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October 22-28, 2012
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ST. JOHN

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TRADEWINDS

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



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Crowd Packs Winston Wells Ball Field for ACC Flea Market

The annual "No Fleas, Please" Flea Market to benefit the St. John Animal Care Center drew a huge crowd to Winston Wells ball field on Saturday morning, October 20. ACC Board of Directors member Dr. Elaine Campbell, above, manned the popular children's toy table while many other residents of all ages scooped up everything from plants and ceramics to clothing and home goods. [SEE FULL STORY AND MORE PHOTOS IN NEXT ISSUE.](#)

Powell Park Gets Signage and Plantings

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39th USVI-BVI Friendship Day Celebrated

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Plane Crash UPDATE:

Downed aircraft located, raised and towed; bodies of two missing passengers recovered; pilot is still missing

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Affordable Health Care on Horizon for Small Business

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Frank Powell Park Filled with Plants



The final touches to complete renovations at Frank Powell Park were completed by Department of Planning and Natural Resources officials last week, just in time for the 39th Annual BVI/USVI Friendship Day. Work included construction of a stone pyramid, at left, which bears the name of the park at its entrance and the installation of a variety of plants, above.

St. John Tradewinds News
Photos by Jaime Elliott

UVI Launching New Strategic Plan at Meetings Across the Territory

The University of the Virgin Islands will launch its new strategic plan — Pathways to Greatness — with special events on St. John, St. Croix and St. Thomas on October 22, 23 and 24, respectively.

On St. John, the meeting will be at the UVI St. John Academic Center on the third floor of The Marketplace on Monday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m.

Clothing, Toiletries Donations Needed

The Department of Human Services and the St. Thomas/St. John Chapter of the United Way are hosting the second annual Day of Caring/Project Homeless Connect in Cruz Bay on Friday, October 26.

To help ease the suffering of those living without homes, the groups are asking for donations of clothing and toiletries. Especially in demand are men's shorts sized 28 to 32, men's shirts sizes medium, large and extra large, hats, belts, shoes and flip-flops.

Residents are also asked to donate canned goods and toiletries like toothpaste, deodorant, soaps, shampoo and razors. Donations of clothing can be dropped off at Kilroy's Laundry. St. John Community Foundation Executive Director Celia Kalousek will accept all other donations. For more information or to schedule an appointment with Kalousek call SJCF at 693-9410.

Junior Tennis Tourney Set for Nov. 2-4

The St. John Racquet Club will sponsor a V.I. Tennis Association Junior Tennis Tournament at the Cruz Bay tennis courts November 2 to November 4.

This tournament will once again honor and say thanks to Vic Ebbesen for his dedication and commitment to the development of junior tennis on St. John.

The event is for girls and boys ages 8 and under to 18 and under. The entry fee is \$15 and the deadline for entries is Tuesday, October 30. Off-island players can check with VITA for the limited availability of funding for travel. For more information contact Pat Harley at 776-6643.

More Delinquent Property Auctions Slated for November 20 and 21

The Division of Real Property Tax, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, announced last week that the next round of auctions for properties in delinquent payment status of ten or more years has been scheduled.

In the St. Thomas/St. John District, the auctions will be on November 20 and 21, in the courtyard of the GERS Building on Kronprindsens Gade.

On St. Croix, the auctions will take place from November 14 through 16 at the Virgin Islands Cardiac Center located at the Juan F. Luis Hospital.

The property auctions will begin at 9 a.m. on each of the scheduled auction days. In the event the auctions do not conclude on the first day, it will continue on the second or third days.

Owners of delinquent properties can either pay their balances in full or enter into an installment arrangement in order to avoid the sale of their properties.

Property owners interested in making arrangements are advised to contact the Office of the Tax Collector at 776-6737 on St. John. Property owners whose properties are in probate are reminded to file their cases with the Recorder of Deeds Office in their district.

A list of the properties that are slated for auction can be viewed at www.ltg.gov.vi.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos



39th USVI-BVI Friendship Day Celebrated

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Dignitaries from across the U.S. Virgin Islands and British Virgin Islands gathered in Cruz Bay on Saturday morning, October 20, for the 39th annual celebration of USVI-BVI Friendship Day.

Last week's festivities was the first time the event was hosted on St. John.

Following speeches and songs at the Cruz Bay bandstand, Love City Pan Dragons entertained a

huge crowd, which also enjoyed a free and healthy breakfast spread.

A mini-parade from the Cruz Bay Battery along the waterfront was headed by the Julius E. Sprauve School Marching Band, followed by the Love City Leapers, Giff Hill School dancers, King Shaka Zulu and his Queen and colorful Mocko Jumbies. The St. Thomas Majorettes completed the fun-filled morning parade.

After the Cruz Bay fun wound down, revelers decamped to An-

naberg Sugar Mill Ruins, where more dancing and cultural music was featured.

Attendees at last week's USVI-BVI Friendship Day festivities included Governor John deJongh and his wife, Cecile, Lt. Governor Greg Francis and his wife Cheryl, Department of Public Works Commissioner Darryl Smalls, Senator at Large Craig Barshinger as well as BVI Premier Dr. Orlando Smith, and numerous other USVI and BVI government officials.



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NEXT DEADLINE

Thursday, Oct. 25th

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The St. John Band



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Affordable Health Care on Horizon for Small Businesses in Virgin Islands

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Twenty years ago Omar Haedo brought affordable health care to the Virgin Islands.

The Puerto Rican businessman was instrumental in getting government health care coverage and establishing a network of health-care and dental providers.

With no competition, however, CIGNA rates and premiums, as well as those of many other local insurance providers, have ballooned to proportions which are not realistic to many small businesses.

Haedo left the insurance field to build his own business, IKON Benefit Group, which provided solutions in insurance, administration, human resources, business consulting and job placement.

Now, Haedo is back in the insurance world. He returned to the territory last week as a representative of BlueCross and BlueShield, determined to offer affordable health care to local small businesses.

"I am the guy who brought CIGNA to the islands 20 years ago," said Haedo. "I actually signed the contract with the government on May 2, 1992. I built up CIGNA here and then I built my own company."

"I'm selling my company now and I went to BlueCross and BlueShield and said 'The folks in the Virgin Islands need affordable health care,'" said Haedo.

Instead of approaching the government this time around, however, Haedo is offering his services to private enterprises.

"We can do this right," he said. "I told them, 'I'm not going to government; there are 125,000 small business employees who don't have a good choice and are facing very high rates.'"

BlueCross and BlueShield of the U.S. Virgin Islands is specifically adapted to the territory, Haedo explained.

"My primary focus is on small businesses with 50 employees or less," he said. "I am working with local pharmacies which will fill prescriptions. That way it's more convenient and supports the local



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Omar Haedo and his family smile for the camera.

economy by not doing mail order."

Although the focus remains on local needs, residents who travel would be covered under the worldwide BlueCross and BlueShield providers, Haedo added.

"It is a part of VI Equi Care which is the biggest network of all here, but the network is huge too," he said. "So no matter where you are, you're covered in the worldwide network of BlueCross and BlueShield."

The company also offers discounts of about 15 percent off competitors' rates, Haedo added.

"I am lowering my manuals by a lot and I'm giving employers an average discount of between 10 and 15 percent and that includes more benefits than the competitors," he said.

There are 60 different plans with a variety of options and premiums, Haedo added.

"We offer multiple-design plan options with medical, pharmacy, vision and dental benefits coverage in one package," he said.

All plans include health, dental and vision as well as MASA coverage, according to Haedo.

"We're not encouraging people to go to Puerto Rico, but if you do, we hired someone full-time to take care of Virgin Islanders who might need help with translation or transportation," he said. "When and if you have to go to Puerto Rico for care, we want to make it a really good experience."

BlueCross and BlueShield USVI also hired a medical liaison in Miami in the event that clients have to travel to Florida for care, Haedo added.

And don't expect to see glossy advertisements for BlueCross and BlueShield USVI.

"We're not doing any advertising," said Haedo. "We want all of our efforts and money to go to our network and our clients. It's really about making this right for the locals."

The coverage is available to any small businesses with two or more employees, according to Haedo.

"We're looking for volume," he said. "We're doing it all."

Haedo is also seeing interest in BlueCross and BlueShield USVI, he explained.

"We are seeing a significant wave of interest in the market," he said. "What is going to happen is our competitors are going to have to sharpen their pencils and change some things. That is only good for the community."

Haedo already has a personal stake in bringing BlueCross and BlueShield to the territory, he added.

"I am trying to right my sins of the past, bringing CIGNA here," said Haedo. "But without competition, you become very complacent. There are a lot of people and a lot of kids who do not have insurance."

For more information check out BCBSusvi.com

St. John Kids of All Ages Get Active at Fourth Annual Just Play Day

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

With the image of several children in Winston Wells ball field kicking a lone deflated soccer ball, Dean Doeling set out to make a difference.

With nothing except his determination and perseverance, he returned home to Oregon and created the non-profit organization Using Sport for Social Change with the mission of improving access to sports and sports equipment for local children.

Four years later and after countless donations of soccer balls, footballs, basketballs and sneakers to local schools and organizations including the V.I. Department of Parks and Recreation, Doeling watched as children of all ages packed the Winston Wells ball field on Monday, October 8.

It was the Fourth Annual Just Play Day, the signature event of Doeling's USFSC, which continues to put sports equipment in the hands of local youth.

Just Play Day is a free event open to all local youth. Students gather in the Cruz Bay field and try their hands at a variety of activities, from a soccer kick to a football

"I have been blessed to have a lot of community support and community involvement. I had a lot of people come up to me and say, 'you're still here.' And that is the point."

"I want those kids to know that I do follow up and I will be here for them year after year. I look forward to our 24th Annual and our 25th Annual Just Play Days."

- Dean Doeling, Using Sport for Social Change

toss. While winners in each age group are awarded medals, the event offers students the chance to compete in a healthy and positive environment.

"It was another wonderful event this year," said Doeling. "For me, Just Play Day is definitely the highlight of what we do; just seeing the kids out there having fun. The weather was great and the DJ was great."

"There were so many positive vibes this year," Doeling said. "We saw some kids for the fourth year in a row and we saw some kids for the first time. The same with volun-

teers; we've had some who come out each year and each year we get new volunteers too."

USFSC has enjoyed wide community support since its inception, which in no small part accounts for its success, Doeling added.

"I have been blessed to have a lot of community support and community involvement," he said. "I had a lot of people come up to me and say, 'you're still here.' And that is the point."

"I want those kids to know that I do fol-

low up and I will be here for them year after year," said Doeling. "I look forward to our 24th Annual and our 25th Annual Just Play Days."

This year's event featured St. John Festival Queen Shanell Thomas, who sang the V.I. Anthem and U.S. National Anthem and stuck around all day, taking part in games and even helping to helm a winning tug-of-war game, Doeling explained.

"Shanell was fantastic," he said. "She is beautiful and her voice is amazing and her personality is great. She was so sincere and was hopping right in to help wherever she was needed."

"I think she had a lot of fun with the kids too," said Doeling.

University of the Virgin Islands basketball team head coach Sean Georges was the guest speaker for this year's Just Play Day. Georges arrived early in the morning and spent the entire day at Winston Wells ball field, according to Doeling.

"Sean was there from the beginning all the way until we all went home," said Doeling. "He is the first guest speaker to come

Continued on Page 18

SKINNY LEGS

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Other places the Energy Office will be during the month St. Croix Cost U Less Oct. 15 and St. Thomas Chamber of Commerce After Hours on Oct. 25

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Downed Aircraft Located and Bodies of Two Missing Passengers Recovered

St. John Tradewinds

Recovery crews working in the eighth straight day to locate a missing aircraft, the pilot and two passengers struck a positive chord on Saturday afternoon, October 20, when they located the Piper Aztec aircraft on the ocean floor a little over one mile northeast of where the plane fell off radar a week ago.

Recovery crews including a number of local government agencies, a salvage company as well as several private boat operators had been conducting first a rescue mission augmented by U.S. Coast Guard assets and over the last five days, a recovery mission to locate the missing passengers and aircraft.

Following the suspension of the rescue effort last Monday night, the Department of Planning and Natural Resources led a recovery mission with the ultimate objective being to locate the aircraft and recover the missing passengers. The multi-agency recovery team has also included: VITEMA, the Office of the Governor and the V.I. Port Authority and Sunday, October 21, the Medical Examiner's Office within the Department of Justice and the V.I. Police Department's Forensics Unit.

On October 18, government responders obtained the last recorded radar position of the aircraft from federal authorities which allowed the mission to be refocused to a specific area.

On Saturday afternoon at about 1 p.m. an oil sheen was discovered on the ocean surface and dive crews entered the water at that location in search for the missing aircraft. Divers went into about 100 feet of water and spotted the aircraft lying on its roof with one wing separated but the fuselage generally intact. Divers also spotted one body in the aircraft.

About four hours later, using an inflatable air bag device, the fuselage was floated. Divers secured the plane's openings and began the slow process of towing the aircraft to St. Thomas to facilitate removal of the body and securing the aircraft for a subsequent investigation into the cause of the crash.

Pilot Kirby Hodge and three passengers took off from St. Croix's Henry E. Rohlsen airport at about 4:40 a.m. on the morning of October 13 destined for



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

The Piper Aztec aircraft in waters off Cyril E. King Airport after being towed.

St. Thomas. Hodge's last radio contact to the FAA control tower on St. Thomas came when he was about eight miles out from the King Airport. Hodge's plane fell off radar shortly thereafter at 4:57 a.m.

A rescue mission was activated and a U.S. Coast Guard chopper found Valerie Jackson Thompson in the waters southwest of St. Thomas about 2 p.m. some nine hours after the plane crashed. The missing passengers include: Darwin Carr, Rachel Hamilton and pilot Kirby Hodge.

After the aircraft was raised from the waters near the Cyril E. King Airport, recovery crews removed the bodies of the two missing passengers from the downed Piper Aztec airplane on Sunday morning, October 21.

The missing passengers were Darwin Carr and Rachel Hamilton. There were no signs of the missing pilot, Kirby Hodge. Late Sunday morning, government officials notified the families of Rachel Hamilton and Darwin Carr that the aircraft had been found, that the two bodies had been recovered and that in all likelihood, the bodies were those of Hamilton and Carr. An autopsy scheduled for early next week will confirm the identities and determine the cause of death.

Both the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board have been notified that the aircraft was located. Federal officials are expected on island shortly to begin the process of determining the cause of the October 13 crash.

KATS St. John Launching Introductory Seamanship Program This Month

Kids and the Sea, St. John is launching its rowing and introductory seamanship program for new sailors this month.

Students must be eight years old by December 1, 2012 in order to be eligible to participate. Meet at Skinny Legs at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 27, for the mandatory swim test. Children should wear a swimsuit and bring a towel.

Children don't need to be able to swim, but must be willing to learn and want to be part of the rowing program.

GHS Gives Back Community Service Day Scheduled for November 16

Giff Hill School has announced the third annual "Giff Hill School Gives Back" Community Service Day will be Friday, November 16, at various locations across St. John.

The school is organizing teams of faculty and students (ranging in age from preschool through 12th grade) to do service projects in the community throughout the day, and would like to understand how best to assist any St. John organizations.

Last year's projects included: beach clean-ups; office help; cleaning and maintenance projects at the Library, fire station, churches, and St. John School of the Arts; visit to the senior centers to provide companionship and singing by the youngest students; and gardening help at Julius E. Sprauve School.

Community service is an important part of the GHS curriculum as well as a graduation requirement, and this day of service has become a tradition to which students and staff look forward.

For more information call 340-776-1730 or email mollymurrill@giffhillschool.org.

Applications for Carnival Queen 2013

Applications for the 2013 Carnival Queen Competition Pageant are now available for pick up from the Virgin Islands Carnival Committee's office located across from the Department of Finance or from any of the St. Thomas public or private high schools.

The Committee is encouraging community groups and schools to send their best, brightest and most-talented to vie for the title of Queen of Carnival 2013.

Applications can be picked up between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and must be completed and returned no later than November 14. For more information contact the Carnival Committee at 776-3112.

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Chef's Corner

by Mares Crane

Halloween and Autumn Recipes

Happy Fall and Happy Halloween! This is such a great time of year, when the heat of summer starts to subside and the worst of Hurricane Season is behind us. Even down here in the Caribbean where we don't get those beautiful Autumn colors, we can still celebrate this season.

Here are some traditional recipes to celebrate All Hallow's Eve and Guy Fawkes Day! Enjoy!

YORKSHIRE PARKIN

This sticky cake is served warm with butterscotch sauce (see below) or cold on its own. It is traditionally eaten on November 5, which is the celebration of the famous failed attempt by Guy Fawkes to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605.

Guy was a Yorkshireman. We build bonfires on village greens with an imitation Guy in the middle and celebrate with food and fireworks.

- 8 oz butter, softened
- 4 oz soft dark brown sugar
- 2 oz molasses
- 7 oz corn syrup
- 5 oz medium cut oatmeal
- 7 oz self-raising flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 4 tsp ground ginger
- 2 tsp nutmeg
- 1 tsp mixed spice
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 2 Tbsp milk

Heat oven to 275; Grease an 8x8 square tin

In a large, heavy bottom saucepan, melt the butter, sugar molasses and corn syrup over a gentle heat. Do not boil.

In a large bowl, mix together dry ingredients.

Gradually add butter to mixture. Beat in eggs one at a time and slowly mix in milk.

Pour into the greased tin and cook for 1 and 1/2 hours until firm, set and golden brown.

Allow to cool in tin. Store in an airtight container for a minimum of three days as it becomes more flavored and sticky. Will keep for up to two weeks.

BUTTERSCOTCH SAUCE

Melt 4 oz butter with 4 oz light brown sugar in saucepan until sugar is dissolved.

Add 100 ML of heavy cream or milk.

Heat gently until bubbling, stirring constantly.

Remove from heat and serve.

TOFFEE

- 1 lb sugar
- 1/2 pint water
- 3 oz unsalted butter
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar

- 4 oz black treacle

- 4 oz corn syrup

Heat sugar and water until sugar is dissolved. Do not let it boil. Add all other ingredients, stir until bubbling and boils. Do not leave for a second! Stir constantly.

Test to see if it is ready by dropping a teaspoonful into a cup of cold water. If it sets, it's ready.

Grease a flat tin with a thin layer of butter and pour in mixture. Leave it to set.

When it is rock hard, shatter it and enjoy!

PUMPKIN, CHILI AND COCONUT SOUP

- 1 medium pumpkin
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 1-inch piece of ginger, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1/4 of scotch bonnet pepper, finely chopped
- 400 ML coconut milk
- 4-5 sprigs fresh thyme
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Cut pumpkin in half and then into wedges. Peel and de-seed each wedge and cut into 1 inch cubes.

Put pumpkin in large pan with onion, garlic and chili. Strip the thyme and add to pan.

Pour in about 400 ML of water and bring to boil. Cook until the pumpkin has turned to a pulp (if not smooth enough, puree in blender and then add back to pot).

Add coconut milk and season with salt and pepper to taste. Reduce heat and simmer for 5 to 10 minutes.

Serve in hot bowls.

VAMPIRE COCKTAIL

- 1 scoop vanilla ice cream
- 1 oz Triple Sec
- 1/2 oz White Creme de Cacao
- Drizzle of Grenadine

Blend all ingredients except Grenadine until smooth. Pour into stemmed cocktail glass and drizzle Grenadine on top.

MULLED WINE

- 1 Liter dry red wine
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tsp whole cloves
- 1 tsp whole all spice
- 1 large piece of lemon rind and orange rind
- 4 Tbsp sugar

Combine everything except sugar in a saucepan. Heat gently. Do not boil. Stir in 2 Tbsp sugar until dissolved. Add more sugar, or not, to taste.

Leave on medium heat for 20 minutes to allow flavors to infuse.

Serve in warm glasses or mugs.

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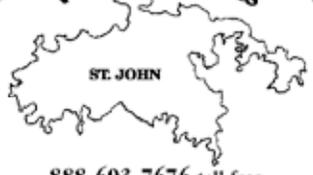
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Historical Bits & Pieces

by Chuck Pishko

New Stamp Honors Virgin Islands Tradition

St. John Tradewinds

The U.S. Postal Service hosted an event on St. Thomas, Tuesday, October 14, to unveil a new stamp for the Virgin Islands.

As you can see, the stamp has the Virgin Islands flag and a Sailfish. The other stamps issued in the past featuring the U.S. Virgin Islands include a 1937, 3-cent stamp which shows the harbor at Charlotte Amalie, then the center of activity in the islands.

This was followed by a 94-cent stamp featuring Trunk Bay in 2008. The latest stamps actually were released this summer on August 10 — one of six stamps on a coil.

The local sport fishing industry depicted on a new stamp had its start right here on St. John. The billfish of choice here is the ferocious-fighting Blue Marlin.

The full moons of July and August bring the migrating marlin and sport fishers from all over the world for two of the biggest blue marlin tournaments; the July Open Billfish Tournament and the USVI Open/Atlantic Blue Marlin Tournament otherwise called the 'Super Bowl of Sports Fishing.'

A kid from Kansas, Johnny Harms, who became a Florida sport fishing captain after World War II, is credited with finding one of the best blue marlin fishing grounds in the world. The nautical charts showed him a steep drop off north of St. Thomas of 100 fathoms. He knew that the deep sea currents bring up the favorite fish that big game fish feed on.

Laurance Rockefeller was interested in providing his guests with water sports activities. He called Johnny Harms to a meeting in New York City and offered to finance the purchase of a sport fishing boat to Harms' specifications in order that Harms could explore the sport fishing potential.

Caneel Bay Resort became the site of his charter



USVI Commemorative USPS Stamps

sport fishing business. Rockefeller wanted to not only entertain his guests but also to attract both tourists and local residents. Harms sent pictures and weekly catch reports to Rockefeller. He boated 22 blue marlin, 96 yellowfin tuna, 52 wahoo, 13 white marlin, and 11 sailfish.

Harms anchored his boats in Mangrove Lagoon on St. Thomas. In 1967 he purchased land in Red Hook for his marina. He was the first to bring catch and release to the islands with billfish gear developed at Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

He enlisted his forward-thinking angler buddies to start a tag and release program that is the standard practice today. Harms made 73 years before he passed in 1995. His legacy is the generations of sport fishermen who fish the drop.

DPNR Warns of Storm Water Runoff

St. John Tradewinds

Department of Planning and Natural Resources Commissioner Alicia Barnes announced on Friday, October 19, that as a result of the recent rains throughout the territory, the Division of Environmental Protection anticipated negative environmental impacts caused by storm-water runoff.

DPNR advised the public to refrain from using the waters throughout the territory until these effects subside. DPNR also advised parents to instruct their children to keep away from storm-water-impacted beaches as well as areas with manholes and storm-

water flooding. There may be an elevated health risk to anyone swimming in storm-water-impacted areas as a result of increased concentrations of bacteria.

All persons should also be aware that storm-water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm-water runoff (i.e. ghuts, puddles, and drainage basins). DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters.

For more information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 774-3320 in St. Thomas.



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Trackhoe Flips in Estate Chocolate Hole

On-going construction of a new 24-hour gas station and convenience store on South Shore Road in Estate Chocolate Hole atop Jacob's Ladder has seen it share of delays and incidents. The latest was a trackhoe accident which occurred over the weekend. This photo was snapped on Sunday, October 21, and clearly shows the trackhoe on its side above the towering retaining wall.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Adult Education Classes Begin Oct. 22

Adult Education classes will begin on Monday, October 22, according to St. Thomas/St. John District Principal Dahlia Adams.

Registration for all Adult Education evening programs will run through October 31. There is a \$100 registration fee, which is payable by money order to the Government of the Virgin Islands. For more information, call (340) 774-8399 or (340) 227-5295.

Free After-School Tennis Clinics

Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation Commissioner St. Claire N. Williams last week encouraged the general public to participate in free, after-school tennis clinics available to residents in both districts.

"On St. John, after-school tennis clinics are being conducted at the Cruz Bay tennis courts every Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. for youth ages 8 and up," said Williams. "Plans are also in place to re-activate the after-school tennis program at the Doris E. Hodge Tennis Courts at Sub Base on St. Thomas."

Puerto Rico Symphony and Rising Stars To Perform at Reichhold Center

The joint performance of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra and the Superior Court Rising Stars Youth Steel Orchestra, originally scheduled for October 13, was postponed due to the threat of a tropical storm.

The show has been rescheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday, November 2. Ticket holders who are unable to attend on the rescheduled date can receive a refund by presenting their tickets at the Reichhold Center Box Office.

Details are available by calling the Box Office at (340) 693-1559.

The show will feature more than 100 performers on stage as the two orchestras collaborate on a number of musical selections. Then each will present their individual brand of music.

The Symphony, under the direction of Chilean Maestro Maximiano Valdés, will conclude the evening with Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

Caravan Auto Launches New Repair Service

St. John Tradewinds

Caravan Auto Parts recently opened a new store located directly behind its Estate Pine Peace location where clients can get their cars fixed.

Caravan Automotive Services is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stop by for shocks, struts, alternators, starters, batteries, front end suspensions, transmission flushes, oil changes, brakes, bearings, exhaust, Fuel Induction Services, belts, hoses, radiators, water pumps, power steering pumps and much more.

Caravan Auto also has a huge tire inventory, including Mini Cooper tires. A.S.E. certified Master Technician Barry Nolan and two other technicians



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Caravan Auto Services, above, in Pine Peace, has started a repair service.

will take care of all those car needs.

For more information call the new Caravan Repair Shop 779-4803 or 779-4800.

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New Backpacks for GBS Students



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of USFSC

Using Sport for Social Change founder Dean Doeling, above, distributed backpacks filled with school supplies, to every single student at Guy Benjamin School recently. The project was a collaboration with Global Backpack Initiative.

SJSA Fundraiser Broadway Comes To St. John Set for February 16

This Year's Raffle Is "St. John Goes to London"

St. John Tradewinds

The Third Annual Broadway Comes to St. John — the St. John School of the Arts Fundraiser of an original musical featuring fourth graders from across St. John — is set for Saturday, February 16, 2013.

That date is fast approaching and SJSA wants to make sure the public has a "leg up" on this highly anticipated production! So mark those calendars!

The five Broadway actors — John Tartaglia, Donna Drake, Laura Barnao, Michael Shawn Lewis and Rhonda Miller — are coming back to St. John, giving back and not holding back on this year's original musical, "One World, One Heart."

Angel Tickets for the premiere show will be on sale soon! Only 150 angels will have the thrill of watching the 4th graders perform and entertain at the Westin Resort and Villas grand ballroom at 6 p.m.

Once everyone has dried their "happy" tears, join SJSA right down on the beach at Great Cruz Bay as the Westin Resort caters to those mouth watering-desires.

Then finish the night with dancing to Paradise People and



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

Each year's Broadway Comes to St. John original musical has thrilled audiences, including last year's performance, above.

a fun-filled evening, all for only \$200.

And, if you miss the premiere, don't worry!

There will be a second performance (show only) at 8 p.m. with a suggested donation of \$20. But those donations of any amount are greatly appreciated and help support programs and scholarships at SJSA.

To top it all, this year's raffle is St. John Goes to London!

Buy a \$100 raffle ticket and support quality arts education for St. John children. The lucky winner and one friend will enjoy round-trip airfare to London from any American Airlines city in the

continental U.S., Puerto Rico or the US Virgin Islands; a three-night hotel stay in London; plus a three-night stay hotel in Scotland or Paris; two theatre tickets in London; and one dinner for two.

Additional raffle details will be announced soon, are subject to availability, and must be used within 11 months.

Early bird reservations are being accepted now, with no deposit required. Simply send an email to info@stjohnschoolofthearts.org or a note to SJSA, PO Box 180, St. John, VI 00831.

Be an "Angel!" This event is sure to sell-out as capacity is strictly limited.

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ISLAND GREEN LIVING

by Lovango Cay resident Dan Boyd

Solar Industry Problems

St. John Tradewinds

I realize we all want to bash WAPA for the price of electricity in the Virgin Islands. The fault, however, is not theirs alone.

Much of the blame lies with the governor and the legislators of the Virgin Islands.

There is a great big elephant in the Virgin Islands, and no one is talking about it during this election season — the Virgin Islands government does not pay its electric bills!

WAPA is owed more than \$30 million from the government. If the government paid that money, your electrical bills would be lower!

(At this time the Government of the V.I. is borrowing money to pay its WAPA bills!)

If you or I were to not pay our WAPA bills, we would be disconnected until the account was paid

in full. Not so with the VI Government. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands made it a law that WAPA could not disconnect any government buildings or offices.

Pretty convenient!

Who pays the tab for their non-payment? You and I do.

Even if you live off-grid like I do, you are still affected by the high cost of electricity. Every business in the Virgin Islands passes that cost on to its customers.

Sadly, many businesses have folded and more continue to go under because of their high electric bills. They simply cannot stay competitive in light of the rates they are forced to pay.

Even if the government cannot afford to pay its bills, at least it could start using less power! Turn up the thermostat on the A/C's, turn off lights at night and limit the use of government vehicles.

Make each department director responsible for their division's energy usage.

This next election, we all have a good chance to make a change. Out of the 15 Senators in the Virgin Islands, only three are standing for re-election. That means we can vote in 12 new Senators who should work for the people of the Virgin Islands.

Ask these candidates if they will get the government current on its WAPA bills. Tell them that the people own the Government of the Virgin Islands, that it is we the people who own WAPA.

The future of the Virgin Islands lies in your vote.

Dan Boyd of Island Solar can be reached via telephone at 340-626-9685 or by email at islandso-larvi@gmail.com and is a Virgin Islands Energy Office authorized vendor.

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Egyptian Spotted at Frank Powell Park Pyramid

When the new stone pyramid at Frank Powell Park, at left, starting rising from the ground at least one resident was inspired to don an early Halloween Costume. Cid Hamling is certainly "Walking Like an Egyptian" in this photo.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo

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Music Fills The Marketplace



A crowd enjoyed the musical stylings of Paradise People, Margo Dias and more at The Marketplace Music Festival on Saturday night, October 20.

St. John Tradewinds News
Photo by Yelena Rogers

UVI Launching New Strategic Plan Oct. 22

The University of the Virgin Islands will launch its new strategic plan — Pathways to Greatness — with special events on St. John, St. Croix and St. Thomas on October 22, 23 and 24, respectively.

On St. John, the meeting will be at the UVI St. John Academic Center on the third floor of The Marketplace on Monday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m.

SJSA and Kimberly Boulon Fusing “Caribbeanese” at Three Gallery Receptions

St. John Tradewinds

St. John School of the Arts is collaborating with Kimberly Boulon in celebration of her themed art showing: “CARIBBANESE” - Caribbean-Japanese Fusion in Art.

Boulon is celebrating Caribbean people and motifs with Japanese esthetics and artistic sensibilities. SJSA will explore its own interpretation in movement, costuming, body art and music while Boulon will be showing her new Impressionistic and Contemporary paintings along with a guest ceramic artist.

Each of three Friday night gallery receptions — at Kimberly Boulon’s Fine Art Gallery on the second floor of The Marketplace — will have subthemes.

December 7 will feature The People along with guest ceramist Helen Dunkerley. The Land will take center stage on February 8 with guest ceramist Jerilee Roberts. And on March 8, The Sea will be featured with guest ceramist

Kaye Thomas.

Each reception will begin at 5 p.m. At each reception, there will be one oil painting and one ceramic piece raffled and SJSA will be the beneficiary from the raffle proceeds!

The receptions will also feature special performances by SJSA students until the raffle drawing around 7:45 p.m. with the reception closing at 8 p.m.

Each reception will be a wonderful night of artistry and the public is invited to join in this celebration!

Purchase raffle tickets for \$10 each or six tickets for \$50. It’s a chance to win one of Boulon’s beautiful paintings and a ceramic piece from a guest artist.

Tickets are available at SJSA (Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.) or Kimberly Boulon’s Fine Art Gallery Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Call 779-4322 or 690-3332 for more information.

Benton To Speak at Next UU Meeting

St. John Tradewinds

The Unitarian Universalists of St. John meet every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the Great Room at Giff Hill School Lower Campus.

The guest speaker for Sunday, October 28, is Phyllis Benton, who will speak on “From Hummingbirds to Pelicans — helping injured and orphaned birds here on St. John.”

Benton believes in giving wild birds a second chance and she is trying to encourage others to get involved.

Benton grew up in Connecticut in a tradition of being kind to animals, moved to St. John in 2003 and soon found herself caring for a temporarily blind feral chicken, then an orphaned nestling scaly-naped pigeon.

She is a federally-permitted migratory bird rehabilitator who has worked with many native bird species including doves, hummingbirds, water birds and raptors. That is only the beginning of her story.

Childcare is available. For transportation from the Cruz Bay ferry dock call 776-6332 in advance.



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**Wednesdays
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**Thursdays
Tap
3:30 - 4:15 (ages 7 - 12)
Ballet
4:15 - 5:00 (ages 5 - 7)**

**Fridays
Theater
4:30 - 5:30 (from age 7)**



The spacious units at Palm Terrace Condos include balconies and a shared pool and sun deck.



On *the* Market

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

Live the Dream at Palm Terrace Condos

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Two exceptional condominium units are available for purchase in the beautiful and quaint Palm Terrace Condos.

There is no sharing a wall in this complex, or a dark bathroom or bedroom with nary a window in sight. Palm Terrace Condos consists of a total of six units spread over two, three-story buildings, explained Islandia Real Estate broker/owner Merry Nash.

“Each unit takes up the entire floor of its building so there are windows on all four sides,” said Nash about both condo opportunities.

Tucked away in a quiet area of Estate Contant and Enighed, the condo building is conveniently located just a short walking distance to town, yet far enough away to feel secluded.

The idyllic and off-the-beaten-path shoreline of Frank Bay beach and the nearby bird viewing pond are also a short stroll away.

“Palm Terrace Condos are located in a quiet residential area of Cruz Bay, yet still it’s easy to walk to town or Frank Bay beach,” said Nash.

The condos are spacious and offer plenty of outdoor space as well, Nash added.

“Palm Terrace Condos are some of the most spacious condos to be found on St. John,” she said. “They were just completed in 2005 and all have beautiful

views and generous balconies.”

As an added bonus, condo owners can enjoy a common sun deck and even cool off in a shared pool, Nash explained.

The first unit in Palm Terrace Condos available for purchase is Unit #3, a 1,300 square-foot space. There are two bedrooms and two full bathrooms in Unit #3, which was recently reduced in price from \$599,000 to \$525,000.

The second unit available in Palm Terrace Condos is Unit #6, a spacious four-bedroom and three full bathroom space with more than 1,700 square-feet of living area. Unit #6 is priced at \$849,000, explained Nash.

“I believe Unit #6 is the only four bedroom condo on St. John,” said the Islandia Real Estate broker/owner.

Both units boast large, open kitchens with beautiful granite countertops and chic stainless steel appliances. Also find large closets, private washer and dryers and ample storage in both Palm Terrace Condo units as well, Nash added.

“These units have it all,” she said.

Both condo units are also popular short-term rentals with many repeat guests.

For more information on Unit #3 and Unit #6 at Palm Terrace Condos, call Nash at Islandia Real Estate at 776-6666, or on her cell phone at (340) 642-

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DON'T MISS IT!

WTJX Channel 12, in partnership with the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce, presents a live debate for the office of Delegate to Congress on Wednesday, October 24, 2012 from 8:00pm - 10:00pm.

Appearing on the debate will be:
the current Delegate,
Donna Christensen (Democrat)
and the challengers:
Holland Redfield (Republican)
Warren Mosler (Independent),
Norma Pickard Samuel (Independent)
and, Guillaume Mimoun (Independent).

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send your letter to editor@tradewinds.vi

**NEXT DEADLINE:
THURSDAY, OCT. 25th**

Keeping Track of Crime

2011	2012-TO-DATE
Homicides: 0	Homicides: 1
Shootings: 0	Shootings: 1
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: 3
3rd Degree Burglaries: 51	3rd Degree Burglaries: 37
Grand Larcenies: 58	Grand Larcenies: 59
Rapes: 1	Rapes: 1

Letters To St. John Tradewinds

Please Use ACC Emergency Number If Needed

A thoughtlessly cruel handling of young cats occurred this past weekend.

Three little kittens, only a few months old, had been separated from their mother cat, collected, and deposited at the Giff Hill dumpster. One of the three was ill and lying in the rain by the dumpster. A caring resident, Denise Wright, saw the kittens and called the Animal Care Center.

ACC board member Monica Munro found the sick kitten and took him to the veterinarian. The side of his head was severely injured and he was suffering greatly. Canines, Cats, and Critters made the medical decision to euthanize him because of the extent of his suffering.

Monica and Lucy Portlock have been trying to catch the other two kitties before they, also, become too ill to survive without adequate food, water, and needed medical attention.

There is absolutely no need to “dump” little kittens at the island’s dumpsters if you don’t want to keep them at home or at your property.

Even if it’s a Sunday or after work hours and you believe the Animal Care Center shelter is closed, please call (340-774-1625) and there will be an automatic message giving you an emergency cell phone number to call for help.

You will get through to Kate Webster, the Shelter Manager, and she will arrange to have the kittens picked up and brought to the shelter. Residents and visitors can report abuse and neglect with total confidentiality.

St. John takes pride in being “Love City.” All the real estate and travel agents advertise it as “Paradise.” The truth is that it is not “Paradise” for many of our companion animals.

Heartless residents who can’t be bothered to feed the hungry creatures in their neighborhood or even bring their cat and dog babies to the shelter for care and feeding, cannot place blame upon the shelter for being unavailable.

Although the shelter currently houses over forty cats and kittens, the manager and her staff do not turn away needy ones. St. John residents, you can do better than whoever placed three very young brother-and-sister kittens at a dumpster, especially during an expected tropical storm.

Shelter activity indicates that numbers are rising of homeless adult and young cats on St. John. St. John residents can help prevent cruelty such as practiced on X and X and X (yes, they deserve to live, have names, and be given medical help), by reducing the number of new-born kitties through the ACC’s trap, spay and neuter program.

ACC needs more volunteers to assist with its trap, spay/neuter, return program on both the Cruz Bay side of the island as well as on the Coral Bay side. Prospective volunteers can contact Shelter Manager Kate Webster, PetSmart Coordinator Lucy Banks, or ACC officer Monica Munro.

ACC is fortunate to have a large group of volunteer dog walkers; now it needs an increased number of responsible trappers to help control the growing population of hungry, homeless, and often sick cats and dogs.

For help, please call the shelter at 774-1625 any time, or contact Monica at monica@cateredto.com or Lucy Banks at 693-7448. It’s time to practice the much-publicized “love” in “Love City” for our animals as well as for our human neighbors.

Elaine Campbell

Crossword Answers — Puzzle on Page 20

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Domestic Violence Awareness Event Relocates to Church

The Virgin Island Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Council and Family Resource Center, Inc. would like to apologize to the St. John community for the confusion surrounding the location of the Domestic Violence Awareness month gathering on October 18.

Due to the construction and improvement activities for the BVI/USVI Friendship Day going on in the Frank Powell Park, we were unable to use the park and the location for the gathering had to be changed to the Lutheran Church’s yard on the day of the event.

Many thanks to Pastor Sampson of the Nazareth Lutheran Church for graciously allowing us to use the church yard and helping to set up for the occasion.

The agencies were not able at this late time to get the information regarding the change of location out to the St. John community and for this we apologize.

We would like to thank those who found the location for attending.

**Annette Small
FRC Social Worker, STJ**

There's a New Athlete on Island

I have been taking the North Shore Road home from Cruz Bay lately because it’s much more peaceful and makes my life here on St. John enjoyable.

As I was coming to the end of the Big Maho Bay flatlands last week around 4:30 p.m., I saw a new athlete running on the left side of the road in the same direction I was driving. I had never seen her before.

Was it a tourist? She seemed to be between 22- and 24-years-old and her hair was pulled back in a single braid. She was in excellent shape, trim and fit.

Her most outstanding quality was her running style. Her cadence and timing were perfect: smooth, broad strides and fast. Her shoulders and upper body were in rhythm with the rest of her body.

As I passed her, I was initially not going to give her a second look, but I couldn’t resist as I glanced into the side-view mirror. I was so glad I did because I would have snubbed a friend of over 20 years and was able to give Jodi Tanino a sincere and friendly wave.

Name withheld upon request

Letters To St. John Tradewinds

It's Time to Hold Senators Accountable with District Voting

The U.S. is having a serious problem with the amount of money that the 1 percent is giving their candidate to get elected. There is no question that buying politicians is the result.

In the Virgin Islands we are trying to understand and learn what Democracy is. The Senate President went to court and spent our money to hide information on which Senators stole our money. Is he is running for re-election? I do have to say, we have come a long way. Do you remember former Senator Bryan and what he did while in office?

We need to have a method of electing our representatives which is better than this one. There are 36 people running for the seven positions for St. Thomas, St. John Senate. There are 30 people running for the seven positions for St. Croix

I can understand that the incumbents would rather concentrate on fish fries. What I can't understand is why the other candidates all avoid the issue of the missing \$6.9 million. Crime, education and the economy is what they are all campaigning on. As if they knew anything about any of that stuff.

The community has been doing getting better in a lot of areas in the last few years without their help. I think that we could do a lot better job if we had their help. The trouble is, with this system senators don't even try to learn anything about that stuff. They just live the good life for a few years.

It would not take much to change it. These guys are not really bad guys, neither is Rodney Miller, who actually did a very good job upgrading the health care at Schneider Hospital. Willis Todd did a good job as well but he also could not prevent himself from taking the opportunity to get over-paid when it was presented to him. They contributed a lot to the community, but they did was they were unable to resist the temptation.

Until we start to hold people in government accountable, that is the way it will be. We are making great strides in holding people in government accountable, except for the Senate. There is only one candidate who is campaigning on reducing the pay and benefits to Senators that I know of, it is Andreas Tietje.

As far as I know, there is no one campaigning on opening up the records so we can see where the money went and who took it, or even developing ways to prevent it from happening again.

We have 65 people running for 14 senate seats. The way we have to vote for them is to look at the list and check off seven of them. Is there anyone on St.

Thomas who even knows what issues seven of these candidates are campaigning on? How many of us even know all the candidates well enough to make a decision?

Friends, think about a voting district as a village.

I know Red Hook would fight for districting. Would Anna's Retreat? Peterborg? Wintberg? Bordeaux? Would those communities like to have a representative to the Senate? I think that they would.

These guys don't mean to become bad Senators when they get elected, but they are not running for office to help the community. They do it for the lifestyle and the benefits. If that were not the case, why would they have given themselves such big raises at the same time that they are cutting the pay of the rest of the government work force by 8 percent?

We have a Majority Party, a Minority and some guys that could not fit in. The Party participants are decided by themselves after the election. What is the common goal? They decide.

I expect that membership is achieved by those willing to cater to groups like the taxi drivers, people in public housing, fishermen and EDC companies. It certainly is not crime, or education or the economy that they are picking sides on.

I got Senator Berry to write a letter to DPW requesting a sidewalk in Red Hook, so the kids did not to walk to school in the road. Every morning until the sidewalk was completed, the kids were part of the morning traffic when everyone was going to work or school or to St. John. About seven years after she wrote the letter, they started building a sidewalk.

What if Senator Berry had represented the Red Hook area? I doubt that it would have taken seven years to start build a sidewalk to the high school.

Think about voting districts as villages which each have a representative to the government, who will work to make things better for us. At least with voting districts we can get to know who we are voting for and what they intend to do. If we make a mistake and vote someone in who steals from us, we can vote them out the next time.

Don't forget that in this free-for-all system each candidate that you vote for after your first vote, is a vote against the candidate that you voted for first.

This is the reason incumbents keep getting re-elected — because more people recognize their names on the ballot than they do the name of any other candidate.

Vote Wisely.

Greg Miller

DID YOU KNOW...

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Coral Bay Community Council
Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park
Giffit Hill School
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Kids in the Sea (KATS)
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St. John Audubon Society
St. John Christian Academy
St. John Community Foundation
St. John Film Society
St. John Historical Society
St. John Montessori School
St. John Recycling Association
St. John Relay for Life
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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

USVI Hosts BVI Delegation for Fifth Inter Virgin Islands Council Meeting

On Tuesday, October 16, Governor John deJongh hosted the fifth meeting of the Inter Virgin Islands Council, bringing together government leaders from the U.S. and British Virgin Islands to work together to solve mutual concerns and advance common interests.

The Council was formed through a joint memorandum in 2004, and today's assembly marked the first time the Virgin Islands has hosted the meeting since deJongh took office.

The governor began his remarks by welcoming BVI Premier Dr. Orlando Smith, his fellow co-chair of the council, and the entire BVI delegation. The governor said he shares with Dr. Smith "a common vision for cooperation and mutual progress, and a belief in the same approach to realizing a vision for the benefit of our territories' peoples."

"We must continue to engage each other in this way, because our islands are inextricably connected by their geographic proximity, the close ties of their citizens and a binding historical legacy," deJongh said.

During a day of meetings, updates and presentations, counterparts from multiple agencies in the U.S. and British Virgin Islands governments discussed topics ranging from the development of clean energy resources, cultural preservation, educational and higher learning opportunities for young people, commercial fishing and marine regulations, combatting crime and gangs, and the development of common tourism interests.

VIPD Commissioner Henry White, Department of Planning and Natural Resources Commissioner Alicia Barnes, Department of Tourism Assistant Commissioner Monique Sibilly Hodge, Water and Power Authority Director Hugo Hodge, University of the Virgin Islands President Dr. David Hall, and Territorial Archivist Susan Lugo from the Division of Libraries all made presentations.

They discussed cooperative efforts in the areas of law enforcement, pleasure boating and fishing, tourism, energy, higher education, and archives and record management.

British Virgin Islands officials also briefed the USVI representatives on the completion of the new Pockwood Pond Incinerator Plant, a project mitigating air pollution that affects St. John.

Governor deJongh thanked his British counterparts for advancing their project and keeping his administration informed on its progress throughout construction.

"Among our shared resources is the very air we breathe, and political borders cannot contain environmental problems," deJongh said. "We have a responsibility to honor each other's environmental integrity, and I am confident in our progress on this issue."

After the opening ceremony at which the two heads of territory gave remarks, the first order of business was to adopt the official report from the 4th Inter Virgin Islands Council hosted in May of last year.

The meeting took place just days before BVI and USVI citizens celebrated the relationship between



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Jaime Elliott

Governor de Jongh and Premier Smith look on as their respective heads of police sign a Memorandum of Understanding on DNA analysis during the 5th Inter Virgin Islands Council meeting on Tuesday on St. Thomas. (From left to right: Governor de Jongh, USVI Commissioner of Police Henry White, Jr., BVI Ag. Commissioner of Police, Royal Virgin Islands Police Force David Morris, and BVI Premier Dr. Orlando Smith).

the two territories on St. John at the 39th USVI/BVI Friendship Celebration on Saturday, October 20.

"The diverse topics that will be addressed today are vital to the economic, social and cultural health of the U.S. Virgin Islands," deJongh said. "We are eager to hear the plans of our British counterparts, and their insights into our own efforts."

The Governor praised the Council for the positive developments it has contributed to both territories since its inception. He shared his belief that the "special relationship" between the United Kingdom and the United States first described by Winston Churchill in 1944 is nowhere in the world more special than it is in the Caribbean, where the two great nations have only a slight geographic and cultural divide.

At the conclusion of the meeting, deJongh and Smith sat down with the two heads of their respective police departments to sign a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the analysis of DNA evidence.

The BVI delegation to the Council consisted of Tourist Board Chairman Russell Harrigan; International Affairs Secretariat Director Sylvia Moses; Ag. Commissioner of Police David Morris; Natural Resources and Labour Permanent Secretary Ronald Berkeley; BVI Ports Authority Chairman Claude Skelton Cline; Health and Social Development Deputy PS Carolyn Stoutt-Igwe; BVI Ports Authority Managing Director Gener Creque; Ag. Chief Records Management Officer Christopher Varlack; Ag. Chief Conservation and Fisheries Officer Manager Kelvin Penn; Ansem Meyers from the Solid Waste Department; Assistant Secretary for External Affairs Najan Christopher; Sergeant and Commissioner Staff Officer Peterson Jno-Lewis; Office of the Premier Private Secretary Desary Cameron-McDowell; Information Officer April Glasgow; and BVI Energy Corporation General Manager Leroy Abraham.

Passport Offices To Open on Saturday, October 27

St. John Tradewinds

The Passport Offices of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor will open on Saturday, October 27, in order to accommodate residents who are unable to visit the offices during regular working hours.

Both the St. Thomas office, located in Nisky Center, and the Christiansted office, located at Government House on St. Croix, will be open from 9 a.m. to noon.

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to apply for or renew their passports in preparation for holiday travel.

In addition to the completed passport application, persons planning to apply for or renew their traditional passports or passport cards are also required to provide proof of citizenship and identity, two 2x2 photos and associated fees.

Additional requirements apply for minor children. Copies of the passport application are available at the Office of the Lieutenant Governor or online at www.ltg.gov.vi.

For more information contact the Passport Offices at 773-6449 for the Christiansted, St. Croix office or 774-4024 for the St. Thomas office.



Saving "BioGems"

Dear EarthTalk:

I heard of an effort to save what are being called "BioGems." What are BioGems and what is being done about them?

**Larry Dibner
Tallahassee, FL**

"BioGems," a term created by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), describe the most endangered natural treasures around the Americas.

NRDC selects special places in the hemisphere that face an imminent threat of destruction, from pristine coastlines that could become industrial ports to ancient forests that could be stripped of trees to unspoiled wildlife habitats that could be sacrificed to oil and gas drilling.

"Our imperiled BioGems are irreplaceable remnants of wilderness that curb global warming, preserve biodiversity and provide sanctuary for rare and extraordinary wildlife, from threatened polar bears to endangered gray whales," reported NRDC.

NRDC launched its BioGems Initiative back in 2001 as a way to harness the power of online citizen activism to help save threatened lands. The group mobilizes its 1.3 million members and online activists "to bring overwhelming pressure to bear on governments and companies bent on industrializing the world's last wild places."

Never afraid of a little attention, NRDC has enlisted the help of several celebrity partners in championing the cause of saving the BioGems.

Robert Redford is spearheading NRDC's campaign to keep the Polar Bear Seas safe from oil drilling, while Pierce Brosnan is leading the charge to try to bring an end to the commercial slaughter of whales.

The group has also brought the star power of

Leonardo Di Caprio, Paul McCartney, Alec Baldwin, Seth Myers, Jason Mraz and others to bear for the sake of saving BioGems.

"Together, BioGems Defenders and our local partners on the ground have scored dozens of historic victories for the environment, proving that individuals can be a powerful force for conservation," reported NRDC.

Some of the campaign's recent successes include: helping to persuade Iceland to call off its fin whale hunt for the second year in a row; protecting the last 340 beluga whales of Alaska's Cook Inlet through filing a lawsuit; helping secure a breakthrough agreement for wild buffalo that allows them to roam outside Yellowstone National Park during the harsh winter months; and winning in court over trophy hunters keen on stripping the polar bear from its endangered status.

Currently NRDC is focusing on a half dozen primary BioGems campaigns: keeping Shell out of the American Arctic (unfortunately the company's drills just went in); stopping Big Oil's attack on whales in Alaska's Cook Inlet and up and down the Atlantic seaboard; stopping the pipeline from Alberta's tar sands to Texas refineries (Obama has kyboshed the pipeline for now); stopping the Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska; and saving British Columbia's Spirit Bear coast.

Individuals can get involved by customizing and sending pre-written e-mail messages to decision makers who are key to the particular locales in need of protection.

NRDC will also gladly take donations of any size toward the BioGem campaign of the giver's choosing. Of course, telling friends, neighbors, co-workers and family members about the potential despoliation of natural treasures is also a big help.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Disabilities and Rehabilitation Services

BUSINESS After HOURS

Hosted by
St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, October 25, 2012
5:30 – 7:30 pm
Windward Passage Hotel

Complimentary Hor d'oeuvres & Cash Bar

For more information call Dept. of Human Services at 340-774-0930 ext. 4104

CO-SPONSORS: VI Department of Labor, V.I. State Rehabilitation Council, V.I. State Independent Living Council

SEND LETTERS, GUEST OPINIONS & OBITUARIES:
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Sunday, November 4th ~ Tickets \$60
Bring pre-purchased tickets and your generous spirit.

Pick up
National Park Dock St. John 4:15 pm,
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**Please arrive 15 minutes prior to departure.*

Drop off:
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National Park Dock St. John 7:15pm

Please bring Cash to tip the Kekoa Crew since gratuity is not included.

Tickets available @

- Kekoa office: 340-244-7245, sailkekoa@gmail.com
- *Cash, Visa or Mastercard
- The Tap Room and/or Connections in Cruz Bay
- *Cash only
- For tickets on St. Thomas, call (340) 513-9361

Where does your donation go?

DCVI is a non-profit organization that brings the Dancing Classrooms program to children of the USVI. This arts in education social development program has proven to enrich the overall school experience and make a LASTING impact on our community!

This program teaches our future generation how to be ladies and gentlemen and to have fun doing it!



FYI: Halloween Is Next Wednesday, October 31st

St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

Accommodations

Caribbean Villas & Resorts
tel. 1-800-338-0987
or locally 340-776-6152

Island Getaways
888-693-7676,
islandgetawaysinc.com
kathy@islandgetawaysinc.com

Suite St. John Villas/Condos
tel. 1-800-348-8444
or locally at 340-779-4486

VIVA Vacations
tel. 779-4250
P.O. Box 1747, STJ, VI 00831

A/C & Refrigeration

Dr. Cool | St. John 693-9071
A/C Refrigeration and Appliances
Mitsubishi A/C Diamond Dealer
Sub-Zero, Wolf, Bosch, Viking

Architecture

Crane, Robert - Architect, AIA
tel. 776-6356
P.O. Box 370, STJ, VI 00831

Banking

Firstbank
Located in downtown Cruz Bay
340-776-6881

Scotiabank
#1 Mortgage Lender in the VI
The Marketplace (340) 776-6552

Insurance

PGU Insurance
Located at The Marketplace
776-6403; pgunow@gmail.com

Theodore Tunick & Company
Phone 775-7001 / Fax 775-7002
www.theodoretunick.com

Jewelry

R&I PATTON goldsmithing
Located in Mongoose Junction
776-6548 or (800) 626-3445
Chat@pattongold.com

Landscaping

Alfredo's Landscaping
tel. 774-1655 cell 513-2971
P.O. Box 91, St. John, VI 00831

Coral Bay Garden Center
tel. 693-5579 fax 714-5628
P.O. Box 1228, STJ, VI 00831

PROPERTYKING
tel. 643-6348
Landscaping & Irrigation

Real Estate

Debbie Hayes, GRI
tel. 714-5808 or 340-642-5995
debbiehayes@debbiehayes.com
www.stjohnvirealestate.com

Holiday Homes of St. John
tel. 776-6776 fax 693-8665
P.O. Box 40, STJ, VI 00831
info@holidayhomesVI.com

Islandia Real Estate
tel. 776-6666 fax 693-8499
P.O. Box 56, STJ, VI 00831
info@islandiarealestate.com

Restaurants

Concordia Cafe, 693-5855
Happy Hour 4:30-6pm
Dinner 6-8:30pm Tues-Sat

**Fish Trap Restaurant
and Seafood Market**
tel. 693-9994, Closed Mondays

La Tapa Restaurant
tel. 693-7755
Open 7 Days a Week

Skinny Legs
"A Pretty OK Place"
tel. 340-779-4982
www.skinnylegs.com

Sun Dog Cafe
Casual Dining at Mongoose
693-8340; www.sundogcafe.com

Services

C4th Custom Embroidery
tel. 779-4047
Located in Coral Bay

Island Solar
"Off the Grid Living for 10 Years"
tel. 340-642-0531

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www.seaviewhomes.com

Wedding Services

Weddings by Katilday
www.stjohnweddingplanner.com
www.katilday.com
340-693-8500 - Consulting, Travel
Coordination, Accommodations

More Hours Added To Pick up Deals at ReSource Depot



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

The Island Green Building Association recently expanded the hours of its popular ReSource Depot on Giffit Hill Road. Volunteers, like Dan Carlsen, above at left, and Doug White, right, will be on hand each Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and on Monday from 7 a.m. to noon as well.

Kids of All Ages Get Active at Annual Just Play Day

Continued from Page 5

and spend the entire day with the kids and that really meant a lot to me and them."

The basketball coach also shared an important message with the kids at Just Play Day, Doeling added.

"His message was how instrumental sports are to a happy, healthy life," said the USFSC founder. "He talked about coaches, such as himself, who are not only coaches in the game of basketball or any sport, but are there to help shape you and help you do better things in life. His job doesn't stop in basketball.

"Some of his athletes have family issues or financial issues, and he told the kids how he is there for his athletes their coaches are there for them for their whole lives," said Doeling.

After a busy morning on the field, all kids and volunteers enjoyed a healthy and delectable lunch courtesy of Mathayom/St. John Catering, Doeling added.

"Mathayom was fantastic; he always does an amazing job," Doeling said. "This was the first year that I got to stop and take a break and have lunch. And it was great."

"It's a lot of logistics and he's just great at it," said the USFSC founder. "And he's on board for next year again."

While Doeling works as a senior production artist at Nike, the sports company does not fund his initiative. Doeling uses his vacation time to travel to St.

John for USFSC events and spends his own money on those travel expenses.

"This is not a paid thing through Nike or anything like that," said Doeling. "This is just my love and my dream to see this come through to fruition."

But just seeing all those kids using good sports equipment and having fun in a positive environment makes it all worth it, Doeling explained.

"I just love it," he said. "It's so nice to be able to give back to the community and the island that I love so much. This is something that is really near and dear to my heart."

"This is not about anything other than just trying to give back," Doeling said.

USFSC is under the fiscal umbrella of the St. John Community Foundation. All funds raised by USFSC remain on St. John, either going to fund the Just Play Day event, or for a different type of sports donation to local youth, Doeling explained.

"All the money we raise staying right on St. John," he said.

Donations for the organization can be made through SJCF, just write "USFSC" in the memo line. Donations can also be made through the Global Giving initiative at <http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/using-sport-for-social-change/wall>.

For more information about the group, check out www.usingsportforsocialchange.com.

DeJongh Proclaims Cyber Security Awareness Month

St. John Tradewinds

Governor John deJongh has signed a proclamation designating this month as "Cyber Security Awareness Month" in the Virgin Islands to increase awareness among Virgin Islanders about online threats to their privacy and financial security.

Technology plays a vital role in daily lives as well as in the future of the territory. Many Virgin Islands residents, government agencies, schools, libraries, businesses and other organizations use the Internet for a variety of tasks, including keeping in contact with family and friends, managing business affairs, managing business and personal finances, performing research, and enhancing access to education.

Critical sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems in order to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems.

"The use of the Internet at our territory's primary and secondary schools enhances the education of our youth by providing them access to online educational and research materials," said deJongh. "At institutions of higher education, the use of information technology is integral to teaching and learning research, and outreach and service."

Internet users and the information infrastructure, however, now face an increasing threat of malicious cyber-attacks, loss of privacy from spyware and adware and significant financial and personal privacy losses due to identify theft and fraud.

The "Stop. Think. Connect." Campaign is a national effort coordinated by a coalition of private companies, non-profits and government organizations to help all digital individuals stay safer and more secure online. The Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center provides a collaborative mechanism to help state, local, territorial and tribal governments enhance cyber security.

"These national efforts compliment our own work through the Virgin Islands Bureau of Information Technology to provide a comprehensive approach to help enhance the security of the technology operations of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands," deJongh said.

Maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of the United States Virgin Islands information infrastructure and economy.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (www.dhs.gov/cyber), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (www.msaisac.org), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (www.nascio.org), and the National Cyber Security Alliance (www.staysafeonline.org) have declared October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

DeJongh encouraged all Virgin Islanders to visit these sites, along with the Virgin Islands Bureau of Information and Technology (<http://www.vi.gov/bit/>) and Stop. Think. Connect (www.stopthinkconnect.org) to learn about cyber security in order to implement security practices in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

"Through these websites we can learn about and recognize the importance of online cyber security and incorporate such knowledge into our personal and professional lives," the governor said.



Police Log

EMERGENCY NUMBERS!

EMERGENCY LAND LINE: 911 EMERGENCY CELLULAR: 340-776-9110

Friday, October 12

10:48 a.m. - A citizen c/r hearing a shot fired in the area of Giffit Hill School. Illegal discharge of firearm.

Saturday, October 13

8:40 a.m. - A visitor from PA p/r that his rental vehicle was broken into. Grand larceny.

Sunday, October 14

2:23 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident c/r that someone vandalized her apartment. Landlord/tenant dispute.

Monday, October 15

11:00 a.m. - An Estate Adrian resident p/r that her minor daughter ran away. Run away minor.

1:38 p.m. - An Estate Adrian resident p/r that his residence was burglarized. Burglary in the third.

Tuesday, October 16

10:36 a.m. - An Estate Adrian resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace.

11:21 a.m. - An Estate Carolina resident r/ a suicidal male. Attempted suicide.

2:01 p.m. - An Estate Pine Peace resident r/ a disturbance of the peace, domestic violence. Disturbance of peace, D.V.

10:58 p.m. - A citizen c/r a fight in the area of Windy Level Restaurant. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

11:29 p.m. - Badge #1161 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Sylvia Pearson of Estate Adrian under arrest and charged with Destruction of Property, Domestic Violence. No bail was set by order of the court.

Wednesday, October 17

3:37 p.m. - Badge #1242 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Angel Bolques of Estate Chocolate Hole under arrest and charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm. Bail was set at \$25,000 by order of the

court. Unable to post bail, he was detained at Leander Jurgen Command and later transported to the Bureau of Corrections on St. Thomas to be remanded.

3:38 p.m. - Badge #1242 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Jose Bolques under arrest and charged with cultivation.

4:25 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r that her husband came to her residence and argued with her. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

10:46 p.m. - An Estate Freeman's Ground resident r/ a missing canvas bag.

Thursday, October 18

3:52 p.m. - A visitor from North Carolina c/r that a diamond ring was stolen from his rental vehicle. Grand larceny.

Friday, October 19

3:10 a.m. - An Estate Upper Carolina resident r/ someone trying to break into his home. Suspicious activity.

Crime Stoppers — U.S. Virgin Islands

St. John Tradewinds

The cost of crime is always paid by the law abiding citizens of the community through higher prices and higher taxes. Reducing that cost puts money back in our pockets. If anyone knows something, they should say something as law enforcement cannot control crime without help.

St. John

On Sunday, September 30, at 10:30 a.m., a woman returned to her home at Estate Zootenvaal and discovered it had been burglarized. Items stolen include a black and red pocket book that contained \$1,680 in cash, plus her passport, social security card, driver's license and some prepaid ferry tickets.

St. Thomas

On Wednesday, September 12, at 10:15 p.m. at Magens Point Resort, three masked men broke a glass window and entered the lobby area of the resort. The armed robbers pointed black handguns at two women, ordered them not to move, and then robbed the resort of \$443 and the women of an iPhone in a black case and a purple bag that included \$100 cash, a driver license and a social security card.

St. Croix

In the past month there have been three armed robberies of restaurants: Subway near Sunshine Mall on September 15 at about 9:20 a.m.; the Golden Rock McDonalds on September 17 at about 5:40 a.m.; and Pizza Hut in La Reine Shopping Center on October 3 at 11:45 a.m. Help police find these robbers by telling us what you may know.

Tell us what you know so law enforcement can identify and arrest these criminals. Submit information on these or any other crimes at www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or by texting "USVI" plus the message to CRIMES (274637).

Tips are completely anonymous, and the state-side operators speak several languages. If a tip leads to an arrest or the recovery of stolen property, illegal drugs, or weapons, tipsters will receive a reward to be paid according to their instructions.

The minimum cash reward for the arrest of an armed robber is \$900. For the arrest of a burglar it is \$714. In both cases the reward is increased by 10 percent of the retail value of property recovered. The maximum reward is capped at \$2,500.

Classifieds

Employment

Expanding Watersports Company is accepting applications for:



RETAIL SALES BEACH ATTENDANTS

MUST BE: reliable and professional, detail-oriented with excellent interpersonal skills, clean cut and able to swim.

For more information call 776-6857

WATERSPORTS RENTAL/STORE MANAGER NEEDED:
Athletic, beach/nature loving, cheerful person full-time, \$12.50/hr +tips +insurance, qualified and experienced only.
Call 340-690-2540

JOBS WANTED
Journeyman Electrician
no job to big or small. Excellent pricing and available references.
Call 340 201-4625

Wanted

Wanted - Gently used plywood/2x4's for concrete framing and leftover rebar.
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Professional 20-year resident couple seeking 3 or 4 bedroom home to rent long term. Must be clean, quiet and well maintained.
Contact 340-643-5965

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 - Two bedrooms, one bath, in Cruz Bay \$1650
 - Two bedrooms, two bath on Gift Hill \$1600
 - Three bedroom, two bath, w/d \$1800
 - Two bedroom, two bath, pool \$2000
 - Two bedroom, loft, one bath, IN TOWN \$2000
 - Two bedroom, one bath, furnished, A/C, w/d in Cruz bay \$2000

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"Amorita" is a beautiful, all masonry home in upscale Chocolate Hole North with large pool deck, spa & southeast exposure to catch the tradewind breezes. Water views of Hart Bay and the South Shore and a short walk to the Westin Resort. Features include mahogany trim, hand painted bathroom sinks, stone arches and vaulted cypress ceilings, screened gallery, fruit trees, and deeded beach access. **\$839,000.**



"The Point at Privateer" - The eastern most point of St. John in the U.S.V.I. is the location of St. John's newest upscale subdivision with minimum lot sizes of 1 acre, paved roads & underground utilities. All lots have great breezes & unlimited views to the British Virgins from Tortola to Virgin Gorda to Norman Islands and many are waterfront. This is a sub-division for the more discerning buyer. Prices range from **\$575,000 to \$9.15M**



"Surfside" - This is a rare chance to own a home in the exclusive Reef Bay enclave. Surfside is a beautifully appointed Mediterranean style three bedroom, three bath villa situated on the edge of undeveloped park land with fabulous ocean views and breezes. Stroll via pathway to secluded white sand beach from this oversized lot. Very successful rental home with plans for another 2x2 villa with separate entrance. Price reduced to **\$1,495,000**



"St. John Livin" - Enjoy the fabulous views and the St. John lifestyle in this furnished villa built in 2006. Big views of Coral Harbor, BVI, and the Caribbean Sea, a paved driveway with easy access, underground utilities, photovoltaic solar system, bamboo floors, over 700ft. of trex decking, and room for a garden. Successful short term rental! Buyer to honor current reservations and some owner financing possible. This picture perfect home is your next right choice. **\$649,000**



"Bo Attabey" - a new solid masonry pool home in a quiet and private location on Seagrape Hill. The spacious, open style floor plan features a central great room, kitchen and dining area flanked by a master suite on each side for guest privacy. A roughed-in 784 square foot space below is for a proposed one bedroom apt. for expansion. The grounds are beautifully landscaped with stone walls and lush gardens surrounding the sunny pool & entertainment deck. **\$1.175M**



"Splendore" - Sculptured high on a magnificent bluff overlooking the Caribbean Sea the architectural design of this elegant residence combines Antillean style with European charm. Completely screened & connected by breezeways, 2 private bedroom suites sit on either side of a large great room that opens onto expansive porches with pool & a spa. A 2nd story loft office doubles as a 3rd bedroom. Located in the well established neighborhood of Great Cruz Bay. **\$1.695**



"Milkmoon Cottage" - Breathtaking views, privacy, tranquility and Cooling Breezes make this charming 2 bedroom home in Privateer Bay Estates very special. Large masonry pool, native stone work, tasteful furnishings and tropical landscaping. Excellent vacation rental potential. Paved roads and underground utilities. Views to the British Virgins from Tortola to Virgin Gorda and Norman Island. Ownership includes access to 2 deeded beach parcels and use of the Newfound Cottages. Recently renovated. **\$995,000**

"Cruz Views Condos" - feature beautiful water views to St. Thomas, gorgeous sunsets, lush landscaping and walking distance to town. 2 units located near pool & sundeck are air-conditioned corner units for privacy. Popular short term rentals. New flat screen TVs & Internet access. Cruz Views has undergone many improvements including new stairs, decks, parking and landscaping. **\$475,000 and \$549,000**

DEVELOPMENT/COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES: Hansen Bay 7A is an 18 acre parcel with studies done and a 15 lot sub division permit. All lots have water views and breezes and 4 lots are on the flat top of a ridge with almost 360 degree views. Reduced from **\$3.18M to \$2.8M**; Estate Zootenvaal 20 acres over looking the marine preserve at Bork Creek and Hurricane Hole just east of Coral Bay **\$7M**; North Shore Maho Bay -13 acres with white sand beach **\$19.5M**. Group Dwelling permit for 6 apartments and a driveway permit have been issued for this 0.9 acre lot in Estate Rendezvous & Ditleff. With sunset and water views to St Thomas from this gently sloping lot, this is a perfect parcel for development or for a single family home with lots of privacy. **\$499,000**

Estate Pastory - near Cruz Bay. Three adjoining lots at Estate Pastory with possible water views and gentle grades. Great spot for a contractor to build some spec homes or a family compound with several homes. Seller financing possible. **Starting at \$200,000 each or \$375,000 for all three!!!!**

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DeJongh Meets Bond Rating Agencies To Request Ratings on Pending Sale of Territory's Gross Receipts Tax Bonds

St. John Tradewinds

On Friday, October 12, and again on Monday, October 15, Governor John deJongh and members of his financial team hosted meetings with the three national bond rating agencies — Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's.

The purpose of the meetings was to request ratings on the pending sale by the V.I. Public Finance Authority of Gross Receipts Tax bonds.

The PFA is planning to sell Gross Receipts Tax bonds to refund outstanding Gross Receipts Tax Bonds, Series 1999A. The refunding of the Series 1999A Bonds is expected to produce as much as \$10 million in savings to the government over a multi-year period.

It is also anticipated that proceeds of the bonds will be used to pay off outstanding bank loans that provided funds for working capital and for the government's broadband initiative.

"Should the Legislature take final action of the my proposed energy savings initiative and capital projects, these bonds will provide funding for those projects as well, enabling us to move forward to implement energy saving projects and projects that will meet public need and provide economic stimulus," deJongh said last week.

This spring, in the wake of the HOVENSA closure announcement, each of the bond rating agencies conducted reviews of their ratings on the Gross Receipts Tax Bonds.

At that time, Moody's downgraded the Gross Receipts Tax Bonds from Baa1 to Baa2 due to the anticipation of the



(L to R) Bureau of Economic Research Director Wharton Berger, BIR Director Claudette Watson-Anderson, Delbert Hewitt, Chief of Operations, Office of the Lt. Governor, Governor deJongh, and OMB Director Debra Gottlieb during a meeting of Bond Rating Agencies on October 15.

adverse economic impact of the HOVENSA closure on the territory. Moody's also changed the outlook on the rating from stable to negative, also reflective of the consequences of the HOVENSA action.

At that time, Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor's affirmed their BBB and BBB+ ratings, respectively, on the Gross Receipts Tax bonds, and Fitch also moved the outlook from stable to negative, indicating that a downgrade is a possibility, primarily based on the ultimate impact of the

HOVENSA closure on the territorial economy and on gross receipts tax collections.

"These were productive meetings," said deJongh. "The bond rating agencies, and the institutional investment community for which they serve as important intermediaries, are critical stakeholders for our community. They have consistently paid close attention to our efforts, and provided important feedback."

"They understand that this is an important moment for our community," said the governor. "The action by HOVENSA came right at the moment that we have been anticipating recovery in our economy and key revenues."

The rating analysts' questions focused on the important balance between achieving fiscal balance and ending deficit financing, while at the same time supporting economic growth at this critical time, deJongh added.

"Institutional investors demonstrated their strong support for our efforts when we sold Matching Fund Bonds in August," said Commissioner of Finance and PFA Executive Director Angel Dawson. "We were able to secure our financing needs at costs that were significantly lower than we anticipated. We are moving this financing forward now, as we have significant remaining investor demand for our securities."

"The meetings with the rating analysts were productive and we look forward to continuing to respond to their information requests as they complete their rating analysis," Dawson said.

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"CINNAMON BAY ESTATE" borders National Park in Catherineberg, private, gated setting, 3 bdrms, 23 ft wall of glass & outstanding views. Spacious living areas, wrap around decks, expansive sundeck, large pool, elevated spa & covered dining.

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"DOVE COTTAGE" St. John's first luxury eco-villa 2 BR, 1.5 BTH w/ 280' views & pool. Solar & green building materials, recently remodeled with custom mahogany doors, room to expand or build more in upscale Dreetek's Bay.

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"VILLA FAR NIENTE" Turn-key 3 bedroom, 3 bath villa in Pt. Rendezvous offers big views, breezes & great rental history. Beautifully-appointed, fully furnished, infinity-edge pool, interior staircase, artistic lighting and super sun and moonrises!

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"STONE COURT" is a 3 bedroom haven. 1 acre of privacy with sweeping views from Rams Head to St. Thomas Island inspired architecture of stone and wood.

MLS 12-31
\$1,400,000

"TREE PALMS" Versatile 5 BR 5 BA property with solid rental history. Charming home w/ 2 kitchens, covered verandas, stone entrance, garden fountain, concrete pool and spa deck. Solar panels, and ocean views complete the package!

MLS 12-4
\$1,075,000

"DAY DREAM IN UPPER CAROLINA" Fabulous views - Coral Bay to BVI in masonry 3 bdrm/3.5 bath Majestic Mile home. New furnishings, private pool & bdrm suites, hot tub, shutters, custom cabinets & 10k generator. Cute wood cottage (NC) on property.

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\$1,000,000

"INCOME PRODUCER" 4 Unit Multi-family. Rare opportunity to own a multi-unit property close to Cruz Bay with big ocean views sitting on the hillside above the Westin Resort!

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"VILLA BAMBOO" - charming 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom cottage features views to the South shore & to sunsets over the cays, a generous floor plan and decks, well-maintained, tastefully decorated, and spacious grounds with unique Danish ruins.

MLS 11-352
\$499,000

"UPPER CAROLINA" 3X3 - Recently upgraded & well kept house with 3 income producing units. Easy access to Cruz Bay and beaches.

MLS 09-271
\$495,000

"VILLA MOLLO" Price Just Reduced \$125K!! A nature lovers dream, walk to 2 beaches! 3BR/2BA villa with custom stone & wood work make this one of the best deals on St. John.

MLS 10-407
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"CARIBBEAN COTTAGE RETREAT" Relax in this comfortable home surrounded by trees, orchids and birds. Quiet private neighborhood has deeded rights to a beach. You won't get peace like this at a better price. Don't miss this opportunity!

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"GRANDE BAY RESORT CONDO" Charming, beautifully furnished 1 bdrm/1 bath condo located along the waterfront of Cruz Bay. Great harbor view, easy access to restaurants, shops and galleries. Deeded underground parking.

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Tradewinds News Photos by Yelena Rogers

Some People on STJ Host Golf Tourney

The group Some People on St. John hosted its second annual Charity Golf Tournament at Mahogany Run Golf Course on Wednesday, October 17, to support the St. John Cancer Fund. Teams of four enjoyed a shot-gun scramble and an after party at High Tide while raising funds to support St. John cancer patients.



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