Residents Urge DPNR “Do Not Approve” East Bay Beach Development

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

Calling the project “Sirenusa East” and questioning everything from environmental impacts to electrical capacity, residents overwhelmingly urged Department of Planning and Natural Resources’ Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning Director Stuart Smith to not approve a Group Dwelling Permit for East Bay Holding L.L.C. at a public hearing on Tuesday evening, March 11.

About 65 residents — a dozen of whom wore T-shirts emblazoned with the message “Do Not Approve” — filled classroom six at Guy Benjamin School for last week’s meeting and posed numerous concerns about the proposed project.

Continued on Page 3
More Than 300 Residents Sign Online Petition Against East Bay Beach Development

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

As residents heard more details of a proposed 28-unit development on the far end of East End, St. John, last week (see story on next page) an online petition against the project continues to attract signatures.

On Friday morning, March 14, a total of 362 individuals signed the “Do Not Approve” petition agreeing that the project is out of scale for the island and poses a danger to the very charm that entices visitors to St. John.

“We, the undersigned, being residents and/or concerned individuals of St. John, Virgin Islands hereby petition DPNR (Department of Planning and Natural Resources) to DO NOT APPROVE development at 6A-1 Estate Hansen Bay and its surroundings for the proposed 28 unit East Bay Beach club on St. John,” the petition reads. “The rapid development throughout the small island of St. John has surpassed the rate at which our environment, infrastructure, and community can be sustained on a healthy and efficient basis.”

“We are very concerned and not convinced that the members of East Bay Holding Company, LLC are concerned with keeping the integrity of our small island at large but more concerned with enlarging their bank accounts,” according to the petition. “We value our island and refuse to let these type developments happen, especially being that the developers are not investing anything back into our community to offset their impact, such as parks, parking, and/or roadway improvement.”

“St. John is unique amongst the other islands and its character is what brings people here,” the petition reads. “If that essential small town relaxed community feel is lost and replaced by yet another major development then everyone loses; visitors, business operators and residents. Do not approve!”

“We’ve drafted this petition to strongly encourage all Virgin Island residents and concerned individuals to sign the petition and join us in this effort to reasonably guide scalable growth to our community,” according to the petition.

The website allows signers to leave comments, many of which have lambasted the project.

“Many of us have grown up on this island we know as our home, our customs, our pride and most importantly our unity,” wrote Alexandria Jeffrey. “If more condos are built, it will be destroyed.”

“St. John has enough condos already,” wrote Cathy Hanscom. “It is an uncrowded jewel of the Virgin Islands. If you want tourists to continue to come no more monstrosities like Grande Bay and Serenusa.”

For more information, to sign the petition or leave a comment, go to http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/do-not-approve-permits-for-east-bay-holdings-llc. 

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GERS St. John Outreach March 19

The Government Employees’ Retirement System will be providing customer service outreach to St. John members on Wednesday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Battery in Cruz Bay.

CBYC’s 18th Flotilla Party March 22

On March 22, the Coral Bay Yacht Club is hosting the 18th Flotilla Party to benefit Guy Benjamin School from noon to 4 p.m. at Hansen’s Bay Beach on the East End of St. John (Round Bay).

Attendees can sail to the beach party aboard a volunteer sailboat in the morning, for $40 per person, which includes admission. Admission for those who drive there is $20 per person, which includes food consisting of West Indian dishes, hamburgers, hot dogs and salads.

All proceeds are used to enhance the education for students at Guy Benjamin School. Larger tax deductible donations may be made by check to the Coral Bay Community Council indicating “Flotilla” in the memo line. Join Coral Bay on March 22nd at this fun Flotilla Beach Party!

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V.I. Audubon Society’s Beach Picnic and Underwater Cleanup Is March 18

Instead of an evening general meeting in March, the Virgin Islands Audubon Society will have a picnic on the beach — Maho Beach — on Tuesday, March 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Audubon will supply hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers, chips, plates, plastic ware, napkins, condiments and a few side dishes. Please bring a dish to share and your own drinks, beach chairs, beach blanket, binoculars and snorkel gear. Remember, no glass on the beach.

Before lunch, the society do a little birdwatching along the shore with Judy Buchholz and Ranger Laurel Brannick. After we lunch, Dave Spoth will lead a beach and underwater cleanup near the pavilion area. Audubon will supply garbage bags.

SJC’s 25th Annual Meeting March 18

The St. John Community Foundation’s 25th Anniversary Community Impact Work Session and dinner meeting will be Tuesday, March 18, at the Bethany Moravian Church from 6 to 8 p.m.

CBCC Hosting Public Meeting Mar. 19

The Coral Bay Community Council will host a public meeting on Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 6 at Guy H. Benjamin School.

This is the second meeting based on the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Community Vision report. At the first meeting last month, the participants agreed to get together again to work on writing a brief, one page Community Vision, using the AIA report as a reference. At this meeting, groups to work on summarizing key aspects relating to culture, environment and economic vitality, and public infrastructure.

For more information, contact the CBCC office at 776-2099.

Cake Decorating Class Set for Mar. 19

The Friends of the Elaine I. Sprauve Library are sponsoring a cake decorating class at the library on Wednesday, March 19, starting at 3 p.m. Registration is required and there is a $6 fee for supplies. Attendees should bring unfrosted layer cake or cupcakes to class. Call 340-776-6359 or sign up at the library.

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Residents Urge DPNR “Do Not Approve” East Bay Development

Continued from Front Page

East Bay Holding Company owner Mark Davies, joined by partner Clark Bottner, requested a Group Dwelling Permit in order to construct the 28-unit East Bay Beach Club on eight acres of land on the East End of St. John. Plans include construction of 16 three-bedroom and 12 four-bedroom units, with several one story units along the beach and the remaining two story units on the hillside, a clubhouse and a pool.

The property is zoned R-1 (residential-1) and allows for the construction of two units per each half-acre. Davies requested the Group Dwelling Permit in order to cluster the 28 units on one portion of his eight-acre parcel of land.

Davies owns a total of about 75 acres on the East End which are divided into 35 different lots of various sizes. In order to access the land, the New Jersey-based developer paid $1 million to the Privateer Bay Home Owners Association and signed an easement agreement that prohibited the construction of commercial and large-scale development.

The 60-member Privateer Bay Home Owners Association was represented at last week’s meeting by Attorney Ron Pennington of Dudley, Topper and Feuerzeig, LLP, as well as by numerous residents who spoke on their own behalf as well.

“The easement did not contemplate a cluster of homes,” said Pennington. “This will mimic a hotel and condo area which touches on the commercial prohibitions in the easement agreement.”

East End home owner and green architect Doug White was more blunt in his remarks.

“This is a text-book example of greed-driven development led by a proven failed developer,” said White. “This will become Sirenuza East.”

White expounded on eight reasons why DPNR should deny Davies’ Group Dwelling Permit, citing concerns over the ability of the infrastructure on the island, and especially on the East End to handle this type of project; storm water runoff; lack of retaining walls; and the layout of the development which could easily be configured as a hotel-type of project.

“This development could easily be configured into between 52 and 96 lock-out bedroom units,” said White. “This is an insult to the history and culture of the East End.”

Several residents questioned if Centerline Road, already crumbling in several areas, could take the load of so many concrete trucks.

“You’re going to be bringing all that building material and concrete out there,” said Gail George. “The trucks are killing our roads.”

“Can Centerline Road bear the added weight and traffic from a project of this size,” asked Erin Moon.

Just off-shore of the proposed development site, located past Privateer Point at Parcel No. Remainder 6A-1 Estate Hansen Bay at East End Bay, are several healthy staghorn and elkhorn corals, explained Philip Stringer.

“I didn’t hear any mention of water off-shore,” said Stringer. “There are two forms of endanger coral, staghorn and elkhorn, there. The thicket of staghorn coral is the healthiest and largest I’ve seen anywhere in the Caribbean.”

“It’s a treasure,” said Stringer. “We are talking about the future; the future of East End, the future of St. John,” said Zucker. “This is just inappropriate. This is a vision I cannot support.”

“We are talking about the future of our little world out here and this is utterly inappropriate,” Zucker said.

The layout of the proposed development site lends itself to storm water retention, Davies explained.

“The way our site is set up, you would have to try to get water into

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Thursday, Mar. 20th

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"This is really about the future; the future of East End, the future of St. John,” said Davis. “This is a text-book example of greed-driven development led by a proven failed developer,” said White. “This will become Sirenuza East.”

— Architect Doug White, and East End homeowner

“Look before you leap,” said Swarthly. “Probably the most expensive place to build in all of the Virgin Islands is the East End. It’s almost guaranteed that you’re going to run out of money.”

The cost to the island will be another piece of nature gone, explained Delroy “Itzi” Anthony.

“We are losing our nature and our plants,” said Anthony. “You start bringing in the bulldozers and you’re going to change it.”

The area proposed for development resembles a fairy-tale setting, according to local plant ecologist Gary Ray.

“This area looks like something out of Grimm Fairy-tales; it’s a beautiful, beautiful thing,” said Ray.

For East End resident Eric Zucker, the development is about the future of the quiet island neighborhood.
St. John Public Schools Meet AYP as DOE Mulls Future of GBS

By Jaime Elliott

Department of Education officials last week released the latest Adequate Yearly Progress report for the territory and both St. John public schools celebrated good news.

The Guy Benjamin School and Julius E. Sprauve School both met AYP along with 16 other schools across the territory.

AYP is based on V.I. Territorial Assessment of Learning (VITAL-S & A) exam data, which is designed to measure student proficiency in the core subject areas of reading and math. The VITAL-S & A is administered in the territory in accordance with federal No Child Left Behind mandates.

While JESS did meet AYP standards in reading and math, the school was Identified for Improvement, as it has been for the past five years, according to the report. GBS, however, was not Identified for Improvement.

While the news was positive for elementary schools with 17 primary schools meeting AYP, there were still five elementary schools which did not meet standards in reading and math.

Last week’s AYP report was grim for the territory’s middle and high schools. Not one of the middle or junior high schools in the territory met AYP and the only public high school in the U.S. Virgin Islands which met AYP was Charlotte Amalie High School.

DOE officials plan to continue offering professional development as a way to boost those high school proficiency scores, explained DOE Commissioner Donna Frett-Gregory in a prepared statement.

“Looking at the released data, it is clear that there have been some gains overall — particularly in the area of our elementary schools — but we continued to be challenged with our high schools in both the areas of reading and math,” according to Frett-Gregory’s statement. “To address these challenges, the department, on the state level, has been supporting the districts and schools by providing our educators with the job embedded professional development they need to really succeed in the classroom.”

“On the district level, our superintendents and their teams have also been implementing a number of intervention programs — such as online comprehension programs in reading and math — for students in need of extra academic help, while also working to identify which of those programs work, which ones don’t, and which ones can be maximized to reach as many students as possible,” Frett-Gregory said. “Consultants have also been working with our State and District Offices of Curriculum and Instruction to provide support to those schools in restructuring.”

GBS Future in Question

The AYP news was announced last week as Coral Bay parents continued questioning DOE’s plans for the future of Guy Benjamin School.

DOE Superintendent Jeanette Smith-

Barry met with St. John parents at JESS last week to get feedback on what to do with the small Coral Bay public elementary school. The Coral Bay elementary school, whose students consistently meet AYP standards, has seen steadily declining enrollment, according to a DOE press release.

“Education officials met on St. John this week to receive feedback from parents on the possible placement of Guy Benjamin School students for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year, given the school’s low enrollment numbers and the cost of continuing to keep the campus running in spite of the small student population,” according to a prepared statement by DOE issued after the meeting.

Continued on Page 22
Justices of the Virgin Islands Supreme Court have rejected the latest appeal of two men convicted of assaulting a Pennsylvania man in a 2007 Cruz bay bar room fight.

Supreme Court Chief Judge Rhys Hodge, along with Associate Justices Maria Cabret and Ive Swan ruled against defendants Anselmo Boston and Kamal Thomas March 10. The two men are serving 12-1/2 year sentences for the beating of James Cockayne in June 2007.

Cockayne died from knife wounds minutes after participants in the fight, which began at the Front Yard Bar, raced up the road towards an alley near the former Fashion Palace clothing store in Contant-Enighed. A third man, Jalil Ward, who was present at the bar during the fight, was found guilty of inflicting the fatal wounds minutes later at the second location.

Boston and Thomas were originally charged with murder in the case, but the charges were lowered to assault as the case made its way twice through Superior Court and once through the high court on a related matter.

In issuing the March 10 opinion, Chief Justice Hodge addressed defendant’s claims that they were denied a trial by a fair and impartial jury. The claim was based on an assertion by Thomas that a juror overheard other jurors saying he and Boston killed Cockayne prior to the start of deliberations. That assertion almost derailed the second trial for Thomas and Boston. It became the subject of Oct. 9, 2012, and Nov. 13, 2012, evidentiary hearings. At the outcome the lower court ruled the defendants could not prove that overheard statements by an alternate juror tainted the deliberations by introducing extraneous or improper statements.

The trial resumed; both men were found guilty of using a dangerous weapon in the commission of a violent crime and simple assault. Thomas was further convicted on two counts of threatening a witness. But the defendants were not through with the legal challenge. They returned to the high court, saying the judge in their trial improperly kept them from questioning the jurors during the 2012 hearings.

Lawyers for both sides argued before Hodge, Cabret and Swan with the new legal argument on July 25, 2013.

“Following a remand from this Court, the Superior Court held a hearing to determine whether the jury that convicted Thomas and Boston considered extraneous or extrinsic information and if so, whether this misconduct was prejudicial,” Hodges wrote in his opinion. “Because we defer to the trial court’s factual finding that no misconduct occurred prior to deliberations, and further conclude that the Superior Court’s error in restricting the scope of the hearing was harmless, we affirm.”

The justices cited the Federal Rules of Evidence, a body of law that dictates how trials and related proceedings are conducted, in making this determination. Normally the parties to a hearing would not be allowed to question witnesses appearing an evidentiary hearing, but they said there three important exceptions to this rule.

And the circumstances surround Thomas’ claim that jurors had extraneous information introduced to them during deliberations, based on the statement of the alternate witness, was one of them.

However, the justices said, neither Thomas nor Boston followed through to prove the deliberations themselves were faulty. They also did not have their lawyers challenge statements made at trial, saying Cocayne died on the night they assaulted him.

Therefore it would not be considered out of the ordinary for jurors to discuss the possibility that Boston, Thomas or Ward had a hand in the victim’s death.

Jahlil Ward up for Parole?

Jean Cockayne, mother of James, said she has been keeping an eye on the high court proceedings and was thankful for the ruling.

“I have received and read this last appeal and I am relieved the process for Thomas and Boston is settled. My worry now is I believe Jahlil Ward may be paroled after only a few years,” the victim’s mother told Tradewinds.

Thomas and Boston were also convicted of third degree assault.
VIPA Appears To Put Rental Villa Greeters Fee Collection at Cruz Bay Dock on Hold

By Tom Oat
St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Port Authority Officials have continued to have no comment on the mysterious collection of fees from villa rental company representatives meeting arriving clients at the Loredon L. Boynes Dock in Cruz Bay in late 2013.

But the apparently unofficial practice appears to have been discontinued after villa companies questioned the authorization for the fee collection.

VIPA officials have been busy bringing taxi drivers under their control on the heels of taking over control of the waterfront taxi stand from the St. John Taxi Association earlier in 2013.

The taxi drivers objected to a daily fee instituted by VIPA when the agency took over the waterfront parking area used predominately as a taxi stand, but now that VIPA has the taxi stand under its control officials appear to be testing their authority over the three public parking spaces at the head of the ferry dock.

VIPA representatives first began collecting a daily fee from villa representatives who parked in the public spaces at the dock to meet guest late last year, according to greeters from several villa companies.

“Some people got receipts, some didn’t,” one villa rental representative acknowledged. “You can’t just charge one you have to charge everyone.”

Inconsistent Collections

Some villa owners are being charged per pick up, some are being charged once, and some are not being charged,” Bob Malacarne of Star Villas wrote in a February letter to Tradewinds. “Does this sound a little chaotic.”

Persons purporting to be VIPA employees subsequently sought to collect from villa representatives who had arranged to park at private Cruz Bay parking lots and were meeting arriving guests on foot to direct them to their rental homes or to rental car companies with signs identifying themselves as representatives of villa management companies.

“There is no charge for picking up visitors from the BVI at the Customs dock; there is no charge at the airport, at Red Hook or at the downtown ferry,” Malacarne continued. “The Port Authority has, obviously, not put much thought into or research into this ridiculous plan.”

Airport Car Rentals Recommended

Malacarne said villa rental agents are recommending customers rent vehicles at the St. Thomas airport and travel to St. John by barge instead of ferry which will impact St. John car rental agencies.

St. John Attorney Rafe Muilenberg sent a letter to VIPA Commissioner Carlton Dow and VIPA Chairman Robert O’Connor Jr. on behalf of the villa rental companies saying the agency was being discriminatory in not charging the fee for villa pick-ups on other islands or at other ports.

Representatives of villa companies also met with V.I. Tourism Commissioner Beverly Nicholson and VIPA Chairman Robert O’Connor Jr. of St. John to express their concern about being unfairly singled out for payment of a pick-up fee.

The villa management companies simultaneously are trying to negotiate the use of the public parking spaces on Cruz Bay beach adjacent to the Battery, according to one company owner, who acknowledged villa arrivals are “mostly” between 3 and 6 p.m. and mostly Saturdays.

The villa companies also have proposed that they take over the public parking adjacent to the rest rooms near the Battery complete with a tented greeting area, according to the long-time villa rental company owner.
The Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) will conduct a territorywide test of the Tsunami Warning System, as part of the annual CARIBE WAVE/LANT EX 14, a Caribbean and Northwestern Atlantic Tsunami Warning Exercise.

Between 10 and 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 26, VITEMA will activate tsunami sirens on St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas to transmit a tsunami warning message followed by a warning tone. No other messages will follow the tsunami warning alert.

“VITEMA’s objective is to validate that the tsunami warning sirens are operational and can seamlessly activate once triggered by the 911 Emergency Communications Center in St. Croix and in St. Thomas,” said Elton Lewis, VITEMA Director. “This early warning system is a critical public information tool for notifying coastal communities of an imminent threat of tsunami, especially in instances where there may be little time to act. The test is being conducted as part of a Caribbean-wide tsunami exercise and no action is required on the part of the general public.”

There are class action Settlements involving DRAM, a memory part that is sold by itself or as part of electronic devices such as computers, printers, and video game consoles.

The lawsuits claim that the Defendants fixed the price of DRAM causing individuals and businesses to pay more for DRAM and DRAM-containing devices. The Defendants deny that they did anything wrong.

Who is included in the Settlements?

Individuals and businesses that:

- Purchased DRAM or a device containing DRAM anywhere in the U.S. between 1998 and 2002,
- For their own use or for resale.

Purchases made directly from a DRAM manufacturer are not included (see the list of manufacturers at www.DRAMclaims.com or by calling 1-800-589-1425).

What do the Settlements provide?

The combined Settlements total $310 million. The amount of money you will receive depends on the type and quantity of electronic devices you purchased and the total number of claims made.

Eligible individuals and businesses are expected to get a minimum $10 payment and perhaps much more. Large purchasers could recover many thousands of dollars.

How can I get a payment?

Claim online or by mail by August 1, 2014. The simple online Claim Form only takes 3-5 minutes for most individuals.

What are my rights?

Even if you do nothing you will be bound by the Court’s decisions. If you want to keep your right to sue the Defendants yourself, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class by May 5, 2014. If you stay in the Settlement Class, you may object to the Settlements by May 5, 2014.

The Court will hold a hearing on June 25, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. to consider whether to approve the Settlements and a request for attorneys’ fees up to 25% of the Settlement Fund, plus reimbursement of costs and expenses. You or your own lawyer may appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.
$100,000 Anonymous Gift Brings SJHS Closer To Permanent Home

The St. John Historical Society is one step closer to realizing its dream of creating a permanent home thanks to an anonymous $100,000 donation announced at the society’s 40th anniversary party on Tuesday evening, March 11, at the Battery.

News of the donation, which was announced to the crowd of nearly 100 attendees by SJHS President Lonnie Willis, was met with gasps and a round of applause.

“We know that hard work and dedication are needed to make the Historical Society’s plans come alive, and have no doubt that the SJHS board is willing to put forth this effort,” Willis read from a letter sent to the society by the anonymous donor. “It is a pleasure to provide this donation to an organization whose purpose is to interpret, preserve, and share the history and heritage of an island we have grown to love. To ensure the society’s continued success and improve its ability to share the story of St. John in multiple and memorable ways, it is our hope that this contribution will encourage others in the community to also recognize and support the world-class efforts of this organization and its all-volunteer board.”

The SJHS announced in April 2013 it had signed a 99-year lease with the St. John Community Foundation for a portion of the foundation’s parcel at Estate Bellevue. The vision for this home, to be called the St. John Cultural and Historical Resource Center, includes a climate-controlled archive and museum/exhibit area, as well as meeting space and room for future expansion. It will be located nearby the historic ruins on the estate. The SJHS, working hand in hand with the SJCF, will play a key role in developing and preserving the site and making it available to the public.

“This incredibly generous anonymous contribution is the impetus that this organization needs to move us forward into phase two of our plans for the St. John Cultural and Historical Resource Center,” said Willis. “Phase one was ‘imagining,’ and phase two will be ‘creating.’ We are so thankful for this contribution, and I hope it will spur others to make similar commitments to our society and to our island.”

Longtime board member Rafe Continued on Page 28
Malfetti Murder Investigation Continues as Investigators Re-examine Victim’s Jeep

By Tom Oat
St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Police Department investigators have re-examined the Jeep belonging to James Malfetti III who was found dead in his apartment in a Boatman Point luxury home in January, but VIPD officials had nothing to report on their two month old investigation.

It was investigators’ second look at Malfetti’s vehicle, which had been taken from Malfetti’s residence sometime during the weekend before his body was discovered on Sunday morning, January 19, and had been abandoned near the south shore vacation home.

“They only did it because the FBI made them,” said one observer who knew Malfetti well. “It had already been cleaned after the police checked it the first time.”

The body of Malfetti, 41, a successful computer entrepreneur from New Jersey and watersports enthusiast who had lived on St. John for several years was found in his apartment in the guest house of a vacation rental home on the south shore of St. John. Malfetti had died from multiple stab wounds to the neck, according to sources.

Family Critical of VIPD Investigation

Malfetti’s family have been critical of the VIPD’s handling of the investigation since its earliest stages and hired the same private investigator who assisted the family of Jamie Cockayne, who died in 2007 after being stabbed in a street attack in Cruz Bay following a bar confrontation with several local men.

That private investigator and Malfetti’s family members have charged the VIPD with mishandling their investigation — including declaring the wrong date of his death.

St. John Deputy Police Chief Maria Jones confirmed Sunday afternoon, January 19, that police were investigating a suspicious death at an apartment on Boatman Road and/ 911 Emergency Dispatch notified police of the case at 9:55 a.m. that morning.

The Malfetti family’s private investigator said Malfetti may have been killed after the attempted robbery of the owners of the main house at which his apartment was located in the days before his body was found, sources have told Tradewinds.

The owners of the residence had reported a burglary on Saturday morning, January 18, according to the record at the Leander Jurgen Command in Cruz Bay. Police who responded to the burglary report did not check Malfetti’s apartment at that time because his vehicle was not at the apartment, according to Tradewinds sources.

Private Investigator Discounts Rumors

Another island rumor questioned whether Malfetti was killed in a case of mistaken identity because the prior tenant of the apartment, who had moved out in late 2013, was claiming he was the intended target of the attack.

The private investigator, who spent five days on St. John investigating Malfetti’s death in January, Todd Phoenix, has discounted the mistaken identity rumor and said there are “other persons of interest” in the case. The private investigator also said he has had limited official contact with VIPD investigators since then.

“Nothing new at this point,” Phoenix e-mailed Tradewinds. “Still not much (little to none!) communication from VIPD to the Malfettis as far as progress.”

“I would greatly appreciate it if you could ask anyone with any information to contact me (phoenixpix2003@yahoo.com). VI Crimestoppers or VIPD,” Phoenix wrote. “Additionally, supporters of the Justice For Jimmy Facebook page recently had bumper stickers made and they are available at various locations on St. John.”

The VIPD has continued to have no comment on any portion of their “active investigation” into a case which has produced numerous rumors on a small island and brought negative national publicity for the island.

One U.S. Senator from New Jersey has called for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to join the investigation although there is no indication the FBI has played any role in the investigation.

The VIPD reported one week after the discovery of Malfetti’s body that their investigation was continuing. This case was being investigated by the Major Crime Bureau and Intelligence Agents. Forensic technicians collected and are processing evidence.

“It’s an on-going investigation,” Rames said at that time. There have not been any subsequent reports on the investigation from the VIPD.

Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477 (TIPS)

The top law enforcement officer of the Virgin Islands encouraged anyone with information on the circumstances that led to Malfetti’s death to call his office at 340-715-5506, Major Crimes at 340-642-8449, or Crime Stoppers USVI at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

St. John Tradewinds, March 17-23, 2014

Guy H. Benjamin School Registration Monday, Mar. 24

Kindergarten registration on St. John is scheduled for Monday, March 24, at Julius E. Sprauve School in Cruz Bay. Parents are reminded to obtain an immunization “blue slip” in advance from the clinic.
The best future use of the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center (MKSCHC) got an airing at the latest meeting of the Health and Hospitals Corporation Territorial Board.

Schneider Regional Medical Center (SRMC) Chief Executive Officer Bernard Wheatley raised the topic during his report to the board March 12. Wheatley said he and his acting chief financial officer have been speaking with financial consultants about ways to improve revenues.

Hospital executives are exploring the chance that MKSCHC can be converted into an acute care hospital. Doing so would allow the clinic to utilize the small number of hospital beds on the premises.

The possibility was also raised of using the beds to accommodate patients abandoned at hospitals on St. Thomas or St. Croix. Aldrea Wade, a member of the territorial board and former MKSCHC administrator, said the facility was supposed to be used as a swing bed facility.

An acute care hospital can exist in a rural area or somewhere where the nearest hospital is at least 35 miles, according to rules set by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. Because St. John patients have to cross Pillsbury Sound in order to access care at Schneider Hospital, officials say the shorter distance may qualify them still.

“That facility could be enhanced in its utilization,” Wheatley said.

The possibilities for MKSCHC were shared with visiting financial consultants from Clifton Larson Allen.

If the clinic were to qualify for a change in status there would also be different compensation rates from the federal insurance programs, increasing revenue for SRMC.

If it were used as a swing bed facility MKSCHC would allow St. John patients ready for discharge from Schneider Hospital but still in need of medical care to be admitted for more time for recovery before going home.

Board member also raised the possibility that the St. John clinic’s beds could be used for boarded patients — left by friend and relatives who never returned to take them home — or to house the mentally ill.

The Juan F. Luis Hospital on St. Croix does not currently have a mental health ward and has been sending its patients to Schneider Hospital for care.

Several days before the board met March 12, Wheatley spoke to a reporter in an interview in which he said if CMS were to grant a change in status it would not happen soon.
Join the American Legion and Auxiliary at Mama Juama March 22 in Coral Bay

By Jaime Elliott
_St. John Tradewinds_
A day of food, fun and information is planned for Saturday, March 22, at the Department of Agriculture Station in Coral Bay.

The American Legion Viggo E. Sewer Post #131 is hosting Mama Juama from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., an arts and craft fair and fundraiser at the group’s headquarters just down the road from Love City Mini Mart in Coral Bay.

Named in honor of a traditional rum and herb concoction made for hundreds of years, the American Legion’s Mama Juama will a family fun day featuring food cooked up by members of the American Legion Auxiliary, drinks, a plant sale, local artists and craftspeople as well as information for veterans.

“We want to get the word out that we are here,” said the American Legion Post #131 Commander Doug Benton. “A lot of veterans don’t know we even exist. We want veterans to know what their benefits are.”

A Veterans Affairs representative will be on hand at the Mama Juama to share information with veterans, Benton added.

“Veterans can sign up and join if they want to,” said Benton. “But even if they just want to know some of the benefits, there will be a table with all that information.”

The group is still looking for local artists who would like to sell at the event. Vendor tables are available for $20.

For more information, call Benton at 714-2415.

Island’s Homeless Find Food, Showers at Seventh Day Adventist Church

By Tom Oat
_St. John Tradewinds_
Annette Smalls is doing big things for the homeless and less fortunate of the Cruz Bay area.

While V.I. government health and human services officials struggle to deal with the health and social needs of the territory’s homeless, Smalls is working with fellow members of the Cruz Bay Seventh Day Adventist Church, to feed and cloth the 15 or so true homeless on the streets of the island community — and anyone else in need.

On the first Thursday night in March, Smalls and a handful of church members set up tables and chairs in the Centerline Road church’s community room to serve hot, homemade food to the whomever showed up for the weekly event.

Although the volunteers had prepared trays of food for the weekly supper, only one of the handful of regular attendees showed up to take a shower and get some clean clothes before dinner on the first Thursday in March.

But he was very appreciative.

“It’s great,” said Greg, who had come that night for a shower and change of clothes followed by a meal and welcomed the fellowship of the church members and their families before heading back out on the streets of Cruz Bay.

“It is really needed,” added Greg who has been on the streets for much of the past ten years.

There are as many as 15 homeless on the streets of Cruz Bay, Greg said the next day as he watched the traffic come and go at the Cruz Bay ferry dock from a bench in the Frank Powell Park.

“Community service is part of the church,” Smalls explained of the small congregation of about 120.

“Every church has a community service ministry.”

“Community service includes taking care of the needs of anyone who may have needs and during times of crisis,” Smalls explained. “However people are hurting.”

“Food we’ve been doing since 2012,” Smalls said of church efforts feed the island’s homeless.

Help for the homeless, which had been available five or six days a week at places such as the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, had been cut down to three days a week when Smalls returned from living in the states.

“I came back and found there was a need,” Smalls said. The Catholic church was doing Monday and Friday meals and Catholic Charities does a soup kitchen, she explained.

“We began the Thursday evening dinner a year ago in April,” Smalls said of the program in the street level of the church overlooking Cruz Bay. “We started the showers in September. We are the only ones to offer shavers.”

“We have plenty of used clothing donated by our gentlemen at the church,” she added.

“We also do laundry,” Smalls said.
LEGAL NOTICE

To all individuals and businesses that accept American Express cards:
Notice of a class action settlement.

Si desea recibir esta notificación en español, llámenos o visite nuestra página web.

Notice of a class action settlement authorized by the U.S.
District Court, Eastern District of New York.

This notice is authorized by the Court to inform you
about an agreement to settle two class action lawsuits that
may affect you. The cases - In re American Express Anti-
Steering Rules Antitrust Litigation (II), No. 11-MD-2221
and Marcus Corp. v American Express Co. et al., 13-CV-
07355 - are in the U.S. District for the Eastern District of
New York. These cases allege that certain rules applicable
to merchants that accept American Express cards violate
antitrust laws and resulted in merchants paying excessive
fees. The Court has not decided which side is right because
the parties agreed to settle.

Who’s included?

The settlement applies to a class comprised of all
merchants that accept American Express cards at any
location in the United States (including at a physical
merchant location, online or via a mobile application) as
of or after February 12, 2014, onward.

What are the Settlement terms?

The settlement will require American Express to change
its rules to allow merchants who accept American Express
cards to charge customers an extra fee or “surcharge”
if they pay with an American Express credit or charge
card under certain conditions including that any such
surcharge apply to all credit and charge card transactions.
The specific rule changes and terms of the settlement
are explained in detail in the court-approved, long-
form notice (“Notice”) and the Class Settlement
Agreement, which are found at the case website
(www.AmexMerchantSettlement.com). You should
 review these documents carefully. Your legal rights are
affected even if you do nothing. You can also obtain copies
of the Notice and Class Settlement Agreement by calling
the toll-free number below.

You do not need to file a claim to receive the benefits
of the rule changes provided for by the settlement. If
you want to seek monetary damages related to American
Express’s existing merchant rules, you can pursue those
claims consistent with the dispute resolution provisions
contained in your card acceptance agreement. No money
will be distributed to the class.

Your options.

You may object to the settlement by June 6, 2014. The
Notice available at the case website explains how to object.
Regardless of whether you object, if the settlement is
finally approved, you will be bound by the Court’s final
judgment and the releases explained in the Class Settlement
Agreement, which is available at the case website.

Court hearing about
the Settlement.

The Court will hold a hearing on September 17, 2014 to
consider whether to approve the settlement and the request
by the attorneys for the class for attorneys’ fees, expenses,
and service awards up to a maximum total of $75 million.
You do not need to appear at the hearing or hire your own
attorney. But you can if you want to, at your own cost.
The Court has appointed Friedman Law Group, LLP,
Reinhardt, Wendorf & Blanchfield, and Patton Boggs LLP
to represent the class.

Questions?

For more information about the settlement you should
visit the website (www.AmexMerchantSettlement.com)
or call 1-866-686-8694.

www.AmexMerchantSettlement.com • 1-866-686-8694
**ACC Looking for Help To Count Cats**

The Animal Care Center of St. John would like the residents of Coral Bay, the East End and surrounding areas to report a head count of the free-roaming cats in their neighborhoods. This information will help the ACC’s trap/spay/neuter/release program — in its attempt to alter all free-roaming cats — to better organize its effort.

Residents are asked to call Shelley LeTendre, T/S/N/R coordinator, at (340) 693-7448 to report the approximate number of cats seen and the area where they are located. The ACC would appreciate this information at earliest convenience.

As always, residents who see unaltered cats in their neighborhoods are asked to call the ACC at (340) 774-1625. Cats that have been spayed or neutered have the tip on their left ear clipped.

The ACC thanks residents for their assistance in keeping the free-roaming cat population healthy and under control.

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**Paige Clarke Sails Into Youth Olympic Games and Will Represent VI in China**

**By Jaime Elliott**

**St. John Tradewinds**

Shifty winds didn’t stop St. John sailor Paige Clarke from punching her ticket to this summer’s Youth Olympic Games.

Clarke, a 14-year-old tenth grader at Antilles School, battled the changing conditions at Jensen Beach, Florida, during the recent North American and Optimist Championships on the way to posting a fourth place finish for girls and securing the second qualifying position.

Clarke will represent the U.S. Virgin Islands at the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, this August. Scott McKenzie of St. Thomas and Sam Morrell of the British Virgin Islands also qualified for the Youth Olympic Games at the recent Florida regatta.

Sailing a Byte, a one-design boat similar to a small laser and perfect for sailors advancing from Optimist racing, Clarke didn’t let the changing conditions frustrate her.

“The wind was really shifty; it was all over the place,” said Clarke. “But I do well in light winds, so it was fine.”

The Coral Bay resident started sailing with the St. John Kids and the Sea program as a nine-year-old and began racing competitively when she was 11. A member of the Antilles Sailing Team, Clarke plans to sail in several Laser regattas this summer as she gears up for the Youth Olympic Games, which begin August 16.

“I’ll be doing a couple of Byte clinics this summer too,” she said.

Nanjing promises to be just the first of many lead-up regattas as Clarke hopes to one day represent her home territory at the Summer Olympics, just like fellow Coral Bay Olympian Mayumi “Mimi” Roller who sailed a Women’s Laser Radial in the 2012 London Summer Olympics.

“I definitely want to sail in the Olympics,” Clarke said.

The Coral Bay sailor loves sailing so much, she couldn’t pin down one thing she enjoyed most.

“There is not one thing I like best,” she said. “I like all of it.”

Clarke credited her early instruction from the non-profit youth sailing program St. John KATS, as well as the group’s continued support, for helping her succeed.

“It’s definitely all thanks to KATS for starting me out and still supporting me,” said Clarke.

Keep an eye on Clarke; this young lady’s sailing career promises to be an exciting and successful one. And she’s just getting started.

Congratulations Paige!

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**DPNR Working To Control Boat Landings on Cruz Bay Beach**

Two DPNR officers were on Cruz Bay beach in early March speaking with boaters arriving by dinghies on the beach in front of the Grande Bay Resort to inform them that the landing area for small boats is at the far end of the beach by the Cruz Bay Cemetery.

The officers issued no citations and discussions with boaters were cordial.

“This is just informational,” one officer told Tradewinds.

DPNR officials will meet with owners of businesses which use the beach for commercial purposes to discuss operations in the partially-marked swimming area, according to one officer.
St. John Tradewinds, March 17-23, 2014

Cinnamon Stones offers an inviting lap pool, above left, with unobstructed views North, above right.

**Cinnamon Stones Offers Luxurious Caribbean Living with Postcard Perfect Views**

*By Jaime Elliott  
*St. John Tradewinds*

From the jaw-dropping views of the postcard perfect North Shore beaches and off-shore cays, to the full one acre lot offering an estate-type feel, Cinnamon Stones is an exceptional property.

With a total of five bedrooms and six and one-half bathrooms, this Estate Catherineberg home is for sale for $8.34 million, explained Holiday Homes of St. John owner/broker Miles Stair, who is the co-listing agent with sales associate Abigail Schnell O’Connell.

“The home was lovingly designed with architect and owner input, and built with care and style,” said Stair. “This is a very special villa, high above the North Shore of St John.”

Cinnamon Stones is perched above the island’s famed alabaster North Shore coastline in Estate Catherineberg within V.I. National Park, meaning those views will never be disturbed.

It will be difficult to pull yourself away from those stunning views of the shoreline below and out to the British Virgin Islands, but when you do, those VINP beaches are only a short drive away. Cruz Bay’s dining and shopping is also a few minutes’ drive from Cinnamon Stone.

The full one acre property consists of a four bedroom suite main home and a separate one-bedroom cottage offering guests plenty of privacy. The home boasts exquisite details, high ceilings and a luxurious, yet still Caribbean feel.

Inside find an impressive great room with arched doorways framing those water views and spacious decks offering the perfect place to enjoy meals al fresco and take advantage of the tropical climate.

“The open air great room and expansive decks at Cinnamon Stone, make for an indoor/outdoor experience of the best of the Virgin islands,” said Stair.

A covered loggia further expands the living space and offers a shaded area from which to soak up those views. The professional-grade custom kitchen boasts granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and hardwood cabinets. Cinnamon Stones also features a hot tub, a refreshing swimming pool, a game lounge, a fitness room and a 1,100 bottle wine closet.

Each of the four bedroom suites at Cinnamon Stones main house is decorated with individual charm and offer outdoor seating areas and private bathrooms. The master suite also boasts a Japanese style soaking tub and a balcony begging for long mornings of lounging.

The separate cottage, Pebble Beach, boasts a cozy living room, screened porch and full kitchen. With a spacious bedroom and bathroom, you’re guests will never want to leave.

The home would be ideal for both part-time and full-time residents, according to Stair.

“A winter retreat for the owner/builders and a popular summer rental, Cinnamon Stones makes a great spot for short or long term residents,” said the Holiday Homes of St. John broker/owner.

For more information on Cinnamon Stone, call Stair or O’Connell at Holiday Homes at (340) 776-6776 or call Stair on his cell at (340) 998-7351.
Giftt Hill School is so grateful to all of the supporters of the 28th Annual Auction!

Our event was a huge success, and we could not have done it without you!

Special thanks to Caneel Bay Resort and its phenomenal staff for hosting the event, The Westin St. John for their support and generosity, Steve & Janet Simonsen for producing the video, Darron & Hope Meares for donating their auctioneer services, R & I PATTON goldsmithing for their donation of the gorgeous emerald necklace for our champagne raffle, Dionysus, Bellows, West Indies, and Premier Wine Distributors for sponsoring the wine and champagne, Motu for hosting the after-party and DJ Top Notch for keeping the dance floor full, Kate Norfleet for graphic design, Peter Fortunato of Outside the Box Solutions for creating and administering the auction website and serving as proxy bidder, Grande Bay Resort for hosting our auctioneer team and donating to the event, Rosemary Richards and her art students for their beautiful work, Chef Francis and GHS Farm to Table students for creating the salads and appetizers, Lori Barlas for coordinating all of the data entry and front desk volunteers, Andrew Barlas for setting up our sound system, Morgan Barlas and Topher Dunlap for their technical support and setup of our computer system, Dave Minner and our EARTH interns for creating the starter garden, Jill Hale for overseeing our spotter, Meghan Duffy for coordinating our volunteers, Brittany MacNealy for joining our volunteer team with such enthusiasm, Jonny Flood for the live music, Jillian Dray for helping with anything we needed, Savannah Loftus for photographing the event and setting up the fun photo booth, Alfredo’s Landscaping for the beautiful centerpieces, Sean and Crystal D’Abbraccio for creating the mosaic tile pots with our students, Swaka Attika for helping secure wine donations, Caribbean Auto for offering their vehicles at cost, and Karye Carney of Sold on St. John for the live auction champagne.

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Lauris Lipsky, Kim Nogueira, Lucy Porlock, Kaye Thomas Eichner, Carson Tredgett, Students: Maia Ginthier and Savanna Morrissette

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Letters To St. John Tradewinds

Compassion Is the Best Policy

The world is billions of years old. Life is billions of years old. About two million years ago we started to become the controller of life on this planet, the most advanced form of life.

A few thousand years ago we somehow outlasted all the other candidates and we became man. An animal that could understand what was going on, that could learn. That could learn quickly. We have learned to go to the moon. Now it is time to start learning to control our instincts, not just adapt to them.

We need to stop reacting to the first feeling that we have in any situation and try to be present to the event. Pay attention and understand that if you add more caring to reduce your feelings of fear you can become free of the control fear has on your body systems. Fear is a very positive instinct, like all of our instincts, it has helped us to survive to this point in our growth but if allowed to continue to control us we will destroy this planet.

Compassion is about helping our selves by helping other forms of life and the rest of the Cosmos. Learning to love each other is the easiest way to do it. But how ever we do it, it is important that we start to try to do it now.

The problem is that our instincts, the body functions of flight or fight happen before our consciousness recognizes it, just like it does in all other forms of life. When someone bumps into us or does not return a “good morning” first our body systems react, our heart beats faster, our muscles tense, blood flows to the body from arms in legs ready for flight or flight, then our brain goes into a reaction mode; what justified this action that is stimulating our system? Fear? Desire?

After that we quickly begin to analyze the situation according to the experiences that we have had. What was happening to us when we were four years old is what influenced the way we look at the world now. “Born again as little children.” Does that mean learn to go back before our instincts and surroundings so greatly influenced our minds? To have fear and all our other instincts become a system stimulation that we can understand the cause and decide appropriate response. We can begin to decide what the appropriate reaction is and do it, instead continuing to be controlled by the reaction that we learned as little children?

This can be done my meditating, finding a spiritual leader, even religion could do it but I have never met a religious leader that was not so controlled by their own “self” that they could help in any meaning full way. However we do it we end up loving each other, so why not try loving each other as the path to spiritual growth? Compassion? The Dalai Lama definitions is “a desire to alleviate the suffering of others and to promote their well-being.” Not very complex.

Greg Miller

Every Church Would Be Full

There is a sense of nostalgia when you can come back home and meet things the way you left them. However, for places of learning you would expect the education within to speak to the problems that are facing us outside.

A friend recently told me that he can guess what the minister is going to preach on, the songs that they will sing and so on. This is the result of many years of attendance. When you’ve come to know the service, you can probably walk through it blindfolded.

Now please understand me carefully. Ministers and church folks. I’m not putting down any denomination or clergy. What I’m saying is that we have a pre-packaged service every Sunday.

In one sense it’s good because the older folk have grown up with it and enjoy the familiarity. On the other hand, the young people having heard it before are expecting something different to speak to their needs.

That is why the television preachers have attracted many followers. They are mixing the gospel message with real life and then offering practical applications to render a workable solution.

We understand that Jesus came and died for our sins. The issue is how do we make Him an everyday part of our lives. That way, true transformation can take place.

Whether the media evangelists have more theology education or have been through more life experiences, now is the time for our church leaders to be more open, honest and direct about the church service.

Young people will not find meaning if the music and the message don’t stir their souls. They will tune it out or find an excuse not to go to church. It’s unfortunate because without a good spiritual balance, the hurts and pains of this world will destroy their hopes, dreams and bodies.

The Holy Spirit is the most unpacified part of the Trinity. We focus so much on God and Jesus and forget that it is by the Holy Spirit that we are guided.

Let’s stop and put aside our self-created notions of how church should be.

If it was working, every church would be full of children, teens and young adults.

Just Saying
Emmanuel Prince

SEND LETTERS, GUEST OPINIONS & OBITUARIES: editor@tradewinds.vi
Obituaries

Winetta C. Boyd Stapleton

St. John Tradewinds

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 15, for Winetta C. Boyd Stapleton who died on February 27, 2014, at the age of 67 at Schneider Hospital on St. Thomas after a brief illness.

Tributes were offered at 9 a.m. on Saturday at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in Cruz Bay with services following.

Stapleton will be cremated.

She is survived by her sons, Derwin H. Hodge, Henry O. Hodge Jr., Jarvis B. Hodge Sr.; daughter, Winella L. Hodge; brothers, Emmanuel, Tyrone and Henry Boyd; sisters, Monica Boyd Richards, Virginia Boyd, Laluna Boyd, Mavis Presly, Violet Bess, Theresa Germaine and Helen Pelier; grandchildren, Je Vonte Hodge, Jarvia Hodge, Kadeah N. Thomas, Kadeem G. Thomas, Deleah Hodge, Amniah Hodge, Derwin Hodge Jr., Henry Hodge III, Isiah Hodge, Jevonte Hodge and Jauria Hodge and great-grandchildren, Kadeem G. Thomas Jr., Amberlyn Thomas and Kadiisse Thomas; and many other loving relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements were by Hurley-Davis Funeral Home.

Lillian Vonda Charles

St. John Tradewinds

The family of Lillian Vonda Charles announces her passing on February 27, 2014, in Atlanta GA.

She is survived by her parents Ozzy and Alice Charles, son Jayden Brooks, sisters Carmen Thomas and Anice Charles, brothers Rhunstead and Osmand Cosimir, Charleston, Dexter, Sean, and Irvin Charles, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, one niece in-law, one grand nephew, her godchild Kimesha and many other relatives and friends too numerous to mention residing in the Virgin Islands, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Barbados, Curaçao, Aruba, Montserrat, England and the USA and Canada.

A memorial service will take place in Atlanta at Raleigh Rucker funeral home in Decatur on Saturday March 8, 2014, at 1pm.

Another memorial service will be announced for St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands on a later date.

Lillian F. Lutz

St. John Tradewinds

Lillian F. Lutz, 93, of Bremen, Maine passed away on March 3, 2014 after a brief illness.

Lillian was born in Boston, MA, on September 24, 1920, the daughter of Eugene and Sophie Samson. She was a graduate of Hyde Park High School in Boston, and married Dr. John H. Lutz on January 31, 1942.

They enjoyed life together until John’s passing of animals, gardening, and nature. She was also a talented artist.

Lillian and John raised their family in Wyckoff, NJ and later spent 25 of their retirement years living on Saint John USVI where they were avid members of the St. John Historical Society. After years of spending summers in Bremen, they moved there permanently in 1995.

Lillian is survived by two children; Karen (Don) McClure of Damariscotta, ME and Kurt (Wendy) Lutz of Yarmouth, ME. She had four grandchildren; Douglas McClure of Framingham, MA, Lisa Lutz of Seattle, WA, Daniel McClure of Arlington MA, and Karl Lutz of Long Beach, CA. She is also survived by four great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, it was Lillian’s wish that donations be made to animal shelters.

A private family memorial will be held at a later date.

Friends of Virgin Islands National Park

2014 Seminar Series

January 11 – April 15, 2014

Call 340.779.4940 to book today!

March

PEPPER SAUCE MAKING • Mar. 12, Wed. • 12:30pm – 2:30pm
Meet: St. John School of the Arts; Bring: Notebook;
Seminar Fee: $35 Mem / $45 Non Mem • Max Group: 20

COASTAL ECOLOGY • Mar. 15, Sat. • 9:00am – 3:00pm
Meet: National Park Visitor Center;
Bring: Lunch, water, sunscreen, & snorkel gear;
Seminar Fee: $75 Mem / $85 Non Mem • Max Group: 20

FULL MOON HIKE • Mar. 16, Sun. • 5:30pm – 8:30pm
Meet: Salt Pond parking lot;
Bring: Hiking shoes, flashlight, snack, & water;
Seminar Fee: $45 Mem / $55 Non Mem • Max Group: 20

TROPICAL LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY • Mar. 24, Mon. • 8:00am – noon
Meet: Friends of the Park Store;
Bring: Camera & manual, batteries, memory cards, water, & notebook;
Seminar Fee: $45 Mem / $55 Non Mem • Max Group: 15

LIONFISH BOAT ADVENTURE • Mar. 26, Wed. • 9:30am – 3:00pm
Meet: Friends of the Park Store;
Bring: Lunch, water, sunscreen, & snorkel gear;
Seminar Fee: $85 Mem / $95 Non Mem • Max Group: 30

EXPLORE & PHOTOGRAPH LEINSTER BAY • Apr. 5, Sat. • 9:00am – 3:00pm
Meet: Annaberg parking lot;
Bring: Lunch, water, sunscreen, & snorkel gear;
Seminar Fee: $35 Mem / $45 Non Mem • Max Group: 15

ECO SPA MUD BATH • Apr. 9, Wed. • 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Meet: Salt Pond parking lot;
Bring: Old swimsuit, towel, water, & snack;
Seminar Fee: $35 Mem / $45 Non Mem • Max Group: 15

TROPICAL GARDEN TOUR II • Apr. 12, Sat. • 9:00am – 3:00pm
Meet: Friends of the Park Store to carpool;
Bring: Lunch, water, & sunscreen;
Seminar Fee: $35 Mem / $65 Non Mem • Max Group: 20

FULL MOON HIKE • Apr. 15, Tues. • 5:30pm – 8:30pm
Meet: Salt Pond parking lot;
Bring: Hiking shoes, flashlight, snack, & water;
Seminar Fee: $25 Mem / $35 Non Mem • Max Group: 20

pick up a brochure for more details!
Kimberly Jo Price Lapsley

St. John Tradewinds
Harrisonburg, VA. – Kimberly Jo Price Lapsley, 41, of Goods Mill Road in Harrisonburg, died March 2, 2014, while on a birthday vacation on the island of St John USVI. She is survived by Samuel B. Lapsley, her husband of almost 20 years.

She was the devoted daughter of Joe Price and the late Nancy D. Price of Bridgewater; was the sister of Mark H. Price of Briery Branch and the daughter-in-law of Sara H. Lapsley and the late Norvell A. Lapsley of Lexington. She was particularly fond of her three nephews Samuel, Benjamin and William, sons of Neil and Sara Lapsley Houff of Mt. Crawford and was loved by uncles, aunts and cousins from her families in North Carolina.

Kimberly was a graduate of Turner Ashby High School and in only three years graduated Magna Cum Laude in English Literature from Mary Baldwin College in Staunton. She also studied at St. Anne’s College at Oxford University in the UK and was a member of the English Honor Society - Sigma Tau Delta.

She was a participant and supporter of the Save A Lab organization and her sweet Dudley Labradoodle, Lillet, was a great joy in her life. She also was a big supporter of the Animal Care Center of St. John USVI (ACC St. John).

In her early years, Kimberly frequently enjoyed singing songs with her father and appreciated and collected music from a vast array of genres. She and her husband Sam performed together at many venues and she was a member of the 100 Proof bluegrass band. Kimberly delighted in preparing special gourmet meals for friends and family and some of her past birthday celebrations were spent entertaining as many stringed instrument musician friends that could fit into her home.

Her adventurous spirit led her to her first experience in skydiving this past autumn and she planned another such adventure during her trip to St. John along with sailing and island hopping with some of her dear friends there, whom she had come to know and love in the past few years.

One of Kimberly’s greatest gifts was her ability to make a lasting positive impression and impact on someone she first met. The family has received countless tributes to her in the form of artwork, songs, poetry and stories from individuals known and unknown, whose lives were touched by a kind word or selfless act. The family is eternally grateful for those expressions.

A memorial service was held at Massanutten Presbyterian Church, 50 Indian Trail Rd., Penn Laird, Va. 22846, Saturday, March 15, 2014 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, individuals may make donations in her name to the Animal Care Center of St. John, P.O. Box 429, St. John, VI 00831-0429. (340) 774-1625.
**Historical Bits & Pieces**
by Chuck Pishko

**Thoughts on Transfer Day**

*St. John Tradewinds*

In 2011, I was fortunate to have one of my columns published in Governor deJongh’s program for the Transfer Day Ceremony on St. Croix. The forty-four page booklet was coordinated by Jessica C. Henderson of the Governor’s Office. Articles were written by Senator Myron Jackson, Susan Lugo, Gregory LaMotta, Betsy Elizabeth Rezende, and Nina York. I was in the company of major historical writers and grateful for it.

I especially enjoyed the Lugo article which is liberally illustrated with contemporary newspaper accounts. All was not a bed of roses. There was weeping and gnashing of teeth at the prospect of joining a nation which was noted for lynching as well as general mistreatment of its black citizens. Also, the United States was involved in World War I which became a primary focus of the military government imposed on the islands.

As we well know, despite enormous gains made in self-government, we’re still on the road to full citizenship.

The *Virgin Islands Daily News* reported in 1980 a story of a Navy seaman, Carl W. Berg, who went on raids in 1917 with Rear-Admiral James H. Oliver who was appointed Governor of the Virgin Islands of United States and military commander of the islands; an important strategic link as protector of the Panama Canal and main gateway between Europe and South America.

Berg had heard radio signals and traced them to Signal Hill where the raid uncovered a warehouse full of provisions; sugar, flour, etc. to supply the German submarine fleet. They captured a German national and a woman accomplice who were sent to Washington as prisoners and destroyed their radio contact. Using a radio compass Berg was able to determine the position of a major German communications centre in South America. Naval records show that Admiral Oliver was authorized to establish a station, a submarine base, refrigerator plant, and a radio station.

Public order had been kept by a Danish gendarmerie corps. Unfortunately, the horses and horse equipment essential to police the country district belonged to the Danish State and were sold for the benefit of the Danish Treasury leaving Oliver without the means to properly police.

Needless to say, 14 years of Naval Administration soured the populace on United States rule. The brutal actions used against Haitian rebels the 1915 Occupation did not sit well with the intelligent-law abiding citizens of these islands.

There was indignation that we were spared. On March 29, 1917 the *New York Times* reported that it had bee n suggested that the Virgin Islands be named after the hero of Manila Bay, Rear-Admiral George H. Dewey. Even though named after a hero of the Spanish American War, in modern times a connection would evolve between the Dewey Islands and Donald Duck’s nephew, Dewey. Disney Cruises would be landing here with expectations of greetings from the famous nephew of Donald Duck!
Tuesday, March 18
— The Virgin Islands Audubon Society will have a picnic on Maho Bay Beach on Tuesday, March 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Audubon will supply hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers, chips, plates, plastic ware, napkins, condiments and a few side dishes. Please bring a dish to share and your own drinks, beach chairs, beach blanket, binoculars and snorkel gear. Before lunch, the society will lead a beach and underwater cleanup.

— The St. John Community Foundation’s 25th Anniversary Community Impact Work Session and dinner meeting will be Tuesday, March 18, at the Bethany Moravian Church from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 340-693-9410.

Wednesday, March 19
— The Government Employees’ Retirement System will be providing customer service outreach to St. John members on Wednesday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Battery in Cruz Bay.

— The Friends of the Elaine L. Sprauve Library are sponsoring a cake decorating class at the library on Wednesday, March 19, starting at 3 p.m. Registration is required and there is a $6 fee for supplies. Attendees should bring an unfrosted layer cake or cupcakes to class. Call 340-776-6359 or sign up at the library.

— The Coral Bay Community Council will host a public meeting on Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 6 at Guy H. Benjamin School.

Saturday, March 22
— The Coral Bay Yacht Club will host the 18th Flotilla Party to benefit the Guy H. Benjamin School on Saturday, March 22, from noon to 4 p.m. at Hansen’s Bay Beach on the East End of St. John (Round Bay).

Sunday, March 23
— Join Reverend Will Saunders at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. John Service on Sunday, March 23, at 10 a.m. at Gifft Hill School, Lower Campus Great Room, for the topic: HASTE.

Monday, March 24
— Kindergarten registration on St. John is scheduled for Monday, March 24, at Julius E. Sprauve School in Cruz Bay. Parents are reminded to obtain an immunization “blue slip” in advance from the clinic.

Tuesday, March 25
— The Virgin Islands Audubon Society will screen the Cats of Rome documentary on St. John is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Marketplace.

Saturday, March 29
— The St. John Historical Society is joining Clean Islands International and the Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station (VIERS) to celebrate the legacy of Project Tektite. The activities will begin Saturday morning, March 29, at 10 a.m. at the Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station (VIERS) in Lameshur Bay. For more information, contact Randy Brown at randyb@islands.org or 410-647-2500.

— Get ready for the blues, Love City! A group of island blues lovers, calling themselves St. John Blues Society, is hosting the first annual St. John Blues Blowout on Saturday, March 29, at the Winston Wells ball field with music kicking off at 7 p.m.

Sunday, March 30
— The Virgin Islands Audubon Society will kayak to and snorkel the mangroves of Water and Otter creeks in Hurricane Hole on Sunday, March 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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2014 Taxpayer Help Available on St. John Every Saturday

The Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue and University of the Virgin Islands will partner to allow accounting students of the UVI to provide a great community service to taxpayers. The bureau and the students will help taxpayers with the filing of their 2013 income tax returns. This is a free service offered to taxpayers who are filing simple tax returns with the bureau.

The Volunteer Taxpayer Assistance Program will run every Saturday until April 5. Assistance will be provided on a first come first serve basis, and the interns will be completing Forms 1040EZ and 1040A only.

On St. John, the program will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bureau’s office at the Motor Vehicle Bureau in Cruz Bay.

Taxpayers should have available all W-2s, W-2Ps, Form 1099s, and Form SSA (Social Security Income) readily available.

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Healing Arts Complex Celebrates Grand Opening

Healing arts professionals who will be part of the new center on South Shore Road in the former Marina Market building joined with friends to welcome the public to the new Healing Arts Complex on Sunday, March 9.

Dr. Wendy Coram, Sherrie Theberge, Katie Cunningham, Dr. Ann Bernard and Dr. Lorie Thompson posed in the facility’s entry with Dr. May Trieu, far right. Dr. Jennifer Richards will also be joining the team, according to Dr. Trieu. Carol Arbor, with assistants Rainy and Billy, created the faux paintings on the walls of the entry and reception area of the facility.

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3-16
CRYPTOQUIP

JDFP ZFNFZAF E HNNLFPRE ZQNLZRFV JQBRFQ
KMERFP RN AKMPHD K QFUNBPVFQ B’V EKG
RDFG ERKQRFV K UKPF QFKHRBNP.

Today’s Cryptopuz clue: Z equals P

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World Plumbing Day Celebrated on St. John at The Marketplace

Virgin Islands World Plumbing Day was celebrated on March 11, at The Marketplace “to help give a better understanding of the role of plumbers in keeping folks safe and healthy each and every day,” according to Charles G. Classen Jr. of DPNR’s Environmental Protection Small Business Environmental Assistance Department, who joined the plumbers on hand to explain the plumbing devices designed to protect the public water supply system from contamination.

Seniors Eat Up Nutrition Advice from Human Services

St. John senior citizens enjoyed a presentation on nutrition presented by the Department of Human Services on Tuesday March 11, at The Marketplace.

DHS Nutritionist Alice V. Henry and Florinell Joseph, Program Supervisor for the Nutrition Program for the Elderly, provided the seniors with a food demonstration and presentation table of healthy eating food samples.

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

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

AL-ANON MEETINGS
For Al-Anon meeting location and times, please call (340) 642-3263
Church Directory

Baha’i Community of St. John
For Devotions and Study Circles, call 714-1641
7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays
776-6316, 776-6254

Bethany Moravian Church
Sunday School 9 a.m., Divine Worship 10 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Emmanuel Moravian Church
Coral Bay, Divine Worship 8:30 a.m., 776-6713

Freshwater Church
Sunday School 10 a.m.; Monday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Thursday Women’s Bible Study 9 a.m.
Saturday Men’s Bible Study 10 a.m.
Follow us on Facebook for Locations or call (340) 514-6578

Jehovah’s Witness
7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m.
Saturdays (Spanish), 10 a.m. Sundays,
340-715-053

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

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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church
The schedule is as follows: Saturdays at 6 p.m.
Sundays at 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 a.m.
Fridays at 7 p.m. Call 776-6339 for more information.

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

Seventh Day Adventist
Saturdays, 779-4877

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

St. Ursula’s Episcopal Church
Sunday Church Service, 9 a.m.
Bible Class on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. 777-6306

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

Residents Urge DPNR “Do Not Approve” Beach Development

Continued from Page 3

the bay,” said the developer. “It’s a natural berm with a
natural retention area.”

Despite the fears of many in the room, Davies said
the development will not be sold as timeshares.

“I hate timeshares,” said Davies. “This will not be
timeshares. These will be bought units.”

The developer plans to build the clubhouse, pool
and the first three units before moving ahead any fur-
ther with the project, he explained.

“The market will dictate it from there,” said Da-
vies. “We’re not going to do a Sirenusa or a Grande
Bay.”

Following suggestions from CCZP, the developer
has already relocated several units, explained Smith.

The revised plans are available to view at DPNR’s
Cruz Bay office, located across from the Elaine I. Spru-
avue Library. Stewart will accept comments from the
public on the project for the next three to four weeks.
The CCZP Director will then send a recommendation
to either approve or deny the Group Dwelling Permit
to DPNR Commissioner Alicia Barnes who will ei-
ther approve or deny the request.

Even if the Group Dwelling Permit is approved,
the development will still need a Coastal Zone Man-
agement permit before moving forward, during which
time there will be additional public hearings.

Residents can comment on the East Bay Beach
Club development by emailing Smith at stuart.smith@d
pnr.vi.gov. To view the new site plans, residents are
urged to call DPNR’s Cruz Bay office at (340) 693-
8735 to set up an appointment.

Public Schools Meet AYP as DOE Mulls Future of GBS

Continued from Page 4

DOE officials, however, did not announce Com-
missioner Frett-Gregory’s plans to attend last week’s
JESS meeting either to the press or to GBS officials.

The prepared statement cited enrollment at GBS
as steadily declining from a high of 112 students to
the current student body of 55.

“At recent Senate hearings on this issue, officials
have also explained that the department has continued
to spend upwards of $1 million to operate the school,
and while they understand the parents’ desire to keep
Guy Benjamin open, the department still has work re-
 sponsibility within its limited budget,” according to
the DOE the press release.

GBS parents, however, say the number of students
would be higher if DOE didn’t transfer two grades
to JESS this school year. A last minute teacher short-
age at JESS just before school opened in September,
prompted DOE to transfer kindergarten and first grade
groups from GBS to JESS.

Despite GBS consistently ranking among the
highest scoring schools on standardized tests in the
territory, many parents are convinced that DOE plans
to close the beloved Coral Bay campus.

“There have been numerous meetings where gov-
ernment officials are giving parents and faculty dif-
f erent information,” said one parent. “There is a lot
of confusion out there. So many people want their
children to attend GBS, but they are being told it will
be closed.”

Meanwhile, other parents are being told they
should register their children at DOE’s early regis-
tration on Monday, March 24, at JESS.

Other parents have been told that the early regis-
tration is only for new students and Kindergarten stu-
dents. Adding to the confusion, one parent of a GBS
third grader was told she would be turned away if she
goes to the March 24 registration.

Some parents have been told that GBS would re-
main open if 100 students were registered, although
that figure could not be confirmed by DOE officials
last week.

Senator at Large Craig Barshinger has been urg-
ing residents to call his office at (340) 693-8061, if
they plan to register their children at Guy Benjamin
School.

While it remained unclear last week what the fu-
ture of GBS would hold, DOE is also looking into
the possibility of transforming the campus into an early
education center, explained Commissioner Frett-
Gregory in the prepared statement.

“The department is looking into the early child-
hood education concept, and has begun discussions
with the Department of Human Services to look into
the feasibility of a partnership that could transition
Guy Benjamin into an Early Headstart/Headstart fa-
cility, serving children from ages zero to 5,” accord-
ing to DOE’s prepared statement.

Parents at last week’s unannounced DOE meet-
ing at JESS also offered additional options for the
Coral Bay campus, including GBS becoming the sole
elementary school for the island with JESS teaching
four through eighth grades; and enforcing DOE’s
districting policy compelling students to attend the
school closest to their homes.

“This was a very productive meeting,” Frett-Greg-
ory said in the prepared statement. “It was important
for us to get input from the parents and to see how we
can collectively work out a solution that’s in the best
interest for both the St. John community as a whole,
and the students.”

For more information about the latest happenings
at GBS, check out the school’s Parent Teacher Or-
ganization Facebook page at https://www.facebook. com/GuyBenjaminSchool?ref=br_t.

Residents can support the school on Saturday,
March 22, at the Coral Bay Yacht Club’s 18th Flotilla
Party at Hansen’s Bay Beach. The event benefits GBS
and all proceeds are used to enhance education for
students at the school.

Flotilla attendees can sail to the beach party aboard
a volunteer sailboat in the morning, for $40 per per-
son, which includes admission. Or residents can drive
to the beach where admission is $20 per person,
which includes food consisting of West Indian dishes,
hamburgers, hot dogs and salads.

Larger tax deductible donations to GBS may be
made by check to the Coral Bay Community Council
indicating “Flotilla” in the memo line. For more in-
formation call CBCC at 776-2099.
Historical Society Anniversary Party

Continued from Page 8

Boulon, who grew up on St. John in the mid- to late-20th century, lauded the donation as a stepping stone to receiving further donations.

“I would say that this donation represents the incredibly important and substantial seed money for the society to be able to attract the additional funding necessary to achieve our goal of constructing an archive, office, and museum on the Bellevue property,” he said. “This is far and away the largest donation the society has ever received, and is an affirmation of the society’s significance to St. John and a belief in what this all-volunteer society can do in the future.”

Eleanor Gibney, also a longtime board member who grew up on St. John, echoed Boulon’s sentiments.

“The society is honored by this wonderfully generous gift,” said Gibney. “Far beyond the immediate boost to the society and our building plans, it’s an investment in the future of St. John.”

To donate to the society’s building effort, please contact Willis at contactus@stjohnhistoricalsociety.org.

Police Log

**CELLULAR:** 340-776-9110

**Sunday, March 9**
11:39 p.m. — Woman called needing assistance in retrieving her minor child. Police Assistance.

**Monday, March 10**
3:03 p.m. — Colorado man present reporting that his bag was stolen in the area of the Red Hook Terminal, St. Thomas. Grand Larceny.

**Tuesday, March 11**
7:54 a.m. — Woman called to report that her vehicle struck a tree in the Estate Adrian area. Auto Collision.

**Wednesday, March 12**
3:00 p.m. — Man present reporting that a man pushed him on the Cruz Bay Ferry Dock. Aggravated Assault on a Police Officer.

7:32 p.m. — Citizen called to report that a male was lying unconscious in the area of the Catholic church. Police Assistance.

**Thursday, March 13**
11:40 p.m. — Man present reporting a hit and run collision. Hit and Run.

**Friday, March 14**
10:40 a.m. — Woman called to report shots fired in the area of Contant. Illegal Discharge of a Firearm.

3:56 p.m. — Man present reporting that a female revved her vehicle while he was crossing the street in the area of First Bank. Disturbance of the Peace.

5:15 p.m. — Citizen called to report shots fired in the area of Bordeaux Mountain. Illegal Discharge of a Firearm.

6:12 p.m. — Man called to report a burglary in the area of Mandahl. Burglary Third.

**Saturday, March 15**
9:29 p.m. — Citizen called to report shots fired in the area of Estate Carolina Road. Illegal Discharge of a Firearm.

Crime Stoppers U.S. Virgin Islands

Crime prevention is up to all of us, and thanks to you, the community, we are seeing a reduction in crime. Please continue to speak up so the USVI becomes one of the safest places in the world to live, work, and raise a family. If you know something, say something. Make sure no crime goes unsolved. Even the smallest bit of information may be just what law enforcement needs to solve the following cases.

**St. John**

Sometime after closing on Tuesday, February 25 and reopening on Wednesday morning, February 26, Ship Wreck landing in Coral Bay was burglarized by someone who pried open the safe and removed over $10,000 in cash, plus all the credit card receipts. Help police identify and arrest the burglar(s) by telling us what you know.

**St. Thomas**

On Friday, December 27, 2013 at about 9:25 p.m., 51-year-old Alwyn Cornelius Samuel of Estate Nadir was walking home. As he arrived at his gate a masked, black male was exiting his yard. He rushed Mr. Samuel and a scuffle ensued. During the scuffle the victim was shot twice and died. The suspect then fled. Tell us what you know so police can identify and arrest the killer.

**St. Croix**

On Wednesday, January 1st at 3:20 a.m., police were dispatched to the Frederiksted Village parking area near Midre Cummings Park, where they found the body of 27-year-old Francisco Rivera lying on the pavement. It is believed Mr. Rivera was shot after being in an altercation with another person as he was standing near his vehicle. There have been three homicides on St. Croix this year. Your help has made it possible for a suspect to be arrested in one of them. Let’s get the perpetrators of the other two; make that call.

Step up and be part of the solution. Continue to help make our islands a safer place to live and visit by telling us what you know about these, or any other crimes, at www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). You can also text “USVI” plus your message to CRIMES (274637). All three of these methods will keep you anonymous.
Answer to March 16 Cryptoquip: WHEN PEOPLE’S COMMENTS PROMPTED WRITER AUSTEN TO LAUNCH A REJOINER, I’D SAY THEY STARTED A JANE REACTION.
### Classifieds

#### Commercial/Office

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- **539x890**

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**CommerCial spaCe available**

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- **APTS FOR SALE:**
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  - 340-776-3455

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- **SCENIC PROPERTIES**
  - **340-693-7777**
  - **CRUZ BAY**
    - Efficiency apartment, Gift Hill, no pets $800
    - Small private house, no pets, $800
    - One bedroom, one bath apt, w/d, no pets $1000
    - One bedroom, one bath apt, w/d, pool, awesome view, no pets $1800
  - **CORAL BAY**
    - Two bedroom, one bath house, large deck, washer, awesome view $1800

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A unique, custom villa with extraordinary views of St. Thomas and Cruz Bay harbor.

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A luxury Villa on cool Bordeaux Mountain with great water views over Coral bay.

**Limin Time** $1,249,000
3 bedroom | 3.5 bath | 1,200 sqft
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**Bente’s Fancy** $2,500,000
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Stunning views to St. Thomas, open floor plan, large decks, and wonderful privacy.

**Tree-Top Hideaway** $399,999
3 bedroom | 3 bathroom | 2,040 sqft
This .50 acre property has 3 separate living quarters with magnificent valley views.

**Lavender Hill Suite 10E** $450,000
1 bedroom | 1 bath | 1,180 sqft
Newly upgraded kitchen and bath. Stunning views of adjacent islands and Cruz Bay.

**Boatman Point** $730,000
1.70 acre
Stunning easterly facing parcel with wonderful breezes, and a shoreline mix of cobble beach and rock face.

**Cruz Views Unit 7** $445,000
1 bedroom | 1 bath | 720 sqft
This unique unit has been completely refurbished. Within walking distance to town and

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St. John Celebrates St. Patrick’s Day

Residents and visitors — young and older — were decked out in their Irish flair and finery on Saturday, March 15, for Quiet Mon Pub’s annual St. Patrick’s Day parade in Cruz Bay.

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Volunteering for Donna  St. Johnian Hugo Roller Jr., left talking with Delegate to Congress Dr. Donna Christensen, came early to her St. John announcement of candidacy for Governor event to sign up as a campaign volunteer. Del. Christensen will be running with Basil C. Ottley Jr. as candidate for Lt. Governor.

Casting Call for V.I. Tourism

Jeh Roberts, above, and Gleidy Castillo, below, were among the scores of adults, teens and children who showed up at The Marketplace on Saturday, March 15, for a photo shoot casting call by the production company preparing to create advertising for the USVI Department of Tourism.