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**September 7-20, 2015**

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## ST. JOHN

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# TRADEWINDS

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

### **DPNR Plans Increased Coral Harbor Enforcement**

DPNR officials said they are planning to inspect a second floating dock and the numerous vessels attached to the shoreline behind Skinny Legs and along the shoreline of neighboring privately owned Usher Cay as part of increased enforcement activity in Coral Bay.

The fate of the floating docks on the Moravian Church-owned shoreline on Coral Bay will not be determined until after a September 9 meeting of church council officials with the V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management division, according to Moravian officials.

The church council has reported they had been cited by DPNR for the illegal docks in a preliminary review of plans submitted by a development group for a marina and mixed use residential and retail project on the historic Emmaus Moravian Church waterfront property and nearby ball field. Usher Cay is privately owned. The owners respectfully declined comment. **STORY ON PAGE 3.**



*St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat*

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*St. John Tradewinds News Photo*

Maggie Metor and Eulie Louis greet St. John residents who opened their wallets on Saturday, September 5, to support several collection efforts underway around the island for residents of Dominica after the island suffered serious damage from the tropical storms that have swept the region in recent weeks.

“People have been very generous,” Metor said.

At least 11 people died and hundreds were injured after a Tropical Storm Erica inundated Dominica on Aug. 27. Donations of clothes, nonperishable food items, baby supplies, bedding and other items are also being accepted by local relief workers.

## *St. John Mobilizes Relief Drive for Storm Stricken Dominica*

By **JUDI SHIMEL**  
*St. John Tradewinds*

**CRUZ BAY** — Every day Virgin Islanders opened their hearts, the wallets and their closets last week on behalf of their friends and neighbors in Dominica. Across the territory efforts began to assist those who had lost lives and property during the passage of Tropical Storm Erika in Dominica on Aug.

27.

An estimated 20 people lost their lives when torrential rains flooded the land of 365 rivers. Homes collapsed, infrastructure — bridges and dams — failed. At least one Dominican national, living on St. Thomas, told a civic group between seven and eight villages have been left stranded as a result of the damage.

Local Dominican groups like Waseen Dominique and the UVI Dominican Student’s Association immediately formed a relief drive, and with the help of local businesses and Gov. Kenneth Mapp, launched an appeal.

Virgin Islanders responded, dropping off supplies of water, clean clothing, bedding, baby sup-

*Continued on Page 17*

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### **Julius E. Sprauve Orientation Sept. 8**

Orientation for the Julius Sprauve School will be Tuesday, Sept. 8, in the cafeteria for the following grades: 8 to 8:45 a.m., Grades K – 2; 9 to 9:45 a.m., Grades 3 – 5; 10 to 10:45 a.m. Grades 6-8, according to Principal Ellen Francois and Assistant Principal Lisa Penn.

Students and parents are reminded that school fees include: \$18 for School Insurance; \$20 for PTO dues and \$20 for Physical Education uniform. Students should report to school at respective time in full uniform. School will be full day.

### **Unity Day Sets Property Tax Meeting**

The Virgin Islands Unity Day Group will conduct a public meeting Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Legislature to provide “an opportunity to raise your concerns relative to property tax and the effects of exorbitant property assessments to the senate body, according to a public notice posted by organizers.

### **Viggo E. Sewer American Legion Post 131 Plans Sept. 11 Commemoration**

The Viggo E. Sewer American Legion Post 131 has scheduled a Commemoration Ceremony for Friday, Sept. 11, at 12 noon at the Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay.

### **Veterans Affairs Opened Second Friday**

The Office of Veterans Affairs will be having office hours on the island of St. John on the second Friday of every month. Operating hours for the St. John office will be 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Battery in Cruz Bay.

Any Veteran residing on the island of St. John that needs assistance can come to the office between these hours and receive the same services they would if they were at the St. Thomas or St. Croix office. Veterans are strongly recommended to call the St. Thomas office at 340-774-6100 and schedule an appointment if it is your intent to visit the St. John office. Setting an appointment will ensure that we have your files available when you arrive.

### **Rehearsals Begin; Singers Needed**

St. John Singers Rehearsals begin Monday, September 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay.

The St John Singers is a community choral group of men and women from St John and St. Thomas who just love to sing. There are no auditions and no need to read music. The group present concerts on St. John during the Christmas holiday season and also in the spring. To join St. John Singers call 776-6833 for more information.

Do you like to sing in the shower? Cultivate your talent by joining the St. John Singers. This community choir begins its 33rd season on Monday, Sept.14, and all are welcome. The first rehearsal will be at the Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay at 6:30 p.m.

The choir has traditionally featured classical music, but now the repertoire is becoming more eclectic under the direction of Janice Ballard. The concerts scheduled for December will include holiday music as well as compositions from multiple genres.

There are no auditions, but choir members must make a commitment to attend rehearsals regularly on Monday nights. For further information, please call Janice Ballard at (828) 301-5413 or email her at *janice.ballard@gmail.com*.

# With New Vessels, DPNR Plans Increased Enforcement Efforts in Coral Bay Harbor

By TOM OAT  
St. John Tradewinds

**ST. THOMAS** — There may be more complaints than wisecracks about marine law enforcement in isolated Coral Bay when the V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources gets some new resources in the form of two patrol boats — including one just right for enforcement activities in Coral Harbor.

Without a reliable enforcement vessel for months after a troubled history of maritime law enforcement, DPNR will be getting a 32-foot hard bottom inflatable vessel and a 17-foot Boston Whaler by the end of the month, DPNR Chief of Law Enforcement Howard Forbes told *St. John Tradewinds* on Friday, Sept. 4.

And the new Boston Whaler may be just right for trailering to St. John for Coral Harbor enforcement efforts, Forbes opined.

“And, we are looking to hire additional personnel, especially on St. John,” Forbes told *St. John Tradewinds*.

## Enhanced Coral Harbor Enforcement

One of the first targets in enforcement efforts will be the floating trailer park in the lee of the cay behind the iconic Skinny Legs restaurant which has long been a safe haven to several dozen members of the Coral Harbor liveaboard boating community, Forbes said.

“Most definitely,” Forbes said of en-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Usher Cay, middle left area of Coral Bay Harbor, is shelter for numerous boats.

forcement of federal and territorial regulations prohibiting tying to mangroves. “There are lines attached to the mangroves and that’s something we will address.”

“Securing vessels to nearby trees will be done ONLY when necessary and by utilizing proper chaffing material on all lines,” according to DPNR hurricane maritime

regulations. “Lines must be removed immediately after the storm.”

A spokesperson for the prominent Virgin Islands family which owns Usher Cay respectfully declined to comment on the shoreline moorings which surround the cay when contacted by *St. John Tradewinds* on Friday, September 4.

## Navel Battle Roils Coral Bay

Meanwhile, DPNR has its hands full as community organizers and marina developers continue the naval battle for control of the future of Coral Harbor, but the territorial agency apparently will be enforcing its rules as competing proposals for marina developments and management of the harbor moorings continue to incite civic discord.

The fate of the floating docks on the Moravian Church-owned shoreline on Coral Bay will not be determined until after a September 9 meeting of church council officials with the V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management division, according to Moravian officials.

The church council has reported being cited by DPNR for the un-permitted docks after a preliminary review of plans submitted by a development group for a marina and mixed use residential and retail project on the historic Emmaus Moravian Church waterfront property and nearby ball field.

The church council has notified Coral Bay boaters of the DPNR order they received to remove the docks and boating community activists are hoping DPNR will allow the uninsured dock to stay in place while a permit is sought for its existence.

To report any areas of concern, contact the Division of Environmental Enforcement at 774-3320 or 773-5774.

## Father’s Pledge



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Judi Shimel

Fathers from St. Thomas and St. John pledge to take their children to school on the first day of class and to actively support their children’s educational progress. The pledge, led by retired Judge James Carroll III, was held at a pre-school family fun day held Aug. 29 at Emille Griffiith Park in Charlotte Amalie.

## RAIN DATA at Trunk Bay

(Courtesy of Rafe Boulon)

### AUGUST 2015

3.05 Inches

### AVG. AUGUST

4.39 Inches

### TOTAL Y-T-D

14.43 Inches

### AVERAGE Y-T-D

25.50 Inches

We are 11.07”  
below average.  
Need some rain!!!

—Rafe Boulon

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### NEXT DEADLINE

Thursday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>

### NEWS LINE

340-776-6496

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# CBCC's Coldren Hopes CZM Cooperation, Can Save Unpermitted Floating Dock

By TOM OAT

*St. John Tradewinds*

**CORAL BAY** — As summer ends, Sharon Coldren, founding guru of the ad hoc Coral Bay Community Council, was leading a search for a new executive director to front the organization she created to speak for a major segment of the isolated — geographically and politically — and historic St. John community.

Coldren simultaneously was helping the Coral Bay community prepare for the latest foul weather in the form of Tropical Storm Erica as she was preparing for the first major cleanup of derelict vessels in Coral Harbor under a federal grant secured by CBCC after years of planning and effort — ironically the latest tropical storm left several additional vessels stranded on the shoreline of the harbor. (See related stories and photos.)

In the meantime, the volunteer spiritual leader of the non-profit activist group she helped establish, nurture and build with grants and donations proclaimed a tentative success in her effort to convince Virgin Islands government officials to delay their order forcing the removal of unpermitted docks in Coral Bay during consideration of plans for a marina and boat storage facility dock on the shoreline behind the Virgin Island Fire Department station. Simultaneously, Coldren crossed her fingers in hopes of a reprieve for the community's only public — albeit un-permitted and un-insured — dock access for the maritime community.

All the while, Coldren continues to manage the six-figure Save Coral Bay fund collected to underwrite legal opposition to the "other" proposed Coral Bay marina development, the Summer's End Group "Mega Yacht" marina project — and help coordinate the opposition to that development as well.

**Defending Community Dock**

"I think DPNR realizes the dock is necessary for boaters and also to protect



*St. John Tradewinds News Photo*

**Post-dated Permission Pending?** Community leaders are hoping for a government solution to save the unpermitted, two-section floating dock located offshore of the Moravian Church-owned waterfront parcel behind the Coral Bay Fire Station, above. The docks were installed without permits after the previous ramshackle structure became a safety hazard. Now Moravian officials have been ordered to remove the dock sections by the V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources as part of the permitting process for the marina and boat storage facility proposed for the shoreline site.

the environment," Coldren told *St. John Tradewinds*, Wednesday, September 2, of efforts to keep the unapproved floating docks in place through any necessary permitting process. "I have some confidence."

"We are actively pursuing the long and difficult permitting process," Coldren said of the regulatory system which includes an alphabet soup of V.I. and federal agencies from DPNR to NOAA. "They are doing their due diligence."

"I am assuming that after the meeting (a rumored Sept. 9 planned meeting between DPNR officials and Moravian Church Council leaders concerning the unpermitted docks) Coral Bay boaters will be invited," Coldren said.

"I feel positive there are positive options DPNR and the church can take," Copldren continued. "I hope they will work it out."

"Hi Coral Bay — Dock solved for now."

"Hi Coral Bay — Dock solved for now," Coldren wrote hopefully in her August CBCC newsletter for the community-focused non-profit organization dated Friday, Aug 21.

"Thank you to the people who responded to CBCC's request and wrote 65 excellent letters to the Moravian Church VI Conference asking that the public floating dinghy dock remain and that they allow it to be permitted," Coldren wrote. "Just today we were finally able to get official assurance

from the Church Conference and DPNR that the floating dock and the KATS dock will remain where they are while permitting solutions are being developed."

"We hope both DPNR and the Conference will involve all stakeholders in this process," Coldren added.

"I think DPNR realizes the dock is necessary for boaters and also necessary to protect the environment," Coldren told *St. John Tradewinds* on Wednesday, September 2.

**Search for Director**

Coldren, meanwhile, can hope that publicity about the organization's search for "a full-time Executive Director to provide hands-on management for all aspects of the organization, including fund-raising and communications, as well as working directly on projects," will help field a candidate to assume much of the responsibilities that have fallen on her through the fledgling years of the organization.

"The Executive Director will also provide leadership, vision and direction," the job description continues. "Must be highly-motivated to do good for the community of Coral Bay, have excellent office computer skills, organizational skills, be a self-starter and have financial, fundraising, and management experience. See details at <http://www.coralbaycommunitycouncil.org/>

"Help us find the right person for the job — needs Very Good Office Computer skills! — and all the other "magic" above..." Coldren announced. "Planned Deadline is August 24th for applications — please get them in!"

CBCC has received a number of promising applications, according to Coldren, who said the application process could be extended for a short period in the aftermath of recent storms.

"Next problem — getting through this hurricane or tropical storm with little damage — see below about these and more..." Coldren wrote in the CBCC newsletter.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

The newest sailboat deposited on the shore of Coral Harbor by Tropical Storm Erica, David Wegman's *The African Queen*, was stranded on the edge of Route 107 on Friday, Aug. 28 – and quickly rescued by community boaters and friends of the renowned artist.

## Storms Leave More Flotsam and Jetsam As CBCC Prepares to Remove Wrecks

By TOM OAT  
St. John Tradewinds

**CORAL BAY** — Mother Nature appeared to be impartial to the competing Coral Harbor marina plans as Tropical Storm Erika in late August managed to strand vessels on the planned sites of both projects.

A new sailboat joined the landmark collection of wrecked live-aboard vessels in the northwest corner of the bay behind the Moravian Church ball field during Tropical Storm Erika — it ended up in the corner near a collection of deflated dinghies and other maritime debris.

“I saw that boat before the storm and put out extra fenders one harbor denizen told *St. John Tradewinds*.

The southwest corner of Coral Harbor saw two iconic member of the boating community washed ashore on the planned site of the Coral Bay “mega-yacht” marina with similar classic cinematic monikers.

Local legend David Wegman's *African Queen* broke loose from its mooring in the outer harbor and rested against the edge of Route 107 with the empty hull of the infamous JAWS which sank near Penn Point earlier this year.

Community members and friends of the artist quickly organized behind Coral Harbor legend Elliott Hoper to refloat *African Queen* within days of



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

An unidentified vessel grounded in the Coral Harbor harbor shoreline bilge by Tropical Storm Erika joins a collection of a half dozen vessels grounded amid deflated inflatables, flotsam and jetsam in the mangrove shoreline of the inner harbor behind the Moravian Church ball field.

the storm.

*Continued on Page 22*

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# Gov. Mapp Declared State of Emergency In Response to Tropical Storm Erica

## St. John Tradewinds

**ST. THOMAS** — V.I. Governor Kenneth E. Mapp declared a State of Emergency in the territory on Thursday, Aug. 27, at 11 p.m. and imposed a curfew across the territory “to protect the lives and property of the residents and visitors.”

Gov. Mapp’s order also froze consumer prices, deputized all territorial peace officers and placed each of them under the direct supervision of the Police Commissioner and activated the Virgin Islands National Guard, placing the VING into Territorial Military Service.

The Governor determined that these actions were necessary after being briefed by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works and the Executive Director of the V.I. Water and Power Authority that trees, poles and electrical lines were down across the Virgin Islands.

### Two Drive-by Shootings Reported

In addition, the Police Commissioner reported that under the cover of darkness, two drive-by shootings had occurred.

Governor Mapp’s order imposed an immediate curfew across the territory until 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, “or until such time the safety of residents are secure.” The Governor noted that more rain and wind gusts were expected through 4 a.m. Aug. 28, and conditions in the territory were expected to worsen.

The State of Emergency also froze prices throughout the Territory. The Commissioner of the Department of licensing and Consumer was directed to enforce this provision of the declaration of emergency.

“All peace officers are hereby deputized as law enforcement officers of the Virgin Islands specifically to perform public safety functions as required by the Governor during this state of emergency and shall immediately report to the Commissioner of Police, or his or her designated representative on each island to perform as the Police Commissioner shall direct,” according to the Governor’s order.

### National Guard Activated

“As Commander in Chief, I have ordered the Virgin Islands National Guard into Territorial Active Military Service,” the Governor said in his order. “The Adjutant General shall mobilize such units of the Guard as are necessary to maintain public order and guarantee the safety of life and property of our residents and visitors alike.”

At mid-morning on Friday, Aug. 28, Gov. Mapp was to lead a team, making an aerial assessment of the conditions of all of the Virgin Islands. “I am asking our residents and visitors to remain indoors and off the public roadways while we clear, repair and restore safe conditions in the territory.”

Many residents were caught unaware that the curfew had been imposed overnight upon venturing out on Friday morning. The curfew shut down ferry service between St. Thomas and St. John so there were no published announcements of the curfew.

“I thank all of our dedicated employees for their hard work and sacrifice away from home during this difficult period,” the Governor concluded. “In the end, we will be fine, the Governor said. In the meantime, stay home, stay dry and stay safe.”



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

St. John ferries were idling in Cruz Bay Creek on Friday, Aug. 28, waiting for the U.S. Coast Guard to reopen the port.



# Stranded in Eros City by Erika Embargo

By TOM OAT  
Special St. John Tradewinds

**ST. JOHN** — A few residents of St. John blithely went about their morning routines in eerily quiet Cruz Bay Friday morning, Aug. 28, in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Erica totally unawares of the fact they were violating a curfew declared by V.I. Gov. Kenneth Mapp late the previous evening.

The curfew was subsequently lifted in the middle of the day and the U.S. Coast Guard reopened all the ports in USVI at 12:30 p.m. Friday and ferry service was restored following the officially-declared passing of Tropical Storm Erika to end several days of confusion and unintended civil disobedience.

The U.S. Coast Guard had set Port Condition ZULU at midnight Wednesday, Aug. 26, for all the ports in the U.S. Virgin Islands and 2 a.m. Thursday for the eastern and northern ports of Puerto Rico due to the passing of Tropical Storm Erika.

Ports under Port Condition ZULU officially suspend operations and are closed to all inbound and outbound vessel traffic until otherwise directed by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port, according to the USCG announcement.

The USCG opened the ports in U.S. Virgin Islands at 12:30 p.m. Friday following the passing of Tropical Storm Erika.

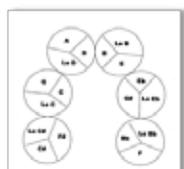
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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Raven Phillips

IEKHS Principal Stefan Jurgen asked members of Junior R.O.T.C., above, to sing the school's alma mater. The members of the school program not only demonstrated citizenship and responsibility, but they also accentuated the importance of school spirit.

## New IEKHS Principal Jurgen and Ninth Grade Principal Powell Know St. John Student Woes

By RAVEN PHILLIPS  
St. John Tradewinds

ST. JOHN — CRUZ BAY – Stefan Jurgen, the incumbent principal of Ivanna Eudora Kean High School, made his way back home on Monday, August 31.

The former St. John resident and principal of Charlotte Amalie High School, alongside administrative officer Cherise Thomas and ninth grade principal Desha Powell, called the afternoon meeting for the St. John students of IEKHS in the Julius E. Sprauve School cafeteria.

Although the meeting was intended just for students, some parents attended as well.

"I am very happy to meet each of you and your parents," Jurgen told the students after they each stood up to introduce themselves.

Jurgen opened the meeting by introducing himself, and explaining his and Desha Powell's St. John roots in speaking to issues facing St. John IEKHS students.

"Look at the name of the park by the ferry. You see the name Powell, that's her (Desha Powell) family," Jurgen explained. "Look at the name on the police station. That is the name of my grandfather!"

Topics discussed with the students included orientation dates, uniform requirements, changes being made to the school and school pride.

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– St. John Rescue's Amy Raymond

### Orientation Schedule

Principal Jurgen also announced the orientation schedule for the different grades. Orientation for freshman and sophomores was September 2 and orientation for Juniors and seniors was September 3.

"Students are expected to arrive in full uniform, and all necessary materials," Jurgen reiterated. "This includes up-to-date immunization records, and all money due for fees.

Everything must be done all at once, we will not allow steps to be completed in increments" said Jurgen.

Continued on Page 18

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# Deckoff's *Pescador* Wins 43rd USVI Open Atlantic Blue Marlin Tourney

By CAROL BAREUTHER  
*Special to St. John Tradewinds*  
**ST. THOMAS** — A last minute catch landed *Pescador* the Top Boat prize in the 43rd annual USVI Open/Atlantic Blue Marlin Tournament (ABMT) as the team, led by Stephen Deckoff, Sr., the St. John-based owner/angler of the 60-foot Rybovich, scored five blue marlin releases in the two-day tournament.

The team's final fish, caught by Deckoff's 16-year-old son, John, kept fighting after the 5:30 p.m. lines out time making for a thrilling finish to this "Super Bowl of Sports Fishing."

"That last blue marlin, the one that won us the tournament, only

weighed around 300 pounds, but it was a fighter," said Deckoff. "We had our fingers crossed that we'd be able to release it and John did after a 1 hour and 20 minute fight."

*Never Say Never*, a 58-foot Merritt owned by Jim Carr of Coral Gables, Florida, led going into the ABMT final day with three blue marlin releases. *Pescador* also scored three releases, but was in second place based on time. *Never Say Never* maintained its lead by catching a fourth blue marlin right after noon.

### Fifth Blue Marlin Needed for Win

*Pescador* released its fourth fish seven minutes later, keeping

both boats in their same first and second position. The only way for *Pescador* to win was to release a fifth blue marlin.

"John hooked up his marlin just minutes before lines out," says Deckoff, who adds that his team was fishing the waters off of Aneгада. Tournament rules allow a maximum three-hour fight time for any fish hooked up before the event's end. The *Pescador* team used this rule to advantage with their tournament-winning catch coming shortly before 6 p.m.

*Never Say Never* ended second with four releases, while Marlinraptor, a Puerto Rico-based 54-foot Viking with Capt. David Salazar at the helm, rounded out third place with three blue marlin.

In total, the nine boat tournament fleet released a total of 20 blue marlin in two-days.

The ABMT was run this year as a team tournament under IGFA rules only, without the call for competitors to adhere to additional special tournament rules such as the need for anglers to rotate rods hourly. The event was abbreviated to two days due to Tropical Storm Erika.

No fish were caught by either boat fishing in the first-ever MarlinFest Wet 'N Wild Center Console Tournament.

"We saw a white marlin yesterday, but didn't catch it. Today, we didn't see anything said Capt. Rob Olive, aboard the St. Croix-based 40-foot Deep Impact, *Turn and Burn*. "But, hey, we can say we fished in the first tournament."

### No Limit Loses Big Fish

Josh Bourg, aboard the St. John-based 33-foot Viper, *No Limit*, the other Wet 'N Wild entry, said his team hooked up a 600-plus-pound blue marlin that ultimately shook the hook before they could catch it. The blue did put on a great display jumping in the vessel's wake before swimming free, Bourg related.

The *Wet N' Wild* is for anglers who enjoy big game fishing for blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, yellowfin tuna and wahoo on standup tackle.

On land, crowds came out on Saturday to enjoy the 3rd annual MarlinFest Red Hook 'Jump Up'. More than twenty arts, crafts and food vendors lined the upper park-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Dean Barnes

The crew and anglers of the 60-foot Rybovich *Pescador*, owned by Stephen Deckoff Sr. of St. John, far right, earned top boat honors in the 43rd Annual USVI Open/Atlantic Blue Marlin Tournament on Sunday Aug. 30. The winning fish was landed at the end of the tournament by Deckoff's son John, 16, second from right.

ing lot at IGY's American Yacht Harbor Marina. In the afternoon, seven restaurants competed for the \$1,000 cash prize in the Chowder Challenge.

Fish Tails won 'Best of the Fest' for its Mahi Corn & Crab Chowder. Latitude 18 finished second with its Seafood Chowder, while Molly Malone's came in third with its Conch Chowder. Judges included Marleen Dykhuis, who judged the Chili Cook-Off for many years, *Virgin Islands' Daily News* restaurant critic Lori Abbotts and the Food Network's Extreme Chef winner, Terry French.

"What I like about being a chef and being involved in events like this is the chance to give back and benefit the community," says

French, who lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and who is also an avid fisherman.

Proceeds from MarlinFest benefit the Marine Vocational Program, which is a locally-registered not-for profit.

Started by Chuck Senf back in 1972, the ABMT has evolved into one of the most competitive salt-water sports fishing events in the world earning the moniker 'Super Bowl of Sports Fishing'. The ABMT is fished under International Game Fishing Association (IGFA) rules, and is overseen by a professional 'Board of Captains' and well-qualified judges.

The ABMT continues its 43-year tradition of benefiting the Boy Scouts of the Virgin Islands.

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**ST. THOMAS RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES**

# St. John Entrepreneurs' Dream of Running Scenic Maine Inn Survive Legal Nightmare

By TOM OAT

St. John Tradewinds

CENTER LOVELL, ME — The dream of winning a charming inn and restaurant in the heart of Maine almost became a waking nightmare, but the fairy tale is finally coming true for former St. John hosts Prince and Rose Adams.

"We're up and running; we started about four weeks ago," Rose told St. John Tradewinds on Saturday, Sept. 5, of the operation of the seven-room inn as she prepared for the first night operating the inn's restaurant. "The lodging was good, steady."

The New York couple had settled on St. John and opened the popular Sweet Plain-tains restaurant on the shore of Coral Harbor where they were making a name for themselves as hosts while raising their son.

Rose, with a strong resort culinary background, was running a creatively renowned kitchen and Prince had made a name for himself as a mixologist with a very hospitable bar, when Prince entered an essay contest to win an historic seven-room inn and restaurant in scenic Center Lovell, Maine.

After being informed their essay about their life and work on St. John had been chosen from more than 7,000 other contest entries, the couple faced a tight timetable of reopening the Maine inn and restaurant by early July for the summer season and they packed up as fast as they could and walked away from their waterfront restaurant lease on Coral Bay.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

**The Essay Contest Is Over!** Rose and Prince Adams, formerly of St. John, have completely reopened the Center Lovell Inn, above, which they won in an essay contest.

### Restaurant Finally Opens

Although they are still waiting for their container of clothing and possessions to arrive from St. John, Rose reported to St. John Tradewinds on Saturday, Sept. 5, the Adams were busy with last-minute preparations to finally open the inn's restaurant.

The owner of the Center Lovell Inn, who also had won the inn through an essay contest, received 7,255 entries for the contest,

which at \$125 each yielded her \$906,875, according to a Maine State Police investigation, the Portland, Maine, Press Herald reported.

Janice Sage, who won a similar essay contest in 1993, had announced in early 2015 she would be conducting a similar contest. A 200-word essay would determine who would win ownership of the restaurant and inn, which has seven guest rooms and

views of the White Mountains and Kezar Lake.

Sage set a limit of 7,500 entries, with the net proceeds intended to pay for her retirement.

### Complaints and Police Investigation

Prince and Rose's essay was chosen as the winner, but almost immediately unsuccessful entrants complained that the contest hadn't been run properly, according to a Press Herald newspaper report.

Complaints disputed that the winning essay was the best of those submitted and speculated that Sage and the Adams may have known each other prior to the contest, the newspaper reported in early July.

The complaints prompted a weeklong state police investigation and The Portland Press Herald filed a Freedom of Access request for a copy of the investigation.

The complete investigation, contained in a binder about an inch thick, was considered investigative and intelligence information and that releasing it could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, Assistant Attorney General Christopher Parr told the newspaper. Therefore the information is not considered a public record, he said.

Parr did, however, provide a copy of the investigation narrative in which the names of the people involved, including the essay judges, had been redacted, according to the newspaper report.

*Continued on Page 18*



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## There's a Fungus Amongus



St. John Tradewinds News  
Photos by Tom Oat

Looking like a lost child's toy in the garden, a unique fungus grew into a four-inch red whiffle ball overnight in this Bethany wildflower bed. The odd fungus has multiple openings to attract flies and other insects into its sticky interior.

***"We ask that the community brings in things such as clothes, canned food, toiletries, and school supplies. We hope to gather enough items so the first box can be sent towards the middle of this month."***

— Pastor Joseph Luke of the Calvary Baptist Church

## Little Church in Hard Labor Steps Up To Aid Dominica After Storm Damage

By RAVEN PHILLIPS  
St. John Tradewinds

**HARD LABOR** – In the wake of tropical storm Erica, several islands throughout the Caribbean have come together to send relief efforts to the severely hit Dominica.

A little church nestled in Hard Labor has begun to reach out to the community so that St. John can add to the relief efforts.

Pastor Joseph Luke of the Calvary Baptist Church has established a collection box in the church.

"We ask that the community brings in things such as clothes, canned food, toiletries, and school supplies," said Luke. "We hope to gather enough items so the first box can be sent towards the middle of this month."

### Donations to North and South

Donations to the damaged island have frequently been made through three different ways, through the Red Cross, directly the government and to different churches located throughout the island.

The Calvary Baptist Church has opted to send donations to two churches: Olivet First Baptist Church in the north, and Deliverance Baptist Church in the south.

Pastor Joseph Luke indicated that he had worked alongside the pastors from the two churches in the past.

"I was a part of a program in Dominica called Operation Christmas Child, where volunteers gave away Christmas gifts to children. It was during this program that I got to meet Pastor Preston Simpson of Olivet First Baptist Church, and Pastor David Serrant of Deliverance Baptist Church," explained Luke.

After tropical storm Erica struck the island, Pastor Luke contacted the two pastors and arranged for donations to be sent to their respective churches.

### Assisting the Church in Donating

The church is not alone in collecting donations, it also is receiving assistance from Peninsula Baptist Church in North Carolina.

"The Calvary Baptist Church has been in a ministry partnership with Peninsula Baptist Church since 2010," said Luke. "They will be able to assist us in sending at least two donation boxes to Dominica."

The church also is supported by several companies and Paul Alexander on St. Thomas, who hope to lighten the cost of shipping.

The church urges the community to take part in the donations. Pastor Luke concluded.

"We're doing our best to help as often as we can," he added. "This initiative is not for church members alone, the community is invited to help as well."

Those interested in donating should bring their items to the Calvary Baptist Church.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

The 31st Legislature Committee of the whole met Sept. 1 in Cruz Bay to begin a series of hearings about the government pension system.

## Legislature Starts Pension System Discussion at Full Senate Hearing in St. John Chambers

By JUDI SHIMEL  
St. John Tradewinds

CRUZ BAY — Lawmakers with the 31st Legislature chose the Cruz Bay Legislative Conference Room at the first stop on a territory wide discussion about the future of the government pension system.

The future, as described by officials of the Government Employees Retirement System was dire.

The pension system will have used up all of their assets needed for investment by 2025, GERS Chairman Wilbur Callender and Administrator Austin Nibbs testified. By then the only revenues the system will have to pay pensions will come from government workers on the job, paying deductions in anticipation of their own retirements, they added.

### Annuity Checks Cut by Half

If that scenario is allowed to continue without any corrections put in place retirees from the government system can expect to see their annuity checks cut by more than half, the GERS officials said.

That assessment was offered as lawmakers considered Bill No.

***“As the chairman of the Finance Committee I can tell you that the problem is not the \$600 million pension obligation fund. The problem is how to pay for it.”***

— Senator Clifford Graham

31-0146, a measure that if passed would amend Title 3 of the Virgin Islands Code, Chapters 27 and 28A pertaining to the the retirement of government employees.

The GERS officials also cautioned about the consequences of inaction, citing Act. No. 6905, passed in 2007 and signed by former Governor John de Jongh. That measure called for an infusion of \$600 million into the GERS as a hedge against having to liquidate the system’s assets.

Lawmakers acted; the governor signed the measure into law, but then nothing happened.

“We were shocked,” Nibbs said. At the time he was acting Finance commissioner. Some time

later, he said he asked de Jongh why he failed to act. The former governor told him if the \$600 million was invested at the time most of it would have been lost in a tumultuous market.

Now, eight years later, some lawmakers speaking at the Sept. 1 Senate hearing expressed trepidation over the urgent need to make up for lost time.

Since 2007 the government workforce shrunk by 20 percent, said GERS actuary Leon Joyner. The ratio of persons paying into the pension system also shrunk away from the ideal of 3.2-to-1. In 2015, Joyner said, the rate was more like 1.25-to-1.

Continued on Page 15

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*JAZZ is a female pit-boxer around 2-years-old and does well with other dogs. She also does well with children. Jazz is undergoing heartworm treatment and will make a full recovery.*

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## Filling Station Fill?



*St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat*

The Coral Bay coconut telegraph was quick to question the fill placed on a shoreline parcel along Route 107 west of the former Island Blues and, just as quickly, work stopped and the site was properly staked with silt fences before anyone could complain to *St. John Tradewinds*.

There were, however, no government permits for the filling visible posted at the site after Tropical Storm Erica in late August.

Of course, the nefarious Summer's End Group, developers of the mega-yacht marina proposed for the neighboring waterfront parcels, got un-needed dis-credit for the earth change or filing on some extensions of the coconut telegraph – even though that parcel is not involved in the SEG project, SEG principal Rick Barksdale explained.

There were reports the property was to be the newest proposed site for the traveling filling station that has been parked alongside Route 107 about a half mile to the east adjacent to the Moravian Church ball field for donkey years.

The isolated community has been without a commercial fueling station since the former Domino closed several years ago, which could serve to mute some of the potential environmental opposition to siting a filling station on the waterfront adjacent to a mega yacht marina fuel dock.



# Giff Hill School Enthusiastically Opens for 2015-2016 School Year

By RAVEN PHILLIPS  
St. John Tradewinds

**GIFFT HILL** — Giff Hill School officially opened for the 2015-2016 school year on September 1, and it is expected to be a fruitful and successful year.

From the engaged children in Pre-K, to the excited senior class of twelve students, Giff Hill School is prepared for an amazing year, according to Head of School Dr. Laurie Bottiger.

Admissions have positively increased since last year, Dr. Bottiger announced.

“We are pleased to have close to 50 additional families,” the Head of School announced. “We pride ourselves in having a wonderfully diverse population of families who want an excellent education that honors a healthy lifestyle for their children.”

“Our family partnerships are very important to us at Giff Hill,” Dr. Bottiger added. “Parents are children’s first teachers.”

“With strong parent engagement, we can help each child reach their potential through love, care, and support,” the educator continued. “At Giff Hill we have a strong record of academic success pointing to academic rigor. We achieve this success by emphasizing experiential learning and compassionate community.”

“Our campuses are designed to have our children experience school both inside and outside with our outdoor classrooms,” Dr. Bottiger said of the experience-based learning at the school. “We refer to them as ‘classrooms without walls.’ Our children enjoy the national park as a place of both enjoyment and learning”

## New Staff Welcomed

Faculty membership increased as well this year. The school welcomes Pre-K teachers Ms. Anna-Marie and Ms. Colleen, Kindergarten teacher Ms. Kelly, and Middle School social studies teacher Mr. Devin, to the Lower Campus.

The Upper Campus welcomes Spanish teachers Ms. Veronica and Ms. Angel (who doubles as an EARTH teacher), theatre resident Mr. Marcel, college counselor Ms. Patricia, and guidance counselor Ms. Moyer.

## Goals for the School Year

To ensure that development and growth continues at the school, the faculty has set forth goals for this school year, according to Dr. Bottiger.

“Our professional development emphasis for faculty include: student engagement, assessment and grading, enhanced technology in a 21st Century educational program emphasizing innovation, communication and more, and the introduction of Singapore math, a math program emphasizing conceptual learning,” Dr. Bottiger elucidated.

“We also plan on having our performing arts programming in collaboration with NEYT (a theater and music program plus four community performances a year) and our ISU sponsored EARTH program, a 19,000 square foot garden that allows our students to create a home plan that emphasizes food security and healthy eating,” she added. “The program will also contribute to the daily lunch program and our signature farm to table events.”

“This year, we will also have a presence at the St. John Farmers Market and will be hosting community cafe days on campus,” Dr. Bottiger continued. “We value the unique history of the Virgin Islands, so we have integrated V.I. history throughout our curriculum and look forward to working with island experts throughout the year.”

## Ongoing Construction and Maintenance

Students and families entering the Upper Campus may be surprised to find construction equipment located around the gym, Dr. Bottiger warned.

“We are excited that we have outdoor education spaces on all sides of our building,” said Dr. Bottiger. “We look forward to hosting classes and parent-gatherings in our new space.”

*Continued on Page 16*



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Giff Hill School students back in sessions at the lower campus.

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## Letters to St. John Tradewinds

### Save Our Asses Moves Donkey Water Buckets From VINP Locations – “So Frustrating”

I'm writing to give you an update on the new “Bucket Buddy” project for the SOA (Save Our Asses) effort on STJ!

St. John Tradewinds has been very helpful in getting the word out by publishing our recent letter to the Editor, and we've been fortunate to have Jaime Elliott write the first story when we launched this community collaboration last May. Thank you!”

There has been a minor change that I wanted to bring to the public's .

Bottom line: The National Park Service let us know that we can NOT use their property for buckets (even if it's simply to provide water to the thirsty donkey's – so frustrating!), so buckets #15 & 16 have been slightly relocated (nearby) and I believe that the Sloop Jones area is one of the new relocated spots and they're already taking care of that particular bucket.

So far, we've only have about four internal team members who have stepped up to help, so we need LOTS more!

I've been told that the donkey's can only go about three days without water, and they need lots of water, so even though we've recently got some rain, the long drought has made it difficult for the island animals to thrive.

Anything you can do to help spread the word would be much appreciated. If you've got an electronic link to the story, then the ACC can leverage it through their website, which receives high traffic volume.

Thanks,  
Julie

**SUBMIT LETTERS, OPINIONS & OBITUARIES TO:**  
editor@tradewinds.vi

### Crossword Answers (Puzzle located on Page 20)

A	M	O	N	G		B	A	M		W	H	I	N	E	S		D	V	D	
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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

**Lloyd Lends Helping Hand – Again:** Resident volunteer Lloyd “Emmanuel” Prince devoted a few days of volunteer labor to help prepare the grounds of Julius E. Sprauve School in Cruz Bay for the start of the school year on September 8 as JESS faculty and staff worked on the preparing the inside of the buildings for the new school year.

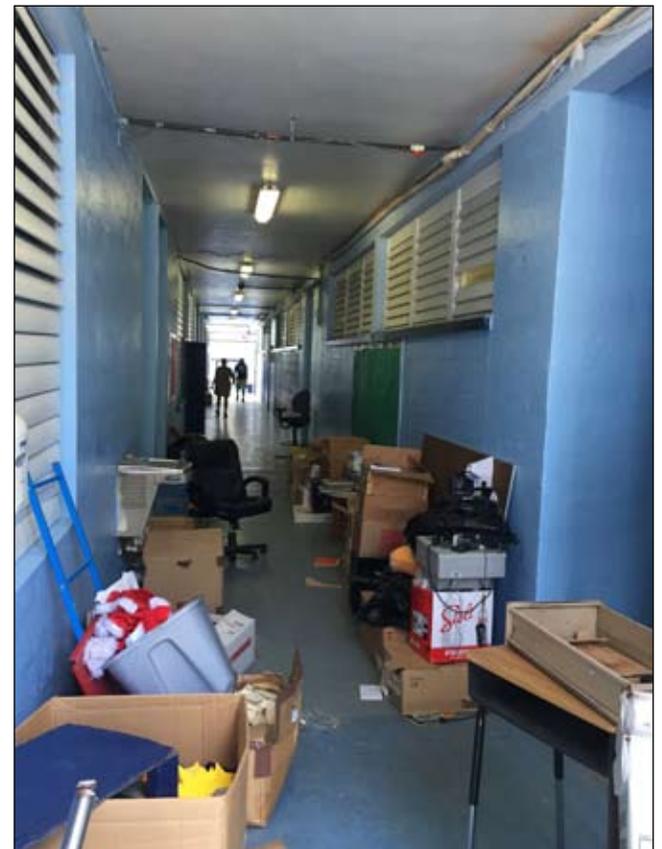
### JESS Administration Thanks Supporters

On behalf of the administration, students, faculty, and staff of the Julius E. Sprauve School, we would like to thank the following businesses or individuals for their heartfelt contribution(s) during the 2014-2015 school year. First, we would like to thank RPP Advisors for their donations. We were able to purchase PE and playground equipment.

We were also able to purchase a new Xerox machine for our office and a new oven for the kitchen. In addition, their contributions allowed four of our seventh grade students to travel to Washington, DC in order to take part in the Close Up Program.

We look forward to working again with RPP Advisors to implement programs that will be beneficial to our children. We would also like to thank Penn's trucking, Denis Powell, Starfish Market, The Perfect Ashlar Lodge and Heroines of Jericho for all that you do. Community involvement is so important to the successful operation of our school; once again, we thank you.

Ellen Francois  
Lisa M. Penn  
Administration  
Julius E. Sprauve School



## Former Gov. deJongh and PFA Director Francis Plead Not Guilty to Embezzlement Charges

By JUDI SHIMEL  
St. John Tradewinds

**ST. THOMAS** — Former Gov. John de Jongh and former Public Finance Authority Director Julito Francis pleaded not guilty in Superior Court to charges of embezzlement and fraud at their plea hearing Sept. 3 before Magistrate Henry Carr III.

De Jongh and Francis are charged with embezzlement and failure to pay over public monies. Carr assigned the case to Superior Court Judge Kathleen Mackay. The magistrate also set jury selection at the Alexander Farrelly Justice Complex for March 14, at 9 am.

Just prior to entering the pleas, defense attorney Robert King complained that prosecutors overstepped their authority on one of the charges and ignored a statute of limitations that would have made the charge null and void.

“The crime, which is charged... has a statute of limitations, which is three years,” King said. “They then renamed a section as embezzlement they labeled April 2007 to April 2009.”

De Jongh and Francis are accused of diverting \$440,000 in roadway funds to purchase and install security equipment around the former governor’s private home in 2007. At the time Francis was director of administration for the PFA and de Jongh served as

PFA chairman.

### Procedural Rules Cited

But Assistant Attorney General Quincy McRae cited procedural rules of the Superior Court, saying once Carr found probable cause he no longer held jurisdiction over the matter.

Carr, who served as magistrate over the preliminary hearing held Aug. 18, conceded the matter.

“It should be determined by a judge of the Superior Court,” he said.

De Jongh was accompanied to court by his wife, Cecile, and former Attorney General Vincent Frazer, who spoke with the media shortly after the hearing ended.

“I’m here to support the governor,” Frazer said.

The former governor also spoke up on his own behalf, in a written statement issued Thursday afternoon.

“I appeared this morning to enter my plea of not guilty in Superior Court to the charges of embezzlement of public accounts and neglecting to pay over public monies because I am, in fact, not guilty,” de Jongh said. “I have confidence that the judicial process will result in the just and proper outcome. I thank my many friends for their expressions of support and ask them to keep faith in the certain knowledge that justice will be done.”

## Legislature Starts Pension System Discussion at Hearing

*Continued from Page 11*  
Additional Pressure

Additional pressure, is coming in the form of a two-tier pension system where certain categories of government employees, like judges, lawmakers, utility line workers, police and firefighters, were allowed to retire earlier, having made fewer contributions, they said. That system is scheduled to begin in October.

He was joined in his commentary by GERS investment consultant Leandro Festino, who said as disturbing as the situation appears, the worst case scenario can be averted by committed government leaders prepared to make hard choices.

“Yes, we’re in a crisis but the good news is there is still time to fix it and improve the system,” Festino said.

Some lawmakers agreed about the difficulties to come if the pension system is to be saved.

“As the chairman of the Finance Committee I can tell you that the problem is not the \$600 million pension obligation fund,” said Sen. Clifford Graham. “The problem is how to pay for it.”

“The reality is that seven years ago the government was in a better position to manage a \$600 million dollar loan,” Senator-At-Large Almando “Rocky” Liburd agreed.

### Out of Money by 2015?

In giving their assessment about the health of the

pension system, GERS officials presented a chart that showed that if the system were to continue to invest its assets expecting an annual return of seven percent, it would run out of money by 2025. They also cautioned that if there were an unexpected upheaval in global investment markets, it’s possible the crash could happen five years sooner, in 2020.

At that point, Nibbs said, there would be nothing left for the GERS to invest. The only funds it would be able to pay out would come directly from government employees on the job, paying deductions towards their future annuities.

If that were to happen, he said, retirees depending on those funds could only expect to receive pennies on the dollar. Those expecting to receive \$1,000 a month might instead receive about \$450 a month.

In his testimony GERS Actuary Leon Joyner affirmed the statements made by Callender and Nibbs.

“By 2025 the system will be out of money,” Joyner said.

Most recently, the GERS took one step towards halting the financial slide by suspending its loan operation to government workers and employees.

Officials should figure out how to engage stakeholders, particularly government workers, letting them know how serious the situation has become and encouraging them to support reform measures, Senate President Neville James said.

# DID YOU KNOW...

## THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE NON-PROFIT GROUP AND YOUR ISLAND NEWSPAPER AT THE SAME TIME?

Animal Care Center of St. John  
Coral Bay Community Council  
Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park  
Giff Hill School  
Island Green Building Association  
Kids First!  
Kids in the Sea (KATS)  
Sisterhood Agenda  
St. John Audubon Society  
St. John Christian Academy  
St. John Community Foundation  
St. John Film Society  
St. John Historical Society  
St. John Montessori School  
St. John Recycling Association  
St. John Relay for Life  
St. John Revolving Fund  
St. John School of the Arts  
St. John Youth Coalition  
STT/STJ Chamber of Commerce - STJ Chapter  
Team River Runner  
Using Sport for Social Change  
(and many more)

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**IT'S A SIMPLE SOLUTION:  
Underwrite a yearly advertising budget  
for your favorite community group.**

St. John Tradewinds supports all registered non-profit organizations with a non-profit advertising rate. For more information, call 776-6496.

**NEXT DEADLINE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

## Community Calendar

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

### Monday, September 7

— The annual Labor Day Parade Celebrations are scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. with the parade, from the Cocoba Complex to the Moravian Church Field. Musical entertainment with a live deejay and the Ah We Band starts at 1 p.m.

### Tuesday, September 8

— Orientation for the Julius Sprauve School will be Tuesday, Sept. 8, in the cafeteria for the following grades: 8 to 8:45 a.m., Grades K – 2; 9 to 9:45 a.m., Grades 3 – 5; 10 to 10:45 a.m. Grades 6-8, according to Principal Ellen Francois and Assistant Principal Lisa Penn. Students and parents are reminded that school fees include: \$18 for School Insurance; \$20 for PTO dues and \$20 for Physical Education uniform. Students should report to school at respective time in full uniform. School will be full day.

### Wednesday, September 9

— The Virgin Islands Unity Day Group will conduct a public meeting Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Legislature to provide “an opportunity to raise your concerns relative to property tax and the effects of exor-

bitant property assessments to the senate body, according to a public notice posted by organizers.

### ...until September 10

— Lieutenant Governor Osbert E. Potter advises the public that the St. John Passport Acceptance Office will be closed from August 20 until September 10. The St. John Passport Office will resume normal business hours 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Thursday beginning on September 17.

### Friday, September 11

— The Viggo E. Sewer American Legion Post 131 has scheduled a Commemoration Ceremony for Friday, Sept. 11, at 12 noon at the Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay.

### Monday, September 14

— St. John Singers Rehearsals begin Monday, September 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay.

### Saturday, October 24

— SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 24 for The Animal Care Center of St. John Annual “No Fleas Please” Flea Market Sale at Winston-Wells Ball Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This annual event is a major ACC Fundraiser..with emphasis on FUN!

### 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



*St. John Tradewinds* News Photo by Raven Phillips

Giff Hill School Class of 2016

## Giff Hill School Enthusiastically Opens for 2015-2016 School Year

### Continued from Page 13

“We will have a ribbon cutting ceremony in the middle of November,” she added.

Meanwhile the Lower Campus Playground received some maintenance this summer. Terry and Tommy Bertolino volunteered in stripping and sanding the fence and applying new coats of paint, and four tons of playground mulch have been spread by some fourth and fifth graders of the school.

### Come See the School

Dr. Bottiger’s devotion to the school can be clearly seen in her excitement for the school year.

“This is going to be our best year ever!” she exclaimed. “We have a wonderfully synergistic faculty and staff and we are evolving into a strong professional learning community.”

“We are committed to making sure that all families on St. John and St. Thomas know that if they want a wonderfully healthy and academically excellent education, Giff Hill School is the place,” Dr. Bottiger reminded parents throughout the St. Thomas/St.



*St. John Tradewinds* News Photo by Raven Phillips

Giff Hill School EARTH Students

John District; as our tagline suggests, we are cultivating strong hearts and caring minds”.

“We believe that children are the most precious gift to our society,” Dr. Bottiger added. “It is our responsibility to provide excellent education that allows all children to be competent, confident, and

connected.”

“At Giff Hill, we dedicate ourselves to making our excellent schooling accessible to our islands families,” the school administrator continued. “Children have limitless potential and within that philosophy they thrive... come see us.”



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Raven Phillips

St. Johnian Stefan Jurgen, the principal of Ivanna Eudora Kean High School, made his way back home on Monday, August 31, to welcome incoming St. John students.

## Principals Jurgen and Powell Know St. John Student Woes

*Continued from Page 7*

It was also explained that the uniform policy will stay as it has nearly always been.

“No cuffs in the pants for boys. Skirts should be at the knee on girls,” said ninth grade Principal Desha Powell. “The only accepted shoe colors are all black, all white and all brown.”

### Changes for Ninth Graders

Jurgen also introduced a new step for the incoming ninth graders.

“After reviewing the current system in place, I can conclude that we are nowhere near where we should be,” Jurgen emphasized. “This system places all ninth graders in the same classes.”

“You cannot teach a group of individuals in the same way, so all ninth graders are required to complete a placement test on their day for orientation” said Jurgen,

The tests will assess the incoming ninth grader’s abilities in subjects such as reading and math, the principal explained. The tests are intended to make sure that students are not placed in subjects that they are already proficient in, and will also ensure that subjects they struggle with are given more attention, Jurgen explained.

“The process will take some time, but it will be worth it when each student is receiving an education that is tailored to their strengths and weaknesses” admit-

ted Jurgen. “It is my intention to make sure emphasis is also placed on vocational training. Each student should graduate from the school with a diploma, and certification of some form”

### Improving School Spirit

While attempting to transition the meeting into a lively mood, Jurgen expressed shock to find that few students could sing the IEKHS school song, the alma mater, and that no students knew the mission of the school.

“These are things that identify us as Rays,” Jurgen. “Just hearing the name of the school should bring goose bumps to your arms.”

“Have pride in your school students, love your school,” Jurgen exhorted.

Jurgen then encouraged members of J.R.O.T.C to come before the crowd to sing the alma mater. The commanders of the school program not only demonstrated citizenship and responsibility, but they also accentuated the importance of school spirit.

In order to instill school spirit in all students, Jurgen said he plans to play the alma mater over the intercom every Monday morning.

Jurgen closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and by proclaiming: “The school shall move forward”.

Ivanna Eudora Kean High School opened for the 2015-2016 school year on September 8.

## St. John Mobilizes Relief Drive for Storm Stricken Dominica

*Continued from Page 2*

plies, non perishable food and cleaning supplies. Irene John-Lewis, one of the organizers working to pack up donations, has been at it non-stop since Aug. 30. Each afternoon she appears at a shed behind O’Henry’s Dry Cleaner on St. Thomas to begin hours of sorting and folding.

“I was very surprised by the people of the Virgin Islands. I never thought I would see so many people bringing so much stuff,” she said.

The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands has been channeling donations made in the form of check to the Dominican government.

Gov.Kenneth Mapp held a press conference Sept. 2, saying the territory is committed to helping the island nation in the wake of devastation caused by the

passage of Tropical Storm Erika. The first trailer of goods shipped from the U.S. Virgin Islands to Dominica included pallets of bottled drinking water donated by Mapp’s administration.

The governor pointed out that thousands of Dominican nationals have made the Virgin Islands their home and in helping those in the devastated areas, Virgin Islanders are helping their friends and neighbors.

St. Johnians taking the commuter ferry have been greeted by signs directing them to drop off goods at Fred’s Restaurant and over the Labor Day Weekend to various collection points.

John-Lewis said another 40-foot trailer is being prepared for shipment by the end of the second week in September.

# Pollution

# Solutions

*Reduce trash to keep it out of the landfill and our environment!*

## Reduce waste:

- Buy in bulk to reduce unnecessary packaging, Share with a friend
- Take a reusable bag when grocery shopping
- Use reusable water bottles and other containers
- Compost your food scraps
- Turn yard waste into brush berms
- Sign up to get paper mail electronically
- Buy at yard sales



340-776-2099



[www.coralbaycommunitycouncil.org](http://www.coralbaycommunitycouncil.org)

## 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

## Stranded in Eros City by Erika Embargo

*Continued from Page 6*

“Port facilities in Saint John, Saint Thomas and Saint Croix may resume normal operations, including waterfront facility and vessel transits, subject to prudent seamanship and safe working practices,” USCG officials announced.

“Following the passing of Tropical Storm Erika through the area, Coast Guard teams were scheduled to conduct port assessments prior to reopening any ports closed under Port Condition ZULU and returning to normal port operations,” according to the release.

### Circumventing Port Closure

Breofe the USCG could act, an ad hoc St. John community effort to circumvent the port closure by transporting stranded visitors to St. Thomas on private vessels to catch flights which still were sched-

uled to depart ran afoul of the port embargo and was brought to an official halt, according to one caller to St. John Tradewinds.

“Everything was working fine until the Coast Guard shut us down,” the anonymous caller said.

“They were loading people onto one small boat right at the dock while I was selling tickets for the first ferry after the storm,” one ferry company employee told *St. John Tradewinds*.

One long-time resident with USCG credentials acknowledged the confusion — and the tried and true solution employed by another resident St. John mariner to catch an early morning flight as the tropical storm approached.

“They left St. John Wednesday and stayed on St. Thomas,” she reported.

## St. John Entrepreneurs' Dream of Running Scenic Maine Inn Survive Legal Nightmare

*Continued from Page 9*

### Competition Called Meticulous

The investigation, based on interviews with several of the people involved, describes a meticulous competition process that included Sage reading every essay, according to the newspaper.

“She has the calloused elbows to prove it,” said the investigation narrative, prepared by Barry Hathaway, an inspector with the State Police Special Investigations Unit.

Sage did not open any of the entry envelopes when they arrived, the narrative said. Initially, she had another person open the envelopes, assign each essay a number, enter the author's name and contact information in a register and send them a receipt, the report explained.

As the contest progressed and more entries arrived, Sage brought in more help and eventually had five people processing the mail, the report continued. The only rule Sage changed over the course of the contest was to extend it for an additional 30 days, which was permissible under the rules, according to officials.

Sage chose the top 20 essays, and then selected two judges to pick the first, second and third-place entries, according to the report. The judges' names were redacted from the report but they were identified as a man and a woman, according to the newspaper report. They wrote the winning numbers on a slip of paper and gave it to Sage, the report said.

### Initial Confusion

At first, Sage couldn't find the corresponding name in the registration materials so she had to seek help from the girl who had filed it, the report said the police investigation determined.

Prince Adams told police that someone else, possibly his wife, reads the *New York Times* daily and saw a story about the contest, the newspaper report explained. Adams old police he eventually entered their essay and said he learned on June 6 that they had won, according to the report, which affirmed the Adams had never met or spoken with Sage before then.

Not everyone is satisfied the contest was handled fairly, according to the *Press Herald* report.

Kass Stone, an American living in London, told the Maine newspaper in an email that Sage did make contact at some point to clear up some confusion with their entry form. Stone said that at the time, it wasn't clear that contact between Sage and entrants was prohibited, and that Sage wasn't supposed to know the identities of essay writers.

The investigation concluded that the contest was conducted legally and that Sage did nothing wrong, the newspaper reported. The contest was a game of skill and therefore not regulated by state law covering games of chance and it did not violate any consumer protection laws, according to the police narrative. It also wasn't a game in which the operator controls the outcome, the police report concluded.

9-6

CRYPTOQUIP

ZK IUYEHDCM SDVXYMS AO, XC XCDCM'J SYWCM

ZML QZDQYCK ZMH KAIU JV OEZL XYJU. JUCDC

XZK MCWCD Z HVEE GVGCMJ.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals L

# ST. JOHN TRADEWINDS

# Hurricane Tracking Map



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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

**Kimberly Boulon Fine Art Gallery**  
Located at The Marketplace  
340-693-8524

## Banking

**Firstbank**  
Located in downtown Cruz Bay  
340-776-6881

## Furniture

**Carlos Furniture - 340-693-0016**  
Located at Tutu Park Mall on STT  
Free delivery and setup to St. John

## Green Building

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

## Insurance

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

**Theodore Tunick & Company**  
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www.theodoretunick.com

## Jewelry

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

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**Alfredo's Landscaping**  
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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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340realestateco@gmail.com  
www.340realestateco.com

**Holiday Homes of St. John**  
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P.O. Box 40, STJ, VI 00831  
info@holidayhomesVI.com

**Islandia Real Estate**  
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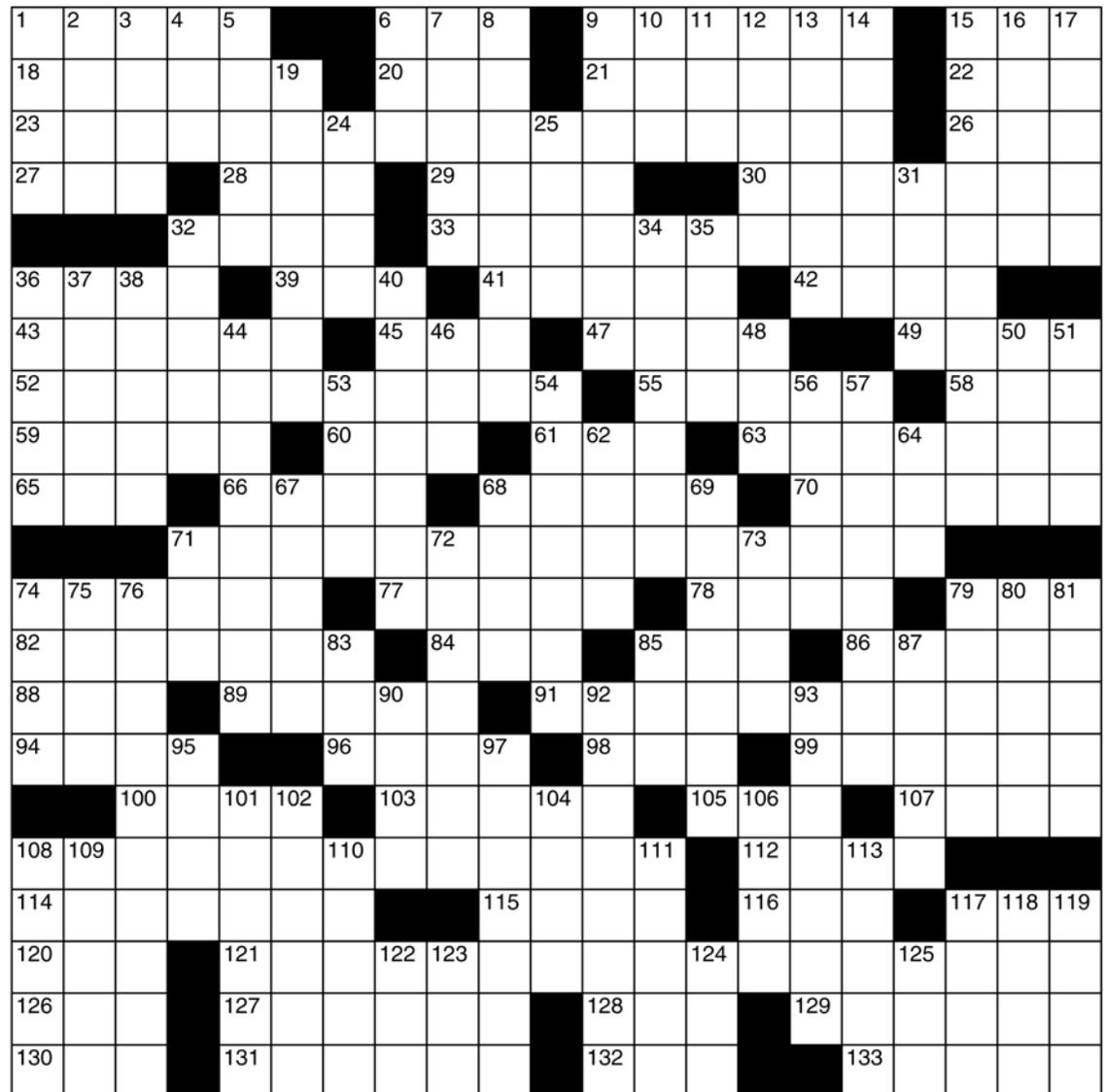
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## Crossword

By Frank A. Longo



## X MARKS THE SPOT

### ACROSS

- 1 Between
- 6 Cartoon thud
- 9 Snively cries
- 15 Film format
- 18 Chat session
- 20 The Bruins' Bobby
- 21 Author — de Balzac
- 22 Aussie leaper
- 23 "You only have so much time"
- 26 Ron of "Tarzan"
- 27 Quaint suffix with poet
- 28 Virgil's 61
- 29 "How sad"
- 30 Entwine anew
- 32 Den furniture
- 33 Swimmer also called a blueback
- 36 Scheduled mtg.
- 39 "+" or "-" atom
- 41 Take — (cab it)
- 42 Wee child
- 43 Boggy area
- 45 Possess
- 47 Campbell's product, in Spanish
- 49 Netherlands cheese
- 52 Forts made of squared timbers
- 55 Any ".50" time
- 58 Slo- — fuse
- 59 One of the Greys on "Grey's Anatomy"
- 60 Emailer's "incidentally"
- 61 Gun of Israeli design
- 63 "The Waste Land" poet
- 65 Suffix with trick or hatch
- 66 New Nintendo system of

- 2012
- 68 Bingham of "Baywatch"
- 70 Proverbs
- 71 Where all eight X's appear in this puzzle
- 74 "No —, Bob!"
- 77 Greek island near Paros
- 78 "Time —" (1990s sci-fi series)
- 79 Blabber
- 82 Trunk gunk
- 84 Actress Farrow
- 85 Pronounce
- 86 Bella — (British Columbian native)
- 88 CPR-trained pro
- 89 Be dozing
- 91 Has a frank discussion
- 94 Heavy hammer
- 96 Old Pontiac muscle cars
- 98 TV scientist Bill
- 99 On deck
- 100 Turnip, e.g.
- 103 Regal crown
- 105 Sis or bro
- 107 Royal name of Norway
- 108 "Gravity" actress
- 112 — -T-Pak (Wrigley's gum unit)
- 114 Worry-free
- 115 Nerve cell extension
- 116 River islet
- 117 Devilkin
- 120 Broadway's Hagen
- 121 "A Treatise on Money" economist
- 126 Click in Morse code
- 127 "Crack a Bottle" rapper
- 128 Dr. — ("Crack a Bottle" rapper)
- 129 Wields
- 130 I, to Johann
- 131 Really uncool types

- 132 Nile snake
  - 133 Bird noise
- DOWN
- 1 Part of a French play
  - 2 — scale of hardness
  - 3 Individuals
  - 4 16-team grid gp.
  - 5 Noted family name in wine
  - 6 — choy
  - 7 Opera solos
  - 8 "Entertaining —" (Joe Orton play)
  - 9 Cat food brand
  - 10 Ad —
  - 11 Pen filler
  - 12 Bête —
  - 13 Borgnine of film
  - 14 Self-balancing two-wheeler
  - 15 Had lofty aspirations
  - 16 Saab rival
  - 17 Senior group member
  - 18 Puffer's cousin
  - 24 "Bye now!"
  - 25 Savoir-faire
  - 31 Sommer of the screen
  - 32 Actress Keanan
  - 34 Unusual foreign objects
  - 35 "Criminy!"
  - 36 Stroll along
  - 37 Gondola guider
  - 38 Authorized substitute
  - 40 Sign banning 180s
  - 44 Statistical asymmetry
  - 46 Compass pt.
  - 48 Toiling insect
  - 50 Salve plant
  - 51 Verbal gems
  - 53 Big Apple stage award
  - 54 Tunic worn over armor
  - 56 Port of Japan

- 57 Annual PGA Tour event
- 62 Drummer Starkey and screenwriter Penn
- 64 Secular
- 67 Perfect
- 68 Poison: Prefix
- 69 Entry points on pipes
- 71 Suffix with press
- 72 Kerosene
- 73 Abstainers from alcohol
- 74 Flower stalk
- 75 "— la Douce"
- 76 Address that bounced email is delivered to
- 79 Rustic sort
- 80 Vega of "Spy Kids" films
- 81 Cable shows, e.g.
- 83 Tent securer
- 85 Clever
- 87 "Smoking —?"
- 90 Reproach to Brutus
- 92 Big boa
- 93 Resembling a vat
- 95 Ore deposit
- 97 Low bows
- 101 Toothache relief brand
- 102 City near Seattle
- 104 Old Big Appletheater
- 106 Apple tablet
- 108 — Arabian
- 109 Garret
- 110 Vikki Carr's "It Must —"
- 111 Knots on tree trunks
- 113 Digital book, e.g.
- 117 As to
- 118 Dole (out)
- 119 "Hey, you"
- 122 Dir. 135 deg. from 46-Down
- 123 Sea, in Caen
- 124 Sales —
- 125 Hedge bush

**Answer to Sept. 6 Cryptoquip:**  
AS CHILDREN GROWING UP, WE WEREN'T GIVEN ANY BARBIES AND SUCH TO PLAY WITH. THERE WAS NEVER A DOLL MOMENT.

## Classifieds

### For Rent

**FOR RENT:  
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APARTMENTS**

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### Lessons Available

Beginning September 15th horseback riding lessons will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4pm and on Saturday at 10am. Group rate is \$45 a rider and a private lesson \$65. Please call Dana at 340-513-1569.

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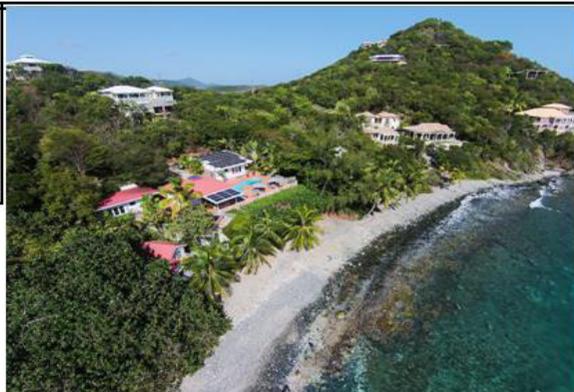
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## St. John Properties

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St. John Properties building across from NPS ball field



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

In a Coral Bay twist, *The African Queen* came ashore with the hull of the indomitable JAWS which sank earlier this year in the harbor and which Erica brought up from the depths of its nearby mooring. A Coral Harbor double feature of sorts.

**THE SUITE ST. JOHN COLLECTION**  
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## Storms Leave More Flotsam and Jetsam

Continued from Page 5

### JAWS Is Back!

"JAWS is back," joked owner commercial fisherman Andy Greaux, who was hard at work salvaging the remains of his gear and potter pieces from the ironically still-intact hull that washed up nose to nose with *African Queen* along the roadway.

Sharon Coldren of CBCC said she was thankful for help as she prepared to utilize a federal grant to remove a number of vessels that have been advertised by authorities as abandoned and slated for removal.

"We only have enough money in the grant to take care of a few of the boats,"

Coldren admitted. "And only the ones that have been posted."

The community leader is cautious about the process of removing the hulks, many of which have been on the bottom for years, and the recovery of the surrounding habitat.

"The areas (around some of the wrecks) are thriving habitats," Coldren explained. "There are lots of fish and lots of seagrass."

"That's one of our concerns," Coldren admitted.

CBCC has already employed a UVI marine biology graduate student to study the recovery of the areas abandoned vessels are removed from, Coldren emphasized.



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<p><b>"HALF MOON HOUSE"</b> Reef Bay beachfront is the setting for this uniquely modern home. 5x4.5 with top quality construction, privacy and serenity. MLS 14-100 <b>\$8,000,000</b></p>	<p><b>"HEAVEN'S GATE"</b> 4X4.5 Luxurious hilltop villa with spectacular gardens and breathtaking views of Hurricane Hole and the British Virgin Islands. MLS 15-23 <b>\$5,750,000</b></p>	<p><b>"BEACHFRONT" GREAT CRUZ BAY</b> Gated 1 acre estate has every amenity for the leisure lifestyle: 5 bedroom suites, a grand pool &amp; stone spa! Swim/boat from beach. MLS 14-519 <b>\$5,500,000</b></p>	<p><b>"BEACH GARDEN"</b> Ultimate privacy architecturally stunning Bali inspired 4x4.5 home, 1 ac. w/ pool, spa &amp; surf! EXCELLENT rental income! MLS 14-333 <b>\$4,900,000</b></p>	<p><b>"ON THE EDGE"</b> Stunning Azure Bay gated 3x3 pool estate on almost 2 acres with STT views. Could not be replicated today for any price! MLS 14-512 <b>\$4,599,000</b></p>	<p><b>"CINNAMON RIDGE"</b> 5X5 Catherineberg home on private gated acre borders National Park; stunning north shore &amp; BVI views, pool &amp; spa. MLS 15-34 <b>\$3,995,000</b></p>
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<p><b>"CARIBBEAN STYLE"</b> Charming island stonework and hardwood floors in 5 bdrm, flexible floor plan home with pool in Chocolate Hole. Walk to beach! MLS 14-487 <b>\$749,000</b></p>	<p><b>"CORAL COTTAGE"</b> Cute Caribbean cottage w/ lg. decks, overlooking Coral Bay to Virgin Gorda. Plenty of room on large lot to expand or add pool. 3x2. MLS 14-25 <b>\$479,000</b></p>	<p><b>BORDERS NATIONAL PARK!</b> 4X2 two unit income producing home has flexible floorplan, huge panoramic views, quiet location. MLS 14-318 <b>\$475,000</b></p>	<p><b>PASTORY ESTATES CONDO</b> "Palmy Daze" breezy, 2X2 Pillsbury Sound view condo. Great community offers pool &amp; parking &amp; lush landscaping. MLS 14-462 <b>\$549,000</b></p>	<p><b>LAVERNER HILL CONDO</b> 1x1 unit adjacent to pool has 2 decks. Walk to beach &amp; town. Beautifully furnished, well maintained/ rents well. MLS 15-270 <b>\$459,000</b></p>	<p><b>OWN A MONTH IN A LUXURY HOME</b> 3 BR/3.5 BA or 4 BR/4.5 BA villa in upscale Virgin Grand Estates. 3,000 sq ft villas w/ STT &amp; sunset views, pool, AC &amp; more. From <b>\$50,000</b></p>

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				<b>LOVANGO CAY</b>	South shore from \$ 250,000
				<b>SABA BAY</b>	from \$ 595,000
				<b>PETER BAY/NORTHSHORE</b>	from \$ 995,000
				<b>WESTIN TIMESHARES</b>	from \$ 3,999/wk

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<p>L'Autre Monde   \$4,800,000 7 bed   7.5 bath   10,000 sqft</p>	<p>Yellow Bird   \$699,000 3 bed   3 bath   2,229 sqft</p>	<p>Bente's Fancy   \$2,350,000 4 bed   3 bath   4,812 sqft</p>
<p>Unicorn by the Sea   \$1,495,000 3 bed   4 bath   3,150 sqft</p>	<p>Milk Moon Cottage   \$895,000 2 bed   2 bath   1,475 sqft</p>	<p>Limin Time   \$1,149,000 2 bed   2 bath   2,624 sqft</p>

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>

## CORAL BAY BALL FIELD

11:00 a.m. Annual Labor Day Parade

Starts at Aqua Bistro ends in the Ball Field

**Pie Eating Contest at Pickles**

Starts after the Parade

**Bounce Houses and Petting Zoo for Kids**

Immediately following the parade in the Ball Field

**Music By: DJ & Ah We Band**

Starts at 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**1st Annual Labor Day Car Show**

Starts at 3:00 p.m. to Until

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**For Further Information Contact Jackie Clendinen @ 340-514-5355**