

TRADEWINDS

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

Fatal One-Car Crash Kills One and Injures Two Others

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St. JohnTradewinds News Photo Courtesy of C. D'Abbraccio

Mermaids Spotted on St. John

SWIM LIKE A MERMAID! Three young island girls —Adelaide Jones, Sky D'Abbraccio and Maya Dunkin — display their swimming skills with their mermaid tails at Gibney Beach as dance instructor and costume designer Cyrstal D'Abbraccio launches her new company Mermaid Swim VI on St. John.

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One Young Islander Dead, Two Seriously Injured In One-Car, Upper Carolina Saturday Crash

By JUDI SHIMEL
St. John Tradewinds

UPPER CAROLINA — An early-morning, single-car accident on Saturday, January 10, took the life of 16-year-old Elvis Smith Jr. and left another young island man in critical condition.

Emergency responders had to use extrication equipment to remove three of the five people who were riding in the heavily-damaged vehicle.

The driver of the vehicle and a front seat passenger were reportedly unhurt.

Melody Rames, communications manager for the Virgin Islands Police Department said the incident was reported to authorities around 5:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

“On Saturday, January 10, a 26-year-old male was operating a red 1995 Honda Accord eastward on Centerline Road, just past Colombo’s Smoothies, when the vehicle ran off of the roadway and collided with a utility pole on the northern side of the road,” the VIPD spokesperson said.

Emergency workers began performing resuscitation on 16-year-old Elvis Smith Jr. and another person at the scene, according to Bob Malacarne, training officer for St. John Rescue. The two were in the back seat of the wrecked car, Malacarne said.

“We had members who arrived on the scene in about 10 minutes,” Malacarne said. “We worked with the fire department to extricate two of the passengers.”

“One was about 15 years old; he was unresponsive,” Malacarne said. “We began CPR and he was transferred to Myrah Keating (Smith Community Health Center).”

The police spokeswoman said the severity of the accident became apparent almost immediately.

“Elvis Smith Jr., a 16-year-old, expired on the scene; he was seated in the rear, middle,” Rames said. “A 22 year old in the right rear had a head injury. Another male, age not recorded, in the left rear was in critical condition.”



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Scratches and red paint on this power pole are the only signs of the fatal accident.

There was an unofficial report that the passenger with the head injury was transported by the Star of Life IV ambulance boat to the Roy L. Schneider Hospital for emergency care and was later air-lifted to a hospital on the U.S. mainland.

Another victim was airlifted from the helipad at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Centers around 11 a.m. Saturday.

The impact of the crash into a utility pole knocked out power for hundreds of residents on the island’s eastern end for more than three hours, according to a spokesperson for the V.I. Water and Power Authority.

Jerain Fleming, spokesperson for WAPA, said electrical service was restored after line crews repaired the damaged utility pole at the accident scene.

CBCC Launches Forum Series Jan. 12

The Coral Bay Community Council will host a series of “CBCC Forums” every Monday at 6 p.m. at the Johns Folly Learning Institute in Coral Bay beginning January 12.

Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Each meeting will be different, depending on the speakers and topics. Leaders in the newly inaugurated Virgin Islands Government Administration and Legislature will be invited to speak to the community and to listen to local concerns.

CBCC staff will present its work on various grant-funded projects and get community input. Environmental researchers will give reports on their studies. People will be asked to volunteer for various community projects, such as repairing and painting the Agriculture Center community room as well as shoreline cleanups, gardening and more.

The first meeting, on Monday, January 12, will include the following topics: CBCC’s draft project/mission agenda for 2015 and community input; highlights of two CBCC current grant-funded projects; Coral Bay Solid Waste Management Plan, including recycling, composting and moving the main waste bin location to have a full recycling convenience center.

There will also be an update given on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric-funded Project to remove derelict/wrecked vessels from Coral Bay Harbor.

Residents’ ideas for future topics and speakers are welcome. CBCC is planning to schedule a forum for every week through March and publish a schedule of topics, usually more than one topic per meeting. Each meeting will last a little over one hour.

For more information call the CBCC office at 776-2099.

School Supply Drive on January 17

The Bethany Moravian Church Board of Stewards will be hosting a School Supply Drive on Saturday, January 10 in the Franklin A. Powell, Sr. Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Books, pens, paper, rulers will be accepted and monetary donations are welcomed as well. For more details, call (340)776-6291.

Friends of VINP Annual Meeting Jan. 18

Stan Austin, Regional Director for the South East Region of the National Park Service will be the keynote speaker at the Friends of V.I. National Park’s Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 18, at T’ree Lizards Restaurant at Cinnamon Bay Campground at 2 p.m.

The public is invited to hear what Friends of V.I. National Park has accomplished and plans for the upcoming year to protect, preserve and educate within our park. Light refreshments will be served following the meeting. A shuttle bus service is available from the National Park Service maintenance lot at 1:40 p.m. that day, and returning after the meeting.

All Friends members and the public are invited and welcome to attend. For more information contact Joe Kessler at 779-4940.

ACC Buccaneer Ball Tickets Available

Buccaneer Ball Tickets are going quickly. The Animal Care Center’s winter gala fundraiser will be at Eden’s Whim on Saturday, January 24, from 6 to 9 p.m. The evening promises to present a fantastic experience for all attendees.

Tickets are \$100 per person and can be purchased at the ACC shelter, Catered To, Chelsea Drug, Connections East and West, St. John Hardware, and online at stjacc.org. Raffle tickets are available at Beach Bum, St. John Hardware, Connections East & West, and online atstjacc.org.

For additional information the shelter at 340-774-1625.

TRADEWINDS PUBLISHING LLC

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EDITOR/PUBLISHER

MaLinda Nelson
malinda@tradewinds.vi

WRITERS

Jaime Elliott, Tom Oat,
Amy Roberts, Judi Shimel,
Andrea Milam

COLUMNISTS & CONTRIBUTORS

Mauri Elbel, Chuck Pishko, Yelena
Rogers, Tristan Ewald, Andrew
Rutnik, Craig Barshinger, Jack
Brown, Mares Crane, Dan Boyd,
Bob Malacarne, Raven Philips

NEWSLINE

(340) 776-6496
www.tradewinds.vi
editor@tradewinds.vi

ADVERTISING

advertising@tradewinds.vi

MAILING ADDRESS

Tradewinds Publishing LLC
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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Raven Phillips and Judi Shimel



Governor Kenneth Mapp and Lt. Governor Osbert Potter, top left. On the third day of inaugural celebrations, new Virgin Islands Governor Kenneth Mapp addresses a gathering in Franklin Powell Sr. Park. St. John post inaugural celebrations included a church service at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, performances by youth groups, left and left center, an open house reception and a dinner dance at the Westin Resort. Monque Matthias, far left, a member of the Mapp-Potter Inaugural Committee for St. John escorts Governor Kenneth Mapp through the gates of the Battery in Cruz Bay on Jan. 7.

Celebration, Representation and Anticipation for Progress in Mapp-Potter Post-Inaugural Program on St. John

By RAVEN PHILLIPS
St. John Tradewinds

CRUZ BAY — The Post-Inaugural Program in Franklin Powell Sr. Park Wednesday, January 7, was a day of celebration, representation and anticipation for progress on St. John.

The program was led by master of ceremony Joey Dean Skelton, who effortlessly maintained the flow of the event. Attendees were regaled with song selections from the Giffit Hill School Choir, the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School Harmonic Rays, and from Ms. Alesha Turnbull.

Following the introduction of the platform guests, the audience was captivated by the Unity Praise Dancers who performed a liturgical dance. The event also contained poem recitations from Eudora Kean students including Jahmari Boynes.

“To Work for Entire Virgin Islands”

Lieutenant Governor Osbert E. Potter made key points about unity, compassion, and improving communication in his address. Potter emphasized the fact that he and Governor Mapp were “here to work for the entire Virgin Islands”.

Lt. Gov. Potter made it clear St. John issues would be resolved, and the island would not be

treated as less important because of its small size. To ensure St. John issues get the proper attention they need, Potter pledged he and Governor Mapp would make frequent trips to St. John.

The Lieutenant Governor vowed to “speak with St. John directly, rather than through second or third parties.” He described how they were already listening to the complaints of the locals about the infrastructure and assured the attendees that they would begin fixing the roads and improving the efficiency of commuting between Coral Bay and Cruz Bay, and St. John and St. Thomas.

Lt. Gov. Potter also announced his intention to purchase a home on St. John – and to resume the senior citizen program.

“Empathetic and Compassionate”

“Our administration is marked by being empathetic and compassionate,” Governor Kenneth E. Mapp proclaimed.

Gov. Mapp professed his sympathy for the St. Johnian students who are forced to commute to St. Thomas each day for school and indicated that he was in the process of looking into the construction of a new school on St. John.

The Governor reiterated his campaign position that the use of National Park Service

land would not be necessary, and that there are plenty of locations on the island from which to choose.

Gov. Mapp expressed that he wants to ensure all students are properly exposed to art, music, and activities that involve physical education.

The Governor promised to resolve issues “internally and legally” in the taxi driver and car rental industries and to help businesses adjust to an expanding economy, rather than help the economy expand. He also promised to assist the “betterment of the quality of life for all people in the territory who are willing to work.”

Gov. Mapp beseeched the audience to have faith, but be willing to work when opportunities arise. The Governor clarified he would treat all Virgin Islanders fairly, whether they voted for him or not and would not be distributing random jobs to people just because they supported him and instead “align skills with what needs to be accomplished.”

Gov. Mapp concluded his speech by encouraging the young people to “seize the moment.”

“God bless the United States, and the United States Virgin Islands,” Gov. Mapp proclaimed.

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Acclaimed Environmental Firm Provides Free Legal Assistance To Save Coral Bay

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

CORAL BAY — The Save Coral Bay group announced the nationally-acclaimed environmental law firm of Sive, Paget & Riesel will be providing pro bono legal assistance to the ad hoc community group during the federal review of the permit application for a mega-yacht marina in Coral Bay.

Attorney Maggie Macdonald and senior partner Mark Chertok of SPR will be joining forces with lead counsel Robert Fox and Jonathan Rinde, of Manko-Gold, to provide additional depth and expertise in the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process, a component of the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permit review, according to a press release from David Silverman on behalf of Save Coral Bay, an ad hoc group of concerned residents and visitors.

More Than \$85,000 Raised for Lawyers

As of Thursday, January 8, 2015, Save Coral Bay had raised more than \$85,224 from 723 people in three months on the internet fundraising site gofundme.com towards a goal of \$100,000, but the effort accomplished more than that, according to Silverman, a protagonist in the formation of the community group to fight the proposal by the Summers End Group to fill much of Coral Harbor with a 145-slip marina.

“(A)ll of the funds donated to the Save Coral Bay group are deposited with the Coral Bay Community Council CBCC,” Silverman e-mailed St. John Tradewinds.

“These two groups are distinct, independent organizations. There is considerable overlapping participation, however,” the community activist wrote. “Those funds are managed by a Save Coral Bay Steering Committee consisting of five members, two of whom are also on the boards of the CBCC.”

All Save Coral Bay decisions about retaining counsel, legal strategy, and public relations are made solely by the Save Coral Bay group, without involvement of the CBCC, Silverman emphasized.

On Line Community of Support

“What did we accomplish in 2014? Starting from nothing, we built an online community of 3,500 supporters rallying around the mission to Save Coral Bay from irresponsible, environmentally destructive development,” Silverman wrote in a posting on the fundraising site. “We launched a fund-raising campaign and in less than three months we raised over \$80,000 from 700 individual donors, all money dedicated to preventing destruction of Coral Bay, and supporting sustainable improvements to the harbor.”

“We submitted hundreds of letters, over a thousand pages of comments, hours of oral testimony, all pointing to serious defects in the Coastal Zone Management application and the project proposed by the Summers End Group,” Silverman continued. “We used all of that testimony as the basis for two legal appeals to the CZM permits granted in October. Those appeals have now stopped the action of the CZM committee at least until the hearings are completed.”

Lawyer With Understanding of St. John

Attorney Macdonald first learned of the Save Coral Bay initiative through an e-mail from the Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park organization, which struck a chord with her for a number of reasons, according to Silverman.

Being a regular visitor to St. John, and having recently stayed at the Concordia Eco-Resort, Atty. Macdonald knows how beautiful and diverse the island’s natural environment is, and therefore understands the critical importance of preservation and sustainable development on St John, according to Silverman.

Atty. Macdonald also wrote an undergraduate thesis for the Harvard University History of Science Department on the history and establishment of the Virgin Islands National Park, the Coral Bay community activist added.

Atty. Chertok’s resume reads like a textbook of major, precedent-setting environmental casework, according to Save Coral Bay’s Silverman. Atty. Chertok has successfully represented environmental groups in major lawsuits for decades, including those under NEPA and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

The Sive, Paget & Riesel firm (SPR) has been a recognized leader at the cutting edge of environmental law since it was founded over fifty years ago, according to the Coral Bay group.

Spanning Environmental Law

Their practice spans all areas of environmental law, and most critically for the Save Coral Bay group, attorneys Macdonald and Chertok have handled a number of high-profile matters involving environmental impact review under NEPA and have navigated the complexity of Army Corps of Engineers permitting, including water quality and wetlands and have handled matters subject to NHPA review.

SPR’s work on waterfront development projects, including NEPA review and defending challenges to environmental impact statements, as well as defending permit challenges makes SPR uniquely aware of strategies and tactics for successfully opposing such projects, either through litigation or other means, Silverman wrote.

“I believe with Mark’s and my experience in NEPA, ACOE permitting, NHPA review, and my personal interest and academic background in the history of preservation on St John, we are well suited to work with Manko-Gold on behalf of the Save Coral Bay group,” Atty. Macdonald said.

“The addition of the team from Sive, Paget and Riesel will complement the in-depth experience that Manko-Gold has in the Army Corps process,” wrote Robert Fox, of Manko-Gold. “Their experience in National Environmental Protection Act litigation is unparalleled and we are thrilled to have them on the Save Coral Bay team.”

Additional Lawyers Working pro bono

“With the addition of Maggie Macdonald and Mark Chertok to the team we currently have in place,

Continued on Page 18

Is Someone Getting Away With Murder In Mysterious East End Point Death?

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

EAST END — The property owner expected the national publicity precipitated by the November 2014 death of a controversial Tennessee insurance investment entrepreneur in an apparent burglary at his isolated East End Point rental home to affect future rentals of the \$5,000 per month property to some degree — he didn't expect the death to pass relatively unnoticed and uninvestigated.

Edward H. Netherland, 60, a notorious insurance company executive from Nashville, Tennessee, was found dead with a head wound on Tuesday morning, November 18, in his isolated rental home at the farthest reach of an undeveloped luxury subdivision at Privateer Bay on the East End of St. John.

When the death was first reported it was initially suspected that Netherland, a V.I. tax-shelter resident, had died from injuries suffered in an apparent robbery at the small rental property dramatically perched on a steep hillside overlooking the waters between the U.S. and British Virgin Islands.

V.I. Police Department Major Crime detectives in the St. Thom-

as/St. John district said Netherland was discovered unresponsive in his home on the east end of St. John at about 9:15 a.m. on November 18. Detectives also said the results of the autopsy, received by them on November 20, list cause of death as blunt force trauma, according to published reports.

Quadruple By-Pass and Pile of Debt

"What I've learned was that the cause of death was heart failure, no doubt precipitated by the brawl, but he'd had quadruple bypass surgery a year ago," explained the owner of the house, which rented for \$5,000 per month.

"It also came to light that he was in debt to the tune of tens of millions, not including lawsuits of a similar level," the longtime island businessman said. "I don't know enough about the particulars to say if his business was a scam, but I can say it was 'complicated'."

"The family declined to pursue an independent investigation, especially in light of the fact that this didn't seem to be a random event," one island acquaintance of the victim told St. John Tradewinds. "Apparently his past behavior had strained their relations and they're attitude is to turn the page."

The property owner had no fur-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

The owner of this rental home now wonders why the suspicious November death has not been investigated further.

ther information on Netherland's personal contacts.

Isolation of Unfinished Subdivision

The unfinished albeit isolated East End development, with at least a mile of paved roads to multi-million-dollar building lots on dramatic rocky points and unspoiled bays, has stirred in the recent economic climate, but the subdivision roadsides are thick

with thorny brush, almost impassable without severely damaging a vehicle's paint job.

The area is so distant by road, some questioned if the purported "burglars" had approached the property from the shoreline more than 100 feet below the house instead.

Nevertheless, the rental property owner found himself right in the middle of a real-life island murder mystery when the USVI tax-sheltered, tax-shelter salesman was found dead in the unique, albeit expensive, isolated rental property.

Although Netherland appeared to have suffered a fatal head injury — or a fatal heart attack — during or as a result of a robbery, subsequent revelations about his business dealings raised questions about the circumstances.

The secluded isolation of the crime scene, literally a "novel" setting at the end of the most distant paved roadway on the island, left many residents wondering why anyone would have randomly targeted the almost-inaccessible property for a burglary or robbery.

The landlord quickly dismissed reports of any illegal activity by a man the landlord knew as a loner tenant who was always on the deck of the rental home doing business on the telephone.

"There had to (have been) a fight," said a St. John Tradewinds source who surmised Netherland

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St. Johnian Vet Says Minimum Set “Too High”

\$20,000 Minimum Bid Discourages Veterans From Bidding for Taxi Medallion

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

For the second year in a row, no bids were placed for the two St. John taxi medallions allotted annually for purchase by St. John Veterans of the U.S. Armed Services.

The minimum acceptable bid for a St. John medallion was set at \$20,000 for the auction by the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission on Tuesday, December 16, at the St. John Administrator’s Office.

There were no qualified bid-

ders or bids, according to V.I. Taxi Commission Executive Director Judith Wheatley.

“We had nobody that submitted,” Wheatley told *St. John Tradewinds*.

Those two taxi licenses, as well as the two which went unsold in 2013, are gone forever, according to Wheatley.

“That’s it; it does not roll over,” said the taxi commission official.

At least one veteran who does not have a medallion said the process should have allowed for a

lower minimum bid – if any minimum was allowed at all.

It was not clear how the V.I. statutes direct the Taxi Commission in setting a minimum bid for the legislated veteran’s licenses. The commission was forced by statute to resume making two medallions available to St. John veterans each year after going an extended period without issuing any new medallions at all.

Now “the price is too high,” the Vietnam War veteran told *St. John Tradewinds*.

The Commission conducted its annual veteran medallion auctions on all three islands on December 15, 16 and 17. This auction was open only to V.I. Veterans of the U.S. Armed Services.

Bid applicants had to be present at the time of auction and bid envelopes were to be publicly opened pursuant to Title 20, Section 407 (c) of the V.I. Code.

Applications had to be taken to the Office of Veterans Affairs for verification of eligibility as a U.S. Virgin Island veteran on the island

for which the bid was scheduled. Only approved buyers could submit bids.

Any persons who purchases a medallion at auction pursuant to this subsection is prohibited from transferring said medallion by sale, lease or otherwise, within three years of purchase. Thereafter such transfer or sale must be to another eligible veteran.

The minimum acceptable bid also was set at \$20,000 for St. Thomas and \$8,000 for St. Croix.



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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Judy Buchholz

A Great white egret and white-cheeked pintails were spotted in the pond past Skinny Legs in Coral Bay.

Volunteers Tally More than 2,000 Birds in Annual Christmas Bird Count

St. John Tradewinds

ST. JOHN — A total of 36 Virgin Islands Audubon Society members and community volunteers headed out early in the morning on December 14, to take part in the 115th Annual Christmas Bird Count, coordinated by the National Audubon Society.

Local bird enthusiasts have participated in the St. John Christmas Bird Count for more than three decades. The national event was first organized in 1900 by ornithologist and National Audubon Society officer Frank Chapman. The event was a reaction to the Christmas tradition of “side hunts,” a practice which involved heading out and shooting birds. Thanks to the conservation efforts of Frank Chapman and the early years of the National Audubon Society the Christmas tradition has become a census.

December 14, 2014 through January 5, 2015 marked the dates of national the 115th Annual Bird Count, the longest running citizen science survey in the world. All over St. John on December 14, 2014 at the crack of dawn, 36 intrepid volunteers donned binoculars, cameras and note pads.

These volunteers mucked through edges of ponds, many obscured from sight by thick bush, they climbed up hills and mountains, floated in boats searching and counting birds. These 36 bird watchers counted a total of 2,084 birds representing 57 different species.

There were 12 fewer volunteers this year from last year, yet 375 more birds were sighted. Four more species of birds were seen this year as compared to last year. Weather conditions vary from year to year; last year the wind howled and rain was pervasive. Vari-

ables for each year change, yet all in all, this year’s Christmas bird count was very successful.

Mary Moroney, President of VIAS, birded in Fish Bay and watched the movement of gray kingbirds out of the mangroves into the hills and followed the sound of two Clapper Rails in an obscure wet pond.

“Although this year’s Bird Count was sort of disappointing where we counted, I enjoyed being out and searching the pond near Skinny Legs and out in Coral Bay Harbor,” said VIAS board member Judy Buchholz. “In my group were Mike Buchholz, Dana (Donkey Dana) Bartlett and Robin Gallup. Maybe it was the rain shortly before we went out or maybe the birds were just hiding, but we just didn’t see as much as we hoped for.”

“With binoculars up and expectations low we scanned the pond, hoping for a sighting,” Buchholz said. “When we did sight something, it was cause for excitement for sure. I guess the highlight was spotting five belted kingfishers, one at the pond and four in Coral Bay Harbor.”

“We also saw great white egrets, little blue heron, green heron, white-cheeked pintails and several other species,” Buchholz said. “The Christmas Bird Count is always something I really look forward to. It’s great to be part of the local effort which is, of course, part of the national effort. I like the idea that we’re all ‘citizen scientists.’”

“The birds with the high numbers were the Juvenile Brown Boobies, which do seem to be everywhere, and the Scaley-naped pigeons,” said V.I. National Park Education Specialist Laurel Brannick Bigrig.



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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Andy Greaux helps Sea Tow put *JAWS* on Coral Bay mooring before the fishing vessel sank for what may be the last time.

JAWS Goes Down for Last Time?

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

JAWS, the infamous boat of fisherman Andy Greaux may finally be leaving the ragtag Coral Bay fleet — and going somewhere other than the bottom of Coral Bay with its predecessors.

After months of effort to successfully refloat the fishing vessel — notorious for fishing for sharks — from the rocky shoreline along

Route 10 following major repairs to its hull, the ignominious vessel may have sunk for the last time.

Greaux hired ocean rescue service Sea Tow to pull *JAWS* off the shore after its most recent grounding on January 5, but the infamous fishing boat with the imaginative shark jaw-teeth design on its prow subsequently sunk again on its mooring.

Greaux explained that he

pumped out the vessel using the Sea Tow pump as he repositioned *JAWS* on the mooring, but that after the vessel was pumped out and the Sea Tow vessel had departed, it became apparent *JAWS* had suffered irreparable damage.

“I took everything off of value before she sank,” Greaux explained. The boat owner said he planned to have the vessel cut up and scrapped.

CBCC Seeks “Catchy” Message for Free Oil-Absorbing Pads

St. John Tradewinds

The Coral Bay Community Council is seeking some catchy promotional messages for its new “Pollution Solutions” program to clean up leaks from boat engines in the bay or car engines on shore.

“CBCC will shortly be distributing free oil absorbing pads to boaters and car owners who frequently park near the bay, as a promotion to encourage people to take care of their leaks,” according to a CBCC press release.

Send your slogan idea to coralbaycommunitycouncil@hotmail.com with “NO DRIPS” in the subject line, or drop it off to the CBCC box at Connections East by Monday, Jan. 19, at 5 p.m. The project is sponsored by the Coral Bay Community Council watershed management agency. “For people who love Coral Bay.”

“All sources of leaking and dripping oil and other

fluids like antifreeze and brake fluid should never drip onto the ground from cars or into the bay from pumping boat bilges, pouring fuel or using engines,” CBCC admonished. “All waste oil and other fluids need to be taken to the Susannaberg transfer station for safe disposal, or to a business that practices safe disposal.”

“Never pour waste oil onto the ground, or onto sand or into a gully! Any toxic substance that is poured on the ground can get into the groundwater and reach the bay by underground flows or storm water runoff,” the press release warned.

“Clean up and stop all leaks from your boat and car engines,” CBCC said in its own catchy public announcement. “Don’t let oil, fuel, or other fluids get onto the ground or into our blue ocean waters.”

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

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Independent Film Producer Franklin Tulloch Trains His Camera Under Local Waters for “Beneath the VI”

By JAIME ELLIOTT
St. John Tradewinds

International independent film producer, director and cinematographer, Franklin Tulloch specializes in aerial and underwater work, and for the past few years, he’s been focusing his well-trained eye under the waters of the Virgin Islands.

After graduating from Ole Miss, Tulloch lived in Los Angeles where he worked on numerous documentaries as well as short and feature films. The death of a few close friends prompted him to re-evaluate his life and career, drawing him and his camera to the Virgin Islands, Tulloch explained.

“I had two dear friends die in a very short period of time and I kind of had a realization about life,” he said. “I look at life in a Carl Jungian kind of way in that experiences are what drive us as individuals. Life is too short and I decided to go into what I really love, and I’ve always been a water freak.”

In addition to running his Earth Bound Studios company and serving as media director for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s “Don’t Stop Talking Fish” initiative, Tulloch’s passion has revolved around an in-the-works feature film, “Beneath the Virgin Islands: An Underwater Adventure Film.”

“The U.S. Virgin Islands is one of the most unique places on earth, combining some of the planet’s most incredible reef systems and a community culture like no other,” said Tulloch. “Through the film, we will create an in-depth look at our island community based on the islands’ heritage as well as the beauty that surrounds us and the sea-life that calls our islands home.”

The film will focus on the efforts underway to save those precious, and deteriorating, natural resources, Tulloch added.

“Through the film, we will look directly at the efforts being made to help protect and preserve the



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Frank Tulloch

Frank Tulloch in underwater selfie.

natural resources of the Virgin Islands, the relationships being built between government agencies, local agencies and our community to help in this preservation, and the outside factors affecting the reef

systems and sea life homes in the V.I.,” said the cinematographer.

Far from being a purely academic film, “Beneath the VI” will feature profiles, artistic work and

Continued on Page 18

“The U.S. Virgin Islands is one of the most unique places on earth, combining some of the planet’s most incredible reef systems and a community culture like no other. Through the film, we will create an in-depth look at our island community based on the islands’ heritage as well as the beauty that surrounds us and the sea-life that calls our islands home.”

— Frank Tulloch, Cinematographer

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Mermaids Spotted on St. John: Crystal D'Abbraccio Brings Dreams Alive with Mermaid Swim VI

By JAIME ELLIOTT
St. John Tradewinds

Anyone who might have spotted a bright pink tail flapping around in the wake on Gibney Beach recently wasn't dreaming.

Those mermaids, and even a few mermen, are the creation of Crystal D'Abbraccio and her new company Mermaid Swim VI. A long-time dance instructor and costume designer, D'Abbraccio is also an avid swimmer, a massage therapist and a mosaic artist who is bringing all of her passions together in her newest venture.

D'Abbraccio, originally from Lexington, Massachusetts, moved to St. John two and a half years ago with her husband and two children. The couple run a web-based tiny tile mosaic business out of their home and have started offering classes as well.

The mermaid business idea was born when a friend emailed a video of a similar venture in the Philippines, D'Abbraccio ex-

plained.

"My best friend of Massachusetts emailed me this link of a woman in the Philippines who is teaching classes to be a mermaid," said D'Abbraccio. "She said, 'Crystal you have to see this.' I watched and said, 'This is so me.'"

"I've been a dance teacher my whole life and I was a costume designer too," she said. "I used to costumer hundreds of children at a dance studio in Lexington and it's always been a passion to dress up and pretend. My creative juices started flowing and I thought this would be an amazing thing to bring to the island."

As an environmentalist, the chance to start a business with no impact on natural resources yet is partly based on the beauty of the local waters, also appealed to D'Abbraccio, she added.

"This has no damaging impact on the environment and the water here in the Virgin Islands is magi-

cal," said D'Abbraccio. "Since mermaids are magical too, this is the perfect place for this business."

The entrepreneur found a company that shipped to the VI and invested in a few mermaid tails. The suits are comprised of a mermaid "skin" or "tail" which D'Abbraccio described as being similar to panty hose except the legs are together in one tube. Once the mermaid "skin" is on, there is a monofin which goes over the feet and then the "skin" is pulled over to complete the look.

With the mermaid costumes on hand, D'Abbraccio began by outfitting her family and friends and heading out to the beach for mermaid swims. D'Abbraccio instructs users how to flap their monofin and swim like a mermaid. Since launching the businesses with friends and family in October, D'Abbraccio has had nothing but positive feedback, she explained.

Continued on Page 19



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of C. D'Abbraccio

Crystal D'Abbraccio flashes her mermaid tail at Gibney Beach.

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Rhythm & Views

An outlook on young adult and student interests and concerns by Raven Phillips-Love

Acknowledging Depression in the Virgin Islands

St. John Tradewinds

Mental health as a whole is a very taboo subject in the Virgin Islands, but depression is a key illness that isn't nearly as talked about as it needs to be.

Many natives have this belief that dictates feelings of sadness and depression are things to be bottled and ignored. It is an idea that is instilled in the local children, primarily the young men, and it has been passed from generation to generation. What the community doesn't realize is that what they are spreading is an unhealthy way to cope with feelings of sadness and depression.

The false ideology is that sadness and depression are the same thing and that both are signs of weakness.

First, depression and just being sad are not the same thing. Being sad is a normal part of life. Depression is a debilitating and thought-invasive illness which can keep you from fully living your life.

Depressed people may frequently endure episodes of fatigue

and depressed thinking. Depressed thinking is marked by distorted and unrealistic ideas about yourself and your life as a whole. A depressed person having an episode may feel numb, frustrated, unmotivated and like everything around them is crumbling. Episodes often feel like the person is disconnected from the world. It's almost as if the world is moving at a different speed than they are.

Depressed people feel alone and guilty, and the last thing they need is someone telling them to ignore it or get over it. One often overlooked parallel between sadness and depression is the fact that reprimanding a child for feeling either of them is completely inhumane.

Why chastise a child for a feeling that is very natural and common? Why admonish a child for an illness they have no control over?

It is understandable that parents want their children to develop into strong and well-balanced adults, but they will not get there if they are not given some kind

of assistance in resolving their problems. Rather than disciplining your child for being sad, teach them to acknowledge their feelings, and some healthy ways of resolving their problems.

Many problems can be solved simply by talking about them.

If your child's sadness seems unusual, if their eating and sleeping habits have changed, if they are exhibiting reckless behavior, or if they are losing interest in things they once enjoyed, sit down and talk with them.

Under no circumstances should your criticize them. It doesn't matter if you think it's just your child "being a teenager", that is no reason to make them feel that their problems aren't important or it is their fault. You may even need to let them see a therapist so that they can learn the proper coping techniques.

Depression is a real and serious disease. It greatly increases the risk of suicide in people inflicted with it, and they need as much family and community support as possible.

Kenneth Mapp Takes Oath of Office at Inauguration



Kenneth E. Mapp, eighth elected governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, takes the oath of office at his inaugural Monday in Emancipation Garden, St. Thomas. At post inaugural celebrations on St. John Jan. 7, Mapp and his Lieutenant Governor, Osbert Potter shared a spirit of new beginnings with island residents.

St. John Tradewinds News
Photo by Judi ShimeI



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On *the* Market

A feature dedicated to special homes on the market listed with *Tradewinds* real estate advertisers*

Coral Haven Offers Dual Bay Views and Tons of Potential

By **JAIME ELLIOTT**
St. John Tradewinds

EMMAUS — Soak up stunning dual bay views of tranquil Hurricane Hole and Coral Bay harbor from the expansive decks at Coral Haven.

This two bedroom, two bathroom home nestled in Estate Emmaus is for sale for \$595,000, explained 340 Real Estate owner/broker Tammy Donnelly.

“You can enjoy both sunrises and beautiful moon rises from this house which always has a great breeze,” said Donnelly.

Perched on a hillside in Estate Emmaus, the home is close to the fun restaurants and funky shops of quaint Coral Bay. The famed alabaster beaches of the island’s

North Shore are only a short drive away and the rugged beauty and unparalleled snorkeling on the East End of St. John are just a few minutes away as well.

Coral Haven consists of a completed two story guest house with tons of potential as well as a planned second main house concrete slab, which currently contains a 22,000 gallon cistern and a shop area.

This unfinished concrete structure at Coral Haven already features septic connection and plumbing as well as electricity and its own washer and dryer. The top concrete slab is just waiting to be completed by a new owner with a vision.

The lower level of the com-

pleted guest house was a successful short term rental, offering new buyers the opportunity to off-set some building costs. The possibility of renting the lower unit while living upstairs could make building your dream home in paradise a reality.

The Coral Haven guest house features its own separate access from the planned main house with a gated driveway and a two car parking pad.

The home boasts lush, mature landscaping with a variety of tropical fruit trees, flowering plants and towering palm trees. Upstairs find a spacious great room which leads right into a quaint open plan kitchen. There is one bedroom on the upper level and a full bath-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Coral Haven offers views of Coral Bay Harbor and Hurricane Hole.

room which offers plenty of light and air.

Step outside onto the covered deck and enjoy the cooling trade winds. An inviting hot tub will have you soaking up those moon rise views all winter long.

A separate one-bedroom unit on the lower level also includes plenty of covered deck space as well as its own full bathroom and quaint kitchen.

It’s not difficult to imagine

yourself lounging on your shaded deck while you watch the tropical sun climb over the horizon to begin your day. And find yourself right back on that cozy deck with a cocktail in hand as you watch the rays of full moon fill the sky and plan the perfect main house on the half-way there concrete slab.

For more information on Coral Haven, call Tammy Donnelly, owner/broker of 340 Real Estate at (340) 643-6068.

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Friends Raffling Bronze Mother of Pearl and Diamond Pendant

St. John Tradewinds

Friends of V.I. National Park is pleased to announce a special limited-ticket jewelry raffle of a 14k red gold heart pendant, made by KABANA and donated by R&I PATTON at Mongoose Junction on St. John, is inlaid with extra fine quality Bronze Mother of Pearl and set with 0.90ctw Diamonds.

The value for this pendant is \$3,469. It can be seen at R&I PATTON until the drawing at the Friends Gala on February 7, 2015. Only 100 tickets will be sold. Tickets can be purchased for \$50 each at the Friends of the Park Store, by phone at 340-779-4940, or at Connections in Cruz Bay.



Bethany Church Bazaar Jan. 31

The Bethany Bazaar and school supply drive will be on Saturday, January 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the church grounds.

8 Tuff Miles Festival Begins Feb. 21

— The 8 Tuff Miles Road Race and the St. John Cancer Fund have joined forces to present the 8 Tuff Miles Festival. The festival will begin on Saturday, February 21. at 4 p.m. with “Light up the Night” an 18-hour, family-oriented, community supported overnight event.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Service January 18

St. John Tradewinds

Join Rev. Sara Zimmerman at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (UUF) Service, on Sunday, January 18 at 10 a.m. at Giffit Hill School’s Lower

Campus for the topic: “Quantum Physics and Eastern Philosophy: Interconnectedness as Confirmed by the Discovery of the Higgs Boson so-called ‘God’ Particle.”

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Letters to *St. John Tradewinds*

Save Coral Bay – From Itself?

In response to the letter called “Fight, for God’s Sake” I would like to ask Laurie Dobson if she has actually been around Coral Bay to see the massive disgrace of the dumpsters.

I bet there are people who proudly display the “Save Coral Bay” bumper stickers and then back up their trucks and dump all the debris that is supposed to be taken to the dump. I bet there are the same people who will see that the dumpsters are overflowing with trash and they will still throw their garbage on top to be left for someone else to pick it up.

So Ms. Dobson, before you start telling us how we have polluted our paradise with a marina — how about looking at how we are polluting our paradise with trash. Yes — let’s Save Coral Bay — from itself first.

Sas Nemeth

Gentle Words

To share with all, gentle words about Matthew Lowe:

The choice that he made *at that moment*, that choice does not define who he is and what kind of a person he was. He was a very intelligent, sweet, kind and loving man. A wonderful, devoted dad to his children and a husband who loved his wife dearly. A loyal friend and much loved by many.

A gentle soul on his own journey. Just like all of us, Matt did the best that he could with all of what he was feeling within. His love for the three of you was true and grand, but the pain within him became greater, *at that very moment*....

Thank you Osa for these gracious words of truth.

Love and Gratitude,
Lisa Ewell

**NEXT DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15th**

Crossword Answers (Puzzle located on Page 20)

G	O	C	A	R	T	S		A	L	I	F	T		W	A	I	L	I	N	G
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Community Must Continue To Come Together

For the past five years, Sisterhood Agenda has held the Sisterhood Brotherhood New Year’s Eve Youth Extravaganza for youth on St. John. Each year is different, but one thing remains constant: I am continually amazed by the generosity of our specific members of our community in responding to the needs of our children. As DJ Fergie announced, “Come on and join us. This is for the youth.”

Working with the St. John Youth Coalition and our substance abuse prevention project, Sisterhood Agenda spent a large part of 2014 asking students about what they needed in terms of programs, services, and activities. Many of them told us that there were very few youth-centered activities on island and that there was nothing to do. We know that more than fifteen St. John Youth Coalition members are providing activities for youth. For example, Julius E. Sprauve School implements its afterschool program, Love City Pan Dragons continues its steel pan practices at the Youth Center, and the St. John Community Foundation sponsors the Using Sport for Social Change event each year. However, we are learning to listen and respond to our children’s concerns—they are asking for more structure, consistency, and variety. We also need to be better with our coordination and letting children know what activities are available.

Like adults, young people need outlets for positive fun, perhaps more so. This is what our annual youth extravaganza does by offering an alcohol- and

drug-free entry into the New Year. Some of the children were amazed and asked us, “Is this free?” Yes, our party favors and other giveaways were gifts that were made possible by individual donors and local sponsors: St. John Hardware, Grande Bay Resort, Drift Away Spa, St. John Properties, the Marketplace, Lime Inn, St. John Ice Company, Mongoose Junction, St. John Insurance Agency, St. John Community Foundation, VI National Park, VI Police Department, and VI Sports, Park & Recreation. The leaders of these agencies support youth on St. John and we express gratitude—their support shows caring and our children need to know that we care.

The annual Sisterhood Brotherhood New Year’s Eve Youth Extravaganza is just one activity and we need more activities like these throughout the year to celebrate the strengths of our students and encourage their success. It is a great start to 2015. I hope that we continue to come together as an informed and empowered St. John Youth Coalition in 2015. We need adult leadership to inspire youth leadership—if this is you, please contact me so that we can do this together. Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported youth on St. John!

Warm Regards,
Angela D. Coleman
President, Sisterhood Agenda
Founder, St. John Youth Coalition

Memorial Service



Michael Matthew “Rainbear” Lowe
April 2, 1970 – January 3, 2015

St. John Tradewinds

Matt’s warm heart, ready smile and quick wit will be missed by many, most especially Lisa Ewell (wife), sons Seamus & Aidan Ewell, Lynne Lowe (mother), Jack Lowe (brother), John Lowe (father) and various family members, blood-related & chosen, especially those in St. John.

Please join the family for a celebration of Matt’s

life on Sunday, January 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. on the beachfront of Joe’s Rum Hut and The Beach Bar. Please bring stories and photos to share.

In lieu of flowers, donations in support of Matt’s family can be made payable to Lisa Ewell and left at Connections or made payable St. John Community Foundation (note “FHF/Matt” in the memo) and left at Inn at Tamarind.

31st Legislature Releases Committee Assignments

St. John Tradewinds

ST.THOMAS — Senate President designee of the 31st Legislature, Senator-elect Neville James has released the proposed committee assignments which will become official on Monday, January 12th, during the organization of the 31st Legislature that will take place after the Swearing-In Ceremony.

Members of the majority block will include, Senators-elect Marvin A. Blyden, Jean Forde, Novelle Francis, Jr., Justin Harrigan, Sr., Kurt Vialet and incumbent Senators Kenneth L. Gittens, Clifford F. Graham, Myron D. Jackson, Neville James and Samuel Sanes. Incumbent Senators Terrence "Positive" Nelson, Nereida Rivera O'Reilly and Tregonza A. Roach will serve in the non-majority block with Senator-elect Almando "Rocky" Liburd.

Senator Janette Millin Young, who will be serving her third term, will serve as Vice President of the 31st Legislature as well as Secretary for Intergovernmental and Territorial Affairs; Senator Myron D. Jackson, in his second term, will serve as Secretary and Liaison to the United States Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs; Senator Samuel Sanes, who will be serving his fourth term, will serve as majority leader and Liaison to the United States Congress; Senator Kenneth L. Gittens, serving his second term will serve as Liaison to the White House.

Committee assignments are as follows:

Committee on Education & Workforce Development

Chair: Jean Forde
Vice Chair: Kurt Vialet
1. Justin Harrigan
2. Kenneth L. Gittens
3. Tregonza A. Roach
4. Myron D. Jackson
5. Terrence "Positive" Nelson

Committee on Housing, Public Works & Waste Management

Chair: Marvin Blyden
Vice Chair: Clifford F. Graham
1. Jean Forde
2. Neville James
3. Almando "Rocky" Liburd
4. Kenneth L. Gittens
5. Tregonza A. Roach

Committee on Culture, Historic Preservation, Youth & Recreation:

Chair: Myron D. Jackson
Vice Chair: Samuel Sanes
1. Novelle Francis
2. Marvin Blyden
3. Kenneth L. Gittens
4. Nereida Rivera O'Reilly
5. Terrence "Positive" Nelson

Committee on Rules & Judiciary

Chair: Kenneth L. Gittens
Vice Chair: Janette Millin Young
1. Neville James
2. Novelle E. Francis

3. Jean Forde
4. Justin Harrigan
5. Nereida Rivera O'Reilly

Committee on Finance

Chair: Clifford F. Graham
Vice Chair: Kurt Vialet
1. Samuel Sanes
2. Myron D. Jackson
3. Marvin Blyden
4. Terrence "positive" Nelson
5. Tregonza A. Roach

Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Chair: Samuel Sanes
Vice Chair: Marvin A. Blyden
1. Janette Millin Young
2. Clifford F. Graham
3. Kurt A. Vialet
4. Almando "Rocky" Liburd
5. Terrence "Positive" Nelson

Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture & Planning

Chair: Janette Millin Young
Vice Chair: Novelle E. Francis
1. Neville James
2. Myron D. Jackson
3. Kurt Vialet
4. Clifford F. Graham
5. Tregonza A. Roach
6. Almando "Rocky" Liburd
7. Nereida Rivera O'Reilly

Committee on Health, Hospital & Human Services

Chair: Kurt Vialet
Vice Chair: Justin Harrigan
1. Novelle E. Francis
2. Jean Forde
3. Marvin Blyden
4. Nereida Rivera O'Reilly
5. Almando "Rocky" Liburd

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Chair: Justin Harrigan
Vice Chair: Myron D. Jackson
1. Janette Millin Young
2. Samuel Sanes
3. Neville James
4. Terrence "Positive" Nelson
5. Tregonza A. Roach

Committee on Homeland Security, Public Safety & Justice

Chair: Novelle E. Francis
Vice Chair: Kenneth L. Gittens
1. Justin Harrigan
2. Jean Forde
3. Samuel Sanes
4. Almando "Rocky" Liburd
5. Nereida Rivera O'Reilly

DID YOU KNOW...

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

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

Call to add your registered non-profit to this list

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

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

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, January 12

— The Coral Bay Community Council will host a series of “CBCC Forums” every Monday at 6 p.m. at the Johns Folly Learning Institute in Coral Bay beginning January 12.

Tuesday, January 13

— Join the St. John Historical Society on Tuesday, January 13, at 7 p.m. at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall for a presentation and slide show devoted to “A Celebration of St. John Women Who Have Made a Difference!”

Thursday, January 15

— The St. John Audubon Society will be presenting its first movie night on Thursday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m., 2nd floor Marketplace with the showing of the film *Ghost Bird*.

Saturday, January 17

— The Bethany Moravian Church Board of Stewards will be hosting a School Supply Drive on Saturday, January 17 in Franklin Powell Sr. Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sunday, January 18

— Join Rev. Sara Zimmerman at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (UUF) Service, on Sunday, January 18 at 10 a.m. at Giff Hill School’s Lower Campus for the topic: “Quantum Physics and Eastern Philosophy: Interconnectedness as Confirmed by the Dis-

covery of the Higgs Boson so-called ‘God’ Particle.”

— Stan Austin, Regional Director for the South East Region of the National Park Service will be the keynote speaker at the Friends of V.I. National Park’s Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 18, at T’ree Lizards Restaurant at Cinnamon Bay Campground at 2 p.m.

Saturday, January 24

The Animal Care Center’s winter gala fundraiser will be at Eden’s Whim on Saturday, January 24, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday, January 31

— The Bethany Bazaar and school supply drive will be on Saturday, January 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the church grounds.

Saturday, February 21

— The 8 Tuff Miles Road Race and the St. John Cancer Fund have joined forces to present the 8 Tuff Miles Festival. The festival will begin on Saturday, February 21, at 4 p.m. with “Light up the Night” an 18-hour, family-oriented, community supported overnight event.

Saturday, February 28

— The 19th Annual 8 Tuff Miles Road Race is February 28 at 7:15 a.m. followed by the awards ceremony at Mongoose Junction at 4 p.m.

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

Newly Sworn



St. Thomas-St. John District Board of Elections aspirants Carla Joseph, Diane Magras and Ivy Moses prepare to take the oath of office Jan. 5 in a St. Thomas court room. The Hon. Debra Smith-Watlington swore the new elected officials in during a brief ceremony as family and fellow board members looked on.

St. John Tradewinds News
Photo by Judi Shmiel

Mysterious East End Point Death?

Continued from Page 5

had been surprised by burglars who didn’t expect anyone was in the isolated house. “He had a big wound on his head.”

Major Business Failures, Lawsuits

Netherland, who reportedly was a USVI Economic Development Commission (EDC) tax beneficiary, was required to reside in the USVI and traveled to and from the territory frequently for business, leaving his car at the isolated East End house he rented and worked from while in the territory, according to his landlord.

Netherland’s confusing web of failed and current investment projects were fodder for a flurry of news articles in the insurance man’s hometown Tennessee publications. There were references to questionable business activities and nefarious dealings, and a recently-failed insurance investment proposal for a Florida municipal pension plan which fell apart shortly before Netherland’s death, according to stateside news reports.

St. John ended up with the national notoriety of another “suspicious” death

Employee Finds Victim

Police were dispatched to the residence after an employee of the victim entered the house, found the victim and called 911, according to the preliminary information.

“I saw him Monday afternoon,” the owner of the lone rental house in the furthest reach of the undeveloped subdivision told *St. John Tradewinds* at the time. “The next morning the girl came to clean up and he was slumped over dead between the bed and the outside wall.”

“It looked like a tussle and they hit him or he hit his head,” one source said. “It wasn’t like (the house) was ransacked — his wallet was gone; his watch was gone.”

“I don’t think they knew he was there,” the longtime St. John resident surmised. “This guy didn’t go out.”

“This is an isolated spot,” the property owner said of the modern house which hangs off a cliff on the north shore of Privateer Point on the East End of St. John with a porch cantilevered far above the shoreline overlooking Tortola.”

“He was renting,” the owner said. “He never locked his doors. He was on the phone 10 hours a day.”

“He sat out there in the peace and quiet...,” the owner said of the Cliffside location.

“Of course forensics came out,” the homeowner told *St. John Tradewinds*. “They did the whole cop thing; but nothing ever comes of that.”

“He was a big guy,” the property owner said. “There had to have been a fight.”

1-11

CRYPTOQUIP

Z M ' H F M M P B M G A D P K C Z M F I I J
 “ U B G P J M P H C M D P ” G O O V M M J O I P K , F Y C V M
 U D P G O O X L G P G K M A C I K M C Z D L I Y C I U
 Z D H H Z M O O M X .

Today’s Cryptoquip clue: U equals F

First Responders to Receive Ebola Personal Protective Equipment Training Next Week

St. John Tradewinds

VITEMA will provide Ebola response training for first responders Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 12 and 13, at VITEMA Headquarters on St. Thomas and, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 15 and 16, at the Juan Luis Hospital Cardiac Center on St. Croix. Classes will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

First responders will receive hands-on training on using the

appropriate level of personal protective equipment, donning and doffing the gear, and performing decontamination procedures when faced with a potential Ebola case. Instructors from FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) at Anniston, Alabama, will conduct the one-day training.

FEMA's CDP develops and delivers advanced training for emergency response providers,

emergency managers, and other government officials from state, local, and tribal governments. Training focuses on incident management, mass-casualty response, and emergency response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster.

The center also offers the only program in the nation featuring emergency response training exercises using chemical agents and biological materials. Additionally, it operates the only hospital facility in the United States dedicated solely to preparing the healthcare,

public health, and environmental health communities for mass-casualty events related to terrorism or natural disasters.

For more information, contact VITEMA Training Coordinator Irvin Mason at 340-774-2244 or 340-227-7686.

Audubon Society To Present "Ghost Bird" for Movie Night on January 15

St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Audubon Society will be presenting its first movie night on Thursday, January 15, at 7 p.m., 2nd floor Marketplace with the showing of the film Ghost Bird.

Ghost Bird is a non-fiction feature about a small town in Arkansas, an extinct giant woodpecker and everybody looking for the Holy Grail of birding — the Ivory-billed woodpecker.

Following numerous sightings and its widely announced rediscovery in 2005, the world's best birders have been unable to locate even one 'Lord God Bird' after more than three years of intensive searching.

Ghost Bird examines the meaning of hope, faith and the limits of certainty in the quest to resurrect this lost species... unless, like the Holy Grail itself, the Ivory-bill remains forever out of reach.

The public is invited to view this fascinating documentary. Popcorn is also available! Just a suggestion, but you might want to bring a cushion for your chair because the chairs in the room are not cushioned.

See You at The Buccaneer Ball on January 27th!

St. John Tradewinds

Buccaneer Ball Tickets are going quickly. The Animal Care Center's winter gala fundraiser will be at Eden's Whim on Saturday, January 24, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The evening promises to present a fantastic experience for all attendees. Delicious appetizers will be provided by local restaurants, chefs and caterers; and a wide variety of beverages and specialty drinks will be available. DJ, Ian Samuel, will bring his special form of entertainment and dance music. Gina Wellner, www.islandfiregina.com, will thrill the audience with her solo fire dances.

A new feature this year will be a photo booth provided by Alan McManus. A silent auction and raffle will add to the evening's fun.

Tickets are \$100 per person and can be purchased at the ACC shelter, Catered To, Chelsea Drug, Connections East and West, St. John Hardware, and online at stjacc.org. Raffle tickets are available at Beach Bum, St. John Hardware, Connections East & West, and online at atstjacc.org.

Presently there is an online auction where you will find fabulous items upon which to bid, until Friday, January 23rd. Go to the Animal Care website stjacc.org and choose from many new items added each day.

It's fun and it's for the animals! For additional information please contact the shelter at 340-774-1625.

8 TUFF MILES
Festival Week
ST. JOHN, USVI

Light Up The Night
February 21st - 6pm
Winston Wells Ball Park

February 27th
Pasta in the park Cruz Bay Landing
5 to 7pm

February 28th
8 TUFF MILES - 7:15am
National Park Visitor Center

8 TUFF Awards Ceremony
Monqose Junction - 4 to 6:30pm

March 1st
Oppenheimer Recovery Party
Oppenheimer Beach - 11am to 4pm

Proceeds to benefit
ST. JOHN
CANCER FUND

Church Directory

Baha'i Community of St. John

For Devotions and Study Circles, call 714-1641
7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays
776-6316, 776-6254

Bethany Moravian Church

Sunday School 9 a.m., Divine Worship 10 a.m.

Calvary Baptist Church

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

Christian Ministry

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

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Sun. 9 a.m., on St. Thomas . 776-2379
Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard

Cruz Bay Baptist Church

Sunday 11 a.m., 6 p.m. 776-6315

Emmaus Moravian Church

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

Freshwater Church

Freshwater Church St. John USVI
Sunday Worship 10 am at Hawksnest Beach
Follow us on Facebook, 340.514.6578

Jehovah's Witness

7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m.
Saturdays (Español), 10 a.m. Sundays, 340-715-053

Missionary Baptist Church

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

Nazareth Lutheran Church

Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday School 8 a.m. 776-6731

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Saturdays: 6 p.m.; Sundays: 7:30 & 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. in Coral Bay
at the John's Folly Learning Institute & 6 pm. in Spanish;
Mondays: 12:15 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 7 a.m.
& Fridays: 7 p.m. Call 776-6339 for more information.

Prayer House of Faith

Sunday Morning Service at 8 a.m; Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays
Prayer services at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays; 340-690-3820

St. John Methodist Church

Sunday 10 a.m., 693-8830

Seventh Day Adventist

Saturdays, 779-4477

St. John Pentecostal Church

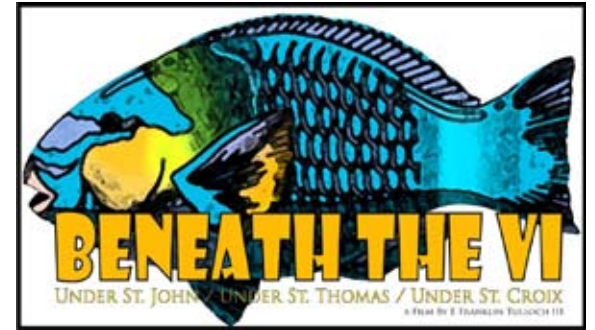
Sunday 11:05 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays Prayer 7:30 p.m.,
Thursdays Bible Study 7:30 p.m. 779-1230

St. Ursula's Episcopal Church

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

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Sunday, 776-6332



St. John Tradewinds News Photo and Graphic Courtesy of Frank Tulloch

"Beneath the VI" will be one hour in length and will also include locally-produced music.

"Beneath the VI"

Continued from Page 9

more, explained Tulloch,

"We are approaching each section of the film from a different angle," he said. "These include personal profiles, artistic works, environmental issues and historical retrospectives. We will also include local heritage and culture and our surrounding natural beauty."

Tulloch has been filming in local waters over the past five years. The film "Beneath the VI" will be one hour in length and will also include locally produced music, Tulloch added.

The cinematographer envisions the film offering residents, visitors and local students a unique perspective of the underwater resources, he explained.

"The film will offer a look at the people on the front lines of environmental preservation in the Virgin Islands," said Tulloch.

"From locally formed organizations such as CORE and Friends of the VI National Park, along with federal protection agencies including NOAA and Coral Reef Conservation Program, our research and background scientific information will be from the best sources in the world."

Tulloch is also developing lesson plans to reach out to local school children, who would be able to explore the resources right outside their classrooms, he added.

"This film will directly involve our local educational system through the development of a new course for students," the cinematographer said. "I'd love for the student aspect to include not only classroom study, but actual production work. I see the students creating a trailer or several trailers for the film."

"The earlier kids get to learn about what opportunities they may have locally in this sort of work, the better," said Tulloch. "Also, the USVI and the natural resources will benefit from that. Kids are so into new media this is the perfect way to present this sort of information to them; I call it the 'Living Classroom.'"

The film will be dedicated to a very special native son of St. John, Tulloch added.

"'Beneath the VI' will be dedicated in memory of local educational legend Mr. Guy Benjamin," said the cinematographer.

Tulloch is hoping to obtain grant and private funds to help finish the project. Anyone interested in investing in "Beneath the VI" or for more information on the project, check out Tulloch's website at understjohn.com or email him at studioearth@aol.com.

Acclaimed Firm Provides Free Legal Assistance To Save Coral Bay

Continued from Page 4

we have now assembled a powerhouse of legal talent that will cover every avenue of defense in the protection of Coral Bay harbor from environmentally destructive development," said Silverman, speaking on behalf of the Save Coral Bay group. "We are thrilled that they have offered their services pro bono, recognizing the critical importance of this case to the future of St John."

In addition to the two new attorneys in the Save Coral Bay federal team, the local appeal of the Summers End Group CZM permits continues to be handled by attorneys Jennifer Jones, of St Thomas, and Andrew Simpson of St Croix.

2015 Agenda for Save Coral Bay

What is on the agenda for Save Coral Bay in 2015?

"We will continue to apply pressure to ensure that mega yachts, mega marinas, and environmentally destructive development is finally rejected for Coral Bay," said Silverman. "We will begin the process of planning for the improvements that are sought by all of the residents and stakeholders in the Coral Bay community – people who were born here, people who have moved here, people who visit here."

"We will make concrete progress, in conjunction with the Coral Bay Community Council, to support activities to clean the harbor, improve water quality, remove sunken boats and clean the shoreline," the activist added. "We will monitor other large scale development projects in Coral Bay and provide a forum for discussion, and a forum for action when required, to ensure these projects truly meet the needs and expectations of the broad community."

Crystal D'Abbraccio Brings Dreams Alive with Mermaid Swim VI

Continued from Page 10

"It's been such a roller coaster of excitement," said D'Abbraccio. "It's been so well received. I haven't heard any negativity about it at all and now people are calling me the mermaid lady."

What she found was pure delight with the enterprise, D'Abbraccio added.

"I've always loved work which allows you to work with someone and when they leave you they're a totally different person," she said. "Like a massage when someone enters they are down and when they leave they're happy and joyful. That is the same thing that I'm

finding with Mermaid Swim VI."

D'Abbraccio has found that she is not the only one who has long dreamt of being a mermaid.

"This is a way to give people that dream of being a mermaid and there are so many people on this planet that have dreamt of being mermaids or who love the whole fantasy of mermaids," she said. "And with the beautiful water here in the Virgin Islands, it's just perfect."

The Mermaid Swim VI owner has also found that transforming people into mermaids seems to allow them to shed their shyness, D'Abbraccio added.

"There are timid people and when you put them into the mermaid suit, they are like new people," she said. "They get so happy. It's fulfilling this dream for people who didn't even know it was possible."

"This whole experience has already been such an amazing adventure," said D'Abbraccio. "Being able to provide that joy and that dream for people has been amazing."

D'Abbraccio offers mermaid

swim sessions for individuals or groups with pricing ranging from \$125 to \$300. For more information about Mermaid Swim VI, check out the website www.mermaidswimvi.com or call D'Abbraccio at (340) 228-4977.

Crime Stoppers USVI

Happy New Year from Crime Stoppers and law enforcement. Let's make this year a safe one!

Sometimes crimes are committed by unscrupulous individuals operating under the guise of a business. Before you fall victim of such crimes, here are some tips and resources you should know.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), a consumer protection agency at the federal level, works to prevent fraudulent, deceptive, and unfair business practices in the marketplace. Its counterpart in the US Virgin Islands is the Dept. of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA). The DLCA issues business and professional licenses, ensures compliance with the Territory's licensing laws; and protects the health, safety, and rights of consumers through assistance, education, and enforcement of Virgin Islands consumer protection laws.

One of its Divisions is the Consumer Affairs Division which advises, guides, and represents consumers regarding the filing of formal complaints against businesses and/or professions and attempts to resolve same. It is also responsible for the establishment and enforcement of weights and measurement standards in the Virgin Islands.

Within the Consumer Affairs Division is a separate Consumer Protection Services Unit which is responsible for the development and implementation of consumer education programs and activities addressing consumer complaints, and monitoring business practices throughout the Territory for compliance of consumer laws.

The Enforcement Division enforces consumer laws by inspecting all businesses to ensure compliance with Virgin Islands licensing laws. Additionally, Enforcement Officers serve documents on behalf of the Legal Division and Boards and Commissions as needed. The Division plays a critical role of ensuring our safety and well-being. The Division also regularly participates on task force and joint initiatives with Virgin Islands Police Dept., Office of the Governor, Dept. of Health, and private entities as needed.

Crime prevention is up to all of us. Be aware of your rights and resources. Stand up to protect and defend yourself with these available local and federal resources. Help make our islands a safer place to live by telling what you know about any crime. Call 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or go to www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org. You can also text "USVI" plus your message to CRIMES (274637). Either of these methods will keep you anonymous.



2015 Seminar Series

January 2 – April 12, 2015

Call 340.779.4940 to book today!

JANUARY
FULL MOON HIKE • Jan. 2, Fri. • 5:00pm – 8:30pm; <i>Meets:</i> Salt Pond parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Snack, water, wear hiking shoes, flashlight or headlamp; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$25 Mem / \$35 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
PASTELS WITH LIVY HITCHCOCK • Jan. 11, Sun. • 10:00am – 1:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Take resort shuttle to Turtle Bay Veranda; <i>Bring:</i> Drinking water, wear old clothes; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$75 Mem / \$85 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 6
HASSEL ISLAND KAYAK & HIKE • Jan. 16, Fri. • 2:00pm – 5:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Dock in front of Hook, Line & Sinker Restaurant, Frenchtown, St. Thomas; <i>Bring:</i> Towel, sunscreen, plenty of water/snack, dry bag, hiking shoes; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$69 Mem / \$79 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 8
TROPICAL GARDEN TOUR I • Jan. 17, Sat. • 10:00am – 3:00pm; <i>Meets:</i> Friends of the Park Store, Mongoose Junction to carpool; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
HIKE WITH THE "SUPER" • Jan. 21, Wed. • 9:30am – 1:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Annaberg Ruins parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, hat, sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$40 Mem / \$50 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 16
KAYAK THE MANGROVES OF HURRICANE HOLE • Jan. 25, Sun. • 10:00am – 3:00pm; <i>Meets:</i> Skinny Legs Restaurant to carpool; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, snorkel gear, hat, sunscreen & towel; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$65 Mem / \$75 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 11
EXPLORE THE SHORE • Jan. 29, Thurs. • 10:00am – 12:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Annaberg parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Wear shoes to walk in water, lunch, water, towel, hat, sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$25 Mem / \$35 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
ADVANCED CANEEL/MARGARET HILL NATURAL HISTORY TREK WITH DR. GARY RAY • Jan. 31, Sat. • 9:00am – noon <i>Meets:</i> Friends of the Park Store, Mongoose Junction to carpool; <i>Bring:</i> Minimum 2 liters water, binoculars & notebook; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$30 Mem / \$40 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
FEBRUARY
ST. THOMAS MANGROVE LAGOON, CASE CAY KAYAK, HIKE, SNORKEL • Feb. 1, Sun. • 12:45pm – 4:00pm; <i>Meets:</i> VI Ecotours, St. Thomas, Mangrove Lagoon Marina by 12:45pm. Tour leaves at 1:00pm; <i>Bring:</i> Water, snack, towel, sunscreen, hat, hiking shoes; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$59 Mem / \$69 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 30
FULL MOON HIKE • Feb. 3, Tues. • 5:00pm – 8:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Salt Pond parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Wear hiking shoes, flashlight or headlamp; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$25 Mem / \$35 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
BIRDS OF THE PARK • Feb. 5, Thurs. • 9:00am – 1:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitors Center; <i>Bring:</i> Water, snack, binoculars, notebook; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
EAST END KAYAK TOUR • Feb. 8, Sun. • 10:00am – 2:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Skinny Legs to carpool to Hansen Bay; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, swimsuit, water shoes, snorkel gear, sunscreen, hat; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$65 Mem / \$75 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 10
MEDICINAL HERBS • Feb. 11, Wed. • 12:30pm – 2:30pm <i>Meets:</i> St. John School of the Arts; <i>Bring:</i> Notebook & pen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$35 Mem / \$45 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 25
PEPPER SAUCE MAKING AT HANSEN BAY • Feb. 15, Sun. • 11:00am – 3:00pm; <i>Meets:</i> Skinny Legs to carpool to Hansen Bay; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, notebook, pen, camera, swimsuit, towel, snorkel gear (optional); <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
ARCHAEOLOGY BY SEA • Feb. 18, Wed. • 9:45am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitor Center dock at 9:45am; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, hat, sunscreen, swimsuit & towel (optional); <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$65 Mem / \$75 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 28
EXPLORE THE SHORE • Feb. 19, Thurs. • 10:00am – 12:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Annaberg parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, wear shoes for walking in water, towel, hat, sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$25 Mem / \$35 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
COASTAL ECOLOGY • Feb. 21, Sat. • 9:00am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitor Center, 8:45am; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen, & snorkel gear; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$75 Mem / \$85 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 18
BOOBY ROCK SNORKEL/SUNSET SAIL • Feb. 22, Sun. • 1:45pm – 6:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Calabash Market, to follow Capt. Karl to Johnson Bay; <i>Bring:</i> Snorkel gear, hat, towel, sunscreen, snacks (optional); <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$65 Mem / \$75 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 6
TRADITIONAL BROOM MAKING • Feb. 25, Wed. • 12:45am – 2:45pm <i>Meets:</i> St. John School of the Arts; <i>Bring:</i> Yourself; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$45 Mem / \$55 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 10
SEA TURTLE SAIL • Feb. 26, Thurs. • 1:00pm – 5:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Charlotte Amalie waterfront, St. Thomas (across from Greenhouse Restaurant); <i>Bring:</i> Snack, water, sunscreen, hat, snorkel gear, & swimsuit; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$65 Mem / \$75 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 50
BOTANY HIKE • Feb. 27, Fri. • 9:00am – 1:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Friends of the Park Store; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen, hat, & hiking shoes; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$45 Mem / \$55 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 25

MARCH
MARINE BIOLOGY SAIL • Mar. 1, Sun. • 8:45am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitor Center dock FLAGPOLE; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water bottle, towel, & sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$85 Mem / \$95 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 27
FULL MOON HIKE • Mar. 5, Thurs. • 5:00pm – 8:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Salt Pond parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Snack, water, wear hiking shoes, flashlight or headlamp; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$25 Mem / \$35 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
LOVANGO SUSTAINABLE LIVING & DESIGN TOUR • Mar. 7, Sat. • 9:30am – 1:30pm; <i>Meets:</i> Friends of the Park Store; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen, hat, & wear bathing suit & hiking shoes; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
PADDLEBOARD, HIKE, & SNORKEL • Mar. 8, Sun. • 9:30am – 12:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Skinny Legs parking lot to carpool to Hansen Bay; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, swimsuit, water or hiking shoes, towel, hat; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$60 Mem / \$70 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 10
LAMESHUR BAY/VIERS TOUR • Mar. 9, Mon. • 10:00am – 2:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Lameshur Bay parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Notebook & water; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$45 Mem / \$55 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
TRADITIONAL BROOM MAKING • Mar. 11, Wed. • 12:45pm – 2:45pm <i>Meets:</i> St. John School of the Arts • <i>Bring:</i> Yourself; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$45 Mem / \$55 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 10
CANEEL BAY KAYAK, HIKE & SNORKEL ADVENTURE • Mar. 13, Fri. • 9:00am – noon; <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitor Center; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, snacks, water, towel, hat & sun protection; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$60 Mem / \$70 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 10
MANGROVE SNORKELING BOAT TRIP • Mar. 14, Sat. • 9:00am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitor Center dock at 8:45am; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, snorkel gear, towel, sunscreen, hat; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$85 Mem / \$95 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 18
PEPPER SAUCE MAKING AT HANSEN BAY • Mar. 15, Sun. • 11:00am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Skinny Legs to carpool to Hansen Bay; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, notebook, pen, camera, swimsuit, towel, snorkel gear (optional); <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
TROPICAL LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY • Mar. 16, Mon. • 8:00am – noon <i>Meets:</i> Friends of the Park Store; <i>Bring:</i> Camera & manual, batteries, memory cards, water & notebook; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$45 Mem / \$55 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 15
MEDICINAL HERBS • Mar. 18, Wed. • 12:30pm – 2:30pm <i>Meets:</i> St. John School of the Arts; <i>Bring:</i> Notebook & pen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$35 Mem / \$45 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 25
ARCHAEOLOGY BY SEA BOAT TRIP • Mar. 25, Wed. • 9:45am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitors Center dock at 9:45am; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, hat, sunscreen, swimsuit & towel (optional); <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$65 Mem / \$75 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 28
TAINO POTTERY • Mar. 27, Fri. • 10:00am – 1:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Pottery in Paradise, Coral Bay (behind Pickles Deli, Rt. 107, Coral Bay) <i>Bring:</i> Snack, water; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 8
TROPICAL GARDEN TOUR II • Mar. 28, Sat. • 10:00am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Friends of the Park Store, Mongoose Junction to carpool; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
MAHO/WHISTLING CAY KAYAK & SNORKEL ADVENTURE Mar. 29, Sun. • 9:45am – 1:00pm; <i>Meets:</i> Maho Bay parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, wear swimsuit, towel, hat, sunscreen, camera; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 8
APRIL
HIKE WITH THE "SUPER" • Apr. 1, Wed. • 9:00am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitor Center; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, hat, water, sunscreen; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 6
FULL MOON HIKE • Apr. 2, Thurs. • 5:00pm – 8:30pm <i>Meets:</i> Salt Pond parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Snack, water, wear hiking shoes, flashlight or headlamp; <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$25 Mem / \$35 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 20
LEINSTER BAY GUIDED SNORKEL & HIKE • Apr. 11, Sat. • 9:00am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> Annaberg parking lot; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen, & snorkel gear; <i>Fee:</i> \$40 Mem / \$50 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 15
LIONFISH BOAT ADVENTURE • Apr. 12, Sun. • 9:30am – 3:00pm <i>Meets:</i> National Park Visitors Center dock; <i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water, sunscreen, towel, snorkel gear (optional); <i>Seminar Fee:</i> \$55 Mem / \$65 Non Mem • <i>Max Group:</i> 10

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Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

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BODY OF LITERATURE

ACROSS

- 1 Kids' racers
- 8 "Need —?" (driver's offer)
- 13 Lamenting loudly
- 20 Very devoted fans
- 21 Ecclesiastic deputy
- 22 Tallinn locale
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 26 Bicycle pair
- 27 Diamond cry
- 28 Novi Sad native
- 29 Bowling alley lineup
- 30 Oath affirmation
- 31 Covenants
- 33 Nativity kings
- 35 Riddle, part 2
- 43 Beluga eggs
- 44 Herr's Mrs.
- 45 Burnsian negative
- 46 Magazine printer, e.g.
- 48 Sothern and Dvorak
- 50 Spirals
- 53 1970s teen idol Cassidy
- 56 "On top of that ..."
- 57 Abbot's hat
- 59 Riddle, part 3
- 62 Attach with glue
- 64 Apple's Cook
- 65 Hill staffer
- 66 Post-Q queue
- 67 Part of SFPD
- 68 Riddle, part 4
- 71 "How exciting!"
- 73 Women with young 'uns
- 76 Surrender formally

- 78 Responses of rejection
- 79 Rock Me! is one of her fragrances
- 83 Riddle, part 5
- 88 Coin-op openings
- 89 Sunscreen additive
- 90 Elbow-to-wrist links
- 91 Party givers
- 93 Coal, e.g.
- 94 Advil rival
- 96 Sportscaster Berman
- 98 — rock (Jethro Tull's genre)
- 100 Nonsense song syllable
- 101 End of the riddle
- 107 Shipped
- 108 Put — to (stop)
- 109 "— Rheingold"
- 110 Swiss — (beet type)
- 114 Pleads
- 117 Hostess — Balls
- 118 Doc's stitch
- 121 Riddle's answer
- 125 Puts holy oil on
- 126 Old Oldsmobile
- 127 Cut off
- 128 Of Switzerland's capital
- 129 Copier need
- 130 Stirred up

DOWN

- 1 Catch a quick breath
- 2 Garfield's canine pal
- 3 Salt, relish and mustard
- 4 Pinball site
- 5 List quickly
- 6 Baseballer Speaker
- 7 Old booming jet, briefly
- 8 Affirm frankly
- 9 Ray of "Blow"
- 10 "Ewww!"
- 11 Online help sheets
- 12 See 72-Down
- 13 Place for suite spirits?
- 14 Ending of enzyme names
- 15 Right-leaning type
- 16 1970 Kinks hit
- 17 Wise to
- 18 Three trios
- 19 Chokes
- 24 Perfectly
- 25 — la Douce (film title role)
- 31 Social protest with supplication
- 32 Depot: Abbr.
- 34 Got closer to, in a race
- 35 Disney dog
- 36 Old Aegean Sea region
- 37 Kin of .com
- 38 Wine holder
- 39 Sly laugh syllables
- 40 99-Down, for one
- 41 Calculus pioneer
- 42 Lies dormant
- 47 Tooth part
- 49 Court units
- 51 Opposite of west, to Juan
- 52 Thug's blade
- 54 Lickety-split
- 55 Major news agcy., once
- 58 Get to
- 60 Church service cries
- 61 Seeming eternities
- 63 A sixteenth of a pint
- 68 Celebrity cook Paula

- 69 Sea arm, to a Scot
- 70 Norway port
- 72 With 12-Down, only partially accurate
- 73 Sir's partner
- 74 Give the OK
- 75 Poky animal
- 77 Fast Net connection
- 79 Pippi creator Lindgren
- 80 Juba is its capital
- 81 Prenatal places
- 77 Fast Net connection
- 79 Pippi creator Lindgren
- 80 Juba is its capital
- 81 Prenatal places
- 82 Shia's faith
- 84 Start for byte
- 85 Galleria
- 86 Found a purpose for
- 87 Madrileño's language
- 92 Lay turf on
- 95 "The end!"
- 97 Magic's gp.
- 99 Old Russian ruler Boris
- 102 Safe, to a ballplayer
- 103 Runnin' Rebels' rivals
- 104 Guarantee
- 105 Golden ager
- 106 Femme —
- 110 Sourpuss
- 111 Refine
- 112 Ovid's love
- 113 It pulls a bit
- 115 Black fly, e.g.
- 116 French town W. of Caen
- 118 "Yes, yes!" in 87-Down
- 119 Per-unit price
- 120 Gawked at
- 122 Lb. and kg.
- 123 Stillier of films
- 124 Up to, in brief

Answer to Jan. 11 Cryptoquip:

HE'S BEEN READING THE BOOK "FRANKENSTEIN" ALL WEEK LONG, BUT WE FINALLY MANAGED TO GET HIM OUT OF HIS SHELLEY.

Classifieds

Public Notice

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES
INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON PROPOSED WIRELESS FACILITY AND WIRELESS SUPPORT STRUCTURE
ST. JOHN, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

DPNR St. John Office, Cruz Bay
 (In front of the Elaine Sprauve Library)
Tuesday, January 13, 2015
6 pm

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources has received an application to replace the wireless facility and wireless support structure at Parcel No. 10-10-10 Estate Carolina, St. John and in accordance with the Wireless Facility and Wireless Support Structure Rules and Regulations, Title 29, Chapter 5, Subchapter 312 (b), an informational meeting will be held. All persons are invited to attend the informational hearing where the applicant will give a presentation and answer questions related to the proposed work.

Files can be reviewed at DPNR's St. John Office, Cruz Bay, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays.

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Ixora | \$1,450,000
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Casa de Sonadores | \$2,550,000
5 bed | 4.5 bath | 10,300 sqft



Palm Terrace Unit 6 | \$735,000
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Cruz Views Unit 10 | \$510,000
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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

St. Johnian Shamba James displays one of the latest succulent pineapples he has harvested from his home farm off Centertline Road above Pastory.

LOVE VIEW




LOVE VIEW Hear the sound of surf from the shoreline below from this all masonry home featuring panoramic views of the east end of St. John, the BVI's, sunrise and moonrise, facing the easterly breezes and pristine quiet of the National Park surrounding the area

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Revenge of the Bacteria



How is it that antibiotics are being "overused," as I've read, and what are the potential consequences?
 – Mitchell Chase, Hartford, CT

The development and widespread adoption of so-called "antibiotics"—drugs that kill bacteria and thereby reduce infection—has helped billions of people live longer, healthier lives. But all this tinkering with nature hasn't come without a cost. The more we rely on antibiotics, the more bacteria develop resistance to them, which makes treating infections that much more challenging.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), overuse of antibiotics by humans—such as for the mistreatment of viral infections—means these important drugs are less effective for all of us. Besides the toll on our health, researchers estimate that antibiotic resistance causes Americans upwards of \$20 billion in additional healthcare costs every year stem-

ming from the treatment of otherwise preventable infections.

A bigger issue, though, is our growing reliance on feeding antibiotics to livestock for growth promotion, weight gain and to treat, control and prevent disease. This increasingly common practice is a significant factor in the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, which the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) acknowledges can get passed onto humans who eat food from treated animals. The non-profit Environmental Working Group (EWG) reports that the majority of the ground beef and ground turkey sold in the typical American grocery store contains antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Last year, 26 animal pharmaceutical companies voluntarily complied with an FDA request to re-label medically important antibiotics used in food-producing animals to warn against using them for growth promotion and weight gain. FDA also recommended that medically important antibiotics



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy Socially Responsible Agricultural Project, Flickr CC

According to the EPA, there are more than 450,000 Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) across the United States like the one pictured where animals are kept and raised in confined situations. Since antibiotics are necessary to keep disease at bay, AFOs are breeding grounds for antibiotic-resistant bacteria, much of which can get transferred to consumers who eat meat.

be prescribed by licensed veterinarians and only to treat, control and prevent disease. "We need to be selective about the drugs we use in animals and when we use them," says William Flynn of the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine. "Antimicrobial resistance

may not be completely preventable, but we need to do what we can to slow it down."

Still some worry that the FDA's action doesn't go far enough, given that farmers will still be able to administer antibiotics to their livestock for disease prevention. The fact that more and more livestock operations are switching over to Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) whereby animals are confined in crowded enclosures (instead of allowed to graze at pasture) means that antibiotics will play an increasingly important role in disease prevention.

For its part, the FDA argues that since veterinarians need to authorize antibiotic use for disease prevention, farmers and ranchers are less likely to overuse antibiotics for their livestock populations. The same can be said about doctors' limiting the prescription of antibiotics for their human patients, but only time will tell whether such newfound restraint is enough in the fast evolving arms race between bacteria and our antibiotics.

Of course, consumers can do their part by avoiding antibiotic medications unless absolutely necessary and eating less meat (or giving it up entirely) to help reduce demand.

CONTACTS: CDC, www.cdc.gov; EWG, www.ewg.org; FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine, www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary.

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<p>"CASA MARE" A uniquely modern home in a gracious setting. 4x4.5 A spa like décor and feel enhancing the views of St Thomas and beyond. MLS 13-481 \$2,990,000</p>	<p>"THE RETREAT" Acclaimed waterfront home in Dreeket's Bay. 2x2 w/ gated privacy. Ultimate indoor/outdoor living, large great room, stunning views. MLS 14-484 \$1,950,000</p>	<p>"VILLA TAMARIND" In-town, 3 big views, ¾ acre parcel, & 3 x 3.5 exceptional pool. Ready for future development with R-4 zoning. MLS 14-523 \$1,350,000</p>	<p>"STONECOURT" is a 3x3 haven high above the south shore. 1 acre of privacy with sweeping views from Rams Head to St Thomas. 14-79 \$1,325,000</p>	<p>"VILLA DIVERTIMENTO" Over sparkling Chocolate Hole, lovely 2x2.5 villa w/ 30ft pool & deck. Island stone, masonry construction & mahogany finishes. MLS 14-56 \$1,300,000</p>	<p>"SAGO COTTAGE" A 1x1 adorable Caribbean style masonry cottage with wonderful island views, breezes and a great rental history. MLS 14-254 \$825,000</p>
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<p>CAROLINA from \$ 70,000 EMMAUS hillside \$ 75,000 FISH BAY from \$ 79,995 CHOCOLATE HOLE from \$ 118,500</p>	<p>LOTS OF LAND LISTINGS!! CALABASH BOOM hillside \$ 135,000 HANSEN BAY hillside & WATERFRONT \$ 144,000 VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES from \$ 150,000 GLUCKSBERG from \$ 195,000</p>	<p>MOTIVATED SELLERS!! FREEMAN'S GROUND from \$ 199,000 CONCORDIA from \$ 205,000 LOVANGO CAY South shore from \$ 250,000 SAUNDERS GUT hillside & WATERFRONT from \$ 299,000</p>	<p>SOME SELLER FINANCING!! UPPER MONTE BAY/RENDEZVOUS from \$ 699,000 PETER BAY/NORTHSHORE from \$ 1,650,000 WESTIN TIMESHARES from \$ 3,999/wk ONE MONTH FRACTIONALS from \$ 50,000</p>		

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IN MEMORIAM:

John Gibney

February 6, 1954 - January 14, 2003

