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TRADEWINDS

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Yelena Rogers Photography

Tuckerville Opens With Cool Sessions

Cool Sessions Brass lead singer Tishelle Knight gets the crowd going during the first night of St. John Festival Village named Tuckerville in honor of Ashley Clifton Boynes Sr. [Story and photos on pages 2, 3, 19 and 24.](#)

Majority of Residents Agree That Additional Access To South Shore Is Necessity

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Children's Carnival Village Opens With Success

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Shanell Thomas Crowned Miss St. John Festival Queen 2012/13

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Happy Festival!



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Victim Escapes Attacker with Knife

St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Police Department's Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives on St. Thomas are investigating an Assault First Degree and Kidnapping.

A female victim told police that a man she did not know forced her into a vehicle, took her to another location, struck her several times and tried to take her clothes off. The victim said she fought the suspect and managed to escape.

The victim told police she was walking near the Ivanna Eudora Kean School at about 2 a.m. on Friday, June 22, when a man she does not know grabbed her from behind and forced her into a black Toyota Corolla at knife-point.

The victim said the man struck her several times while driving and pulled her out of the car when they arrived at Vessup beach. The suspect had a knife and was trying to take off the victim's clothing; however the 54-year-old victim fought back and managed to get away.

After the victim contacted police, she was taken to the Schneider Regional Medical Center for treatment of knife wounds to her hands. The suspect was driving a black Toyota Corolla and is described as being a black male 36 to 50 years old, medium build, 5'5" to 5'6" inches tall. The victim said the suspect spoke with a St. Thomian accent and wore a gray shirt and red pants.

This case is being followed up by the Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives. VIPD urges anyone who has any information regarding this case to call detectives at 714-9834, 715-5522, or to remain anonymous call Crime Stoppers USVI at 1-800-222-TIPS.



"How to Apply" Grant Workshop Set

Virgin Islands Council on the Arts (VICA) is conducting a series of "How to Apply" workshops in preparation for the August 31, grant submission deadline.

Information on project and budget development will be discussed in detail. First time applicants are encouraged to attend.

The workshop on St. Thomas is scheduled for Friday, July 27, at 5:30 p.m. at the VICA office at 41-42 Norre Gade.

For more information contact Betty Mahoney at 774-5964.

Annual Alumni Devil Ray Beach Party Set for September 2 at Magens Bay

The Ivanna Eudora Kean High School Alumni Association is hosting the 2nd Annual Devil Ray Reunion Beach Party Sunday, September 2 at Magens Bay Beach shed #4 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All faculty, staff, current students and alumni of the IEKHS are invited to the reunion party. There will be music and an array of activities such as volley ball, beach twister, dominoes, play house and much more.

The reunion is a great occasion for alumni to reconnect with their classmates and teachers. This year the theme is Hawaiian, so attendees are encouraged to come dressed in their Hawaiian best.

Starting Sunday, July 1, planning meetings will be every Sunday, until the event, at 3 p.m. under the IEKHS' bus shed.

The event is made possible by the generous donations from alumni and businesses. To make a donation or join a committee, contact Amazia Francis at 642-1251, Giovanni Rochester at 513-3660 or Andrea Challenger at andreavcm@hotmail.com.

For more information contact Jessica Edwards at 626-6216.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tropical Focus Photography

It's Festival time on St. John as Festival Village honoree Clifton Ashley Boynes Sr., above third from right, cuts the ribbon opening Tuckerville as this year's St. John Festival Queen and Festival Princess join in on the celebration



Tuckerville Opens in Honor of Clifton Ashley Boynes Sr.

By Andrea Milam
St. John Tradewinds

The joy on Festival Village honoree Clifton Ashley Boynes Sr.'s face was palpable as he made the rounds Friday evening, June 29, prior to the Village's official opening. Friends, family members and a crowd of about 30 of Boynes' Charlotte Amalie High School class of 1962 classmates were on hand to support the longtime boat captain as Festival Village — this year dubbed "Tuckerville" in a nod to Boynes' nickname — was officially opened in his honor.

The Love City Pan Dragons entertained the crowd, a good mix of locals and tourists, before the opening ceremony began. Dignitaries like Senator at Large Craig Barshinger and Senate President Ronald Russell mingled with Village-goers prior to the opening ceremony.

"St. John Festival is different," said Russell. "You get a whole different experience here."

"We have all the pageantry, but it's also intimate and feels like a hometown celebration," Barshinger added.

Getting Boynes to agree to such an honor was no easy feat, Festival Organization chair Jane Johannes told the crowd.

"He gave us the runaround for years and years," said Johannes. "This year, I said 'We have to do something for Ashley.'"

Johannes spoke of Boynes' love of St. John and his willingness to go out of his way to help anyone.

Boynes has been a licensed boat captain for more than 40 years and owns Inter-Island Boat Services, which he still manages today. In the past, Boynes had

his own booth in Festival Village.

The Festival Village honoree was given various gifts during the opening ceremony, including a certificate of special Congressional recognition from Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen, which was delivered by Monique Watson of the delegate's office as Christensen was unable to make it to the ceremony.

Boynes was joined on stage by his wife of 46 years, Lydia, along with his mother, Vashti Boynes, who was chosen as the Food Fair honoree 13 years ago.

"We've got the freshest food, the best drinks and the friendliest people," Boynes told the crowd. "Rub elbows with anybody here tonight and you'll see how loving and friendly we are."

Following the pomp and circumstance, Boynes and island dignitaries made their way to the Customs parking lot entrance to cut the ribbon and officially open Tuckerville.

"I want you to behave yourselves," Boynes shouted with a large smile just prior to cutting the ribbon.

With the official opening, fryers started to sizzle, hot foods and cold drinks were served up, and the party officially began.

Just down the street from Festival Village, the Children's Village, sponsored by the St. John Rotary, also opened up Friday night. Carnival-themed games, treats like popcorn, and plenty of prizes kept kids entertained, while children also flocked to the assortment of bouncy houses set up in the V.I. National Park ball field.

Festival Village and the Children's Village are open nightly through Wednesday night, July 4.

Additional village photos on back page.

"We've got the freshest food, the best drinks and the friendliest people. Rub elbows with anybody here tonight and you'll see how loving and friendly we are."

— Honoree Clifton Ashley Boynes Sr.

2012 RAIN DATA at Trunk Bay

MONTH: JUNE

0.21 inches

AVERAGE

3.04 Inches

TOTAL Y-T-D

12.35 Inches

AVERAGE Y-T-D

17.62 Inches

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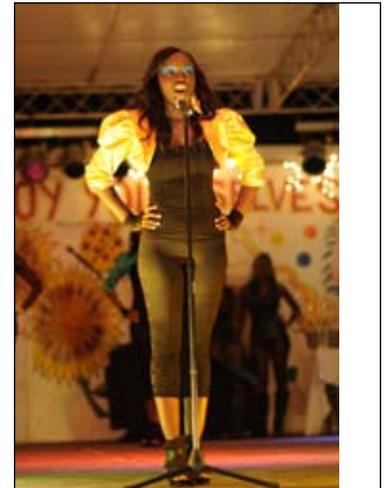
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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tristan Ewald

Shanell Thomas, at left, is all smiles as she is crowned Miss St. John Festival Queen 2012/2013, yet all five contestants, above and right, wowed the audience at Winston Wells ball field.

Shanell Thomas Crowned Miss St. John Festival Queen

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

It was night of glamor and glitz at Winston Wells ball field on Saturday night, June 23, as five beautiful young women vied for the crown of Miss St. John Festival Queen at the selection pageant show in front of a huge crowd.

With music by Cool Sessions Brass and upbeat dance numbers choreographed by Lester Warner the professional-caliber show thrilled the audience and kept on-lookers pinned to their seats until the wee hours of the night.

While all five young women showed poise and impressive tal-

ent, in the end only one could take home the crown. After a close competition and a difficult decision by the judges, Shanell Thomas was named Miss St. John Festival Queen 2012/2013.

The contestants set the bar high right from the opening swimwear segment of the night. In a sequin red and blue two-piece, strapless tankini set off by a white sequin cape, Contestant #1 Shenique Davis made sure all eyes were trained squarely on her.

Contestant #2 Clarissa Doyling dazzled in a goddess style monokini with exquisite gold detailing while Contestant #3 Shelsea Jean wowed in a bright tangerine monokini with crystal studded detailing.

Contestant #4 Khadijah Athanase was the picture of summer in an orange one-piece suit with cut-outs and an elegant sash belt. Contestant #5 Thomas made sure to be remembered in a flattering silver and black printed crisscross one-piece suit with cutout details.

Following entertainment from St. Thomas Majorettes and Cool Sessions Brass, the ladies took the stage in the much anticipated International Wear/Costume segment of the show. With sparkles and feathers from her headpiece to her boots, Davis embodied the fun and energy of Carnival season.

Doyling transported the audience to the land of ancient Egypt



Thomas shows off the colors and dances of the Dominican Republic.

in her long, flowing gold skirt and top with a crystal encrusted bodice and set off with a gold headband. Jean dazzled in silver from head to toe with an intricate headpiece.

Athanase stunned the crowd in her oversized butterfly wings and gorgeous feathered headband while Thomas shared the music and colors of the Dominican Republic in a red, white and blue lace tiered skirt and ornate headpiece.

For the talent segment of the night, Davis showed off her impressive dance skills. Taking the audience from Jamaica to the Virgin Islands, with a few other Caribbean stops in between, creative costume changes allowed her to show famous dances from each island.

Doyling took the audience on a musical journey with performanc-

es on both flute and the steel pan. Jean showed off professional dramatic chops, acting and singing in an anti-bullying scenario.

Athanase got the audience going with her high-energy dance routine while Thomas shared her angelic voice in a white halter silk gown.

The ladies slipped into their stunning gowns for the evening-wear portion of the night. In an aqua blue one shoulder, floor length gown, Davis twinkled across the stage. In her pink ombre column gown with a fitted bodice and small bow detail, Doyling showed a flair for fashion.

Jean was the picture of elegance in her navy blue crystal studded, strapless gown while Athanase set pulses running with a one shoulder, knife pleat, pink confection with a sheer back and silver crystal detail.

Thomas embodied a classic beauty with a pink fitted gown with high neck line set off by feathered appliques on the flared skirt.

After Question and Answer segment, the final judged portion of the show, the girls gathered on the stage and waited for the announcement from emcee Sheldon Turnbull. With loud applause from the packed field when Turnbull finally said, "...the 2012/2013 Miss St. John Festival Queen is Shanell Thomas," the crowd signaled their approval.

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Children's Carnival Village Opens With Success



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tropical Focus and Yelena Rogers

A group of dedicated volunteers, headed by Scotiabank employees and friends, including regional Vice President Lawrence Aquí, fourth from left, helped make sure Children's Carnival Village was a safe and alcohol- and drug-free area for Love City youth and visitors.



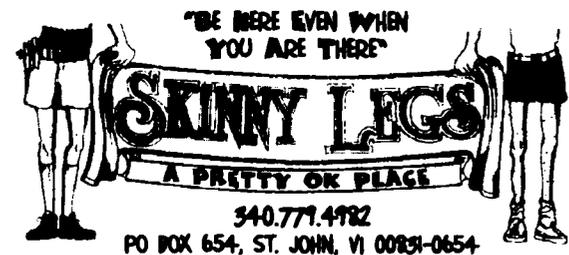
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Del. Christensen Hails Supreme Court Decision Upholding Affordable Care Act

St. John Tradewinds

“The people of the United States and the Virgin Islands have won,” said Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen upon hearing that the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Affordable Care Act by a vote of 5-4 on Thursday morning, June 28.

“They now have better access to more affordable health care, the nations unsustainable health care spending will be controlled, and we will be a stronger, more productive, competitive country,” said Christensen.

The Affordable Care Act is already paying dividends for millions of Americans – with more to come, the delegate added.

Some effects already seen include:

- Children no longer being denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions,
- Seniors paying less for prescription drugs,
- Students and young adults able to stay on their parents’ plans and,
- Being a woman no longer being a pre-existing medical condition.

“For Virgin Islanders, the increase of our Medicaid dollars to almost \$40 million a year in the Affordable Care Act is protected and we can move forward to get the cap entirely lifted,” she said. “We know that challenges to health care reform will continue throughout this highly charged election year, but all of my colleagues who believe in the health care law will continue to fight for its complete implementation.”



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen addresses a crowd celebrating the Supreme Court's decision last week.

Festival & Cultural Organization of St. John, Inc.
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ST. JOHN FESTIVAL 2012
MAY 26TH THRU JULY 4TH

THEME:
"Play Mas, Jump Up and Enjoy Yourselves for Festival 2012"
Submitted By: Marcus Andrews

Festival Village Honoree: **Clifton "Ashley" Boynes, Sr.**
Festival Food Fair Honoree: **Gwendolyn R. Harley**
Festival Parade Grand Marshal: **Rodney R. Varlack, Sr.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<p>SATURDAY, May 26, 2012 Pan-o-Rama 4 P.M. AT WINSTON WELLS BALL FIELD CONTACT PERSON: IRA WADE (340) 690-7428</p> <p>FRIDAY, June 15, 2012 Senior Variety Show 7 P.M. AT WINSTON WELLS BALL FIELD CONTACT PERSON: JANE JOHANNES (340) 776-6450</p> <p>SATURDAY, June 16, 2012 Festival Bike Race 8 A.M. AT ST. JOHN NATIONAL PARK CONTACT PERSON: JANE THILL (340) 693-9467</p> <p>SUNDAY, June 17, 2012 St. John Festival Princess 2012 Selection Pageant 6 P.M. AT WINSTON WELLS BALL FIELD CONTACT PERSON: LORRAINE RICHARDS (340) 626-4804</p> <p>FRIDAY, June 22, 2012 Festival Musical Mix 2012 9 P.M. AT WINSTON WELLS BALL FIELD CONTACT PERSON: LUCINDA JURGEN(340) 643-8074</p> <p>SATURDAY, June 23, 2012 St. John Festival Queen 2012 Selection Pageant 8 P.M. AT WINSTON WELLS BALL FIELD CONTACT PERSON: ENID DOWAY (340) 626-0785</p>	<p>SUNDAY, June 24, 2012 Food Fair & Coronation 1 P.M. AT FRANKLIN A. POWELL, SR. PARK CONTACT PERSON: LEONA SMITH (340) 690-3692</p> <p>Boat Races 3 P.M. AT CRUZ BAY HARBOR CONTACT PERSON: SLIM (340) 771-2498</p> <p>FRIDAY, June 29, 2012 Festival Village Opening 7 P.M. AT CRUZ BAY PARKING LOT CONTACT PERSON: JANE JOHANNES (340) 776-6450</p> <p>SUNDAY, July 1, 2012 Festival Beach Jam 1 P.M. AT OPPENHEIMER BEACH CONTACT PERSON: LEONA SMITH (340) 690-3692</p> <p>TUESDAY, July 3, 2012 Cultural Day 3 P.M. AT FRANKLIN A. POWELL, SR. PARK CONTACT PERSON: ALECIA WELLS (340) 344-9166</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, July 4, 2012 Jouvert 4 A.M. AT ST. JOHN NATIONAL PARK</p> <p>Festival Parade 2012 11 A.M. AT ST. JOHN NATIONAL PARK CONTACT PERSON: NATALIE THOMAS (340) 690-1725</p> <p>Festival Fireworks Display 9 P.M. AT CRUZ BAY HARBOR CONTACT PERSON: MALINDA NELSON (340) 776-6492</p>
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Catch a Whopper and Win Cash and Prizes at Bastille Day Kingfish Tournament

St. John Tradewinds

Fishing, family and fun all wrapped into one is what's on tap at the Northside Sportfishing Club's Annual Bastille Day Kingfish Tournament.

Set for Sunday, July 15, at Hull Bay Hideaway, this year's tournament will be in honor and in memory of Kimberley Brin.

This is the chance to fish the tradition! Catch the "big one" and pocket some serious cash while enjoying great camaraderie. The Annual Bastille Day Kingfish Tournament offers more ways to win and more cash and prizes than any other Virgin Islands-based in-shore fishing tournament. Festivities also include live bands and a beach party. Plus, proceeds benefit charitable community organizations.

More than 300 anglers — men, women, boys and girls of all skill level — are expected to enter. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, entry fees are low; \$40 for adults and \$25 for juniors ages 8 to 16.

Coors Light and Snapple, distributed by Bellows International, Ltd., are once again on board as Gold Sponsors. These brands have donated over \$100,000 in cash and product since signing aboard over two decades ago.

Coors Light generously provides the official angler hats which have proven to be both a keepsake as well as symbol of an ace angler. New this year, Captain Morgan will add its brand of rum to the fun!

Long time Silver Sponsor, Off-shore Marine, the Yamaha, Yanmar and Caterpillar distributor in the Virgin Islands, will donate cash prizes; \$1,000 for Best Boat, \$1,000 for Best Captain, \$500 for Third Largest Kingfish, \$500 for Best Male Angler, \$250 for Best Junior Male Angler and \$250 for Best Female Junior Angler.

Bronze Sponsor, NEMWIL — managed in the USVI by Red Hook Agencies, Inc. and providing homeowners and business insurance in the USVI for over 20 years — will donate the spectacular \$2,000 cash prize for the Largest Kingfish prize. In addition, Red Hook Agencies, Inc., will sponsor a \$500 prize for the Best Female Angler.

As an added enticement for junior anglers, Red Hook Agencies will also sponsor the special "Catch in the Hat" award for all registered junior anglers. All junior angler names will be placed in a hat. The first eight names drawn will receive \$50 cash and the next

Continued on Page 18

Most Residents Agree Additional Access to South Shore Road Needed

Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Access from Estate Mandahl through the south shore must be opened up, according to most residents who attended a Tuesday night, June 26, town meeting at the Julius E. Sprauve School cafeteria.

Hosted by the St. John People's Agenda representative Delroy "Ital" Anthony and John's Folly Learning Institute founder Alvis Christian, the meeting drew about 45 residents and representatives from V.I. National Park, Department of Public Works, V.I. Fire Department, V.I. Police Department and the Department of the Interior.

"We are here to talk about the road components of our island," said Anthony. "This is about tourism, this is about public safety and this is our future."

Discussion mostly focused on opening a second access road to the remote south shore neighborhoods of Estate Mandahl and Lameshur Bay. Currently the only route in and out of the area is via the south shore road, which ends at Lameshur Bay.

"If there is an accident on the south shore area, it's so isolated out there it isn't fair," said Gary Emmons. "If we can open the road, it could save someone's life."

Some residents at the meeting remembered a time when traveling



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Delroy "Ital" Anthony looks on as Milton Samuel makes a point during last week's town meeting.

through south shore was common place

"Why can't the road be opened," said Muriel Dalmida. "It used to be opened. We need a road out there."

Residents in the area learned what it was like to be cut off during the heavy rains of the 2010 hurricane season which triggered land slides and cut off portions of the sole access road.

"When those roads were damaged by the land slides it was just by the grace of God that no one needed to go to the hospital," said Winston Powell. "We were cut off

then and it would have been bad if there was an emergency."

Having a second access route is necessary, according to Anthony.

"Two years ago we were locked in," said Anthony. "We can't have that. We need to have another access route; it's a necessity."

While the issue of opening an alternative route to the south shore has long been a topic of discussion, with a population which continues to grow, it's time to see action on this issue, explained Anthony.

"This is nothing new," he said. "We've been asking for this for years. But it's very important."

"When those roads were damaged by the land slides it was just by the grace of God that no one needed to go to the hospital. We were cut off then and it would have been bad if there was an emergency."

— Winston Powell

"St. John is growing and we're a growing population," said Anthony. "We have to think of the generation that is coming next."

"It's time for someone to pick up the ball on this issue and run with it," said Harry Daniel. "It's time for the National Park Service to get involved with the community and make this work. We also might have to fight the V.I. government to make this right."

Reasons cited by residents to open an access road from Mandahl to Centerline Road via the L'Esperance trail included increased response times in emergencies ranging from fires to sickness and allowing families with in-holdings to use their land.

"L'Esperance needs to be opened up," said Wilma Monsanto. "There are holdings in here that we can't touch because we can't get there. Opening that road would solve problems as far as the south shore neighborhoods are concerned."

"I believe we can work with the park," said Monsanto. "These

roads can be opened up."

The VINP was created more than 50 years ago and much has changed on St. John since then, explained Ronnie Jones.

"The bigger picture here is that we just celebrated the 50th anniversary of the park," said Jones. "People here are related to the people who made that happen. It's because of them that we have a VINP."

"Things have changed and there are things that need to change," he said. "We should always have access, not just during disasters. We don't want the park to be a hardship; we want to see improvement."

These roads used to be open and therefore can be opened again, according to Brian Smith.

"St. John is far more complicated than it was in the 1950s and 1960s and those roads were opened then," said Smith. "Today we have more people and more development. We need those roads

Continued on Page 18

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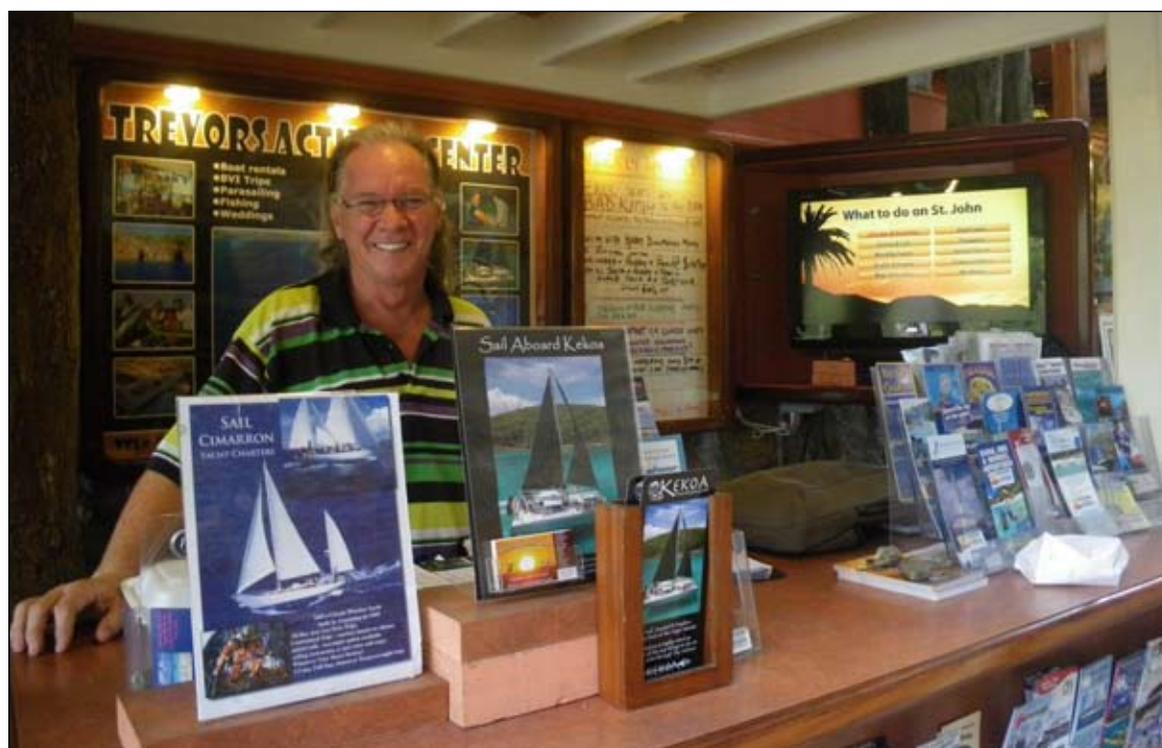
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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Trevor Sichel, above, at his activities center in Mongoose Junction.

Digital Guide Set to Revolutionize Villa Book

Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

The old days of those three ring binders bursting with restaurant menus and maps will be numbered if Trevor Sichel has his way.

Sichel has manned Trevor's Activities Center in Mongoose Junction for seven years and four years before that he was booking excursions for guests across from the Cruz Bay post office.

While Sichel continues to book activities and excursions at his Mongoose Junction kiosk, it was a meeting with merchants which inspired him to jump into the villa information arena.

"I brought this out in February because after going to Mongoose Junction merchants meetings, I saw how much the retailers disliked the villa books," said Sichel. "I found out that the villa companies don't like the books either. But you need something and this seemed to work."

The books often look worn and unsightly in a luxury villa, Sichel explained.

"There are a few problems with the books," he said. "It's hard to keep them looking nice. They get tatty and I've found many managers hid the books so the area looks good."

"It's also difficult to keep them updated and you don't know if someone has removed something," said Sichel. "You have no way of knowing if your flyer is even in the books anymore."

The books are also time consuming for businesses, Sichel added.

"It costs a lot of money to print all of those flyers and that doesn't include the cost of getting the pictures and creating the ad, much less all the time it takes to stuff the books," said Sichel.

With help from his computer savvy son Travis, Sichel attacked the problem from a digital angle creat-

ing "What's Up? On St. John." The DVD includes information on everything from charters and activities to shopping and weddings.

The new digital format offers a bevy of features not available in the three ring binder, Sichel explained.

"Someone might pick up the book and look through it, but with the DVD you could have 10 people watching at once," he said.

The DVD opens at a home page with a menu which allows the viewer to click one of 10 options. Click on the dining and cafe option and the screen switches to cuisine options, which lead eventually to local menus, hours of operation and even weekly specials, explained Sichel.

The options continue throughout the DVD, there are 1,400 control button options, which, according to Sichel, is the most ever produced on a DVD of this type.

The DVD also includes maps of the main beaches, with photos and descriptions of where the best snorkeling can be found.

Sichel released the first version of the DVD in February and has about 95 percent of the retail shops and restaurants included, he explained.

The father and son Sichel team also recently completed a smart phone friendly website, www.whatsupstjohn.com, which is identical to the DVD and allows for instant access of all of the information.

Sichel plans to release new versions of the DVD each year and can add any new information instantly to the website.

The digital guide book DVD can already be found in many St. John short term rental villas and Sichel sees that number only growing.

For more information about "What's Up? On St. John" call Sichel at Trevor's Activities Center at 715-4944.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Franklin Tulloch

Filmmaker Franklin Tulloch catches some intense Skiff 18 racing action.

Serious Sailing Action Is Featured in *SKIFF 18, the Future of Sailing Is Extreme*

Jaime Elliott

St. John Tradewinds

Get ready for some exciting sailing action captured by filmmaker Franklin Tulloch in his 60-minute feature “SKIFF 18, the Future of Sailing is Extreme.”

Tulloch spent five years crisscrossing the globe to capture these Skiffs in exciting races in some of the most challenging sailing areas in the world.

Shot on location in California, Australia and Italy, Tulloch’s film shares the amazing story of the reemergence of the 18-foot Skiff class through dramatic race scenes and stunning scenery.

“The 18-foot Skiffs is a class of boats which were created in the late 1880s in Australia,” said Tulloch. “The fleet used to go out in these little boats to pick up cargo and they started racing them basically. They added sails and built these boats out of heavy wood.”

More than 100 years later, much has changed from the days of the heavy wooden 18-foot Skiff.

“Considered by many as the

fastest mono hull sailboats in the world, the 18-foot Skiff has been a mainstay on Sydney Harbor starting in the early 1900s,” said the filmmaker. “These days however, the 18s have grown into super fast, ultra light-weight carbon fiber sailing machines, sometimes reaching speeds of up to 35 and more knots, casting no doubt in most viewers eyes that they truly are the future of the sport.”

Just watching this class on the waves gets ones blood running, Tulloch added.

“These boats are carbon fiber sleds now that three people sail,” he said. “It’s all about physics and weight distribution and they’re the fastest mono hulls out there today. It’s all about team work and balance and trust.”

Tulloch spent four years making the film, travelling between the sole U.S. race area in San Francisco Bay to Lake Garda, Italy, and the home base of Skiff 18, Sydney, Australia.

“They tried to introduce these Skiffs in the U.S. in the 1980s and

they didn’t go over that well,” said Tulloch. “Then they tried again in 2000 and this is the five year story of bringing the Skiffs to the U.S. Now there is a regatta in San Francisco Bay and they started their own league.”

Tulloch was initially hired to just film a short promotional video about the Skiff 18, but the project quickly grew, he explained.

“I just got blown away by the boats and the crews,” said the filmmaker. “I really wanted to capture these boats in races and the film just grew out of that. The races and the whole Skiff 18 class are just amazing.”

Tulloch is screening “SKIFF 18, the Future of Sailing is Extreme” at Skinny Legs on Saturday night, July 14, at 7 p.m. and at 420 to Center on Sunday night, July 15, also at 7 p.m.

For more information about “SKIFF 18, the Future of the Sailing is Extreme,” check out <http://www.earthboundstudios.com/earthboundstudios.com/skiff18.htm>.

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Silent Auction and Raffle Fun(d) Raiser for Steve Levin on August 11

St. John Tradewinds

A silent auction of fine art by St. John artists and raffle fun(d)-raiser for Steve Levin's family is planned for Saturday, August 11, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Fatty Crab.

Wines will be showcased with hors d'oeuvres and music. All are welcomed to join in the event. Raffle tickets are available at both Connections for \$10 or six tickets for \$50.

Anyone interested in volunteering, should contact Cid Hamling at Connections. Organizers are looking for friends to dream up interactive raffle packages which can be offered like a home improvement project, or providing a child with a birthday party.

DOH Issues Annual Dengue Fever Alert Advisory

St. John Tradewinds

Department of Health Acting Commissioner Darice Plaskett reminded residents that increased rains during the Hurricane Season, from June through November 30, could provide breeding opportunities for mosquitoes, hence putting residents at risk for Dengue Fever.

"Heavy rains bring with it the added risk of an increase in stagnant water, thus, old tires and any receptacle that can collect water should be emptied as frequently as possible as they provide breeding

havens for mosquitoes," Plaskett said.

Plaskett also reminded health-care providers that Dengue Fever is reportable by law and urges completion of the VI Notifiable Disease Form for submission via confidential fax at 718-1508. The VI Notifiable Disease Form can be found at www.health.vi.org under Forms and Applications.

Dr. Thomas Morris, who was recently hired as DOH's epidemiologist, said to date the department has not been notified of any suspected cases in the territory.

While there is no cure for Dengue, the reports are essential for monitoring purposes and alerting the public so that Dengue Fever incidents do not become widespread, Morris said.

Residents should be vigilant and spray dark areas such as closets to kill off these mosquitoes as the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito

which transmits Dengue lives in the home. They should also follow these other tips:

- Keep tires in a dry place. Punch holes in them to make sure water drains out.

- Put plants that are currently in water, into soil. Empty flowerpot bases weekly.

- Cover or turn food containers for animals and buckets that hold water upside down.

- Repair or replace damaged screens; keep windows and doors without screens closed;

- Place a screen or mesh over the overflow pipe of cisterns.

- Cover infant cribs with mosquito netting

- Use mosquito repellents containing DEET. Follow instructions carefully and use on arms, legs, ankles and nape of neck. Avoid applying to children under two years old and to the hands of older children.

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Giff Hill School's American Flag Flies High



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tristan Ewald

After several years of fundraising and student dedication, Giff Hill School installed its first flag pole at the Upper Campus, above, a few weeks before the end of the semester. A dedication ceremony and proud flag flying were hosted by school officials before classes let out for the summer.

Barbara Tyne Retires from The Marketplace

Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

After 11 and a half years at The Marketplace, leasing manager Barbara Tyne retired last week and co-workers made sure she went out in style.

Friends and co-workers hosted a surprise going away party for Tyne on Tuesday, June 26, on the second floor of The Marketplace. Thanks to delicious food from Starfish Market and Starfish Gourmet, Tyne and friends noshed on sushi, shrimp cocktail and a selection of fine cheeses and crackers.

Tyne is selling her home on St. Thomas and moving to Long Island, where she will still be close to the ocean.

“After 30 years of living in the Virgin Islands, it’s time to go,” said Tyne. “I’m excited to be near a lot of family and friends and I’ll still be close to the water.”

While Tyne will miss her stunning view of Magen’s Bay, she’s looking forward to starting a new chapter on the Long Island Sound.

“I’m excited to open my new folder, so to speak, which is bulging with fun ideas,” said Tyne.

Congratulations Barbara!



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

The Marketplace team gathered to say goodbye to leasing manager Barbara Tyne, far left.

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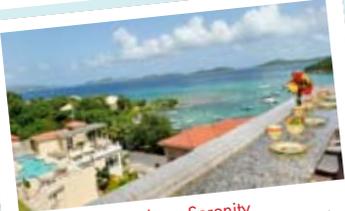
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ISSUE NO. 6 ST. JOHN MAGAZINE | 111



A large green fleet, above, will be ready to test their skills in the open water next year. Will Louge, left, from Connecticut beat out more than 100 sailors to win this year's regatta.

USA's Louge Wins 20th Annual Scotiabank Optimist Regatta

Nine-year-old Mateo DiBlasi of St. John wins green fleet

St. John Tradewinds

Only four points separated the top five sailors going into the third and final day of racing at the 20th Scotiabank International Optimist Regatta, based out of the St. Thomas Yacht Club from June 22 to 24.

After three final races in 12 to 15 knot winds, it came down to a tie-breaker to determine 14-year-old Will Logue, from Riverside, Connecticut, the overall winner, topping nearly 100 other sailors.

"I didn't do well in the second race this morning, so it was really close," said Logue. "But, I came back strong in the last race to win. My strategy is always to stay positive and do the best I can."

"What I really like here are the heavy winds," he added. "It was great sailing."

Logue won not only the overall championship, but also the 13- to 15-year-old Red Fleet.

In the 11- to 12-year old Blue Fleet, it was Ivan Shestopalov from Miami, Florida, who finished first.

"The winds were very consistent and that's what I need, heavy air," said Shestopalov, who added that he would be staying

on St. Thomas another week with his team to train before leaving for the Optimist World Championships in the Dominican Republic in July.

The BVI's Thad Lettsome won the age 10 and under White Fleet. This win was impressive since Lettsome has been sailing only a little over one year in the Royal BVI Yacht Club Sailing Program.

"It was fun," said Lettsome. "It was also the biggest regatta I've sailed in to date. I just tried to stay left or right, whatever direction the wind was coming from."

The Dominican Republic's Justina Pacheco earned the Top Girl award.

"I always tried to read the wind shifts correctly and get good starts," said Pacheco, about her strategy for success.

In the beginner Green Fleet, it was Mateo DiBlasi from St. John, who took a commanding lead to win.

"I always went where there was the most wind," said the 9-year-old DiBlasi. "Now, my next race I get to go in White Fleet. That will be hard, but I'm ready."

The USA's Logue also won the Pete Ives Award, given for a combination of

sailing prowess, sportsmanship, determination and good attitude both on and off the water.

Meanwhile, the USVI's Maggie Finley earned the Chuck Fuller Sportsmanship Award.

A record 127 sailors competed in the Advanced Red, Blue and White Fleets and beginner Green Fleet at the regatta.

The Advanced Fleets completed 11 races and the Green Fleet a total of 16 races over the three days of competition. Sailors hailed from 16 nations; Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Canada, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Russia, Spain, St. Maarten, Trinidad & Tobago, the USA and USVI.

The Scotiabank International Optimist Regatta, organized under authority of the Virgin Islands Sailing Association and a Caribbean Sailing Association-sanctioned event, has been sponsored by Scotiabank almost since the event's inception.

For full results, visit www.regattanetwork.com and for more information about the regatta, visit www.styc.net.

RESULTS TOP 3

Red Fleet

1. Will Logue, Connecticut, USA (37)
2. Romain Screve, California, USA (37)
3. Nic Muller, Florida, USA (38)

Blue Fleet

1. Ivan Shestopalov, Florida, USA (39)
2. Wiley Rogers, Texas, USA (82)
3. Maria Paz Pacheco, DomRepublic (153)

White Fleet

1. Thad Lettsome, BVI (242)
2. Rayne Duff, BVI (247)
3. Zane Rogers, Texas, USA (256)

Green Fleet

1. Mateo DiBlasi, St. John, USVI (23)
2. Luke Sanford, St. Croix, USVI (48T)
3. Mia Nicolosi, St. Thomas, USVI (48T)

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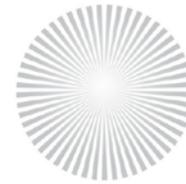


St. John Tradewinds News Photos

Views from Wild Orchid include a large stretch of the pristine V.I. National Park.

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On the Market

A feature dedicated to special homes on the market listed with *Tradewinds* real estate advertisers*

Enjoy Privacy and Panoramic Water Views at Wild Orchid

Jaime Elliott

St. John Tradewinds

Inhale the intoxicating scents of jasmine and orchids while taking in the views stretching from Ram's Head to Bovocap Point at Wild Orchid.

This Estate Fish Bay home, which offers elevated privacy and panoramic water views is for sale for \$980,000, explained Holiday Homes broker/owner Christine O'Neil.

While the home's flexible floor plan allows for a variety of configurations, Wild Orchid is currently operating as two separate living units. The home could easily, however, function as a four bedroom and three-and-a-half-bath villa, O'Neil explained.

"This flexible floor plan lends itself to a variety of options that could appeal to most buyers," she said. "The layout currently is income producing as two separate long term rental units — above and below — which each featuring two bedrooms and two baths, as well as private living areas and kitchens."

"Or buyers could occupy one unit and rent the other unit either for long- or short-term which would be good income," said the Holiday Homes broker/owner. "The two units could also easily be reconfigured as a four bedroom single family home. With the addition of a pool or hot tub or both — plans are available — it would rent well on the short term market too."

Inside, you'll find custom woodwork crafted from exotic hardwoods like Ipe, Yellow Heart, Santa Maria, Manchichi and Cumaroo complimented by beautiful native stone work. Large bedrooms and an open flow floor plan leads out to stunning views from two

levels of tile decks at Wild Orchid.

The home also includes a special "spa deck," which is waiting for a new owner to install a spa or hot tub and architectural plans for a 10-foot-by-12-foot masonry swimming pool have already been approved as well.

It is easy to picture yourself soaking in the hot tub under the stars and enjoying the tropical scents of flowers wafting on the wind.

With views of tropical sunrises and sunset colors reflecting off the cliffs of Reef Bay, Wild Orchid offers privacy from its elevated perch. With views overlooking V.I. National Park lands, the pristine vista will remain just that, O'Neil explained.

"It's hard to choose the best feature of Wild Orchid," said O'Neil. "It might be the lovely, steady breezes or the private location. The views extend across the National Park down the south shore coast all the way to Ram Head. Those views are exquisite and mesmerizing and will continue forever."

Nestled in the upscale Estate Fish Bay subdivision 'Skytop,' the neighborhood boasts quiet privacy, O'Neil added.

"Just as the name implies, 'Skytop' is the upscale area at the top of a mountain with incredible water views," she said. "The area has a good number of desirable rental villas where repeat visitors return year after year, but also has year-round appeal for residents who appreciate the privacy and quietness offered by the location."

For more information on Wild Orchid call O'Neil at 774-8088 or on her cell phone at 998-7451.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send your letter to editor@tradewinds.vi

**NEXT DEADLINE:
THURSDAY, JULY 5th**

Keeping Track of Crime

2011	2012-TO-DATE
Homicides: 0	Homicides: 0
Shootings: 0	Shootings: 0
Stabbings: 0	Stabbings: 0
Armed Robberies: 0	Armed Robberies: 1
Arsons: 0	Arsons: 0
1st Degree Burglaries: 2	1st Degree Burglaries: 3
2nd Degree Burglaries: 8	2nd Degree Burglaries: 1
3rd Degree Burglaries: 51	3rd Degree Burglaries: 18
Grand Larcenies: 58	Grand Larcenies: 36
Rapes: 1	Rapes: 0

Letters To St. John Tradewinds

Guy Benjamin Will Be Missed But Not Forgotten

Thank you Mr. Benjamin for your courage and fortitude in teaching the island youth a better way of life. I also thank you for encouraging me to continue to make things better for them as well.

Your words of encouragement that you gave me one day at your house will never be forgotten: "Keep doing what you are doing, and never give up."

I am so glad I got to meet you Guy. You will be missed but your efforts will not be forgotten. Whenever I am on island, I will visit you in your place of rest and we will talk again.

Peace be with you.

**Dean Doeling, Founder
Using Sport For Social Change**

Children Are An Extension of Us

Today is a very special day for me and my wife, as both of my children are featured in today's Daily News. Yes we are proud parents because God has blessed us with a young man and young woman that love their parents, love themselves, love each other and love their community.

I am not boasting about my children because they are winners in a competitive sport. I am boasting because they are active participants in life, which is inevitably their life. They are both writing the stories to be told to their children and our grandchildren.

We as parents have to make up our minds that once we decide to create life through birth, that we the future parent have to make every sacrifice necessary to raise our children to a level of independence that can be recognized and admired by their peers and whoever they encounter.

The question has been asked of me as I travel on the Senator-At-Large campaign trail: What are you going to do for our children? They have nothing to do, they represent gangs at our schools, their reading levels are low, and math scores even lower. The school and neighborhood rivalries are stifling their ability to learn. They even say, at the rate of murders being committed by our young men on our young men, we will soon lose an entire generation.

My response is predicated on me having a keen understanding for raising children in this generation. I am aware of the myriad of challenges that parents encounter daily while giving time and support to their children.

With that said, we still have no excuse for failure,

because when we fail we leave our problems on the criminal justice system and the other government services, and this burdens our entire community. We must be so responsible minded in this matter and not accept anything less the "Mission Accomplished."

There are things for our children to do but we have to be more creative in how we expose them to these activities. For example: we take our children to swimming classes and all we keep saying is, "I never learned to swim because I am scared of sharks in the water."

Then we take our children to an activity and drop them off, then we return late to pick them up. This behavior does not show our children that we are remotely interested in the activity nor our children's success, hence our children lose interest.

Once we as parents truly show our children that we are committed to them and their future, they will reciprocate and give us back more than we could ever dream of. We believed that and my wife and I are receiving "a thousand fold." There were a of couple fights at my children's school this year and I asked them why they are never involved these types of negative behavior. My son said: "Dad, we looked for students who come to school to learn and we avoided those that did not come to learn."

This means that my children have friends from all neighborhoods and all schools, because they look for fellow students with like minds. Their answer reflects what I trained them to say and shows how I trained them to reason, not just for school but for life.

Ronnie Jones

Speak Out and You Will Be Heard

In reference to Gerry Hills letter, I would like the NPS to know that I also am totally against the ugly sign at the entrance of the maintenance area. I'm just glad that Gerry let us know what you really think of the locals that have lived here for many years. How many years have you lived on island Mark?

We all love to see the mainland people come down

here and tell us what is best for all of us. The sign should be sent back to the states where it is more appropriate. There you can flash whatever words you want!

And St. John residents speak out and you will be heard!

Nancy "Sas" Nemeth

Share Views on Flashing Billboard

If you are opposed to the National Park Service installing a permanent flashing billboard in Cruz Bay ("the brightest thing in town" per NPS), please send an email to npsbillboard@hotmail.com with your opinion.

Pro or con. Signed or unsigned. All comments will

be sent to the VI Government and to the NPS.

So far, all emails received have been against the billboard, but we need more people to send emails.

Thank you for your support.

**Gerry Hills
St. John**

Crossword Answers — Puzzle on Page 20

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Governor John deJongh, center, looks on during a meeting with members of the Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms and Tobacco.

DeJongh Hosts Meeting To Advance Peace Officer Bill and Bring ATF Back to Territory

St. John Tradewinds

Against the backdrop of an increasing number of incidents involving illegal guns in the territory, Governor John deJongh hosted a meeting last week with members of the 29th Legislature and officials from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to discuss what the administration views as an important piece of crime-fighting legislation.

Acting ATF Director B. Todd Jones, Deputy Director Thomas Brandon and Special Agent Trevor Velinor were in the territory at the invitation of the governor to answer technical questions about the bill and the role of ATF in the territory.

DeJongh urged senators to adopt a bill in their next session granting federal law enforcement agents peace officer status in the territory.

“The proposed bill is an ex-

remely important tool to confront gangs, violent crime, and gun violence in our territory,” said deJongh. “We need that extra push to successfully get guns out of the hands of criminals, and the ATF has tremendous capabilities and resources available to help us do that. We need them as partners.”

“I thank Director Jones and his senior leadership team for coming to the Virgin Islands and committing to the return of the ATF to work with the VIPD to combat our violent crime problem,” said the governor. “He recognizes that they have an ongoing responsibility to us as U.S. citizens. The ATF last had a permanent presence in the Virgin Islands four years ago.”

As currently drafted, the administration’s proposal would grant all federal agents peace officer status in the Virgin Islands, giving them authority to enforce certain V.I. laws pursuant to the

Virgin Islands Code and provide the protections that come with that authority.

Last week’s meeting, also attended by Lt. Governor Gregory Francis, gave members of the 29th Legislature an opportunity to ask ATF officials technical questions regarding the legislation, gain further insight into the role of ATF in the territory and address their concerns.

DeJongh has hosted several meetings over the past year with ATF officials both in Washington D.C. and in the territory to facilitate ATF’s return to the Virgin Islands. The return of ATF agents would boost law enforcement’s ability to trace illegal firearms and get them off the streets of the Virgin Islands.

There are only 14 jurisdictions in the United States that deny peace officer status to federal agents.

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Church Directory

Baha'i Community of St. John

For Devotions and Study Circles, call 714-1641
7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays
776-6316, 776-6254

Bethany Moravian Church

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., on St. Thomas . 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,
340-715-053

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

Saturdays 6 p.m.; Sundays 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 p.m.
Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 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

Sunday Church Service, 9 a.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.
Giff Hill School 774-8617

Carolina Corral Adds New Transport



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Carolina Corral

Carolina Corral owner Dana Bartlet, above, rigged her up her wagon transport and took a few of her donkeys for an inaugural spin through Coral Bay last week.

FCC Rate Changes Affect Innovative Customers

St. John Tradewinds

As a result of action taken by the Federal Communications Commission that affects carriers nationwide, Innovative Telephone, Innovative Wireless and Innovative Long Distance customers will notice a change in the Federal Universal Service charge effective July 3, 2012.

The Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) Surcharge Factor recovers the costs associated with Innovative Telephone's contributions to the federal universal fund program. The government-mandated program is designed to help keep telephone service rates affordable for all customers, in all areas of the United States.

Effective July 3, there will be a

decrease in the charge from 17.4 to 15.7 percent. For residential telephone customers and single-line business subscribers, the FUSC rate will decrease from \$1.13 to \$1.10. Multi-line telephone business subscribers will experience a decrease from \$1.59 to \$1.58 per line.

Effective July 3, 2012, Innovative Telephone subscribers will also see a new charge on their telephone bill. Each telephone access line will be assessed an Access Recovery Charge (ARC) of \$0.50 for residential and single line businesses and \$1.00 for multi-line businesses.

The new ARC charge is a component of the Federal Communications Commission's program

to provide affordable advanced telecommunications services to all Americans.

The ARC recovers a portion of the Telephone Company's Eligible Recovery as defined in the Federal Communications Commission's Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 01-92; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket Nos. 03-109,05-337, 07-135 and 10-90; and WT Docket No. 10-208 (76 FR 78384, 76 FR 76623).

Customers with questions regarding this notice should contact the Innovative Business Office at 340-779-9999. Innovative's Business Office hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday.

Cape Air Spreads Its Wings in Caribbean

St. John Tradewinds

Cape Air's Caribbean presence has expanded with the start of service between St. Croix, USVI and Vieques, Puerto Rico.

Cape Air will operate daily service between the destinations starting July 1. Fares for flights start at \$70 each way.

Originally, the service, which ran from December 11, 2011, through May 7, 2012, was slated to be seasonal only. The decision to connect these two islands with daily flight service on a year-round basis was made after consideration of customer feedback, as well as requests from government and tourism lead-

ers on St. Croix and Vieques.

"As both Vieques and St. Croix continue to grow as not only tourist destinations, but also commerce centers, we realized that providing inter-island service would benefit travelers and locals alike," said Cape Air's Vice President of Planning Andrew Bonney. "It is important for us to be able to listen to the suggestions of our passengers, and respond quickly to meet those needs."

Senator Alicia Hansen, a Member of the 29th Legislature of the US Virgin Islands, was instrumental by offering encouragement for the return of the daily service.



Making Small Businesses Greener

Dear EarthTalk

I own a small business and would like to do what I can to minimize its impact on the environment. Can you help me?

Jacob Levinson, New York, NY

There are many ways to green up any business, large or small — and an added benefit might just be saving money. Just like individuals, businesses can measure their carbon footprints to get a sense of where they are starting from and to get some initial ideas of areas to focus on to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers a free “Simplified GHG [greenhouse gas] Emissions Calculator” to help small businesses get started. Another option is to enroll in TerraPass’s “Carbon Balanced Business” program, which helps commercial entities measure and then offset the greenhouse gas emissions they are responsible for generating.

Beyond carbon footprints, there are many other things businesses can do to minimize their environmental impacts.

The non-profit Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) reports that, first and foremost, businesses should shift the paper paradigm — the average office tosses out about 350 pounds of paper per year per employee.

“Reducing your waste and purchasing paper with post-consumer recycled content can help save trees and nudge the pulp and paper industry, one of the most environmentally destructive industries in the world, toward a less damaging path,” NRDC reported.

Some easy ways to do this include: setting printers to use both sides of a page (or designating a “draft tray” filled with paper that’s blank on one side); buying copy paper with a 30 percent or more post-consumer recycled content; collecting used paper

separately for recycling; and stocking bathrooms with post-consumer recycled tissue products.

Getting more energy efficient is another way to save the Earth while saving money too. NRDC recommends taking advantage of the fact that most utilities offer free or inexpensive energy audits, whereby an engineer examines operations and provides a report about how to save on energy costs.

Turning off lights and electronics at the end of the work day can save bundles of energy.

“Plug all your appliances into a power strip and you’ll only have to flip one switch at the end of the day,” suggested NRDC.

Also, setting computers to “sleep” or “hibernate” when inactive will further reduce a business’s footprint. And NRDC says to lose the screensavers: “Flying toasters and slideshows can use up about \$50 of electricity in a year.”

Lastly, when shopping for new office appliances, look for the EnergyStar label which means that the federal government has rated the particular unit highly in terms of energy efficiency.

Cutting water waste will also make a business run greener. The group says to install faucet aerators and low-flow toilets, check for and fix leaks, landscape with water efficiency in mind and recycle gray water where applicable for nonpotable uses such as watering gardens.

Lastly, NRDC suggests creating a greener work environment, given that “employees are on the front lines of any sustainability initiatives” a business chooses to make — perhaps by creating a green team “with members from all divisions of the organization to help implement plans and bring new ideas to the table.”

Those looking to take their businesses down a green path should consult any of the free “Greening Your Business” guides on NRDC’s website.

V.I. Awarded “COPS” Grant To Hire Six New Officers

The U.S. Department of Justice has awarded the territory more than half a million dollars to hire six community-oriented police officers announced Governor John deJongh last week.

The 2012 Community Oriented Police Service (COPS) Hiring Program will provide the Virgin Islands Police Department with an estimated \$562,600 over the three year period of the grant, with a local match of \$187,500.

The money can be spent to hire military veterans or rehire laid off police officers who will be tasked with initiating or enhancing community policing in the territory.

“This money will help us fund more police officers who will be involved in community policing programs of the kind that have been proven to reduce crime and foster cooperation between the territory’s residents and the Virgin Islands Police Department,” deJongh said. “The officers hired through this program will focus on building partnerships with other government, non-profit and private organizations to enhance the department’s ability to solve problems in the territory’s many diverse communities.”

As part of the program, VIPD will be required to submit quarterly financial and program progress reports to Department of Justice monitors.

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or locally at 340-779-4486

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PROPERTYKING
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Additional South Shore Road Access Is Needed

Continued from Page 7

opened."

Even tourists want to be able to drive from Lameshur to Cruz Bay without backtracking through Coral Bay, explained Anthony.

"Tourists come and have the same problem too," he said. "They want to see more of the island and we want to move forward."

Opening the road does not mean residents are against the park, Anthony added.

"We're not against the birds and the bees," he said. "We're not saying destroy the park. We're just saying this is a necessity and we can find a way to make it happen."

As a Coral Bay resident and former road engineer as well as president of the Friends of VINP, Joe Kessler shared a different perspective on the issue.

"We need to prioritize," said Kessler. "The main access road to Coral Bay is undermined and the hillsides continue to fall down. The road hasn't been fixed."

"Nothing has been done to solve this problem," Kessler said.

Opening south shore would require serious drainage work to traverse the frequently flooded area, Kessler added.

"A south shore road would require major drainage engineering," he said. "You're talking about \$20

"A south shore road would require major drainage engineering. You're talking about \$20 to \$30 million to service a community of a few hundred. We have to look at doing the most we can do with what we have to serve the most amount of people we can."

— Joe Kessler, Coral Bay resident and president of the Friends of the VINP

to \$30 million to service a community of a few hundred. We have to look at doing the most we can do with what we have to serve the most amount of people we can."

A piece of legislation enacted in 1962 which allows VINP to maintain five named roads, yet retains ownership of the roads by the local government was cited by several residents as the legal okay to open the roads.

The act, however, does not specifically name the route from Mandahl to L'Esperance and left VINP officials with no answers for the public.

"I have no definitive answer about this document," said VINP Deputy Superintendent Mike Anderson.

While the Department of the Interior could work with the local government on the road access issue, the directive must come the

Virgin Islands, explained Basil Ottley, a field representative of Department of Interior's Insular Affairs.

"Roads are not necessarily outside our scope, but there are other funds better suited to these types of projects like Federal Highway Transportation funds," said Ottley. "We're always willing to sit and see how funds can be leveraged for the community, but we must follow the priorities of the local government, who you elected."

Despite a lack of answers, the town meeting offered residents a chance to express their views, explained Anthony.

"We are not going to get all of the answers tonight," he said. "This is to get your concerns heard and to get a feeling for this issue. This is only the first of a series of meetings we are going to be hosting."

Catch a Whopper and Win Cash and Prizes at Kingfish Tourney

Continued from Page 6

one will win \$100 dollars, for a total award of \$500. Juniors must be present to win.

Meanwhile, Bronze Sponsor, TOPA Insurance Services Inc., will donate the \$375 each in prizes for anglers catching the Largest Jack, Largest Barracuda, Largest Bonito and Largest Mackerel.

All registered anglers will receive an official Bastille Day T-shirt thanks to the combined sponsorship support of Coors Light, Captain Morgan and Bellows International Ltd; Offshore Marine; and NEMWIL, as well as a small bag with goodies courtesy of Hawaiian Tropic.

Once again, local hotels and restaurateurs have contributed overnight stays and dinners for two, respectively, as additional prizes.

First organized by the Northside Sportfishing Club in 1987, the tournament last year attracted 213 anglers, including 34 junior anglers, aboard 62 boats. Ernest Quetel, Sr., of St. Thomas, reeled in the Largest Kingfish, a 27.38-pounder aboard the Rambo 27, Alpha-Q.

Entry forms can be obtained from Neptune Fishing

Supplies. A Captain's Meeting and Registration will be at 7:30 p.m. at Hull Bay Hideaway on Friday, July 13. Late Registration will also be on Saturday, July 14, at Hull Bay Hideaway from 12 Noon until 7 p.m. Fishing starts at 5:30 a.m. on Sunday July 15th, and ends at 12 Noon, sharp. From noon until 2 p.m., while the weigh-master and judges go to work, all anglers can quench their thirst at either a Coors Light and Paradise Rum punch or Snapple open bar, depending on age.

There will be drink, food and live music throughout the afternoon for the public who come down to see the catch and catch the fun of the day. Cool Session will play from noon until 5 p.m. and C4 from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Hull Bay Hideaway will be serving a special dinner menu of Beef Brisket, Roast Pork, Rice and Peas, Potato Salad, Green Salad, Corn on the Cob and Roll. The Awards Ceremony starts at 8 p.m. at Hull Bay Hideaway.

The tournament has become one of the highlights of French Heritage Week July 8-14 festivities. The event benefits the Joseph Sibilly School, St. Thomas Rescue and Nana Baby Children's Home, as well as provides college scholarships. To receive a scholarship application, email nssfvcvi@gmail.com or call 998-0854.

VIPD Police Chief and Two Deputy Chiefs Take Office

St. John Tradewinds

Another chapter in the Virgin Islands Police Department was ushered in with the swearing in of St. Thomas/St. John Police Chief Darren Foy and St. John Deputy Police Chief Maria Colon-Jones on Monday, June 11, at the Virgin Islands Superior Court.

The day had additional significance for both of the top cops; Chief Foy is one week shy of celebrating his 20th anniversary with the VIPD and Deputy Chief Jones makes VIPD history as the second female Deputy Chief.

The following day on St. Croix, Tuesday, June 12, retired Captain James Parris was sworn in as St. Croix Deputy Police Chief. Following his retirement in 1994 after 30 years of service, Captain Parris returned to the VIPD in 2009 as a member of the Cold Case Task Force.

The St. Thomas swearing in ceremony took place with Superior Court Judge Brenda Hollar officiating. Each officer raised their hand, swore the oath of office and signed the official documents. Afterwards, friends, family and co-workers gave their congratulations.

"They are handpicked; this is the face of new leadership in the VIPD," said VIPD Commissioner Henry White. "They have the time and experience; their background and resumes fit. As I said when I arrived, merit should be the guiding rule."

"I am looking forward to them providing leadership in this district for many years," said White.

Chief Foy said he "felt wonderful" at achieving this milestone.

"I always said I wanted to set goals for myself and my goals have always been to hold certain ranks within the police department," said Foy. "I know everything is on my shoulders, I'm ready for it. I have been preparing myself every day for this."

"Every day when I put on my uniform or go to my assignments to help make the Virgin Islands a

safer place, and I am going to continue to do that," said Foy.

Deputy Chief Jones said she was "really proud" to follow in the footsteps of the first female Deputy Chief, Sylvia Thomas.

"This is an historical moment," said Jones. "It's been more than 20 years since a female has been appointed Deputy Chief, so I have to do a really good job. Hopefully this will be a pathway for other female police to follow."

On St. Croix on Tuesday, Judge Julio Brady administered the Oath of Office to Retired Police Captain James Parris in his courtroom in the V.I. Superior Court.

St. Croix Chief of Police Christopher Howell made welcoming remarks to coworkers, friends and family gathered in the courtroom before the swearing in. Parris recently served in the Cold Case Squad and was part of the team that made the arrests in the case of the missing Police Corporal, Wendell Williams.

"I have been doing the job of the chief and deputy chief for fifteen months," Howell said, "It's a relief to have a person of the caliber of Captain Parris as the Deputy Chief for St. Croix. He brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and history of the department with him."

Commissioner White said Parris was asked to serve as Deputy Chief several times and declined. After the wounding of the two officers in the line of duty on St. Thomas, Parris finally accepted the position.

"Timing is everything, and there is not a more important time than now," White said. "It takes a good team to tackle the issues of this community, and now we have a good balance on both the St. Thomas St. John side and the St. Croix side."

Parris was a man of few words after he signed the Oath of Office.

"This is a time of change in the Virgin Islands and I look forward to working with the Commissioner and the Police Chief," said Parris.

Festival Village Opens to Music by Cool Sessions Brass



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Yelena Rogers

With hands in the air and hips shaking, a huge crowd gathered at Festival Village on Friday night, June 29, as Cool Sessions Brass opened Tuckerville.

CRIMES STOPPERS U.S.V.I. CRIMES OF THE WEEK

St. John Tradewinds

Crime Stoppers is asking the community's help to solve the following crimes. If anyone knows something, they should say something, as law enforcement cannot control crime without the help of the entire law abiding community.

St. John

On Wednesday morning, June 13, the Director of the Department of Public Works discovered that the warehouse at #6 Estate Susannaberg was burglarized again. The burglar(s) gained entry through one of the windows and stole four wrecker tires.

St. Thomas

On Thursday, May 17 at about 12:40 a.m., a man in the area of Bethlehem House Hospital Ground was heading towards his safari taxi when he was held up by two masked men who were armed with a silver hand gun. The robbers stole his licensed black Taurus Millennium 40-caliber firearm, a black iPhone in a black Otter box case, a dark gray Xcover cell phone, \$120 in cash and a black iPad. The robbers then fled the area on foot in an unknown direction.

St. Croix

The Cold Case Unit needs additional information in solving the following murders. Tell what

you know:

- Around February 24, 2000, Mario "Mensa" Daniels disappeared. Subsequently his skeletal remains were found.

- On November 13, 2001, Leandre "Bobo Dred" Smith, was gunned down in broad daylight by multiple assailants with high powered firearms in the vicinity of the Charles Howard Memorial Hospital in Richmond.

- On June 1, 2002 Edwin "Miller" Velasquez was reported missing. His body was found in a shallow grave in the area of Williams Delight.

- On November 3, 2004, Tyrone Knight was killed inside the FNA Service Station in Sunny Isles by an assailant with a high powered firearm.

Let's continue to help make the community a safer place to live by submitting information on these or any other crimes at www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Tips are completely anonymous, and the state-side operators speak several languages. The minimum reward for information that leads to the arrest of a burglar is \$536. For an armed robber the reward is \$900. For a murder suspect it is \$1,500. For the recovery of stolen property the reward is 10 percent of its retail value.

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.

Monday, July 9

— St. John School of the Arts will present “An Oversimplification of Her Beauty,” a film by Terence Nance, starring Nance, Namik Minter and Chanelle Pearson on Monday, July 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, July 27

— Virgin Islands Council on the Arts (VICA) is conducting a series of “How to Apply” workshops in preparation for the August 31, grant submission deadline. Information on project and budget development will be discussed in detail. First time applicants are encouraged to attend. The workshop on St. Thomas is scheduled for Friday, July 27, at 5:30 p.m. at the VICA office at 41-42 Norre Gade. For more information contact Betty Mahoney at 774-5964.

Sunday, August 11

A silent auction of fine art by St. John artists and raffle fun(d)-raiser for Steve Levin’s family is planned for Saturday, August 11, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Fatty Crab. Raffle tickets are available at both Connections for \$10 or six tickets for \$50.

Sunday, August 26

— The 2nd annual Chaotic Kayak Race is set for Sunday, August 26, at Oppenheimer Beach and last year’s winner is already talking smack.

Sunday, September 2

— The Ivanna Eudora Kean High School Alumni Association is hosting the 2nd Annual Devil Ray Reunion Beach Party Sunday, September 2 at Magens Bay Beach shed #4 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday, October 7

— A fundraiser for the 4th Annual Using Sport for Social Change “Just Play!” event aboard the *Kekoa* catamaran is set for Sunday, October 7, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 per person. For more info: visit <http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com>.

Monday, October 8

— Using Sport for Social Change is hosting the 4th Annual Free “Just Play!” day event on Monday, October 8.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

Narcotics Anonymous has open meetings 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 Monday at Scandic Executive Service’s meeting room in Mongoose Junction from 6:30 to 7:30pm; and every Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m. at the VINP ball field bleachers. Warm line: 340-642-3263.

Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

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122											123							124				
125						126					127							128				

INDEPENDENCE DAY

ACROSS

- 1 Bothers persistently
- 7 Novel events
- 13 Ending of ordinals
- 16 Cleopatra’s snake
- 19 Underscore
- 20 Webcam from Apple
- 21 Shrunken Asian lake
- 23 “Old Uncle Ned” songwriter [1826]
- 25 Allergies may congest them
- 26 — mode (with ice cream)
- 27 — Reader (eclectic bimonthly)
- 28 One of a White House pair [1998]
- 30 “Ain’t No Sunshine” singer [1938]
- 34 Counts up
- 35 Liqueur flavorers
- 36 Lean and muscular
- 38 Have dinner
- 41 Long-eared equine
- 42 Second-string squad
- 46 Calf’s place
- 47 Extol
- 50 Baseball owner called “The Boss” [1930]
- 54 Filmmaker Kazan
- 57 Stick through
- 58 Former Toyota
- 59 Mussolini of Italy
- 62 Sand bits
- 65 “What — thinking?!”
- 66 Epoch
- 69 Hit film whose title describes eight celebrities in this

- puzzle
- 74 ND-to-LA dir.
- 75 Sailor’s cry
- 76 Certain
- 77 More handy
- 78 Plummer of “Pygmalion”
- 80 — about
- 83 Krone earner
- 84 “Twice-Told Tales” author [1804]
- 91 Running late
- 92 Wee bit
- 93 Playground retort
- 94 Post-A trio
- 97 Grand — wine
- 98 Early tourney match
- 101 “Lord Jim” actor Peter
- 103 Certain shoe mender
- 107 “Sing Along” leader [1911]
- 111 Tennis star with 21 Grand Slam doubles titles [1962]
- 114 See 40-Down
- 115 Lupino of films
- 116 Racy reading
- 117 Big name in TV talk [1943]
- 122 Center or tackle
- 123 New York city or tribe
- 124 Out of bed
- 125 Young boy
- 126 Former jet to JFK
- 127 One gazing
- 128 — alla Scala (opera house)

DOWN

- 1 Twisty shape
- 2 Acquires
- 3 Latticework frame
- 4 Little flower leaves
- 5 Volcanic stuff

- 6 Lao- —
- 7 20%
- 8 “The Wizard of Oz — because ...”
- 9 Stair parts
- 10 Mil. rank
- 11 Those ones
- 12 Like a good war plan
- 13 Hands down
- 14 — and error
- 15 Ho Chi Minh’s capital
- 16 Hit man
- 17 Appear
- 18 “Qué —?”
- 22 Oil, for short
- 24 Big devotee
- 29 Decree
- 30 Ewe’s bleat
- 31 “Can’t — friends?”
- 32 Analogy words
- 33 Fine sand in a riverbed
- 37 Formerly known as
- 39 Consume
- 40 With 114-Across, paid by the day
- 43 Work unit
- 44 Of yore
- 45 Join together
- 47 Big house
- 48 Port in Brazil
- 49 Santa — wind
- 50 Acquisition
- 51 Olden toilers
- 52 Pond critter
- 53 Humdrum
- 54 Drops off
- 55 Many August babies
- 56 Memo start
- 60 Unanimously
- 61 Readily available
- 63 Debtor’s note
- 64 Scott of legal novels
- 66 Magical glow

- 67 Isolated valley
- 68 Charlotte Brontë’s “Jane —”
- 70 Singer Basil or Braxton
- 71 Jekyll and —
- 72 Designer Oscar de la —
- 73 Green stone
- 78 Yellowfin tuna, on menus
- 79 Inseparable friends
- 81 Bit of resistance
- 82 Get sour
- 84 “30 Rock” network
- 85 Ireland’s — Lingus
- 86 Longtime senator Strom
- 87 TV’s Linden
- 88 Take — view of (frown on)
- 89 Motel unit
- 90 “It wasn’t my fault!”
- 94 Most brazen
- 95 Less cloudy
- 96 Anhalt article
- 98 Readily bent
- 99 Give gas to
- 100 Where trapezists connect
- 102 Newton-John of song
- 104 Uruguay’s Punta del —
- 105 Gap-filling wedges
- 106 Some whales
- 108 Squiggle over an “n”
- 109 Sauna wood
- 110 Doc network
- 111 — -mell (disorderly)
- 112 Tenor solo
- 113 Lease topic
- 118 “The Crying Game” star
- 119 Disloyal type
- 120 Great anger
- 121 “That’s — -brainer”

Classifieds

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- Two bedrooms, one bath, washer, Fish Bay \$1600
- Two bedrooms, one bath, w/d \$1600
- Two bedrooms, one bath, w/d \$1700
- Two bedrooms, two bath, in Cruz Bay \$1800
- Two bedrooms, two bath on Gift Hill \$1600
- Two bedrooms, one bath, loft, in Cruz Bay \$2100
- Two bedrooms, one bath, furnished, A/C, w/d in Cruz bay \$2100
- Two bedrooms, two bath, large loft, w/d \$2700
- Three bedrooms, two bath, w/d \$1800
- Three bedrooms, two bath, large deck, beautiful view \$3000

Coral Bay Side:

- One bedroom, one bath \$800

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"VOYAGES BUILDING"-This combination commercial & residential property in the heart of Coral Bay is between the Cocoloba Shopping Center and a proposed 116 slip marina, this is an ideal location for a restaurant, retail shops or offices. There are two beautiful 2 bedroom apartments on the 2nd floor and a pool on site. Just across the road from the waterfront with great views. **\$1.9M.**

"Skyway" - Fantastic views to St Thomas and beyond to Vieques as well as the Caribbean as far as the eye can see. Almost flat lot with lush tropical landscaping, easy paved access, 13' by 24' pool with salt chlorine generator system and spa. Solar heater for water and pool. Fully furnished with interesting Indonesian pieces. Owner has recently completed a complete remodeling. **\$2.7M**

"El Cielo" - This new masonry home has an ideal location in every way. Midway between Cruz Bay & Coral Bay this 4 bedroom home is perched on a flat ridge just above Upper Peter Bay & has National Park land to the north and east to insure quiet and privacy. Graceful arches frame the sweeping views from Lovango Cay to Jost van Dyke. A large deck with pool is accessed from the living room & master bedroom. Features include custom mahogany doors & windows, air conditioned bedrooms, & office. **\$2.25M.**

"Privateer Point" - St. John's most dramatic home site is now offered for sale. For a spectacular private estate, one cannot find better than the 14 acres of Privateer Point. Surrounded by water on three sides with unlimited views of most of the British Virgins, it just does not get better than Privateer Point. Paved roads, underground utilities and the utmost in privacy. Three pocket beaches add to the charm of this nature lover's paradise. **\$9.15M.**

Estate Freemans Ground - Just a bit before Shipwreck Landing, this unique property is just across the road from the waters of Coral Bay and has beautiful views of boats anchored in Johnson Bay as well as to the East End and Norman Island. The hard part is done with a 2 story guest house nearly finished and concrete poured for the foundation of a 4 bedroom main house with 2 pools. Cool breezes and sun & moon rises. Perfect for a contractor to live in while finishing the project. **\$959,000**

"Rhapsody" - One of the most impressive short term rentals on St. John! Features include waterfront location, 16' x 32' spectacular infinity pool at great room level, stone & masonry construction, granite & stainless kitchen, 2 full laundries, garage, 6 flat screen TVs, ipod docking station, outdoor speaker system, spa, 5 lg. bedrooms (2 with sitting rooms), spectacular sunsets & end of road privacy. Near Cruz Bay. Just listed at **\$5.95M**

"Cloud 9 Villa" - Spectacular sunsets and breathtaking views over Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas and south over Great Cruz Bay are highlights of this masonry home with pool, spa, air conditioning, Wi-Fi, & large, new sun deck with gazebo. The lot is almost flat and tropical landscaping abounds. Two bedrooms adjoin the pool deck and a comfy loft is accessed from the living room. A cool location high on Gift Hill and access is paved all the way. Cloud 9 Villa is a very popular vacation rental. **\$1.199M**

"Limin' Time" - The perfect Caribbean cottage with a sandy pocket beach on Great Cruz Bay and a very large pool & deck. Completely redesigned and refurbished in 2009, Limin' Time is better than new with new high end fixtures, furnishings and new pool with the perfect location in this well established neighborhood. Keep your yacht moored within sight and just pull your dinghy up on the beach. Swim and snorkel without driving. **\$1.569M.**

"Glucksberg Gazebo" - a wooded lot with large trees and a nifty large gazebo type structure with hip roof with 12 volt solar panel, screened walls and sturdy floor. This is a great spot for gardening and growing orchids. All wood components are pressure treated, rafters are oversized 2 x 12, all joints & footers are lag bolted and Hurricane ties at the rafters. **\$129,500.**

"Boatman Point Waterfront" - Stunning easterly facing parcel with wonderful breezes, soothing sounds of the waves and breathtaking sun & moon rises. Spectacular homesite on a downhill build with topo included. The shoreline is a mix of cobble beach & rock face, with great snorkeling. 175 feet of frontage at a fantastic price. **\$730,000**

"Maho Bay" - Rare opportunity to own 13.8 acres with over 850 feet of shoreline - mostly of white sandy beach (Little Maho), located within the confines of the Virgin Islands National Park on St. John's pristine north shore. The property is flanked by two very large National Park Beaches accessed via footpaths; Francis Bay at the east and Maho Bay at the west. **\$19.5M.**

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Delegate Christensen Asks for More Federal Protection of Caribbean Border

St. John Tradewinds

"We need more federal help to restore the safety of our communities and protect the lives of our children," said Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen at last week's Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing on Oversight, Investigations and Management on "U.S. Caribbean Border Security."

Christensen and Puerto Rico Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi joined the Subcommittee and asked for more federal assets to stem the tide of drug trafficking and gun violence that has bloated the murder rate in the U.S. Caribbean territories.

"All of the statistics point to a single conclusion: while federal law enforcement officers are doing courageous and often heroic work in Puerto Rico and the USVI, the federal government as a whole has yet to respond to the public safety crisis in these two territories with anything approaching the sense of urgency that is required," said Resident Commissioner Pierluisi.

The Subcommittee listened to testimony from Governor Luis Fortuno of Puerto Rico who graphically illustrated the threat to the neighborhoods and communities, many of whom are innocent bystanders in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. They also heard testimony and questioned officials from the

Customs and Border Protection Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency.

Christensen, Pierluisi and Fortuno decried the lack of a Caribbean Border Strategy akin to the one being deployed on the Southwest Border of the United States which unifies federal and local assets and increases the presence of crime fighting agents.

"The federal response has been inadequate, underfunded and slow," Governor John deJongh wrote in a written statement. "The major drug cartels have targeted our islands because our borders are largely unprotected and our mail is typically uninspected. Weaponry is being smuggled into the territories in cargo vessels, fast boats and the U.S. mail."

"We have observed that there is a clear mismatch between the level of drug related violence occurring along the U.S. Caribbean Border and the size and scope of the federal response," said Governor Fortuno. "This lack of sufficient attention is most blatantly evidenced by the absence of any kind of comprehensive interagency strategy by the federal government to counteract the drug violence and national security threats these criminal networks generate along the U.S. Caribbean Border."

"We cannot allow this threat to take hold along the U.S. Caribbean Border where drug trafficking networks already have a clearly established supply chain to the states," Governor Fortuno said.

Christensen described a recent major cocaine bust off the coast of St. Croix where the perpetrators escaped because the coast Guard did not have the "fast boats" needed to capture them.

The delegate asked USCG Rear Admiral William D. Lee if there were plans in place to deploy them to the Virgin Islands.

There were plans to replace six aging cutters stationed in the Caribbean, Lee responded.

When at the USCG station in Puerto Rico for the launch of the "Rescue 21" system recently, Christensen was informed that three fast boats now being built would be deployed to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Christensen also asked Asst. Commissioner Kevin Mcaleenan of Customs and Border Protection when a Border Patrol Unit specifically for the U.S. Virgin Islands would be deployed.

"You have heard how monumental the problem is in Puerto Rico, I am begging and pleading that you ensure that we in the U.S. Virgin Islands have the coverage that we

need," Christensen said.

B. Todd Jones, Acting Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms was in the Virgin Islands recently meeting with local officials. Christensen met with Jones and Agent Trevor Velinor recently to discuss the agency's redeployment to the territory in light of the increased gun violence.

The delegate agreed with Governor Fortuno's statement that filling the federal law enforcement vacancies in the territory would be a good first step. She recently called on the Virgin Islands Legislature to grant peace officer status to federal law enforcement.

During her seventh term, Christensen successfully obtained more border security for the Virgin Islands made visible by the stationing of the USCG Cutter Reef Shark to patrol Virgin Islands waters to assist with drug interdiction, illegal smuggling and rescue operations.

It was a culmination of several years of work as a Member of the Committee on Homeland Security which entailed bringing down several congressional delegations to the Virgin Islands to be briefed by local law enforcement, having a GAO study done to determine the needs of the Caribbean border and making an appropriation to the Coast Guard for increased border patrol funding.

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