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TRADEWINDS

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



With Renovations on Time, Library To Reopen in February

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Surly Cantina Mexican Eatery at Wharfside

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Thomas Oat

Holiday Spirit at GBS

Guy Benjamin School fourth graders proudly display their reindeer puppets at the school's annual Christmas program. The program attracted scores of parents and friends to Coral Bay on Friday, December 19. **Story on Page 2.**



Coral Bay Tree Lighting and Carol Sing Brings Neighborhoods

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Sussman Donates for Telemedicine

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

Students, teachers, faculty, family and friends gathered on GBS's playground, above, for the annual show.

GBS Teachers Take Crowd to 1970s During Christmas Program Finale

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Guy Benjamin School teachers donned afro wigs and beads as they strutted their stuff to 1970s music during the finale of the school's annual Christmas program on Friday morning, December 19.

Students in kindergarten through sixth grade shared Christmas carols and holiday-themed skits with family and friends in the playground behind the small Coral Bay public school during the annual program.

Highlights of the show included the GBS choir's rousing renditions of "Silver Bells," "Look Over Yonder" and "Feliz Navided," and the transitional class' Caribbean-themed "12 Days of Christmas."

Third graders shared stories of what students should not do at Christmas time if they want presents during their song "I'm Getting Nothing for Christmas."

First graders shared a story about the "Littlest Christmas Tree" while kindergartners serenaded the crowd and pointed out students who have helped them in so far this year. GBS fourth graders sang a variety of holiday tunes from "Jingle Bells" to "Deck the Halls."



Kindergarten students, above, thanked individual people who helped them so far this year.

Students in sixth grade shared a tale about being true to oneself before singing "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer." Fifth graders sang a beautiful rendition of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

After the students' performanc-

es, it was time for the teachers to put on their show. Always a delight for the crowd, GHS teachers and faculty did not disappoint them this year. Wearing outrageous outfits from the decade, the teachers showed off their best disco moves to the sounds of 70s tunes.



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Department of Tourism Unveils New Mocko Jumbie Logo

St. John Tradewinds

The U.S. Virgin Islands introduced the next generation of branding for the territory with the unveiling of a new logo — the Mocko Jumbie.

The launch of the Mocko Jumbie is the first step in a rollout of the destination's new branding and marketing materials to debut in 2009.

"We decided it was time to adapt to the changing marketplace and develop a new logo and branding that truly represents the U.S. Virgin Islands and symbolizes the unscripted vacation experience that comes with having three very distinct islands and a variety of unique experiences to choose from," said Department of Tourism Commissioner Beverly Nicholson-Doty. "The Mocko Jumbie character symbolizes the vibrancy of our people and our culture, while the stars represent the enchanting and individual spirits of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John."

As a result of September 11, 2001, the Department of Tourism focused its communication efforts on the familiarity of the U.S. Virgin Islands for Americans with a logo depicting a stylized US flag and the words "America's Caribbean."

Following months of rigorous market research and focus group sessions conducted by Atlanta-based advertising agency J. Walter Thompson, the Department of Tourism learned that while the "American" aspects of the islands remains important to consumers, what is more compelling are the wide range of experiences available, the balance between opportunities for interaction versus seclusion and the natural beauty of the islands.

The logo is the first step in a larger brand repositioning for the territory which is designed to highlight the "unscripted Caribbean experience" offered in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The branding transition will culminate in January 2009, when all of the new branding elements will be used together for the first time with the launch of a new website for the Department of Tourism.

The new logo will soon begin appearing in a number of high-profile publications while branded materials and all marketing communication will incorporate the new logo following the website introduction.

For more information about the USVI, visit usvitourism.vi. When traveling to the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. citizens enjoy all the conveniences of domestic travel — including on-line check-in — making travel to the territory easier than ever.

As a United States territory, travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands does not require a passport from U.S. citizens arriving from Puerto Rico or the U.S. mainland. Entry requirements for non-U.S. citizens are the same as for entering the United States from any foreign destination. Upon departure, a passport is required for all but U.S. citizens.

Wright Teaches Art at STJ Montessori

St. John Tradewinds

Local artist Denise Wright taught students at the St. John Montessori School the layering technique last week as she volunteered at the new Coral Bay school.

Students utilized the free form art technique to create holiday gifts for family and friends, and had fun with the visiting artist, explained school director and teacher Debra Polluci.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!

Tradewinds will **NOT** be publishing an issue Monday, December 29, 2008



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Jaime Elliott

A crowd of Coral Bay neighbors gathered to celebrate the holiday season, above.



St. John educator Guy Benjamin, above center, was surrounded by friends at the annual show.



George January, above right, lit the Christmas tree. Children enjoyed the festivities, above left, and tested Santa's beard to make sure it was real, at right.



A Lasting Tradition, Coral Bay Tree Lighting, and Carol Sing Joins Neighborhoods Together

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Just as they have been for decades, Coral Bay residents gathered last week to celebrate the holiday season and raise their voices together in Christmas carols.

Residents from Bordeaux to Mandahl came out to the Coral Bay basketball court on Wednesday evening, December 17, for the annual community tree lighting and sing-along.

Joan Thomas took over emceeing duties this year from usual host Alvis Christian who is recovering from an illness. Christian did attend the festivities and Thomas, sharing quips and jokes that kept the crowd in stitches, did a fine job while filling some pretty big shoes.

George January, with a little

help from his wife Eirleen and Thomas, plugged in the lights on the Christmas tree to start the program to cheers from the crowd.

In addition to singing Christmas classics like "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear," the audience was treated to history lessons about the origins of the sing-along from such luminaries as esteemed St. John educator Guy Benjamin, January and Edmund Roberts.

Emmanuel Matthias, a fisherman who used to set up a campfire, cook and share his catch with everyone, actually started the tradition, explained Roberts.

"We used to get together this time of year and Matthias would bring the food and we'd all sing," Roberts.

Coral Bay elder statesmen Ben-

jamin, the Januarys and Roberts ensured the tradition continued and today many residents don't feel like it's Christmas time until they gather with friends and family at the Coral Bay basketball court.

"This is my favorite Christmas event," said Pam Gaffin. "I've been coming ever since I moved to Coral Bay 14 years ago. I love it because it's neighborhoods integrating with neighborhoods, kids playing and everyone doing the things that Christmas is all about."

"It doesn't feel like Christmas on St. John until I do this and go see the St. John singers," said Pam Dolson.

Coral Bay Community Council president Sharon Coldren helped make sure the night was a success by organizing volunteers and spearheading a toy drive so

no child would go home empty handed.

"This is a long-standing Coral Bay tradition to get everyone together this time of year," said Coldren. "We're just happy to help and make sure it continues."

In addition to the various neighborhoods, Calvary Baptist Church, Emmaus Moravian Church, Skinny Legs and the St. John Montessori School were also represented.

Just as the notes of the last Christmas carol were fading, a fire siren alerted the children to the imminent arrival of Santa Claus, riding in with some help from his friends at the Coral Bay fire station. Shrieks of excitement filled the air as Santa distributed a gift to each child, and took some last-minute changes to Christmas wish lists.

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Solutions Found, Agreements Made at VIPA Meeting

By Susan Mann
St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Legislature building in Cruz Bay was packed to standing room only capacity Wednesday evening, December 17, as V.I. Port Authority officials formally addressed the local and international boating concerns of charter operators.

Boating interests were especially concerned about how businesses could legally and safely allow passengers to disembark on St. John shores after returning from the British Virgin Islands.

Inter Island Boat Service representative Sara Puterbaugh first contacted the office of Delegate to Congress Donna Christensen — who arranged the meeting — when the matter reached a critical point in early October.

That is when Puterbaugh received a letter from the U.S. Coast Guard informing officials that Inter Island boats, which provide ferry service to the BVI, were docking illegally at the Creek, formally called the Victor W. Sewer Marine Facility.

“We all leave out of the Creek and we were told it was not a secure facility,” said Puterbaugh. “We can’t take people to the other dock, it is too high and people will fall.”

Since October, charter boat operators have been receiving warning letters from the USCG, informing them that they will be fined unless they comply with federal regulations for international travel. Commercial operators who take passengers out of the country must pick up and drop off guests at USCG-approved docks.

“Can’t you work with us, and have pa-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

The Cruz Bay Creek, above, is not an authorized area for commercial vessels to pick up passengers for international travel.

“We all leave out of the Creek and we were told it was not a secure facility?” asked Puterbaugh.

While the entire territory’s tourism industry has been significantly impacted by Department of Homeland Security regulations passed after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the mainland, St. John faces a unique set of problems with its proximity to the BVI.

There are inconsistencies with security check points, according to meeting attendees, as many people complained that any vehicle or passenger leaving St. John could be carrying explosives or other dangerous

materials.

“I have no monopoly on keeping America safe,” said USCG Captain Eduardo Pino, Commander of the Sector San Juan. “Vessels must clear customs to prevent even one terrorist from finding a way to clear customs. What will happen to the industry if even one thing such as this happens?”

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials have made many state-of-the-art changes on St. John, according to CBP Director of Field Operations for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands Marellino Borges.

“We will work with the Port Authority

and use their plan, and their plan will be safe,” said Borges. “We have these regulations so illegals cannot disembark.”

Illegal aliens, however, don’t often come through the ports, according to one member of the audience.

“They don’t come in at the ports,” said Dan Boyd. “They come in along the beaches.”

Local boaters are the ones who are getting a bad break because of the regulations, according to Boyd.

“A lot of us are being left out of the process,” Boyd said. “We just want to use our ocean waters. I started writing letters about this eight years ago.”

VIPA Director Kenn Hobsen assured everyone that the authority would “have the infrastructure in place within the next two months” to help charter businesses continue operations.

While letters warning of possible fines have been sent out, no one has been fined to date, according to a representative of the USCG’s St. Thomas detachment.

The USCG is, however, required to continue the investigations in spite of any progress made on an appropriate plan.

Pino granted Puterbaugh and other charter boat operators permission to work out a temporary disembarkation procedure at the Creek so passengers won’t be forced to continue to buy tickets there, then walk through the streets of Cruz Bay to board vessels at the Cruz Bay ferry dock.

St. John residents will be kept informed as the agencies and officials work together on a plan to bring the Creek into compliance, Hobsen added.

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Woman Breaks Sternum in Car Accident

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Long time St. John snow bird Jean Mason was seriously injured when her vehicle and a dump truck collided on Sunday evening, December 14, in the Estate Pastory area on Centerline Road.

Mason was evaluated and sta-

bilized at Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center before being transported to R.L. Schneider Hospital on St. Thomas. Once in the hospital on St. Thomas, Mason was treated for a broken sternum and cuts to her head. After spending 24 hours at the hospital for

observation, Mason was released. She is currently being cared for by close friends.

While it remained unclear what exactly caused the accident, there were reports last week that the dump truck which collided with Mason's vehicle was speeding.



Jean Mason was driving this Jeep Cherokee when it was in a collision with a dump truck Road near Estate Pastory.

Beautification Planning Process for Creek Nearly Completed

By Andrea Milam
St. John Tradewinds

Eighteen months after the V.I. Port Authority selected deJongh Associates to plan the beautification of the Cruz Bay Creek, the master planning process is coming to a close and officials expect planning to be completed by the end of January.

Although there have not been any public meetings with the people of St. John during the planning process, there will be a hearing once the plan is drafted, explained VIPA spokesperson Marc Stridiron.

"Once we have a draft of the plan, then we'll have public meetings to receive input," said Stridiron. "The input will come before implementation of the plan."

A committee of St. John residents has been advising deJongh Associates and VIPA throughout the planning process, according to Stridiron.

The VIPA spokesperson did not release any specifics regarding what the Creek will eventually be used for.

"We don't really have any details to put out there before the report is compiled and released," said Stridiron.

Part of deJongh Associates' proposal includes plans for expansion of the existing dock. The cost for the planning stage alone is nearly \$75,000.

The VIPA-owned Creek has been used for everything from parking to docking to repairing boats since barge traffic moved to the Enighed Pond Marine Facility in April 2006.



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St. John Toy Drive Wrapping Party at St. John Brewers



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by MaLinda Nelson

Volunteers gathered at St. John Brewers in Mongoose Junction on Monday night, December 15, to wrap presents collected through the annual St. John Toy Drive.

Wha's Happ'nin' by Sis Frank

Speeding Trucks Make Our Roads Dangerous

St. St. John Tradewinds

Jean Mason's accident was frightening, but she is recuperating nicely with Maia and Henry. A dump truck creamed the whole side of her car. If Helen Simon's police improvement committee fails to control the crazy speeding, we citizens are planning a march against traffic violations!

Kevin Smith Returns From Stateside Hospital to Another Operation on St. Thomas

Poor Kevin — another infection appeared, but today's report was a good one — so please get rid of those germs! Our best wishes go out to you, Donna and Daniel.

Did a Man Jump Off the Ferry?

Or did someone dream up this latest event?

Vehicle Inspection Lane Is Highly Organized

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Special Birthdays of the Month

Henry Mongie, Tony Palmer, Rudy Wells, Bente Hirsch, Andrew Cameron, Dale Harrigan and Ezzius Ashly — to name a few — Happy Birthday to the old-timers and the nine-year-old!

JESS, Cancryn and Guy Benjamin Schools' Music Departments "Make Us One"

It was a morning of Christmas songs and band

pieces played to a full house at the Sprauve cafeteria. The calypso rhythms kept everyone moving to the beat. This is the first annual "Make Us One" Christmas program for the three schools. The children and visitors had a ball. Lunch was served to all.

A Million Thanks to Donor Who Supported Telemedicine

I am indebted to this man and Dr. Roy Flood of St. Thomas and Dr. DeJames of our clinic. They all communicated with Dr. Mercedes Dullum at the Cleveland Clinic in Weston, Florida, when I became ill with heart trouble. This kind donor flew me to Florida for an immediate bypass operation and I am back on St. John enjoying every day! There must be other patients, but maybe I'm the guinea-pig. I also know that Margie Labrenz is a patient of Dr. Dullum's.

That caring man is Donald Sussman. (I hope it's all right to mention his name — it was in the *Daily News*.)

Elaine Estern is Made of Steel

She has thrown her cane away and can be seen swimming in Frank Bay daily (with the dogs, naturally).

Beautiful Weather for the Holidays

Those of you visiting in the states will freeze — you should have stayed here in Paradise.

Merry, Merry and Compliments of the Season to All!

Caribbean's First Telemedicine Technology Coming to St. John

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

St. John residents with health problems will soon have the ability to consult with medical specialists from the renowned Cleveland Clinic — without even leaving the island.

Thanks to assistance from the St. John Rotary Club and contributions from Donald Sussman, telemedicine with digital conferencing to Cleveland Clinic physicians both in Ohio and Weston, Florida, will become a reality at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center next month.

Once the project becomes official in early January, telemedicine capabilities will be up and running in only a couple of weeks, according to MKSCHC Administrator Harold Wallace, who has been working on the project for almost a year.

"We're ordering the equipment and once it gets here, it only takes two weeks to put together," Wallace said. "This is all about increasing medical access here on St. John and improving efficiency so people don't have to travel to St. Thomas or to the states so much for services. Telemedicine will do this through a virtual office."

"It will provide us the opportunity to have specialists on island without them actually moving here," said Wallace.

Cardiology, dermatology, advanced gynecology, spine and perioperative visits, pediatric neurology, psychology and psychiatry will initially be available through telemedicine at MKSCHC, and more fields will become available in the future.

"A lot of telemedicine is evaluation but



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

(L to R) MKSCHC Administrator Harold Wallace, St. John Rotary outgoing president Joan Bermingham and philanthropist Donald Sussman.

we're going to expand on that and really see how far we can go and how much we can do with telemedicine," said Wallace.

Far from just talking to a doctor on a screen, telemedicine at the St. John health center will allow physicians in Florida to conduct a range of procedures, Wallace added.

"The equipment consists of high-tech digital instruments so the specialist in Florida can listen to your heart beat, look in your ears, even see the tiny hairs in your nose, all through the virtual office," he said.

A patient will set up an appointment at MKSCHC which will arrange for a specialist from Cleveland Clinic to be available as

well. Either a nurse or physician at the health clinic will set up the equipment in St. John and the Cleveland Clinic doctor will be able to evaluate the patient from Florida, Wallace explained.

MKSCHC's exclusive three-year contract with Cleveland Clinic is the first of its kind in the entire Caribbean region.

"This has not been done in the Eastern Caribbean," said the health center administrator. "This is really very exciting. MKSCHC will serve as a pilot program for the entire region."

"It's cutting edge technology which is taking everything from analog to digital," Wal-

lace said.

Telemedicine will radically change the face of health care on St. John, according to outgoing St. John Rotary Club president Joan Bermingham.

"This project is going to revolutionize health care on island for people who live here and for our tourists who come here and have a health emergency while on vacation," Bermingham said. "People won't need to leave. People will have a place to go to understand what's wrong with them."

The possibility of consulting with specialists is especially exciting for the island's elder residents, from aging St. Johnians to snow birds who call St. John home for the winter, Bermingham explained.

"This will have a huge effect for older people who live here," she said. "A lot of people leave because they aren't comfortable with level of care. Now that won't be an issue."

The local rotary club was honored to be able to play a role in the project, according to the outgoing president.

"Rotary was able to match the idea of telemedicine with the funding to get the project going," said Bermingham. "We're very proud to have been able to be involved with this. It's a big accomplishment."

"We greatly appreciate Donald Sussman being willing to finance this project to become a viable option here on St. John," Bermingham said.

Working with Cleveland Clinic thoracic surgeon Dr. Mercedes Dullum, Wallace expects to host an official telemedicine kickoff sometime in January, he explained.

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V.I. Sex Offender Registry Should Be Open To Public Within Year's Time

By Andrea Milam
St. John Tradewinds

By this time next year, the Virgin Islands may not be such a nice place for sex offenders to hide.

The territory's sex offender registry will finally be easily accessible to the general public, and the V.I. Department of Justice will have stepped up its efforts to ensure sex offenders comply with the law requiring them to re-register each year.

First, thanks to a nearly \$200,000 grant from the Sex Offender Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking Office of the U.S. Department of Justice, the V.I. DOJ has plans to develop a special unit to work with local law enforcement agencies to verify those offenders who are registered, and to track down those who have evaded the required yearly registration.

Developing Special Unit

"Part of the grant money assists with the development of a special unit to share information on non-compliant offenders, and to help us actively verify the names and addresses of offenders who have registered, to make sure they are residing where they say they are, and to make sure they aren't residing within the vicinity of a school or day care facility," said V.I. DOJ spokesperson Sara Lezama. "Right now there are a lot of holes where people can slip through the cracks, and we need manpower to actually look for these people. It's a lot of knocking on doors and it

unfortunately gets put on the back burner."

Registered sex offenders who do not voluntarily re-register each year could face arrest and jail time.

"There are certainly those offenders who have failed to continue to comply by re-registering annually, and it's obviously difficult to keep track of them," said Lezama. "The idea with the grant is to have a functioning and active sex offender registry board who will work with the local courts, probation and parole to make sure that offenders are registered, and to make sure the registry is being maintained and updated frequently."

Even the best maintained sex offender registry is not much help to the public if access is restricted, however, and in the Virgin Islands, the current law only makes the registry accessible to law enforcement, government agencies and the attorney general.

"The attorney general's authority is required to obtain information regarding a specific individual when necessary for public protection," said Lezama. "Information is disclosed at the discretion of the attorney general."

This varies greatly from the level of public access to sex offender registries in the 50 U.S. states, Puerto Rico and Guam, whose databases are searchable at the U.S. DOJ's national sex offender registry Web site, www.nsopr.gov. That's about to change, how-

ever, thanks to a V.I. DOJ attorney who's been specifically assigned to rewrite the local law.

Rewriting Local Statute

"The local statute is somewhat vague," said Lezama. "Rewriting the statute is a big, big task. It has to be well researched, because we want to be sure we cover all the bases to make sure no offenders slip through the cracks."

Rewriting the statute will help the Virgin Islands come into compliance with requirements outlined by the federal government, which helps fund the maintenance of the territory's registry.

"We're creating a DOJ Web site which will have a direct link to the territory's sex offender registry so it can be accessed by the general public," said Lezama. "Residents will be able to access it from anywhere that has internet. We're in the process of finalizing a contract right now with a Web provider who will set up and maintain the Web site and registry, and we hope to have it up and running within six months to a year."

The local database will eventually be linked with the U.S. DOJ database, Lezama added.

"That's the public access we want," she said. "We'll make things more open and transparent for people, allowing them to be more aware of who their neighbors are and who their kids are around."

Lezama estimated there are less than 20 sex offenders on the Virgin Islands' registry.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

St. John Head Start students and teachers posed with story hour volunteers Miles Stair and Heather Ruhsam, and Magnolia.

Head Start Students Enjoy A Special Holiday Story Hour

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

St. John Head Start students got an early Christmas treat on Thursday, December 18, when Heather Rusham and Miles Stair brought a special guest with them to the usual story hour at the Cruz Bay pre-school.

Rusham's dog Magnolia, dressed to the nines in a Santa Claus hat, was a hit with the students. After reading "Dream Snow" by Eric Carle, "When Posey Peeked at Christmas" by Ann Dixon, and perennial favorite "From Head to Toe" also by Eric Carle, Stair and Rusham allowed each student to pet the friendly dog.

The volunteers lead story hour weekly, which has been



Students loved petting Magnolia.

hosted at the pre-school while renovations to the Elaine I. Sprauve Public Library are completed.

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With Renovation on Time, Elaine Sprauve Library Reopening in Late February

By Andrea Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Just eight months after the first hammer was swung, the Elaine I. Sprauve Library should be fully renovated and ready to accept patrons once again.

Renovations to the historic building, which dates back to 1750, are expected to be wrapped up soon, and the library should be ready to accept patrons in late February.

The renovation process began in June and it was estimated the restoration of the library by contractor Custom Builders would take six to eight months.

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums (DLAM) should be ready to move books and other materials back into the library by mid-January, according to the division's assistant director, Donald Cole.

"We're waiting for the power to be hooked up, and the contractor to do his final punch list before we start moving in," said Cole. "We have to make sure the air conditioning is running and everything is correct, to ensure the contract we signed was executed to its fullest. That inspection will happen in a couple of weeks."

Several measures were taken during the renovation process to better protect the library's resources including the installation of air conditioning and the excavation below grade to seal a wall on the building's east end in order to curb leaking.

A room was constructed to house a new generator and the interior walls of the building were plastered. The roof was repaired and varnished, the exterior was scraped and repainted, and the cistern was cleaned out and resealed.

There was one small misstep when new gold letters attached to the building incorrectly spelled the name of the library, however the mistake has since been fixed.

Once renovations to the building are completed, the property's grounds will be cleaned up, Cole explained.

"We also have a supplemental contract to clean the property," he said. "All the bush has to be cut down and we're going to put up some nice trees and plants to really make the property look good."



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tristan Ewald

Spruced up and shiny, the Elaine I. Sprauve Library, above, is set to re-open after renovations in February.

Additionally, several large genip trees, whose roots are beginning to invade grave sites on the southeast side of the library's grounds, will be removed, and fencing will be erected on the southwest side of the property.

DLAM is currently working on executing a contract for the installation of technical equipment, computer systems and other wiring, Cole explained.

"We haven't solidified who will be doing the work at this point," he said. "We're trying to secure the necessary funding to get that done."

The renovations have gone according to plan, and the library has continued to serve patrons from temporary trailers set up in the building's parking lot, Cole added.

"We did go according to plan, and we're basically on target," he

said. "I think we served the people and the patrons understood what was happening. They did whatever library functions they needed to do even though we were in the trailers, and librarian Carol McGuinness reported that everything went well under the conditions."

McGuinness is pleased with the renovations, she explained.

"I'm so happy with the progress," said the librarian.

Cole anticipates a grand opening to show off the newly restored library, he explained.

"We look forward to the completion and a grand opening for the people of St. John to come in," Cole continued. "Oh behalf of Governor John deJongh and my director, Miss Claudette Lewis, we feel that we've spent the people's money in a great way to enhance library services on the island of St. John."

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of D. Polucci

Volunteers and students helped construct the new playground at the island's new Montessori School at John's Folly, above.

St. John Montessori School Enjoys Weekend of Community Support

By Jaime Elliott
 St. John Tradewinds

With a barbecue fundraiser and playground construction party, the St. John Montessori School (SJMS) had a jam-packed weekend in early December.

SJMS students and families gathered at Skinny Legs on Saturday, December 12, for a barbecue fundraiser which garnered close to \$3,000 for the new island school thanks to numerous volunteers and donations from community businesses, explained SJMS director and teacher Debra Polucci.

Skinny's owner Moe Chabuz donated all the food for the party with drinks and refreshments supplied by the owners of Sweet Plantains, Aqua Bistro and Island Blues, explained Polucci.

"It really was a big community event," Polucci said. "We had so many volunteers and so much support it was unbelievable. It was a wonderful feeling to be so supported."

James Campbell put in hours of work for the fundraiser, prepping the food and grilling up ribs for the crowd all day.

"James was there before, during and after the event with watery, red eyes at the end," said Polucci.

Jen Bullock, whose daughter attends the school, spearheaded the barbecue and enlisted her hus-

"Every parent was present and helped out in some capacity and we also had some really strong volunteers as well.

— Nancy Polucci, teacher
 St. John Montessori School

band, local musician Johnny B, and friends to supply live music all afternoon. While all members of the SJMS parent committee pitched in at the barbecue, community friends came out too, Polucci explained.

"Sue Littlefield and Ann McCrave manned the raffle tickets and dessert table for the entire day," she said. "Annie Made painted faces all afternoon. Lynn baked a delicious cake which Rodney from Skinny Legs bought during the auction and shared with everyone."

Patricia Fisk was the lucky raffle winner, but didn't walk away with anything, Polucci added.

"After spending \$150 on raffle tickets Patricia won, but she donated the money right back to the school," said the SJMS director.

After the successful barbecue fundraiser, the SJMS parent committee hosted a playground construction and landscaping party on Sunday, December 13, at the school's John's Folly Learning In-

stitute property.

Students, parents and community members gathered at the school at 9 a.m. on Sunday and enjoyed a pancake breakfast prepared by Amelia Jones, who supplied lunch for the volunteers as well.

"Every parent was present and helped out in some capacity and we also had some really strong volunteers," said Polucci. "Steve Jones and James Campbell headed up the construction of the playground along with Pete Iwuk. Even the children helped out moving some gravel."

Three volunteers from Estate Concordia Preserve pitched in with the playground construction as well. Additional volunteers toiled in the school's garden and spruced up the landscaping around the property, Polucci added.

To complete the playground project, the school still needs gravel, telephone poles and four foot tall fencing. For more information about SJMS or to donate to the school call 340-775-9594.

“Crackin’ deh Nut” Has Become a St. John Holiday Tradition

By Susan Mann
St. John Tradewinds

Love City’s own Epiphany Theater Company clearly made a crowd-pleasing choice when the non-profit group decided to bring back “Crackin’ Deh Nut” for a second season run this month.

Strong, local acting talent, and the very unique, upbeat story line, kept the audience in awe Sunday evening, December 14, at St. John School of the Arts during the final of five performances. Written by Paul Devine, Lydia Jetson and Cynthia Smith, the scene is set “at a Christmas party somewhere in the Caribbean.”

Professional dancers Trish Myers, Elizabeth Putnam and Kim Wild choreographed the numerous dance scenes, which included Hip Hop, African, Caribbean, Latin, Chinese, Arabian, Electronica performances, as well as the “Waltz of the Flowers” and a solo ballet performance by Savannah Anthony.

The spoken beliefs and emotions of various actors were natural bridges to the different dance performances, as unique methods of self-expression. The actors



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Susan Mann

Jeremy Zuber, center, brought down the house with his Hip Hop dance routine, above, along with Tiareh Schaub, Ruby Cioppa, Kaitlyn Cummings, Rachel Myers and Vivica Nogueira.

seemed to have fun which quickly spread to the audience!

“We haven’t had a large turn-

out any one night this year,” said board member Paul Devine. “What we have had is a fair amount of

attendance for each performance, and tremendous support from the community.”

To the audience’s delight, the cast of this year’s “Crackin’ Deh Nut” were both passionate about their material and well practiced. The unique take on the more formal, traditional “Nut Cracker Suite” was a definitely success with local residents.

Volunteer efforts keep the community theater company going strong, and the group needs some new energy. To join Epiphany Theater Company or to find out how to support the group, call Devine at 514-6615.

Also performing in “Crackin’ deh Nut” were Zoya Otto, Evanna Chinnery, Tiareh Schaub, Ruby Cloppa, Kaitlyn Cummings, Rachael Myers, Vivica Nogueira, Jeremy Zuber, Whitney Bess, Sabrikah Bryan, Elica Marcellin, Yalfri Santana Reyes, Tinesha Smith, Paige Clark, Monique Edwards, Jeminee Jacobs, Elica Marcellin, Kiareh Penn, Jole Gerhardt, Jeminee Jacobs, Garrett Myers, Krista Kremer-Morton and Jeff Crokin, Cynthia Smith, Maia Ginther, Nikki Goldman, Trish Myers, and Page Clark. Mariah Scheer was unable to perform due to illness.

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Surly Cantina Is A Cruz Bay Crowd Pleaser

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Craig Sullivan and Suzanne Schlessinger seem to have stumbled upon a “south of the border” recipe for success.

The St. John couple opened the Surly Cantina Mexican eatery in the former “Paradise Cafe” location at Wharfside Village about a month ago.

With years of experience under his belt at such locations as La Tapa and Rumbalaya, Sullivan most recently worked as a chef for the Inn at Tamarind Court where tables were in short supply for the weekly Mexican night menu.

After spending over 25 years preparing all types of food, Sullivan feels he has finally found his niche, he explained.

“My mother was from Santa Fe,” Sullivan said. “Some of my earliest memories are of using her home made enchilada sauce as my favorite dip.”

Sullivan also brings culinary management experience to the Surly Cantina, having previously owned the Cajun restaurant Blue Bijoux in Austin, Texas.

“After traveling back and forth to St. John since the late 80s, in November 2000, I realized I wanted to make it my home,” said the chef.

Former New York City stock broker Schlessinger, who is responsible for the Cantina’s tequila service, arrived on island 12 years ago and never left.

Schlessinger has spent the last



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Susan Mann

Surly Cantina owners Craig Sullivan and Suzanne Schlessinger pose in front of their Wharfside Village eatery.

five years working as a bartender and perfecting her own version of sangria. The “Suzanne-Gria” is now on the Surly Cantina beverage menu.

“That is my own recipe which I am not giving out,” said Schlessinger.

She did, however, reveal that it

is necessary for the contents to “sit for a day” before being served to patrons. Among the other alcohol beverages served are \$5 and \$7 margaritas.

Sullivan makes the four different salsa blends available from scratch. Hard or soft shell tacos are \$2 each, and the most expensive

item on the menu, a taco salad, is \$10.

“This is the best, cheap food on the island, and the owners are so friendly,” said George Baird, who relocated to St. John from the mainland last month.

Baird, and partner Lauren Fleit, have been eating at the Surly Can-

“This is the best, cheap food on the island, and the owners are so friendly.”

– George Baird
New St. John resident

tina twice a day due to its affordable menu, they explained.

Both Sullivan and Schlessinger have been surprised by the positive response they have also been enjoying from tourists.

“Several of them have also been coming back twice a day,” said Schlessinger.

The warm reception and well wishes the couple has received from the other proprietors at Wharfside Village has “made all the difference in the world,” Sullivan added.

The Surly Cantina opens daily at 11 a.m. and closes so the owners can take a siesta from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. when it re-opens for business until 11 p.m., or later.

The owners were worried about how customers might feel when they decided to close for two hours each day, but were pleased to find a line of folks patiently waiting for their return on the second “siesta day,” according to the owners. Take out is available by calling ahead at 779-4810. Catering is also available for parties of up to 45 people.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Century Hill Estates property includes two swimming pools and affords views across Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas.

The Crandalls Are Back at Century Hill Estates

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

After spending 17 years in Massachusetts watching their children grow up and have children of their own, Laurie and Craig Crandall have returned to their island home and their former business.

Laurie's parents, Maurice and Beverly Poulin, built the Century Hill condos in 1986 after which the Crandalls managed the property. The couple left St. John in 1991 and just got back on island this past August.

Four months later, the Century Hill Estates condos have been completely refurbished inside and out — from the roof to the cistern — and the Crandalls are back



Proprietors Craig and Laurie Crandall.

where they belong.

"I always knew we were going to come back," said Laurie. "It was always our plan. It just took us a little longer than I had hoped.

The property features eight units, ranging from one bedroom to three bedrooms, in two sepa-

rate buildings and two swimming pools. Each newly-appointed unit has a private balcony with views across Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas.

Long-time friends of the Poulins should not worry, they are fine and plan to winter on St. John.

"I was getting the phone switched to my name and the lady in the office was worried something had happened to my parents," said Crandall. "Mom and Dad are fine. They spend summers in Maine and will be here December through April."

For rates and more information or to book Century Hill Estates, check out the website www.centuryhillestates.com.

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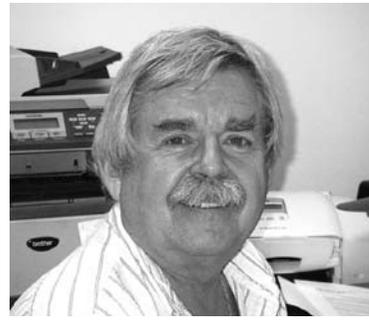
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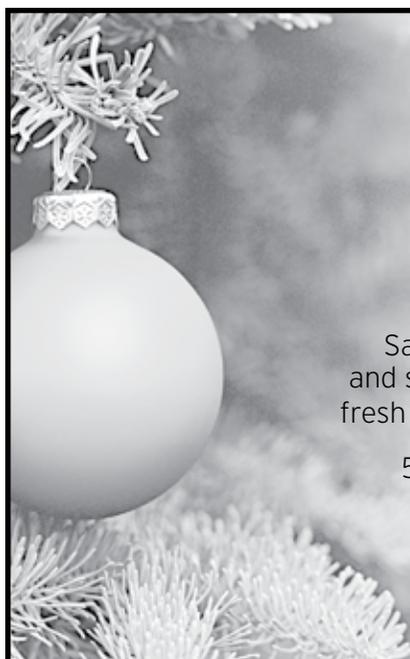
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St. John Tradewinds will **not** be publishing on Monday, December 29th
(*Tradewinds* news office will be closed to the public from Dec. 20-28)

Happy Holidays To All!

What Do You Want for Christmas?

- Malik Stevens** - For Christmas I want college to be paid for and a new MacBook.
- Vern Tonge** - A laptop, a new camera and airline tickets to New York.
- Michelle Petersen and Haven Novak** - Peace, love and happiness.
- Stephan Covtello** - I want a 42-inch Samsung high-definition TV and a day off.
- Vivica Nogueira** - I want a microscope.
- Greg Miller** - I want a trip to Machu Picchu.
- Missie Hensel** - Peace and serenity.
- Trish Myers** - I want a spa day. I need a spa day.
- Jason Corley** - I want the mail to come when it's supposed to come.
- Errin Hendricks** - I want something I can't say.
- T-Bird** - I want comfort and joy for everyone.
- Giselle Richard** - I want a million bucks. And peace and happiness.
- Mary Moroney** - I just wish for my family's good health.
- Edwin Hill** - For Christmas I want peace, happiness and love and for everyone to get along.
- Rus** - I wish Obama the best of luck in these challenging times.
- Justin** at Bay Side Mini-Mart - I've enjoyed working here, and appreciate all of our customers. I'm truly thankful for this beautiful island and its wonderful beaches. What else could I ask for?
- Linda Dickinsen** - I hope people feel the spirit of Love City and do something nice for someone they don't know.
- Jason Monigold** - What I want would sound too geeky. I would want a computer. I would build it myself, and the 'specs' would take up two paragraphs, so I won't go in to all that.
- Boudreaux** - I want all the dogs at the animal care center to find homes for the holidays, and a caring human to finally take that confounded dog walking job there. Don't quote me on this, but I secretly even hope the center cats get homes!
- Jacob Towle** - That's easy. An air conditioner!
- Latifah Lanclos** - An ipod nano!
- Shakwana Albert** - A big Christmas concert with every one in Cruz Bay and the island...and a new Mac laptop.



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Letters to St. John Tradewinds

Ferry Passenger Fuel Surcharge Must Be Reconsidered

Editor,

Anyone who has used Transportation Services or Varlack Ventures recently for transportation between St. John and St. Thomas has undoubtedly noticed the \$1.10 fuel surcharge added to the price of each ticket.

Our own Public Services Commission granted the ferries permission to add this fuel surcharge because of escalating fuel prices, which peaked for our territory last August. As the name implies, the fuel surcharge was to be used only for and because of the rising price of fuel.

My problem is that the ferry companies are currently abusing how this fuel surcharge was to be used. Over the past four months we've seen a dramatic decrease in the price of fuel in the territory, down to almost half of what it was at its peak in August. Our tourists who visit from the States have seen and enjoyed this decrease in fuel prices for even longer.

The controller for Transportation Services was quoted in this week's Daily News about how the current economic downturn and decreased ridership has significantly impacted their business, and that they must keep the fuel surcharge to make up for this lost business. They are openly admitting that the fuel surcharge is no longer being used for high fuel prices, but instead for operational costs.

Transportation Services and Varlack Ventures have much more than the fuel surcharge issue bothering them (and myself). They have been struggling for a long time to stay in business and provide us transportation between our islands.

While I value the service they provide clearly something dramatic needs to change either from them, our government, or a new business looking to capitalize on their monopoly service. A great start would be in showing a little respect and dropping the extra fuel surcharge which clearly is not actually a fuel surcharge.

A prominent sign displayed on the ticket counter in Red Hook and Cruz Bay reads: "Due to increased fuel prices a fuel surcharge of \$1.10 will be added to each ticket." What bothers me is that myself, every single tourist, and every single resident who stands in line reads this sign and is immediately confused because we're currently paying some of the lowest prices for fuel in the past four to five years.

While I'm annoyed the ferry companies are now blatantly abusing how we as a territory have agreed to help them, it is now an embarrassment to me as a Virgin Islands resident, and to us as a territory — every single visitor to our island of St. John reads the fuel surcharge sign, forks over their extra money and scratches their head as to how we allow these ferry companies to get away with this.

If our ferry companies must abuse the system and continue charging extra for tickets then they could at least consider doing it in a way we and our tourists won't be quite so offended — by taking down the meaningless and inappropriate fuel surcharge signs.

Sincerely,
Matthew Slayton
 St. John resident

Old Photos Strike Chord with Reader

Editor,

What a treat it has been to view the old photographs of St. John and St. Thomas preserved by Anna Dohm Nose. I was particularly struck by the view of Cruz Bay from Lind Point in which Helen Payne's house is the only structure visible along the beach.

Development is inevitable as a population grows, but the blight that has overcome that beautiful beach is shameful. Somebody must have fallen asleep with his Joni Mitchell CD playing on "repeat", because he literally paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

Name Withheld by Request

A Point of Clarification in the Great Poison Debate

Editor,

I am sorry to subject your readers to this long and excruciating interchange which by now, I am sure, is more painful to them than anything I inflict on God's innocent creatures in my daily grind.

Paula Myles' letter sited the case of a Missouri farmer who killed eagles, hawks and owls.

Leslie Owen Collier, who was just pardoned by George W. Bush, used Furadan mixed with hamburger to kill coyotes. Birds feeding on the coyotes died. Furadan is a controlled-use pesticide due to its avian toxicity (it kills birds). It can only legally be used by

a licensed applicator on one family of plants for three specific crop pests.

What Leslie Collier did was stupid and showed no forethought of consequences. While these are bad traits for a pesticide applicator, the fact that the outgoing U.S. President also exhibits them might have yielded fraternity, which helped bring a positive resolution to Collier's pardon request.

This is not relevant to a discussion of rat poison use on St. John.

Todd Roskin
 St. John Solutions

St. John Tradewinds Keeping Track

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

SEND LETTERS TO: editor@tradewinds.vi

Letters to St. John Tradewinds



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Gerry Hills

This boat, above, washed ashore after a storm and filled with cobble and coral at Chocolate Hole Bay.

CZM Commissioner Explains Vote Against Pond Bay Club Beach Enhancement

Editor,

Some thoughts about the Pond Bay Club beach "enhancement" project. Not only is this beach currently in equilibrium, it has been deemed an Area of Particular Concern, which means by Virgin Islands law it requires a higher measure of protection than other areas. The best way to protect it is to leave it alone. Nature has created it in this fashion. Beaches on the south of St. John are rocky because of their exposure to southern storms. Beaches on the north are sandy because of far different wave actions, reef protection, offshore cays and islands buffering them from weather, etc. You can't create a sandy beach where nature doesn't want one.

As far as I could tell from what I have read about turtles (an excellent resource is "Voyage of the Turtle" available at the bookstore) and from information given to me by a local marine biologist, there is most likely no benefit at all to turtle nesting from the project. No turtle nest has been seen at Chocolate Hole during 18 months of observation. The turtles which nest on St. John usually do so in deserted beaches on the southeast, such as Reef Bay, Cocaloba, Genti, Western Reef, Salt Pond, and Little Lameshur. A few turtles, not many, nest on St. John.

On the other hand, in Costa Rica, the latest annual count showed 37,000 turtles with over 100,000 nests, laying over 10 million eggs. While everyone wants to preserve turtles, claiming this project will do anything at all to save sea turtles seems to be a smokescreen to mask the true intent — destroying the natural beach.

I don't know the applicant's true intent about turtles, however this plan to "save" turtles seems disingenuous.

Some of the existing vegetation is to be removed, and other species planted. A well-respected local botanist pointed out for me some technical problems with the landscape plan, including a type of tree that does not like the south shore, since it is neither sun- or salt-tolerant.

Approval was not given for any activities below the mean high water line. No swim area, no dinghy lane, no cleaning of anything in the bay. A simple inspection at high tide shows the eastern end of the bay totally covered by tide up to the vegetation line, so this part of the beach will be untouched. High tide covers much of the western side of the beach, so presumably only a portion can be cleaned.

The applicant requested a "pilot program," 100 feet long, where the cobble (natural small round stone) and coral currently on the sand above the high water line would be cleaned off by hand. The sand would be sifted, and then replaced on the beach. There are several problems with this.

First, there is universal agreement from knowledgeable local people that the first storm with any type of tidal action would restore the beach to its current state, with the sand washing into the bay, smothering coral and sea life. There was documentation presented during the meeting about the inevitable negative aspects — and no documentation presented to show

Continued from Page 19

St. John Tradewinds Keeping Track

2007 FINAL COUNT

Homicide: 3
Solved: 0

Shootings: 2
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 1

Stabbings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Armed Robberies: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

Arsons: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

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

2nd Degree Burglaries: 13
Under Investigation: 13
Solved: 0

3rd Degree Burglaries: 71
Under Investigation: 72
Solved: 1

Grand Larcenies: 89
Under Investigation: 89
Solved: 0

Rapes: 4
Under Investigation: 2
Solved: 2

2008 TO-DATE

Homicide: 0
Solved: 0

Shootings: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

Stabbings: 1
Under Investigation: 1
Solved: 0

Armed Robberies: 2
Under Investigation: 2
Solved: 1

Arsons: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

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

2nd Degree Burglaries: 17
Under Investigation: 17
Solved: 0

3rd Degree Burglaries: 65
Under Investigation: 65
Solved: 0

Grand Larcenies: 63
Under Investigation: 63
Solved: 0

Rapes: 0
Under Investigation: 0
Solved: 0

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Letters to St. John Tradewinds

A Different Take on "Silent Night"

Editor,

'Twas the night before Christmas
When all through the house
Not a creature was stirring
Not even a mouse.

Not a mouse, not a rat,
Not a mongoose or cat,
No donkey or deer,
Iguana or bat.

All had been poisoned
By anti-pest bait.
But the tourists from ships
Thought the island first-rate.

Santa's sleigh in the sky
To St. John came close by,
When his reindeer exclaimed
If we go there, we'll die!

Santa heard their dismay;
He whistled and shouted,
And called them by name.

Now Dasher, Now Dancer, Now Prancer And Vixen
On Comet, On Cupid, On Donder And Blitzen
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all.

So the sleigh never came
To Saint John-by-the-sea.
And the reindeer all wept
At its cruel tragedy.

The nights and the days
Were silent thereafter
Except for the sound
Of cold, empty laughter.

The End

By William Vesey

(Inspired by Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" and credit to Clement Clarke Moore's "The Night Before Christmas")

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos Courtesy of Steve Morgenthaler

A snowed in van near Torino, Italy, above left. Despite the cold, Alexa Putnam is all smiles, above right.

Putnam Continues Improving on World Cup Skeleton Tour

Editor,

I thought you'd enjoy these pictures of Alexa Putnam. Today, December 15, all the World Cup skeleton athletes are snowed in near Torino, Italy.

In the words of the International Bobsled and Skeleton Federation vice-president, "Alexa's everyone's sunshine."

Tomorrow the first of three days of practice training runs are to begin at the bobsled and skeleton track in Cesana, just a few minutes from here!

Alexa's fourth World Cup event was cancelled on account of the snow in northern Italy. The tour is now on Christmas holiday. The next race is on Alexa's "hometown" track at Konigssee, Germany, in early January. People can follow her race results on alexaputnam.org.

Alexa continues to improve her racing. She had a top 20 finish two weeks ago in Altenberg. She has closed the gap between herself and the other 24 best sliders in the world. Alexa's still in the back of the pack, but at least she's in contact with the pack this year.

I am very optimistic that she'll have several strong finishes this year. Alexa's critical push-times have improved, she's on a new and better sled, her German language skills are allowing for more clarity in coaching communication, and her analysis of her technique is becoming more refined.

At 20 years old, Alexa remains the youngest racer on the World Cup tour, where the average age is about thirty.

Steve Morgenthaler

CBYC Thanks Community for Supporting Annual Regatta

Editor,

The Coral Bay Yacht Club would like to thank everyone in the community who came out and supported KATS by participating in the Thanksgiving Regatta. In particular, we would like to thank the following businesses for donating prizes:

Budget Marine, Independent Boat Yard, Westin Resort, Rumblines, Caravan Auto Parts, Inn at Tamarind Court, Woody's, Lime Inn, JJ's Cafe, Quiet Mon Pub, Ronnies Pizza, Sol Yoga, Caravan Gallery, Fabric Mill, Chapare, Bamboula, Sun Dog Cafe, Ocean Grill, Deli Grotto, Palm Jewellers, Fish Trap, St. John

Spice, Beach Bar, Mojo Cafe, Freebird, Waterfront Bistro, Low Key Watersports, Kaleidoscope Video, Baked in the Sun, Pilates Bob, Grapevine Salon, Satyamuna, Papaya Cafe, Starfish Market, Dr. Bern Putnam, ADM Wireless, Nest, Mail Center, Dr. Bob Chiropractic, Coral Bay Marine, Aqua Bistro, Steinworks Gallery, Big Fish, Crabby's Watersports, Lori Walden, Donkey Diner, Shipwreck Landing, Mumbo Jumbo, Island Blues, Lilly's Market, Big Belly Deli, Tourist Trap, Miss Lucy's.

Thanks again for your support,
Coral Bay Yacht Club

St. John Montessori School Thanks Community

Editor,

Thank you to everyone who has supported the St. John Montessori School. We apologize if we did not mention you below.

The St. John Montessori School would like to specifically thank the following people and business for making our school a success:

Dioni Anthony; Antonette Badami; Doug Bean; Mary Blazine; James Campbell; Carl on "Tamar"; Annie Caswell; Mo Chabuz; Alvis Christian; Sharon Coldren; Maggie Day; Adrian Davis; Jay and Mary Dufur; Patricia Fisk; James Hartman; Barbara Horan; Pete and Ingrid Iwuc; Jonesy and Margie Jones; Matt Kotelnicki; Angela LaPlace; Sue Littlefield; Lynn and

Joyce from Skinnys; Annie Made; Ann McCrave; Ron O'Brien; Sam Partain; Larry Reagan; Tom Sheets; Jay and Athena Swartley; Rodney from Skinny Legs; Hugo and Josephine Roller; Jerry Senger; Tyrone the "Coconut Man"; Aldria Wade; Denise Wright; Lori Walden; Aqua Bistro; Coral Bay Community Council; Connections; Coral Bay Garden Center; Coral Bay Trucking; Fire Foods; Island Blues; Johns Folly Learning Institute; Keep Me Posted; Maho Bay Camps; Paradise Lumber; Shipwreck Landing; Skinny Legs; St. John Hardware; and Sweet Plantains.

Amelia Jones and the
St. John Montessori School

Letters to St. John Tradewinds



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Gerry Hills

A common scene at Chocolate Hole Bay following storms, above, are cobble and coral washing ashore.

CZM Commissioner Explains Vote Against Pond Bay Club Beach Enhancement

Continued from Page 17

that this was a safe activity.

Second, the application clearly stated “agencies can evaluate the effect of the proposed action.” A pilot program is just that — you do something, evaluate the effects, and then determine what is working and what needs to be changed or even stopped. A pilot program often remains in effect for months or even years.

When I asked the applicant how long the pilot program should be in effect for evaluation prior to furthering it, they said they had no plans whatsoever to stop for evaluation — they would simply proceed from pilot to the rest of the beach immediately.

When I asked what should be evaluated — for example, will the sand be washed into the bay, or will rocks return during the first storm — they stated that the only evaluation they were planning was to be the methodology of sifting and cleaning the sand. Simply put, the applicant’s “pilot program” isn’t one.

Unfortunately, the Special Condition I proposed to establish evaluation criteria and length (at least four months, including the storm season of September through December) was denied. The opinion of virtually everyone with knowledge of Chocolate Hole Bay

is that the beach will inevitably return to its current state after the first storm, with the expected side effect of “enhanced” sand entering the water and that is why I voted against the proposal. The other two commissioners had a different view of the project, and voted for approval, which I totally respect but disagree with.

These two photos show the effects of a southern storm in August of this year. The boat is washed onto the shore above high tide. The storm surge was so powerful, it deposited about two feet of rock and sand inside the boat. Nature wants a rocky beach here, and will continuously try to re-create one.

Finally, it seems that with the introduction of all the new plans, this should have been a public hearing, with testimony. It was called a decision meeting (at which there is no public testimony), which was confusing at best. Letters from ECHLA, the League of Women Voters, various residents, etc., all strongly opposed to the project, never became part of the public record, which is a shame.

Gerry Hills
Commissioner
St. John Coastal Zone Management

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movement and rhythm
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Boys)

Another New Year Lighting Feature

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Each year since 1997, St. John artisan George Hollander creates a unique lighting feature and displays it during the holidays for everyone in Coral Bay — and even people cruising offshore — to enjoy.

Hollander's take on the season translates into whimsical lighting features which the artist erects on his deck high above Coral Bay overlooking Hurricane Hole, Tortola and Norman Island.

While years past have found the New York-native designing one-of-a-kind Christmas trees — made of rebar and Christmas lights stretching 10 feet in the air — this year Hollander settled on a decidedly simpler sculpture.

In a nod to the gloomy economy and worsening environmental reality, Hollander's holiday light sculpture is a single compact fluorescent light (CFL) mounted on a 12-foot carbon fiber pole towering over his deck.

"This year I decided to create a light piece with one light — a compact fluorescent inspired by the economy," said Hollander. "The idea, of course, is to bring in the New Year in a conscious 'green' manner. Walking around town, I see businesses still using incandescent bulbs for their lighting needs."

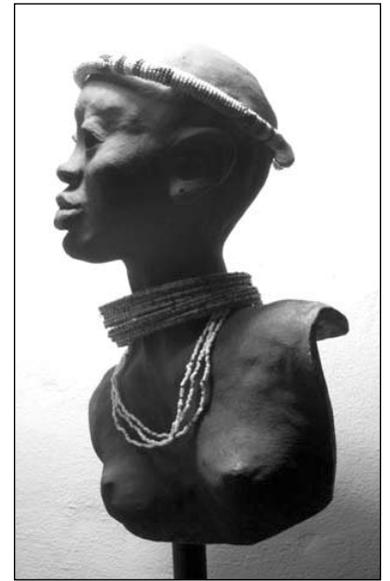
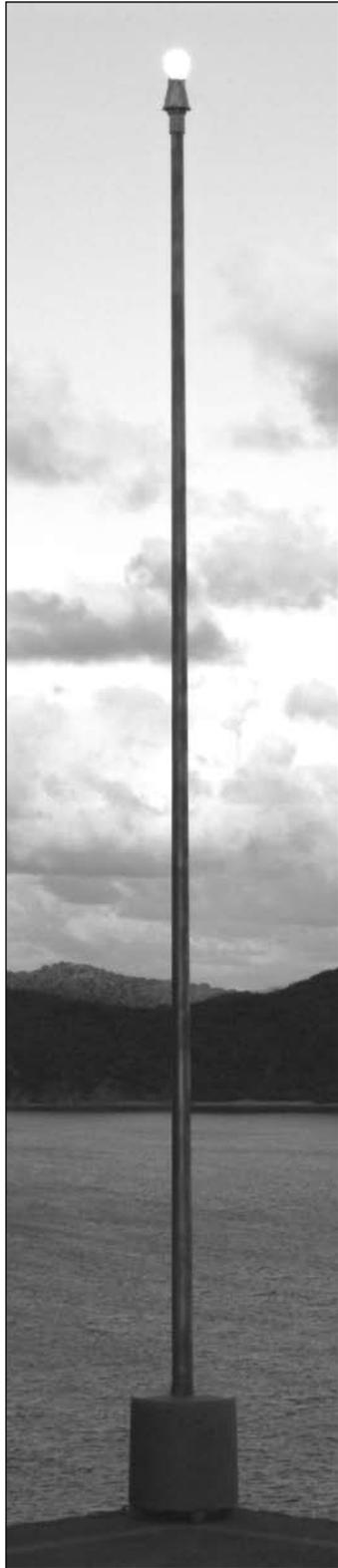
"This is just a reminder, CFLs will save money in the long run — that goes for households too," Hollander said.

Dimmable and softer-colored CFLs to fit any ambiance, are available as well, he added.

While Hollander was unsure about titling his most recent work, Beacon seemed a fitting name, according to the artist.

"It's definitely something that warns or guides," said Hollander.

For more information visit www.georgehollander.com.



Iris and Eggs by Ayn Riehle, above left, and Thandi by Mandy Thody, above right.

Bajo el Sol Gallery January Show Features Ayn Riehle and Mandy Thody

St. John Tradewinds

Bajo El Sol Gallery begins the 2009 First Friday of the month Artists Reception by featuring the work of two very respected artists, Ayn Baldwin Riehle and Mandy Thody, on Friday, January 2, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Fish take off through the sky amidst flora and hidden eggs in the delicious brushwork of Riehle's new paintings to be displayed at Bajo El Sol Gallery in January. Riehle's new work has depth of feeling and certainty in the placement of some surprises in lush fields of paint.

While most of the paintings are filled with Caribbean subject matter and most are the result of studio work, there will be some surprises. Riehle will show works from her two favorite mediums — watercolor and acrylic.

Thody, a sculptor and painter, will be displaying wonderful new ceramic pieces which are sure to capture the viewer's attention. Thody's last year of work

has developed in some unexpected directions.

She is making larger and more simple creations featuring higher firing temperatures using only mixtures of oxides on most pieces, giving the skin patinas she was looking for without the fragility and instability of low-fire techniques.

Thody's new eye-sculpting techniques give more life to the figures so that they seem more actively engaged with the viewer.

"I constantly study people for details of the whorls of the ear, the chords of the neck, the styles of the hair because with such infinite variety, what need for another subject than the human form, and what has more humanity than a face," said Thody.

Bajo el Sol Gallery is privileged to host an Artist's Reception for these two artists on January 2 from 5 to 8 p.m. The gallery's regular hours are 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Sunday through Saturday.

For more information call 693-7070.

St. John Tradewinds

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DLCA Releases Territory-wide Holiday Food Basket Survey

St. John Tradewinds

The Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs released the 2008 holiday season food basket survey last week.

"In these increasingly challenging economic times, it is more important than ever to provide consumers with information on how to find the best bargains during the holiday season," said DLCA Commissioner Kenrick Robertson.

The survey was conducted on December 12 and, unlike DLCA's monthly food basket survey, it was designed to reflect the commodities which comprise a typical holiday family dinner. The survey is conducted by com-

paring the retail price of identical items in each major supermarket.

St. John

Thirty-seven identical items were selected for the survey of the two major supermarkets on St. John. Dolphin Market emerged as the best bargain with a holiday food basket totaling \$111.90. Starfish Market's food basket was \$123.89 for identical items.

St. Thomas

On St. Thomas prices on 27 items were compared at Pueblo Long Bay, Pueblo Subbase, Plaza Extra, and Food Center. Pueblo Subbase offered the best bargain at \$75.69. Baskets at Plaza Extra

and Pueblo's Long Bay location were both \$83.23. Food Center was the most expensive with the same items costing \$88.03.

St. Croix

On St. Croix 30 identical items were surveyed at Pueblo's La Rein and Golden Rock locations, and Plaza Extra's Frederiksted and Christiansted locations. Pueblo Golden Rock with a holiday food basket totaling \$104.16, was the cheapest. Pueblo La Rein was slightly more expensive at \$106.48. Plaza Extra Christiansted recorded a basket with \$110.47 for the same items. Plaza Extra Frederiksted reflected the highest priced holiday food basket costing \$115.91.

St. John Police Report

Land Line Emergency No: 911 Cellular Emergency No: 340-776-9110

Friday, December 12

5:20 p.m. - A citizen c/r an auto accident in the area of Cruz Bay dock. Auto accident.

Saturday, December 13

11:13 a.m. - An Estate Contant resident p/r that she was assaulted by her boyfriend at her residence. Aggravated assault and battery, D.V.

12:30 p.m. - An Estate Adrian resident p/r that he was involved in an auto accident in the area of Enighed Pond. Auto accident.

4:20 p.m. - An Estate Bordeaux resident p/r someone damaged his windshield. Auto accident.

Sunday, December 14

9:15 a.m. - A visitor from Massachusetts p/r that he was involved in an auto accident. Auto accident.

12:42 p.m. - An employee of La Tapa p/r that several males stole her bag. Grand larceny.

4:05 p.m. - A citizen r/ a disturbance in the Estate Adrian area. Unfounded disturbance.

4:30 p.m. - An Estate Emmaus resident r/ a disturbance between her and her neighbor. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

Monday, December 15

12:15 p.m. - An Estate Adrian resident p/r that someone hit her vehicle while it was parked at the Customs Dock. Auto accident.

5:50 p.m. - A St. Thomas resident p/r he was involved in an

auto accident. Auto accident.

8:30 p.m. - Estate Anaberg residents c/r someone unknown removed items from their home. Burglary in the third.

10:15 p.m. - A citizen c/r a Caucasian male jumped off the Varlack Ventures vessel. Police assistance.

Tuesday, December 16

7:18 a.m. - EMT c/r a DOA at Estate Enighed. Miscarriage.

11:15 a.m. - A citizen c/r an accident in the area of Estate Rendezvous. Auto accident.

No time given - A citizen observed several people riding improperly in a vehicle. Police assistance.

12:05 p.m. - A worker at Cap's Place c/requesting police assistance because someone stole money from the business. Burglary in the second.

12:50 p.m. - A Great Cruz Bay resident p/r that someone unknown lit a chair cushion and threw it behind her landscaper vehicle while it was parked at her property. Malicious mischief.

3:49 p.m. - A citizen c/r an auto accident in the area of Starfish Market. Auto accident.

8:10 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r she was being threatened by a male. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

Wednesday, December 17

2:10 a.m. - A citizen p/r a fight

in progress in Cruz Bay. Disturbance of the peace.

7:45 a.m. - A citizen c/r a hit and run in the area of Domino Gas in Coral Bay. Auto accident.

11:30 a.m. - The manager of an Estate Chocolate Hole villa c/r a break-in at the residence. Burglary in the third.

1:30 p.m. - An Estate Carolina resident c/requesting assistance in retrieving his wheels. Police assistance.

5:15 p.m. - A Wharfside Village resident p/r that she was struck by a 2x4 from a moving vehicle. Accidental injury.

Thursday, December 18

8:40 a.m. - The principal of GBS c/requesting police assistance with a parent who attempted to attack her. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

1:50 p.m. - A St. Thomas resident p/r that she is being threatened by a female on her job. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

3:30 p.m. - An Estate Bethany resident c/r that someone hit her parked vehicle. Auto accident.

10:30 p.m. - A citizen c/r that he was involved in an auto accident in the area of the Gift Hill. Auto accident.

Friday, December 19

9:40 a.m. - An Estate Contant resident p/requesting police assistance in retrieving money from a male. Police assistance.

Community Calendar

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

Monday, December 22

The St. John Office of the Tax Assessor and the Tax Collector's Office, formerly the Department of Finance, will be closed to the public on Friday, December 19, and Monday, December 22, 2008 to facilitate the move to their new location on the second floor of the Islandia Building.

Wednesday, December 24

St. Ursula's Episcopal Church's holiday schedule is Christmas eve, December 24, at 10 p.m. Christmas Day, December 25, at 8:30 a.m. New Year's Eve, December 31, at 10:30 p.m. and New Year's Day, January 1, at 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 25

Merry Christmas! St. John Tradewinds news office will be closed to the public from December 20-28, 2008.

Friday, December 26

Happy birthday Oliver Oat and Kati Steinborn!

Friday, December 26

Happy Kwanza! And Boxing Day!

Friday, December 26

The Love City Pan Dragons Youth Steel Orchestra's next public performance will be at the Community Kwanzaa Program on Friday, December 26 in Frank Powell Park at 6 p.m.

Sunday, December 28

On Sunday, December 28, Janet Kirby will be speaking at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. John service at the lower campus at Giff Hill School. We meet at 9:45 a.m. and the talk start at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, December 30

The St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas-St. John Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, December 30, at a new location. This meeting will be held in the upstairs dining room at Ocean Grill in Mongoose Junction. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end promptly at 6:30 p.m.

An update will be given on the success of some the organization's current projects and an update on the status of other projects. Goals for 2009 will also be set.

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve!

Thursday, January 1

Happy New Year!

Thursday, January 1

Advertising, press releases and letters to the editors are due on Thursday, January 1, for the January 5-11, 2009, edition of *St. John Tradewinds*.

Happy Holidays!

AA Meetings

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

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 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church.

St. John Church Schedule & Directory

<p>3 Sail Church 10 Sunday Bellevue Community Center</p>	<p>Jehovah's Witness 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m. Sundays (no contact information given)</p>
<p>Baha'i Community of St. John Race Unity Devotions 7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays 776-6316, 776-6254</p>	<p>Missionary Baptist Church 9:30 a.m. Sunday Services, 10:45 Worship, Tuesday 7 p.m. Bible Study 693-8884</p>
<p>Bethany Moravian Church Cruz Bay, St. John 11 a.m., Sunday School 776-6291</p>	<p>Nazareth Lutheran Church Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday School 8 a.m. 776-6731</p>
<p>Calvary Baptist Church 13 ABC Coral Bay, 776-6304 Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday evening 6 p.m., Thursday 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Our Lady of Mount Carmel Sat. 6 p.m., Sun. 7:30 & 9:30 a.m., Spanish Mass 5:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, 7 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. 776-6339</p>
<p>Christian Ministry Cinnamon Bay Beach Inter-Denominational Sunday 8:30 a.m.</p>	<p>St. John Methodist Church Sunday 10 a.m, 693-8830</p>
<p>Christian Science Society 10:45 a.m. Sunday- Marketplace Wednesday Testimonials 7:45 p.m. on last Wed. of Month</p>	<p>St. John Pentecostal Church Sunday 11:05 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays Prayer 7:30 p.m., Thursdays Bible Study 7:30 p.m. 779-1230</p>
<p>The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Sun. 9 a.m., STT. 776-2379 Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard</p>	<p>St. Ursula's Episcopal Church Sundays, 8:30 a.m. Bible Class, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. 777-6306</p>
<p>Cruz Bay Baptist Church Sunday 11 a.m., 6 p.m. 776-6315</p>	<p>Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday, 776-6332</p>
<p>Emmaus Moravian Church Coral Bay, Sun. 9 a.m. 776-6713</p>	<p>Word of Faith Church Sunday, March 2, at 1 p.m. at the Giffit Hill School. Call 774-8617</p>

PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

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Ferry Schedules

CRUZ BAY TO RED HOOK

Every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

RED HOOK TO CRUZ BAY

Every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m.

CRUZ BAY TO DOWNTOWN CHARLOTTE AMALIE

Leaves Cruz Bay

7:15 a.m.
9:15 a.m.
11:15 a.m.
1:15 p.m.
2:15 p.m.
3:45 p.m.

Leaves Charlotte Amalie

9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

ACROSS

- 1 Penguin or seal colony
8 Very model
15 Dividing membranes,
as in noses
20 Symptom of otitis
21 Part of FCC
22 Primp
23 Italy's patron saint
25 Go one better than
26 "Grace Before Meat"
painter Jan
27 "— the season to be
jolly"
28 How- — (handy manu-
als)
29 Catch with a lasso
30 Gallic friend
31 Org. for Iraq
33 She was abducted by
Paris
35 Tabby cries
38 Boxer Clay, renamed
39 Raw resource
40 Paradise
41 Henry VIII's fourth wife
44 Rio Grande do —
(Brazilian state)
45 Particular magazine
printing: Abbr.
46 Nothing
47 Billfold bill
48 Overseas
51 In a jug, e.g.
55 Nun who reformed the
Carmelites
61 Ordinal number suffix
62 Actor Carney
64 Robert of "The
Sopranos"

- 65 Very cold
66 Work as —
69 She ended the Orleans
siege
73 Heaped (up)
74 In a way
76 Cap and gown wearer
77 "— -la-lal!"
79 Siouan people
80 Greek misan-
thrope about whom
Shakespeare wrote a
play
84 Oboe cousin
87 Reggae star Bob
88 Cereal grain
90 Hawaiian necklace
91 Pretend
94 Jar sealer
95 Apostle Paul's original
name
101 The Mamas & the
Papas' "California —"
104 Make illegal
105 Leicester lav
106 Allegro, e.g.
107 He ruled England
during his father King
Edward III's last years
109 Furniture chain
111 Choose (to)
112 Rebelled
113 Prefix with east or
west
114 Favorite
115 Unwinds
118 Get-go
119 Philosopher known for
his "razor"
123 Pitch-related
124 Neighbor of France
125 Jaffa native
126 Like some punk hair-
dos

- 127 Carry before birth
128 Idling gear

DOWN

- 1 Arbitrator
2 Boat rowers
3 Eulogy, e.g.
4 Wellesian "Citizen"
5 "— homo!"
6 Zoo tusker
7 "Oui" or "si"
8 Working well
9 Potpie bits
10 Photo badges, e.g.
11 Ones giving exams
12 Firebird, e.g.
13 Tricky billiards shot
14 Yalie
15 In the style of a parody
16 Blows up
17 Czar of 1727-30
18 Long and tiresome
19 Assumed names
24 1887 Verdi opera
29 Flow out of easily, as a
word from the tongue
30 Dr.'s org.
32 — -Man
33 Ground-breaking tool
34 Prefix with biology
36 Departed
37 Make grimy
42 Dog's pest
43 Formation of flying
geese
44 Italian eatery chain
48 Sailing
49 Modern Maturity org.
50 Nero's 507
51 Savage one
52 German king known as
"the Great"
53 Unit of heat energy
54 Erving of the NBA, to
fans
56 — Janeiro
57 Leprechaun
58 Arctic home
59 Not be truthful with
60 Annex
63 Sporting a Roman robe
67 Molecule bit
68 "— Lisa"
70 Dilettantish
71 Slangy denial
72 Corn kernels grow on it
75 Throughout the rest of
one's existence
78 Cease
81 Hurl
82 — -TURN (road sign)
83 Student loan company
85 Pew or stool
86 Farm father
89 Began liking
91 Fine-tunes
92 Tummy-exposing shirt
93 Native of Iran's capital
95 Urban play area
96 Social insect
97 Rival
98 Asphyxiate
99 Swedish city near
Stockholm
100 Liquor lover
102 Polar parka
103 Chiefly
104 Constructs
108 Ammonia compound
110 "Kiss From —"
(#1 hit for Seal)
114 Role
116 Tan shade
117 Old card game
119 Joking sort
120 Author Levin
121 Fish feature
122 "Cool" cash amount

Classifieds

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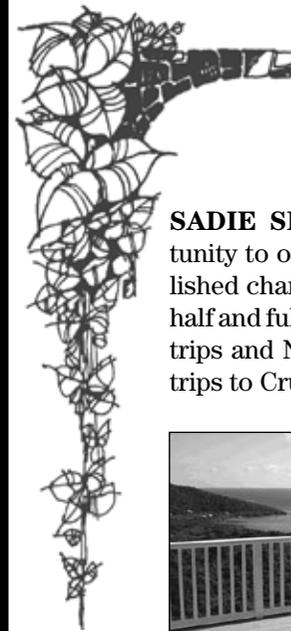
■ **449 CHOCOLATE HOLE** – 0.45+/-acre, R-2, **\$419,000**. Price reduction on this desirable North Chocolate Hole Parcel.

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"VILLA MISTRAL"- WATERFRONT –This beautiful 5 bedroom villa is right on the water at dynamic Hart Bay. Watch or join the surfers riding the waves or watch and listen to the surf from the 2 separate swimming pools each with a spacious sun deck. This very special home includes such features as infinity edge pool, grotto and waterfall, coral stone floors, decks and railings, huge generator. Arguably the most beautiful house and location on St. John! **\$7.995M**



"Surfside" is a three bedroom home located in the uniquely beautiful Reef Bay area of Fish Bay. Situated on the edge of undeveloped National Park land, the home is a short stroll via nature path to the white sand beach of Reef Bay where you can enjoy snorkeling, surfing, swimming and beach combing. Ample porches, sunning decks, pool and Jacuzzi, air-conditioned bedrooms and lush landscaping complete the picture. **\$1,950,000**



"Long Bay Lookout" - Enjoy sweeping panoramic views of Round Bay and Coral Harbor from the porch of this two bedroom gated masonry home with studio unit on lower level. Partially renovated living/dining & kitchen area includes custom mahogany cabinets, trim and doors plus new ceramic tile floor and countertop coverings. There is ample room for expansion on the level lot which is a short walk from the common waterfront lot with small floating dock. **\$895,000**

"Mango Terrace Condos" - Michael Milne designed condos under construction in Cruz Bay. 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms available, A/C, walk to Frank Bay beach and town. Water views, high quality appliances. These will be some of the most spacious condos on St. John. Only 20% down. Completion scheduled for late 2008. Special pre-construction prices: \$825,000 to \$1.6M OR Fractional Ownership Opportunity! Buy one quarter ownership in a 2, 3, or 4 bedroom condo.

"Maho Bay" Rare opportunity to own 13.8 acres with over 850 feet of shoreline consisting mostly of white sandy beach (Little Maho), located within the confines of the Virgin Islands National Park on St. John's pristine north shore. The property is flanked by Francis Bay at the East and Maho Bay at the West with fabulous views of the Atlantic, Caribbean and offshore cays as well. Ideal for resort use, residential development or private compound. **\$32M**

AND MUCH MORE... This is a small sample of over 400 residential, condo, land and commercial listings currently available through Islandia Real Estate

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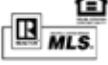


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FEATURED LISTINGS



INCREDIBLE past, present and future rental history. Amazing 2BR, 2BA ensuite with open floor plan leading to a wall of windows framing massive Caribbean ocean views. Large brick patio pool area. Now just \$1,025,000.



EXQUISITE 5BR, 5.5 BA stately villa in Virgin Grand Estates boasts fantastic views of Great Cruz Bay to S. Thomas. Includes the highest quality finishes you'd expect in this multi million dollar neighborhood. \$2,199,999.



"CARI-BEANA" villa has 2br 2ba w/ loft br/ba PLUS a fantastic 1br, 1ba unit. Close to town yet private and secluded. Beautiful panoramic sunset Caribbean water views to St. Thomas with very impressive rental history. \$1,495,000.

HOMES



LOWER PETER BAY 4BR. 4.5 BA villa exceptionally furnished with large pool and located just steps away from a secluded white sandy beach. \$6,000,000.

DRASTIC REDUCTION! This popular 3br, 3ba vacation villa with great Caribbean flair has amazing panoramic water views. Now only \$959,000.



TWO HOMES nearing completion. A 2br, 2ba and 1br, 1ba cottage. Huge views. Just \$915,000. **BONUS!!** Private well maintained home in Coral Bay with an EXTRA LOT! ONLY \$425,000.

CONDOMINIUMS



GRANDE BAY luxury beachfront devel. Walk to town from these (2) 2br 2ba units starting at \$875,000. And, (2) 3br 2ba units starting at \$1,100,000.

MUST SEE! REDUCED! This 2BR, 1.5BA unit is just one mile from Cruz Bay. Amazing sunset water views, oversized veranda and huge pool. \$549,000.



GRANDE BAY "Assignment of Contract" Penthouse unit still available for JUST.... \$875,000. **WHY RENT -** Sunset Ridge 2 new 1br, 1ba units w/ huge water views. \$279,000 & \$299,000. **SIRENUSA** Luxury condo devel. is nearly complete. 2, 3 & 4BR avail. & begin at \$1,100,000.

LAND



TWO LOTS! 0.50 +/- acres each. One boasts 155ft of sand/coral beachfront. And, adjacent lot maintains its own deeded beach path access. ONLY \$999,000.

PHENOMENAL waterfront parcel in peaceful Fish Bay. The perfect building location for your dream vacation villa w/ easy beach access. \$925,000.



SPECIAL PRICE!! Virgin Grand Estates two amazing 0.41 +/- acre lots. Each for only \$275,000. **18 ACRES & 29** sub-divided lots above Rendezvous with most roads paved. Call us for Details. **NEW LISTING Priced To Sell! Motivated Owner!** Carolina .25 +/- ac Great views. \$209,999. **SUB-DIVIDABLE** parcel near Cruz Bay. Water views over Pillsbury Sound..... \$425,000. **LOWER PETER BAY** prime building lot with incomparable north shore views..... \$2,500,000. **ON TOP OF THE WORLD!** the highest point on Mamey Peak. Amazing 360 views. \$1,599,000. **BORDEAUX** 3.3 +/- ac. knoll top w/ panoramic views excellent development potential. \$1,299,999. **WATERFRONT - A RARE OPPORTUNITY** in PRIVATEER BAY. A DEAL AT..... \$950,000. **FREEMANS GROUND** Large sub-dividable 1.73 +/- ac. lot with great water views..... \$449,999. **REDUCED** oversized lot in Coral Bay near proposed marina project..... JUST \$310,000. **FLAT** quarter acre +/- parcel in Eden. Easy build and views to Hurricane Hole..... \$137,500. **EMMAUS** A great lot at a great price with huge Coral Bay harbor views..... Now just \$145,000. **CONDOMINIUM** development project has plans and expired permits for a 15 units \$2,750,000.

TIMESHARES

WESTIN VACATION CLUB Relax and enjoy a week in paradise. Access to Beach, pools, fitness club, tennis, bars, restaurants and shopping. Most weeks are available. Prices range from \$11,500 to \$125,000.

COMMERCIAL

SCUBA/PLEASURE boat business w/ impressive 4 year history. Incl. 2004 Powercat and all dive eqpt. You are in business for \$169,900. **LOCATION, LOCATION** Many options exist for this Retail Shopping Center. \$2,250,000.

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BAYVIEW - is a very private villa bordering the Natl. Park, just minutes from Maho Beach. Traditional masonry design with 2 bldgs connected by sunny pool, decks & patio. Amazing 280° views overlooking Francis Bay & Northshore, + Coral Bay & BVI's. \$1,695,000.

EXCLUSIVE HOME LISTINGS

POINT RENDEZVOUS - Beautiful, brand new, masonry villa. Great room, with vaulted ceiling, lovely kitchen, stainless appliances, spacious master bedroom/bath w/stone garden shower, sleeping loft, A/C. Serene water views, & spa on large covered veranda. \$1,595,000. non MLS.

AURORA - Luxurious 4 bedroom / 4 bath masonry villa on Contant Point. Enjoy 180° views from Great Cruz to St. Thomas, great privacy, pool, multiple outdoor areas, gorgeous landscaping, beautiful furnishings, & excellent vacation rental history. Priced to sell at \$2,495,000.

LOVANGO LOVE SHACK - Featured in National magazines, this unique, custom timber home is located on the sandy beach at Lovango Cay, just 1 1/2 miles by boat north of St. John. **CONTRACTED** complete home powered by the sun & wind & satellite TV & Internet. A sandy beach, palm trees & a boat dock at your front door makes this truly an island paradise. \$2,450,000.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS - Mini estate, on a beautiful 1 acre parcel, features private tennis court, 2 pools, 2 spas, 7 bedrooms, & 7.5 baths. Awesome views, impressive rental history, walk to beach at Chocolate Hole. \$2,999,500.

LOCATION, LOCATION! - Dramatic cliffside setting, on coveted Maria Bluff, w/ sunrise to sunset views. 3 bedroom / 2 bath stone & concrete home with large wraparound veranda, travertine floors, mahogany cabinetry, tile roof, large spa, full air conditioning, large circular drive. \$1,699,000.

LUMINARIA - Luxurious ridgetop villa w/incredible north shore & down island views. 3 spacious bdrm suites, 3.5 baths, lg. pool w/waterfall, spa, 4 car garage, gated entry, privacy, beautiful furnishings & landscaping. Vacation rental history. \$2,495,000.

GOLDEN DRAGON - Magnificent stone villa with exceptional craftsmanship throughout. 4 bedrooms/ 4 baths, infinity pool, exquisite furnishings, multi patios/decks, lush gardens, terrific Point Rendezvous location. \$2,395,000.

PERELANDRA - A romantic 2 bd/2 bath, Caribbean style, villa with stunning water views, picture perfect sunsets, casual elegance, & private pool. Nestled in lush landscaping, high above Cruz Bay. \$1,235,000.

BORDEAUX MT. - Lovely family home w/3 bdrms, 2 baths, & large covered veranda. Nestled on a gently sloped 1/2 acre lot w/fragrant bay trees & southerly water views. \$675,000.

WATERFRONT WITH DOCK - Poured concrete 3 bdrm/ 2 bath home on a flat 3/4 acre site adjacent to National Park. Enjoy all watersports from shared private dock, & hiking along the secluded shoreline. REDUCED to \$1,250,000.

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

EXCLUSIVE LAND LISTINGS

KLEIN BAY - Exceptional small exclusive neighborhood offers commonly owned beach, underground power, paved roads. Two 1/2 acre homesites, both with fantastic Rendezvous Bay views. \$879k and \$995k

WATERFRONT ON MONTE BAY - Spectacular 13.44ac site, located between Boatman Pt. & Klein Bay on South Shore. Ideal for subdivision or private estate. \$4,700,000

CRUZ BAY TOWN - R-4 zoning, plans and permits. Walk to Frank Bay Beach. Reduced to \$285,000.

REDUCED TO \$150,000 - Water views of Coral Bay, wonderful Est. Eden location. **GREAT BUY!**

CONTANT - 3 extra large homesites overlooking Cruz Bay. Paved streets, underground utilities. \$292,500 to \$315,000.

POINT RENDEZVOUS - Two superb parcels w/outstanding views. Priced to sell at \$425k & \$415k.

LEINSTER BAY - Great Thatch to Mary's Point views, access from Johnny Horn trail. \$225k & \$329,000.

ZOOTENVAAL - Terrific water views of Hurricane Hole, paved streets, underground utilities. Reduced to \$400,000.

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

FLANAGAN'S PASSAGE - Two homesites, each with panoramic views, paved roads & architectural plans, in great new area. \$350,000 each.

CATHERINEBERG - Incredible north shore views, 1.05 ac. surrounded by Nat'l. Park. \$2,100,000.

DITLEFF POINT - 4 waterfront parcels **SOLD!** 13 spectacular parcels available, starting at \$895,000.

ESTATE FISH BAY - Water views, borders green belt, paved access.....\$275,000

Large parcel, excellent water views.....\$250,000

Walk to beach, dingy dock, topo included.....\$329,000

Marina Drive, ocean views, topo.....\$375,000

Direct water view, corner parcel.....\$389,900

Borders Nat'l. Pk., 0.87ac.....\$425,000

ESTATE CHOCOLATE HOLE - Pebble Way location, 0.65ac, water views.....\$299k

SEAGRAPE HILL/EMMAUS - Coral Hbr & Moravian Church views, 0.34ac.....\$185k

Great Buy! 0.35ac. w/waterview, paved road.....\$182k

Coral Bay views, downhill site.....\$280k

ESTATE CAROLINA - Lower Bordeaux, BVI views, paved road.....\$199k

View of Coral Bay, plans, driveway.....\$255k

Gentle slope, Bordeaux Mt., 0.63 ac.....\$349k

Coral Harbor views.....\$350k

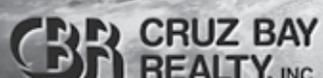
Ironwood Rd, views, house plans.....\$360k

Upper Carolina, great views.....\$379k

BVI views, one acre+.....\$415,500

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A Sampling of our Exclusively Listed Properties

 <p>"L'AUTRE MONDE" Exquisitely custom designed with 2 pools, luxurious master & 6 additional bdrms, plus soaring ceilings, extensive stone work, exotic African slate floors, custom mahogany cabinetry. Walk to beach & dinghy dock. \$6,800,000</p>	 <p>"BORDEAUX HOUSE" on .5 ac. with ultimate privacy. STUNNING down island views. This signature estate is sure to capture your heart! Charming 4 bedroom gated estate with spa, fireplace, poolside kitchen. PRICE REDUCED! Now \$2,950,000</p>	 <p>"POINCIANA" is an island classic home on 1.24 ac of prime waterfront. Hart Bay is at your feet with wonderful views and breezes. This 3 bedroom popular rental offers one of the best views of the south shore from this commanding waterfront site. \$2,300,000</p>	 <p>"SEAVIEW" vacation villa. Charming 4 Bedroom, masonry home in excellent condition with large pool in convenient Chocolate Hole. PRICE REDUCED! Now \$1,250,000</p>	 <p>"SEABISCUIT" (2x2) Caribbean style, masonry, panoramic views, pool & hot tub. Immaculate, above Coral Harbour. \$995,000</p>	 <p>"BLUEROCK", a 4x4 rental villa with sensational water, STT, & sunset views. Large pool; spa; 2 kitchens; could rent as two separate, private units. \$975,000</p>
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Exclusively Listed Land

 <p>"SABA BAY" WATERFRONT & HILLSIDE 12 acre subdividable waterfront plus 4 hillside lots available. Incredible BVI views! Priced from \$699,000</p>	<p>"LOVANGO CAY" Waterfront & hillside properties feature upscale amenities and infrastructure; barge landing with piers, paved roads, underground electric, access to beach and much more! Amazing views, priced from \$499,000</p>	<p>"SEAGRAPE HILL" .340 ac., Coral Harbor and Hurricane Hole views, downhill slope, paved roads, cooling breezes. Priced significantly below appraised value! \$169,000</p>
<p>"DREEKETS BAY ESTATES" boasts spectacular BVI views, quality paved roads, undergrnd. utilities, stone wall & planters, common beach. Just 8 minutes from Coral Bay. 12 parcels priced from \$399,000.</p>	<p>"VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES" Gated community featuring underground utilities, paved roads, & gorgeous sweeping views. Fabulous lots ranging from \$415,000</p>	<p>"FREEMAN'S GROUND" STUNNING DOWN ISLAND VIEWS and cooling breezes from this .78 ac parcel with upper & lower access. \$425,000</p>
<p>PASSPORT TO PRIVACY! Superb view from this Upper Peter Bay parcel that borders Nat'l Park. Save a year in planning and start building, architectural plans and CZM permit included. \$2,950,000</p>	<p>"CANEEL HILL" - SELLER FINANCING private residential community just minutes from Cruz Bay. Water views to St. Thomas. 3 gentle grade sites: individually sold or total 1.78 acres for \$600,000</p>	<p>"AZURE BAY ESTATES" IN CONTANT .5 ac with 180 degree views over Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas & St. James islands. Quiet, breezy convenient to Cruz Bay. Owner financing. \$650,000</p>
<p>WATERFRONT parcels ranging from .5 - 1.36 acres in some of St. John's best areas! \$499,000-\$1,999,000</p>	<p>"CALABASH BOOM" Great views, private, .4 acre adjacent to Sago Cottage \$550,000</p>	<p>"HARBOR VIEWS" OVER GREAT CRUZ BAY Gentle .7 acre hillside home site facing east with beach & harbor access. Walk to Westin amenities! Private paved road & underground utilities \$499,000.</p>

Investment Opportunities

"THE MARKETPLACE" PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACES available in St John's premier mall. Various office suites, retail spaces and a built out restaurant space. Available immediately. Rents start at **\$762.57** per month.

"GALLOW'S SEAVIEW" (2x2) .58 ac. R-4 & W-1 zoning allows multifamily dwellings & commercial uses. Spectacular views. Walk to beach & town. **\$3,200,000**

"SATYAMUNA" Successful health food/vegetarian restaurant for sale. Excellent high traffic location, perfect for hands on owner. **\$75,000**

"GYM IN PARADISE" Successful Gym for sale. Established 12+ years. Excellent location. Inventory included. **\$50,000**

Condominiums

"GALLOW'S POINT" 3 premier OCEAN FRONT units (2-upper & 1-lower) each with private deck/patio. Walk to town! **\$1,400,000 & \$1,200,000**

BEACHFRONT "GRANDE BAY RESORT" Condos under construction, overlooking Cruz Bay Harbor. Walk to town & restaurants. 2 bdrm **\$799,000**

"PASTORY ESTATE" CONDO 1 bedroom, great views, close to town, quiet neighborhood. Turnkey. **PRICE REDUCED! Now \$469,000**

"RAINBOW'S END" Battery Hill condo, 2 bedrooms, poolside, close to town. **Priced to sell! \$535,000**

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 <p>FLANAGAN'S PASSAGE VILLA 3 bdrm, 3.5 bath villa, superior craftsmanship, Caribbean stonework, Spanish tile roof, 180° views, large pool and hot tub \$2,850,000</p>	 <p>CVISTA Magnificent open air 4 bedroom villa above the turquoise waters of Rendezvous Bay. Stunning residence exudes comfort, class & elegance. \$3,895,000</p>	 <p>LOVE NEST Bright & airy, new cottage overlooking Hurricane Hole, Coral Bay, & BVI. Plans approved for an additional 2BR, 2BA w/pool. \$489,000</p>	 <p>ON THE BEACH AT KLEIN BAY - JUST BUILT! Serenata de la Playa offers 5 bdrms and 5.5 baths. Swimmable water access from the back yard. \$4,950,000</p>	 <p>NEW! Early morning risers paradise overlooking Coral Bay to BVI. Well maintained 2-unit cottage offers a 1 bed/1 bath with a cozy covered porch. Plus studio apartment. \$625,000</p>
<p>MAHOGANY TREE VILLA Create a charming B&B offering a gated entry, walk to Frank Bay & town. (4) 1bd/1ba units with A/C, common pool & garage. \$975,000</p>	<p>PRICED TO SELL, 4 bdrm concrete home in Skytop is a terrific bargain! Upper three bedroom unit and spacious lower one bdrm unit. Views of Fish Bay. \$735,000</p>	<p>CRUZ BAY .75 acre, 3 bdrm short term rental with pool and panoramic views. Zoned R-4 and suited for development. \$2,950,000</p>	<p>ADVENTURE VILLA Lush tropical setting, Coral Bay views. 4 bdrm luxury villa is built for comfort, space, privacy. \$950,000</p>	<p>INN LOVE Beautiful Great Cruz Bay with Sunset Views! 5 bdrm, 5 bath with pool, spa, a/c bdrms and inviting great room. \$1,795,000</p>
<p>TEMPRESS 2 bdrm suites separated by 2 buildings - a living area and an impressive kitchen complete with granite countertops, private decks, dramatic sunsets. \$1,650,000</p>	<p>ELLISON New construction in the Virgin Grand. Generous floor plan w/3 levels of living space. 3 master suites, sunsets year round. \$2,890,000</p>	<p>LA BELLA VITA, "the good life" .4 a/c identical master suites with island stone showers, breath taking views, gourmet kitchen, entertainment center. \$2,950,000</p>	<p>ENIGHED Nearly flat town lot overlooking Turner Bay and zoned R-4. Masonry home, 4 bdrms, 2 baths plus outbuildings. \$599,000</p>	<p>FUN & CONTENTMENT 180° views. Tiled pool deck, 2 large ac. Master suites. SS appliances, mahogany hardwoods, stone accents. Plans for 3 more bdrms. \$1,235,000</p>
<p>YOUR OWN SECLUDED BEACH Just steps to Hart Bay, "Rendezview" features 4 bdrms & 4 baths. Also enjoy the lower 3 bdrm beach house. \$2,895,000</p>	<p>ISLAND MANOR Hear & view the surf of Hart Bay. 4 bdrms with ensuite baths and elegant furnishings sited on .51 acre. Multi-level floor plan offers privacy. \$1,700,000</p>	<p>GARDEN BY THE SEA B&B. West Indian gingerbread architecture and island furnishings. Owners apartment plus 3 income producing units. Room for expansion. \$1,800,000</p>	<p>BAREFOOT New 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath guest cottage in quaint Coral Bay neighborhood, Room for expansion. \$899,000</p>	<p>ZOOTENVAAL Quaint Caribbean cottage tucked in at the end of the road. Walk to Coral Bay. Two separate units. plans available for additional home. \$729,000</p>
<p>RENDEZVOUS GARDENS A rare opportunity to add your finishing touches to a beautiful home. Ocean views, colorful sunsets, stonework highlights, professional landscaping. \$1,025,000</p>	<p>NEW! This remodeled property with South Shore views. Additions include 2 new a/c bdrm, pool, decks, laundry room and kitchen in lower unit. \$1,400,000</p>	<p>MARBELLA Expansive St. Thomas sunset views, 3 bdrms w/ en suite baths. Open style layout all on one level, access from each room onto the pool. Central A/C. \$2,850,000</p>	<p>UPPER CAROLINA! Coral Bay harbor views. Live in the lower apartment while completing 2nd unit & the planned 4 bdrm/4 bath pool Villa. \$425,000</p>	<p>L'ESPRI DE LA VIE Gorgeous home in upscale Pt. Rendezvous. 180° sea views, dining for 8, gourmet kitchen. 4 large bdrm/bath suites. Infinity edge pool. 2,950,000</p>
<p>GALLOW'S POINT CONDOMINIUMS! ST. JOHN'S ONLY OCEANFRONT CONDOS! 2 Upper floor loft units available, 1 of a kind complex. Excellent rental program, ocean & harbor views, tastefully appointed & a/c. \$980,000 & \$1,275,000</p>	<p>CHARMING SERENDIP STUDIO Panoramic sunset views, small complex with lush tropical gardens, on site management, pool and established rental program. \$295,000</p>	<p>PALM JEWELERS High end jewelry store in prime Cruz Bay location. \$525,000</p>	<p>DELI GROTTTO! Consistent lifetime sales growth, deli and internet cafe located in prime commercial space. Catering to tourists & residents, baked goods, cold beer, extensive breakfast & lunch menu, ice cream. Eat in the a/c, on outside terrace or take out. \$475,000</p>	<p>MARINA MARKET SITE, zoned B-2! One of a kind commercial real estate, 4829 ± sq.ft. & features a 2,999 sq. ft. building and adjacent parking area. An excellent potential income producer offering a variety of business uses. \$995,000</p>

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ON NEWSSTANDS JANUARY 2009



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