavors a more inclusive island event.

"This is not just for people who can spend $100 on a ticket — we wanted food industry people that wouldn't spend $100 a night to go to something like this to have a chance to attend too," she said. "That is exactly what Flavors of St. John is about — everybody."

Flavors 2009 tickets have been lowered to $85 and the cost is only $65 for those with food handlers cards in order to generate more people from the service industry and cater to the younger population on St. John. But those planning to attend should hurry – ticket prices go up to $100 at the door.

Steinborn also wanted to extend gratitude to West Indies Corporation and Paul Kessock for going "above and beyond" for this year's Flavors — covering the costs for all the event's publishing and providing all of the wine for the evening as well as a mojito bar.

Another addition guests can look forward to on November 21 is the silent auction featuring vacation packages and donations from local artisans.

"This is the first time we've done a silent auction and we are hoping to bring in more money to enable us to send even more kids to college," she said.

American Legion Co-Ed Flag Football Scores and Standings

RAIDERS 46 PACKERS 6

Missing starters and not capitalizing on opportunities hurt the Packers as the Raiders dominated from beginning to end.

Shakeem Meade was brilliant for the Raiders passing for four first half scores — two going to his favorite receiver Meshawn Wilkinson with Tomas del Olmo on the receiving end for two more. At the half it was 30-0.

The Packers managed a score in the second half as Andre Edward tossed a nifty TD to Jalen Frazer. The Raiders mixed it up in the second half as back-up QB Meshawn Wilkinson pitched two more scores to Sam Wessinger.

BRONCOS 21 PATRIOTS 13

Two perfectly matched teams, good coaching and fired-up players combined to make this match-up an exciting one to watch. Both teams played inspired defense but managed to grind out scores through great plays.

The Patriots' Anthony Angol passed to De'Quan Cline and Te'Kejah Richardson was on the receiving end of a Cline pass with the Broncos' Jay Williams tossing to Jareem Fahie to provide first half scoring.

The Broncos found themselves behind at the half 13-8 but came out roaring in the second half with great defense and held the Patriots to no scores. Jay Williams tossed some beauties to Kassahun Harris and managed to take the win by a touchdown.

Much thanks to all the great fans who have supported the kids by coming out to the games each Friday night. A big thank you to Shakreem Richardson for providing water and helping to clean up. Thanks to Brenda Wallace for providing the play-by-play. It's wonderful to see the community coming together each Friday night. Let's all get out and cheer our wonderful St. John youth!

There are four weeks left in the regular season as we end on November 20. November 27 will be the league playoffs starting at 5 p.m.

STANDINGS AS OF OCTOBER 23

Team	W	L	PF	PA
Raiders (Black)	4	1	138	57
Broncos (Red)	4	1	106	39
Patriots (Blue)	1	4	91	123
Packers (Green)	1	4	67	183

Next Game – October 30: Patriots vs. Raiders at 6 pm and Packers vs. Broncos at 7 pm.

Ferry Rate Hike

Continued from Page 3

mission will continue to make strides to do what is fair and just in making decisions for the citizens of the USVI," said Boschulte in a prepared statement from PSC. "The decision was made in order to ensure that we continue to have a St. Thomas/St. John Ferryboat Service."

VI Unity Day Group president Lorelei Monsanto deemed the PSC's decision a victory.

"We won," said Monsanto. "We consider it a victory. It's not exactly what we wanted, but at least the PSC is now checking the financial records and not just taking anyone's word for it."

"The VI Unity Day Group is encouraged by this outcome," Monsanto said.

H	O	P	P	E	D	■	S	T	R	A	P	■	S	T	L	O	■	A	G	E
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K	E	R	R	R	O	L	L	I	C	K	S	■	I	N	A	S	L	U	M	P
E	S	T	E	E	■	E	T	C	■	H	E	B	R	O	N	■	E	L	M	O
U	S	E	■	■	S	O	C	K	O	■	O	R	R	R	O	T	A	T	E	S
P	A	R	R	R	E	V	O	L	T	S	■	A	S	E	V	E	R	■	■	■
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L	E	F	T	O	F	F	■	■	■	L	A	M	A	R	R	R	I	S	E	S
A	M	I	E	■	C	A	L	F	S	■	U	S	D	A	■	■	N	C	A	A
G	A	R	R	R	A	D	I	A	T	E	S	■	V	E	N	A	■	A	G	R
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S	E	T	F	E	E	■	■	E	D	I	S	T	O	■	O	L	A	■	■	■
■	■	■	I	A	M	S	A	M	■	B	U	R	R	R	U	S	T	L	E	S
B	A	R	R	R	I	N	S	E	S	■	P	I	O	U	S	■	■	A	L	A
A	T	O	M	■	N	E	T	T	O	N	■	G	U	N	■	P	A	D	D	Y
C	R	U	S	A	D	E	R	■	C	A	R	R	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	S
K	I	N	■	R	E	Z	A	■	A	L	E	A	K	■	A	R	N	E	S	S
S	A	D	■	T	R	E	Y	■	L	A	Y	M	E	■	N	E	E	D	T	O

St. John Police Report

Emergency Numbers:

Land Line: 911 • Cellular: 340-776-9110

St. John Police Dept: 340-693-8880 • St. John Fire Station: 340-776-6333

Friday, October 23

8:51 a.m. - An Estate Carolina resident c/r a break-in. Burglary in the third.

10:23 a.m. - A visitor from Illinois r/ an auto accident in the area of Trunk Bay. Auto accident.

11:10 a.m. - An Estate Pastory resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace.

7:00 p.m. - A citizen c/r a disturbance in Coral Bay. Disturbance of the peace.

10:40 p.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident r/ an assault. Simple assault.

Saturday, October 24

3:20 p.m. - A citizen c/requesting police assistance. Police assistance.

4:15 p.m. - A citizen p/r that she was assaulted. Aggravated assault and battery, D.V.

Sunday, October 25

2:45 p.m. - Central Dispatch c/r shots fired in the area of George Simmonds Terrace.

6:40 p.m. - A citizen c/r that a guest at the Westin was creating a disturbance. Police assistance.

7:07 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident c/r a missing minor. Missing minor.

10:31 p.m. - An employee of Island Blues c/r a disturbance. Police assistance.

Monday, October 26

7:30 a.m. - An Estate Carolina resident p/r that she was assaulted by two females in the area of Coral Bay. Assault in the third.

4:40 p.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident p/r suspicious activity. Suspicious activity.

Tuesday, October 27

10:34 a.m. - An Estate Power-Boyd resident c/r that someone was on her property. Police assistance.

10:50 a.m. - A citizen r/ that someone entered his home and removed items. Burglary in the third.

1:14 p.m. - An Estate Bethany resident p/r an assault. Assault and battery.

1:47 p.m. - An Estate Freeman's Ground resident c/r that he was assaulted. Assault and battery.

3:15 p.m. - An Estate Bethany resident p/r that her husband signed her name on a check. Forgery.

3:20 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r that she saw a female driving her mother's vehicle. Grand larceny.

6:00 p.m. - Badge #98 p/ at Jurgen Command with one Martin Haas of Cruz Bay, under arrest and charged with assault and battery. Bail was set at $500. The bail was posted and Haas was released into the custody of Monica Morris.

No time given - An Estate Pastory resident r/ someone stole his motorcycle from his home. Stolen vehicle.

No time given - An Estate Chocolate Hole resident p/r having a disturbance with a female. Disturbance of the peace.

Wednesday, October 28

10:37 p.m. - A citizen r/ a possible assault. Unfounded.

Thursday, October 29

10:18 p.m. - Central Dispatch c/r a citizen requesting police assistance. Police assistance.

Friday, October 30

8:09 a.m. - An Estate Zootenvaal resident c/r being disturbed by a barking dog. Unfounded.

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, November 3

The Office of Nutrition Services will commemorate American Diabetes Month next month with an educational workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. on November 3, at the Schneider Regional Medical Center's cafeteria.

Wednesday, November 4

The St. John Film Society is hosting a special event at Cinnamon Bay Campground amphitheater featuring two locally produced films on Wednesday, November 4, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 5

The V.I. Public Services Commission is conducting hearings on the VITELCO Change of Control proceedings regarding St. Thomas/St. John Cable and St. Croix Cable Companies. The meeting on St. John will be on Thursday, November 5 at 3 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Legislature building.

November 6-8

The St. John Racquet Club will host a VITA Junior Tennis Tournament November 6-8 at the Cruz Bay tennis courts.

Saturday, November 7

In conclusion of October as Breast Cancer Awareness month, friends of Sharon "Puppy" Lees are hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, November 7, starting at 3 p.m. at Crazy Cracker's. There will be a male review and auction of the island's most eligible bachelors. Auction begins at 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 7

The Veterans Ball will be November 7 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Caneel Bay Beach Terrace.

Sunday, November 8

The VI Veterans Affairs Office will sponsor a concert at Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay in the early afternoon on Sunday, November 8.

Tuesday, November 10

The St. John Historical Society will host its first meeting of the new season at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall on Tuesday, November 10, beginning at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 11

In celebration of the 90th Anniversary of Veteran's Day, American Legion Post 131 is hosting a ceremony and BBQ/pig roast in Coral Bay on November 11.

Wednesday, November 11

Department of Agriculture Commissioner Louis Petersen and his staff invites the public to a St. John Coral Bay Station Open House on Wednesday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, November 21

The Rotary Club of St. John's annual Flavors fundraising event will be on Saturday, November 21, from 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the Westin Resort.

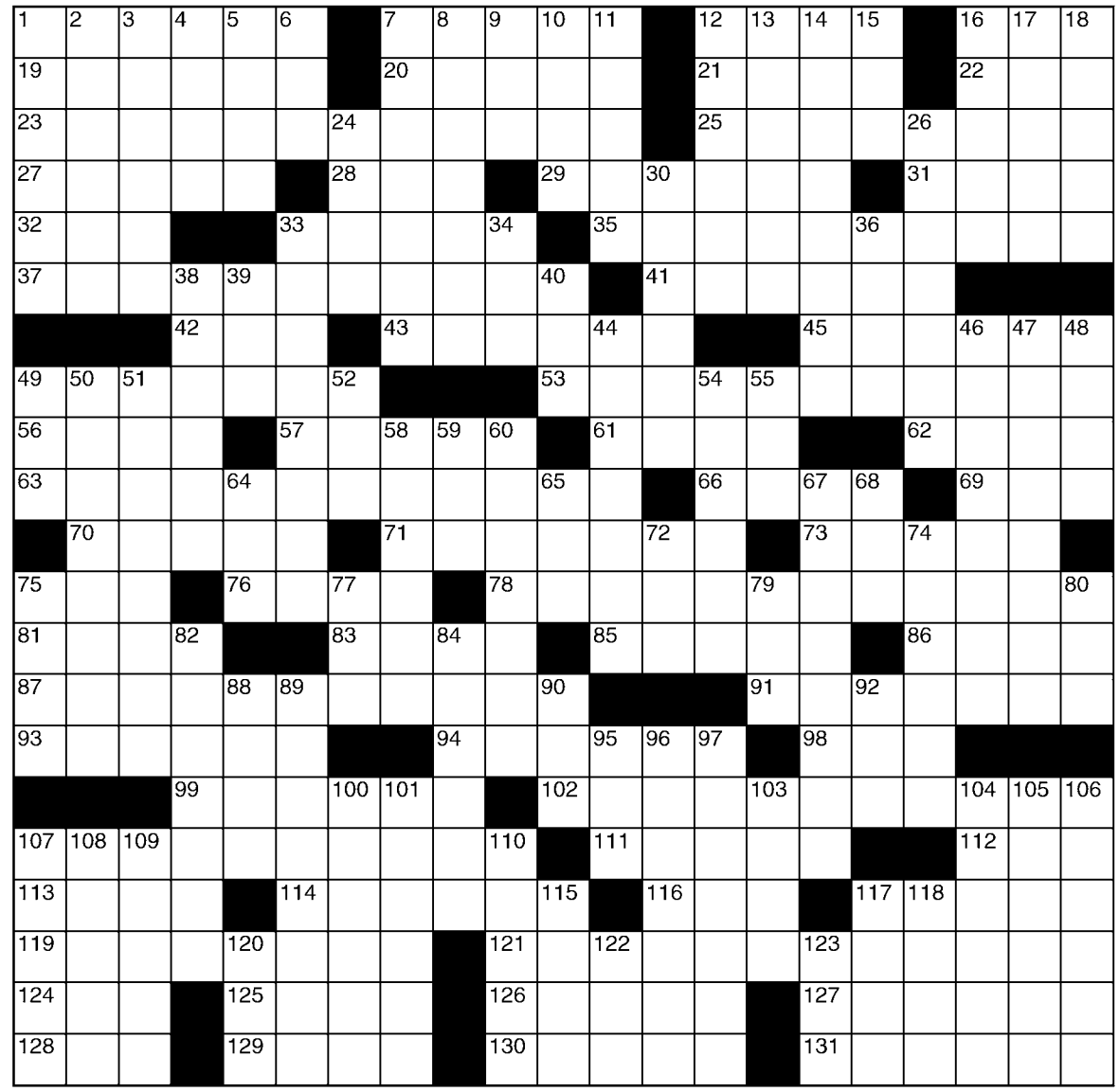
Friday, November 20

The Department of Human Services invites proprietors of nonprofit organizations to an informational meeting about funding opportunities from federal and local sources on St. John on Friday, November 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Battery.

Sunday, November 22

St. Ursula's Episcopal Church presents renowned organist Albert Lynch and cellist Kenneth Pierce and friends in a benefit concert on Sunday, November 22, at 4 p.m., at the Cruz Bay church.

PREMIER Crossword



FOOD CHAINS

ACROSS

1 "— boy!" ("Way to go!")
5 Garden tool
9 Passed, as a law
16 Really cold
19 In the vicinity
20 "Wild River" director Kazan
21 "A Perfect Spy" novelist John
22 Sitcom actress Charlotte
23 Three-food chain
26 It has biceps
27 Clarification lead-in
28 Move a bit
29 "Mazel —!"
30 Mutt's skin problem
32 Pupil covering
34 Three-food chain
38 Space shuttle org.
40 Writer Morrison
41 One step — time
42 Three-food chain
49 Knot-tying gp.
52 Compete
53 — -Z (thoroughly)
54 Serpentine fish
55 19th-century conductor Hans von —
57 Baffle
60 Word after charlotte or ballet
64 Whopper
65 One of the Muses
66 Four-food chain
70 In the last little while
72 Relieve
73 Copied a pig
74 Five-food chain
79 Benefactor
80 Ending for velvet or Hallow
81 Jewish feast
82 Boy band of the late '90s
85 Perfect spots
86 Folk singer Joan
88 Illegalize
90 La mer filler
91 "— funny!"
92 Four-food chain
98 Thu. follower
100 "— to Five"
101 Not odd
102 Three-food chain
109 1996-2002 HBO sitcom
113 Beat fast
114 Stiff — board
115 Neighbor of Ariz.
117 Most common, statistically
118 R&B singer Rawls
119 Three-food chain
124 "Further ..."
125 Compared (to)
126 "That's my aim"
127 Alternative to "psst"
128 Watch
129 Ingredient in synthetic rubber
130 Prescribed amount
131 Be defeated

DOWN

1 Crazy caper
2 Spanish for "I love you"
3 Get narrow gradually
4 Media figure Huffington
5 Tape deck button abbr.
6 Woeful sigh
7 "Roots" character Kunta —
8 Erode gradually
9 Allen wrench shape
10 Prefix with pagan
11 Piercing
12 Roasting fowl
13 Rome's — Fountain
14 Momentous time period
15 "Young Guns" actor Mulroney
16 From Tabriz
17 Ship's load
18 Country on the Red Sea
24 Millennium-starting year
25 Fervor
31 Ivanovic of tennis
33 18-Down's continent
35 Acct. extra
36 Feeling that's picked up
37 Woebegone
39 Former Chevy van
42 Eggs, biologically
43 Joke
44 Mars, with "the"
45 Eleventh —
46 Passed along
47 Students at Yale
48 Confounded
49 Susan or pea lead-in
50 "— story goes"
51 "Two roads diverged in —": Robert Frost
55 Harmless
56 Planet past Saturn
58 Attack by jumping
59 Organic compounds
61 Dye user
62 Door part
63 Perry of fashion
67 Lipton option
68 Flimsy, as an excuse
69 Suffix with octa-
70 Humorous poet Nash
71 Tolkien's Baggins
75 Philippine island or its chief city
76 Eavesdrop on
77 McEntire of C&W
78 Mucho mad
83 Hector
84 Billiard stick
87 Online mag
89 Suddenly bright star
92 Little piece
93 Up to the time of, informally
94 Upturned, as a crate
95 Half woman and half fish
96 Enrico — Institute
97 Not faithful
98 Mel's Diner redhead
99 Malcontents
102 Map book
103 Ring up
104 Bluenose
105 In poor taste
106 Theater guide
107 Michael of "Sleuth"
108 "The best is — come!"
110 Neighbor of Montana
111 "Land — alive!"
112 Oozy muck
116 Gen — (folks born after '65)
120 Petty peeve
121 Tony winner Cariou
122 Lime drink
123 Loaf in a deli

Classifieds

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One bedroom apt/w/d $1250.00; Two bedroom house/ washer $1700.00; Two bedroom/2 bath house/washer $1800.00; One bedroom/one bath/w/d $1400.00 dec 1; One bedroom/one bath $1250.00 dec 1

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970-382-6683 h

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STORMWATER ENGINEER JOB POSTING
Grant Project Manager
Coral Bay, St. John, US Virgin Islands

Want to be a Hero? Correcting stormwater erosion and sedimentation into our blue Caribbean waters is so important to the people of Coral Bay, St. John – that we sought and received a grant from US EPA to fund a stormwater engineer to provide technical advice and design mitigation/control features – for two years. This can develop into a career leadership position in environmental protection and an engineering practice. Are you up for this challenge?

Stormwater Management Expertise and PE needed. Must be willing to reside in Coral Bay. This Opportunity has been expanded to include compiling bid specs, field engineering, and other work under an additional construction grant. Competitive Compensation. Relocation assistance available.

Applications due November 7th to coralbaycommunitycouncil@hotmail.com, full position description available at www.coralbaycommunitycouncil.org

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Legal Notice

10' Fiberglass Row Dinghy, poor condition, salvaged on 9/27, Cruz Bay. Contact 340-514-5594 or email: coyote@muchomail.com

Lost & Found

Single Ford automobile key on keychain **FOUND** last Thursday, October 8 in front Ronnie's Pizza. The rightful owner should claim at Ronnie's Pizza.

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340-776-6496
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St. John Church Schedule & Directory

3 Sail Church
10 Sunday

Baha'i Community of St. John
Race Unity Devotions
7:30 p.m. Fridays;
Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays
776-6316, 776-6254

Bethany Moravian Church
Cruz Bay, St. John
11 a.m., Sunday School 776-6291

Calvary Baptist Church
13 ABC Coral Bay, 776-6304
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday evening 6 p.m.,
Thursday 7 p.m.

Christian Ministry
Cinnamon Bay Beach
Inter-Denominational
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Christian Science Society
10:45 a.m. Sunday- Marketplace
Wednesday Testimonials
7:45 p.m. on last Wed. of Month

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Sun. 9 a.m., STT. 776-2379
Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard

Cruz Bay Baptist Church
Sunday 11 a.m., 6 p.m. 776-6315

Emmaus Moravian Church
Coral Bay, Sun. 9 a.m. 776-6713

Jehovah's Witness
7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m.
Saturdays (Español), 10 a.m. Sundays
340-715-0530

Missionary Baptist Church
9:30 a.m. Sunday Services, 10:45 Worship,
Tuesday 7 p.m.
Bible Study 693-8884

Nazareth Lutheran Church
Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday School 8 a.m.
776-6731

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Sat. 6 p.m., Sun. 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.,
Spanish Mass 5:30 p.m.
Monday and Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.
776-6339

St. John Methodist Church
Sunday 10 a.m
693-8830

Seventh Day Adventist
Saturdays
779-4477

St. John Pentecostal Church
Sunday 11:05 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays Prayer 7:30 p.m.,
Thursdays Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
779-1230

St. Ursula's Episcopal Church
Sundays, 7:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
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Bible Class, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.
777-6306

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Sunday
776-6332

Word of Faith Church
Word of Faith International
Christian Center, Sundays 7:30 a.m.
Gifft Hill SchoolCall 774-8617

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RED HOOK TO CRUZ BAY
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Leaves Cruz Bay	Leaves Charlotte Amalie
7:15 a.m.	
9:15 a.m.	
11:15 a.m.	
1:15 p.m.	
2:15 p.m.	
3:45 p.m.	

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Stemming Runoff with $300,000 EPA Grant

Continued from Page 6

The conference, which will feature extensive research by Dr. Barry Devine, will also serve as the group's EPA CARE partnership meeting, Coldren explained.

Attacking runoff on another front, CBCC is hosting a group of specialized sedimentation experts from Eckerd College who will be in the Coral Bay area from November 15 to 22.

As CBCC continues working on its EPA CARE grant initiative, the group is also gearing up for its annual meeting on Monday, November 9, at Miss Lucy's from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The evening will feature a pot luck dinner and entertainment.

"Everyone is invited to come out and hear what we've been up to," said Coldren. "We're especially extending an invitation to new Coral Bay residents at the Calabash Boom apartments to come out and join us at the pot luck and become members of the council."

Armed with the EPA CARE grant, it's now more important than ever for the community to support CBCC as the group moves ahead, Coldren explained.

"Things are going really well and we're really excited to be able to make some real changes on the island," she said. "We certainly need community involvement. One thing about getting big grants is you need to have more dollar support to go along with the big grant to make it work."

"We'll be fundraising this year and we certainly want to expand and get more members and people actively involved," said the CBCC president.

For more information about CBCC or to join or make a donation, check out the group's website at www.coralbaycommunitycouncil.org or call 776-2099.

A Fisherman Tries to Set the Record Straight

Continued from Page 15

I'm a fairly newcomer to St. John, living here four years to get away from a nasty drug habit. I've been clean for sometime now, and want the kids to learn from my mistakes and not make the same mistakes that I've made.

I have many skills that I want to share with them, including fishing and farming by the moon, playing musical instruments, captaining boats, scuba diving, and especially flying airplanes and aircraft maintenance and artwork using mahogany and recycled products.

All I ask of this community is to give me a chance and stop bursting my bubble. I am not asking for free handouts. Those days are over. It's time to give back to the community what was taken before. Please work with me. I have children too and would like to have them with me someday.

Andy Greaux

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● **Great opportunity!** Great value! Fantastic, panoramic water views from this home high above Fish Bay in private location. Use as single family two level 4BR 2BA home or split into two units of 1BR 1BA upstairs and 3BR 1BA downstairs. Expansive decks. Cool breezes. Just **$675,000**

HOMES

● **Reduced!** Income producer! Two homes with panoramic views of the Caribbean to Virgin Gorda. 1BR 2BA and a 1BR 1BA. Now just **$750,000.**

● **Drastic reduction!** This popular 3br, 3ba vacation villa with great Caribbean flair has amazing panoramic water views. Now only **$895,000.**

● **"Sibella" SOLD!** 5BR 5BA Solid masonry Villa in gated community. Reduced to **$1,800,000.**
● **REDUCED! Bonus!!** Private well maintained home in Coral Bay with an EXTRA LOT! Only **$382,500.**
● **Lower Peter Bay** 4br, 4.5ba villa exceptionally furnished with large pool just steps away from a secluded white sandy beach. **$6,000,000.**
● **Fish Bay** Great value with this 4BR 2BA home. Use as 2 units or keep as 1 home. Large decks w/panoramic views. Only **$675,000**

CONDOMINIUMS

● **REDUCED!** Sunset Ridge-1st floor masonry 1BR 1BA unit with fantastic views and breezes. Pool access. Only **$254,500**

● **Must see!** Reduced to sell! This 2br, 1.5ba unit is just one mile from Cruz Bay. Amazing sunset water views, oversized veranda and huge pool. **$450,000.**

● **NEW LISTING!** Conch Villas-2 bedroom 1 bath w/ocean & sunset views. Walk to town. Just **$289,000!**
● **REDUCED!** Why rent? Penthouse 1BR 1 BA unit with vaulted ceilings, views & breezes. Only **$274,500**

LAND

● **REDUCED! Two lots!** 0.50+/- acres each. One boasts 150ft of sand/coral beachfront and adjacent lot maintains its own deeded beach path access. Only **$899,000.**
● **Bargain!** Lowest priced parcel in Chocolate Hole! Water view. 0.74 acres. Plans and expired permits. Just **$125,000.**
● **Sub-dividable** parcel near Cruz Bay. Water views over Pillsbury Sound. **$380,000.**
● **18 acres** and 29 sub-divided lots Rendezvous with most road paved. Call in for details.
● **Waterfront!** A rare opportunity in Privateer Bay. A deal at **$875,000.**
● **Special price!!** Virgin Grand Estates two amazing 0.41+/- acre lots. Each for only **$275,000.**
● **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.**

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★ ST JOHN TOP PRODUCERS 2008

"Seashore Allure" - These new waterfront Condos set a higher bar for quality in St. John condos. Just completed in 2009 these are a "must see" with such features as travertine tiles, Brazilian hardwood floors, native stone work, graceful arches framing water views, solid mahogany doors, custom cabinets, rain head ceiling mounted showers, bidets, spa jet tubs, stainless appliances, in-ceiling speakers for entertainment center, owner storage lockers, and twice fired Brazilian clay roof tiles - to name a few. The sounds of the surf, trade wind breezes and beachfront location make these condos a tropical dream come true. One, two & three bedrooms. Priced from **$1.97M to $3.39M**

"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**

"The Castle"- A one-of-a-kind property with a startling vista that few homes can match. A secluded enclave bordering National Park, this villa was lovingly hand-built by the designer over 8 years. Since completion in 1995 this treasure has become a popular rental. Words nor pictures can describe the feeling of romance, spirit & magic that is St. John's little castle. **$1,485,000.00**

"Choco Cruz" - is a fabulous and successful vacation rental home located on Maria Bluff, offering stunning views of St Thomas and Pillsbury sound. Set on a prime lot with generous deck areas and large pool. Two bedrooms and full bath located off the pool area make this an ideal rental or family home. This large lot in a great neighborhood has room for additional guest bedrooms or Master suite. **$1,890,000**

"Kings Hill Apartments" Well built and well maintained newly constructed masonry duplex in a quiet setting. Apartments upstairs and down, live in one and rent out the other. Each unit is currently being rented for $1,600 per month. Both units are 2 bedrooms and 2 baths and both are completely furnished. Owner will sell units individually for **$367,500 or both units for $700,000**

"Snail's Pace" - "Cute As A Button" describes this cottage perfectly. Fronted by a white picket fence, this cozy studio home has all new cabinets, furniture, bath, paint, pumps, tropical landscaping, paved access and walking distance from Reef Bay beach. Includes 1996 Jeep Wagoneer and furniture. List price is below appraisal. The flat lot is a gardener's delight. Walk to Reef Bay Beach. **$499,000**

Bertolino - New to the market, a must see well built and maintained frame home, featuring a private professionally landscaped pool deck with accented stone work, 10x20 pool with a solar pump. Main level is 2 bedrooms & 1 bath & lower level has 1 bedroom & area for a future kitchen. There is separate parking for the lower level. This home also features a Solar hot water heater and a 6500 kw generator. **$595,000**

"EAST END POINT" - The eastern most point of St. John is now for sale. This estate sized lot is over 5 acres and has several natural building sites and unlimited views to the British Virgins from Tortola to Virgin Gorda, Fallen Jerusalem, Salt Cooper, Ginger, Peter and Norman Islands. Located within "THE POINT AT PRIVATEER" St. John's newest upscale subdivision with minimum lot sizes of 1 acre, paved roads and underground utilities. **$4.5M**

"HANSEN BAY 7A" – 18 Acres, waterfront, trade wind breezes and great water views over Long Bay, Round Bay to the north, west to Rams Head and south to St. Croix. Deeded rights to sandy beach at Long Bay. Proposed subdivision map available. An easy project for the first time developer or perfectly suited for a very private estate. **$3,180,000** down from $5.5

Commercial Building - Brand new retail/office building! Built in 2008. Beautiful architecture with stone work, columns and arches. Ample on-site parking and back up generator. Great tenancy in place with supermarket, bank branch, day spa, and more! Ideally located next to the Westin Resort and Guinea Grove Apartments. Only **$4.95M**

"Estate Peter Bay" Gorgeous home site in Estate Peter Bay with great views over north shore to Jost Van Dyke. This parcel is not part of Peter Bay subdivision therefore no dues, assessments, covenants or restrictions can be applied. Owner retains right to use entrance to Peter Bay subdivision (upper Peter Bay road) to access this parcel**. Just Reduced to $1.2M**

Best Deals: Seagrape Hill lots - **$95,000 & $99,000**, Calabash Boom lot with fantastic water views for just **$199,000**, **"Amorita"** - 4 BR masonry house with pool & water views near the Westin Resort now just **$999,000**, **"Bella Vista"** - 4 bedrooms on Bordeaux Mt. with terriffic views to the BVI for only $**850,000**, Lot at Estate Bethany overlooking the Westin Resort for only **$162,000**,

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VILLA ROMANCE – Brand new, luxury 4 bd. pool villa, features exquisite design, craftsmanship, tile roof, coral flooring, columns, fountains and vibrant sunsets over Chocolate Hole Bay. $2,999,000.

CBR HOME LISTINGS

SEASCAPE – Fantastic location on Bovocoap Point! Spacious 2 bd main house w/lap pool, plus a separate caretaker's cottage. Panoramic sunset views, privacy. $1,495,000.

POINT RENDEZVOUS – New rental villa in upscale neighborhood. Masonry construction w/ low maintenance features. 3 bdrm/ 2 baths, large covered veranda, spa, 20' vaulted ceiling in greatroom, ample room for expansion. $1,595,000.

PERELANDRA – Excellent 2 bd/2 bath rental villa high above Cruz Bay. Stunning water views, privacy, lovely pool set in lush gardens. A good buy at $1,050,000.

WATERFRONT WITH DOCK – Concrete 3 bd/2 bath home, on large, flat 1 ac.flat lot, with direct access the bay at your door step. Now only $1,250,000.

CHEZ SHELL – Charming 3 bd / 3 bath, w/gorgeous sunset views, & prime Great Cruz Bay location. This beautifully decorated, & maintained rental villa has marble floors, A/C, custom cabinetry, inviting spa & excellent floor plan. $1,295,000.

CALYPSO del SOL – Very successful rental villa w/ excellent views of Chocolate Hole Bay & St. James islands. Newer masonry home with 3 bdrms / 3 baths, large screened porch, A/C, beautiful pool & hot tub. $2,445,000.

TESSERACT – Popular 3 bdrm / 3 bath rental home w/ fantastic lap pool & panoramic views from Hart Bay to St. Thomas. Comfortable layout, large rooms, multiple decks, privacy & extensive landscaping. $1,200,000.

CHOCOLATE HOLE – Unique ruins of 1700's Great House, along with a 1960's island home on a beautiful 1.42 acre lot. $899,000.

STONE HOUSE – Unique native stone 3 bd/3 bath villa w/ covered rotunda, freeform pool, and spectacular Coral Bay views. $1,800,000. With adjacent parcel $2,100,000.

PLUMB GUT – 1 bd/1 bath home w/adjacent 1X1 cottage. Lush setting on eastern side of Bordeaux. $574,000.

BAYVIEW –Very private villa bordering Natl. Park, minutes from Maho Beach. Traditional masonry design with 2 bldgs connected by pool, decks & patio. 280° views overlooking Francis Bay & North shore, + Coral Bay & BVI's. $1,695,000.

CAROLINA – Small, poured concrete, home with lovely covered wraparound deck. Flat ½ ac. fenced lot. $399K.

LUMINARIA – Luxurious ridgetop villa w/incredible views of North shore and down island. Large pool w/waterfall, 3 bd/ bath suites, 4 car garage, gated entry, beautiful furnishings and landscaping, vacation rental history. $2,495,000

BOATMAN POINT – Masonry 4 bd. home on spectacular 1 ac. waterfront site with amazing views & outstanding neighborhood. $2,795,000.

WINDSONG – Stately Boatman Pt. villa, w/separate cottage, situated on a 1ac parcel w/panoramic views. 6 bdrms., 7 baths, huge pool, fully furnished. $3,495,000.

NAUTILUS – Dramatic setting on Maria Bluff. 3 bd/ 2 bath masonry with large wraparound veranda, spa, sunrise to sunset views, 1.25 ac. lot, tile roof, circular drive. $1,599,000.

BORDEAUX MT. – Family home w/3 bd./2 baths, large porch, water view, ½ ac. lot w/large trees. $675,000.

GOLDEN DRAGON – Beautiful stone villa w/exceptional craftsmanship. 4 bds./4 baths, infinity pool, multi patios & decks, lush gardens, Pt. Rendezvous location. $2,195,000.

CBR CONDO LISTINGS

BETHANY CONDO – Spacious, free-standing 2 bd/2 bath unit w/ amazing views, new common pool. $495,000.

GALLOWS POINT CONDO – Waterfront, 1/bd/1 bath condo in resort setting. Pool, restaurant, swimmable beach, hotel amenities. $695K.

SELENE'S – Ideal in town location, w/parking, for living/ rental or business. Terrific views. $450,000.

CBR LAND LISTINGS

CANEEL HILL – Gorgeous panoramic views. Improved property w/driveway & foundation slabs in place for 4 bedroom villa. Paved roads, underground utilities. $580K.

DITLEFF POINT – Extraordinary sites on magnificent peninsula w/sandy beach, gated entry, beautiful landscaping, and incredible views. Prices start at $895,000.

KLEIN BAY – Small upscale neighborhood, gorgeous views, commonly owned beach. $799K & $995K.

WATERFRONT ON MONTE BAY – Spectacular 13.44 ac. site, ideal for private estate or subdivision. $3,400,000.

CRUZ BAY TOWN – Walk to Frank Bay, R-4 zoning. $249K.

CHOCOLATE HOLE – Water views, ½ ac. $299K & $379K.

GLUCKSBERG – Gentle grade, ½ ac., lg. trees. $130K.

POINT RENDEZVOUS – Outstanding views. $415K & $425K.

LEINSTER BAY – 2 lots on Johnny Horn Trail. $225K & $329K.

ZOOTENVAAL – Hurricane Hole views, paved road. $400K.

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

FLANAGAN'S PASSAGE – 2 beautiful sites. $299K–$350K.

ESTATE FISH BAY – Many parcels to choose from, starting at $165K. Call US for a complete list.

ESTATE CAROLINA/EMMAUS – Time to buy. Affordable lots, with water views, $95k and up.

CBR BUSINESS LISTINGS

FABRIC MILL – Very successful clothing business, established in 1982, in Mongoose Junction. Price includes inventory & equipment, owner will train: $150,000.

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WATERFRONT "PRESIDIO DEL MAR" on Peter Bay Point, has private path to pristine beach. Spectacular new, gated estate on 1.63 acres with exceptional privacy, surrounded by 645' shoreline and National Park waters.

$32,000,000

"L'AUTRE MONDE" Breathtaking views! Privacy is paramount...Contemporary gated estate features open floor plan with extensive common areas, 2 pools, luxurious master suite, 6 additional bdrms. Private dock. (Great Cruz Bay).

$6,800,000

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

$4,900,000

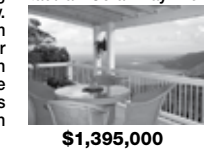
"GALLOWS POINT SEAVIEW" great location for development, walk to beach and town! Masonry 2x2 home on .58 ac. Combination of **R-4 & W-1 zoning** allows for condos or commercial uses.

$3,200,000

"POINCIANA" is an island classic home on 1.24 acres of prime waterfront overlooking Hart Bay. 3 bedroom popular rental with one of the best views of the south shore.

$2,300,000

UPPER CAROLINA: 3 bdrm, 3.5 bath, beautifully-appointed villa has spectacular Coral Bay views. Entry level has spacious great room & covered porch. Interior staircase leads to 2 master suites & lower level studio suite.



$1,395,000

"WINDWARDSIDE" CALABASH BOOM offers 2 cottages with hot tubs in private setting. Panoramic views over harbor to BVIs. Charming brick courtyard, lush tropical landscaping, and outdoor showers. Excellent rentals.

$1,275,000

"COCONUTS" 3X3 GIFFT HILL VILLA impressive water views to St. Thomas, good breezes, Caribbean style with center courtyard & pool, large covered gazebo, lush landscaping and a flat yard!

$1,250,000

"LITTLE PLANTATION" IS A BEST BUY! 4 bedroom private rental home- awesome down island & Coral Bay views! Turn key! Originally $1,700,000 now priced to sell.

$899,000

"CORAL BREEZE" Well kept 2 br, 2 ba condo live in or continue successful short term rental. Beautiful views of Great Cruz Bay & beyond. Convenient to town & recently added common pool and deck make Bethany Condos unit 6 a great investment.

$595,000

"RAINBOW'S END" AT BATTERY HILL - this bright, clean and cheerfully decorated poolside condo is conveniently close to town with nicely manicured grounds. A must see!

$535,000

Ask about

"MUST SELL BEST BUY" SITUATIONS

Call or email today for info!

"MILL VISTA – CAROLINA" Easy access & build on Centerline Rd.	**$ 135,000**
"EMMAUS - SEAGRAPE HILL" Great dual water views 0.387 ac.	**$ 193,500**
"RENDEZVOUS & DITLEFF" Sunset views & gentle site .649 acre	**$ 274,900**
"LEAST EXPENSIVE WATERFRONT"! Gentle slope, 4 min. walk to beach	**$ 298,000**
"SUGAR APPLE WEST" Harbor views gentle ½ ac. with Topo	**$ 299,000**
"FREEMAN'S GROUND" DOWN ISLAND VIEWS .76 ac. Upper & lower access	**$ 425,000**
"CALABASH BOOM" .4 ac. GREAT views, private. Topo map	**$ 475,000**
"GREAT CRUZ BAY" Westin Resort beach access! .78 ac.	**$ 499,000**
"BEAUTIFUL EAST END" Views to Coral Harbor, deeded access to waterfront	**$ 595,000**
"AZURE BAY" IN CONTANT .5 ac. EXTRAORDINARY views, Owner financing	**$ 650,000**

"CANEEL HILL" OWNER WILL FINANCE! Minutes from town. Water views to St. Thomas, 3 gentle sites: .5 to .775 ac. starting at **$200,000**

EAST END LAND Parcels in Privateer Bay and on far East End. Coral Bay views and underground utilities. From **$285,000**

"FISH BAY" 3 large parcels. Views, breezes and paved access. One includes cistern slab, well, active plans/permits. From **$369,000**

"VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES" Gated sub-division, sunset views. Can build FRACTIONAL HOME! Paved roads. 3 from **$335,000**

"LOVANGO CAY" Waterfront & hillside properties; upscale amenities including barge docks, paved roads, undrgrd utilities beach & views. From **$425,000**

"CHOCOLATE HOLE" VIEW LOTS Sunrise to Sunset. 2 adjoining breezy lots. Hart Bay east and St. Thomas west views. From **$425,000.**

"ESTATE CONCORDIA" hillside sites with stunning views ranging from the BVIs, down St. John's eastern coast to Ram's Head , St. Croix. From **$550,000**

BEST BUY "JOHN'S FOLLY" OCEANFRONT & HILLSIDE private gated enclave with shared generator, beach access; 3 lots from **$560,000**

"BOATMAN POINT" 2 Waterfront lots with views & breezes. Topo surveys (2) & full house plans (1). From **$945,000**

"UPPER MONTE BAY ESTATES" 7 Spectacular private parcels above Rendezvous Bay; paved road, stone walls & underground utilities. From **$999,000**

"PETER BAY ESTATES" Exquisite home sites with breathtaking views over the North Shore, BVI & cays between. Prices from **$1,850,000**

BEST BUY BEACH FRONT "GREAT CRUZ BAY" private dock access, quiet upscale neighborhood, awesome views. Owner/broker. Call for details.

SELLER FINANCING WITH GREAT TERMS!

"HAULOVER" BEACHFRONT 2.24 acre sub-dividable borders National Park! AMAZING VIEWS! **$1,999,000**

"SABA BAY" WATERFRONT & HILLSIDE Incredible BVI views! 12 acre sub-divideable waterfront lot for **$9,999,000** plus 4 hillside lots available from **$699,000**

"DREEKETS BAY ESTATES" spectacular BVI views, excellent roads, underground utilities, stone walls, planters, common beach. Minutes from Coral Bay. 12 lots from **$399,000**

"POND BAY" RESORT! Waterfront luxury resort on beautiful beach. 3 & 4 bedroom villas with resort amenities. Fractional Ownership (1/10th) starts at **$315,000**.

OWN A MONTH (OR MORE) in a 3 or 4 bedroom luxury home. Magnificent views and sunsets from 3 homes with all amenities, pools w/waterfalls and spas. Deeded 1 month ownerships **from $69,000**.

WESTIN RESORT TIMESHARES: Own a week, a month, or more & enjoy all the resort amenities! Most unit sizes and weeks available. Priced from **$6,800**.

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MARBELLA Expansive St. Thomas sunset views, 3 bdrms w/ en suite baths. Open style, all on one level, Central A/C. $2,850,000

CVISTA Magnificent open air 4 bdrm villa above tendezvous Bay. Stunning residence exudes comfort, class & elegance. $3,895,000

ON THE BEACH AT KLEIN BAY-JUST BUILT! Serenata de la Playa offers 5 bdrms and 5.5 baths. Swimmable water access. $4,950,000

ELLISON New construction in the Virgin Grand. Generous floor plan w/3 levels of living space. 3 master suites. $2,495,000

FLANAGAN'S PASSAGE VILLA 3 BR, 3.5 BA villa, superior craftsmanship, Spanish tile roof, 180° views, large pool and hot tub $2,850,000

HOMES

L'ESPRIT DE LA VIE Glorious sea views in desirable Pt. Rendezvous. Smart and efficient design. 4BR/4½BA, pool, spa. $2,950,000

NEW! VILLA TESORI is a luxurious custom home offering uncompromising quality and exquisite finishing touches. Sweeping 180° views. 5 BR/5BA. $4,395,000

YOUR OWN SECLUDED BEACH Just steps to Hart Bay, "Rendezview" features 4 BR/4BA with a lower 3BR beach house. $2,895,000

FUN & CONTENTMENT 180° views. Tiled pool deck, 2 large AC. suites & mahogany hardwoods Plans for 3 more bds. $1,235,000

QUACCO Brand new 3 bdrms, 4 bath masonry home in Flanagan's Passage. Great views with many amenities. Sleeps 12. $1,999,000

BETHANY Remodeled property, South Shore views. Additions include 2 a/c bdrms, pool, laundry rm & kitchen. 5 bedroom, 6.5 baths. $1,225,000

GARDEN BY THE SEA B&B, West Indian gingerbread architecture & island furnishings. Owners apartment plus 3 income producing units. Room for expansion. $1,800,000

TEMPTRESS PRICE REDUCED OVER $350,000 2 bdrm suites, pod style, impressive kitchen, private decks, dramatic sunsets. $1,650,000

NEW 3 BR/2 BA in Upper Carolina. Expansive views. Master suite, living area & kitchen on upper level. Lower level has 2 BR, living area & kitchen. A/C. Priced to sell. $675,000

MAHOGANY TREE VILLA, Create a charming B&B offering [CONTRACTED] ntry, walk to Frank Bay & [illegible], 1bd/1ba units with A/C, common pool & garage. $895,000

BAREFOOT New 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath guest cottage in quaint Coral Bay neighborhood, Room for expansion. **REDUCED TO $729,900**

ISLAND MANOR Hear the surf of Hart Bay. 4 BRs w/ensuite baths, elegant furnishings, .51 acre. Multilevel floor plan offers privacy. $1,499,000

SEAGRAPE Live in guest apartment & rent lower apt. Plans for 2BR/2BA main house with foundation, cistern & deck in place. $765,000

BLUE HEAVEN 3 BR, 3 BA with hot tub overlooking Rendezvous Bay; Caribbean cute popular vacation rental $769,000

VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES Brand new villa nearing completion in the Virgin Grand Estates. 4 master suites, top shelf furnishings & cabinetry, granite counter tops, travertine floors. $2,950,000

CAROLINA Veiws to BVI. Well maintained 2-unit cottage offers a 1 bed/1 bath with a cozy covered porch. Plus studio apt. $585,000

ZOOTENVAAL Quaint Caribbean cottage tucked in at the end [CONTRACTED] Walk to Coral Bay. 2 units. **Offers considered.** $729,000

NEW WATERFRONT! Chill in the oceanfront pool while gazing out upon excellent bay views. Lush tropical gardens. 3 BR/2BA. $1,295,000

NEW! Least expensive home on the market! Great starter home with room to expand. Property has CO. Adjacent parcel with 2 unit masonry home also available. $279,000

INN LOVE Sunset views! 5 BD/5BA with pool & spa in Great Cruz Bay. Come see the impressive recent renovations $1,350,000.

MYSTIC RIDGE 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath, dramatic views, short distance to North Shore beaches, cooling breezes $2,390,000.

NEW! 2 unit (2x2+1x1) masonry home overlooking Carolina Valley. Spacious covered porches, breezy location. Ideal for starter home with 2nd unit for rental income. $679,000

ADURO Cute Caribbean cottage in a tranquil setting. Water views of Fish Bay. 3BR/2BA on .27 acres. $710,000

RAINBOW PLANTATION A private, family estate house on 1.6 acres. Features one of the largest private pools on St. John (w/diving board & bar). Mature landscaping. $1,650,000

View all St. John MLS properties at our website at www.americanparadise.com

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

Trick or Treat?

Cats, fairies, witches and even a Greek God descended on Mongoose Junction on Friday, October 30, to celebrate Haloween after school. The annual event drew a crowd of children of all ages decked out in creative and spooking costumes.