

TRADEWINDS

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

Property Tax Injunction Lifted; Unity Day Group Lawsuit Active

V.I. Unity Day Group seeks supporters at February 7th hearing in U.S. District Court – Page 5

St. John Gets the Blues



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Zac Harmon rocked Cruz Bay, above, during a finale concert in Franklin Powell Park on Wednesday, January 26. The concert wrapped up a full day of Blues music in island pubs, schools and more, when the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise docked offshore. **Story and additional photos on Pages 2-3.**



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ST. JOHN
magazine

Lionfish Presentation Set for Feb. 1

Karl Pytlik of the CORE Foundation is hosting a "Lionfish in the Caribbean" public presentation on Tuesday, February 1, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Mongoose Junction courtyard.

Pytlik will share up-to-date information on the lionfish response and the CORE Foundation and Sun Dog Cafe will provide free appetizers. National Park Service officials will also be present to answer questions.

Take "A Look Back" on February 8

The St. John Historical Society will take "A Look Back," at its next meeting on Tuesday, February 8, at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall at 7 p.m.

The St. John Historical Society invites everyone to a "look back" at the Virgin Islands through the eyes of the first civilian Governor Paul M. Pearson.

Society members Barbara and David Grove will present an early 1930s portrait of the Virgin Islands based on the papers, images, and letters of Gov. Pearson, who was Barbara's maternal grandfather.

The Groves will present the story of the severely depressed conditions Pearson found when he arrived in March 1931, his administration's efforts until he left his post in August 1935, and the political intrigue and opposition he encountered in the Virgin Islands and in Washington, DC, during his term.

Also of interest will be Governor Pearson's obvious love of St. John and his efforts to interest the National Park Service in the island. A short business meeting will precede the presentation.

Devine To Speak at Next IGBA Meeting

The Island Green Building Association will host a public presentation on Wednesday, February 9, on the second floor The Marketplace with refreshments at 5 p.m. and the speaker from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Barry Devine, resident-scientist and author of "Island Peak to Coral Reef, The Plant and Marine Communities of the Virgin Islands," will give a presentation based on his popular book which he uses to demonstrate the connectivity between land and seas.

Learn how everyone's actions play a part in every ecosystem and how sustainable building and living today can safeguard the island's quality of life for tomorrow. Visitors, locals, home owners and home builders alike will see the island through new eyes after Dr. Devine's presentation.

All are welcome. Call 227-1110 for more information.

"The Road to College" on February 10

Parents and students are invited to hear Chris Teare speak about "The Road to College: A Parent's Eye View," sponsored by Friends of the Elaine I. Sprauve Public Library, on Thursday, February 10, at 7 p.m., at the library.

Teare is Director of College Counseling at Antilles School on St. Thomas and is a member of the National Association for College Admissions Counseling, the Southern Association for College Admissions Counseling, and the Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools.

He has written a series of newspaper columns, "Finding A College That Fits," for the *Virgin Islands Daily News*. He has also written for Education Week and Independent School magazine, and is a member of the Fiske College Guide Editorial Advisory Group. Teare can be heard on his show "Making the College Choice" on Radio ONE AM 1000, Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

For more information call 776-6359.



Julius E. Sprauve School seventh graders D'Anjou Christian, above, and Khaleila Krall, at left, joined Terrance Simien and the Zydeco Experience on stage during a concert at the school on January 26 as part of the Blues in the Schools program.

TRADEWINDS PUBLISHING LLC

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EDITOR/PUBLISHER

MaLinda Nelson
malinda@tradewinds.vi

NEWS EDITOR

Jaime Elliott
jaime@tradewinds.vi

WRITERS

Andrea Milam, Mauri Elbel

ADVERTISING

advertising@tradewinds.vi

CIRCULATION

Rohan Roberts

COLUMNISTS

& CONTRIBUTORS

Chuck Pishko, Malik Stevens, Adam Lynch, Tristan Ewald, Paul Devine, Andrew Rutnik, Craig Barshinger, Coral Breuning

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editor@tradewinds.vi

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Jaime Elliott



Zac Harmon, above, rocked Cruz Bay during a concert wrapping up Blues festivities across St. John last week. The crowd in Franklin Powell Park, above right and at right, got up close with mocko jumbies during a cultural exchange hosted by the Department of Tourism.

From Schools to Bars — St. John Got the Blues, Thanks to Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

From the Guy Benjamin School to the Franklin Powell Park, St. John was full of the Blues on Wednesday, January 26.

Cruz Bay was transformed into a mini Festival as Department of Tourism officials welcomed about 2,000 passengers from the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise ship, when the *Eurodam* docked off of Cruz Bay on Wednesday morning.

For cruisers who remained in Cruz Bay, Mocko Jumbies danced in the park and the street in front Cruz Bay's waterfront, which was closed to traffic for the festivities.

Free samples of tropical fruit juices, from tamarind to soursop, were available alongside island treats like black cake and dumb bread for guests to try. Local craftspeople displayed their wares and steel pan and soca music en-

tertained the huge crowd in the park.

"I love it here," said Ira Green, a Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise passenger. "It's so laid back and everyone is so nice. I love everything about it here."

Taxis also shuttled cruise ship passengers to Coral Bay where bands played at Skinny Legs, Shipwreck Landing and Island Blues all afternoon. Students at all of the island schools enjoyed concerts as well through the "Blues in the Schools" program, funded through legislation sponsored by Senator Celestino White.

At Julius E. Spruave School, students packed the cafeteria where Terrance Simien and the Zydeco Experience gave a thrilling performance. Several JESS students — and even principal Mario Francis — got into the fun themselves, joining the Grammy

winning band on stage and trying their hands at the frottoir, keeping the zydeco percussion going with spoons.

Students also vied for Mardi Gras beads, thrown into the crowd — with a strict no fighting clause — by Simien. The high energy performance was not devoid of education. Holding a Creole flag, Simien explained what each of the four symbols represented.

The flag consists of a *fleur de lis* for Creole's French heritage, the Senegalese and Malian flags for its West African heritage and finally the Tower of Castille, representing the Spanish heritage.

"When everything like that comes together, things only get better," said Simien.

Students clapped and sang along with Simien who played the accordion and kept the Mardi Gras beads flowing, while per-

forming hits like "When the Saints Go Marching In," "Iko Iko," and "Gonna Take You There," from the "Princess and the Frog" sound track, on which Simien appeared.

Following the Coral Bay pub crawl and school concerts, the party was back in Frank Powell Park, where Zac Harmon entertained hundreds of people in a finale concert.

Locals and cruise ships passengers alike danced to the rhythms of the Mississippi Blues man, who thrilled the crowd with "Who's Knockin'" among other hits. There were smiles on everyone's faces on St. John when the Blues were in town, which should tide fans over until March when the Ninth Annual St. John Blues Festival kicks off.

For more details about the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise visit www.bluescruise.com.

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Governor John deJongh gives the 2011 State of the Territory Address on Monday, January 24, at the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.

Governor John P. deJongh's 2011 State of the Territory Address

— Excerpts from January 24, 2011

We all understand how critical government paychecks are to the lifeblood of our economy, and we have made every effort to keep our people working. We too — all of us — had hoped that the national recovery would make unnecessary such extraordinary measures as other governments have already taken. But the time has come when these measures are unavoidable.

Specifically, I will undertake the following:

- *I will submit legislation implementing a two-year freeze on salaries and instituting three unpaid holidays.*
- *We will not implement the previously planned \$31 million in salary increases, quite simply because we cannot afford to do so.*
- *We will implement allotment cutbacks of \$17.1 million to executive branch departments and agencies in the current fiscal year budget.*
- *We will continue our limited hiring and attrition program with priorities given to law enforcement, education and healthcare.*
- *We will layoff approximately 300 per diem and part-time employees.*

We need also to increase our revenues. We will have to raise taxes and we will have to collect those taxes that are due.

Specifically, I am proposing the following:

- *I will request a 2% increase in the Hotel Room Tax, from 8% to 10%; and,*
- *I will request as well a Time Share Occupancy Fee of \$10.00 per day on units that are rented or exchanged.*
- *These two actions will bolster our Tourism Revolving Fund by \$6 million, and these funds will be applied directly to airlift development, investment in tourism product development and increased television advertising.*
- *I will request a cellphone tax, similar to that applicable to land lines, targeted to the operations of our emergency management apparatus.*
- *And finally, I will seek your approval for a 1% increase in the Gross Receipts Tax.*

And as we take this particularly onerous step we shall begin to work towards the ultimate transition away from the gross receipts tax to a sales tax that can be more transparently and effectively applied, collected and enforced.

Property Tax Injunction Lifted, But VI Unity Day Group Lawsuit Still Active

By Jaime Elliott

St. John Tradewinds

While V.I. Superior Court Judge Curtis Gomez recently lifted the decade long injunction keeping property tax rates at 1998 levels, the V.I. Unity Day Group will face the government in its own court case on February 7 over what it alleges are unfair property reassessments.

The Virgin Islands property tax quagmire began in 2000 when a group of property owners sued the V.I. Government over its unfair property tax system.

Following three years of government inaction, the court ruled in favor of the property owners and ordered an injunction, freezing property tax rates at 1998 levels, which was the last time properties were assessed fairly according to the court.

The 2003 ruling also ordered the government to reassess all properties across the territory and reinvigorate the Board of Tax Review. The government contracted Bearing Point to reassess properties throughout the Virgin Islands, which it completed in 2006, and set to work revamping the Board of Tax Review.

In lifting the injunction, the court ruled

“Out of 1,700 houses, there were 700 informal appeals filed on St. John saying something was wrong with their assessments. Once the Unity Day Group heard it was such a huge problem, we started to join forces and filed the lawsuit.”

— Pam Gaffin, property tax committee member, V.I. Unity Day Group

that the Board of Tax Review, which must hear cases within 120 days, is now functioning properly. The government and a group of property owners listed in the court case signed a settlement agreement on January 7 after successful mediation.

That settlement agreement stipulated that the government must still use the 1998 levels for issuing bills for the 2007, 2008 and 2009 tax years. The government will issue 2007 tax bills, at the 1998 level, in February. The 2008 bills, also at the 1998 rate, will be issued this summer.

The 2009, the last bills which will reflect the 1998 rates, and 2010 bills, which will reflect the newly assessed rates, will both be sent out in 2012. That is, however, what the

V.I. Unity Day Group is fighting.

The V.I. Unity Day Group, on behalf of all St. John property owners, filed a separate lawsuit against the government in the wake of numerous property owners filing appeals alleging their properties were inaccurately assessed by Bearing Point.

Unity Day group members walked out of the January 7 mediation and now await their day in court, set for Monday, February 7, at 9 a.m. in U.S. District Court.

Of the 1,700 properties assessed by Bearing Point on St. John, 700 property owners filed informal appeals alleging inaccuracies in their reassessments, according to Pam Gaffin, a member of the V.I. Unity Day Group's property tax committee.

“If you look at Bearing Point's assessment values on St. John, they don't match close enough with the 2006 sales to be considered valid assessments,” said Gaffin. “Out of 1,700 houses, there were 700 informal appeals filed on St. John saying something was wrong with their assessments. Once the Unity Day Group heard it was such a huge problem, we started to join forces and filed the lawsuit.”

There are likely even more property owners with erroneous assessments, but because their properties were undervalued, did not speak up, Gaffin added.

Unity Day Group members walked out of mediation because the government refused to listen to their point, explained Gaffin.

“Unity Day Group left mediation because the government would not deal with the fact that the data itself is bad and Bearing Point's ways and methods did not work,” Gaffin said. “We want to say that what Bearing Point did on St. John was incorrect. The results did not meet standards and we need to start from scratch.”

The problem with assessing property on St. John arises because of the proximity

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— Kate Norfleet, STT/STJ Chamber of Commerce Board member

VIPA "Misplaced" Bids for Dinghy Dock Repair Work, Says Administrator Smith

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Port Authority officials have "misplaced" the bids received to repair the severely damaged dinghy docks in Cruz Bay, St. John Administrator Leona Smith told a dozen people at the St. John Chapter meeting of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday evening, January 25.

The docks were damaged in high surf during tropical storms in the fall and are missing many planks, leaving gaping holes. While VIPA officials had expressed an intent to rebuild the docks, a quick repair in the meantime could make the docks safe to use, according to St. John Chamber Chapter members.

"There is someone willing to pay for the lumber and a licensed contractor willing to do the work," Chamber board member Kate Norfleet told Smith. "We could form a public and private partnership to have this completed for this season — just to repair it and make it safe to use this season."

Smith pledged to email VIPA board members and see if work on the dock could commence quickly.

The long-planned Frank Powell Park renovations are slated to begin on February 7 with Apex Construction contracted to do the work, according to Smith.

The Cruz Bay park will be fenced off for the duration of the renovations, which should be completed in early June, Smith explained.

The upcoming annual St. John Arts Festival, planned for February 19 through 25, will likely be moved from the Frank Powell Park to the V.I. National Park ball field, the administrator added.

Chamber Chapter members were given the okay by Department of Public Works officials to take the lead in landscaping design of the Cruz Bay roundabout, Norfleet told the group.

St. John Architect Glen Speer has drawn sketches and will share his plans with the group in the future, explained Norfleet.

"He has a great proposal with little circles and low walls to sit on and brick and native stone," said Norfleet. "We'll have to raise the funds to pay for it, but it's a chance to make the area more creative and inspiring. Glen is working on the topo (topographic design) and budget and we'll bring that to the group."

The local chamber's long-awaited updated member directory — which had not been updated since 2001 — will be ready by February, according to Norfleet.

"There was a lot of work to do, but this is critical to the success of the organization," she said. "This will be done by the first week of February and we'll get it up on our website."

Water taxi signs which were paid for by chamber members and were hung at the Red Hook marine facility, the Cyril E. King Airport and the Loredon Boynes Ferry Dock in Cruz Bay were all removed, Norfleet told the group.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of VINP

The Cruz Bay dinghy dock, above, is in dire need of repairs and citizens are willing to pitch into fix it.

Chamber members want to see about getting them back up in order to inform late-arriving guests how to travel to St. John after the ferry service stops running.

The group will continue to press for information about Cruz Bay security cameras and how to obtain additional cameras, according to chamber members.

Jennifer Knowles and Denise Barbier, owners of the Island Treasure Map, will host a Business After Hours at Palm Passage in Charlotte Amalie on February 10 to launch their new St. Thomas map. Chamber members also expressed an interest to host another Business After Hours on St. John.

Board of directors of the local chamber listen to St. John concerns, according to board member Don Porter.

"The St. Thomas board of directors are very supportive of St. John," said Porter. "We brought up the issue of the downtown ferry service, which is not running regularly, and they signed on to a resolution to have the Public Services Commission be able to have the option to seek someone else to provide the service if the ferry companies don't want to."

The group continues to seek additional members to give it a greater voice and help serious funding shortfalls. For more information about joining the local chamber call Norfleet at 693-9099. The group's next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 22, at 5:30 p.m. at Ocean Grill Upstairs.

Seminar Participants Discover New Petroglyph at Reef Bay

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Participants in a Friends of V.I. National Park seminar on January 21 discovered perhaps the most exciting archaeological find on St. John in decades.

Led by VINP archaeologist Ken Wild, about 11 people hiked down the Reef Bay Trail on Friday, January 21, in the "Petroglyph Hunt" seminar, looking for an elusive rock carving, previously only seen in photographs.

"We found a role of film in our archives from the 60s or 70s that wasn't labeled or anything, but showed this petroglyph which had never been recorded," said Wild. "We blew up the picture and took along copies for everyone in the seminar. Then we hiked out and started looking for the petroglyph."

Having the photo in hand was the key to discovering the new carving, Wild explained.

"We found it within an hour," he said. "It was a matter of taking the photo with us because it showed the rock fragmentation and how the rock was stacked. You wouldn't find it looking for the petroglyph."

"We had looked before, but we didn't have the photo with us and that's why we didn't find it," said Wild.

The new petroglyph is significant because it changes the entire time period VINP officials had previously ascribed to the Reef

Bay carvings.

"Evidence that the petroglyphs were carved by the Taino Indians has been strongly supported through the designs found on pottery at the Cinnamon Bay and Trunk Bay archaeology excavation and the correlating radiocarbon dates," said VINP archaeologist Kourtney Donohue. "This 'new' petroglyph is exciting because it is, of course, new to us, but it also has significant implications regarding Reef Bay and the history of St. John"

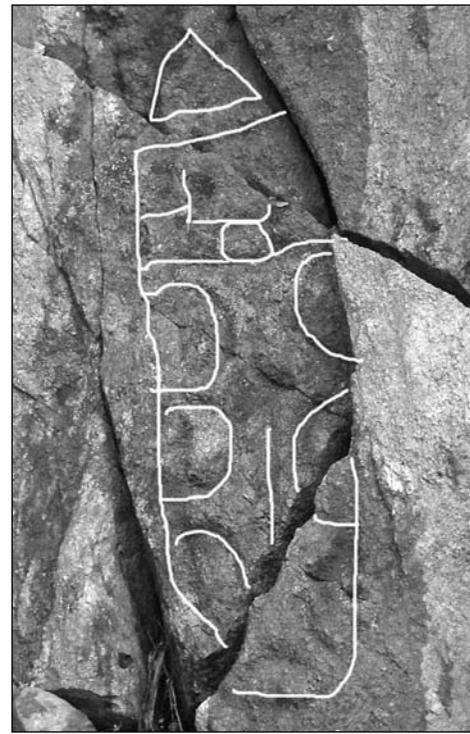
The design of the new carving is echoed in pottery found in other areas of island, Donohue explained.

"The design of the recently documented petroglyph is similarly found painted on the oldest dated pottery on St. John, known as Saladoid pottery," she said. "Saladoid pottery has been dated between 300 BC and 500 AD. This means that the people that were coming to the Reef Bay petroglyphs were utilizing this site for a lot longer than we once thought, possibly a thousand years more."

"And they could potentially be 2,500 years old," Donohue said.

The new carving also speaks to the importance of the Reef Bay area, as people evidently associated the area with enough significance to carve into the rock formations, Donohue added.

"This finding strongly supports that there



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of VINP

The highlighted area shows the newly discovered petroglyph at Reef Bay.

was continuity in the cultural beliefs between the first people that made ceramics on St. John and those of the Taino Indians," said the VINP archaeologist. "This is 1,500

years of shared cultural and ancestral ties. It is also 1,500 years of people coming to a single place that they felt was sacred."

"It really emphasizes the significance that Reef Bay had to the people who lived here prior to the European colonization of the islands," she said.

The style of the carving can also be found in other Caribbean archaeological sites, attesting to the route of travel of pre-Columbian peoples, according to Donohue.

"This style of carving is also found down island, in St. Lucia and even as far as Venezuela, further confirming the route of those who came to live in St. John during the 4th century BC," she said. "This also exemplifies how far people traveled and how widely spread their cultural beliefs and ties extended throughout the Caribbean."

The new petroglyph is located near the Reef Bay pool, but does not reflect off the pool like the more famous carving depicted in island jewelry and Caneel Bay Resort's logo. While archaeologists were buzzing with the new find, they do have more work to do in order to unlock all of the carving's secrets.

"This find is new to us and we know we have some research to do," said Donohue. "It raises more questions about things we don't yet understand, but we understand enough to know that this is a unique find and that is very exciting."

The St. John Band



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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

The new boutique hotel, above, is located in the heart of town down Cruz Bay above Da Livio's Restaurant. Rooms, below, are simple yet elegant with crisp neutral colors highlighted with bright shades of green.



Cruz Bay Boutique Hotel Offers Chic Accommodations at Affordable Prices

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

When Denise Walker and David Guidi got married at Caneel Bay Resort in 2009, they had a difficult time finding chic, but affordable, places for friends and family to stay in Cruz Bay.

Two years later, when the couple decided to move to St. John from Toronto, they knew exactly the niche they wanted to fill.

"We had been visiting St. John for a long time and then we got married at Caneel in 2009," said Guidi. "We wanted to move down here for a while, but we weren't sure what we would do for a living. Then this building became available and the brain waves started."

With Walker a self-described "stickler for cleanliness" and Guidi with five years of hospitality experience under his belt, opening a hotel was almost a no-brainer, especially when the top two floors of the old Oscar's Building, located above Da Livio's Restaurant, became available.

What the two have created in the bright blue Cruz Bay building, however, is more than just a few rooms for visitors. Walker and Guidi have created the first real "boutique hotel" on St. John, with modern decor and a simple, but truly elegant, atmosphere.

The couple put an offer in on the building in February and signed paperwork in June. By July, Guidi was on island working 12 hour days to completely renovate the old concrete structure.

"I renovated for about six months and took this place from an empty shell," he said.

The Cruz Bay Boutique Hotel officially opened in December, but Walker and Guidi hosted guests even before that.

"We officially opened on December 22, but we had guests staying here weeks before that," said Guidi. "When I was renovating, I had people coming up and asking if they could get a room. So when I completed a few rooms, we let guests come and stay."

Renovations finally wrapped up at the end of December and since then Walker and Guidi have not had a problem booking the six rooms and top floor pent-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Cruz Bay Boutique Hotel owners Denise Walker and David Guidi.

house suite.

"We've been 100 percent full since we opened," said Guidi.

Cruz Bay Boutique Hotel's success could be attributed to several factors. Unlike many other accommodations, there is no minimum nights required for the six rooms, so guests are free to book the one evening before their villa or charter boat stay begins, explained Walker.

"We get a lot of people who come over to St. John just for the day, or need a day on either end of their sailing trip or villa stay," she said.

The lone exception is the penthouse suite, for which Walker and Guidi require a seven night stay.

With rates ranging from \$105 a night in low season to \$175 a night in peak season for the rooms and \$200 to \$250 for the penthouse, their prices simply can't be beat. But beyond the affordable rates, Walker's impeccable decor surely attracts the savvy traveler.

"The colors are all neutrals which give the rooms a Zen-like feel," she said. "I kept the color scheme whites and greens. It blends a chic Miami feel with a casual island atmosphere."

Continued on Page 16

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Tourism Proposes Hiking Hotel Room Tax Rate to Ten Percent

St. John Tradewinds

Advocating for a measure sorely needed for the territory's tourism marketing to remain competitive, the Department of Tourism outlined the need of the proposed room tax increase announced by Governor John deJongh during State of the Territory address.

The proposal calls for a two percent increase in the room tax rate to 10 percent, representing the first increase in more than 17 years. The current rate of eight percent has remained unchanged since 1993.

Under the proposal, all funds will be applied to the territory's Tourism Advertising Revolving Fund which is used by the DOT to implement marketing and advertising campaigns that attract visitors to the destination.

In addition, the proposal includes the implementation of a fee for time share guests of \$10 per day to be used for marketing the destination. This measure would represent the first time that all time share visitors will be required to contribute to the TARF.

"It is essential that we take the necessary steps to level the playing field for attracting visitors to our islands," said DOT Commissioner Nicholson-Doty. "By leaving our room tax rate unchanged over the last 17 years, we have placed ourselves at a competitive disadvantage for marketing the destination while other destinations have adjusted to meet market conditions and have outspent the

U.S. Virgin Islands."

"In addition, the sheer cost of purchasing advertising has significantly increased over time, specifically 16 percent for cable TV, seven percent for network television and two percent for magazines," Nicholson-Doty said. "This room tax increase represents a necessary measure for our tourism industry and for the economy of the U.S. Virgin Islands."

The proposed measure is the result of a careful analysis of the tourism industry landscape and is designed to place the destination's marketing spend on par with others in the region.

The daily fee for time share guests, in particular, marks an important step. Currently there is no mechanism to ensure contribution from this growing tourism segment to the territory's marketing efforts. Current information indicates that time shares represent more than 15 percent of all accommodations in the territory.

The proposed two percent increase in room tax would place the destination in line with several other destinations in the region and popular tourism destinations globally. Nightly room tax rates for selected destinations include: Puerto Rico 24 percent; Dominican Republic 15 percent; Bahamas 10 percent; Aruba 9.5 percent; and Jamaica 8.5 percent.

Room tax rates for popular US destinations: New York: 14.75 percent; Miami 13 percent; Orlando 12.5 percent; Las Vegas 12

percent; Chicago 15.4 percent.

In 2010, the TARF collected just over \$17 million based on room revenue. Of this revenue, \$6 million is spent on advertising while the balance goes to other marketing and promotional efforts. The proposed increase would add an estimated \$6 million dollars to the fund.

The additional revenue is sorely needed in the area of advertising, as many destinations and the major brands associated with them significantly outspend the territory on an annual basis. Examples of these annual advertising budgets include: Atlantis Resort Bahamas at \$15,343,300; and Sandals Resorts, Caribbean at \$21,060,800.

Based on research conducted about the current advertising landscape, 63 percent of the advertising share of voice is effectively being purchased by competitive destinations.

Advertising featuring Mexico represents 27 percent of this figure, the Bahamas 23 percent, and Puerto Rico with 13 percent. These figures underscore the critical need for the territory to increase its ability to advertise the destination to potential visitors.

In addition to advertising, the funds would also be used to further address matters critical to tourism, including airlift and product development, as well as a continued focus on St. Croix-specific marketing initiatives that further develop St. Croix as a brand for potential visitors.

with the exception of San Juan, Puerto Rico and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Beginning June 10, 2011, American Airlines will increase its service from MIA to St. Croix to two daily non-stop Boeing 737 flights. St. Thomas will also see a boost in air capacity. The existing twice-daily, non-stop Boeing 737 flights to St. Thomas from MIA will be increased to three times daily.

"As the region faces diminished service on American Airlines from Puerto Rico, it is encouraging that

our partners at the airline are taking proactive steps to ensure continued robust jet service to the Territory from their Miami hub," said DOT Commissioner Beverly Nicholson-Doty. "We continue to work closely with all of our airline partners to build demand and increase service to the territory."

Over the last year, the DOT has worked closely with key airline partners to provide more than \$3 million in co-operative marketing initiatives to support airlift to the territory from key gateway cities.

American Airlines To Increase Jet Service to Territory

St. John Tradewinds

The Department of Tourism announced last week that American Airlines will increase non-stop jet service to St. Croix's Henry E. Rohlsen Airport and St. Thomas' Cyril E. King Airport from Miami International Airport beginning June 10, 2011.

The added service to both islands represents an increase in air capacity of more than 2,600 seats per week, and signifies the highest airlift growth on American Airlines to any one Caribbean destination

According to the
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.... For a kitchen the size of a Volkswagen Beetle"

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Happy Hour 2/1 \$1 Off All Beer 4:20-5:30 Weekdays
Hungry Hour Half Price Appetizers 5:30-6:30 Weekdays
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Sun Dog Cafe

St. John * US Virgin Islands

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St. John, USVI
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Jake's Buffalo Wings
with homemade wing sauce...de-lish

Jake's Beer, Well Shots and Drinks are Always \$3

DJ to follow the game!!!

Super Bowl Sunday @ **JAKE'S**



Simone's Voyage and Roundabout Win Classes in Close Duke's Trophy Race

By Jim Furneaux
Special to St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Yacht Club's first regatta of 2011, the Dukes Trophy Race, on January 23, portends a competitive racing season for local yachters.

"We had some very close results and a surprise or two to kick-off our racing season," said SJYC Commodore Scott Barnett. "It will be interesting to see if similar challenges occur during our next regatta, the Island Hopper, which takes place February 13."

Only 12 seconds separated the two top finishers in the non-spinnaker class with Chuck Pressler's 42-foot Catalina *Simone's Voyage* slipping past Larry Boxerman's 37-foot Pearson *Southbound* on the very last leg of the course. The total distance separating the two yachts was about 15 yards — a very close race on a course that measured 16.5 miles.

The spinnaker class competition featured the smallest yacht, *Roundabout*, Paul Sokin's IC-24 leading the pack on the handicapped rankings. Second place went to *Osprey*, Lee and Larry Best's beautiful 37-foot yawl which was built at the US Naval Academy.

Third place went to Lawrence

Aqui's new boat *Wild Ting*, a 40-foot Dufour. *Wild Ting* was actually the first vessel over the finish line. Aqui's previous yacht, *Top Gun*, was a perennial winner/contender in area regattas and this crew will continue honing its command of the new boat.

The Duke's Trophy Race was named in honor of Ellington's restaurant which occupied the space at Gallows that now is home to Zozo's. Ellington's donated the beautiful race trophy about 15 years ago and thus the regatta received its classic name.

The Island Hopper — so named as the race features sailing past and around many local islands and cays — will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, February 13, at the Two Brothers rocks just off Cruz Bay. The skipper's meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. on February 12, and the after-race party and awards ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. the day of the race.

"We will establish a Pursuit class for this race if we have at least four boats wanting to enter," said Race committee member Michael Feierabend. "People enjoy the social camaraderie and the competition and we look forward to another great regatta."



Photos by Jim Furneaux

Simone's Voyage, above right, just slipped past *Southbound* to win the non-spinnaker class. In the Spinnaker class, *shutes* were flying on the downwind leg as *Roundabout*, at right, crossed the finish line first.



Lionfish in the Caribbean

Hear up-to-date information concerning The CORE Foundation and the lionfish. National Park Service officials will be available to answer questions.

Mongoose Junction Courtyard
February 1, 2011
6pm-8pm

- Sun Dog Cafe will provide appetizers
- Samples of the "Lionfish Shot" will be served to those who wish to try one
- New T-shirts and ladies tank tops will be available for sale while supplies last
- All the volunteers will be honored

Please come out and support the cause!





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Sign-up Early

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Meet Broadway and Sample Some Incredible Libations at Starfish Gourmet February 7

St. John Tradewinds

Starfish Gourmet and Wines manager Paul Tsakeres is pulling out all the stops to welcome Broadway to St. John on Monday, February 7, in front of the store from 4 to 6 p.m.

John Tartaglia, Michael Shawn Lewis, Donna Drake, Laura Barano and Rhonda Miller kick off two weeks of training St. John students in puppetry, dance and song during this special event.

They will greet the community at a special wine tasting at Starfish Gourmet from 5 to 6 p.m. Stop by the store on the first floor of The Marketplace to sample tantalizing wines and nibble some artisanal cheese and charcuterie pairings.

Begin by sipping some Veuve Cliquot champagne, compliments of Bellows International and then make the way to an incredible offering of Cake Bread Cellar's Sauvignon Blanc, thanks to West Indies Ltd.

Then get ready for something a little deeper and try the brand new wine being released by Duckhorn Vineyards, Decoy Pinot Noir, introduced by Prestige Wine Group. Wrap up the afternoon with a Taylor Floodgate 10 Year Tawny Port, compliments of West Indies Ltd.

The Broadway performers are on island to teach students Tartaglia's original musical "Dream, Wish, Believe," which they will perform on Friday, February 18, at the Westin Resort and Villas as a fundraiser for the St. John School of the Arts.

February 7 will also be the first chance for the public to snatch up raffle tickets for a once-in-a-lifetime New York City Broadway experience. Purchase a ticket for \$100 — there will only be 200 sold — for a chance to win two round-trip plane tickets to New York City from anywhere in the US (not necessarily from the USVI), three nights at a top mid-town hotel, dinners at two famous Theater District restaurants, a pair of tickets to three Broadway shows plus a backstage tour of one Broadway theater.

St. John School of the Arts officials will also be selling "Angel" performance tickets at the wine tasting. Angel tickets, \$200 each, get one into the February 18, 6 p.m. performance of "Dream, Wish, Believe" at the Westin Resort, plus a champagne reception and dinner at one of the island's best restaurants, like La Tapa, ZoZo's or Ocean Grill to name just a few.

A second performance of "Dream, Wish, Believe" will follow the first showing at 8 p.m. and is free and open to the public, however, donations are welcome.

For more details call St. John School of the Arts at 779-4322.

KATS Hosting Two Adult Sailing Classes Starting Feb. 9 and 12

Kids And The Sea, St. John is hosting two adults sailing classes next month; one starting on Wednesday, February 9, and running for four Wednesdays and the other starting on Saturday, February 12, and running for four weeks as well.

Both classes will begin at 1 p.m. and will feature Pearson Ensigns, 23-foot keel boats. The cost is \$200 for the four sessions and the funds go to support the KATS St. John youth sailing program.

Anyone interested should call Marie Naisby at 714-7433 or 410-271-1196 to register.

Juvenile Parrot Visits Moorehead Point

St. John Tradewinds

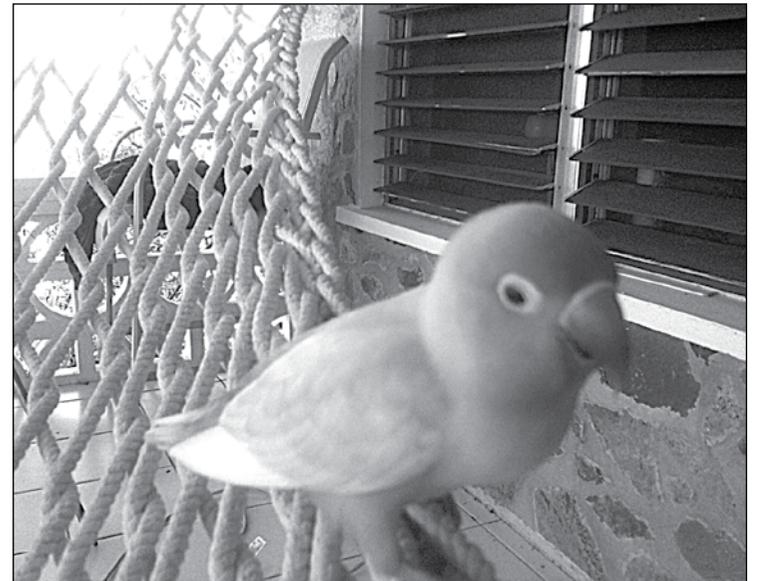
Jeremy King found an unexpected guest on his deck when he returned to his Moorehead Point home last week.

"I got home around noon to find a baby parrot on my porch," he said. "He hung out with me for about 30 minutes. We sat in the hammock and he posed for several photos."

"I actually hand fed him some cat food, since I didn't have any parrot food on hand," he said.

While King has seen adult parrots fly by, this was his first visit from a juvenile parrot. King named the little beauty Louis, but hadn't seen him again as of press time.

"I've been anticipating a return visit, but he's been a no-show," said King.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jeremy King

King nicknamed the juvenile parrot, above, Louis.

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Using solar makes for a cleaner, greener Virgin Islands.

Friends of VINP Seeking Summer Intern for May through August

St. John Tradewinds

Friends of V.I. National Park are seeking a summer intern to work for eight to 10 weeks during the months of May through August 2011.

The actual dates will depend on the intern's school schedule. The main role of this individual will be to assist Friends in project management and administrative support.

This individual will be assigned to several projects and tasks at the

beginning of the internship. These projects are to be determined in the late spring. This individual will gain experience in working with a National Park and with an environmental, non-profit organization.

Candidates for the internship should be entering juniors/seniors or graduate students with a major in a field related to the environmental sciences or environmental education. In addition, candidates should have excellent writing and Internet research skills, be self-

motivated and strong team players.

This is an unpaid internship, however, housing at Maho Bay Camps and a small food and transportation stipend (\$250/week) will be provided.

Please send a resume with cover letter and two references no later than March 4: Summer Internship Program, Friends of Virgin Islands National Park, P.O. Box 811 St. John, VI 00831, or apenn@friendsvinp.org.



A new painting by Deborah St. Clair

Art Opening at Bajo el Sol Will Feature Gail Van de Bogurt and Deborah St. Clair

St. John Tradewinds

Bajo el Sol Gallery in Mongoose Junction is hosting an exciting art opening reception on Friday, February 4, from 5 to 8 p.m. featuring premiere artists Deborah St. Clair and Gail Van de Bogurt, who will both be displaying new work.

During her years on St. John, artist Van de Bogurt has become known primarily for her work in clay. Her functional and sculptural ceramics grace the homes of many private collectors. As a result of her exceptional talent, she has taken on a greater role as teacher as well as renowned ceramicist.

St. Clair, a long-time resident of St. John, paints with both oil and encaustic. St. John, with its warm temperatures, great and ever-changing light, and energy provides a perfect setting for oil and encaustic painting. This show will explore the interesting parallel and connection between cave wall paintings and graffiti street art.

Sculpture and painting await at the February 4 opening reception at Bajo el Sol Gallery. The gallery's regular hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. The gallery is located at the top of the stone steps in Mongoose Junction. For more information call 693-7070.



Pottery by Gail Van de Bogurt

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BROADWAY
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Dream, Wish, Believe

An Original Musical by Tony Award Nominee - John Tartaglia

Premiere Performance

Friday, February 18, 6:00 Westin Ballroom

100 Angel tickets Available at \$200

(Tickets Available at Connections and Chelsea Drug)

2nd performance to follow at 8:00 pm

Free to the General Public

Donations Welcomed

Become an Angel to **St. John School of the Arts**



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British Potter Ara Cardew Coming Back to Maho Bay Clayworks This Season from February 7-12

St. John Tradewinds

Third generation British potter Ara Cardew is coming back for another pottery workshop this year at Maho Bay Clayworks from February 7 through 12.

This workshop is open to beginning, intermediate or experienced potters by the day as well as the full five days. Cardew's teaching schedule will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. Everyone should bring their own lunch and breaks will be taken as needed. Additionally the studio will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to participants.

The workshop for one day only will be \$75, which includes five pounds of clay per day and firing fees for that. Two or more days will be \$65 per day.

The cost for full five days is \$325, but only \$300 for those with an active studio card. The five day workshop includes 25 pounds of clay and firing fees. It is recommended that those with little or no experience start February 7.

Anyone who has always wanted to try a clay class, here are two offerings that you don't want to miss!

Potter's Wheel Basics: Four Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9 p.m., with instructor Stephanie Seguin of Whitefish Pottery, Whitefish Montana. February 15, 22, March 1 and 8; cost is \$175, which in-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Courtesy of Maho Bay Camps

A sample of third-generation British potter Ara Cardew's work, above.

cludes four open studios, clay and firing of pieces made in class.

Functional Clay Handbuilding: Cool Pottery techniques without the potter's wheel! Four Wednesdays from 1:30 to 4 p.m., with instructor Stephanie Seguin. February 16, 23, March 2 and 9; cost is \$175, which includes four

open studios, clay and firing of pieces made in class.

For more information or to sign up, call Maho Bay Camp Activities at 776-6226 ext. 212.

Or call Gail Van de Bogurt at her Maho Bay Clayworks studio at 776-6226 ext. 226 for additional details.

Stop by Maho Bay Camps on Friday evenings to watch Ken Burns' documentary "The National Parks: America's Best Idea."



Maho Bay Camps Screening Ken Burns Documentary on Fridays

St. John Tradewinds

Last year's popular Ken Burns' series "The National Parks: America's Best Idea" is now available for public viewing on the big screen at Maho Bay Camps' outdoor restaurant each Friday night throughout February and March.

This beautifully photographed series will be presented in conjunction with the V.I. National Parks each Friday at 8 p.m. and offered free of charge.

Originally aired on PBS this series is described as "a biography of compelling characters and a biography of the American landscape."

"Nearly a decade in the making 'The National Parks: America's Best Idea' is a visual feast, featuring some of the most extensive, breathtaking images of the national parks system ever captured on film. It contains the most contemporary footage of

any Ken Burns film since Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery."

Each night of the week the restaurant at Maho Bay Camps offers a selection of entrees always including a vegetarian option. The film series on Friday nights is scheduled the same night as the island-renown Prime Rib dinner frequented by guests and full-time residents alike.

Maho also offers free entertainment other evenings including live music on Mondays following Caribbean delicacies and a talk/slideshow given by Marine Biologist Jeff Miller on Tuesdays following Asian entrees.

For information about the Friday night "National Parks" film series or any activities at Maho Bay Camps call the Activities Desk at 340-776-6226 ext. 212.

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Sunday, February 6th**

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for more information 340-779-4982**

Letters To St. John Tradewinds

Looking for Karen from Bliss

Hi, my name is Jay Doley and I was a St. John resident for four years, having left around 2006. A good friend of mine, Karen, was also there and had a store named "Bliss" in Coral Bay.

Some might remember that she was run over outside her store with her kid and went to the states where I've heard she's well. I can't remember her last name and don't know how to find her.

I believe she has corresponded with this paper and I would really appreciate any information that would help me get in touch with her. My email is jaydoley@yahoo.com or call 252-822-4030.

Jay Doley

Keeping Track of Crime

2010

Homicides: 0

Shootings: 0

Stabbings: 0

Armed Robberies: 1

Arsons: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 3

2nd Degree Burglaries: 22

3rd Degree Burglaries: 70

Grand Larcenies: 67

Rapes: 0

2011-TO-DATE

Homicides: 0

Shootings: 0

Stabbings: 0

Armed Robberies: 0

Arsons: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 0

2nd Degree Burglaries: 2

3rd Degree Burglaries: 1

Grand Larcenies: 4

Rapes: 0

Three Times Is Not a Charm in Cruz Bay

There's an old-timer who frequents Island Blues... I've seen him almost every day my last three trips to the island. Last week I overheard him say to a friend, "I haven't been to Cruz Bay in 15 years." Fifteen years! It's only 20 minutes away! Is he serious?! Well, I wonder what he would think if he visited Cruz Bay today.

I know St. John has a Police Department. The only way I know is because I read the *Tradewinds* every week, and I've seen the building and parked police cars in Cruz Bay. However, I have yet to see an actual police officer in the last three years I've visited St. John. In case you're wondering, that's 22 days total... not one sighting of an actual officer.

I have seen plenty of other interesting people though. On my first trip, I was walking alone in the shopping area of Cruz Bay when I was approached by two men wanting to sell me drugs. Immediately I walked the other way looking in vain for an officer to flag down. Nothing.

For the rest of my trip I felt too uncomfortable to visit Cruz Bay (and I'm from Chicago!), even for dinner since that means a short walk from my Jeep. On my second trip I had my husband with me, so we had dinner in Cruz Bay. Leaving the restaurant at 11:00 p.m., the short walk to the car felt like an eternity.

There was a fight in the street, and a street lined with what I can only describe as "shady-looking" characters. One of the locals actually asked us if we were OK, as if it were silly of us to think about being in Cruz Bay that late. Surely we could find an officer on the street that late, someone to keep the peace? Nada.

My husband and I just returned home from our third trip to your beautiful island. Our stay in Coral Bay was relaxing with beautiful weather, wonderful accommodations and friendly people at almost every turn.

And then we visited Cruz Bay. And the third time was not a charm. This time we parked at the visitor's center and had dinner at Mongoose Junction, an attempt to avoid the area near the park that seems to attract the most riff-raff.

This time we opted for an early dinner, leaving the restaurant by 8 p.m. In our short walk back to our Jeep we witnessed a group of four people run up along the side of a vehicle and slash the tires. Right in front of us.

Why not? Who's there to stop them? Well we'd had enough! We jumped in our Jeep and tracked the four-some back toward the park. Certainly if we drove around we could find an officer. Think again. We'd long lost the four-some when we drove by the "station," only to find what looked like every car they have parked outside — and empty.

Business owners of Cruz Bay...does this not make you angry? I can't be the only tourist who has felt more than a little nervous walking those streets at night. And I'm certainly not the only one who reads the *Tradewinds* online every week.

I'll be back next year, but I'll only see Cruz Bay twice...coming in on the ferry and leaving. I'd love to spend more time wandering your shops and dining in your restaurants...but not at this cost. And the old-timer? Maybe he's not so crazy after all.

Jeff and Tina Thompson, Chicago, IL

Crossword Answers — Puzzle on Page 20

S	C	H	A	T	T	I	R	E	S	A	O	K	A	Y	S	P	A		
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Jah-wada Jones and Lawrence Powell Convicted of Assault and Grand Larceny

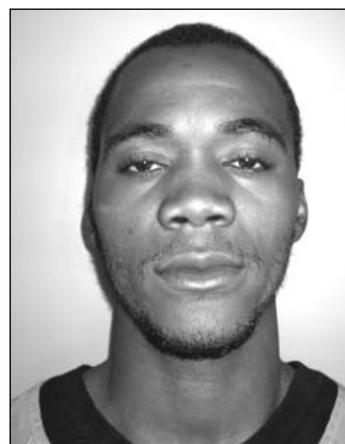
St. John Tradewinds

A jury last week found two St. John men guilty of beating and robbing another man on April 12, 2009.

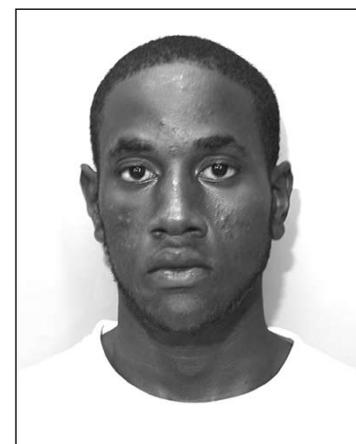
Twenty-year-old Jah-wada Jones and 21-year-old Lawrence Powell, Jr. each stand convicted of assault in the first degree and grand larceny.

Jones and Powell aided one another in punching and kicking the male victim while forcefully removing his belongings from his pockets. The incident occurred in the area of Cruz Bay.

The victim was robbed of about \$3,000, a bank card, a smart phone and other miscellaneous items. The victim was also treated for a fractured eye socket



Jah-wada Jones



Lawrence Powell

and other minor injuries.

The penalty for a conviction of assault in the first degree is a maximum sentence 15 years

incarceration. The penalty for a conviction of grand larceny is a maximum sentence of 10 years incarceration.

St. John Animal Care Center Streamlined and Ready To Achieve Greater Goals

St. John Tradewinds

More than 35 concerned residents of St. John packed the lower great room of Giff Hill School on Wednesday night, January 26, to attend the Animal Care Center's annual meeting.

The meeting, open to all those who have given time, money or service to the ACC, may have started in low gear, but the energy quickly became palpable after 2010 Board President Diana Ripley read the association's mission statement and their list of accomplishments.

Long-time resident Sally Nelson, the new ACC shelter administrator, was introduced to the crowd and received grateful applause. Attendees were then presented with the ACC's new plan for positive change.

Just two months prior, the 15 ACC 2010 Board of Directors voted unanimously to reduce the total number of directors from 15 to eight. The reduction in number was just the first step to streamlining operations and preparing for a new approach to achieving greater goals.

The need for change became obvious after the ACC nearly went bankrupt in August of last year. The community, both residents on-island and off, responded to help with astonishing generosity in a short period of time, allowing the ACC time to regroup and re-strategize. After many debates and a healthy, yet slightly painful "retreat," the dedicated group is now looking positively towards the future.

In support of seeking more qualified businesspeople for the role, board members old and new stepped down, over and out to prepare for the transition, leaving two Board Director seats open. Although the ACC's Nominating Committee put forth only two

willing candidates for selection, members present successfully nominated three additional candidates from the floor.

The crowded room and the results of the voting showed a caring community with strong opinions, as write-in candidates received more than one-third of the votes. Ballots were counted and Sheila Karcher and Oriel Smith received majority vote and will serve alongside the remaining six Board members from 2010. Although Directors serve for three years, terms are staggered and seats open every year.

A more efficient and qualified Board of Directors is needed in order to affect the real heart of the plan: a new approach to helping volunteers help the ACC. Each member of the ACC Board will now be responsible for overseeing two specific areas to ensure progress and success.

The ACC has designed a volunteer "pack" system, in which smaller groups of volunteers are able to work within their core competencies to achieve specific goals more efficiently. The focus and specificity of tasks will allow more volunteers to help in areas in which they are most talented, and most comfortable.

Fifteen unique packs, covering everything from Animal Abuse to Website Management, will need 15 generous volunteers to lead each one. Details of each pack's responsibilities were distributed at the meeting and a few residents have stepped forward to lead already.

The ACC is asking everyone to consider volunteering in some capacity. No offer to help is too small, since each pack can coordinate its own pack members and assignments as needed. Packs without a leader will be managed by a member of the ACC Board Directors in the interim.

Using Sport for Social Change Hosting Essay Contest for Virgin Islands Surfers

St. John Tradewinds

Using Sport For Social Change, in conjunction with Southland Gaming, The St. John Community Foundation and the Department Parks and Recreation of St. Thomas and St. John announce an essay contest for local Virgin Islands youth surfers, 17 years of age and younger.

Three boys and three girls from St. Thomas and three boys and three girls from St. John will be selected from essay entries and will win paid travel expenses to Tortola for the youth portion of the surf contest.

This will include ferry passage and Tortola taxi to and from the event for each youth and one adult chaperone of their choice over the age of 18. Lunch and beverages for all will be provided to the winners and their chaperone throughout the day. Valid passports for each person is the responsibility of the participating parties.

The dates of the Tortola surf competition are April 23, 24 and 25, 2011. Only one entry per person and essay contestants must be 17 years and under. Essays may be from one to three pages in length and entry forms with parent signature must be received with the essay. Entry forms can be found at www.usingsportforsocialchange.com.

The essay topic is "How can surfing improve the lives of people of the Virgin Islands?" Entries must be received via U.S. mail or email sent to one of the following address no later than March 30, 2011.

U.S. mail to Dean Doeling, USFSC, 20713 SW Imperial Lane, Aloha, OR, 97006; or email doeling@nike.com.

Winners will be notified by phone no later than April 8, 2011. If an essay contest winner cannot be reached by that time, an alternate will be chosen to take their place. All decisions are final.

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Deadline for CBCF Congressional Internship Is February 25

St. John Tradewinds

Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen announced last week that the deadline to apply for the summer session of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Congressional Internship Program is February 25, 2011.

The 2011 summer session is slated for May 29 to July 30. The nine-week summer program offers college students from across the nation the opportunity to learn about the legislative process, leadership and careers in the policy making process.

Interns work in CBC member offices, attend professional development events, and participate in leadership development projects. The program prepares young people to become informed decision makers and influential leaders who shape our world.

Interns will receive a \$3,000 stipend, are housed at a local university (all expenses covered) and may be eligible to receive academic credit at their college or university for participating in the program.

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or have permission to work in the U.S., be currently or recently enrolled in college full-time when applying for program and have demonstrated interest in public service, governance, and the policy-making process.

Established in 1986, the CBCF Congressional Internship Program answered the call to help diversify our democracy by increasing the pool of talented public servants.

Congressional Interns are selected based on the following criteria: solid scholastic achievement, strong writing skills; community service contributions; evidence of leadership skills and quality of application and; in some instances, interview performance.

The selection is highly competitive and applications are submitted to CBCF and reviewed by a CBCF selection committee. Applicants are also asked to print out their completed applications and provide a copy to the Office of the Delegate to Congress, along with copies of all application materials. Finalists are selected and notified by CBCF.

Interested persons should apply online at www.cbfc.org/cbfc-congressional-internship-program.html and submit copies of their application and other materials to Makeda.okolo@mail.house.gov. For more information, call (202) 263-2800 or 202-225-1790.

Satchel Paige Summer Travel Baseball Team Looking for Ball Players

St. John Tradewinds

The Sports TV Network and The Satchel Paige Summer Travel Baseball Team are looking for youth and high school baseball players between the ages of 15-16 and 17- 19 years old that would like to be a part of our 2011 Summer Travel Baseball Team.

Two teams, 18 players per team, per age group. Teams will be traveling to Forth Wayne, IN; Cincinnati, OH; Omaha, NE; and Knoxville, TN.

All interested players should contact Coach Mayden (888) 833-7688 ext. 3, or www.whsn.org.

“They do not understand that this is everyone on St. John backing this. It’s not about not wanting to pay taxes, but wanting to pay a fair tax for what our properties are really worth. The judge is going to want to throw this out because of a technicality. But with everyone being there, the judge will see that we want this to be heard on its merits and not just thrown out and ignored.”

– Pam Gaffin, property tax committee member, V.I. Unity Day Group

Property Tax Injunction Lifted

Continued from Page 5

of \$300,000 homes and \$13 million properties, explained Gaffin.

“Basically the problem is that we have \$300,000 houses and \$13 million houses and not enough of either kind for them to be in separate neighborhoods,” she said. “Other places have houses that are similar and you could lump those together. If you had enough \$300,000 houses all in the same area, it would work, but that is not the case here.”

Bearing Point also used vague descriptions to categorize views and houses, Gaffin added.

“There are properties with water views and they are listed with ‘good view’ but my valley view is listed as ‘very good,’” said Gaffin. “That has nothing to do with anything real. We also have property that was sold for \$8 million and is listed as a ‘Caribbean cottage’ rather than a luxury mansion.”

“Also, the market has gone way down since then,” she said.

Gaffin urged all St. John residents to attend the hearing on February 7 in U.S. District Court.

“Everybody should go to the hearing,” she said. “The government’s position is that this is just about St. John taxpayers who don’t want to pay their bills. They think we are spoiled brats complaining that our bills are too high.”

“They do not understand that this is everyone on St. John backing this,” Gaffin said. “It’s not about not wanting to pay taxes, but wanting to pay a fair tax for what our properties are really worth.”

The Unity Day Group is fearful that its case will be thrown out on a technicality before February 7, Gaffin added.

“The judge is going to want to throw this out because of a technicality,” she said. “But with everyone being there, the judge will see that we want this to be heard on its merits and not just thrown out and ignored.”

The group is still collecting funds to cover legal fees for Attorney James Derr, who is representing the group. Residents are asked to contribute \$100, or what they can afford. Checks made out to VI Unity Day Group, memo property tax fund, can be dropped off at E&C Gas or with Lorelei Monsanto at Chateau Bordeaux.

Cruz Bay Hotel

Continued from Page 8

“Plus there is no better way to make sure something is perfectly clean than on white sheets and white towels,” Walker said.

The hotel’s downtown Cruz Bay location, within easy walking distance to the ferry dock, shops and restaurants, means guests don’t have to rent a vehicle. If guests do opt to rent a Jeep, the hotel is located right next door to a rental agency, for the ultimate in convenient parking.

With concrete walls measuring almost a foot thick, the rooms are practically noise proof. The one exception might be the room in the back of the hotel, which Walker and Guidi refer to as the “Larry’s Landing Suite.”

“There is one room in the back that overlooks Larry’s Landing,” said Guidi. “But it’s the biggest

room and it has a balcony. It’s been renting out every night and people really love it.”

“They want us to put in a slide so they can get to Larry’s even faster,” said Walker.

The noise-level in the rear room is only an issue when the popular Cruz Bay bar and restaurant hosts live bands, which is not every night, Walker added.

“Fortunately it’s always good music too,” she said.

The six guest rooms all boast private bathrooms, with rain showerheads, pillow-top queen sized beds, free Wi-Fi internet, flatscreen satellite TV, a mini fridge and individually controlled air conditioning units.

The one-bedroom penthouse suite features a full kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 12-foot beamed cathedral ceilings, a double futon sofa, plus one additional sofa.

Walker and Guidi offer complimentary coffee, tea and home-baked goods each morning on the comfortable front balcony, giving guests a chance to mingle and share their favorite beach spots. Guests also enjoy a 10 percent discount at Da Livio’s Restaurant downstairs.

While the couple pretty much works seven days a week, they couldn’t be happier.

“I love meeting the guests,” said Guidi. “Everyone is so happy and in such a good mood.”

“It’s very gratifying to know that you’re offering a product that you know is near the best value on the island,” said Walker. “I’m really proud of what we offer here; both the price and the quality.”

For more information or to book a room at the Cruz Bay Boutique Hotel, check out www.cruzbay-hotel.com, call 642-1702 or email stay@cruzbayhotel.com.

CPR Classes Available to Community

Are you trained in CPR and AED use? How recent is your training? CPR classes are being offered for the community on the second Saturday of each month. Learn the current methods of CPR, AED use, and the Heimlich Maneuver. Get certified in this life-saving skill. This is a one day, three hour class.

Contact Bob Malacarne to sign up or for more information at 626-5118 or email training@stjohnrescue.com.

Free Vow Renewal Ceremony Feb. 14

It's that time of year again! Love City's own Barefoot Minister Anne Marine Porter is hosting a free marriage vow renewal ceremony on Monday, February 14, at Trunk Bay Beach at 5 p.m.

For more information call Porter at 693-5153 or 626-4658.

Boat Going St. Croix Agriculture Fair

The community is invited to join the Love City Pan Dragons as they travel to the St. Croix Agriculture Fair by ferry.

The boat leaves on Thursday, February 17, at 1:30 p.m. from the Cruz Bay bulkhead and returns on Monday, February 21, at 2 p.m. The cost for adults is \$85 round-trip and \$65 for one-way. For children the cost is \$65 round-trip and \$50 for one-way.

Transportation will be provided by Native Son Inc. Tickets can be purchased at Courtesy Car Rental or on board.

Property Tax Waiver Ends Feb. 2011

Tax Collector Valencio Jackson advised Virgin Islands property owners that pursuant to Act. No. 7241, penalties and interest will be charged on the revised 2006 bills beginning February 16.

The revised 2006 property tax bills were issued in July 2010 and became delinquent on November 15, 2010. In accordance with prior legislation, property tax payers were not required to pay any penalty and interest on the 2006R tax bills.

"Notwithstanding the penalty and interest provisions of Title 29 Virgin Islands Code, section 2494, no interest or penalty may be levied on any assessment for the property tax years 2006, 2007, and 2008 for six months after the date of issuance of the respective year's tax assessment," according to Act 7241.

Accordingly, Virgin Islands property owners are encouraged to pay their 2006 property tax bills before February 16, 2011 in order to avoid the assessment of penalty and interest. After that date, penalty and interest charges will be assessed.

For more information, call the Tax Collector at 776-6737.

Annual Plant Sale Set for March 5

The V.I. Audubon Society will host its annual plant sale on March 5, in Cruz Bay's Frank Powell Park.

Mary Moroney and Dave Spoth are chairing the plant sale this year. One gallon pots are needed, and can be dropped off at Elaine Estern's studio. The group is trying to propagate more native and non-invasive plants to sell this year.

With that in mind, anyone who has Bay Rhum trees, any edible fruit or vegetables potted, are asked to donate these to the sale. Spoth will also be propagating some vegetables and ornamentals for the sale and orchids will be ordered.

25th Annual GHS Auction March 12

The 25th Annual Giff Hill School Auction will be Saturday, March 12, at the Westin Resort and Villas. For more information call the GHS development office at 340-776-1730 or email ghsdevelopment@mac.com.

Police Log

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

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

Friday, January 21

11:35 a.m. - A citizen c/r that he was involved in an auto accident in the area of Cruz Bay. Auto accident.

11:03 p.m. - A citizen c/r hearing shots fired in the area of Cruz Bay. Illegal discharge of firearm.

Saturday, January 22

11:50 a.m. - PD-216 was involved in an auto accident in the area of Maho Bay. Auto accident.

Sunday, January 23

1:44 a.m. - A visitor from PA r/ a stolen cell phone. Grand larceny.

3:30 a.m. - Badge #255 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with three minor males under arrest and charged with grand larceny, aiding and abetting and violation of curfew. They were all released into the custody of their parents.

11:29 p.m. - A Calabash Boom resident c/r being involved in an altercation with her boyfriend. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

Monday, January 24

9:46 a.m. - A Johnson Bay resident p/r a stalker. Stalking.

12:48 p.m. - A citizen p/r an auto accident. Auto accident.

2:35 p.m. - An Estate Pastory resident p/r re-

ceiving harassing phone calls. Telephone harassment.

4:20 p.m. - A citizen p/r that his rental vehicle was damaged while parked. Damage to a vehicle.

6:23 p.m. - A Calabash Boom resident p/r a simple assault by her neighbor. Simple assault.

11:00 p.m. - A visitor from Connecticut c/r her son missing. Missing person.

Tuesday, January 25

8:56 a.m. - A Calabash Boom resident p/r an aggravated assault and battery by her neighbor. Aggravated assault and battery.

12:20 p.m. - An Estate Contant resident p/r a larceny. Grand larceny.

6:47 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident r/ a landlord/tenant dispute. Landlord/tenant dispute.

Wednesday, January 26

11:43 a.m. - A citizen c/r an auto accident in the area of Upper Carolina. Auto accident.

2:45 p.m. - A Bellevue Village resident p/r being provoked and threatened. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

Thursday, January 26

3:41 a.m. - An Estate Bordeaux resident c/re-requesting police assistance to remove her boyfriend from her home. Police assistance.

CRIME STOPPERS U.S.V.I.

Organization Seeks Information on Recent Crimes

Crime Stoppers is asking the community's help to solve the following crimes. If anyone knows something, they should say something. Even the smallest bit of information may be just what law enforcement needs to identify and arrest the criminals involved in these cases.

St. Thomas

Police need additional information on two homicides. Shakir Richardson was killed on Thursday, January 6, at about 2 a.m., in the area of Joseph Gomez Elementary School. Timothy Metzger was killed on Wednesday, January 19, at about 10:30 p.m. in the area of Palm Gardens; a small, white two-door car was seen speeding from the scene. Help law enforcement put an end to the senseless killings that are taking place here in the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix

Several robberies have occurred in the past few days. Specifically, a woman who was leaving a night club in LaGrande Princesse had her vehicle and valuables taken at gun point. In the same area, a man was on his way home and was accosted by a tall, armed male. In Frederiksted, on Emancipa-

tion Drive, two females' purses were taken at gun point. All suspects are described as males dressed in black with some type of mask covering their faces and armed with handguns.

Law enforcement can't stop all males dressed in black, but citizens should be aware of their surroundings and report suspicious activity to law enforcement. Anyone with a cell phone, should consider carrying it in their hands and putting 911 on speed dial.

Thanks to the community, Crime Stoppers has received 46 tips so far this year. A good number of them have been about homicides. Please continue to help law enforcement reduce crime by submitting information on these or any other crimes at www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Tips are completely anonymous, and the state-side operators are multi-lingual. If a tip leads to an arrest or the recovery of stolen property, illegal drugs, or weapons, the tipster will receive a cash reward to be paid according to their instructions. Only anonymous callers to Crime Stoppers are eligible for these cash rewards.

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7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays
776-6316, 776-6254

Missionary Baptist Church
9:30 a.m. Sunday Services, 10:45 Worship,
Tuesday 7 p.m. Bible Study 693-8884

Nazareth Lutheran Church
Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday School 8 a.m.
776-6731

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
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

St. John Methodist Church
Sunday 10 a.m, 693-8830

Seventh Day Adventist
Saturdays, 779-4477

St. John Pentecostal Church
Sunday 11:05 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays Prayer 7:30 p.m.,
Thursdays Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
779-1230

St. Ursula's Episcopal Church
Sunday 9 a.m.; Bible Class, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.
777-6306

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Sunday, 776-6332

Word of Faith Church
Word of Faith International
Christian Center, Sundays 7:30 a.m.
Giffit Hill School Call 774-8617

Bethany Moravian Church
11 a.m., Sunday School 776-6291

Calvary Baptist Church
13 ABC Coral Bay, 776-6304
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday evening 6 p.m., Thursday 7 p.m.

Christian Ministry
Cinnamon Bay Beach
Inter-Denominational, Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Christian Science Society
10:45 a.m. Sunday- Marketplace
Wednesday Testimonials
7:45 p.m. on last Wed. of Month

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Sun. 9 a.m., on St. Thomas . 776-2379
Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard

Cruz Bay Baptist Church
Sunday 11 a.m., 6 p.m. 776-6315

Emmaus Moravian Church
Coral Bay, Sun. 9 a.m. 776-6713

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kathy@islandgetawaysinc.com

Suite St. John Villas/Condos
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or locally at 340-779-4486

VIVA Vacations
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P.O. Box 1747, STJ, VI 00831

Architecture

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

Barefoot Architect, Inc.
tel. 693-7665 fax 693-8411
P.O. Box 1772, STJ, VI 00831

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Real Estate

American Paradise Real Estate
tel. 693-8352 fax 693-8818
P.O. Box 8313, STJ, VI 00831
info@americanparadise.com

Cruz Bay Realty
tel. 693-8808 fax 693-9812
P.O. Box 66, STJ, VI 00831
info@cruzbayrealty.com

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

John Foster Real Estate
tel. 714-5808 or 340-642-5995
debbiehayes@debbiehayes.com
www.stjohnvirealestate.com

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

Islandia Real Estate
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- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| RFP-WMA-003-T-2011 | Transport and Unloading of Solid Waste Compactor Trailers from the St. John Transfer Station, Virgin Islands |
| RFP-WMA-004-T-2011 | Management and Transportation of Solid Waste on St. John, VI in and from Roll-On/Roll-Off Bin Sites and St. John Transfer Station to the Bovoni Landfill on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands |

Documents pertaining to this Request for Proposal (RFP) may be obtained from the VIWMA's Division of Procurement and Property, St. Thomas-St. John District Office at 9500 Wheatley Center II, Suite 2 or from the St. Croix District Officer at #1 La Grande Princesse, Suite BL1, Christiansted between the hours of 8:00am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, or by contacting the Director, Mrs. Cecile Lynch, directly via phone or email.

PROPOSAL DUE DATE and TIME: Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 2:00pm Atlantic Standard Time

PROPOSAL DUE PLACE: Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority
9500 Wheatley Center II, Suite 2, St. Thomas, VI 00802
P. O. Box 303669, St. Thomas, VI 00803
#1 La Grande Princesse, Suite BL 1, Christiansted, VI 00820
P. O. Box 1689, Kingshill, VI 00851-1689
(Six (6) Sealed Proposal Packages Marked Proposal for RFP No. RFP-WMA-003-T-11 OR RFP-WMA-004-T-11, DO NOT OPEN)
NOTE: The proposal number must be placed on the outside of all Bid Packages. Proposals may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of the submission deadline.

DIRECT INQUIRIES: Mrs. Cecile Phillip-Lynch
Director, Procurement and Property Division
Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority
#1 La Grande Princesse, Suite BL1, Christiansted, VI 00820 OR
Email: clynch@viwma.org Phone: 340-718-4489

All questions pertaining to the submission of proposals, scope of services and the award process should be directed in writing either in hard copy or by email to Mrs. Cecile Phillip-Lynch, Director of Procurement and Property, at clynch@viwma.org.

The Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority reserves the right to waive any non-substantive informalities, technicalities, or irregularities; or reject any or all qualifications and proposals; or to re-advertise for proposals, and to award or refrain from awarding the contract for the work. The Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority also reserved the right to accept or reject any Proposal or any item listed therein. VIWMA further reserves the right to waive any informality in Proposals received.

May Adams Cornwall
Executive Director



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.

Tuesday, February 1

Karl Pytlik of the CORE Foundation is hosting a "Lionfish in the Caribbean" public presentation from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Mongoose Junction courtyard.

Monday, February 7

St. John School of the Arts will kick off the sale of "Broadway" raffle tickets from 4 to 6 p.m. in front of Starfish Gourmet Market at The Marketplace. Tickets sold are on a first come first serve basis.

Meet the five Broadway professionals who will teach island fourth graders singing, dancing, puppetry and choreography to produce a show entitled "Dream, Wish, Believe," during a meet and greet in front of Starfish Gourmet at 5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 8

The St. John Historical Society will take "A Look Back," at its next meeting at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 9

The Island Green Building Association will host a public

presentation on the second floor The Marketplace with refreshments at 5 p.m. and the speaker from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 10

Parents and students are invited to hear Chris Teare speak about "The Road to College: A Parent's Eye View," sponsored by Friends of the Elaine I Sprauve Library at 7 p.m. at the library.

Monday, February 14

Love City's own Barefoot Minister Anne Marine Porter is hosting a free marriage vow renewal ceremony at Trunk Bay Beach at 5 p.m.

Friday, February 18

Five Broadway professionals along with island fourth graders will put on two shows at the Westin Resort ballroom. The first show, at 6 p.m., will be for St. John "Angels," followed by a reception and then a gourmet dinner at an island restaurant. The 8 p.m. show is open to all with no set charge, but a request for a donation.

Saturday, February 19

St. John Relay for Life will be at Winston Wells ball field.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

AL-ANON MEETINGS

Al-Anon meets on St. John every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the picnic table at the VINP ball field, and every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at St. Ursula's Multi-purpose center.

ALATEEN MEETINGS

Alateen will meet on Mondays at St. Ursula's Church from 6 to 7 p.m. and is open to anyone interested in attending.

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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126				127						128						129	
130				131						132							133

FASHIONABLE FILMS

ACROSS

- 1 Learning ctr.
- 4 Puts garments on
- 11 Jim-dandy
- 16 Place for a jacuzzi
- 19 Man-mouse middle
- 20 One using twisted humor
- 21 Spanish for "nine"
- 22 Bath fixture
- 23 1995 Denzel Washington neo-noir film
- 26 Round figure
- 27 Church shout
- 28 Comic punch response
- 29 Royal rule
- 30 Thus
- 31 — City, Oklahoma
- 33 1987 Stanley Kubrick war film
- 38 Low tie score
- 40 Wade's rival
- 41 New York village on the Hudson
- 42 1942 Abbott and Costello comedy
- 47 Like liquid splashing
- 51 This, in Peru
- 52 "Me neither"
- 53 Ostrich's kin
- 54 Actress Sara
- 55 Din-din wear
- 58 Ethical
- 61 1964 Avalon/Funicello musical comedy
- 64 China's Chou
- 66 The Home Depot rival
- 68 RR bldg.

- 69 — for trouble
- 70 With 73-Across, 1985 Tom Hanks comedy
- 73 See 70-Across
- 77 Suffix with malt
- 78 Grain morsel
- 79 Owner of the dog Sandy
- 81 "Who can — to?"
- 82 1988 Christopher Walken children's comedy
- 85 Maul lightly
- 88 — -dog (stray cur)
- 89 Resort to
- 90 — Dawn Chong
- 91 Broiling spot
- 93 One way to store data
- 95 Total chaos
- 97 2003 Mike Myers comedy
- 103 Lend — (be attentive)
- 105 Black goop
- 106 Madrid misters
- 107 With 121-Across, 2005 dramedy with four lead actresses
- 114 Silklike fabric
- 115 Talk wildly
- 116 "Sin City" actor Rutger
- 117 Rapa — (Easter Island)
- 119 Lose flab
- 120 "How — you doing?"
- 121 See 107-Across
- 126 Belief suffix
- 127 Cupid's boss
- 128 Bill modifier, e.g.
- 129 Summer, in Aix
- 130 Your, biblically
- 131 Spanish for "the sun"
- 132 Really wishes one could
- 133 Mates of pas

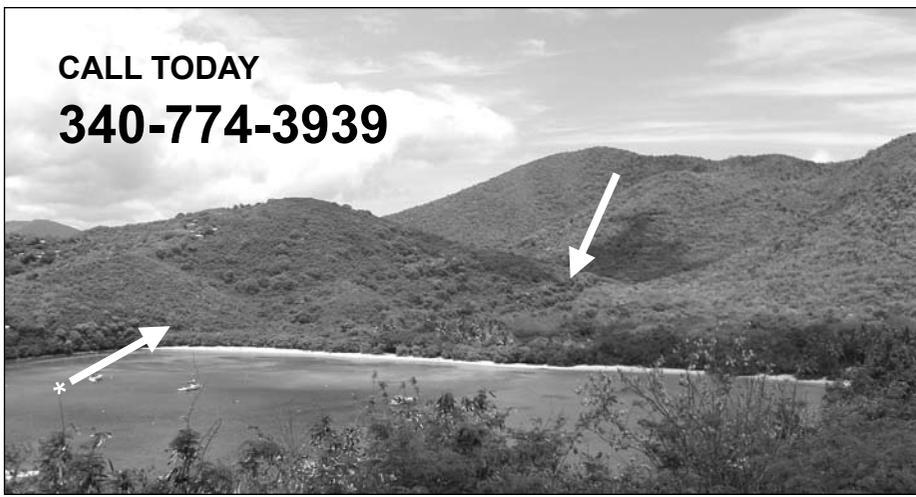
DOWN

- 1 Fizzy drink
- 2 City in Italy
- 3 New — (certain Connecticut resident)
- 4 Feel malaise
- 5 Small combo
- 6 Like a — bricks
- 7 Totally raging
- 8 Cut of meat
- 9 Subj. for some aliens
- 10 — und Drang
- 11 "— came to pass ..."
- 12 The Little Rascals
- 13 With acuity
- 14 Colorado NHLers
- 15 "Affirmative"
- 16 Baby bird?
- 17 Cleanse
- 18 Top monk
- 24 Encrypted
- 25 Wide footwear spec
- 30 Marc of fashion
- 32 Inability to smell
- 34 L.A. part
- 35 Show bias
- 36 Pale yellow
- 37 "I met her in — down in old Soho" ("Lola" lyrics)
- 39 Within: Prefix
- 43 Injure
- 44 Judicial garb
- 45 Prayer
- 46 Ending for beat
- 48 Major wreck
- 49 Smoking wood
- 50 Slangy affirmative
- 53 —'acte
- 55 Vegas stake
- 56 Done by its own staff
- 57 Sanctified
- 59 Bush nominee Samuel
- 60 Whole bunch
- 62 "— bad moon rising"
- 63 Dawnward
- 65 Spy Aldrich
- 67 "— you been up to?"
- 71 Unfamous folks
- 72 "... gyre and gimble in the —": Carroll
- 74 Pinch lightly
- 75 Excavating machine
- 76 Propyl ender
- 80 Tiny div. of a minute
- 82 Soho saloon
- 83 Tehrani, e.g.
- 84 Cry of delight
- 86 Got the title
- 87 Social pests
- 92 Alliance since '49
- 94 "Don't mention it," in Durango
- 96 Concluding
- 97 Give, as a free meal
- 98 Small amount
- 99 Laundry job
- 100 Ad — attack
- 101 Short opera piece
- 102 Frightful flies
- 104 Greek capital
- 107 Idiosyncrasy
- 108 Stringent
- 109 Hostile party
- 110 Backwoods
- 111 "Isn't — bit like you and me?" (Beatles lyric)
- 112 1955-67 Arkansas governor Faubus
- 113 Subsidizes
- 118 "— the idea"
- 121 Lao- —
- 122 "2001" name
- 123 Rock genre
- 124 Barry or Deighton
- 125 Big-league

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FEATURED LISTINGS

REDUCED **REDUCED** **REDUCED**

- **CATERING AND PROVISIONING BUSINESS! FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY** - Well established, very successful, turn key catering and provisioning business on St. John. Great location, ample parking and long term lease! Financials available. **\$199,000**
- **CAPTAIN'S CABIN!** Established bar and video gambling business in high traffic beachfront location with pot. outdoor seating, long term lease and impressive numbers! Popular local and tourist clientele. Financials available. **\$189,000**
- **A DAYDREAM** - Fantastic views of Coral Bay and beyond from this immac. 3BR 3BA Villa + 1BR 1BA Cottage. Cooling breezes. Spacious covered and uncovered decks w/ pool and hot tub. Ideal for short term rental or owner occupancy w/long term income from cottage. **\$1,295,000**

HOMES

- **PANAORAMIC SUNSETS!** 4 equal A/C BR's w/BA en suite on 2 levels Masonry const. Top of the line finishes. Large pool. **\$2,650,000**
- **DRASTIC REDUCTION!** This popular 3br, 3ba vacation villa with great Caribbean flair has amazing panoramic water views. Now only **\$859,000**.
- **Waterfront** - Beautiful masonry home on 1.37 acres in East End. **ONLY \$999,000!**
- **Cruz Bay** - Enjoy year round sunset views from this multi-unit income producer. **\$1,199,000.**
- **REDUCED! Bonus!** Private well maintained home in Coral Bay with an EXTRA LOT! Only **\$382,500.**
- **REDUCED!** Great value with this 4BR 2BA home. Use as 2 units or keep as 1 home. Large decks w/panoramic views. Only **\$525,000.**

CONDOMINIUMS

- **PRICED TO SELL!** Spacious, immaculate 3br 3ba unit with water views. Finishes include chef's kitchen with bar & granite c/tops/mahog kit cabinets and a/c. Common pool. **\$650,000.**
- **WHY RENT!** New 1BR 1BA with fantastic views and breezes. Priced to sell! Solid masonry construction! A/C in BR. Just **\$289,000.**
- **MASONRY** 1 bedroom 1 bath w/ocean & sunset views. Common roof deck. Walk to town. Just **\$289,000!**
- **SOLD!** Pastory Condos. 2BR 1BA top floor unit. Common pool. Low fees. **\$379,000.**

LAND

- **REDUCED! IMPROVED PARCEL** on Bordeaux Mountain with income producing long term rental and separate foundation/cistern. Live on the parcel while you complete your dream home. This beautiful moderately sloped parcel boasts views to the north and northeast which include Jost Van Dyke and Tortola. **ONLY \$265,000.**
- **WATERFRONT!** 2.1 waterfront acres on Lovangof 420 feet of waterfront! Private location w/unobstructed panoramic views from St. John to St. Thomas. Currently sub-divided into 3 lots, can be 4 lots. Tremendous value! **\$1,300,000.**
- **Waterfront!** A rare opportunity in Privateer Bay. A deal at **\$875,000.**
- **REDUCED! SCUBA DIVING BUSINESS!** With BOAT AND EQUIPMENT. Walk on board and start generating income! **\$189,000.**
- **REDUCED!** Very successful, established catering/provisioning business **\$199,000.**
- **REDUCED!** Bar and video gambling business - Top location, **\$189,000**

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"Casa de Sonadores" – Luxurious pool villa designed by Michael Oxman and located in the gated, upscale subdivision of Virgin Grande Estates. Sweeping south to westerly views from St. Croix & over Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas ensure great sunsets. Features include custom mahogany cabinets, doors & windows, coral stone floors throughout, pool & spa, game & media room & fine furnishings. **\$3.25M**



"Glucksberg Gazebo" Wooded lot with large trees & a nifty large gazebo type structure with hip roof, screened walls & sturdy floor. A great spot for gardening. All wood is pressure treated, rafters are oversized 2 x 12, joints & footers are lag bolted & Hurricane ties at the rafters. Included in sale are new 90 watt solar panel system with charge regulator and 1200 watt inverter. All this for just **\$169,000**



"Someday Isle" is a well built, custom pool villa in a lush, tropical setting with great views overlooking Coral Bay & the Sir Frances Drake Channel. A popular rental villa, the main level has a well-equipped kitchen, cozy living area & large covered outdoor dining area with unobstructed views & cooling tradewinds. The 3 bedrooms are private & feature en suite baths. The lower level bedroom is a stand alone studio apt. **\$1.399M**



Dual water views of both Great Cruz Bay and Chocolate Hole from this oversized 1.03 acre parcel with a very gentle grade allowing easy access and building. Popular rental area with paved roads & close to Cruz Bay town location. Established HOA with deeded beach access to Chocolate Hole and Hart Bay beaches. Enjoy both sunrise and sunset as well as cool easterly tradewind breezes. Just listed at **\$695,000**



"Home Port" - This small cottage is located in Estate Hansen Bay on St. John's quiet East End and has terrific views north over Long Bay, west to Rams Head and south to St. Croix. The cottage is on the lower section of the lot with a large, level site for a main house above. Other features include end of the road privacy, solar power and mature plants with a drip watering system. Included are deeded rights to a common waterfront parcel with dock. **\$675,000.**



"The Retreat" - Perfect privacy & spectacular ocean views are the heart of "The Retreat's" natural appeal. Its 3 pavilions are grouped around a beautifully landscaped courtyard with pool & hot tub. Every room enjoys an ocean view with a panorama of Sir Francis Drake Channel. Two equal, air-conditioned king bedroom/bath suites with additional sleeping lofts flank the main pavilion. A trail provides access to a sandy swimming beach. **\$1.595M.**



"Sundance & Moonson" - Two houses for the price of one in desirable Estate Chocolate Hole. Both Sundance and Moonson are successful short term rentals within walking distance to Hart Bay beach and just a few minutes from Cruz Bay on paved roads. Sundance is 3 bedrooms with a pool & spa with a large sundeck. Moonson is 2 bedrooms 2 baths with a spa. **\$1,495,000**



"Bordeaux Mountain House" enjoys a spectacular mountain top location with cooling breezes, exceptional views, privacy and tranquility, yet this custom designed villa is only a short ride to Cruz Bay, Coral Bay and the north shore National Park Beaches. This gated estate residence includes an elegant stone and masonry main house plus a large guest house, pool and spa all on level terrain. Finest quality construction throughout and terrific BVI views. MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE! **\$2.495M**



"Carolina Cottage" - Really cute 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 parking area. Partial furnishings included. A nice location close to Coral Bay with large deck and room to expand or add a pool. There is a laundry room on the lower level and space to add another bedroom. **\$575,000.**

DEVELOPMENT/COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES: Estate Pastory - Perfect deal for a spec home builder - 3 lots for the price of one at just **\$375,000.** Hansen Bay 7A is an 18 acre parcel with studies done and a 15 lot sub division permit. All lots have water views and breezes and 4 lots are on the flat top of a ridge with almost 360 degree views. Just reduced from **\$3.18M to \$2.99M.** Estate Zootenvaal 20 acres over looking the marine preserve at Bork Creek just east of Coral Bay **\$7M.** Adjoining 5 acre parcel with 4 cottages and white sand beach also available. **NEW - Five Acres Above Newfound Bay** - Make an Offer. One acre subdividable parcel on Bordeaux Mt. with great views for **\$1.1M.** Just reduced again - beautiful lot with BVI & Coral Bay views now just **\$169,000**

"Glucksberg Cottage" - Why pay rent when you can own and produce income with this apartment/studio duplex. Good neighborhood, quiet area, only five minutes to town and walking distance to Pine Peace School. Property is non-conforming. **\$280,000.**

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SEASCAPE – Fabulous location on Bovacap Point! Spacious 2 bd main house w/lap pool & spa, plus a separate caretaker's cottage. Panoramic views, privacy & successful vacation rental. **\$1,095,000.**



A BEST BUY! – Well built, poured concrete cottage w/ lovely covered wrap-around porch. Fully finished interior, tile floors, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, flat lot for gardening & concrete slab in place for future garage & expansion. Only **\$349,000.**

CBR HOME LISTINGS

GOLDEN DRAGON – Beautiful stone villa w/exceptional craftsmanship. 4 bds/4 baths, infinity pool, multi patios & decks, lush gardens, Pt. Rendezvous location. **Reduced to \$1,925,000.**

LIZARD HILL – A one of a kind villa, high above Cinnamon Bay & surrounded by Nat'l Pk. land. Enjoy the exclusive privacy, views to die for, gorgeous gardens, & easy access from this 3 bd/3 bath, with pool & caretaker's cottage nestled on over 1 acre in Catherineberg. **\$3,100,000.**

BLUE TANG – Charming, turnkey, rental villa in Great Cruz Bay. Privacy, vibrant sunsets, 60' covered deck overlooking sunny pool, 2 bd/2 baths, great kitchen, excellent floor plan, & terrific location. **\$1,295,000.**

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY – Apt. building w/adjacent parcels in Cruz Bay, newly renovated & well maintained. Only **\$490,000.**

WATERFRONT with DOCK – Masonry 3 bed/2bath home on lg. flat lot, with direct access to Fish Bay at your doorstep. Now only **\$920,000.**

AURORA – Enjoy 180 views, from Great Cruz to St. Thomas, from this masonry 4 bd/ 4 bath villa in Contant Pt. Great privacy, pool, multiple outdoor patios, excellent vacation rental history. **\$1,995,000.**

VILLA ROMANCE – New, exquisitely crafted, luxury villa, features a 30' pool in a tropical courtyard setting, 4 private bed/bath suites, chef's kitchen, A/C, gated entry & custom details throughout. All the bells & whistles for **\$2,150,000.**

GREAT EXPECTATIONS – 7 bd/7.5 baths, 2 swimming pools, 2 hot tubs, tennis court, walk to Chocolate Hole beach, impressive vacation rental history. **\$2,999,500.**

CHEZ SHELL – Charming 3 bd/3 bath, w/ gorgeous sunset views & prime Great Cruz location. Fully furnished decor, wrap-around porch, A/C, custom cabinetry, inviting spa & excellent floor plan. **\$999K.**

CALYPSO del SOL – Successful rental villa w/excellent Chocolate Hole views, 3 bd/bath suites, A/C, newer masonry construction, beautiful pool & hot tub, terrific lg. screened porch. **\$1,950,000.**

REDUCED! – Well built Bordeaux Mt. home w/ 3 bd/2 bath, lg. covered porch, southerly views, lg. trees, very gentle slope, room for expansion. **\$525,000.**

CHOCOLATEHOLE – Unique ruins of 1700's Great House, with a 1960's home on a beautiful 1.42 acre lot. **\$799,000.**

POINT RENDEZVOUS – Newer masonry villa w/easterly views to Ram Head, 3 bd, 2 baths, lg. covered deck, spa, vacation rental history, room for expansion. **\$1,595,000.**

REDUCED! REEF BAY VIEW – Absolutely stunning easterly views of the Nat'l. Pk. & cooling tradewinds, can be yours. 4 bd/3 bath, pool, spa, rental history. **\$1,395,000.**

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.**

CONTRACTED

STONE HOUSE – Spectacular Coral Bay views, 3 bd/ 3 baths, gorgeous stonework, covered rotunda, freemform pool, vacation rental history, easy access. **\$1,620,000.**

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

CBR BUSINESS LISTINGS

JOE'S DINER – St. John's oldest restaurant is looking for a new owner. Serving breakfast, lunch & drinks since 1972, and located in the center of Cruz Bay. Call CBR.

FABRIC MILL – Very successful Mongoose Junction business, est. 1982. \$150,000 includes inventory, equipment, & owner will train.

SILVER IGUANA – Beachfront shop w/eclectic collection of sterling silver jewelry & locally crafted gifts. **\$75,000.**

CBR CONDO LISTINGS

LAVENDER HILL – Tropical 2 bd/2bath penthouse unit w/wrap-around deck, pool & sunset views. **\$849,000.**

BETHANY CONDO – 2 bd/2 bath unit with pool & sunset views. **\$475,000.**

CONTRACTED

CRUZ VIEWS CONDO – Nice 2 bedroom unit w/full A/C, sunset views, common pool, good rental history. **\$475,000.**

SELENE'S – Ideal in town location, w/parking, for living/ rental or business. Terrific views. **Reduced to \$399K!**

CBR LAND LISTINGS

LUSH BORDEAUX MT. parcels w/views. **\$150K–\$285K.**

SUNSET VIEWS – close to town, easy build. Only **\$215K.**

LOTS TO CHOOSE FROM in Fish Bay – Starting at **\$108K.**

KLEIN BAY – Prestigious area w/common beach. **\$675K.**

SIDE-BY-SIDE flat parcels in Johnston Bay – **\$220K ea.**

CAROLINA, EDEN, CALABASH – Nice selection of affordable parcels. Starting at **\$99K.**

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

GLUCKSBERG – Gentle grade, 1/2 ac., lg. trees. **\$125K.**

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

GREAT CRUZ BAY – Prime 1.05 acre site w/fantastic harbor views & architectural plans. **A steal at \$595K.**

WATERFRONT on MONTE BAY – Spectacular 13.44 ac. site, ideal for private estate or subdivision. **\$2,900,000.**

AFFORDABLE PARCELS – in Est. Grunwald & Adrian. Easy building sites, close to town. Starting at **\$89,000. Call Today!**

BANK OWNED PARCELS – Chocolate Hole, priced to sell! **\$261,500 & 235,000. GREAT BUYS!**

DITLEFF POINT – Extraordinary sites on magnificent peninsula w/sandy beach, gated entry, beautiful landscaping, and incredible views. Prices start at **\$695,000.**

PT. RENDEZVOUS – Outstanding views. **\$415K.**

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\$1,649,000

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\$1,500,000

"PELICAN'S PERCH" a charming, gated masonry & stone West Indian style (3x2) villa features bi-level covered and open decks overlooking a pool, plus a separate 1x1 guest cottage. Fabulous south shore water views!

\$1,295,000

"CASA YAYA" - Big-view villa on top the world in Coral Bay. 3 bdrm, 2 bath one level living w/ the BVI at your front door. Entertain by the infinity-edge pool and enjoy the indoor/outdoor great room with dramatic views from every room.

\$1,200,000

"PARADISE ON THE ROCKS" Tropical living, big views & masonry home centrally-located on Ajax Peak. Two units: - 2 bedrooms, 2 baths & Great Room upstairs; private entry 1 bedroom apartment downstairs. Rent one, live in the other!

\$1,165,000

"SEAVIEW" vacation villa. Charming 4 Bedroom, masonry home in excellent condition with large pool in convenient Chocolate Hole with deeded rights to two nearby beaches.

\$1,150,000

"WALK TO BRUNCH & BEACH plus ENJOY SOOTHING SURF SOUND" from this unique, masonry & stone custom crafted, gated villa with panoramic water views. Flexible floorplan features 4 bdrms plus cottage.

\$1,100,000

"TREE HOUSE" offers spectacular views from Upper Carolina's ridge top. This gentle parcel features a 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home which is bordered by National Park.

\$685,000

"VILLA MOLLO" A nature lovers dream, walk to 2 beaches! 3BR/2BA villa sits on the water's edge of a salt pond and features custom stone and wood work a n d amazing Caribbean views.

\$595,000

"CONCH VILLAS": Why pay rent? Opportunity to own a 2br, 1ba &/or a 1br, 1ba condo close to Cruz Bay! Purchase one for yourself and stop throwing money away on rent or purchase both for additional income.

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- "FISH BAY"** Views, breezes and paved access **CONTRACTED**
- "LEAST EXPENSIVE WATERFRONT"** Gentle slope, 4 min. walk to beach **\$ 285,000**
- "SUGAR APPLE WEST"** Harbor views gentle 1/2 ac. with Topo **\$ 299,000**
- "CONTANT"** lot with Great Cruz Harbor View. Owner Realtor **CONTRACTED**
- "CALABASH BOOM"** .4 ac. GREAT views, private. Topo map **\$ 475,000**
- "BOATMAN POINT WATERFRONT"** Sunset Views and Gentle Site. **\$ 1,095,000**

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- "NORTHSHORE PROPERTIES"** Peter Bay & Hawksnest/Denis Bay exquisite home sites with breathtaking views over the North Shore, BVI & many cays in between. Call for a tour today. Call for Prices
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PRICE SLASHED FOR NORTH SHORE! Cinnamon Day Dreams, 3 BR/2.5BA, in Nat'l Pk boundaries in Catherineberg. 1 acre. Rare offering at \$1,795,000.

CVISTA Magnificent open air 4 bdrm villa above Rendezvous Bay. Stunning residence exudes comfort, class and elegance. \$3,895,000

NEW! "MILES AWAY" Immaculate 2BR, 2.5 BA masonry villa w/ pool, successful short term rental, in prestigious Point Rendezvous. \$1,450,000

NEW! IXORA on Ajax Peak, bordered by Nat'l. Pk, adjacent to North Shore beach access, 3 pavilions linked by decks and walkways, lap pool, 5 bdrms. \$1,700,000

UNBEATABLE VALUE! ALLESANDRA Luxurious masonry villa, renovated in 2007, views of 3 bays, 3BR/3BA, 2 car garage **REDUCED TO \$1,769,000**

HOMES

AMANI Spectacular 180° views, prestigious Maria Bluff, 3BR/3BR in the main building, plus guest cottage \$1,795,000

RAINBOW PLANTATION A private, family estate house on 1.6 acres. Features one of the largest private pools on St. John (w/diving board & wet bar). **PRICE REDUCED \$1,095,000**

AMARILLA VILLA 3 BR/3.5BA villa, superior craftsmanship, Spanish tile roof, 180° views, pool & hot tub \$2,595,000

MAMEY PEAK 1.05 acres, 1x1 Main House and 1x1 Guest Cottage. Flat slope and stunning views. One of a kind fixer upper!!! \$795,000

MILL RIDGE Attention to detail, Classic Caribbean architecture, masonry 2 bedroom, 2 bath, office/3rd bedroom, garage & pool. \$1,595,000

WATERFRONT RETREAT Privateer Bay. 3BR/3BA casual beach house steps from the water. Paved roads & u/g utilities. \$975,000

AMOROSA A brilliant Tuscan inspired villa in Peter Bay. Sweeping views, deeded walking path to the beach, 4BR/5BA. Live webcam & virtual tour at americanparadise.com \$7,450,000

UNBELIEVABLE NEW PRICE FOR BLUE HEAVEN! Cute Caribbean home overlooking Rendezvous Bay. Popular vacation rental. 3BR/3BA. \$527,000

VILLA TESORI Luxurious custom home, uncompromising quality, exquisite finishings, sweeping views. 5 bedrooms, 5 baths. \$4,250,000

MYSTIC RIDGE 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath, dramatic views, short distance to North Shore beaches, cooling breezes \$1,990,000.

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NEW IN CAROLINA Masonry 2x2 main house with 2x1 lower apt & separate cottage. Complete solar systems. Paved driveway, valley views. \$600,000

FUN & CONTENTMENT 180° views. Tiled pool deck, 2 large AC. suites & mahogany hardwoods. Plans for 3 more bdrms. \$1,235,000

NEW! Income producing 2 unit in Chocolate Hole. Large flat yard, walking distance to Chocolate Hole Beach. \$875,000

ZOOTENVAAL! Newly built multi unit tasteful masonry home sited on 1.36 FLAT acres. Expand or subdivide. Private with large yard. \$925,000

SUSANNABERG! New masonry home on FLAT lot plus separate rental cottage. Borders Nat'l Park. \$750,000

BAREFOOT New 2BR/1.5BA cottage in quaint neighborhood. \$599,000.

SOLAR POWERED BED & BREAK-FAST! "Garden By The Sea" is a quaint Caribbean home. Spacious owners' apartment & 3 income producing A/C units. \$1,800,000.

NEW! Caribbean cottage in Carolina, that currently caters to short term rental guests. Price includes adjacent vacant lot for expansion. \$599,000

NEW IN CAROLINA! Beautiful, peaceful mostly flat parcel with end of road privacy. Masonry 3x2 upper unit and 1x1 lower unit. \$750,000

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Artist Kat Sowa Unveiling Island Elder Portraits at Banzhaf Gallery February 4

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

St. John painter Kat Sowa is going back to her portraiture roots and taking the opportunity to honor esteemed island elders.

Sowa, who has called St. John home for more than two decades, has recently been spending winters in the Pacific Northwest, not the ideal location for the plein air landscape work she has been focusing on lately. Sowa has also been asked to once again paint the evocative faces for which she was once known, explained the artist.

"I worked as a portrait artist for many years and then I got away from it and starting doing a lot of plein air and outdoor painting," said Sowa. "In recent years people have asked me to do portraits again and I thought the best way to get back into that would be to paint people I love."

It didn't take Sowa long to find inspiration.

"I've lived on St. John for 25 years and I love the island and the community," she said. "There are a lot of elders who have touched my life directly and indirectly who have done a lot of great things for the community."

Sowa is unveiling the first two paintings in her Island Elder series at an opening reception at Michael Banzhaf Gallery on Friday, February 4, from 4 to 6 p.m. While the show will also feature Sowa's plein air and landscape painting body of work, portraits of Ruth "Sis" Frank and Guy Benjamin are sure to be huge hits.

The artist was inspired by Frank, the founder of the St. John School of the Arts, both as an artist and as a teacher.

"Sis and I weren't very close, but she was always a part of the art community," said Sowa. "She was a huge supporter of the arts and she inspired me as a woman, as a leader, as an artist and as a teacher."

No one loves St. John more than Benjamin, an esteemed island educator for whom the Coral Bay elementary school is named, Sowa

"Guy Benjamin is a very significant teacher and is someone who just genuinely loves St. John and all the people who live there. I wanted to honor him."

— Artist Kat Sowa

explained.

"Guy Benjamin is a very significant teacher and is someone who just genuinely loves St. John and all the people who live there," said Sowa. "I wanted to honor him."

Sowa was able to take photographs of Benjamin when she was on island in the fall and was loaned images of Frank for inspiration, she explained.

"When I was on St. John in the fall, I was able to spend time with Guy Benjamin and he was so excited that I was going to paint him," said the artist. "I took some photographs and worked from those. When I came back to Oregon, I found out that Sis had passed and I knew I wanted to honor her."

"I found out that [St. John School of the Arts director] Jan Kinder had some really great images of Sis and I asked if I could use them," said Sowa. "So it's just something that really felt right."

The portraits of Frank and Benjamin are not for sale but Sowa is confident they will end up in the right locations.

"The other body of work, the new landscapes, in the show are for sale, but the two portraits of the elders are not for sale," said Sowa. "It's more of an act and how I could honor these two very important people. I'm confident that they will find their way home, wherever they belong."

Stop by the Michael Banzhaf Gallery on Friday, February 4, from 4 to 6 p.m. to see Sowa's latest works. Her paintings will be on display for the month. For more information call the gallery at 779-4005.

"Sis and I weren't very close, but she was always a part of the art community. She was a huge supporter of the arts and she inspired me as a woman, as a leader, as an artist and as a teacher."

— Artist Kat Sowa

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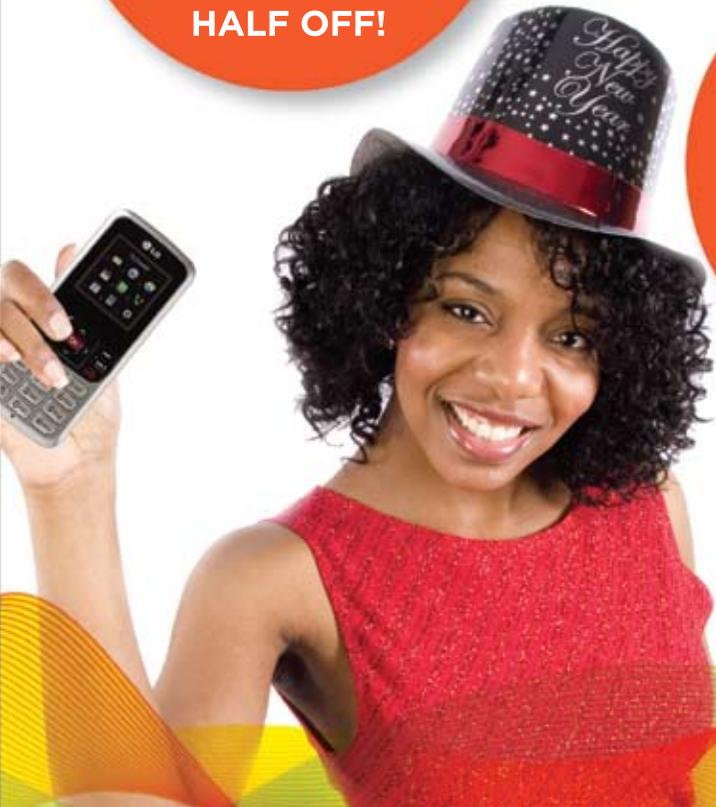
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