

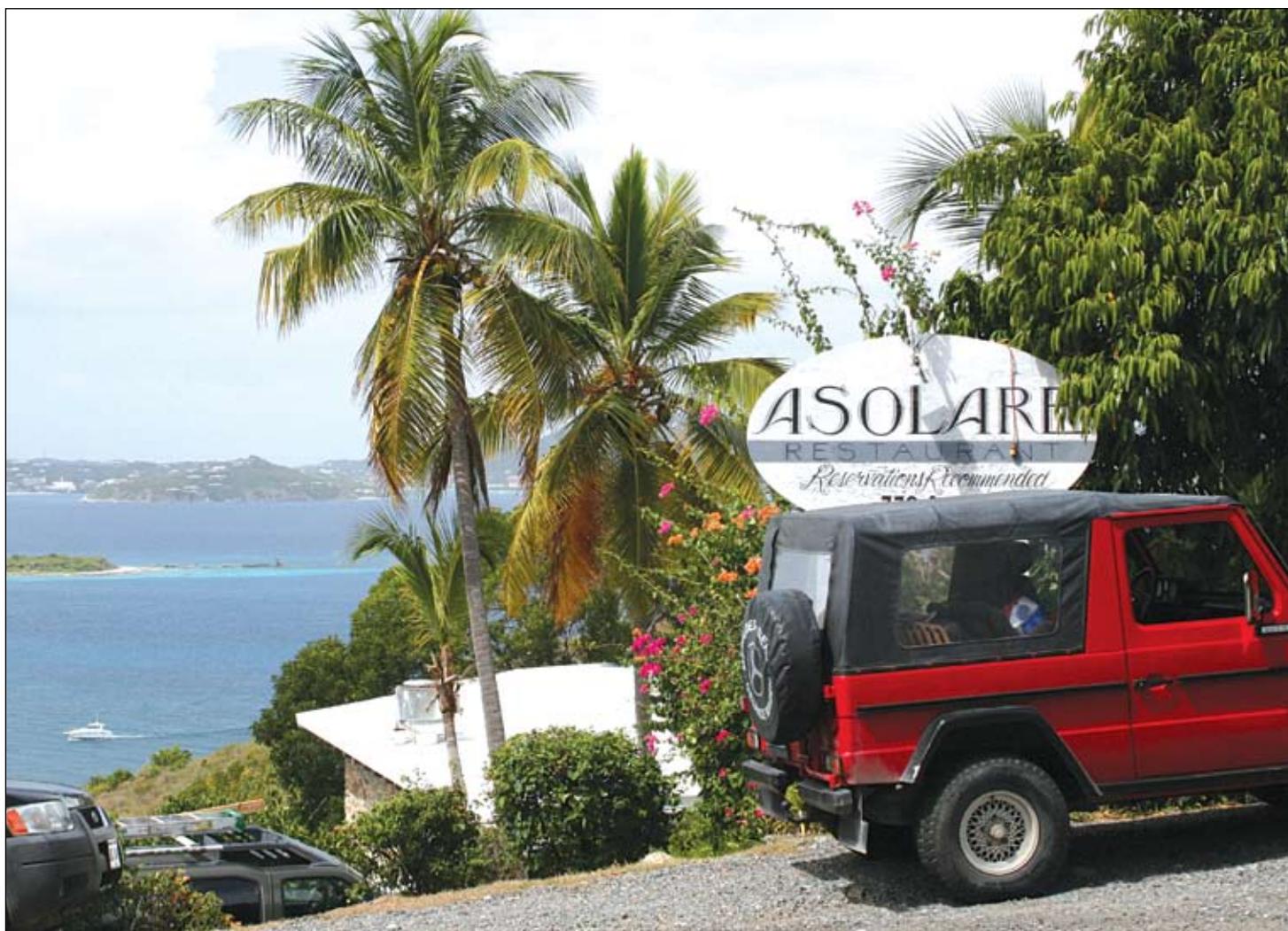
October 12-18, 2009
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TRADEWINDS

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Bennett “Trying To Save” Three Island Restaurants

The futures of Asolare, Paradiso and Chloe and Bernards restaurants, owned by Integrated Assets, were in question as talk of bounced checks and restaurant closing circulated across St. John — **Story on Page 2**

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Bennett “Trying To Save” Three Island Restaurants and Regain Ownership

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

The futures of Asolare, Paradiso and Chloe and Bernards restaurants, owned by Integrated Assets, were in question as talk of bounced checks and restaurant closing circulated across St. John.

With rumors swirling around the island that three prominent restaurants were on the verge of closing and employees were getting bad checks, former Integrated Assets restaurant owner Winston Bennett called *Tradewinds* last Friday to respond to the talk on the street.

Having sold Integrated to Michael San Fillipo in 2005, Bennett is now in the process of reclaiming ownership of the corporation since San Fillipo abruptly left island in July.

“I sold Integrated at the end of 2005 to businessman Michael San Fillipo and he defaulted and left island,” said Bennett. “I’m trying to see what I can do to save the assets. This was certainly a surprise to me.”

Bennett acknowledged that bad checks were written to employees, but maintained that it was a transfer snafu, not malicious.

“The fact of the matter is that,

yes, there were bad checks,” Bennett said. “It is my understanding that there was a problem with a payroll transfer and employees were asked to hold on to the checks and that didn’t happen.”

The former restaurateur, however, denied any part in the fiasco.

“I don’t have anything to do with the checks,” said Bennett. “Coby Cooper is the manager and it’s my understanding that he has been signing checks in Michael’s absence.”

Bennett has actually been using his own funds and spending his own time to try to keep the restaurants open, he explained.

“I actually don’t have any ownership yet,” Bennett said. “We’re going to go to court to regain ownership, and in the meantime, I’ve been doing what I can to help keep the restaurants open. I’ve been putting in my own money to keep them going.”

Asolare, Paradiso and Chloe and Bernards are expected to be open for season, according to Bennett.

“The restaurants will be staying open — unless the world comes to an end — that is the intention,” he said. “We have new people com-

ing on board and there is no intention of closing the restaurants.”

Bennett hopes to have the ownership in place and all three restaurants ready to go for high season, he explained.

“We’re going to work through the process and while nothing is for certain, I know a lot of people depend on the restaurants for their incomes and we’re going to try to get them ready for season,” said Bennett. “I hope to have everything stabilized and to work through the process of ownership.”

The worst of the problems are hopefully in the past for the owner and employees of Integrated Assets, Bennett added.

“There were, I think, absolutely problems and with the condition of the economy. There were some serious issues with late pay and payroll,” he said. “But I think they are working through those issues and we hope to have people caught up as soon as possible. It’s tough for everyone.”

The company also owned Chateaux Bordeaux, which has been closed for months. The lease expired on the location and Bennett has no intention of reopening a restaurant there, he said.

Just Play Field Day Set for Oct. 12

St. John Tradewinds

Using Sport For Social Change’s first annual “Just Play” event for the youth and community of St. John, is ready for October 12. It has been a lot of fun putting this event together and everyone is looking forward to quite an extraordinary free sports event.

There will be some very special guests entertaining throughout the day including Brenda Wallace, DJ Percy, the Love City Pan Dragons, the Love City Leapers, St. John School of Arts, Valerie Donaghue, Julian Jackson, Music by CSN and other special guests!

All of this is supported by Nike, Verace Jewelers, Massage Envy, Guy H. Benjamin School, Julius E. Sprauve School, Giff Hill School, Arawak Expeditions, St. John Ultimate Villas, St. John Community Foundation, 8 Tuff Miles, Morgan’s Mango, Bellows International, Gecko Bar, Infinity Images, Sun Dog Café, Department of Sports Parks And Recreation, Starfish Market, Subway, St. John Ice and Water, Yacht Haven Grande, Team Key Aquatics and Wharton Smith.

For more information, visit www.usingsportforsocialchange.com

Free Flu Shots in Coral Bay October 16

St. John Tradewinds

Department of Health officials will be giving free flu shots

for adults only at the Coral Bay Fire Station on Friday, October 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rotary Awards Dinner Honoring Joe Kessler, Helen Simon Is October 17

St. John Tradewinds

The Rotary Club of St. John is hosting its annual awards dinner celebration in recognition of this year’s Paul Harris Fellows and Community Service award recipients on Saturday, October 17, at Ocean Grill Restaurant at 6 p.m.

Joe Kessler and Helen Simon are this year’s Paul Harris Fellows and Myrtle Barry and George Cline will be presented with Community Service awards for their outstanding service to St. John.

Tickets are \$50 per person and advanced reservations are required. For tickets call William Willigerod at 776-0883, Dave Carlson at 779-4419 or BJ Harris at 693-8485.

Guy Benjamin’s 96th Birthday Is Oct. 18

St. John Tradewinds

Friends of Guy Benjamin are invited to celebrate the island educator’s 96th birthday on Sunday afternoon, October 18, at Fred’s from 4 to 7 p.m. Attendees should bring a dish to share and stories to tell. For more information all Cid at Connections at 776-6922 or Faye at Fred’s at 776-6363.

Early Learning Center Forum Oct. 19

St. John Tradewinds

Parents of young children are invited to participate in the community forum “Planning for Success — A Community Conversation about Early Learning on St. John,” on Monday, October 19, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center.

Kids First! and the Commu-

nity Foundation of the Virgin Islands are partnering to facilitate community-wide conversations about the status of children up to five years old and how the community can best use resources to enhance the quality and availability of early learning experiences. For more information call Donnalie Cabey at 777-0990.



Construction Causing North Shore Road Delays

V.I. National Park officials installed a traffic light across from Mongoose Junction last week as road work got underway on North Shore Road.

St. John Tradewinds News
Photo by Tom Oat



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

With financial issues in flux, the Pond Bay Club construction site in Estate Chocolate Hole remained quiet last week.

Work Stops on Pond Bay Club Due to Financing Issues

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

While the hammers have stopped pounding at Pond Bay Club's Estate Chocolate Hole construction site, the project is only being delayed, not shut down, according to developers behind the luxury fractional ownership resort.

"Effectively, what we've got is that we've got a German bank handling our financing and the bank has been restructured," said Bob Emmett, a principal of First American Development Group/Carib, the developers behind the project. "They have a new team which has little hospitality experience and it's taking too long for them to get their heads around this."

The project, however, is in no danger of being shut down, Emmett added.

"Our fundamentals are very strong and we're hoping to resume work at the site soon," Emmett said. "We're moving ahead with the bank, but we're in flux in the meantime as they get new management going and decide within how they're going to handle our project."

Citing the still uncertain world economic outlook, Emmett declined to predict a date when work would resume at the almost 15-acre construction site.

"In today's world, there are no

"In today's world, there are no certainties and this is a day-to-day issue right now as to where we are. There are a lot of moving pieces to the puzzle. This will inevitably push back our opening date a bit, but it's not a fundamental issue."

— Bob Emmett, principal
First American Development Group/Carib
Pond Bay Club

certainties and this is a day-to-day issue right now as to where we are," said Emmett. "There are a lot of moving pieces to the puzzle. This will inevitably push back our opening date a bit, but it's not a fundamental issue."

While Pond Bay Club's German bankers get their ducks in a row, local officials have been finalizing a cobble and coral clearing study on Chocolate Hole beach.

Last Spring St. John Coastal Zone Management Committee members approved a hand-clearing pilot study of Pond Bay Club's shoreline, the details of which Department of Planning and Natural Resources officials recently completed.

Pond Bay Club officials already hand-cleared a 75-foot section of the beach, and a second 25-foot section is slated for clearing when work at the site resumes. After that area is cleared, a nine month mon-

itoring program will commence, according to St. John CZM Committee member Gerry Hills.

"This monitoring was the decision of DPNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife and CZM staff jointly," said Hills. "A resource ecologist will be coming out once a month to check water quality and erosion and see what is coming up on the beach."

Hills didn't foresee any objections to the planned beach monitoring study.

"It's a great idea, having the study last nine months," he said. "I can't imagine anyone objecting to this because it will be a study that shows once and for all what the effects of the beach clearing will be."

As details of Pond Bay Club's shoreline monitoring program have been hammered out, a water source for the project is still being determined. The original Environ-

mental Assessment Report in the developer's original permit application proposed a reverse osmosis facility at the site.

The developers removed that request and instead worked out a deal with the V.I. Water and Power Authority to extend their water distribution to the resort. WAPA, however, doesn't have funds to extend their pipelines and instead Pond Bay Club officials requested to install an injection well system.

The plan calls for digging three wells 100 feet deep into the aquifer to extract water and one well 150 feet deep to discharge the high-salinity brine back into the aquifer. If the plan is allowed, it will be the first injection well configuration in the territory.

Several months ago, the St. John CZM Committee approved Pond Bay's request to apply for permits for the wells, but the group does not have the authority to okay the wells, according to Hills, who voted against the injection well request.

"The CZM Committee didn't give them permission for the wells, we gave them permission to apply for permits for the wells," said Hills. "Pond Bay has to go through two different agencies for those permits — the local Environmental Protection Agency and the federal EPA."

Pond Bay Club is keeping its

options open as far as water on the site, according to Emmett.

"We're authorized to test for the wells at this point, but we're working on plans 'A,' 'B,' and 'C,'" said Emmett. "It looks like we'll either have wells or WAPA. It really depends on how long everything takes and how long the restructuring takes."

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Concerned Parent Questions Wood Used To Build Shack Fire

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

As part of Fire Prevention Week in the territory each year, Julius E. Sprauve School students are treated to the spectacle of V.I. Fire Department officials extinguishing an intentional blaze — but this year, students got more than a show.

On Wednesday morning, October 7, students donned red plastic fire hats and converged on the bleachers near the Winston Wells ball field for the demonstration. After VIFD officials constructed a wooden shack in the field to ignite, however, one parent noticed a problem with the wood.

“They do this every year, so this year I said I’d walk up there and look at the wood before they started,” said Tom Krall. “I immediately noticed they were using treated lumber. The wood on the top of the structure was clearly T-111.”

After sharing his concerns with VIFD officials, the T-111 lumber — which is treated with chemicals, including arsenic, to ward off insects — was removed, but that didn’t solve the problem since the shed was constructed partially of wolmanized or treated lumber, Krall explained.

“The fire official there took the T-111 off the top but was still going to burn the rest of the wood and was trying to say that it wasn’t treated,” Krall said. “Treated lumber has arsenic in it and compounds that, when burn,

create dioxins. This stuff is really dangerous.”

Krall took a sample of the wood, which was confirmed by a number of builders to be treated lumber, he added.

Despite Krall’s objections, VIFD officials torched the treated wood and — even worse, according to Krall — left the toxic ashes on the field.

“They went ahead and torched it and there was smoke and ashes blowing all over,” said Krall. “If you check on the internet you’ll see all it takes is one tablespoon of this ash to be lethal to a person. After the fire, the ashes were just laying there in the field where the kids have P.E. class.”

Krall called St. John Administrator Leona Smith, who was quick to respond and get to the bottom of the problem, he explained.

“Leona was very concerned about this and she called a meeting immediately with me and Fire Chief Winnifred Powell,” said Krall. “No one person was being malicious it was just the typical snafus of communication. The lumber was donated and Winnie was given the wrong impression of how clean the stuff was.”

While some of the donated lumber was clean, some of it was also treated. Compounding the problem, fire officials also used discarded wood found near the Cruz Bay station to construct the shed to blaze, Krall explained.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

JESS students watch as firemen light a demonstration blaze in the Winston Wells ball field.

“Winnie thought the shed was going to be entirely constructed of things that were safe, but the wood wasn’t entirely clean and in addition to that, these guys brought other wood that was treated too,” he said.

VIFD St. John Deputy Chief Winnifred Powell assured Krall that the incident would never be repeated, he added.

“Winnie said at the meeting that they would never do anything like this again,” Krall said. “If they do anything like this, they’ll use cardboard.”

Administrator Smith thanked Krall for

“...all it takes is one tablespoon of this ash to be lethal to a person. After the fire, the ashes were just laying there in the field where the kids have P.E. class.”

— Tom Krall, JESS parent

bringing the issue to her and the fire department’s attention.

“The issue was settled,” said Smith. “Winnie thanked Tom for the information and going forward next year, she said she would make sure that treated wood would not be used.”

The Fire Prevention Week incident highlighted a bigger problem of the prevalent misuse of treated wood, according to Krall.

“The big problem is that people are burning this stuff all over the island and they have no idea how dangerous it is,” he said. “You can’t even let this stuff sit on your property or it will contaminate the ground for years since the arsenic leaches out of the wood. Hopefully we’ll get some education out there.”

“We’re hoping to have people be more educated about this,” said Smith. “We’re looking out for the interests of the public and the kids.”

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Callwood and Vincent Honored as VIPD Officers of the Month

St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Police Department Officer Derrick Callwood was honored in July and Detective Cassandra Vincent was honored for the month of August as part of the department's Officers of the Month program on St. John.

Callwood joined the department in 2002 and has been assigned to the Leander Jurgen Command since August 2003. Callwood made several arrests during the month of August, including Aggravated Assault and Battery, Driving Under the Influence, Reckless Endangerment and Destruction of Property.



Derrick Callwood



Cassandra Vincent

The VIPD officer is described by his supervisors as having great leadership skills and a relentless worker, who takes initiative to perform his duties to the highest standards.

He also assists the detectives assigned to the Command when suspects are picked up for interviews or to be arrested for various offenses.

Detective Vincent is a six-year veteran of the VIPD and was assigned to the Leander Jurgen Command in 2004. She was then assigned to the St. John Criminal Investigation Bureau in February 2007.

During August, Detective Vincent made several arrests involving crimes committed on St. John including Grand Larceny, Burglary in the second and Burglary in the third.

Detective Vincent is the only investigator assigned to the St. John Criminal Investigation Bureau. She investigates all cases, does her own leg work, works diligently and relentlessly under trying circumstances. Vincent is described as always having a positive outlook.

"It's a pleasure for me to com-

mend the police officers of the month for a job well done," said VIPD Commissioner Novelle Francis. "These officers have

shown dedication, leadership, and the true spirit of service to the Virgin Islands community. Special acknowledgements go to the

Virgin Islands Hotel and Tourism Association for hosting the presentations and providing incentives for the officers and to the St.

Thomas Community Integration Team for assisting in the revival of this moral building community partnership."

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Safe and Drug Free Community School Grants Available

Safe and Drug Free Community School grants are available for the development and implementation of three youth and preventive programs. Successful applicants must identify and execute scientifically evidence based preventive programs. Applicants may apply for a maximum of \$84,500 for 12 months of funding. Two applicants will be funded in the District of St. Thomas/St. John and one on St. Croix. The funding period will begin on November 1, 2009 and end on September 30, 2010. Applications are due by October 23, 2009 at 2 p.m.

The priorities for the Governor's portion of the funds are to serve children and youth who are not normally served by local education agencies, or populations that need special services or additional resources. Those populations include youth in juvenile detention facilities, run-away children or homeless youth, pregnant and parenting teens, or school dropouts and those at-risk of dropping out. For more information, please contact Ms. Clarrisa Warrington at 774-0930 ext 4103 or via email at viononprofitmanagement@yahoo.com



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Vehicles must keep left around the roundabout and yield to traffic already in the circle.

Roadway Committee Urges Public Caution For Motorists Using Cruz Bay Roundabout

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

As the Cruz Bay roundabout continues to take shape, St. John Roadway Committee members urged motorists to proceed with caution through the construction site.

During their meeting at the Cruz Bay Battery on Wednesday morning, October 7, committee members shared concerns about safety as Island Roads continues building Love City's first traffic circle.

While directional arrows have been painted on the roadway, excavation near Dolphin Market often makes them unrecognizable.

"It's almost the worst it's going to get," said Ira Wade, Department of Public Works St. John Deputy Director. "They're trying hard to keep those arrows visible. If people just come in and follow the arrows there will be no problem."

"It comes down to keep left," said Wade.

Traffic in the roundabout has the right of way, Wade added.

"People must yield to the traffic that is already in the circle," he said. "Let the traffic pass by before you enter the circle and keep left. If people are paying attention, they're getting their training for how to drive in the roundabout when it's done."

When complete the roundabout will consist of two lanes of traffic, which will make it easier to maneuver in the circle, the DPW Deputy Director explained.

"What you see now is not what it's going to look like," he said. "You'll start bearing left about where the old gas station office is now. When they remove the pole in the road there, it will be a lot more understandable."

There are still two more excavation sites — in front of the bandstand and in front of the Julius E. Sprauve School's Industrial Arts Complex — which will cause at least partial road closures in the near future, Wade added.

"Route 104 will probably close for a half a day or

so for the excavation," he said.

Construction of the project — which started in May 2008 — is still on pace to wrap up in May 2010, according to Wade.

"When it's finished there will be a big dog and pony show about how to use it," he said. "We'll have officials there and we'll do a big public education program about driving through the roundabout. As confusing as it is, it's actually working really well already."

A new sidewalk is slated to be installed on Centerline Road from the Islandia Building up the hill to near the water tower. Funds have already been identified for the project, which should move forward as soon as the new minister of the Seventh Day Adventist Church signs off, Wade explained.

"Plans have been made and the money is in place," he said. "We're just waiting for the right of entry and easements to be signed. We expect that to come through shortly."

Several telephone poles should be moved in order for the sidewalk to be properly laid out, according to committee president Norm Gledhill.

"We should be doing this the right way," said Gledhill. "In order to do it the right way, those poles should be moved."

Relocating the poles would make the project costlier and more complicated, Wade explained.

"We shouldn't mix apples and oranges," said Wade. "That will just hold the project up and I think we should move forward."

The committee was hoping to meet with an Assistant Secretary of the Interior to discuss opening colonial roads in V.I. National Park, but the secretary was delayed due to the natural disaster in American Samoa.

Now St. John Roadway Committee members hope to meet with the assistant secretary in November to talk about opening Route 107 along the south shore, according to Gledhill.

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Tradewinds Resume Weekly Publishing

GHS Students To Learn Culinary Skills from Local Chef

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Eleven Giffit Hill School students sitting at a long dining table in an otherwise empty downtown Cruz Bay restaurant on a recent Monday afternoon weren't on a field trip, but actually in class.

Walter Hinds, owner of Hinds Restaurant, is teaching a cooking class for the private island school for the first time this semester. One afternoon a week, the restaurant, which is not open for lunch, transforms into a classroom for 10 seniors and one sophomore enrolled in the school's new "Meal Preparation" elective class.

After Hinds met GHS head Ben Biddle, the two came up with the idea to start a cooking class for the island school, explained the chef.

"Ben and I had been talking about starting a cooking class, and we decided to go ahead and do it this year," said Hinds. "I love the kids and I think it's important to know about proper food techniques."

Hinds also wanted to share his passion for cuisine with the students, he added.

"My first experience in a kitchen was in a home economics class, so I wanted these kids to get that opportunity," said Hinds. "While this is not a chef's class, it's a great opportunity to introduce kids to the world of food and culinary arts."

The students' experience levels varied from being the



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tristan Ewald

Chef Walter Hinds, standing, discusses cooking techniques with his students in GHS' Meal Preparation class.

son of an eminent Love City chef — La Tapa owner Alex Ewald's son Tristan is enrolled — to not knowing how to boil water. Looking ahead to college, many of the students also wanted to be comfortable in a kitchen without their parents' help.

"I signed up for the class because when I go off to college

next year I want to be able to cook for myself," said GHS senior Afrika Anthony. "I don't really cook much at all right now, so I'm excited to learn some things."

"I want to be able to cook for myself and not ruin what I'm making," said Shaiman Lalich, a senior at GHS.

Before the students could get inside the kitchen, however, Hinds first hosted class in the dining room, discussing food safety and cooking techniques.

"There are things the students need to know before they even go near food," said Hinds.

In the first hour-and-a-half class, Hinds taught the students about food and kitchen safety, from food-borne illness and cross contamination to fire safety and health and hygiene.

Throughout the 11-week course, the chef plans to instruct students in preparing everything from stocks, sauces and soups to meat and poultry. Ingredient identification, tools and equipment and baking instruction are also on the syllabus.

While Hinds designed the class to be fun, it will not be an easy "A" for students.

"The students will have quizzes every other week," Hinds said. "There will be a graded final at the end of the semester which is going to be fun and will have some surprises for the students, but it won't be easy."

While this is Hinds' first time teaching high school stu-

Continued on Page 21

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DeCastro Clinic Temporarily Closed

St. John Tradewinds

The Morris F. deCastro Clinic in Cruz Bay was forced to cancel its clinic operations on Tuesday, October 6, due to a substantial number of its employees not reporting to work, according to Department of Health Commissioner of Health Julia Sheen-Aaron.

“Significant efforts and resources are being tapped to address this unfortunate situation,” said Sheen-Aaron.

Clients with scheduled appointments affected by the closure were encouraged to reschedule their visit by calling 776-6400. Community residents and other persons on the island of St. John who are in need of emergency medical attention were told to call 911 or go directly to the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center, according to Sheen-Aaron.

Normal clinic operations are expected to resume tomorrow, October 7, 2009. Sheen-Aaron said she regrets any inconvenience that may have resulted from the closures and the residents/clients’ indulgence during this period of time.

Nickbarg Tops the Fleet at District Singlehanded Championship

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Antilles School senior Max Nickbarg spent the past few months sailing his way to the top of the Inter-Scholastic Sailing Association’s South Atlantic District fleet.

He started out the summer, however, in Brazil where the St. John teen represented the Virgin Islands at the Volvo Youth Worlds in early July. After racing against some of the best youth skippers on the planet, Nickbarg, 17, finished in the middle of the fleet.

“Only one person from each country goes to the worlds so it really narrows down the fleet,” said Nickbarg. “It was really challenging. It was the hardest regatta I’ve ever been in.”

For the Volvo Youth Worlds, sailors competed in radial lasers, as opposed to full rig lasers — called laser standard — which Nickbarg started sailing at the end of the summer. The format meant many of the bigger skippers dropped down to radials just for the event and dominated the field.

“There were no jokers around,” Nickbarg said. “Everyone was tuned up perfectly and well-trained.”

With 53 countries represented, Nickbarg finished in about the 30 spot and relished the opportunity to race against such competition, he explained.

On the heels of his Brazilian experience, last month the St. John



News Photo Courtesy of M. Nickbarg

St. John sailor Max Nickbarg shows off the trophy he won at the SAISA championship.

sailor cruised to a hard-fought first place at the 2010 South Atlantic District Singlehanded Championship (SAISA) in laser standard — his first regatta sailing the full rig.

“I used to sail radials and this was my first competition in the full rigs, and I won,” said Nickbarg.

After crossing the mark early on the first day of racing, Nickbarg was penalized a last place score plus two additional points.

“Normally you get to throw out your worst score, but in high school racing you can’t,” said the St. John sailor. “So that really pushed me back.”

Nickbarg battled back on the second day of competition, however, to take first place in the high

school district championship — by one point.

“I went out the second day thinking I wasn’t going to win,” he said. “I won the last four races and won the regatta.”

The win qualified Nickbarg to race in the Inter-Scholastic Sailing Association’s National High School Singlehanded Championship at the end of the month in Corpus Christi, Texas, where he’ll compete for the Cressy Trophy.

“I’ve never sailed there before, but it’s supposed to be really windy,” said Nickbarg. “I like sailing wind, but with the bigger sail now I’m one of the little guys. It shouldn’t be too bad though.”

Nickbarg is also on the Antilles School sailing team, but won’t compete in a team high school regatta until the Spring. While he looks ahead to college, Nickbarg won’t try to qualify for another youth world championship, keeping his focus instead on full rig lasers.

“I’d have to drop down to radial lasers for the Volvo, so I’m not going to try to qualify for the youth worlds,” said the St. John sailor. “I definitely want to go to a college with a good sailing team and I’ll concentrate on full rigs.”

Keep an eye out for Nickbarg in local waters in December, when the teen will likely pair up with fellow home-grown sailing sensation Taylor Canfield for the Carlos Aguilar Match Race Championship off St. Thomas.

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Senator-at-Large Reports

By Senator Craig Barshinger

Ferry Fares, Property Taxes

St. John Tradewinds

The Legislature will host an October 26 meeting on my bill No. 28-101, which is designed to lower the ferry fare between St. John and St. Thomas to \$2 each way and provide subsidies to the ferry franchisees to make this possible.

Anyone is welcome to testify — call my office to sign up. A big turnout for the hearing will send a message to my fellow senators that St. John is very concerned about ferry fares and ferry service. A substantial subsidy package consisting of both federal and local monies will be necessary. When money is tight, the money flows to wherever there is the most interest.

The committee of jurisdiction is Financial Services, Infrastructure and Consumer Affairs, chaired by Senator Neville James from St. Croix. He is sympathetic to the difficulties St. John residents are facing on this issue as well as the looming issue of property tax.

Property Tax

That same committee has jurisdiction over my bill No. 28-0078, which is designed to bring property tax relief to St. John residents. The hearing on St. John for this bill that was scheduled for October 28 has been postponed. We will let you know the new date as soon as it is set.

Please let us know if you would like to testify about your concerns, fears, or ideas concerning property tax issues. By attending, you show that St. John is awake, alert, and will not allow St. John to be singled out to bear an unfair tax burden.

Copies of this bill (28-0078 along with amendment No. 28-506T) are available at my St. John office. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Our telephone number is 693-8061.

There are signs that the executive branch is getting the message

that St. John valuations by BearingPoint, Inc. were flawed. On August 25 the Lt. Governor's office came to the Appropriation and Budget Committee, requesting \$1 million to fix the St. John property tax issue. They recognize the need to correct the many bad revaluations.

On a side note, one of the members of the Unity Day Group said recently at a public event that I "supported \$1 million for the Lt. Governor's office to fight the Unity Day Group." This was incorrect. Furthermore, it was an irresponsible statement. All St. John residents must work together to resolve this issue.

I believe that the lawsuit of St. John residents being brought by the St. John Unity Day Group (UDG) is an important element in resolving the crisis that we face. I have directed many concerned citizens to the UDG and recommended that they join in the fight. Now I must caution all who are involved to demand strict accounting by the leadership of UDG.

My goal is to bring the property tax crisis to an end by providing a remedy to the mistakes of BearingPoint. There is a risk that some within the UDG will become infatuated with the idea that they can collect money and fight a court battle.

Yes, we will fight when we are forced to fight. But we must never fight for the sake of fighting. And no one should profit from the fight, all money should go to mounting a legal case that leads to a resolution.

Bill 28-0078 is powerful medicine for a sick taxation system. It may be the cure that will bring us back to being able to collect fair, affordable property taxes.

It contains two remedies. One is to provide for the correct revaluation of all St. John properties. The second is to provide that property taxes will be due every ten months,

until we are caught up. This recognizes that asking property owners to pay two or more tax bills at once is not practical.

With continued public support, an aggressive lawsuit by the UDG and others, and a little bit of diplomacy, the property tax crisis can and will be resolved.

The Budget

The legislature passed an \$855 million budget for 2010 a couple weeks ago. It was the product of two grueling months of legislative hearings. I am satisfied that we did a reasonable job of matching our shrinking resources to our many needs. We will revisit the budget throughout the year as necessary.

Of particular interest is the miscellaneous section of the budget. Several St. John organizations are supported from this section.

My office has received many complaints about failure of the executive branch to disburse the appropriation made by the Legislature. To remedy this, I have requested that Debra Gottlieb, director of the OMB produce a "guide to obtaining payment on your appropriation," which I will provide to all who have been appropriated such funds.

The governor recently came to St. John to celebrate the fact stimulus monies from both federal and local sources are now in place and the projects they fund are getting underway.

The governor's job is to ensure that the work is done in a timely and high-quality manner. The Legislature's job is to watch over these projects and ensure that the money is spent for the purposes specified in the appropriations.

St. John Staff

Catherine Stephen, my dynamic community outreach liaison, has recovered from surgery and is now back at work. Thank you for the calls and the prayers on her behalf!

Continued on Page 21

SKINNY LEGS

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Jaime Elliott



Freebird owner Barbara Hervey, above, looks over the new shop as a sales associate helps customers, at right.

Freebird Welcomes Customers at New Dockside Location

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

There is a new face greeting visitors when they step off the Cruz Bay ferry dock these days.

After 20 years in its Wharfside Village location, Freebird Creations moved this month to a new shop below St. John Spice.

Along with owners Barbara and Randy Hervey — who bought the jewelry store in November 2000 — the couple's pug Rafaela now proudly sits in the window welcoming visitors and locals to the new location.

"It's kind of like a face-lift," said Barbara Hervey. "After 20 years we all need one."

While the Freebird owners are still settling in to their new digs, there has already been a noticeable increase in foot traffic due to their more visible location, Barbara Hervey explained.

"There was an almost instant influx of people when we opened," she said. "We still have a bit of work just finding spots to put everything. But everything will find its new home."

Although the store is in a new building,

customers can still expect to find the same great merchandise.

"It's pretty much the same size as our old store, so we didn't downsize our merchandise," said Barbara Hervey. "You can still get a \$5 toe ring or an ancient coin. We're just in a different, fresher environment."

There are two new lines Freebird is unveiling this season. A high-tech sport digital watch line Suunto and a hand-made enamel jewelry line by Viszu will be available this season as well as Natura wall sconces and chandeliers made of Spanish alabaster.

After closing for only a week for the move, Freebird will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. this season as the Herveys look forward to another 20 years in their new location.

"It's a great way to meet the neighbors here," said Barbara Hervey. "When people come off the ferry it's nice for them to see St. John friendly stores like us and St. John Spice."

Stop by and say hi to the Herveys and Rafaela in their new location just steps off the Loredon Boynes ferry dock in Cruz Bay.



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Wha's Happ'nin'

by Sis Frank

Jaime Returns from Vacation

St. John Tradewinds

Mauri has left, Jaime is back and joins Andrea in helping Ma-Linda at *Tradewinds* and the two forthcoming magazines! Can't wait to see the *St. John Magazine* and *St. Thomas Magazine*.

Jazz VI at the Beach Bar is Hot

There's always a breeze blowing on the beach. Roan Creque and Vince Wallace played last Sunday, bringing in another beat. Don't miss the show Sundays from 4 to 7:30 p.m. The only show in town.

Kids First! Supports Early Childhood Education at GHS

St. John Tradewinds

Kids First!, a V.I. non-profit dedicated to supporting education on St. John, announced that \$25,000 of financial aid enabling 10 students to attend the Giff Hill School early learning program has been awarded.

Kids First! has also funded an additional \$5,000 to purchase teaching aids to enhance the educational experience for Giff Hill pre-school children.

Giff Hill School Headmaster Ben Biddle said financial support from Kids First! has made a difference in 10 children's lives and the teaching aids that

Kids First! has purchased will enhance the experience for all children who attend Giff Hill's early learning programs, according to Bruce Claffin, President of Kids First!

Kids First! mission is to support quality education for all the children of St. John in a safe and nurturing environment. Kids First! believes that supporting quality education on St. John is the single most important contribution we can make to keep St. John the special place it is today.

For more information, email: info@kidsfirststj.org.

GHS Students Clean Up Annaberg and Mary's Creek



Giff Hill School seventh and eighth graders in Kris Bennett's classes recently pitched in during Coastweeks, cleaning the shorelines near Mary's Creek and Annaberg.

St. John Tradewinds News
Photos Courtesy of Giff Hill School

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OFF-SEASON RESTAURANT CLOSURES & RE-OPENINGS

- **Aqua Bistro** – 776-5336, Reopened for season
- **Asolare** – 779-4747, Only open Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings until further notice.
- **Baked in the Sun** - 693-8786, Staying open
- **Balcony** – 774-8470, Staying open
- **Banana Deck** – 693-5055, Reopening October 15
- **Beach Bar** – 777-4220, Staying open
- **Cafe Concordia** – 693-5855, Closed until November 8
- **Cafe Roma** – 776-6524, Closed Oct. 1 until Nov. 1
- **Caneel Restaurants** – Entire resort closed until Nov. 1
- **Chloe and Bernards** – 714-6075, Closed until Oct. 12
- **Crazy Crackers** – Open
- **Da Livio's** – 779-8900, Open; Closed on Sundays
- **Donkey Diner** – 693-5240, Closed Aug. 30 to Oct. 28
- **Fish Trap** – 693-9994, Closed Aug. 30 to Oct. 13
- **Happy Fish** – 776-1717, Closed Sept. 28 to Oct. 26
- **High Tide** – 714-6169, Open
- **Hinds Restaurant** – 775-9951, Closed until Oct. 22
- **I Scream** - Staying open
- **Inn at Tamarind Court** – 776-6378, Reopening mid-October
- **Island Blues** – 776-6800, Staying open
- **Jake's** – Staying open
- **JJ's Texas Coast Cafe** – 776-6908, Staying open
- **La Tapa** – 693-7755, Reopening October 16
- **La Plancha del Mar** – 777-7333, Staying open
- **Lime Inn** – 776-6425, Closed Aug. 31 to Oct. 30
- **The Lucky Pagoda** – 774-9900, Staying open
- **Maho Pavilion** – 776-6226, Staying open
- **Miss Lucy's** – 693-5244, Not available
- **Morgan's Mango** – 693-8141, Staying open
- **Ocean Grill** – 693-3304, Reopened for season
- **Paradiso** – 693-8899, Closed on Wednesday evenings but call for hours and reservations
- **Rhumb Lines** – 776-0303, Closed Sept. 28 to Oct. 16
- **Shipwreck Landing** – 693-5640, Closed Sept. 5 to Nov. 10
- **Skinny Legs** – 779-4982, Reopened for season
- **SoGo's** – 779-4404, Staying open
- **Sun Dog Cafe** – 693-8340, Staying open
- **Sweet Plantains** – 777-4653, Closed Aug. 30 to Dec. 2
- **Waterfront Bistro** – 777-7755, Reopened for season
- **Woody's Seafood Saloon** – 779-4625, Reopened for season
- **ZoZo's Ristoranté** – 693-9200, Reopened for season

A Talk with Love City Teen: **Chloe Jarvis**

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

After volunteering with Friends of V.I. National Park this year, 13-year-old Chloe Jarvis learned how fulfilling it is to help others.

“Last year, I wasn’t very involved with the community and I guess I didn’t really think much about it,” said Jarvis, an eighth grader at Giffit Hill School. “But when you step outside of yourself and start volunteering, it’s nice and it gives you a new view of things. I really enjoy helping out at Friends — it’s fun.”

In addition to her work at Friends of VINP, Jarvis also spends her time volunteering at St. John School of the Arts as well as her mother’s day care center, Here to Grow. She also runs on the GHS cross country team, models with Star Models and studies ballet at SJSA, all while staying on top of her studies.

This year the St. John teen is putting even more on her plate by applying for boarding school on the mainland.

“I want to go to boarding school for high school because I feel like I’m ready to start something new,” said Jarvis. “I’m ready to kind of move up in the world and just excel in my education. I’m ready for change.”

While Jarvis loves her island home, the mature young lady feels capable of achieving more than what is available locally, she explained.

“I love St. John and this small environment where I can see 10 of my friends just walking down the street,” Jarvis said. “But I have a feeling inside that I’m ready to be on my own and to learn so much more than I know already.”

Jarvis never thought about attending boarding school in the states until her aunt, who is a development director for a private school in New Jersey, mentioned how much financial aid is available.

“One of my aunt’s students was applying to boarding school and she was telling me and my mom they have a lot of financial aid and that’s when we started thinking about it for me,” said Jarvis. “We never thought it was possible before. My mom thought boarding



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Chloe Jarvis is a busy young lady with big dreams.

school was only for rich people, but it’s different now.”

Since setting boarding school as a goal three months ago, Jarvis has been excelling in and out of the classroom, she explained.

“I’ve always been a ‘B’ student, but I wasn’t really inspired by school before,” said Jarvis. “But now that I have a goal for myself, I’m really inspired and I know that I can do it. Reading wasn’t something I used to do for fun, but now I read all the time and I have a dictionary by my bed.”

“Volunteering a lot and staying busy has been great too because it’s teaching me how to manage my time, which I’ll need to do if I go away to school,” she said.

The St. John teen was almost giddy with excitement talking about the possibilities at boarding school.

“Looking at some of the clubs and classes at the schools I’ve been looking at, it’s amazing what is out there,” she said. “It’s a whole new learning experience. It’s not just, ‘sit down, this is what we’re learning.’”

“It’s interactive and you really have to be involved with your education,” Jarvis said.

While attending high school away from the comforts of family and friends might not be for everyone, Jarvis seemed prepared for the realities of living away from home, added Jarvis.

“I’m very mature for my age and I’ve always been independent,” she said. “I’ll definitely miss my mom and my dad and my sister, but I think I’ll do fine. I’ve just always been that type of kid.”

As she waits to hear from The Lawrenceville School, Peddie School, Emma Willard, St. Andrews Delaware and St. Andrews Boca Raton, Jarvis offered some advice to young students on St. John.

“Set goals for yourself,” she said. “It’s so important to have goals and then when you realize that you’ve succeeded, it’s a good feeling to know what you’re capable of. This is something that’s new to me, but it’s really good to push yourself and see what you can achieve.”

ACC Hosting Third Annual "No Fleas, Please" Market October 24

St. John Tradewinds

"No Fleas, Please," the third annual Animal Care Center (ACC) flea market, will be on Saturday, October 24, at the Winston Wells ball field. The all-day event will feature housewares, books, furnishings, and clothing. This year there will be a larger-than-ever selection of games and toys at the children's table.

Refreshments will be available and a surprise raffle is planned. All proceeds will benefit the island's homeless, abandoned and abused animals. Call Connie at the ACC shelter at 774-1625 for more information.

Zemi Caribbean Workshops Start Nov. 7 With "Caribbean Digital Film"

St. John Tradewinds

Workshops at "Zemi" demonstrate and teach a variety of exciting new skills as well as age old healing methods taught by world renowned professionals and successful islanders.

Each week there are different workshops designed for individual attention. November 7-14, will be the "Caribbean Digital Film Workshop" about how to get the best effects from cameras, how to edit to make a short movie and how to create, produce, fund and sell a docu-

mentary. Beginners to advanced film makers are welcome.

The workshops will be taught by Steve Simonsen, an award winning photographer and movie maker, and Bill Stelzer, a videographer and producer.

Andrea Leland, who has produced several documentaries including "Jamsie King of Scratch," will lead the group on how to make a great documentary or to improve one.

Lauren Chiten, who has won awards will also teach about producing documentaries.



Photo by William Stelzer

"Daily Strife" Exhibit Oct. 16

St. John Tradewinds

The Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts in conjunction with curators, Janet Cook-Rutnik and Lisa Ladner are pleased to announce plans for the upcoming exhibition, "Daily Strife, VI - PR Friendship Commemoration," show that will open at the museum on Friday, October 16, in Frederiksted, St. Croix.

Selected artists from the Virgin Islands are Diego Conde, Donald Diddams, Gerville Larsen, Monica Marin, and William Stelzer. Both curators will also be exhibiting and there will be a talk featuring Virgin Islands and Puerto Rican artists and scholars on Saturday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at CMCA.

This exhibition and scholars presentation is funded in part by the Virgin Islands Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Contact CMCA at 772-2622 for more information.

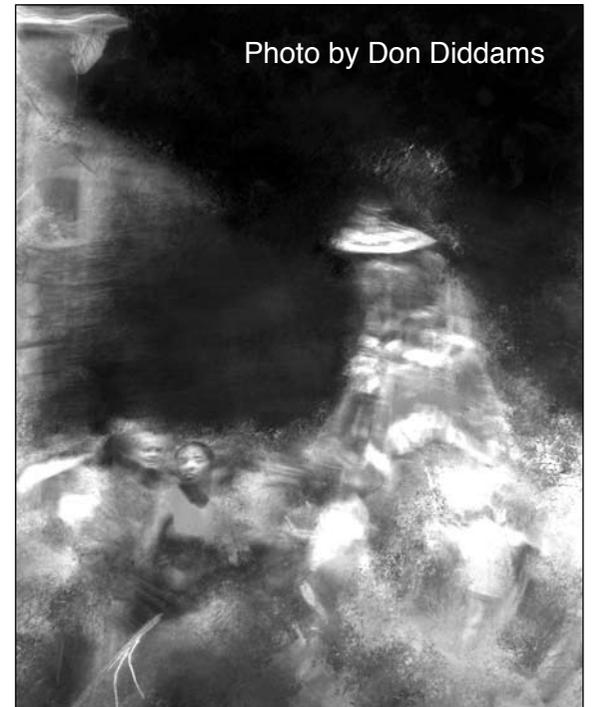


Photo by Don Diddams



Photo by Janet Cook-Rutnik

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2008 FINAL COUNT

Homicide: 0
Solved: 0

Shootings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Stabbings: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

Armed Robberies: 2
Under Investigation: 2
Solved: 1

Arsons: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

2nd Degree Burglaries: 18
Under Investigation: 18
Solved: 0

3rd Degree Burglaries: 67
Under Investigation: 67
Solved: 0

Grand Larcenies: 68
Under Investigation: 68
Solved: 0

Rapes: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

2009 TO-DATE

Homicide: 1
Solved: 0

Shootings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Stabbings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Armed Robberies: 3
Under Investigation: 3
Solved: 0

Arsons: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 4
Under Investigation: 4
Solved: 0

2nd Degree Burglaries: 16
Under Investigation: 15
Solved: 1

3rd Degree Burglaries: 52
Under Investigation: 50
Solved: 4

Grand Larcenies: 50
Under Investigation: 47
Solved: 3

Rapes: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

TRADEWINDS PUBLISHING

The Community Newspaper Since 1972

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MAILING ADDRESS

Tradewinds Publishing
P.O. Box 1500
St. John, VI 00831

SUBSCRIPTIONS

U.S. & U.S.V.I. only
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Letters to St. John Tradewinds

Despite Rebate Exclusion, Villa Owners Shoud Consider Alternative Energy Power

Just a few thoughts to separate the forest from the trees. Maybe you can use some of it.

In your recent article, you note that V.I. rebate funds for Solar electric systems are not available to non-residents. A rental house manager asks, "what do I tell my owners." I would like to help in answering that question.

There are formidable reasons why off-island owners should be informed and encouraged to consider solar electricity, in spite of their exclusion from the local rebate program:

1. High electric rates are here to stay in the V.I. WAPA's plans for alternatives (trash to power, and others) are to its credit, but no one is predicting much effect on the rate-payer.

2. Under the 2009 Reinvestment and Recovery Act the tax credits offered by the Federal government remain available through 2016 (check with your accountant). The credit of 30% of cost no longer has a limit on system size. For owners in medium to high tax brackets, this benefit would dwarf the "lost" V.I. rebate.

3. Depending on the form of ownership (again, check with your accountant), the U.S. Treasury offers to businesses an outright grant (through 2010) of 30% of system cost in lieu of the credit. Also, accelerated depreciation may be available.

4. Owners will also want to familiarize themselves with rebate and credit programs in their home state. They might want to "go solar" there too! This will also provide an eye-opener on how V.I. rates stack up. For a synopsis of local, state, and Federal programs,

go to www.dsireusa.org

5. The cost, efficiency, and reliability of P.V. systems has never been more favorable. Owners can predictably ease or eliminate a huge drag on their rental bottom line. A space (roof or yard) of about 100 sq. ft. per kW is all that is needed, and system life can be 25 years and beyond.

6. A solar installation can add an interesting and memorable feature to a rental property. Guests today are genuinely interested in energy issues. Kinder treatment of the environment has played well from the early days of Cinnamon and Maho; this remains the case.

So much for the "supply" side. On the consumption side, owners might, among other savings measures:

Change the bulbs, scale back the pump timers, install a programmable a.c. thermostat, and get all electronics on "smart" plug strips (a big t.v. waiting for a remote signal can use as much power as a refrigerator, even though it is off).

The list goes on quite a ways, and mostly doesn't effect enjoyment of the house. So, these are some of the things I would tell the owners. I have worked for them; they are for the most part resourceful and adaptable. They are gutsy by definition. Solar electric installations can produce returns and provide satisfaction far beyond most investment strategies available today. And, don't forget, the risk level is just about zero.

Sincerely,
Bill Osborn
Pro Forma Solar

Online Readers Weigh In on Injured Robbery Victims

Readers of *St. John Tradewinds'* web site, www.stjohnnews.com, have been using the comment board to share their opinions of articles posted to the site daily.

The article "Injured Robbery Victims Find Police Station Vacant" garnered the most attention, during the month of September. Nine readers weighed in on the story about the robbery victim's plight, most of which are printed below:

— *My heart truly goes out to Phon and his friend. It must have been awfully scary.*

— *This November I have my tenth visit planned, and am considering one of those "Watchdog" alarm systems for the villa... Best wishes for a quick recovery. Smiles.*

— *Let's see, who do we believe, Ms. Rames or the victims? Or maybe Darren Foy. "The victims did not try to initiate any contact with the police and left." Bleeding profusely?? And the officers didn't do anything? To protect and serve? C'mon Mr. Foy. This, once again, doesn't pass the smell test.*

— *That is a sickening story. I wish both of them the best.*

— *This story goes to show you how corrupt the St.*

John Police Department really is. There should be video cameras in the Police Department showing a time stamp, and why if the police were there and saw the guys bleeding they would not have come out to help! This is ridiculous, and the feds need to come in and get rid of all the current police officers.

— *The police work for the drug dealers. The federal government should come in and clean up the police department. The St. John police have zero interest in solving crime. It is a total joke.*

— *I hear more and more stateside about not going to St. John. "Don't feel safe" and "don't feel welcome" are very common statements. Sometimes I think the local officials would be happier if people didn't come to the island. Selfish and very short sighted as that may be!*

— *These acts of violence are happening too frequently on St. John. So many of these random acts of violence happen in very close proximity to the police station. Why would anyone feel safe on St. John anymore? I understand Phon is considering leaving the island. I don't blame him. Tourism is bad enough due to the economy, it may get worse if the island reputation has crime written all over it.*

Letters to St. John Tradewinds

Who Should Be Arrested?

I read in shock a story in *Tradewinds* (10/05/09) of a "Now and Zen" boutique employee being arrested for helping a tourist "picking up a pizza" from getting a parking ticket, and got himself thrown in jail for several days, at \$1,500 bail, and was tossed into a maze of incompetent police procedures which only St. John residents are subjected to.

First, who among us has not parked briefly downtown to fetch something to eat? Who has not parked along the street, without blocking traffic, because there is no parking in Cruz Bay?

How many times have we seen cars parked along this same street while the driver has breakfast at Joe's Diner? How many delivery trucks block traffic as they make their rounds? How many times do we wait, patiently, for taxis and car rental agencies to do their business?

How many times do we see a car block a whole lane of traffic while the driver hangs out, or sells fish, at Nature's Nook and Anetha's? Just how far away is a parking spot so you can simply "pick up a pizza?"

So, who should actually be arrested, a young man trying to help a tourist deal with Cruz Bay, or "our leaders" who have failed our community's need for parking for decades? Who should be arrested? Here's some leading candidates:

— Our present and former Island Administrators who have not created a single new parking space in decades, ignoring our pleas for parking and planning.

— Our last three Governors, who have all promised to solve this problem.

— All Senators, who have ignored our needs on every issue, including parking.

— DPNR who has failed at any planning for decades.

Clarifying the Numbers in "Cash for Clunkers"

Mr. Hruza's recent letter to the editor claimed the "Cash for Clunker" program saved American consumers only \$350 million while costing the government \$3 billion dollars. He pointed out this was a poor return on investment and questioned how the government might run health care.

Mr. Hruza's analysis would be correct if drivers pumped crude oil into their tanks and they scrapped their cars after one year.

Crude oil has to be transported, pumped, refined, trucked and sold at retail before the consumer can buy it, just about tripling the cost. In addition, the average owner keeps his car seven years. Using all Mr. Hruza's other assumptions but making these two changes,

"Cash for Clunker" Was Hoax Email

This letter was simply a reprint of a hoax email that has been circulating. Had Mr. Hruza checked it for accuracy at Snopes.com, (as one should always do before forwarding such information) he would have discovered that the figures were fudged, inac-

— A Port Authority which only knows how to make things worse, really!

— Public Works, which can only put up parking signs for their own use.

— First Bank which closes its' parking lot at night so our local businesses can't even enjoy the use of this graveled space for their customers to park.

— Our business community which doesn't seem to care, or is afraid to demand parking, or to improving the town's ambience. Parking means commerce. Wake up! Locals are avoiding our town, and soon our visitors will too!

— The National Park, hasn't even created parking for their own visitors; and ignores our "gateway community" problems.

— Our Police can park on the ball field, can we? Do we really need two ball fields in the heart of our little town?

We know that our community is frustrated and has been begging for parking and planning for over 20 years, but so far, our only "hero" seems to be a young shopkeeper who tried to help a tourist "pick up a pizza."

For that, he has become a victim of our parking problem. Presiding Judge Alan Smith, a St. John resident, who should understand our parking dilemma, has found "probable cause" to prosecute this case.

Let's hope Judge Alan Smith sees the extenuating circumstances and the need to bring charges against "our leaders" who have failed to solve a simple need in Cruz Bay.

Good Luck in court Jim, and a big bucket of shame on the rest of us for not demanding "a fix to our parking."

Steve Black
St. John

the benefit to consumers now becomes \$7.35 billion on an investment of \$3 billion.

Mr. Hruza's analysis also neglected the following: This program created or saved thousands of jobs resulting in wage earners who paid taxes as opposed to drawing unemployment compensation.

It eliminated millions of pounds of carbon emissions and related pollutants. And it reduced payments to foreign energy suppliers, many of whom act contrary to America's interests.

If this is the type of return we can expect from Health Care Reform, I say "bring it on!"

Bruce L. Clafin
St. John

curate, and contained mathematical errors, and that the Cash for Clunkers program actually saved more than double its cost.

Jim Provost

St. John Hardware

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Letters to St. John Tradewinds

The Laws of Uitimate Reality

— **Law of Mechanical Repair**

After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

— **Law of Gravity**

Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible crevice furthest away from you.

— **Law of Probability**

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

— **Law of Random Numbers**

If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.

— **Law of the Alibi**

If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire while running late for work.

— **Variation Law**

If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now (works every time).

— **Law of the Bath**

When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

— **Law of Close Encounters**

The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

— **Law of the Result**

When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

— **Law of Biomechanics**

The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

— **Law of the Theater**

At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle arrive last.

— **The Starbucks Law**

As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

— **Murphy's Law of Lockers**

If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

— **Law of Physical Surface**

The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor covering are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet/rug.

— **Law of Logical Argument**

Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

— **Brown's Law of Physical Appearance**

If the shoe fits, it's ugly.

— **Oliver's Law of Public Speaking**

A closed mouth gathers no feet.

— **Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy**

As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

— Submitted by **Z. Hruza**
St. John

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

Love City's No Parking Issue

Does anyone in authority in our government not see and understand the position that every taxpaying citizen is put in every day they come to Cruz Bay by the simple act of never having solved the St. John on-going, decade-plus parking issue? Many potential solutions have been offered, yet nothing continues.

Nothing.

Year after year, nothing. Administration after administration, nothing. This is a reflection on what our present system of government accomplishes for our small island.

If we cannot solve this simple problem, how can we even think about solving all of the many others?

How can anyone on this island have any kind of faith in government or hope for change when this one simple issue cannot be solved — and continues to exasperate everyone who lives and works here?

It is way past time for our St. John community to demand a change in our centralized system of government which has a proven record of failure in running the island of St. John.

I believe that it is also why we have so much crime, apathy and "acting out." There is little hope left to improve our community.

St. John must have a locally-formed government of individuals who live here and experience the daily issues that impact our lives. We need to identify our own unique problems and have the power to solve

them here.

St. John residents are tired — exhausted — continually "beating our heads against a wall" trying to express to the centralized government in St. Thomas again what needs to be done and why there are always the same issues that should have been solved many years ago. These issues go across the water to St. Thomas and simply fade away rarely to be heard of again.

I no longer believe that a change in administration can change the many challenges we have on our island. Only a change in moving from a centralized government to a more localized government can move us in the right direction to solve our St. John problems.

Sadly, our Constitutional Convention failed us and leaves us to contend with this dysfunctional system.

We need to address a more grass-roots, localized form of government to the public in a referendum in our next election. This is critical to restore the people's faith in government.

Senator Craig Barshinger — how do we make this happen?

Something has to change. St. Johnians are losing any little faith they might still have to address the on-going problems on St. John.

Bonny Corbeil
St. John

Petition Circulating Against Thatch Cay Development

I have posted a petition on care2.com concerning the territorial government's decision to allow a big resort developer to build on Thatch Cay. I am hoping at least 500 people will sign it by early December so I can submit it to the proper authorities in Puerto Rico. Citizens and potential tourists from around the

world have been signing it. I hope you, as well as your family and friends, will also. Here is the web site address; <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/109/help-save-thatch-cay-wildlife>.

Sincerely,
Susan Mann, Cruz Bay

St. John Through a Child's Eye

My Name is Ron Harrigan and I am writing to you about a story that my son Gavin wrote for school. He is 10 years old, in the gifted and talented program and is very bright.

He loves St. John more than any other place in the world. He has managed to make the trip down with his mom four times in the last five years and he comes home dreaming of the next time he will be back.

St. John is often the subject of his artwork and stories and this, his latest story, was an assignment where he was asked to write about his favorite place on Earth.

I know it is sometimes hard to remember how special the place you call home is until you see it through the eyes of someone who doesn't get to see it every-day.

I hope you like his story and can use it for your paper.

Sincerely,
Ron Harrigan

St. John

I get out of the cramped plane and the fresh Caribbean breeze is nice and warm. I experience this almost every year on my traditional trip to St. John (one of the Virgin Islands).

The beaches are unreal, the sand is pure white and the water looks and feels like blue satin. There is a forest of green trees that smell sweet and the fresh coconuts are even sweeter.

Cruz Bay is like a treehouse. There are entangled stairs leading up to the shops like the Caravan Gallery and St. John Spice. Vines entangle the rails of the stairs made of stone and coral.

When the sun sets on the perfect beach, the sand turns to black velvet. The bugs churping and the waves churning blend to form a Caribbean lullaby.

Perfect, peace.

— **By Gavin Harrigan,**
Ocean City MD

American Legion Co-Ed Flag Football Scores and Standings

Raiders (Black) 32 Packers (Green) 6

The Packers came off a big win last week expecting to make it two in a row but the Raiders would have none of it. With Shakeem Meade leading the way with three first half TD tosses and five for the game, it was clear that the Packers were in for a long night.

Gregory Lewis came up big with three first half TD receptions and Meshawn Wilkinson added two more in the second half. The Packers were able to come up with a score of their own late in the second half as Daniel Smith tossed a neat pass and long run to Jalen Frazer to prevent the shutout. The Packers meet the Broncos in the late game on October 9.

Broncos (Red) 13 Patriots (Blue) 0

The Broncos made it two in a row by defeating the Patriots who now go 0-2 on the season. Tough defense by both teams kept the score low but the Broncos managed to slip two scores by the Pats, one in the first and one in the second half. Jay Williams showed his strength at quarterback by tossing two TDs.

Colin Brago was on the receiving end in the first half while Jahreem Fahie grabbed another in the second tilt. Christian Rutnik chipped in with an extra point on a toss from Williams to complete the scoring.

Standings As of October 2

Team	W	L	PF	PA
Broncos	2	0	34	6
Raiders	1	1	38	27
Packers	1	1	31	53
Patriots	0	2	21	38

Scheduled for October 9 at 6 p.m. will be Raiders vs. Patriots, starting at 7 p.m. and Broncos vs. Packers. All games are played at Winston Wells field.

Bat Night Is October 23

Join Division of Fish and Wildlife biologist Renata Platenberg in celebrating Bat Night at Maho Bay Campground on Friday, October 23, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the dining pavilion.

Come learn about bats of the Virgin Islands, how they benefit humans, what you can do to help bats in your neighborhood and other fun facts! Plus, get up close and personal with a real live bat!

The event is part of Do One Thing for Wildlife, an initiative by the Department of Planning and Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife to promote wildlife conservation and public awareness. For more information call 775-6762 or email vi.wildlife@gmail.com.

Free Flu, Pneumonia Shots

Beat the Bug at CareForce 2009 on Thursday, October 29, when free flu and pneumonia shots will be available for seniors at St. Ursula's senior center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free blood pressure, blood sugar checks and foot exams will be available. Seniors with Medicare cards should bring them. For more information 712-2444.

Junior Tennis Tourney

The St. John Racquet Club will host a VITA Junior Tennis Tournament in honor of Sis Frank November 6 through 8 at the Cruz Bay tennis courts.

The tournament is sponsored by HOVENSA and is open to boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 18. The entry fee is \$15. For more information call Patrice Harley at 776-6643.

Fight the War Against Obesity

Women With Focus is committed to winning the war on childhood obesity in the Virgin Islands, and is now accepting new students ages 8 to 12 to join their fitness club on St. John. The main focus is to educate parents and adolescents about the dangers of childhood obesity and ways to prevent it. For more information, email womenwithfocus@yahoo.com.

St. John Police Report

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

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

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

Friday, October 2

No time given - 403V p/ at Jurgen Command with one Raymond Paul under arrest and charged with D.U.I. DUI

Saturday, October 3

6:14 p.m. - A visitor c/r that someone unknown removed items out of her rental villa. Burglary.

Sunday, October 4

2:00 a.m. - A citizen p/r that he was threatened by an adult male. Disturbance of the peace.

10:55 a.m. - An Estate Power Boyd Plantation resident r/ that her daughter is having a verbal disturbance. Police assistance.

2:25 p.m. - An employee at the Westin Resort and Villas r/ that a security guard is requesting police assistance for stolen items. Grand larceny.

7:05 p.m. - A garbage bin was r/ on fire in the area of Estate Grunwald. Fire.

Monday, October 5

1:20 p.m. - A citizen c/re-requesting police assistance in the area of Hansen Bay. Police as-

sistance.

2:50 p.m. - A citizen c/re-requesting police assistance. Disturbance of the peace. D.V.

5:50 p.m. - An Estate Pastory resident p/r that she is being harassed by her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend.

Tuesday, October 6

10:09 a.m. - An Estate Enighed resident r/ that he is having a dispute with his neighbors over land. Police assistance.

No time given - An Estate Enighed resident p/r that she lost her green card. Lost document.

5:36 p.m. - A citizen r/ an auto accident in the area of the tennis courts. Auto accident.

Wednesday, October 7

10:26 a.m. - A citizen r/ that a male who owes him money is creating a disturbance and has a pipe in his hand. Disturbance of the peace.

3:15 p.m. - The owner of Oasis Water Services p/r that he hasn't been paid for services by

Sirensa Enighed Condominiums.

7:05 p.m. - An Estate Rendezvous resident r/ that she was having a domestic disturbance with a male who took her cell phone and house key. Grand larceny, D.V.

8:20 p.m. - VIPD officer p/ with one Jesse Richards Jr. under arrest and charged with grand larceny, D.V.

Thursday, October 8

10:30 a.m. - A St. Thomas resident p/r that she lost her British Virgin Islands Belongers identification card. Lost Belongers card.

11:00 a.m. - An Estate Hansen Bay resident p/r that he was approached in a threatening manner by a male. Disturbance of the peace.

11:10 a.m. - An Estate Hard Labor resident p/r that she was instructed to leave her place of employment. Police assistance.

5:08 p.m. - A citizen r/ an auto accident in the area of Estate Pastory. Auto accident.

Next Deadline: Thursday, October 15th

Letters to the Editor, Press Releases, Advertising Artwork

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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, October 12

St. John Community Foundation, in conjunction with "Using Sports for Social Change" is hosting "Just Play Field Day" on October 12, 2009 for youths aged 2-18.

Friday and Saturday, October 15 and 16

Pastor Dennis Estridge and members of the St. John Pentecostal Church of God, located on Gift Hill Road, will host the leadership conference, "It's Just for You," on Thursday, October 15, and Friday, October 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 16

Department of Health officials will be giving free flu shots for adults only at the Coral Bay Fire Station on Friday, October 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, October 17

Volunteers are needed for a clean-up at Whistling Cay on Saturday, October 17, with Friends of V.I. National Park. Sadie Sea will provide transportation and will pick up volunteers at the VINP dock at 9 a.m.

Saturday, October 17

The Rotary Club of St. John is hosting its annual awards dinner celebration in recognition of this year's Paul Harris Fellows and Community Service award recipients on Saturday, October 17, at Ocean Grill Restaurant at 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 17, 24

The Kids And The Sea youth sailing program will kick off

the 2009 year this month. First time participants should meet at Skinny Legs on Saturday morning, October 17, at 9 a.m. Returning students should meet at Skinny Legs on Saturday morning, October 24, at 9 a.m.

Monday, October 19

Parents of young children are invited to participate in the community forum "Planning for Success — A Community Conversation about Early Learning on St. John," on Monday, October 19, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center.

Tuesday, October 20

The Recycling Association of the Virgin Islands, St. John Chapter will host its next monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 20, at 6 p.m. at the St. John Community Foundation office on the third floor of The Marketplace.

Saturday, October 24

"No Fleas, Please," the third annual Animal Care Center (ACC) flea market, will be on Saturday, October 24, at the Winston Wells ball field.

Thursday, October 29

Beat the Bug at CareForce 2009 on Thursday, October 29, when free flu and pneumonia shots will be available for seniors at St. Ursula's senior center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

November 6-8

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

AA Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meets as scheduled: Sundays, 9:45 a.m. at Hawksnest Bay Beach; Closed meeting for alcoholic only at Nazareth Lutheran Church at 5:30 on Tuesdays; Open meetings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p.m. at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6 p.m. at Emmaus Moravian Church, Coral Bay.

NA Meetings

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

PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
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FOOD CHAINS

ACROSS

- 1 "— boy!"
- 5 Garden tool
- 9 Passed, as a law
- 16 Really cold
- 19 In the vicinity
- 20 "Wild River" director Kazan
- 21 "A Perfect Spy" novelist John
- 22 Sitcom actress Charlotte
- 23 Three-food chain
- 26 It has biceps
- 27 Clarification lead-in
- 28 Move a bit
- 29 "Mazel —!"
- 30 Mutt's skin problem
- 32 Pupil covering
- 34 Three-food chain
- 38 Space shuttle org.
- 40 Writer Morrison
- 41 One step — time
- 42 Three-food chain
- 49 Knot-tying gp.
- 52 Compete
- 53 — -Z (thoroughly)
- 54 Serpentine fish
- 55 19th-century conductor Hans
- 57 Baffle
- 60 Word after charlotte or ballet
- 64 Whopper
- 65 One of the Muses
- 66 Four-food chain
- 70 In the last little while

DOWN

- 1 Crazy caper
- 2 Spanish for "I love you"
- 3 Get narrow gradually
- 4 Media figure Huffington
- 5 Tape deck button abbr.
- 6 Woeful sigh
- 7 "Roots" character Kunta
- 8 Erode gradually
- 9 Allen wrench shape
- 10 Prefix with pagan
- 11 Piercing
- 12 Roasting fowl
- 13 Rome's — Fountain
- 14 Momentous time period
- 15 "Young Guns" actor Mulroney
- 16 From Tabriz
- 17 Ship's load
- 18 Country on the Red Sea
- 24 Millennium-starting year
- 25 Fervor
- 31 Ivanovic of tennis
- 33 18-Down's continent
- 35 Acct. extra
- 36 Feeling that's picked up
- 37 Woebegone
- 39 Former Chevy van
- 42 Eggs, biologically
- 43 Joke
- 44 Mars, with "the"
- 45 Eleventh —
- 46 Passed along
- 47 Students at Yale
- 48 Confounded
- 49 Susan or pea lead-in
- 50 "— story goes"
- 51 "Two roads diverged in —": Robert Frost
- 55 Harmless
- 56 Planet past Saturn
- 58 Attack by jumping
- 59 Organic compounds
- 61 Dye user

- 62 Door part
- 63 Perry of fashion
- 67 Lipton option
- 68 Flimsy, as an excuse
- 69 Suffix with octa-
- 70 Humorous poet Nash
- 71 Tolkien's Baggins
- 75 Philippine island or its chief city
- 76 Eavesdrop on
- 77 McEntire of C&W
- 78 Mucho mad
- 83 Hector
- 84 Billiard stick
- 87 Online mag
- 89 Suddenly bright star
- 92 Little piece
- 93 Up to the time of, informally
- 94 Upturned, as a crate
- 95 Half woman and half fish
- 96 Enrico — Institute
- 97 Not faithful
- 98 Mel's Diner redhead
- 99 Malcontents
- 102 Map book
- 103 Ring up
- 104 Bluenose
- 105 In poor taste
- 106 Theater guide
- 107 Michael of "Sleuth"
- 108 "The best is — come!"
- 110 Neighbor of Montana
- 111 "Land — alive!"
- 112 Oozy muck
- 116 Gen — (folks born after '65)
- 120 Petty peeve
- 121 Tony winner Cariou
- 122 Lime drink
- 123 Loaf in a deli

Classifieds

For Rent

Scenic Properties
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Cruz Bay Apartments:
Efficiency apt/w/d \$600.00; Efficiency a/c w/d \$1400.00; One bedroom/one bath \$1200.00; One bedroom/pool/w/d \$1700.00; Two bedroom/one bath \$1650.00; Two bedroom/two bath/pool/w/d \$2000.00; Two bedroom/loft/two bath/w/d \$2400.00; Three bedroom/two bath/w/d \$1700.00; Three bedroom/one bath \$1875.00

Coral Bay:

One bedroom apt/w/d \$1250.00; Two bedroom house/ washer \$1700.00; Two bedroom/two bath house/washer \$1800.00

Cruz Bay - furnished house, view, 2 bedrooms A/C, 2 bath, W&D. Pets considered. Nov 1. \$2400/mo. Year lease. (340) 690-4532

FOR RENT furnished upper level house, excellent water views, great breezes.expansive deck, 2 A/C bedrooms/or den, great room, cherry & granite kitchen, new appliances, DSL & Cable avail. Convenient to Cruz Bay \$2,500/mo. Owner/Broker Christie O'Neil 774-8088.

For Rent

Two Bedroom, 1 Bath Apartment in Estate Bethany, overlooking Westin Resort with A/C. Call 340-690-1104

Cruz Bay Apartments

1 and 2 Bedroom Apt Rental rates start at \$1203 plus utilities. Rental Assistance available to qualified applicants. Certain income restrictions apply. Rental Office located at: Cruz Bay Apts., Apt. C1 Monday and Friday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



HOUSE FOR RENT:

2 bd/2 ba Mt. top house, 30 mile views, paved road, 5 min to Coral Bay, 20 min. Cruz Bay, wrap around covered porches, A/C, W/D. \$1995/mo. 561-602-9484

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- PADI Instructors

Cruz Bay Watersports 776-6857

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<p>3 Sail Church 10 Sunday, St. John School of the Arts</p> <p>Baha'i Community of St. John Race Unity Devotions 7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays 776-6316, 776-6254</p> <p>Bethany Moravian Church Cruz Bay, St. John 11 a.m., Sunday School 776-6291</p> <p>Calvary Baptist Church 13 ABC Coral Bay, 776-6304 Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday evening 6 p.m., Thursday 7 p.m.</p> <p>Christian Ministry Cinnamon Bay Beach Inter-Denominational Sunday 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Christian Science Society 10:45 a.m. Sunday- Marketplace Wednesday Testimonials 7:45 p.m. on last Wed. of Month</p> <p>The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Sun. 9 a.m., STJ. 776-2379 Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard</p> <p>Cruz Bay Baptist Church Sunday 11 a.m., 6 p.m. 776-6315</p> <p>Emmaus Moravian Church Coral Bay, Sun. 9 a.m. 776-6713</p> <p>Jehovah's Witness 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m. Saturdays (Español), 10 a.m. Sundays 340-715-0530</p>	<p>Missionary Baptist Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday Services, 10:45 Worship, Tuesday 7 p.m. Bible Study 693-8884</p> <p>Nazareth Lutheran Church Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday School 8 a.m. 776-6731</p> <p>Our Lady of Mount Carmel Sat. 6 p.m., Sun. 7:30 & 9:30 a.m., Spanish Mass 5:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, 7 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. 776-6339</p> <p>St. John Methodist Church Sunday 10 a.m 693-8830</p> <p>Seventh Day Adventist Saturdays 779-4477</p> <p>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</p> <p>St. Ursula's Episcopal Church Sundays, 7:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Every 3rd Sunday: Service 9:30 a.m. Bible Class, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. 777-6306</p> <p>Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday 776-6332</p> <p>Word of Faith Church Word of Faith International Christian Center, Sundays 7:30 a.m. Giffit Hill SchoolCall 774-8617</p>
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Ferry Schedules

CRUZ BAY TO RED HOOK	
Every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.	
RED HOOK TO CRUZ BAY	
Every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m.	
CRUZ BAY TO DOWNTOWN CHARLOTTE AMALIE	
Leaves Cruz Bay	Leaves Charlotte Amalie
7:15 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
9:15 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.	1:00 p.m.
1:15 p.m.	3:00 p.m.
2:15 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
3:45 p.m.	5:30 p.m.

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In an effort to better service clients, FirstBank has launched free mobile banking to all account holders in the U.S. and British Virgin Islands.

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"We are excited to offer our client base yet another channel to monitor and use their accounts," said Cassan Pancham, Executive Vice President, FirstBank. "We value our relationships with our clients and want to provide them with tools that make their lives easier in these increasingly busy times."

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FirstBank Virgin Islands is a division of FirstBank Puerto Rico. It operates the largest branch and ATM network throughout the Virgin Islands and offers 24/7 banking via PC, telephone and mobile banking.

Culinary Skills

Continued from Page 7

dents, the chef did teach an adult cooking class back in New York. And if the three pages of single spaced typed notes covering terms from "mis en place" to "al dente" Hinds handed out at a second class is any indication, he's not taking the class lightly himself.

"I'm really getting into this," said Hinds. "I've spent a lot of time designing the course and I'm excited about it."

Hinds has also enlisted the help of Tracy Thompson who is assisting the chef with the class.

"I come to the restaurant a lot and Walter and I became friends," said Thompson. "I love to cook and I love his cooking. I also wanted to help out with the class because I want to learn some of Walter's secrets."

While Hinds is keeping busy one day a week discussing proper braising and sauteing techniques with his students, the chef is spending the rest of his time gearing up to re-open the restaurant on October 22.

This season, Hinds will unveil some exciting new features at his restaurant. A new bar menu, featuring raw bar items and luxury snacks, like foie gras cotton candy, will be available as well as a new price fix early dining menu. For reservations call Hinds Restaurant at 775-9951.

Senator at Large Reports

Continued from Page 8

Catherine has moved into the full time position that opened when Beverly Penn-Plummer departed. That leaves us with an available half-time position in the St. John office. I had the pleasure of interviewing 10 very qualified applicants a few weeks ago. I wish that I could give them all a job, because they come with qualifications and eagerness to serve the people. We have not made a choice yet, but I can see that we are going to find an excellent candidate to join Catherine in our St. John office.

I have put a large amount of effort into ensuring that St. John is well-represented this term. In the past, St. John got short-shrift. I

intend to see that St. John residents never lose their voices in the legislative process.

Island Planner

St. John is listening, and our office has received two résumés from potential planners, which we are evaluating and will forward to the executive branch. Thank you, and please keep up the search. We won't stop searching until our Planner is hired and at work.

Speaking of planning, have you noticed the new fence going up around the VIPA apron near the Creek? What do you think of this? Let us know at senator@barshinger.net or by calling 693-8061. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as your senator-at-large.



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FEATURED LISTINGS

NEW LISTING



● **2.1 WATERFRONT ACRES ON LOVANGO!** 420 feet of waterfront! Ultra private location and unobstructed panoramic views from St. John, across Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas. Currently sub-divided into 3 lots, can be 4 lots. TREMENDOUS VALUE! **\$1,300,000**

NEW LISTING



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

HOMES

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

REDUCED



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

REDUCED



● **"Sibella" SOLD!** 5BR 5BA Solid masonry Villa in gated community. Reduced to **\$1,800,000.**

● **REDUCED! Bonus!** Private well maintained home in Coral Bay with an EXTRA LOT! Only **\$382,500.**

● **Lower Peter Bay** 4br, 4.5ba villa exceptionally furnished with large pool just steps away from a secluded white sandy beach. **\$6,000,000.**

CONDOMINIUMS

● **Sirenusa-Developers specials** are currently available in this premier luxury condominium development. Starting at **\$999,000!**

● **NEW LISTING!** Conch Villas-2 bedroom 1 bath w/ocean & sunset views. Walk to town. Just **\$289,000!**

● **REDUCED!** Why rent? Sunset Ridge 2 new 1br, 1ba units with huge water views. **\$254,500** and **\$274,500.**

● **SPECIAL!** Sirenusa luxury condo development is nearly complete. 2, 3 and 4br available and beginning at **\$999,000.**

REDUCED



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

● **Special price!** Virgin Grand Estates two amazing 0.41+- acre lots. Each for only **\$275,000.**

● **Lower Peter Bay** prime building lot with incomparable north shore views. **\$2,500,000.**

● **On top of the world!** The highest point on Mamey Peak. Amazing 360 views. **\$1,599,000.**

LAND

● **REDUCED!** Two lots! 0.50+- acres each. One boasts 150ft of sand/coral beachfront and adjacent lot maintains its own deeded beach path access. Only **\$899,000.**

● **Bargain!** Lowest priced parcel in Chocolate Hole! Water view, 0.74 acres. Plans and exp'd permits. Just **\$125,000.**

● **Sub-dividable** parcel near Cruz Bay. Water views over Pillsbury Sound. **\$380,000.**

● **18 acres** and 29 sub-divided lots Rendezvous with most road paved. Call in for details.

● **Waterfront!** A rare opportunity in Privateer Bay. A deal at **\$950,000.**

● **Special price!** Virgin Grand Estates two amazing 0.41+- acre lots. Each for only **\$275,000.**

● **Lower Peter Bay** prime building lot with incomparable north shore views. **\$2,500,000.**

● **On top of the world!** The highest point on Mamey Peak. Amazing 360 views. **\$1,599,000.**

TIMESHARES/FRACTIONALS

● Coral Bay Villas-New opportunity exists in exciting new project. Starting at **\$105,000**

● Sirenusa-Partnership opportunity in beautiful 3br 3.5ba penthouse unit.. **\$999,000**

● **REDUCED!** Thriving popular bar and video gambling establishment. **\$150,000**

● Scuba/pleasure boat business with impressive 4 year history. Includes Powercat and all dive equipment. You are in business for **\$212,000.**

● Many options exist for this Retail Shopping Center. **\$2,250,000.**

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For availability and more information, email: stjohnrental@earthlink.net.



"Lovango Love Shack" is an intimate beachfront hide-away elegantly furnished & outfitted with top of the line appliances, including a whirlpool spa. This self contained paradise features all modern utilities and amenities in an open style floor plan just steps from the palm studded white sand beach, complete with private dock (use & maintenance shared with a few neighbors). **\$2,250,000** Adjoining 1/2 acre lot also available for added privacy.



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



"Bella Vista" is a well maintained and beautifully decorated home perched high atop cool Bordeaux Mountain. Views from Jost Van Dyke to Virgin Gorda. Quality construction with hardwood floors & beautiful wood trim throughout. Accommodations include a large master suite, 2 spacious guest suites, large loft for additional guests, & a one-bedroom apartment with separate entrance. Spa & sun deck. Great value - a "must see". **REDUCED: \$850,000.**



"Calypso By The Sea" - A charming Caribbean style beachfront villa with an impressive rental history located in tranquil Johnson's Bay Estates - a picturesque and idyllic tropical site. Two luxurious master suites separated by a central great room which includes kitchen, dining and living areas, all opening up to an oversize deck with covered outdoor dining and a sunken spa. Excellent rental history **\$1.7M**



"Southern Cross" - The location of this traditional Danish style stone home is about as good as it gets, offering the utmost privacy yet only a ten minute drive to Cruz Bay Town. Features include large covered porches, beautiful custom mahogany cabinets and built-in bar, exposed concrete beams & window sills and tile floors - all combine to create an elegant atmosphere. Cool breezes & water views on an almost level lot with room to add a pool or spa. **\$1,395M** Adjoining lot also available



"Carolina Cottage" - Really cute and affordable two bedroom house with nice water views of Coral Harbor and Hurricane Hole. Faces east to catch the cooling trade wind breezes. Paved driveway and easy access. Fully furnished. A nice location close to Coral Bay with large deck and room to expand or add a pool. Space below could be converted to another bedroom. **\$575,000**



"Battery Hill Condos" - Two lovely ground floor 2-bedroom units with spacious, private decks & delightful water views. Tastefully furnished & completely air-conditioned, walking distance to town & Frank Bay Beach & just steps away from both the spacious pool deck amid tropical landscaping & lg. parking area. Excellent rentals. **\$550,000 & \$795,000**



"Mango Terrace Condos" - Michael Milne designed condos under construction in Cruz Bay. 2,3 & 4, bedrooms available, A/C, walk to Frank Bay beach and town. Water views, high quality appliances. These will be some of the most spacious condos on St. John. Only 20% down. Completion scheduled for Summer 2009. Special pre-construction prices: **\$825,000 to \$1.35M** Contact Islandia for details. **Time is now for a great buy!!**

Bordeaux Mountain - Large lot with great views up the Sir Francis Drake Channel to the British Virgin Islands including Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Fallen Jerusalem and Jost Van Dyke. Paved Estate Road leading to the property and underground utilities available. **Listed for \$725,00 but all offers - reasonable or not - will be seriously considered.**

"The Point At Privateer" - The eastern most point of St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands is the location of St. John's newest upscale subdivision with minimum lot sizes of 1 acre, paved roads and underground utilities. All building sites have great breezes and unlimited views to the British Virgins from Tortola to Virgin Gorda, Fallen Jerusalem, Salt Cooper, Ginger, Peter and Norman Islands and many are waterfront. This is a sub-division for the more discerning buyer. Prices range from **\$950,000 to \$4.5M**

CRUZ BAY (74-2) - B-3 ZONING - Rare opportunity to own a commercial building in down town Cruz Bay. The former Oscar's store building, across from Lime Inn, is being renovated. The first floor has a long term lease in place. The second and third floor plans are still flexible for office or residential use and available for lease. **Reduced to \$1.5M**

Good Deals: Seagrape Hill - **\$95,000 & \$99,000**, Calabash Boom lot with fantastic water views for just **\$199,000**, 18 acre subdivision ready for development with 15 lot plan already approved and studies completed. A great opportunity for the first time developer. Now just **\$3.18M**

"Zootenvaal Cottages" - A unique St. John property with 850' of waterfront, 5 acres, 4 masonry rental cottages and a white powder sand beach on Hurricane Hole, a National Marine Monument, on beautiful Borck Creek. **\$12M** Adjoining 20 acre parcel is also available.

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BETHANY CONDO - Spacious, free-standing condo, with 2 bedrooms & 2 baths, amazing views of Great Cruz Bay, & St. Thomas, and a brand new common pool. Excellent location just minutes from Cruz Bay. \$495,000.



CBR HOME LISTINGS

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

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

NEWLY BUILT with attention to detail. 2 bdrm / 2 bath w/ interior staircase, gourmet kitchen 2/ granite counters, stainless appliances, hardwood floors, loft office. \$649,000.

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

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

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

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

VILLA ROMANCE - Brand new, luxury 4 bd. pool villa, features exquisite design, craftsmanship, tile roof, coral flooring, columns, fountains & vibrant sunsets over Chocolate Hole Bay. \$3,395,000.

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

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

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

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

CAROLINA - Small, poured concrete, home with lovely covered wraparound deck. Flat 1/2 ac. fenced lot. \$399K.

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

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

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

NAUTILUS - Dramatic setting on Maria Bluff. 3 bd / 2 bath masonry with large wraparound veranda, spa, sunrise to sunset views, 1.25 ac. lot, tile roof, circular drive. \$1,699,000.

BORDEAUX MT. - Family home w/3 bd./2 baths, large porch, water view, 1/2 ac. lot w/large trees. \$675,000.

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

CBR CONDO LISTINGS

GALLOWS POINT CONDO - Waterfront 1 bd/1 bath condo in resort setting offering hotel amenities & management. Pool, restaurant, ocean access. \$695,000.

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

CBR LAND LISTINGS

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

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

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

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

CHOCOLATE HOLE - Water views, 1/2 ac. \$299K & \$379K.

GLUCKSBERG - Gentle grade, 1/2 ac., lg. trees. \$130K.

POINTRENDEZVOUS - Outstanding views. \$415K & \$425K.

LEINSTERBAY - 2 lots on Johnny Horn Trail. \$225K & \$329K.

ZOOTENVAAL - Hurricane Hole views, paved road. \$400K.

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

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

ESTATE FISH BAY - Many parcels to choose from, starting at \$185K. Call US for a complete list.

ESTATE CAROLINA/EMMAUS - Time to buy. Affordable lots, with water views, \$150k and up.

CBR BUSINESS LISTINGS

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

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

\$32,000,000

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

\$6,800,000

BEACHFRONT "LIME TREE BAY"
HAS WHITE SAND BEACH! East End 5 bdrm stone & masonry home on almost 5 acres, 490' shoreline, zoned R-2, no restrictions. Gorgeous water views!

\$4,995,000

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

\$4,900,000

"MONTE BAY VILLA" a spectacular waterfront home. 4 bedrooms main house with 2 bedroom separate, private, cottage. Pool, spa, work-out room, views, all on the water.

\$3,850,000

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

\$3,200,000

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

\$1,395,000

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

\$1,275,000

"SEABISCUIT" is a winner! Charming 2x2 Caribbean style masonry villa with panoramic views, very private pool & hot tub. Breezy location convenient to Coral Bay. Walk to shoreline watersports.

\$995,000

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

\$899,000

"86 FISH BAY" WHY PAY RENT? Affordable home with income producing apartment has ocean & mountain views, extensive native stonework with hardwood accents and an open floor plan.

\$495,000

Ask about
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- "MILL VISTA - CAROLINA" Easy access & build on Centerline Rd. **\$ 135,000**
 - "EMMAUS - SEAGRAPE HILL" Great dual water views 0.387 ac. **\$ 169,000**
 - "RENDEZVOUS & DITLEFF" Sunset views & gentle site .649 acre **\$ 274,900**
 - "LEAST EXPENSIVE WATERFRONT" Gentle slope, 4 min. walk to beach **\$ 298,000**
 - "SUGAR APPLE WEST" Harbor views gentle 1/2 ac. with Topo **\$ 299,000**
 - "FREEMAN'S GROUND" DOWN ISLAND VIEWS .76 ac. Upper & lower access **\$ 425,000**
 - "CALABASH BOOM" .4 ac. GREAT views, private. Topo map **\$ 475,000**
 - "GREAT CRUZ BAY" Westin Resort beach access! .78 ac. **\$ 499,000**
 - "BEAUTIFUL EAST END" Views to Coral Harbor, deeded access to waterfront **\$ 595,000**
 - "AZURE BAY" IN CONTANT .5 ac. EXTRAORDINARY views, Owner financing **\$ 650,000**
- "CANEEL HILL" OWNER WILL FINANCE! Minutes from town. Water views to St. Thomas, 3 gentle sites: .5 to .775 ac. starting at **\$200,000**
- EAST END LAND** Parcels in Privateer Bay and on far East End. Coral Bay views and underground utilities. From **\$285,000**
- "FISH BAY" 3 large parcels. Views, breezes and paved access. One includes cistern slab, well, active plans/permits. From **\$369,000**

- "VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES" Gated sub-division, sunset views. Can build FRACTIONAL HOME! Paved roads. 3 from **\$375,000**
- "LOVANGO CAY" Waterfront & hillside properties; upscale amenities including barge docks, paved roads, undgrd utilities beach & views. From **\$425,000**
- "CHOCOLATE HOLE" VIEW LOTS Sunrise to Sunset. 2 adjoining breezy lots. Hart Bay east and St. Thomas west views. From **\$425,000**.
- "ESTATE CONCORDIA" hillside sites with stunning views ranging from the BVIs, down St. John's eastern coast to Ram's Head, St. Croix. From **\$550,000**
- "JOHN'S FOLLY" OCEANFRONT & HILLSIDE private gated enclave with shared generator, beach access; 3 lots from **\$560,000**
- "BOATMAN POINT" 2 Waterfront lots with views & breezes. Topo surveys (2) & full house plans (1). From **\$945,000**

- "UPPER MONTE BAY ESTATES" 7 Spectacular private parcels above Rendezvous Bay; paved road, stone walls & underground utilities. From **\$999,000**
 - "PETER BAY ESTATES" Exquisite home sites with breathtaking views over the North Shore, BVI & cays between. Prices from **\$1,850,000**
 - BEACH FRONT "GREAT CRUZ BAY"** private dock access, quiet upscale neighborhood, awesome views. Owner/broker. Call for details.
- SELLER FINANCING WITH GREAT TERMS!**
- "HAULOVER" BEACHFRONT 2.24 acre sub-dividable borders National Park! AMAZING VIEWS! **\$1,999,000**
 - "SABA BAY" WATERFRONT & HILLSIDE Incredible BVI views! 12 acre sub-divideable waterfront lot for **\$9,999,000** plus 4 hillside lots available from **\$699,000**
 - "DRECKETS BAY ESTATES" spectacular BVI views, excellent roads, underground utilities, stone walls, planters, common beach. Minutes from Coral Bay. 12 lots from **\$399,000**

- "POND BAY" RESORT! Waterfront luxury resort on beautiful beach. 3 & 4 bedroom villas with resort amenities. Fractional Ownership (1/10th) starts at **\$315,000**.
- OWN A MONTH (OR MORE)** in a 3 or 4 bedroom luxury home. Magnificent views and sunsets from 3 homes with all amenities, pools w/waterfalls and spas. Deeded 1 month ownerships from **\$69,000**.
- WESTIN RESORT TIMESHARES:** Own a week, a month, or more & enjoy all the resort amenities! Most unit sizes and weeks available. Priced from **\$7,500**.

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LA BELLA VITA, "the good life", 4 a/c master suites w/ island stone showers, breath taking views, gourmet kitchen. \$2,950,000

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

- HOMES**
- MYSTIC RIDGE!** 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath, dramatic views, short distance to North Shore beaches, cooling breezes \$2,390,000.
 - ZOOTENVAAL** Quaint Caribbean cottage tucked in at the end of the road. Walk to Coral Bay. 2 units. All offers considered. \$729,000
 - NEW WATERFRONT!** Chill in the oceanfront pool while gazing out upon excellent bay views. Lush tropical gardens. 3 BR/2BA. \$1,295,000
 - CAROLINA** Views to BVI. Well maintained 2-unit cottage offers a 1 bed/1 bath with a cozy covered porch. Plus studio apt. \$585,000
 - CRUZ BAY** Prime .75 acre, 3 BR, pool and panoramic views. Zoned R-4 for development. \$2,950,000
 - GARDEN BY THE SEA B&B**, West Indian gingerbread architecture & island furnishings. Owners apartment plus 3 income producing units. Room for expansion. \$1,800,000

- L'ESPRIT DE LA VIE** Glorious sea views in desirable Pt. Rendezvous. Smart and efficient design. 4BR/4 1/2 BA, pool, spa. \$2,950,000
- SEAGRAPE** Live in guest apartment & rent lower apt. Plans for 2BR/2BA main house with foundation, cistern & deck in place. \$765,000
- ADURO** Cute Caribbean cottage in a tranquil setting. Water views of Fish Bay. 3BR/2BA on .27 acres. \$710,000
- TEMPRESS PRICE REDUCED OVER \$350,000!** 2 bedroom suites, pod style, impressive kitchen, private decks, dramatic sunsets. \$1,299,000
- QUACCO** Brand new 3 bdms, 4 bath masonry home in Flanagan's Passage. Great views with many amenities. Sleeps 12. \$1,999,000
- ISLAND MANOR** Hear the surf of Hart Bay. 4 BRs w/ensuite baths, elegant furnishings. .51 acre. Multilevel floor plan offers privacy. \$1,499,000

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat



Julius E. Sprauve School students were all smiles on Wednesday, October 7, as fire officials ignited and extinguished a demonstration blaze as part of annual V.I. Fire Prevention Week festivities.

