

ST. JOHN TRADEWINDS

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

Light Up the Night Takes Over Cruz Bay



St. John Tradewinds News photo by Yelena Rogers Photography.

A huge crowd packed Winston Wells ball field for St. John Cancer Fund's all-night fundraiser Saturday. Light Up the Night featured 18 hours of music, games, food and even a dunk tank. Participants were also reminded just how many lives are affected by cancer on St. John. See more photos on page 19.

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Rupert "Youth" Walters Arrested for 2015 Kenson Jolly Murder

St. John Tradewinds

On Friday, January 15, at 11:00 p.m. an Arrest Warrant was executed on Rupert "Youth" Walters of Estate Pastory, on the charge of 1st Degree Murder, in connection with the May 29, 2015 murder of Kenson Jolly.

On Friday, May 29, 2015 at approximately 11:12 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of Kongens Gade in downtown Cruz Bay, following-up on a report of a disturbance.

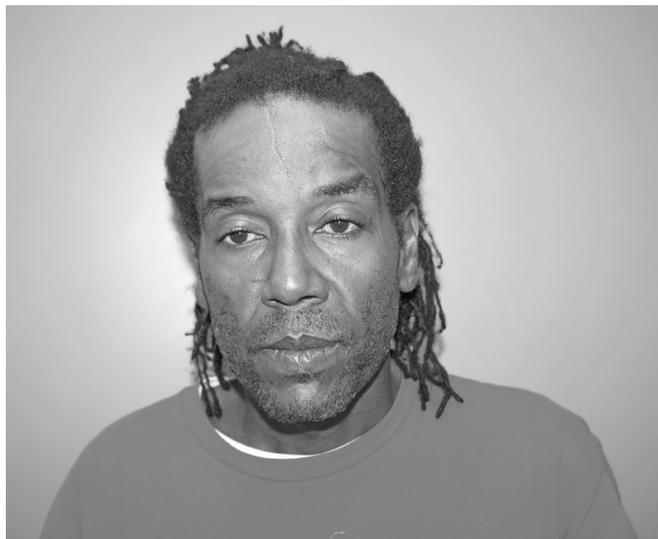
Arriving to the location, officers observed a black male slumped-over in a patio chair, unresponsive to their verbal inquiries. On further inspection, the black male was observed to have several gunshot wounds to his body and was pronounced dead on the scene. The victim was identified as Kenson Jolly, 25 of Estate Pastory.

Jolly had been arrested on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 on the charges of 1st Degree Assault, 3rd Degree Assault, Mayhem, and Possession of a Dangerous Weapon during the Commission of a Crime in connection with a stabbing incident that occurred that evening.

Officers were dispatched to Cruz Bay at 9:21 p.m. in reference to a report of a stabbing incident. The perpetrator was described as having been a black male, wearing black clothing and carrying a machete. The victim of the stabbing was found bleeding from multiple wounds and minutes later, after searching the surrounding area, officers encountered Kenson Jolly, who matched the description of the suspect, covered in blood.

Jolly was detained and placed under arrest after being positively identified by a witness as the individual that assaulted Rupert Walters.

Rupert Walters was arrested on the charge of 1st Degree Murder with bail set at \$750,000.00. Unable to post bail, Walters was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his Advise of Rights Hearing.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo courtesy of VIPD

Rupert "Youth" Walters of Estate Pastory, at left, was arrested and charged with the murder of Kenson Jolly, who was shot in May 2015 in Cruz Bay.

ACC Online Auction is Live, Gala is Feb. 6

St. John Tradewinds

St. John Animal Care Center volunteers are busy with the group's online auction, which is now live, and upcoming gala on Saturday, February 6, at Sirensusa.

Log on to www.biddingowl.com to bid on a variety of wonderful items including villa stays, boat charters and jewelry, among other great prizes. The online auction will end on February 6 at noon.

Raffle tickets are also now available at the ACC, Connections East and West, Chelsea Drugs and St. John Hardware. Anyone off-island who wants to purchase tickets, should contact Leslie McKibben at eagleraylover@me.com. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and \$20 for five.

Tickets are available now for the ACC's annual Winter Gala. This year's theme is Venetian Carnival and tickets, \$125 each, are available at the ACC shelter, St. John Hardware, Connections East and West and Chelsea Drug Store.

There is limited parking in the gravel lot next to the entry gates at Sirensusa, and along the neighborhood roads. Please do not restrict the flow of traffic through the neighborhood. If you prefer, you may park your car in the upper back lot at Marketplace and take the shuttle to the event site. We will be setting up a specific time schedule for the shuttle to leave Marketplace, and then return from Sirensusa. The first shuttle will depart Marketplace at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy a champagne welcome as you arrive at the reception desk.

Bethany Moravian Church Movie Night is Feb. 26

St. John Tradewinds

Bethany Moravian Church will be hosting Family Movie Night on Friday, February 26, at 7 p.m. The February movie is "Selma" and everyone of all denominations is welcome to join in this free family friendly activity. For more information call the church at (340) 776-6291.

Friends of Sprauve Library Annual Meeting is Jan. 28

St. John Tradewinds

Friends of the Elaine I. Sprauve Library President Winifred Powell announced that the organization's Annual Meeting will be on Thursday, January 28, at The Marketplace on the second floor at 6 p.m.

"We welcome the public to join us for our year-end review and learn our future plans and goals," said Powell. "We're so pleased that Senator Tregenza Roach will address the body as our event's guest speaker. This meeting will be a wonderful opportunity for those who are considering joining this community organization to get to know more about us."

Friends of the Elaine I. Sprauve Library has been a stalwart supporter of literacy, library services and community service for over 20 years. The organization attained 501c3 status in 1998. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting.

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Residents Question Sirius T-Rex Marina Developers at CBCC Forum

By Amy Roberts
St. John Tradewinds

Monday, January 25, is the final day for the public to send their comments to the Army Corps of Engineers about a controversial proposal to build a marina in Coral Bay.

Comments will be received until midnight, and the Coral Bay Community Council is hoping that everyone will weigh in.

The proposal, known informally as either the Sirius or T-Rex project, calls for the development of nearly 38,000 square feet on the shoreline in Coral Bay between Skinny Legs Restaurant and the adjacent ballfield. The property is owned by the Moravian Church VI Conference.

The current plan calls for construction of a bulkhead, concrete and floating docks to accommodate nearly 90 boats, a fuel dock, a boat service area, a wastewater treatment facility, a reverse osmosis water plant, sewage pump-out facilities, two buildings, underwater fuel tanks, an emergency generator, and parking for 60 cars.

Community members had the opportunity to discuss the project with members of the development team at a meeting sponsored by the Coral Bay Community Council on January 11. The development team members who attended were engineer William McComb of CDR Maguire; architect John Woods of the Jaredian Design Group; and Samuel Rhymer, the property manager for the Moravian Church Conference.

Rory Calhoun, the head of the development team whose name is on the plan submitted to the ACOE, was not able to attend because of a health problem, according to McComb.

The meeting was hosted to explore the intended and unintended consequences of the development, including the cumulative impacts affecting water quality, conservation, wetlands, economics, aesthetics, historic properties, land use, and flood hazards, according to CBCC President Sharon Coldren.

Several of the almost 60 community members at the meeting questioned the development team about numerous aspects of the plan, but one primary question involved whether the marina would be built if an additional plan to build a 90-unit hotel-condominium development was not permitted.

The plan for the hotel-condominium resort development was originally part of the marina plan but was not included in the current plan submitted to ACOE because it requires zoning changes.

"This [marina] is a stand-alone project," said McComb when questioned at the meeting about the economic viability of the ma-

rina if the hotel-condominium project was not approved. "Comments regarding the resort are not pertinent."

Calhoun, however, who heads up T-Rex St. John LLC, told *Tradewinds* something different in a phone interview on January 4.

"It could exist as a marina, but it has always been contemplated as a marina resort," said Calhoun. "We got the lease on the project with the Moravian Church in 2006. We've made changes in the plans to accommodate changes around us and reflect input from the community."

"It's progressed, but the concept is the same — a marina hotel-condominium development," he said.

The entire property leased to Sirius-T-Rex comprises nearly 10 acres and includes the Coral Bay ballfield. Under the prior plan which included the resort, the hotel-condominium units would be built on the ballfield along the shoreline. Some open space would be retained, but the field itself would be relocated.

Even with discussion of the resort off the table at the meeting, the design team had plenty of issues to explain including dredging — the plan calls for 3,890 cubic yards of sea floor material being removed; impacts on seagrasses; demolishing the historic dinghy dock, and more.

"Construction of the marina and its associated upland facilities would extend for approximately 12 months," according to T-Rex's ACOE application. "Dredging time frame is estimated to be four months."

Residents, many of whom were from the boating community, questioned many details including runoff from the resort's impervious surfaces; mitigation for noise from driving pilings; disaster mitigation measures in times of hurricanes or fire; and affects on local bird populations.

All of these issues were addressed by the design team members, but the audience of nearly 60 people seemed skeptical.

"I'd like to know how many people are in favor of a marina this size," asked one resident.

She asked those who supported the project to raise their hands. Only one or two people did, and another spoke up and said he was undecided.

Delroy "Ital" Anthony expressed concern that the meeting was not representative of the indigenous population of St. John.

"I think we're going too fast," said Anthony. "I think we need to see more St. Johnians in these meetings."

Only one person in the audience who spoke identified himself as a member of the Emmaus Moravian Church in Coral Bay. In

recent months, rumors have circulated that the church's congregation has been at odds with the Moravian Church VI Council about the proposed development.

Details regarding the history of this dispute were revealed in a three-part editorial written by Hugo Roller, who wrote that he was one of a group of Moravians who prepared "The Third Land Use Study" for the Virgin Islands Conference of the Moravian Church which was completed in 1992.

The study was commissioned to explore ways of raising money to sustain the aging church properties.

"It is clear that the current proposal, the Sirius T-Rex Coral Bay Marina Project, in no manner reflects the acceptable uses identified or the consummate vision of the community's future," wrote Roller.

In the third part of the series, Roller produced details of a survey disseminated to Moravian Church members which was designed to gauge support for various possible uses of church property, including vessel storage, private docks, sewage pump-out facilities, an appropriately scaled shopping mall, public docks, and parking.

The only uses that received a majority favorable rating were public access docks (80 percent), a municipal parking lot (58 percent), and warehouse/storage (52 percent). Church members also voiced support for maintaining the ballfield as a green belt, according to Roller.

When community members were asked, "If a developer submitted an offer to purchase lands for condominium or luxury vacation homes, and the offering price for the land was very favorable, would you support a decision to sell church land," according to Roller.

A whopping 90 percent of the respondents said no, he wrote.

"Carefully considered, the more recent history of the Virgin Islands Conference of the Moravian Church, and in particular the oversight of the current and previous Superintendent, reveals a clear failure to acknowledge the input for the congregation and the community at large, and a misguided approach to addressing the fiscal constraints," Roller wrote.

Senator-at-Large Almando "Rocky" Liburd, who attended the January 11 meeting, did indicate some support for the marina.

"I'm a Moravian, and we're going to vet this," said Liburd. "The Moravian Church is trying something. I was one who objected when they took away the ballfield [a prior plan called for more condominiums which would have covered a larger proportion of the ballfield]."

I think we're going too fast. I think we need to see more St. Johnians at these meetings.

Delroy "Ital" Anthony

"But times are changing," said the senator. "We have young people who need opportunities."

Coldren urged the public to visit CBCC's website and view a document prepared by the American Institute of Architects in 2013 which outlines a plan for scaled-down development of Coral Bay.

"We have a community vision," she said.

David Silverman, who heads up the Save Coral Bay movement, asked the public to visit its website to learn more about the proposed development planned by Sirius T-Rex.

Silverman asked the public to write letters to ACOE indicating their concerns about the project and requesting a public hearing by the January 25 deadline. Visitors to the website can also sign a petition, he added.

The Save Coral Bay website, <http://savecoralbay.com/>, also contains information about the Summer's End Group's pending proposal for a marina development with 144 boat slips which would be located directly across from the one proposed by Sirius T-Rex.

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NEXT DEADLINE

Thursday, Feb. 4th

NEWS LINE

340-514-3000

Historical Society Helps Restore Cruz Bay Cemetery for Free-colored Family

By Amy Roberts
St. John Tradewinds

Before historian David Knight, Sr. launched an effort to restore an overgrown family burial plot in Cruz Bay, the graves were known to only a handful of squatters who sought shelter among the cement monuments.

Now several years later, the brush has been cleared away, the graves have been rebuilt, and a plaque is being commissioned to honor the members of the Martin – van Beverhoudt family.

“Sarah Elizabeth Martin, the family matriarch, was born enslaved on the Susannaberg Plantation around 1774, but obtained her freedom some 22 years later,” said Lonnie Willis, President of the St. John Historical Society. “At the time, she was in a long-term relationship with Peter van Beverhoudt Engelzoon, a local planter and militia captain. Together, they had 11 children (nine daughters and two sons), all of whom were recognized by their father and carried the van Beverhoudt name.”

The Martin - van Beverhoudt family graveyard includes six monuments, two of which are marked. The first belongs to Sarah Martin, and it is the only known marked grave of a person born into slavery on St. John in the 18th century. The second marked grave belongs to Anna Louisa van Beverhoudt, one of Sarah Martin and Peter van Beverhoudt’s daughters.

The cemetery is located in a wooded area between The Banana Deck and the complex now owned by Roger Harland which includes Cruz Bay Watersports and the bar Drink.

The cemetery is the only known 18th century burial plot of the freeborn community of African descent in Cruz Bay, according to Hadiya Sewer-Gibney who conducted research on the site for the St. John Historical Society.

Sewer-Gibney, who grew up on St. John, is now completing a doctorate in the Africana Studies Department at Brown University.

At a ceremony to celebrate the completion of the first phase of the graveyard’s renovation hosted on January 16, she bemoaned the lack of information about the en-



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Amy Roberts.

Hadiya Sewer-Gibney, above left, researched the Cruz Bay cemetery site, above left, for the St. John Historical Society. Sewer-Gibney is completing a doctorate in the Africana Studies Department at Brown University.

slaved African and the Free-colored communities in historical documents.

“There’s an old saying, ‘Until the lion has its own storyteller, history will celebrate the hunter,’” said Sewer-Gibney. “We know only a small fraction of the breadth of their lives. They were thinking, living, breathing people, but we can’t get a take on them from the [Danish] archives.”

“We don’t get details about those who have been marginalized,” Sewer-Gibney said.

The unmarked graves were probably those of children who may have died in a yellow fever epidemic in 1820. Sewer-Gibney is trying to trace the family’s descendants who may be living on St. Thomas and St. Croix. Records indicate that a family home once stood nearby, and that the family was well-to-do.

Although one descendant requested that the family plot be maintained, the cemetery had fallen to ruin and had been vandalized.

The monuments, which appear to be vaults, did not contain any human remains, according to Dr. Emily Lundberg, an archaeologist who worked on the project.

“The deceased were buried in the ground below, and the vaults were filled with rocks and conch shells,” Lundberg said.

In order to restore the graves, Brent Squires of Stone Masonry had to rebuild the walls of these monuments; he was careful to replace the conch shells, which were thought to have a spiritual significance, Lundberg added.

The project was spearheaded by David Knight, Sr. who approached the St. John Historical Society two years ago and suggested they apply for a grant from the State Historical Preservation Society. That office provided \$10,000, and another \$14,000 was raised.

Donors include Diana and Sam Hall, Ruth Doan, Albert Willis, Nazareth Lutheran Church, Joe deCourcy, Love City Car Rentals, and Andy and Joy Stillman. Eleanor Gibney, Matthew Gibney, Kourtney Donahue, Roger Harland, and members of the St. John Historical Society have also assisted in the project.

Fundraising is now underway for Phase 2 of the project which includes fencing and interpretive signage for the cemetery.



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Great Smoky Mountains Crew Rehabilitating Reef Bay Trail

By Andrea Milam
St. John Tradewinds

The Reef Bay Trail's significant popularity is not without its consequences. The 2.2-mile trail has become heavily eroded due to the Virgin Islands National Park's guided hikes, which happen up to three times a week during high season, and the countless others who hike the trail on their own. Thanks to a case of the right person being in the right place at the right time, the trail is now undergoing some much-needed rehabilitation.

Eric Wood of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park's Trails Forever Program, which reconstructs and rehabilitates trails within the North Carolina/Tennessee-area park, noticed the condition of Reef Bay and other heavily used VINP trails during his St. John vacation last year.

Employees of the Trails Forever Program are furloughed during the winter months, and Wood saw an opportunity to fill that gap by working in the VINP. He reached out to local park officials and a few months later, Wood was back on St. John with Trails Forever Supervisor Tobias Miller conducting a detailed survey of Reef Bay, L'Esperance, and Ram Head hiking trails.

"They put together a funding proposal so we would understand the time, speed, and cost, and I liked what I saw," said VINP Superintendent Brion FitzGerald. "The idea is that we will bring a crew down here every year for somewhere between six and eight weeks to do rehab work on the heaviest used trails. They're beginning that rehab work with the first 1,300 feet at the upper portion of the Reef Bay Trail."

This year's stint, which started the first week of January, is expected to last for six weeks and cost approximately \$50,000. The VINP will use fee revenue generated by their moorings and Trunk Bay to cover the cost, however, FitzGerald hopes to find a different funding source in the future.

"The four-person crew is staying at Cinnamon Bay campground and trying to keep the overall cost to a bare minimum while doing an outstanding job," said FitzGerald.

The crew is addressing grading, heavy erosion, and exposure of roots by using native materials, non-motorized hand tools, and hand-powered rigging to move large stones. The goal of Wood and Miller's crew is to rehabilitate the trail while ensuring that minimal labor-intensive maintenance is needed to keep the trail in good condition. One of the tactics they're using to help cut down the trail's erosion is to direct water runoff.

"Their preference is to not create water bars, which by their very nature get filled up with stones and other debris," said FitzGerald. "If you don't clean them, they get completely buried or washed out in heavy rain. So instead, they contour the trail in varying dis-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo courtesy of VINP.

Eric Wood with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park's Trails Forever Program pitched in to help stave off erosion along the Reef Bay Trail, above.

tances depending on elevation to slope outward allowing the water to run off the trail naturally."

The winding trail with sloping sections keeps the water from building up speed, FitzGerald continued.

"Rather than having a 500-foot-long straight section of trail that ends in a water bar, which allows the water to build up a head speed, they'll have maybe six to 10 curves in that 500-foot-long section allowing the water to run off every 15 to 20 feet," said the VINP superintendent. "Therefore the water can't build up speed and have as large of an erosional impact as it would in the long, straight run."

To mitigate the large roots that have surfaced on portions of the trail, Wood and his crew are cutting dirt from the trail's upper bank and using it to fill overtop of the roots and harden the outside edges of the trail. Additionally, they've already remedied the large drop off at the end of the trail head's stone stairway by building more stairs.

The complete rehabilitation of the Reef Bay Trail is expected to take up several of the group's annual six-to-eight-week visits before they can set their sights on other heavily used VINP trails. FitzGerald does not expect any trail closures during the crew's 2016 stint on the island.



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St. John Tradewinds' Next Deadline is:

February 4th

Sally-Ann Medina Arrested for Stabbing Husband in Coral Bay

St. John Tradewinds

On Monday, January 18, at approximately 8 a.m., V.I. Police Department officers received notification from the 911 Emergency Call Center regarding an assault that occurred in the vicinity of Aqua Bistro, located in Coral Bay.

Responding officers made contact with the Emergency Medical Service and V.I. Fire Department personnel who were treating a male victim for multiple stab wounds about the body and throat.

The victim was uncooperative and refused to provide officers with any information regarding the altercation that he was involved in. However, V.I. Fire Service Fire personnel informed the VIPD officers that the male victim had stated prior to the officers' arrival, that his wife stabbed him multiple times about the body in an attempt to kill him.

Officers were then able to locate and question the victim's wife, Sally-Ann Medina (age unknown) who admitted to the attack.

Sally-Ann Medina was arrested and charged with 3rd Degree Assault (DV) at roughly 8:30 a.m. and remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending her Advise of Rights Hearing.



Connecting with Nature

by Gail Karlsson

Mixed Up About Manchineel?

St. John Tradewinds

The most famous sign on St. John is probably the ominous red board on the road to Annaberg that says “Warning! Manchineel Tree.”

According to the sign, Christopher Columbus described its small green fruits as “death apples.” Diego Alvarez Chanca, a Spanish doctor who sailed with him in 1493, noted that: “There were wild fruits of various kinds, some of which our men, not very prudently, tasted; and on only touching them with their tongues, their mouths and cheeks became swollen, and they suffered such a great heat and pain.”

Its sap is very caustic as well, and was reportedly used by the Caribs to poison their arrows. The Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon is said to have suffered a long and painful death in 1521 after being hit by one of those poisoned arrows when he attempted to occupy territory in what is now Florida.

Given this history, you would think that everyone would learn what this tree and its death apples look like. Sadly, that is not so.

I recently heard that a small child took a bite from one of the little apples and suffered a sore mouth and swollen throat as a result. The fruit tastes sweet at first, and then

quickly you start to feel the burn. Usually the symptoms go away after a few painful hours, especially if the person spits it out right away rather than swallowing it.

My friend Suki Buchalter, who is working with me on the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship’s tree identification project, suggested that we should help tell people how to recognize manchineel trees, because they grow other places on St. John than on the Annaberg Road and those are not marked.

One thing she was concerned about was that some people were being told that the manchineel has heart-shaped leaves – which is not correct. My husband said he had heard that also.

So I went out to Annaberg to check out the marked manchineel tree for myself. Honestly, the situation there is confusing because there is a maho tree — which does have heart-shaped leaves — intertwined with the manchineel. Meanwhile you could hardly see any leaves from the manchineel because it is so tall that you have to look very far up to even get a glimpse of them.

Compounding the confusion was the fact that both the maho and the manchineel had small green fruits on them that looked pretty much the same from down below. All in all, I could see why a casual observer would conclude that the manchineel apple tree has heart-shaped leaves.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Gail Karlsson

The most famous sign on St. John is probably the ominous red board on the road to Annaberg that says “Warning! Manchineel Tree.”

I carefully picked a few of the fruits that had fallen around the tree. Some were from the maho and some were manchineel apples. Even on the ground they looked similar if the maho fruits were lying butt up, though the maho fruit is not round if you see it from the stem side.

When I got home, I realized that the manchineel apples in my specimen bag looked just like a fruit I had picked up a few days before on the shoreline near my house. I had never seen fruit on the ground there before, so I took one home. All I could see in the area were maho trees and red mangroves. I thought maybe it could be a maho fruit that had gotten soft and round, since at that point I had never really examined a ripe one close up.

There was the little green fruit sitting on the counter when I got back from Annaberg. Now I could see that it was definitely a manchineel apple. Warning my husband not to bite into any of my specimens, I went back on the shoreline trail by my house and saw what I decided was the trunk of a manchineel tree. I still couldn’t make out any leaves, or fruit on the tree, because it was so tall and obscured by the nearby maho trees.

Later I went back and put a sign on the tree warning other people not to pick up the fruit lying on the ground.



Joseph Johnson, Cellist
Jeffrey Sykes, Pianist



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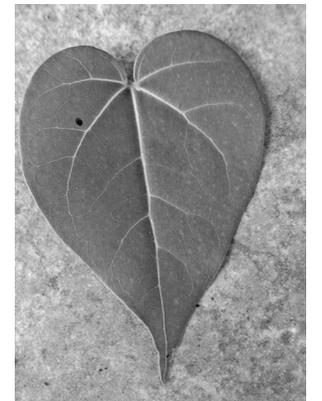


St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Gail Karlsson



Above left, the butts of the manchineel apple (L) and maho fruit (R), look similar. Above right, the fruit tops, manchineel at left and maho fruit at right, are different.

A maho tree leaf is at right and a manchineel leaf is at left.





ISLAND GREEN LIVING

by Lovango Cay resident Dan Boyd

More Trash Talk

St. John Tradewinds

In the last Island Green Living article, I discussed the litter problem plaguing the island. Walk down any street or drive down any road on St. John, and you will see for yourself why I am disgusted by it — you probably are, too!

Much of the trash is old plastic bags, plastic cups, styrofoam food containers, cans and bottles, along with lots and lots of plastic straws.

Why don't we ban stores from distributing plastic bags? Hawaii has done this already! Why don't we ban the distribution of plastic drinking cups, plastic straws, and styrofoam containers?

Those products can easily be made from biodegradable ingredients. The extra cost of doing so is minimal, and the payback would be a cleaner, greener St. John. And greener islands mean more tourists — another kind of green for our local economy.

What about a beverage container deposit law, also called a bottle bill, where all cans and bottles require a 5-cent deposit? A nickel is added to the price of the drink, and then that money is refunded to you when you turn in the container.

In the states which have bottle bills, you never see cans on the side of the road when they can be traded in for cash. A bottle bill would not only help clean up our islands, it would also start a whole new industry and help keep more trash out of our landfills.

Aluminum cans collected through such a program

can easily be recycled, and glass bottles could be crushed on island for various uses such as concrete aggregate, landscaping, backfill for walls, and also added into our asphalt roadways.

Have you ever seen the roads in Florida glistening at night? It's because they add crushed glass into their asphalt!

These are not pie-in-the-sky ideas. They could be implemented very easily. The Virgin Islands could lead an example for the whole Caribbean to follow. The time to start is now!

Ask your favorite restaurants and bars to stop using plastic cups and straws and start using biodegradable products. Some places that serve coffee already offer a discount when you bring in your own mug. What if the same deal was available for all types of drinks?

Share your ideas to reduce waste with our Virgin Island Senators, the Governor, and the people at Waste Management.

We all will benefit from cleaner, greener islands! Isn't that what our children deserve to inherit?

For a Greener Tomorrow!

Dan Boyd of Island Solar is a Virgin Islands Energy Office authorized vendor. For more information call Boyd on his cell phone at 340-626-9685 or by email at islandsolarvi@gmail.com.

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ATTENTION!

the next deadline for submitting to
St. John Tradewinds
is Thursday, February 4th

16th Annual St. John Arts Festival Kicks off Feb. 13

St. John Tradewinds

Believe it or not, the St. John Arts Festival is 16 years old this coming February, bringing to the fore the history, tradition and culture of the indigenous people of St. John in its many forms, including music, dance, arts and crafts, thanks to the continued support of the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts, the USVI Department of Tourism and our many other sponsors.

There has been no better place to show both visitors and residents alike what the culture and tradition of St. John is all about than the newly refurbished “little park” straight off the ferry terminal, forming the first impression that newcomers experience — leaving no doubt that they have “arrived in the Caribbean,” with all of its color and warmth — as advertised.

This year’s Arts Festival program retains the successful format of previous years, starting with a Children’s Day on Saturday, February 13, when all the energy and exuberance of youth is displayed; including traditional steel pan band music, school choirs, age old Quadrille dancing and lively jump rope performances which demonstrate superb skill, timing and coordination, without being tied up in knots! There is also a Children’s Art Show in the storefronts of various offices on the second floor of The Marketplace.

Sunday, February 14, is a lazy day in the shade of the huge mahogany trees, and church choirs echo the soul of islanders in an uplifting Gospel concert, followed by colorful Quadrille dancing with its romantic links to days gone by.

Monday, February 15, President’s Day, is the highlight of the five-day event, commencing with singing and rhythms going back to the roots of islanders, transitioning from solo dances to the music of the island’s number one traditional “scratch band,” originating with hand-made instruments and jaunty songs, as a prelude to a fantastic show of fifteen or so richly colorful dancers and children dressed up as “moko jumbies” and reviving old dances such as the Bamboula from way back in the past.

Tuesday, February 16, reaches out to the music and dance from the neighboring Latin-American Caribbean islands, and on Wednesday, February 17, we round-off with relatively modern but definitely Caribbean reggae music.

Throughout the St. John Arts Festival, adding to and completing the exclusively Caribbean atmosphere in the park, is the ongoing exhibition of hand-made Caribbean arts and crafts, plus food and local-grown fruits and vegetables, with the exhibitors in colorful Caribbean traditional dress.

It’s a little jewel of a show – uniquely St. John! Visitors can’t miss it as they depart the



St. John Tradewinds News Photos

For the 16th year in a row, the St. John Arts Festival will transform Cruz Bay’s Frank Powell Park with music, dancing, art and fine crafts.

ferry, and they will be left with the memory of the colorful traditions and culture of the people of this island.

For more information about the St. John Arts Festival, email Frank Langley at franklangley@gmail.com.

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<p style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">C</p> <p style="margin: 0;">ORKY SIEGEL'S CHAMBER BLUES</p> <p style="text-align: right;">FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19</p>	
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">S</p> <p style="margin: 0;">WEET PLANTAIN</p> <p style="text-align: right;">FRIDAY, APRIL 8</p>	
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">V</p> <p style="margin: 0;">ICTOR PROVOST QUARTET featuring PAQUITO D'RIVERA</p> <p style="text-align: right;">FRIDAY, APRIL 15</p>	

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This project is funded in part by the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts.

Giff Hill School Student Honored by Hebrew Congregation

By Amy Roberts
St. John Tradewinds

If Dr. Martin Luther King were alive today and asked you what you would do to change your community, nation, or the world for the better, what would you say?

Each year for the past 20 years, the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas has posed a question like this to high school students. Several weeks later, school administrators and counselors at each school select one student who has addressed the topic, and who exemplifies character, commitment, and academic excellence, to participate in a Friday night service to honor the memory of Dr. King.

This is the second year that the Giff Hill School on St. John was invited to participate, and Vela Culbert, a junior, responded with a heartfelt desire to help.

"I would say, let's start with something basic, something everyone could help with: a clothing drive," she said.

Culbert explained that the unemployed and the homeless in our community find themselves in a cycle of poverty.

"Without proper hygiene, clothing, and a sense of confidence, how can someone hope to get a job," Culbert said. "And if you can't get a job how can you afford to 'look the part?' On my small island of St. John, I have witnessed this first-hand."

"The other thing I have learned from my own experiences is that every person can make a difference," she said. "At Giff Hill School, we have regular toiletry drives. They are easy to organize and a great way to get the community involved."

"To add to that, we could enlist local hairdressers and barbers to donate their time once a month to give free haircuts and shaves," said the GHS student. "Over time, my dream would be to grow these projects into an actual store where a portion of the donated clothes would be sold at a low price. The proceeds from the store could then be donated to foundations for the less fortunate. The shop would hire people in need and mentor/intern students from high schools and colleges."

Culbert was one of eight students who presented their ideas on Friday, January 15, at the historic synagogue in Charlotte Amalie. All of the students proposed solutions to local problems – homelessness, gun violence, mental illness, and the need for positive activities for youth.

"I'm a little less worried about our future after hearing these essays," said Rabbi Michael Harvey, who led the service which included songs as well as traditional prayers.

"We look to the next generation, and then the next generation, and allow them a real pulpit," he said. "The monetary award of \$500 for each student is a wonderful part, but the true reward is empowering young people to have a voice and people will listen."

Friends, family members, and teachers of the honorees turned out for the event, including a taxi-load of members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on St. John.

"I think it's an incredible opportunity for the Hebrew Congregation to reach out to people who live on St. Thomas who don't usually come to the synagogue, Jews and non-Jews alike, who care about the message of Dr. Martin Luther King," Harvey added.

The event was also an opportunity to celebrate the struggle for social justice shared by Jews and the Black community.

The guest speaker, Rabbi Jonah Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, recounted how the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act were both drafted in the conference room of the Center in Washington, D.C.

Pesner warned his audience that the struggle for justice is never over.

"The Voting Rights Act is being eviscerated," he said. "We're seeing more disenfranchisement of communities of color since the Supreme Court's 2013 ruling in *Shelby County v. Holder*."

That decision ruled that portions of the Voting Rights Act are no longer constitutional because racial discrimination is being addressed.

Pesner spoke passionately about his own experience as a youngster traveling to Florida with his family for a vacation and encountering a sign that read "No Jews or dogs." He



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Amy Roberts.

Vela Culbert, a junior at Giff Hill School, above left, was one of eight students recently invited by the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas to present essays inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the historic St. Thomas synagogue.

spoke eloquently about Jews who had joined Dr. King in his marches for civil rights.

"We Jews have been marching for 5,000 years as we marched out of Egypt, and we Jews will march for 5,000 more years if that's what it takes to bring about justice," said Pesner.

Many who attended the Special Shabbat Awards Service honoring the life of Dr. Martin Luther King stepped for the first time on to the sand-covered floor of the St. Thomas synagogue — for which is the building is renowned.

"While legend tells us that it is symbolic of the desert through which Moses and the children of Israel wandered for 40 years, the more likely explanation has to do with the fact that this was originally a Sephardic community," according to information from the synagogue website.

Sephardic Jews lived in Spain and Portugal but scattered throughout Europe, the Ottoman Empire, the Caribbean, and South America in the generations following the Spanish Inquisition.

"During the Spanish Inquisition, when Catholic Spain persecuted all other religions and forcibly converted the Jews to Catholicism, Jews who opted to practice Judaism — an offense punishable by death — had to do so in secrecy," according to the website. "They met in cellars of their homes and used sand to muffle the sounds of their prayer."

The congregation on St. Thomas, which began in 1796, was founded by descendants of these Jews. Constructed in 1833, the building, a National Historic Landmark, is the oldest synagogue in continuous use under the American flag and the second-oldest in the Western Hemisphere, according to the synagogue's website.

This community of Jews during St. Thomas' colonial period is portrayed in the recent novel "The Marriage of Opposites," which is a fictionalized version of the life of Rachel Pomie Petit Pissarro, the mother of the famous Impressionist artist Camille Pissarro.

The public is invited to meet the novel's author, Alice Hoffman, who will speak at the Hebrew Congregation's Shabbat Service on Friday, February 5, at 6:15 p.m. A book signing will follow.



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6th Annual Love City Live! is Jan. 27 - 31

REGGAE IN THE RUINS

@ Estate Susannaberg Ruins - St John, USVI

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

From January 27 through 31, reggae fans will take over St. John during the Sixth Annual Love City Live! music festival.

The five day event will include beach parties with DJs and craft cocktail bars and even a boat ride to the BVIs, and will culminate musically on Saturday, January 30, at Reggae in the Ruins in Estate Susannaberg.

After packing Winston Wells ball field with fans of world renowned reggae stars like Beres Hammond, Steel Pulse and Third World for the past five years, the festival is heading back to its roots this year, explained Love City Live! founder Wasi Philbert.

"We've always been looking for somewhere to have the event that is a bit more St. John rootsy, somewhere that had a bit more of our roots vibe," said Philbert.

When Estate Susannaberg property owner Ronnie Jones approached Philbert about the venue two years ago, he knew it would be a perfect fit.

"I had been up there when I was young and it was all over-grown," said Philbert. "When we were walking around, Ronnie had a machete and there was a path. I could feel the vibe and feel the sense; it was what we had been waiting for and it's the right time now."

Two years later and with Philbert haven already proven that he can produce a world class event with international stars, he's excited to put on a show with a true island vibe this year, he explained.

"I'm like a kid in a candy store," Philbert said. "I feel like it's all new and I have that feeling of be-

ing giddy and anxious. It took two years to make this transition and I'm excited to do something that's a bit more intimate."

"Instead of chasing our tail and going higher and higher with who we're brining down this year, this year it's all about the vibe," he said.

While the vibe will certainly be fantastic, the musical lineup is impressive as well. Reggae in the Ruins will start at 4 p.m. at the Estate Susannaberg ruins and feature DJ Top Notch, Visions Reggae Combo, Lion SoulJahs Band, Ras Abijah & The Inity Band, Black Star Band with Blackness and Hugo Rankin.

After 11 p.m., the space will transform into Sound-System, an outdoor roots reggae experience with music by DJ Top Notch and DJ Red Man until 1 a.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance.

Saturday night isn't the first party for Love City Live! The festivities kick off on Wednesday evening with a welcome party at Drink. On Thursday, the party will head over to Oppenheimer Beach for Exhale, a spa-style beach day with yoga, massages, a gourmet lunch and craft cocktails.

Dress up in your best white duds for the "All White" beach party on Friday night in Cruz Bay. This upscale tropical dance party will take over Cruz Bay beach starting at 7 p.m.

After the big party on Saturday night, join the fun on the water Sunday with the Love City Live! Powerboat Party. This all day excursion will hit several beaches in the BVIs before bring the vibe to White Bay, Jost Van Dyke.

For tickets, VIP passes and more information about the Sixth Annual Love City Live! go to <http://www.lovecitylivellc.com/>

Powell Park Gathering Focuses on Life of Civil Rights Leader

By Judi Shimel
St. John Tradewinds

A small community gathering in Cruz Bay's Franklin Powell Park paid tribute to slain civil rights icon Dr. Martin Luther King on January 18.

St. John educators and a political leader reflected on the life of the Georgia pastor and activist whose birthday was declared a national holiday in 1986.

Senator-at-Large Almando "Rocky" Liburd, a former teacher at the Julius E. Sprauve School read excerpts from several of King's major speeches, including "I Have a Dream Speech" from the 1963 march on Washington, Letter from a Birmingham Jail, also from 1963 and the "Mountaintop" speech delivered to a rally of union workers in Memphis in April 1968.

"I took a little history," Liburd said. "I spoke about the principals of him and I quoted a number of his speeches. And I spoke about a little history of us, because we were the first ones to recognize Martin Luther King."

The lawmaker said he drew those references to illustrate the qualities of character and perseverance. And as well regarded as King became throughout the world, in his home town King was viewed as a trouble maker, Liburd explained.

Also joining the MLK Day observance was Kristen Carmichael-Bowers, a music teacher from Giffit Hill School. Since she joined the school last year, she said, she had been looking for ways to promote community involvement in her students.

On Monday she brought the One Voice chorus of Giffit Hill School students to sing as the observance.

"When I said, 'What sort of events are here, culturally, that I need to be into,'" Bowers said. "The King Day event got a ready mention as one in need of support."

By early January the music teacher said she contacted Pastor Carlyle Sampson from the Nazareth Lutheran Church, and plans unfolded leading to the day. To prepare the students, she geared two days of classwork around Martin Luther King Day.

Bowers was joined by Alvis Christian from the John's Folly Learning Institute, who recommended reading of Dr. King's books, including "Why We Can't Wait," and "Strength of Love." Christian also urged those assembled to share the readings with the children.

Christian ended his remarks with an entreaty, recalling remarks by the civil rights leader about what he saw as his purpose in life.

"Dr. King said, 'I don't want to recall all the trophies I had or all the presents and all the gifts and all of that, that I had acquired throughout a lifetime,'" Christian quoted. "I just want to let people know that I did God's will, and he wanted to help anyone he could along the way."

After the ceremony, emcee Christian reflected on the non-violent approach taken by the civil rights movement which took hold in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s. When re-telling the story to students attending the learning institute, Christian said he urges them "to become something or someone who can help society."

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DOH Confirms Zika Virus on St. Croix

St. John Tradewinds

On Friday, January 22, Virgin Islands Department of Health officials confirmed a case positive for Zika virus in a 42-year-old woman with no history of previous travel during the incubation period of the virus.

“We are asking healthcare providers to submit suspected cases to the Department of Health using the chik report form via fax to (340) 718-1508,” said DOH Epidemiologist Dr. Esther Ellis. “The providers have all received this form in advance, as well as detailed instructions. We have conducted trainings at both hospitals and have been working with providers to identify the symptoms of the Zika Virus.”

“We also want to stress to all pregnant women, to seek medical attention in the event that you are experiencing any symptoms and use all means to prevent mosquito bites,” said Ellis.

The CDC issued a statement earlier this week noting, “Zika virus infection should be considered in patients with acute onset of fever, maculopapular rash, arthralgia or conjunctivitis, who traveled to areas with ongoing transmission in the two weeks prior to illness onset.”

“Clinical disease usually is mild,” according to the CDC statement. “However, during the current outbreak, Zika virus infections have been confirmed in several infants with microcephaly and in fetal losses in women infected during pregnancy. We do not yet understand the full spectrum of outcomes that might be associated with infection during pregnancy, nor the factors that might increase risk to the fetus. Additional studies are planned to learn more about the risks of Zika virus infection during pregnancy.”

Healthcare providers are encouraged to report suspected Zika virus disease cases to DOH to facilitate diagnosis and to mitigate the risk of local transmission. State health departments are requested to report laboratory-confirmed cases to CDC. Also, CDC officials are working with states to expand Zika virus laboratory testing capacity, using existing RT-PCR protocols.

This CDC Health Advisory includes information and recommendations about Zika virus clinical disease, diagnosis, and prevention, and provides travel guidance for pregnant women and women who are trying to become pregnant.

Until more is known and out of an abundance of caution, pregnant women should consider postponing travel to any area where Zika virus transmission is ongoing. Pregnant women who do travel to these areas should talk to their doctors or other healthcare providers first and strictly follow steps to avoid mosquito bites during the trip. Women trying to become pregnant should consult with their healthcare providers before traveling to these areas and strictly follow steps to avoid mosquito bites during the trip.

Fetuses and infants of women infected with Zika virus during pregnancy should be evaluated for possible congenital infection and neurologic abnormalities.

No specific antiviral treatment is available for Zika virus disease. Treatment is generally supportive and can include rest, fluids, and use of analgesics and antipyretics. Because of similar geographic distribution and symptoms, patients with suspected Zika virus infections also should be evaluated and managed for possible dengue or chikungunya virus infection.

Aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs should be avoided until dengue can be ruled out to reduce the risk of hemorrhage. In particular, pregnant women who have a fever should be treated with acetaminophen. People infected with Zika, chikungunya, or dengue virus should be protected from further mosquito exposure during the first few days of illness to reduce the risk of local transmission.

No vaccine or preventive drug is available. The best way to prevent Zika virus infection is to: avoid mosquito bites; use air conditioning or window and door screens when indoors; wear long sleeves and pants, and use insect repellents when outdoors. Most repellents, including DEET, can be used on children older than two months. Pregnant and lactating women can use all Environmental Protection Agency-registered insect repellents, including DEET, according to the product label.

Zika virus infection should be considered in patients with acute fever, rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis, who traveled to areas with ongoing transmission in the two weeks prior to onset of illness.

All travelers should take steps to avoid mosquito bites to prevent Zika virus infection and other mosquito-borne diseases.

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Historical Bits & Pieces

by Chuck Pishko

St. John School of the Arts: A Look Back

St. John Tradewinds

To fully understand the founding of St. John School of the Arts, you have to go back to 1972 when Rudy Wells formed the St. John Jr. High School Steel Orchestra sponsored by the St. John Community Arts Council and the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts.

Mr. Wells held a degree in music from the Berklee School of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. The orchestra he founded later became known as “Steel Unlimited” and traveled throughout the United States giving performances. They performed in the Rose Bowl parade, Disneyland, Lincoln Center, and Shea Stadium. Steel Unlimited recorded two albums and proceeds from the album sales and concerts which helped members further their education.

In the late 1970s, Rudy Wells saw the need to train an additional group of young people from St. John and formed a new band to be called “Steel Unlimited II.” Steel Unlimited II performed as many as 60 island performances a year and performed internationally in Denmark, Germany, New York City, France and Switzerland.

Wells’ vision included not only the creation of a new band, but also a permanent school where children and adults of the island could be taught in the arts. Programs were set up to recognize St. Johnian artists and to display their talents and to inspire others to develop their talents.

Performances of artists like the Woodwind Trio were hosted. The trio included Austin Venzen, Larry Sprauve, and Bill Johnson. They donated their concert proceeds to the future school. The photography of Dewitt Henley was displayed at the Elaine Ione Sprauve Library and Museum as well as the drawings and paintings of Ernest Berthrand. Karen and Avelino Samuel also displayed their artistic accomplishments.

Avelino started carving tool handles for his father and combs for his friends and today is recognized internationally as a Master Woodworker but, more importantly, he was a role model for St. Johnian youth as a teacher in Industrial Arts at the Julius E. Sprauve School. Karen, who is equally talented, excelled in textiles and painting and taught on St. Thomas.

Community leaders and founders of the school included Faye Fredericks, Ruth “Sis” Frank, Greta Samuel, Karen Samuel, Elroy Sprauve, Rodney Varlack, and Rudy Wells. After an extensive fundraising campaign they were able to purchase Eric’s old “Hill-Top” in Cruz Bay as the foundation for the new project.



St. John Tradewinds News Photos courtesy of Chuck Pishko

St. John School of the Arts in Cruz Bay, above, as it looked in the 1980s during construction.

Glenn Spear, renowned island architect and builder began constructing the school as we know it today. Elroy Sprauve emphasized at the ground breaking that the building of the school was a community project and asked that the people of the island and visitors alike support it.

Rudy Wells went on to establish other steel pans in the St Thomas schools. He also continued to teach music and find time to get advanced degrees in Education and Music.

The photograph shows the St. John School of the Arts under construction in the 1980s. It has since become the major venue for training in the arts and a place to enjoy fine artistic performances.



14th Annual Celebration of Love set for Feb. 14 at Trunk Bay

St. John Tradewinds

Join “The Barefoot Minister” Rev. Anne Marie Porter on Sunday, February 14, at Trunk Bay at 5 p.m. for what has become one of the most anticipated traditions of the season.

This year will mark the 14th Annual Celebration of Love vow renewal hosted by Porter. More than 1,300 couples have celebrated Valentine’s Day with Porter at this free and heartwarming event. There is no registration necessary; just show up.

REAL ID Deadline Extended to 2018

St. John Tradewinds

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended the deadline for states and territories to become compliant with the REAL ID Act, announced Virgin Islands Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett.

“We are pleased that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has granted additional time to states and territories to become compliant with the REAL ID Act,” she said. “Our office has had several meetings and has been in contact with DHS to ensure the territory received additional time to come in compliance. This extension will allow Virgin Islanders, who use their locally issued driver’s license as their primary form of identification, the ability to continue using that form of identification to travel and access federal facilities in the country.”

The deadline for compliance with the REAL ID Act is January 22, 2018. This gives states and territories not yet compliant, an additional two years to implement an ID plan.

The REAL ID Act enacted the 9/11 Commission’s recommendation that the Federal Government set standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as driver’s licenses. The Act established minimum-security standards for state-issued driver’s licenses and identification cards and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards. Congress passed the REAL ID Act in 2005.



Wine Talk with Paul

by Paul Tsakeres

Rose of Southern France

St. John Tradewinds

Happily, I can report that more and more people are discovering just how refreshing a dry Rose can be on a hot afternoon.

Many of my wine enthusiast customers and friends are well on in their discovery, in fact, I can also report that they are more and more interested and discerning in their selections. Not only Millennials but a fair number of us (ahem) more seasoned consumers, are drawn to authenticity, quality and discovery. The wines of Southern France are among them.

Overall, I find people interested in where a wine is from, how it is made and who is behind it. They are interested in its story. Fewer and fewer people are willing to be steered into a grocery wine aisle to be sold conglomerate wine; wine that is made in 350,000 gallon tanks...all in a row I might add, somehow all tasting the same with the same color and residual sugar that would shock people if it were printed.

In France, it is Provence that steals the show for Rose wine, although the entire Southern Rhone and Languedoc excel. They are by no means the only producers of Rose, however, with serious offerings from Spain, South Africa and Australia. They are typically a blend of Syrah, Grenache and Cinsault.

A Rose wine will offer flavors and aromas of strawberry, honeydew melon, rose petal, celery and orange peel. They have a lot of fruit, are medium bodied, dry with medium plus acidity and moderate alcohol. There are many other possible flavors to pick out too,

like cherry, watermelon, hibiscus or even tangerine. They are best served cold and drunk within a couple of years.

Many people are interested in how Rose is made, in how it gets that light pink hue. The key is a short period for maceration of the juice with the skins just after crushing. Complicating the process is that each varietal or type of grape requires differing maceration times.

For example Grenache, although a red skinned grape, has only a moderate amount of color and requires 8 to 12 hours of contact while a highly pigmented grape needs less and a lightly pigmented grape may require two days of contact.

The result are wines that are distinguished by their fruitiness, elegance and nervousness. They form a perfect accompaniment to fish and shellfish and generally drinkable with a wide range of dishes...just ask the French who consume crazy quantities of it.

The various vineyards can be found on sunny slopes, some of which overlook the Mediterranean Sea, and with Marseilles nearby, one can imagine the great food available.

These are the kind of wines from the kind of "place" that are certainly authentic and, increasingly, are among the wines of choice today. I'm happy to imagine a seaside café table right here on St. John filled with fresh food and a tall carafe of Rose! Garçon, si vous plait!

CBCC Removes Derelict Boats from Harbor



St. John Tradewinds

The Coral Bay Community Council's Derelict Vessel Removal project wrapped up on Friday, January 22, after two weeks of work which saw all or part of more than 12 vessels taken out of the harbor.

A project more than two years in the works, CBCC officials said the derelict vessel removal went smoothly.

"The clean up was really successful," said CBCC President Sharon Coldren. "We got lots of boats out and Seatow volunteered to help DPNR by removing Jaws which had an enforcement action against it — without charging the government for it — since they were here."

CBCC was able to hire Seatow thanks to a \$62,000 grant from NOAA and more than \$7,000 in donations, Coldren added.

"Thank you to everyone who helped during the past two years of working to make this happen," said the CBCC president.

*St. John Tradewinds News Photos
courtesy of Coral Bay Community Council*

CBCC oversaw a long-awaited derelict vessel removal project in Coral Bay harbor last week which saw several hull removed from the bay, at left .

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Letters to *St. John Tradewinds*

Tourism is All of Us, WICO Reminds Community

St. John Tradewinds

Cruise ship days are usually good days for more than 200 entrepreneurs on the West Indian Company, Ltd. dock.

You may be thinking of retailers in the Long Bay and Havensight areas, but the small businesses I want to highlight are taxi drivers and tour operators. These men and women are on the frontline of our robust cruise tourism industry. As ambassadors, they create a lasting impression of the islands on our guests.

Most visitors do not have friends or relatives on-island to take them around. Only a few are adventurous enough to take on the challenges of left-hand drive on unfamiliar, winding roads in a rental car. This makes taxis and tours the most convenient mode of visitor transportation.

According to cruise industry figures, the average cruise ship accommodates 3,500 passengers, the vast majority of whom come ashore. More than half of those passengers purchase a shore excursion.

This means each taxi transports an average of nine passengers per ship.

WICO pays close attention to visitor satisfaction data, and is pleased to report that the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association's (F-CCA) 2015 passenger survey shows the territory is doing well when it comes to visitor satisfaction with taxi transportation.

Visitors see aggressive or disrespectful taxi drivers or tour operators as the rare exception to the rule. While there is no justification for that behavior, we know fierce competition for guest dollars is the main driver. Rest assured, WICO works daily to make sure our guests have the most positive experience with our frontline transportation ambassadors.

Most taxi drivers and tour operators are doing positive things for these islands. And their efforts are paying off.

Eighty-six percent of cruise passengers who visited our islands and participated in the survey said they were satisfied with taxi service, while 90 percent were satisfied with their purchased tour. Ninety-three percent were satisfied with their visit overall.

Our visitors, most of whom have been here on at least four previous cruises, found us friendly. The majority would recommend the U.S. Virgin Islands to friends or family for a land-based vacation.

Although our frontline customer service is considered good, there always is room for improvement. Surprisingly, as high as our ratings are, those numbers place us only in the middle of the pack when compared to other destinations that boast ratings in the mid- to high 90's.

Taxi drivers and tour operators with the best customer service know they do more than pick up and drop off passengers. They define themselves as entrepreneurs with vi-

able careers in the tourism transportation industry. They know they have successful businesses that can be handed down to or shared with the next generation, and some already do.

Their investment is not only in their vehicles, but also in themselves and by extension, their businesses. Their success can be attributed to a combination of street smarts, people skills, vision and ambition.

Many have taken advantage of workshops, courses and programs hosted by the Department of Tourism designed to improve customer service and the drivers' knowledge of our history and culture.

We were pleased to see seasoned and aspiring transportation entrepreneurs at the two entrepreneurial workshops WICO hosted last summer. Those who attended will be able to incorporate into their business some knowledge of marketing, business management and technology that can help place them head and shoulders above the rest.

As the leader in cruise tourism, WICO appreciates the contributions made by taxi drivers and tour operators committed to a high level of customer service. For them Tourism is All of Us is more than a slogan, it is the way they do business.

WICO Chair
Randolph Knight

Trash Container Areas Need U-turns

St. John Tradewinds

The worst areas on St. John are the trash containers which all are on the road — near the Westin, near The Marketplace, Coral Bay and on Giff Hill. Always filthy, trash on the ground, etc.

Recommendation: create a U-turn behind the current trash containers that would be off the road and screened from the road either by fencing or landscaping. Obviously, the U-turns would have to be wide enough for the trucks that pick up the dumpsters.

Each of the current trash areas has sufficient land behind the dumpsters to create the two-way entrance and exit. This would go a long way to making the island even more beautiful.

Randy Thurman

Crossword & Cryptoquote Answers (Puzzles located on Page 20)

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Answer to Jan. 24 Cryptoquip:
BECAUSE I ORGANIZE THE GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE AWARDS AT ATHLETIC EVENTS, WOULD YOU SAY I'M IN MEDAL MANAGEMENT?

St. John Tradewinds

**Next Deadline for
Letters
Ads
Opinions/Editorials
&
Classifieds**

is:

**Thursday,
February 4**

Letters to *St. John Tradewinds*

Friends of VINP Urge Members to Oppose Sirius Marina

St. John Tradewinds

Dear Friends,

A couple of weeks ago I wrote you with an update on the proposed Summers End Group's (SEG) marina and alerted you about a second marina proposed for Coral Bay. A developer, T-Rex, submitted an application to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for construction of a 92-slip marina, called the Sirius Marina to be located behind the fire station and Skinny's, and on/behind the Coral Bay ball field.

It is designed for vessels 35 to 70 feet in length and will include a fuel dock, various marine convenience services, and a boat ramp. They also have plans for a hotel/condo complex but they are not included in this permit application as they have zoning issues to resolve first. This project would require significant dredging.

There is widespread concern about this development on social, economic, and environmental grounds. In addition, its feasibility as a sustainable business is also called into question. You can read more about these concerns at www.savecoralbay.com

As advocates for the resources Virgin Islands National Park and the Coral Reef National Monument we are particularly alarmed about environmental issues and the impact this development will have on nearby Monument waters, especially at Hurricane Hole, but also to the south of St. John.

If you share our concern I urge you to voice your opinion by responding to the USACE's request for public comment. You can provide your comments by mail or electronically (see addresses below), but please do so as soon as possible – the deadline for receiving comments is January 25, 2016.

This deadline is only 10 days away so your urgent attention to this issue is needed. I can appreciate that there may be some fatigue from the numerous calls to action but please know that the USACE takes your comments seriously and acts upon them. This was clearly evidenced by the USACE's actions in response to your comments on the Summers End Marina.

Talking points you may want to consider are:

This marina would be a significant threat to nearby NPS-protected lands and waters, the waters of Virgin islands Coral Reef National Monument are less than a mile away as a gull flies and 1.5 miles by water.

The National Monument contains significant biological flora and fauna, including several threatened and endangered species, which forage, breed, nest, rest, or calve in the waters. Humpback whales, pilot whales, four species of dolphins, brown pelicans, roseate terns, least terns, hawksbill sea turtles, leatherback sea turtles, and green sea turtles all use

portions of the monument. Countless species of reef fishes, invertebrates, plants and algae utilize these submerged lands during their lives, and over 25 species of seabirds feed in the waters. Between the near shore nursery habitats and the shelf edge spawning sites, habitats in the monument play essential roles during specific developmental stages of reef associated species, including spawning migrations of many reef fish species and crustaceans. These are threatened by the marina.

Hurricane Hole, an important part of the VI Coral Reef National Monument and located less than a mile from the proposed marina, is one of the most pristine marine environment in the Virgin Islands. Its natural beauty, tranquillity, and diversity of marine resources make it a compelling attraction for visiting boaters. These large yachts are inevitably accompanied by great numbers of small, fast tenders and a plethora of personal watercraft used not only for transportation to and from shore but for exploring and joy-riding. Hurricane Hole would be the obvious destination. The wakes, the stirring up of the bottom sediments in shallow water by propellers, and the noise all are detrimental to the marine resource preservation goals of the National Monument and the National Park. While citing the proximity of the Monument as a plus, the developers have given no consideration to the potential negative cumulative impacts to park and monument resources caused by significantly increased vessel traffic.

I again urge you to voice your concerns about this proposed development. The deadline is January 25, 2016. This is only 10 days away, so whether you send one sentence or a full page, please register your concern now.

Letters should be emailed to Mr. Jose Cedeno-Maldonado, Antilles Permits Section, USACE to: jose.cedeno-maldonado@usace.army.mil

Be sure to include the application number in the subject line.

There is an opportunity to request a public hearing about the application for the marina. In your response to the US Army Corps of Engineers please request a public hearing, and give a reason such as the need for more information, or because of the public controversy.

Lastly, please copy the Friends on your communication about the marina. Please copy emails to nomarina@friendsvinp.org, or fax letters to 340-693-9973.

Thank you for your concern regarding this threat to park and monument resources. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Joe Kessler

President, Friends of V.I. National Park

Tires and Trash in Cruz Bay Need to Go

St. John Tradewinds

Our guests and visitors are greeted with this expression of disregard as they leave the ferry dock and look around.

Will you please help me shame the people who do this to clean it up? Why are they not being fined "\$1,000 Maximum"? It is ridiculous! There should not be a cap on a littering fine that's not enforced. I think that's a law?

I have counted at least five more tires between the dinghy dock and the old parked ferries. It's clearly the same tires they used as bumpers on older boats.

If you look out the window past the ticket booth on the right, you can see tires in our beautiful water. It's disgusting.

Thank you,

Name Withheld Upon Request



Community Calendar

St. John Tradewinds welcomes notices of community-oriented, not-for-profit events for inclusion in this weekly listing. Call 340-514-300 or e-mail editor@tradewinds.vi.

Thursday, January 28

— Friends of the Elaine I. Sprauve Library President Winifred Powell announced that the organization's Annual Meeting will be on Thursday, January 28, at The Marketplace on the second floor at 6 p.m.

Thursday, February 4

— The Sis Frank Concert Series kicks off at St. John School of the Arts with Parter Quartet starting at 7:30 p.m. Future concerts are Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues on Feb. 19, Sweet Plantain on April 8, and Victor Provost on April 15.

Saturday, February 6

— The Animal Care Center of St. John will host its Winter Gala Fundraiser on Saturday, February 6, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. The venue will be the beautiful setting at Sirensa, and the theme is Venetian Carnival.

The cost for the evening filled with music, food, beverages, raffles and silent auction will be \$125 per person. Prizes will be given for the Most Lavish and Most Attention-Getting Masks. Costumes and island fancy dress are appropriate.

Saturday, February 13

— The Humane Society of St. Thomas will host its annual fundraiser, the elegant Valen-

tine's Ball, Saturday, February 13, at Villa Botanica at the Crown and Hawk Botanical Gardens, with cocktails at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner and silent auction at 7:30 p.m.

Music will be provided by DJ Eric Snow to get the party going and keep everyone dancing all night. There will be a silent auction with many unique items up for bid. This event supports the Humane Society of St. Thomas' ongoing efforts to provide food, medical care, and adoption services for homeless animals on St. Thomas.

Friday, February 26

— Bethany Moravian Church is hosting Family Movie Night February 26 at 7 p.m. The February movie is "Selma" and everyone is welcome to join in this free family friendly activity. For more information call the church at (340) 776-6291.

Saturday, March 5

— Save the Date for the 30th Annual Giff Hill School Auction on Saturday, March 5, at The Westin Resort.

Saturday, March 26

— Don't miss the Third Annual St. John Blues Explosion in Winston Wells ball park in Cruz Bay.

Wave Patterns, Geo-Kinetic Sculptures on Display at Bajo's Feb. 5 Opening



St. John Tradewinds

The works of St. John artists Larry Lipsky and Ayn Riehle will be featured on Friday, February 5, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Bajo el Sol art gallery's February opening.

Lipsky, a resident of the Virgin Islands for more than 30 years, creates what he calls "geo-kinetic sculptures."

"My work involves the viewer in the movement of both the art piece and the viewer's changing perspective," Lipsky said. "Future explorations envision faces and figures pursuing random penjolic movement in models of deterministic chaos."

Riehle, a painter who focuses on water-based mediums, is currently working on wave patterns as well as a more abstract approach.

"The abstract series is dealing with more geometric and also a very free, non-subject-matter kind of work," said Riehle. "At the opening, I'll have small work and big work, with some of the wave patterns and some of the soft geometrics."

The works of both artists will be featured at the gallery throughout the month of February. Lipsky and Riehle will be on hand to greet guests at the Feb. 5 opening as David Laabs entertains on the classical guitar. Italian wines will be served courtesy of AB Cellars, and light refreshments will be served as well. Bajo el Sol is located at Mongoose Junction. For more information on the gallery, visit www.bajoelsolgallery.com.

A detail of Lipsky's *Fossil* is shown above and a detail of Riehle's *Untitled Wave* is shown below.



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

All meetings are now open. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 6 p.m. Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cruz Bay; Thursday 7 a.m. Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cruz Bay; Sunday 9:45 a.m., Hawksnest Bay Beach; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 6 p.m. at Moravian Church, Coral Bay

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

AL-ANON MEETINGS

For Al-Anon meeting location and times, please call (340) 642-3263



On *the* Market

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

Soak Up Water Views & Cooling Breezes at Villa Divertimento

St. John Tradewinds

With stunning water views overlooking picturesque Chocolate Hole harbor and ideally situated to take full advantage of the easterly trade winds, Villa Divertimento is a true “must see” home.

This two bedroom, two and a half bathroom custom built villa with a large pool in Estate Chocolate Hole is for sale for \$1.3 million, explained 340 Real Estate broker/owner Tammy Donnelly.

“Villa Divertimento is a low-maintenance, completely turn key villa,” said Donnelly. “The home is located close to Cruz Bay on all paved roads.”

Nestled in the conveniently located neighborhood of Chocolate Hole, Villa Divertimento is only a few minutes from the dining and nightlife of Cruz Bay. The famed alabaster beaches of the island’s north shore are also only a short drive from the home.

The all masonry and stone villa is one level and the full half acre property boasts a paved driveway as well as plenty of space for parking. Perched overlooking Chocolate Hole harbor, Villa Divertimento is ideally situated to soak up those cooling easterly breezes, explained Donnelly.

“Facing easterly, Villa Divertimento is open to the prevailing breezes,” said Donnelly. “Plus, there are beautiful sunrises and moonrises from this home.”

Inside Villa Divertimento you’ll find a spacious great room featuring beautiful native stone details and a charming Caribbean style exposed beam ceiling. The kitchen boasts stainless steel appliances, hard wood cabinets and sleek poured concrete counter tops. Also find a half bathroom and a comfortable dining area. A sleeping loft above the great room includes two additional twin beds, allowing for plenty of overflow guests.

Each of the two bedrooms is a tastefully decorated mas-

ter suite with its own en suite bathroom. Native stone open air showers in both full baths take advantage of living in a tropical paradise.

You’ll never tire of stretching out on a lounge chair next to the beautiful swimming pool as you work on that tan. If you do tire of the sun, take a break from the rays in the cabana room, where you can also mix up a batch of piña colodas for your friends.

Additional details at Villa Divertimento include custom mahogany windows and doors and stained concrete floors. The home also features an insulated roof with a solar net metering system, which will spell big savings on those electric bills.

For more information on Villa Divertimento, call Donnelly at 340 Real Estate at (340) 779-4478 or on her cell phone at (340) 643-6068.



St. John Tradewinds News Photos courtesy of 340 Real Estate

Relax in the well appointed and charming great room, above, at Villa Divertimento, a beautiful and energy efficient home in Estate Chocolate Hole. The entrance to the two bedroom villa is seen at left.

**SEND LETTERS, GUEST OPINIONS,
OBITUARY NOTICES & COMMUNITY
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

TO:

info@tradewinds.vi

**Got a Hot News Tip?
Got a Great Photo?**

email us at:

editor@tradewinds.vi

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

Sunday School 9 a.m., Divine Worship 10 a.m.

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.

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, Divine Worship 8:30 a.m., 776-6713

Freshwater Church

Freshwater Church St. John USVI
Sunday Worship 10 am at Hawksnest Beach
Follow us on Facebook, 340.514.6578

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 Catholic Church

Saturdays: 6 p.m.; Sundays: 7:30 & 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. in Coral Bay
at the John's Folly Learning Institute & 6 pm. in Spanish;
Mondays: 12:15 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 7 a.m.
& Fridays: 7 p.m. Call 776-6339 for more information.

Prayer House of Faith

Sunday Morning Service at 8 a.m; Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays
Prayer services at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays; 340-690-3820

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.
Bible Class on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. 777-6306

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Sunday, 776-6332

St. John Hotel Capacities Enjoy Strong Start to High Season

By Judi Shimel
St. John Tradewinds

Some of the top hoteliers on St. John recently said 2015-2016 may not be the best tourist season they've ever had but, they expected it to be a strong one.

Executives from Westin Resort and Villas St. John, Caneel Bay Resort and Gallows Point Resort reported 100 percent occupancy for days within the recent Christmas holiday period and close to full occupancy on subsequent days, leading up and through the New Year.

The three hoteliers had varying forecasts for the remainder of the winter season, based on holiday success. One, Westin Operations Manager Samuel Hugli, said a pending change of ownership in the spring is designed to keep their units filled close to capacity most of the year.

Occupancy for the first three months of season at Westin St. John ran between 80 and 90 percent, according to Hugli.

The hotel saw 100 percent occupancy for Christmas season, lasting two and a half to three weeks, he added.

Hugli credited a continuing conversion of Westin hotel rooms into vacation villas and condominiums for consistently high bookings. Forty-five of the 90 hotel rooms still available at the Great Cruz Bay resort are expected to be converted into vacation rentals between April and June.

That's when Westin St. John — part of the Starwood hotel chain — is set to be acquired by a South Miami property manager, which specializes in luxury vacation destinations.

Caneel Bay Resort enjoyed more modest bookings from Thanksgiving through Christmas and New Years, but General Manager Nikolay Hotze said room occupancy largely matches pre-season forecasts.

"I think we're right on target, compared to last year in high season," Hotze said.

Bookings from mid-70 to mid-80 percent are expected through the winter of 2016, according to Hotze. Through the balance of the busy tourist season, however, Hotze said the forecast becomes harder to predict.

At the 60 room Gallows Point Resort, Akhil Deshwal said he's looking forward to wedding season at the end of spring to help his business coast along in summer. Several wedding parties have already been booked, and off season is looking up, according to Deshwal.

Although, Gallows saw its best year in 2014, bookings remained robust through 2015 and into 2016, Deshwal explained.

"Season is nothing to complain about," he said.

As far as the regular tourist season, Deshwal expressed confidence. By the third week of January bookings at Gallows were 100 percent. Heading into March, bookings are expected to remain in the 90 percent range.

Spring break at U.S. mainland colleges and schools towards April is expected to keep bookings high as families take vacations in groups.

Rev. Allen Wells Speaking at Jan. 31 & Feb. 7 UUF Meetings

St. John Tradewinds

Join the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. John at 10 a.m., on January 31, at Giff Hill School's lower campus to hear Rev. Allen Wells speak on: "Good News!"

There is some. It's just not located where we usually look for it. Join us in exploring why bad news is so tempting, where good news lies in wait, and how the Buddha helps us to distinguish one from the other. A pot luck and the UUF annual meeting follows this service.

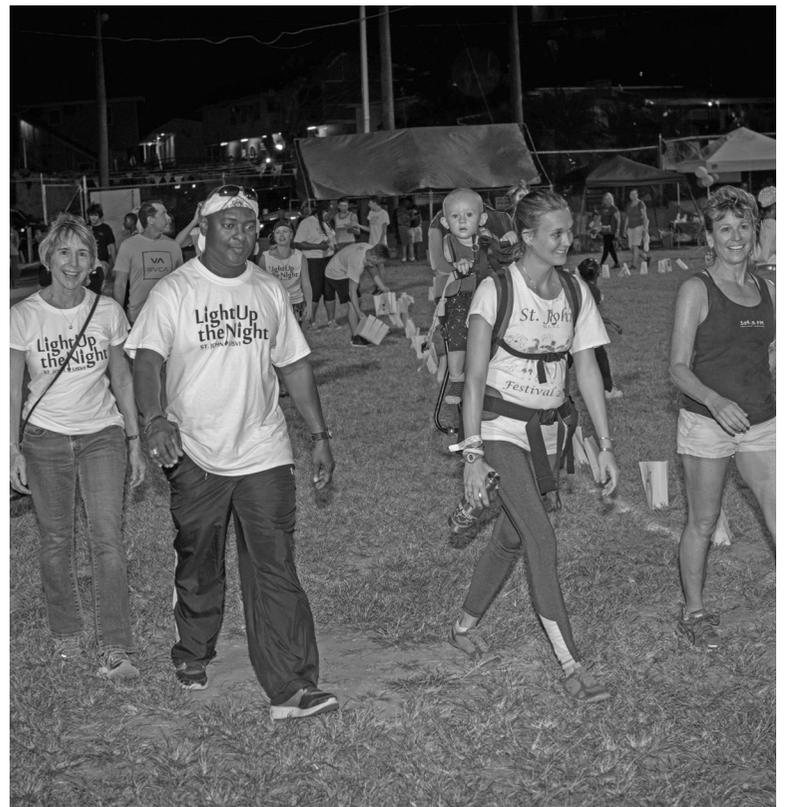
On Sunday, February 7, Rev. Wells' topic will be: "Flower Communion," a historic and unique UU service which is probably the most uniformly celebrated UU service around the world.

It originated with Rev. Norbert Chapek in Czechoslovakia in 1923 as a means to celebrate unity in diversity. After Dr. Chapek was killed at Dachau for his liberal views, the service become a witness to those

who stand up for what they believe. For this special service please bring a flower from a plant, shrub, or tree, which has special meaning in your life. Feel free to bring extra flowers for guests who did not bring a flower.

Rev. Wells is a UU, Buddhist, psychotherapist. After graduating from Divinity School at the University of Chicago, he went on to serve as minister of UU congregations in Weymouth Mass, Queens NY, the First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn, and of The First Unitarian Society of Rockland, County. He also served as Director of Religious Education for the UU Congregation of Monmouth County and the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship. He holds a postgraduate degree in counseling from the Institute of Religion and Health in NYC and a certificate of study at the Integrated Study Practice Program at the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies in Barre, Mass.

Huge Crowd Packs Winston Wells Field for St. John Cancer Fund's Light Up the Night



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Yelena Rogers Photography.

St. John residents of all ages packed the Winston Wells ball field from Saturday night into the early hours of Sunday morning, January 24, for the St. John Cancer Fund's Light Up the Night Fundraiser. The event was filled with music, games, food, and even a dunk tank, but luminary bags (at bottom left) were a sober reminder of how just many people's lives are affected by cancer. See the next issue of *Tradewinds* for more on St. John Cancer Fund's Light Up the Night event.

Yelena Rogers Photography Wins Wedding Wire Award

St. John Tradewinds

WeddingWire, the leading global online wedding marketplace, named Yelena Rogers Photography as a winner of the prestigious WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards® 2016 for Wedding Photography in US, Virgin Islands.

The WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards® 2016 recognizes the top five percent of wedding professionals in the WeddingWire Network who demonstrate excellence in quality, service, responsiveness and professionalism. The esteemed awards are given to the top local wedding vendors in more than 20 service categories, from wedding venues to wedding florists, based on their professional achievements from the previous year.

While many industry award winners are selected by the host organization, the WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards® winners are determined solely based on reviews from real newlyweds and their experiences working with Yelena Rogers Photography. Award-winning vendors are distinguished for the quality, quantity, consistency and timeliness of the reviews they have received from their past clients.

"We are thrilled to celebrate such a high-caliber, committed group of professionals for the Couples' Choice Awards® eighth year," said Timothy Chi, CEO, WeddingWire. "We are proud to continue to serve as the industry leader, with over 2.5 million consumer and peer reviews, and feature award-winning merchants such as Yelena

Rogers Photography who understands the impact reviews have on their successful businesses."

As a Couples' Choice Awards® winner, Yelena Rogers Photography is highlighted within the WeddingWire Network, which is comprised of more than 400,000 wedding professionals globally.

Yelena Rogers Photography is proud to be one of the top Wedding Photography in St. John, US Virgin Islands in the WeddingWire Network, said the photographer

"I would like to thank our past clients for taking the time to review our business on WeddingWire," said Rogers. "I value all of our clients and truly appreciate the positive feedback that helped me earn the WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards® 2016."



For more information about Yelena Rogers Photography, visit the website <http://www.yelenarogersphoto.com/>. To learn more about the Couples' Choice Awards®, please visit www.weddingwire.com/couples-choice-awards.

FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, JAN. 24, 2016

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

LETTER ADDENDA

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

Architecture

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

Art Galleries

Bajo el Sol Gallery
Located in Mongoose Junction
tel. 340-693-7070

Green Building

Island Green Building Association
check www.igbavi.org for Seminar
Series info and ReSource Depot
inventory

Jewelry

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

Services

Caribbean Solar Company
Got Sun? Get Solar!
Call today for a Free Quote
340-643-6007

St. John Hardware
Everything you need on St. John
Call 340-693-8780

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

Real Estate

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Ronnie's Pizza and Mo'
Monday - Friday 12 - 9
Saturday 4 - 9
Closed Sunday

- | | |
|--|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Faux — (social slip) | 1 Druggist's crushing tool |
| 4 Tangos, e.g. | 2 Houston team |
| 10 Singer Anka | 3 Blemishes |
| 14 May greeting card salutation | 4 UCSD part |
| 19 "C'— la vie" ("That's life") | 5 Fluttery tree |
| 20 Tristan's love | 6 3 R's gp. |
| 21 Up to the job | 7 Inferior dog |
| 22 Bayer brand | 8 Moose kin |
| 23 Anorak, for Alaska? | 9 Arises |
| 25 Set no spending limits? | 10 GI's chaplain |
| 27 Injury-sorting process | 11 Call off, as a launch |
| 28 Tell a story | 12 Forearm part |
| 30 Drum set? | 13 Riga native |
| 31 Brit Jones played by Renée Zellweger? | 14 Socrates' T |
| 35 "Barbarella" star Jane | 15 Bygone |
| 37 Suffix similar to -ette | 16 Huge vitamin intake, e.g. |
| 38 Baseball's Tony La — | 17 Hams it up |
| 39 Frat letters | 18 New York team |
| 41 Tenth mo. | 24 Tiny bit |
| 43 Actress Tomei | 26 Suit |
| 46 Decide to order ravioli? | 29 Best competitive effort, informally |
| 50 Old comics girl | 32 Big name in water filters |
| 53 Soap format | 33 Stole cattle |
| 54 Baseball's Pee Wee | 34 "The Lady — Tramp" |
| 55 Place for actor Baldwin's lawn? | 36 Kind of hawk |
| 57 Party food provider | 39 Bog fuel |
| 59 González in 2000 headlines | |
| 60 Lovers' god | |
| 62 "No" vote | |
| 63 That miss | |
| 66 Agents, in brief | |
| 67 Tyke sitting on a fireplace floor? | |
| 72 Tibia locale | |
| 73 Fresno-to-L.A. dir. | |
| 74 Iniquity | |
| 75 "... for — know" | |
| 76 Empathetic comment | |
| 77 Suffer humiliation | |
| 81 Furnish supplies to Oregon's capital? | |
| 84 Box in a den | |
| 87 — borealis | |
| 89 Friendly teasing | |
| 90 Jet kept in reserve? | |
| 92 Hobbled along | |
| 93 — -Cat | |
| 94 Go higher | |
| 95 Set — (decide when to wed) | |
| 97 Egg: Prefix | |
| 100 Pickling liquid | |
| 102 Yeast used to treat illness? | |
| 107 Dad's sister | |
| 108 — Bessette-Kennedy | |
| 111 Dress | |
| 112 Activity held between work hours? | |
| 114 Apt word spelled out by the letters added to 10 answers in this puzzle | |
| 118 "Uncle Miltie" | |
| 119 Taken with | |
| 120 Faraway | |
| 121 — Jones Average | |
| 122 Williams of "Happy Days" | |
| 123 Gotten a glimpse of | |
| 124 Grog drinker | |
| 125 Lennon lover | |
| 40 With 56-Down, pre-talkies time | 80 Took the gold |
| 42 — Bo | 82 Llama cousin |
| 43 — a wet hen | 83 Laotian currency unit |
| 44 One-named R&B singer | 84 Conan's network |
| 45 Arena arbiter | 85 Eighth U.S. president |
| 47 Oval part | 86 Disdainful people |
| 48 Korean car | 88 Good to go |
| 49 — Lingus | 91 Portion |
| 50 Leering types | 92 Fond du — |
| 51 Chronicles | 96 Iraqi currency units |
| 52 Baloney | 97 City in Spain |
| 53 Bluebonnet | 98 Lillian — (gift retailer) |
| 56 See 40-Down | 99 Ring combo |
| 58 Cheering cry | 101 Author — Calvino |
| 61 — Na Na | 102 Three-card street scam |
| 63 Slate source | 103 John of rock |
| 64 Employing person | 104 Milk: Prefix |
| 65 Hostile party | 105 Bygone anesthetic |
| 67 Assembly aid | 106 \$\$\$ dispenser |
| 68 Using uppercase | 107 "Chiquitita" quartet |
| 69 Lanchester of old films | 109 Alamo rival |
| 70 Flying stat | 110 Russo of film |
| 71 Abbott & Costello musical | 113 Boy toy? |
| 72 Parboil | 115 Brewed quaff |
| 74 Titan's planet | 116 Oversharing initialism |
| 76 Atoll unit | 117 Co. owned by Verizon |
| 77 Comics cry | |
| 78 Ordinance | |
| 79 "... cup — cone?" | |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19			20						21				22						
23			24						25			26							
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84	85	86					87			88			89						
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107																			
112														114	115	116	117		
118																			121
122																			125

SKDYVZK H WEOYGHAK CMK OWUB, ZHUTKE
YGB SEWGAK YLYEBZ YC YCMUKCHD KTKGCZ,
LWVUB QWV ZYQ H'X HG XKBYU XYGYOKXKGC?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals Z

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See and be Seen: at the 2016 Rastafari Agricultural Fair



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Judi Shimel

St. Johnians celebrated the land at the 2016 Rastafari Cultural and Agricultural Fair. The fair was hosted over the Martin Luther King Day weekend in January at Bordeaux Farms on St. Thomas. Organizers from We Grow Food, Inc., which hosts the event, estimated 5,000 visitors attended the fair over the three day holiday weekend. - **Judi Shimel**

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