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TRADEWINDS

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



St. John Tradewinds News Photos

Are VITRAN Ferries Breaching Security?

The VITRAN ferries docked at the Cruz Bay ferry dock may be in violation of federal security regulations by extending past the security fence and allowing unauthorized access.

[FULL STORY AND ADDITIONAL PHOTOS ON PAGE 6.](#)

Students Return To Public and Private Schools

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GHS Faculty Welcome Students Back to School



St. John Tradewinds News Photos



GIFT HILL — Giffit Hill School welcomed students in preschool through 12th grade to campus on Wednesday, September 3, along with nine new staff members.

Chef Andy Marcellin introduced the new school lunch program, created in the recently completed kitchen facility.

Three new interns from Iowa State University are on campus to work with the EARTH program, and the new theater resident from New England Youth Theatre has arrived and is teaching classes to GHS students.

Several new programs are in place, and the staff is excited for a great year!



Singers Rehearsals Resume Sept. 8

St John Singers is resuming rehearsals on Monday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay. All are welcome who just enjoy singing to join the group.

Love City Pan Dragons Has Started

The Love City Pan Dragons Youth Steel Orchestra has resumed for the school year.

Come join the musical group if you: love music, are eight years old through high school, can practice Fridays and Saturdays, and want to be part of the best little steel band in the Virgin Islands

Register at Courtesy Car Rental or come by the panyard at Parks and Recreation Youth Center on Fridays at 5 p.m. to sign up and start one time.

Call 998-3726 for more information

“Just Play” Day Set for October 13

Using Sport for Social Change will bring back, for the sixth year in a row, a free fun-filled day of sports for youth ages 5 to 17 years on Monday, October 13, at Winston Wells Ballfield.

Each person will be given a free t-shirt and water bottle for the event. A full lunch will also be provided by Mathayom Privates Chefs to each attendee at the event. Brenda Reckor-Wallace will once again be the event moderator. DJ Adonis will be spinning the music for the event, and William Schouten (aka T-Rex/Juggernaut) will be the guest of honor.

Volunteers are needed and encouraged to sign up as well. Pre-registration is required. To sign up, please visit <http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com>. Volunteers will be asked to do general tasks such as keep score and keep the kids moving in the right direction.

Sponsors are greatly needed to make this event a meaningful and memorable experience for all. Any business or individual who would like to help sponsor this event, visit http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com/2013_just_play_sponsorship_levels.

More information about this event can be found at: <http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com>.

“No Fleas Please” Flea Market Oct. 18

The Animal Care Center of St. John will host its annual “No Fleas Please” Flea Market Sale on Saturday, October 18, at Winston Wells Ball Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event it a major Animal Care Center fundraiser — with emphasis on the fun.

Donors are invited to drop off “gently used” household items at the ACC shelter located near the library and can call the ACC with questions at 774-1624.

There is someone on the island that can make good use of the items you no longer need! Such as: tools, sports equipment, books, (no encyclopediae or National Geographic); toys, clothing, kitchen utensils, lamps (in working order), pictures/frames, dishes, pots and pans, furniture (no appliances), electrical products (working order), bedding (in good condition no stains), decorator pillows, curtains, etc.

All toiletries and hygiene products will be given to the St. John Community Foundation to be distributed to the homeless. The ACC understands homelessness and will make a donation from our profits to the organization as well.

Vendor tables will be available for a \$30 donation, if you wish to sell your own items.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tom Oat

Julius E. Sprauve School students celebrated the end of their first day of classes, above, on Tuesday, September 2. KD Munnelly marked the end of her 25th first day of school at JESS with student Jaheem Braithwaite, left. Gov. John P. deJongh paid a quick early-morning visit to the school on Wednesday, September 3.

Governor Misses First Day of School on St. John, and So Do Many Children of Vacationing Parents

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

CRUZ BAY — Governor John P. de Jongh missed the first day of school at Julius E. Sprauve School on Tuesday, September 2.

So did more than a few of the almost 400 students expected to attend the newly-combined island school, according to Principal Dionne Wells.

The Governor did make a quick, early-morning visit to the Cruz Bay elementary and junior high school on the second day of the school year, but Principal Wells was still waiting for a final count of the enrollment as JESS.

The in-town JESS campus is welcoming students from the historic Guy. H. Benjamin Elementary School in Coral Bay which was summarily closed by Department of Education officials during the summer.

Guy Benjamin school was the last of three historic public schools on the east end of St. John and was

closed in anticipation of the long-delayed construction of a new island school which will include grades kindergarten through 12. More than 50 students were transferred from GBS to JESS for this school year.

Governor's Visit Is Quick

Principal Wells, almost missed Gov. deJongh's appearance on campus herself because she was in the morning assembly.

Gov. deJongh was scheduled to visit on the first day, but didn't make it.

Principal Wells said she received a telephone call about 10 minutes before the governor arrived on Wednesday, September 3.

The governor addressed students in grades 6-8, she added.

"And he did speak to some staff," Wells said.

The first week of school went very well, the principal said on Friday, September 5.

The school is in the process of

filling the last few vacant staff positions, but all teaching positions are filled, Wells said.

With the two of the St. John resorts, Caneel Bay and Cinnamon Bay, having recently closed for the off-season in mid-August, many working parents chose to take their children on vacations or family visits to the states, regardless of the public school schedule, the St. Johnian principal explained.

"The parents just don't care," Wells said bluntly.

Governor Monitors New School Planning

Governor deJongh has taken a personal interest in the on-going negotiations between the territory and the federal government for a land-swap to secure a mid-island site on Centerline Road, Route 10, for a new public school complex.

The governor's staff is also closely monitoring the planning and design of the school complex for the Catherineberg site under consideration.

2014 RAIN DATA at Trunk Bay
(Courtesy of Rafe Boulon)

MONTH: AUGUST 2014

10.09 Inches

AVERAGE AUGUST

4.39 Inches

TOTAL Y-T-D

33.15 Inches

Y-T-D AVERAGE

25.50 Inches

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NEXT DEADLINE

Thursday, Sept. 18th

NEWS LINE

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editor@tradewinds.vi



St. John Tradewinds News Photos



The remains of Maho Bay Camps former platform tent units are stripped of canvas and filled with debris, above, more than a year after the resort property's lease ended and it was closed. The property sold to an undisclosed buyer. The adjacent Harmony Studios property, left and below left, also was recently sold to an unnamed buyer whose identity also has been withheld in a confidentiality agreement.

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T4Redo's
landscaping



Confidential Maho Bay and Harmony Studios Sales Leave Selengut's Legacy in Shambles

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

If Stanley Selengut — or any of his thousands of former guests — could see the condition of what was his beloved, world-renowned Maho Bay Camps, he would cry.

The legacy of the ecotourism guru is a jumble of wood-frames and platform structures stripped of their canvas shells and roofs and left behind connected by rotting, raised, wooden walkways and stairs connecting the units through

the lush natural setting of the trail-blazing eco-resort — in accordance with the terms of Selengut's expired 35-year lease.

Selengut has just completed the sale of his Harmony Studios, 12 condominium units in a handful of inter-connected buildings on a one-acre parcel adjacent to the former eco-tourism resort and is restricted by a confidentiality agreement from discussing the identity of the new owner of the Harmony property,

Identity of Purchaser Unknown, Unrevealed

Selengut said he had no idea if the Harmony property purchaser was the same — also confidential — buyer who bought the Maho Camps land from its owner after Selengut's lease on the property expired and he closed and disassembled what he was required to of the Maho resort structures.

"I have no idea who bought it (the Maho property)," Selengut told *St. John Tradewinds* of the sale of the eco-tourism resort. "I wasn't involved in the Maho deal at all."

There were unconfirmed reports that the Maho Bay Camps resort property was purchased by a New York City individual with the intention of using it as a residential property.

Selengut, who has lost most of his eyesight in recent years, resides in New York City and Boca Raton, Florida, with his wife Irma.

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Coral Bay's Labor Day Parade Is Smallest Fête and Best Yet!

By JUDI SHIMEL
St. John Tradewinds

CORAL BAY — There was a time when the Coral Bay Labor Day Parade held the crown for being the shortest parade in the Virgin Islands. Since then, other short parades have appeared in and around Love City, but this year in Coral Bay, the crown returned with a little more sparkle.

Along with more than a dozen entries came dozens of residents, stopping in at their favorite watering holes to share a Labor Day lime. Many showed up early to enjoy a festive half an hour along Route 107.

The parade lined up at Vera's By the Sea and rolled, under escort, to the Moravian Church Field. Volunteers appeared like a flash mob about an hour earlier and began to decorate cars and trucks.

St. John Festival Queen Kyrille Thomas and Festival Princess Tae Zha Maduro led the procession. The Coral Bay Community Coun-

cil sent Director Sharon Coldren down the road atop a balloon be-decked pick up truck.

Coldren came, unexpectedly, in costume. She said she planned to put on a CBCC tee shirt but found the lock broken to the office. But while the trucks were lined up for decoration, Gail George showed up with some random costumes, looking for random characters.

The CBCC director metamorphosed into a queen butterfly.

Parade Marshal Clendinen

Parade organizer Jackie Clendinen served as grand marshal. She linked up with volunteers from 2013 who put the event together in her absence. An hour before the official start, Clendinen snipped piles flamboyant blooms to decorate trucks.

She also recruited a contestant from the St. John Junior Miss pageant, along with her cultural wear. Raven Phillips Love wore a halo of pink hibiscus from a shoulder harness, rising above a rustic green

gown.

Her entry was sponsored by Concordia Resorts. "I love presenting things to people. I love stages. My mom put a lot of work into this and its fun to bring it out and wear it again," Phillips Love said.

The green represented the island's natural surroundings. The pink of the hibiscus symbolized the fight against breast cancer.

Caneel Bay Resort joined the fun at the Coral Bay Parade in 2014, along with Island Green Builder's Association and the Animal Care Center, which sent some of their kennel dogs for a long walk in the countryside.

And School Safety Officer Steven Payne brought his latest musical youth act, the Avengers.

Then there was the chicken. A giant, stuffed chicken, the size of an easy chair, perched on top of a jeep.

The VI Police Department and the VI Fire Service helped keep activities safe and fun.



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Judi Shimel

Coral Bay Labor Day Parade rolls past Pickles Deli, above, on a hot and sunny Labor Day morning. A home made chicken parade float, left, makes its way up Route 107 at the Coral Bay Labor Day Parade Sept. 1.



Parade spectator Jenna shares some shade and a cool drink with friends Annie and Rosie at the Moravian Church Ballfield on Sept. 1.

School safety officer Steven Payne, far right in above left photo, strums guitar while members of the Avengers band and dancers from Caneel Bay play mas in Coral Bay.

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Are VITRAN Ferries Breaching Security?

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

CRUZ BAY — After almost a year in the territory and a month of operation in scheduled service in July, the two, 200-passenger, \$3.6 million, multi-hulled, VITRAN passenger ferries appear to have been successfully moved from storage in Crown Bay, St. Thomas, to storage in Cruz Bay, St. John.

Now the ferries themselves may be violating federal security regulations at the Loredon Boynes Ferry Dock; and *Cruz Bay I*, operated by Transportation Services, has been damaged from being rafted in the shallows at the pier overshadowing the dinghy dock — with its bow offering access to the pier around the federally-mandated security fence.

“Because the ribs of *Cruz Bay I* are past the security fence, both the vessel and the facility are unsecured,” one *St. John Tradewinds* reader wrote. “Anyone can climb these ribs and get on ferry or gain access to facility.”

“The owner is not in compliance” with federal regulations, he wrote. “MARSEC level 1 must be maintained at ALL times.”

33 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter H — Maritime Security, Part (d) 2 says it all: (d) *MARSEC Level 1. At MARSEC Level 1, the facility owner or operator must ensure the implementation of security measures to prevent unauthorized access or activities within the area,* the reader wrote. “These security measures may include: (1) Restricting access to only authorized

personnel; (2) Securing all access points not actively used and providing physical barriers to impede movement through the remaining access points.

VITRAN Blue Paint Jobs Damaged

The new VITRAN blue paint jobs on *Cruz Bay I*, the vessel closest to the pier, in fact, have been deeply scratched by the razor wire encircling the end of the spiked metal security fence where the pier nears the Cruz Bay beach and dinghy dock.

“*Cruz Bay I* has been damaged from being pulled so close to the dinghy dock and past security fence,” the reader wrote. “The paint has been rubbed off from barbed wire...They have put a bumper over the scratches and the bumper is now deflated from hitting the barbed wire and fence.”

“They are parked so close to dinghy dock that you have no choice but to drive under them where they are getting scuffed and scratched even more,” the boater added. “Also notice that paint is peeling off on upright of bridge. (Bad) paint job?”

The newly built vessels arrived in the territory in November 2013, but the government could not reach operating agreements with the two companies holding franchises to provide ferry service between Red Hook and Cruz Bay, Transportation Services Inc. and Varlack Ventures. The two companies suddenly began operating the vessels in early July in time for the final days of the annual St. John



St. John Tradewinds News Photos

Cruz Bay I has been damaged and its paint scratched, right, from barb wire and the steel fence because of a deflated bumper, above.



Festival.

The two vessels were parked up and taken out of service after a litany of complaints, including allegations that passenger capacity of the new vessels was insufficient for the daily peak “commuting” needs of the island workforce — resulting in scores of commuters being stranded on peak weekday runs — and claims of uncomfort-

able conditions for riders in even moderate seas on the passage between Cruz Bay and Red Hook.

“You have to ask some questions,” one ferry company official said in August — while declining to answer questions.

“You should take a ride,” one captain suggested to a reporter in early August as the summer brought increasingly higher seas

— and the ferries subsequently came out of service.

Ferry company officials continued to decline comment.

Smalls Obfuscates

There were reports that government officials were saying the ferries had been operating under a 30-day “trial period” and other reports that the insurance had expired for the government-owned vessels. VI.

A “legal issue” was keeping the boats out of service, DPW Commissioner Darryl Smalls told the *VI. Daily News* Wednesday, September 3.

The “legal issue” had been resolved, Smalls told the *St. Thomas* newspaper at that time, adding the boats would be in service “within the next few days.”

The vessels were still docked on Friday, September 5.

DPW Commissioner Smalls has not responded to repeated requests for information from *St. John Tradewinds*.

“Watching movies on our dime?”

“To top things off I have noticed that they run one of the other ALL DAY LONG,” the Tradewinds reader wrote. “My bet is they are watching movies on our dime.”

While the vessels may be being powered up to operate systems such as bilge pumps, some observers have suggested the two vessels, outfitted with plush airplane style seats and numerous flat screen television screens, could be utilized as a multiplex theater.

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Judi Shimel

Department of Education Assistant District Superintendent Michael Harrigan (center, white shirt), listens to an explanation of new policies being set for the 2014-2015 school year at an Education Expo on Friday, August 29, at the Julius E. Sprauve School.

Sprauve School Hosts Education Expo

By JUDI SHIMEL
St. John Tradewinds

CRUZ BAY — The Education Department hosted a late August event at the Julius E. Sprauve School, letting students, parents and teachers know they face new standards and new expectations in 2014-2015.

About 80 people, including parents and students, came to the Julius E. Sprauve School on Thursday, August 28 to hear more.

A spokesperson for Education Commissioner Donna Frett-Gregory said Sprauve School was chosen as the kickoff venue for three education expos on St. John, St. Thomas and St. Croix. The purpose, said the commissioner, was to increase the chance that broad new education policies will take hold in the coming year.

"Folks have really prepared for this event. I think it's important to have an event like this," Frett-Gregory said. "It's time to rebrand the Department of Education."

Among the biggest changes to come, the Annual Yearly Progress standard (AYP) will not be used to measure the overall success of any public school. Instead the Common Core State Standard, endorsed by the administration of U.S. President Barack Obama, will take its place.

For more than seven years the Virgin has used Annual Yearly Progress to measure student achievement. Student performance, as measured by that standard,

was spotty at best. As recently as 2011, only half of all public schools achieved AYP.

It took four years for the Education Department to adopt Common Core, but in 2014-2015, top administrators say they will bring front line educators and parents into the mix.

Assistant Education Commissioner Sarah Mahert is responsible for putting Common Core into effect. This year, nationwide, all students will be assessed on the Common Core state standards, whether they can meet them or not, she said.

Her goal will be to make sure teachers make it their goal this year to teach to those standards.

"This year, in 2015, we will not be able to do AYP because we're taking a new assessment. We will have new baseline data. AYP won't go away but we will still be determining what will make yearly progress," Mahert said.

According to information posted on its website, at www.corestandards.org, the standards are designed to prepare students for entry level jobs, to meet the demands of freshman year in college or to enter a trade or technical school after graduating high school.

One of the most important parts of the education expo, Frett-Gregory said, was the introduction of a new five year strategic plan. "We need to look at who we are," she said. "What gets monitored gets done."

Frett-Gregory said without full and proper imple-

Continued on Page 22

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2013 V.I. Property Tax Bills Sent Out Late, Due Oct. 6 2014 Bills Are Not Ready

St. John Tradewinds

ST. THOMAS — The V.I. Government’s fiscal situation continues to be in turmoil, but 2013 real property tax bills have finally been sent out.

All 2013 real property tax bills are due and payable on or before Monday, October 6, 2014, and the 2013 real property tax bills will be delinquent if not paid before Saturday, December 6, 2014, according to an Executive Order signed by Gov. John P. de Jongh on August 29, 2014.

The last day for filing an appeal for the 2013 real property tax bills shall be Tuesday, December 23, 2014, according to the Executive Or-

der.

“Various Delays” Unexplained

The 2013 and 2014 property tax bills were supposed to be mailed this year, “but various delays resulted in the 2013 bills being mailed out this week,” according to a V.I. Daily News report on a V.I. Senate Finance Committee hearing Wednesday, Sept. 3, with testimony from Gov. de Jongh’s financial team.

The V.I. government has been issuing two tax bills each year in recent years to catch up after a court challenge froze property tax levels and prevented the government from sending out new bills. There was no report of any explanation offered for the failure to send out 2014 tax bills, or when they would be sent out. Because the government was late in sending out

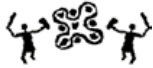
its 2013 tax bills the Lt. Governor’s Office had collected only \$27 million in taxes as of July, Office of Management and Budget Director Debra Gottlieb testified.

Revenue projections for the current fiscal year have dropped drastically, increasing the 2014 budget deficit, Gottlieb testified.

The government is also expected to have a shortfall in 2015, although revenue projections have increased to about \$100 million, Gottlieb testified.

\$700,000 for UVI Medical School Debt Service

In other budget matters, Gottlieb asked the senate to add \$700,000 from the Internal Revenue Matching Fund to cover debt service for a medical school at the University of the Virgin Islands.



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Farewell Ceremony for Army Reserve Soldiers



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Judi Shimel

ST. THOMAS — Sergeant First Class Raquida Edwards-Magras (second from right) joins fellow members of the Army Reserve from Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands at a farewell ceremony and yellow ribbon observance on Saturday, August 30, at the Marriott Frenchman’s Reef Resort.

Edwards, a graduate of the Guy Benjamin Elementary School and the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School, is part of the 512th Movement Control Team. Seventeen non commissioned officers from the 512th MCT have been deployed to Afghanistan where they help keep the U.S. Army rolling along.

It is Edwards-Magras’ first overseas deployment. The soldiers underwent one year of intense training to prepare for the mission. The 17 shipped out from the Leonard Francis Armory on St. Thomas on Sunday, August 31.

First stop: Fort Hood, Texas.



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St. John Tradewinds News Photos Courtesy of GHS

New England Youth Theatre instructors Dory Hamm and Jonny Flood directed 16 GHS students in a two-week Shakespeare Camp.

Sixteen Students Participate in Shakespeare Camp at GHS

St. John Tradewinds

GIFT & REGENBACK — Giff Hill School opened its doors to Dory Hamm and Jonny Flood from the New England Youth Theatre from Brattleboro, Vermont, as they brought a two-week Shakespeare camp to St. John for the first time.

“Get Thee to the Funnery” gave 16 students the opportunity to participate in a program designed to make Shakespeare fun and exciting to students aged 11 and up. Upon completion of the program which included costume and set design as well as lighting and sound, students performed in two show-

ings of *The Tempest* last weekend to enthusiastic crowds.

Giff Hill School enjoys a partnership with New England Youth Theatre which brings NEYT staff to St. John twice a year to work with students on productions such as “Once Upon a Mattress,” “Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” cabaret and improv shows, and more.

Giff Hill School is the only preschool through high school program on St. John, currently serving over 160 students. For more information, call 340-776-1730 or email to info@giffhillschool.org.

Legal Notice

If You Bought Sylvania Automotive Lighting You Could Get Money from a \$30 Million Settlement

A proposed Settlement has been reached with Osram Sylvania Inc. (“Sylvania”). The Settlement resolves claims that Sylvania misrepresented that certain replacement automotive lighting is brighter, provides a wider beam, and allows drivers to see farther down the road than standard halogen lighting. It also claims that Sylvania omitted material information regarding the reduced life of the replacement lighting. Sylvania denies that it did anything wrong.

Who is included in the Settlement?

The Settlement includes any person or entity who:

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- In the United States (or any territory or possession) from September 22, 2005 to July 11, 2014.

What does the Settlement provide?

A \$30 million Settlement Fund will be established to make payments to eligible Class Members. Eligible individuals are expected to get a minimum

\$10 payment and perhaps more. All claims are limited to a single purchase only. The Settlement Fund will also be used to pay Court-approved attorneys’ fees and expenses, costs of notice and Settlement administration, and incentive awards to the Class Representatives.

How can I get a payment?

If you did not receive a postcard notice in the mail, you may file a claim online or by mail by **November 14, 2014**. The Claim Form only takes 3-5 minutes for most individuals to complete.

What are my rights?

Even if you do nothing you will be bound by the Court’s decisions. If you want to keep your right to sue Sylvania yourself, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class by **November 14, 2014**. If you stay in the Settlement Class, you may object to the Settlement by **February 9, 2015**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **March 20, 2015** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and award attorneys’ fees, costs, and expenses up to one-third of the Settlement Fund, and total incentive awards up to \$25,000 to the Class Representatives. You or your lawyer may appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For more Settlement information or for a Claim Form: 1-866-430-8976 www.AutoLightClaims.com

Para una notificación en español, llamar o visitar nuestro website

Wellness Fair Hosted at JESS



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Judi Shimel

CRUZ BAY — Members of AARP, St. John joined with health care professionals Sept. 6 to host a wellness fair at Julius E. Sprauve School. Exhibitors offered demonstrations on juicing, pain relief, health testing and advice on making the most of available health insurance policies.

Department of Tourism Seeking Hospitality Hosts and Hostess

The Department of Tourism is seeking hospitality hosts and hostesses to welcome visitors, provide island information and assist guests on St. Thomas.

Applications for contracted

employment may be picked up at the Department of Tourism offices, at the Elainco Building (across from the Nisky Moravian School), the John McCleverty Welcome Center at the Havensight cruise

ship dock on St. Thomas, and on St. John from the Tourism Visitors' Bureau in Cruz Bay.

For more information, contact Ernest Knight or Diana Brown at 340-774-8784.

VIPD Cracks Down on DUI

St. John Tradewinds

Traffic Enforcement officers in the territory recently concluded a Labor Day weekend crackdown on persons driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs on the roads in the territory. Police continue to remind drivers to be safe on the road and if you plan to or have been drinking, have a designated driver, call a friend or a taxi and never drive while intoxicated.

During the crackdown traffic officers on St. Thomas arrested several persons who were driving under the influence. Several of these arrests included persons who collided with other vehicles while intoxicated.

On September 2, Police arrested 33-year-old Jeffery Fetterhoff at about 2:10 a.m. Officers said Fetterhoff was involved in an auto collision on Frenchman's Bay road. He left the scene of the accident and resisted arrest, according to police. Officers said Fetterhoff was under the influence of alcohol.

On September 1 police arrested 53-year-old Elizabeth Kadison

at about 10:15 p.m. Officers said Kadison was on Julian Jackson Drive and observed driving recklessly. Kadison failed the field sobriety test and breathalyzer test.

Moveri Esteves-Howard, 42, was arrested on August 31 minutes before 8 p.m. and charged with Driving Under the Influence. Officers said Esteves-Howard was on the Blyden Road when she was involved in an auto collision and left the scene. Officers administered a field sobriety test and the breathalyzer test which she failed.

Steven Haluszka, 60, of St. John was arrested on August 30 at about 8:30 p.m. after he was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. Police said Haluszka was driving in the area of Calabash Boom when he was involved in an auto collision and determined to be intoxicated.

Alicia Castaneda, Lyron Rouse and Wellington Liston Bailey were also all arrested in separate instances and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol during the Labor Day holidays, according to the VIPD which provided no further identification or information.

Political Meyham



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

SUSANNABERG — Late August non-partisan vandalism destroyed every sign on Centerline Road at the Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center corner — and only one had been repaired by the first week in September.



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On the Market

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

Let Yourself Fall In Love with Endless Water Views at Love View

By JAIME ELLIOTT
St. John Tradewinds

Listening to the sound of the surf gently rolling onto the shoreline below as you watch the moon rise over the horizon from your spacious deck, you're sure to fall in love with Love View.

A two bedroom, three bathroom home in Estate Concordia with sweeping water views, Love View is for sale for \$725,000, explained 340 Real Estate broker/owner Tammy Donnelly.

"This home is priced to sell at \$725,000," said Donnelly. "Love View is an all masonry home with a pool and panoramic views of John's Folly, Hurricane, Hole, Sir Francis Drake, the BVI's and pristine National Park land of St. John."

Short Drive To Beaches

Love View is perched on a hillside in Estate Concordia with mature tropical landscaping often bursting with color. The home is just a short drive to the beautiful south shore V.I. National Park beaches and hiking trails of Salt Pond Bay and Lameshur Bay.

While you'll feel worlds away from the congestion and stresses of the modern world, you're only a few minutes drive from the dining and shopping of quaint Coral Bay.

As the name suggests, the vistas from Love View are simple majestic. Curl up with a good book in the shade of the covered deck or lounge by the refreshing

pool as you work on your tan. Either way, you'll be soaking up a brisk, easterly breeze and enjoying stunning views of the East End of St. John, the BVI's dotting the horizon and seemingly endless water vistas.

On the upper level at Love View, find a spacious great room with plenty of space for both living and dining areas and a charming exposed beam ceiling. The cozy kitchen boasts granite counter tops, a stainless steel refrigerator and a convenient breakfast bar nook. The upper level also features a full bathroom with an outdoor stone shower.

Step downstairs to find two private en suite bedrooms just off the tiled pool at Love View. Each bedroom features tiled floors throughout as well as private sitting areas and easy access to the large, and recently resurfaced, swimming pool.

With the shared living space upstairs and two separate pod style bedrooms on the lower level, Love View offers guests plenty of privacy as well as ample space to gather and mingle.

After a day at nearby Salt Pond Bay, there is not much better than sitting on the deck at Love View, watching the fading colors in the sky as the moon rises, listening to the waves lapping the shoreline at John's Folly Bay just below.

For more information on Love View, call Donnelly at 340 Real Estate at (340) 643-6068 or email 340realestateco@gmail.com.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Love View in Estate Concordia offers majestic south shore vistas from its pool deck.



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Our Market Remodels Before Season Hits



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

CRUZ BAY — Cruz Bay’s world-renowned Our Market Smoothies is undergoing a major refurbishment during the off-season as proprietor Thomas Matthews plans to offer his hospitality to another season of visitors — and locals too.

VIPD Firearms Manual Now on Police Website

View current allowances, restrictions

St. John Tradewinds

Police Commissioner Rodney F. Querrard Sr. announced the placement of the current Virgin Islands Police Department Firearms Rules and Regulations manual on the VIPD website at www.vipd.gov.vi. Firearm license holders and others considering obtaining a firearms license can access the website and make themselves more familiar with the current allowances and restrictions.

“The current VIPD Rules and Regulations manual has not been updated since the tenure of Police Commissioner Milton Frett,” Commissioner Querrard said. The VIPD manual is employed in conjunction with VI Code Title 23 Chapter 5 which is regularly updates laws governing firearm licenses and ownership.

Commissioner Querrard said the department is presently updating the current rules and regulations manual. “We have been working on this for some time. The updated version is being modernized and made more applicable to current times. For example the present manual does not have provisions governing high powered weapons and high tech ammunition. However, these items are addressed in the VI Code.”

The current VIPD Firearms Rules and Regulations manual contains several instances where the commissioner is allowed to “use his discretion” concerning firearm ownership and possession. Querrard said “This makes some of the provisions outlined in our manual very subjective. With the completion of the updated manual it is anticipated that these provisions will be clearer, and less subjective.

2015
PHOTOS
ST JOHN



www.stevesimonsen.com

Waterfront Parking Issues



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

The Maho Bay Camps resort no longer exists, but the parking space on the Cruz Bay waterfront at the entrance to the Battery, which formerly was reserved for the Maho Shuttle, still has its official sign — although without any designation of an authorizing authority. VIPD officers apparently don't ticket any vehicles in the space, so it has become the best all-day free parking space in town — if you can get it first.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

VIPD officers do, however, ticket vehicles parked in the "Villa Rental Companies Only" parking spaces nearby which formerly were 30-minute public parking spaces — although there is a DPW sign posted on the parking spaces which are on V.I. Port Authority property — and no apparent legal authority to reserve parking spaces for private vehicles designated as belonging to Villa Rental Companies or allowance for individual rental property owners meeting guests.

f t

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NEXT ISSUE: SEPT. 22
St. John Tradewinds will resume weekly publishing on Oct. 6

Letters to St. John Tradewinds

SEG Lacks Experience

Whether you are building a house or a marina, it is important that you contract with a successful company with a proven track record. Most likely you would inquire about the past work history of the company, request photos of the work, and require references that could be verified.

This simple exercise is what I encourage the St. John CZM Committee to conduct as a critical part of the evaluation of the permit applications submitted by The Summer's End Group (SEG). These applications are for the construction of a 145 slip Coral Bay marina that includes over a dozen 140 foot slips for Mega Yachts. This is a huge project that will impact not just Coral Bay but the fragile infrastructure of the entire island of St. John.

On the Internet site LinkedIn, Chaliese Summers, Managing Partner of the SEG, claims 15 years of experience in the successful completion of "multi-million dollar design, develop and build projects in major markets". However, an extensive search of newspapers turned up no articles about any projects. A search of government business registration data bases found no business registered by name of The Summer's End Group. A call to the USVI Licensing office confirmed that the SEG did register as a business 3 years ago.

So I have to ask: What has the SEG been doing in the past 15 years? Why do they not have a business website? Have they completed any projects? Are they a fly-by-night company that will disappear before the Coral Bay marina project is completed? Will SEG leave St. John with another Pond Bay Club disaster?

I strongly urge the members of the St. John CZM Committee to investigate the background of the Summer's End Group before making a final decision. It should be easy for the SEG to provide a list of the projects completed over the past 15 years along with references that can be contacted. If they cannot, this is just one more reason that the SEG applications should be denied by the CZM committee.

Sincerely
Joan M. Wilson
St. John, VI

Crossword Answers (Puzzle located on Page 20)

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H	I	V	E	S	R	E	A	L	I	S	E	N	O	T	A	N						
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Strong Coral Bay Marina Opposition from Estate Enighed

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed marina and development in Coral Bay.

As with so many who first visited St. John and then fell in love with its natural beauty, expansive national park, outstanding beaches and a tranquil life-style free of major commercial and industrial activity and enterprises, we have returned with our family for over 25 years and are now owners of the Perelandra villa in Cruz Bay.

When we first heard about the proposed marina and development in Coral Bay, and saw the plans, we were appalled at how inappropriate this development was for our beloved island. The island already has been the victim of three profoundly awful, and incomprehensible, development decisions – Sirensa, Grande Bay and the nightmare of the deserted Pond

Bay.

The new proposal from Summers End Group (an aptly ironic and horrifyingly foretelling name) is even worse for the natural environment, will immeasurably disrupt the life of residents and visitors throughout the island, exceed the ability of the island's infrastructure and can only negatively affect its reputation to the outside world.

We hope the CZM commissioners recognize their responsibility to the unique island which is St. John and, for the sake of its future, will reject this new proposal.

Respectfully,
Linda and Patrick S. Gallagher
Estate Enighed
St. John, VI

An Open Letter to Tradewinds Readers

As the Coral Bay Community Council (CBCC) President, I will not dignify the absurd statements made in numerous recent *Tradewinds* articles by commenting on them individually. To the Reader: If it seemed false to you, it probably was false. Trust your instincts.

On Mr. Barksdale's claims both in *Tradewinds* and in the CZM application of his community involvement and participation with CBCC:

1) Neither he, nor any of the other known Summer's End Group marina principals, has ever been a member of CBCC, nor given the smallest financial donation to this organization.

2) The act of showing up at CBCC project meetings or at any other island organization event or fundraiser does not confer "bragging rights". That honor is reserved for the people who spend months of hard work actually making these island-wide events happen and who give selflessly of their time, financial resources, and expertise and are personally involved in the funtion's success.

3) Thank you to the 400 members, Coral Bay people, who do provide more than \$35,000 of support to CBCC annually. Thank you for the personal and business commitments of in-kind volunteer time and services valued at between \$50,000 and \$150,000 annually. This lets CBCC successfully undertake projects and get matching grants for improvements to the community such as the marine debris grant to remove derelict vessels.

4) Mr. Barksdale's sole contribution to the NOAA marine debris removal grant application was to attend a 45-minute meeting in Fall 2013. When the subject of raising the required matching funds came up, he

did not provide ANY in-kind contribution commitment. Period. So CBCC went out and found \$48,000 of willing in-kind support from the rest of the generous St. John Community in order to apply for the grant, and with the Coral Bay Yacht Club did all the work necessary to write and receive the grant. It is simply unconscionable of Mr. Barksdale to insinuate that he or his group have done anything to further this project, and it takes away from all of those in the community who have been deeply involved from the start.

5) During the Coral Bay Watershed Management Planning meetings that Mr. Barksdale and Ms. Summers attended, they did not disclose their actual marina plans nor did they disclose that they intended to use the concerns expressed by Coral Bay people as "evidence" in their private CZM Application of "deficiencies" in Coral Bay. What they heard was the voice of the Coral Bay community, openly discussing problems and community-based sustainable solutions - which they then turned around as proof of problems that only Summers End Marina could correct. Somehow the Summers End Group ignored all the active community work and community-based solutions that they heard about in the meetings – and most significantly, they ignored what residents REALLY wanted for Coral Bay.

Thank you for this opportunity to set the record straight. We can only hope that *Tradewinds* uses different methods to develop future stories to fully inform the public.

Sincerely,
Sharon Coldren, President
Coral Bay Community Council

Summer's End Group Has Control of Tradewinds

Summer's End may never get control of Coral Bay Harbor, but at least they've got the *Tradewinds*.

Phil Strenger

Letters to St. John Tradewinds

Morrisette Sets Record Straight, Again

I thought your coverage of the recent marina events was even-handed and clear. There remains, however, some confusion in the mind of the public about a few things, that I think important to get straight.

The emotions over the marina proposed for Coral Bay have been running so high that some people have been misled and blinded as to some key facts. I wish to make a few points, here, that I think are very important for us all to be straight on.

1) It was critical that I be present and sit on the recent St. John CZM panel for the public hearing relating to the marina application for Coral Bay in order to create a quorum. Without a quorum, the hearing could not have gone forward and CZM's hands would have been tied. We (CZM staff and the St. John CZM committee members) have been hoping for additions to the St. John CZM committee for several years, because we would like broader community representation, and because only having three members poses problems with scheduling meetings. Having only three members also means that one of us cannot fully step aside when there is a conflict, which is what I would have preferred to do, but could not.

The provisions of 12 VIC Section 910 (d)(4) provide for a permit to be deemed approved for non-action by CZM, if CZM fails to take timely action on it. None of us ever want to see a major proposed development for St. John approved by default, without community input, and without full consideration and a vote by CZM. It is ironic that some of those whose voices were enabled by my presence at the hearing, nevertheless criticized my presence. I am sure that this was because they did not understand that I was there to protect the public's right to be heard, as well as to ensure that the other two CZM members are given a chance to consider the permit on the merits, and to vote it up or down, rather than all of us facing a situation of a permit being issued by default. Because I was present to form a quorum, both the project proponents and the opponents had a chance to share their views and concerns with the CZM. Due to my conflict of interest (which is not uncommon in a community as small as ours), I did not participate in the discussion at the public hearing, and also have not discussed

this project with the other CZM members. Nor am I allowed to comment on the project, one way or the other.

2) There have been deliberate misrepresentations made by certain people that I am secretly an investor and/or a principal in the SEG entity or in this marina project. That is entirely and completely untrue. I am neither an investor nor a principal in SEG or this marina project. These false facts were deliberately used to generate, then fuel, hysteria and emotion and also seem to have been made with the intent of damaging my reputation. Conduct like that is both manipulative and also is an abuse of the peoples' trust. It also is defamatory and legally actionable. That we have people here among us who would deliberately spread false information is sad. I am considering legal action against those person(s), if needed, to fully clear the air.

I have great confidence in the integrity and the wisdom of Mr. Penn and Mr. Roberts to determine the merits of this CZM application on their own, and to do the best thing for the interests of St. John. We all serve on this gov't committee (and I have served on others) because we love these islands and because we feel that we all have a duty to give back and to help our community to be a better place.

I strongly encourage other residents of St. John to also come forward and to volunteer to serve on the St. John CZM Committee by submitting their resumes and letters of interest to the Governor's Office, through the St. John Administrator's Office. Especially in this election year, there is not likely to be time for Governor deJongh to make new appointments and to gain the attention and action of the Legislature in approving them, but having a list of qualified and interested people on hand will help ensure that the next incoming Governor will have a pool of qualified people from which to draw.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify this matter. While views and opinions as to what is best for St. John may vary, it is wonderful to be a part of a community that cares.

Sincerely,
Brion Morrisette

Letters of Thanks to Communities and Groups

Friends Helping Friends of St. John together with Artie, Camisa and Lois wish to thank everyone who worked, helped, participated and contributed to our very successful event.

A very special thanks to all who donated the generous gift certificates money, meals, boat trip, services, gift cards and vacation stays.

Thank you to Chris and Mary for providing and running the Corn Hole Tournament, Stephanie and crew for sponsoring and working the event. Kathy, Meagan, Laurie, Lucas Schnell and countless other who sold tickets and collected donations.

Brother Nature, T-Bird, Kenny and Fergie who

provided all the wonderful music all day and night. Thanks to all.

A Big Thank You to all involved and Friends Helping Friends.

Lois Smith

The V.I. Captains Association would like to thank the St. Thomas-St. John community, churches, clergy and those who made donations to our recent induction of new captains. We continue to ask you for your prayers for our new captains.

Lloyd Prince,
V.I. Captains Association

DID YOU KNOW...

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

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- Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park
- Giff 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)

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Community Calendar

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

Monday, September 8

— St John Singers is resuming rehearsals on Monday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay. All are welcome who just enjoy singing to join the group.

Tuesday, September 9

— The Office of the Lieutenant Governor advises the community of office closures in both districts to allow employees to participate in the Health and Wellness Expo sponsored by the Division of Personnel. On St. Croix, the offices will be closed on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 from noon to 5 p.m. Offices in the St. Thomas/St. John district will be closed on Friday, September 12 from noon to 5 p.m. The Lt. Governor's Office regrets any inconvenience that may be caused by the temporary closures.

Monday, October 16

— Using Sport for Social Change will bring back, for the sixth year in a row, a free fun-filled day of sports for youth ages 5 to 17 years on Monday, October 13, at Winston Wells Ballfield. Volunteers are needed and encouraged to sign up as well. Pre-registration is required. To sign up, please visit <http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com>. Volunteers will be asked to do general tasks such as keep score and keep the kids moving in the right direction. Sponsors are greatly needed to make this event a meaningful and memorable experience for all. Any business or individual who would like to help sponsor this event, visit http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com/2013_just_play_sponsorship_levels. More information about this event can be found at <http://www.usingsportforsocialchange.com>.

Saturday, October 18

— On Saturday, October 18, the Animal Care Center of St. John will present the "No Fleas Please" Flea Market Sale at Winston-Wells Ball Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This annual event is a major Animal Care Center Fundraiser — with emphasis on the fun.

Saturday, November 22

— The Rotary Club of St. John will host 2014 Flavors – A Taste of St. John on November 22 at St. John's award-winning Westin Resort in the newly renovated ball room and will include adjacent rooms from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS 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

Letters to *St. John Tradewinds*

Marina Called Threat To Several Hundred Rental Villas

There are very few places left in the world to live and vacation where the natural beauty alone is the draw.

Within Coral Bay we have Hurricane Hole, the jewel of the National Park and several other bays, the innermost being Coral Harbor. The pristine waters, coves and trails along with the sleepy, undeveloped, laid back "country" feel is what attracts people to Coral Bay. This is our niche. This sleepy, country feel is becoming harder and harder to find as areas "improve" with more commercialism and development changing the landscape forever.

Once developed, it can never go back to the way it was. The St. John Marina project's philosophy is so contrary to that of the people living and vacationing in Coral Bay it makes me think these people have spent very little time in Coral Bay and totally misunderstand us. They think we are deprived and in need of assistance, which we are not. In fact, this marina project, in my opinion, will do serious damage to the environment, the general character of Coral Bay and could bankrupt several hundred people who make their livelihood in the villa rental business.

I have been a homeowner and taxpayer in Coral Bay for almost 15 years with two homes in the rental market. They are my livelihood. If this marina project comes to fruition, it could bankrupt me along with

several hundred Coral Bay vacation rental owners.

Vacationers are not interested in listening and seeing construction noise and chaos. They come for the peace and quiet. It would not be that "hidden gem" that we currently have. People will not pay good money to vacation in or near Coral Bay when there are so many other nice islands and great places to visit.

The weekly rental season is already short due to hurricane season limiting income. This would be the final straw making people unable to make mortgage, tax and insurance payments. It would be an economic disaster.

Coral Bay is a small community that would be devastated by the size and scope of the St. John Marina project. It is such a fragile and unique ecosystem that cannot be enhanced by adding millions of dollars and lots of pilings into the bay. We do not have the roads, power or any other infrastructure to support a project of this scope.

St. John has let several projects pass in the recent past which have been detrimental to our island and ended up in bankruptcy and unfinished buildings making a few individuals lots of money. Let's not let that happen in Coral Bay.

**Thank you very much,
Susan Littlefield**

V.I. Police Commissioner Speaks on Recent Murder

On September 4, 2014 at about 4:47 a.m., police on St. Thomas were dispatched to the area of Building 21 in Oswald Harris Court to a reported shooting. Officers were directed to an apartment in Building 21 where they found an unresponsive black male victim in a bedroom in the apartment. He appeared to have been shot at least one (1) time to the upper body. The victim was identified as 26 year old Keithroy Caines.

Preliminary investigation reveals that this is not a random shooting incident. Investigation also reveals that there were no reports of shots being fired in the area of Oswald Harris Court prior to the call of the reported shooting victim at the location.

Police Commissioner Rodney F. Querrard Sr. stated "This is a clear example of people becoming immune to the discharging of shots in many of our neighborhoods. The time when calls are made to 911 is when the caller or a family member is a direct victim of the shots being fired, or when there is damage to personal property. When this occurs it is too late. We as a community must be the ones to say enough is enough. We must be the ones to call and pass on specific information about those few living among us who are terrorizing our families in our homes, a place where one expects peace and tranquility. The elderly and minors living in these areas are suffering greatly when these senseless discharging of firearms occur."

Commissioner Querrard is asking for the community's assistance in solving this murder, and any other murder or serious crime so there can be closure for the families, and hopefully a serious reduction in the retaliatory shootings causing the continuous demise of many of our young men. "The only way this is going to happen is for a continued joint partnership with law enforcement, all law enforcement, federal and local, and a strong partnership with all of our community members. We, all of us, can make that difference. Trust must be built both ways; between law enforcement personnel and those we serve each and every day. The Virgin Islands Police Department has reached out to other agencies that have Peace Officers asking for their assistance in this effort. Every Peace Officer in this territory swore to protect and serve the people of this territory, and that is what is expected of them, nothing less."

Commissioner Querrard is asking for anyone with information on this latest murder, or any other murder, to call the Major Crimes Unit detectives at 340-642-8449 (cell), or 340-774-2211 extension 5617 or 5619. Information can also be passed on also to Crime Stoppers USVI at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), or 911.

**Rodney F. Querrard Sr.
Police Commissioner
Virgin Islands Police Department**

SUBMIT YOUR OPINIONS TO: editor@tradewinds.vi

Guest Opinion

Are We Ready for Another Newtown?

By HUGO ROLLER
St. John Tradewinds

December 14, 2014 will mark the second anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Having grown up in the state, I lived within a 20 mile radius of where the events took place. On that particular morning, I was transiting from St. Thomas to Connecticut to visit and assist my elderly mother. Though I heard the news reports repeating the name of the school several times, it wasn't until Miami that I had the opportunity to take in the various details that were emerging 'live' as the reporters first broke the story. While now far from being the first of such events, hearing the names of familiar places only amplified the horror that each of the others had also brought to mind.

In the shuttle ride from La Guardia airport, it wasn't long before I found myself in conversation with a young woman who was a primary school teacher in southern Connecticut. Her view was that the very same situation could have occurred almost anywhere in the state. The so-called 'security entrances' at most schools that she knew of did not have bullet-proof glass, and playground areas were too accessible to be considered completely safe. Unless monitored constantly, cameras effectively only record events; by themselves they're not a fail-proof security device. The thought of an armed security detachment that would vary in size depending on the institution was neither an appealing nor comforting thought for her either. At what point does a society become a de facto police state; and as a not insignificant consideration, would the populous be willing to cover the very substantial costs necessary to maintain it? To be forthright about such a conversation, shouldn't a comprehensive review of all, even seemingly more distant though related, subjects be openly discussed as well?

The focus after Newtown, and the other mass killings, going back to at least the carnage at Columbine High School in Colorado, has been on guns. Such an assessment is limited in scope, premised on a conclusion where the emphasis is always on the violence rather than causes, and the remedy of eliminating the weapon the foregone conclusion. I still have a vivid memory of going to the funeral of a friend's daughter when I lived in Wyoming back in the mid-seventies. She had been a nurse at a state mental health facility outside Lander, where a patient dragged her into a storage area and

stabbed her to death with a knife obtained from the cafeteria. A wire, a baseball bat, strong hands; the list of objects that could serve as instruments of death is an extensive one. They may be a material element to a crime, but they're not really 'the problem'. In no manner do I want to suggest that there is only one problem, because it's not too difficult to see that as populations grow, so do the problems.

Prior to the 20th century, the treatment of psychiatric patients was best characterized as confinement, with conditions that ranged from apathy to horrible levels of abuse. The real turning point came about not through the sudden enlightenment of psychiatrists and staff workers, but through the ardent efforts of a former patient to expose the conditions that he both witnessed and had experienced. Clifford W. Beers, a recent graduate from Yale College, was soon established as a Wall Street financier when he experienced his first bout with manic depressive illness (bipolar disorder). After his release, and with the autobiography: 'A Mind That Found Itself', which was received with great acclaim, he established the National Committee for Mental Hygiene (now 'Mental Health America') with the ardent support of William James, the American philosopher and Adolph Meyer, a psychiatrist. The organization has won many hard fought battles since its initial founding on February 19, 1909.

Illness, whatever the symptoms, should never be a reason to blame the sufferer. When a society finds justification in doing so, that most certainly, is part of the problem. When a town, city, state, territory or a nation's political leadership finds social needs to be beyond the scope of what they determine to be an acceptable expenditure in a budget, we see another part of the problem. My personal experience in public schools growing up in the 1950's made it clear to me that such institutions not only sanctioned intolerance, they fostered it. The practice of ostracizing individuals because of differences not acceptable to majorities is, even today, not yet a thing of the past. Some of the perpetrators of these mass shootings expressed just such complaints prior to the horrific acts that ended in their suicides. That's another part of the problem, and clearly, there are many more aspects that need to be part of this discussion.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) offers the following facts for us to consider:

- One in four adults – approximately 61.5 million Americans – experiences mental illness in a given year. One in 17 – about 13.6 million – live with a serious mental illness such as schizophrenia, major depression or bipolar disorder.
- Approximately 20 percent of youth ages 13 to 18 experience severe mental disorders in a given year. For ages 8 to 15, the estimate is 13%.
- Approximately 1.1 percent of American adults – about 2.4 million people – live with schizophrenia.
- Approximately 2.6 percent of American adults – 6.1 million people – live with bipolar disorder.
- Approximately 18.1 percent of American adults – about 42 million people – live with anxiety disorders, such as panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), generalized anxiety disorder and phobias.
- About 9.2 million adults have co-occurring mental health and addiction disorders.
- Approximately 26 percent of homeless adults staying in shelters live with serious mental illness and an estimated 46 percent live with severe mental illness and/or substance use disorders.
- Approximately 20 percent of state prisoners and 21 percent of local jail prisoners have "a recent history" of a mental condition.
- Seventy percent of youth in juvenile justice systems have at least one mental condition and at least 20 percent live with a severe mental illness.
- Approximately 60 percent of adults, and almost one-half of youth ages 8 to 15 with a mental illness received no mental health services in the previous year.
- Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the U.S. (more common than homicide) and the third leading cause of death for ages 15 to 24 years. More than 90 percent of those who die by suicide had one or more mental disorders.
- Although military members comprise less than 1 percent of the U.S. population, veterans represent 20 percent of suicides nationally. Each

day, about 22 veterans die from suicide.

If we were to assemble a complete picture of our society, and not from any one perspective which might emphasize only the views of a relatively comfortable and well-adjusted majority, it would not be a very positive one. Economic disparities, a plethora of unmet human needs, a social media that is all too focused on emotionally supercharged interactions and its use as a networking tool to garner social prestige through actions that are ever extending the range of personal risk; it's really getting very hard to see the 'love' that so many of the great religions purport to nurture. At a time when the bulk of humanity in more developed areas regard the world as a construct not unlike the 'selfie' that they record to verify their current existence, the 'other' that exists outside that image is a little-considered 'non-entity' at best, or a potentially threatening adversary should they refuse to conform to our standards of conduct.

A brief description offered by various media sources after the Newtown tragedy revealed Adam Lanza, 20, to be academically proficient, but a social outcast. On December 18, 2012, the Connecticut Post reported: "Lanza's parents told friends and divorce mediators that he had Asperger's syndrome, a form of high-functioning autism, but it is unclear if he had ever been formally diagnosed." On December 20, 2012, the front page headline read "Mom 'squashed' Marine dream", with a sub-title that read "Friends speak: Nancy Lanza discouraged son from serving in military." Other details followed, but nothing that explained any inferred decision not to seek professional help. Was the stigmatism attached to mental illness a factor? Did denial on the part of one or both parents enter into the decision? With timely intervention could this tragedy have been preventable? Why did the media not even mention that Newtown was once the site of Connecticut's largest mental health hospital?

On February 28, 2013 the VI Daily News included a couple of items in the "Briefs" column on page 13. "Cops: Grandma shot self, young grandsons in car". The boys, 2-year old Alton and 6-month old Ashton, had been picked up by their Grandmother from a Preston, Connecticut daycare center. "Family members say [Debra] Denison had a history of mental problems." No mention of treatment in the article, or that another

Continued on Page 23

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

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

Jehovah's Witness

7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m.
Saturdays (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.

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

Letters to *St. John Tradewinds*

Politicians Do Goofy Things

Politicians do some goofy things.

Especially when they want to get elected or on their way out.

Pardon Ms. Hansen? Well at least one branch of our government thought that tax evasion by political leaders was bad. That's progress.

Last time on the way out they gave the taxi association a five year contract at the airport on STT. These are the guys that don't pay much taxes, live in multimillion dollar homes with apartments and are surly to tourists.

What if the candidates that want to get re elected spend the next few months doing something positive for the COMMUNITY? I think that if they do we should help them get re-elected.

While we are waiting lets get out on the streets Sat Sept. 13 and pick up trash.

Join EAST. Rotary East, NBTS and spend a couple of hours cleaning up paradise. Its good exercise and you will be helping to fix this place.

Greg Miller
St. John, VI

Free Comes With a Price

Isn't it strange that a country trillions of dollars in debt can afford to give away millions?

We have two brand-new ferries, VITRAN buses on the day, numerous road projects and of course the long-awaited school that will be paid for with federal dollars.

America has lost all sense of accountability and it appears so have we.

No institution, private or public, can survive with its books in the red.

Our economic strength came by the hard work and ingenuity of the American people. Now we're basically a welfare nation handing out checks – which in time to come will bounce.

We have to get off this federal gravy train.

Why? Because every city, state and county continue to suck America's nipple.

Our current and future political candidates are saying that they will fight for federal funds. This is the wrong course of action. If all these so-called leaders are thinking this way, we are in serious trouble.

Here are several reasons:

1. Dependence on federal aid robs us of our independence.

2. Nothing comes for free; there will be strings attached.

3. America's accounting system is a mess.

4. We want our children to grow up and stop living off mommy and daddy, yet here we are sponging off the federal government.

5. There are enough resources right here to fix our roads, maintain schools and hospitals, and stabilize this economy.

It will mean hard choices, cutting out many pleasurable activities, and a strict discipline of new accounting procedures. This will lead to a better financial future for many generations.

We have to put our financial house in order and that begins by telling our officials that Virgin Islands people are ready to work, not accept government handouts.

Get It Together,
Emmanuel Prince
St. John, VI

Foreign Policy of Procrastination

When President Obama was questioned about countering the Islamic terrorists (ISIS) in Syria, his response was "We don't have a strategy yet", and this exemplifies the status of our foreign policy. The Obama Administrations has deferred our foreign policy decisions to other countries who defer back to the U.S. It is a policy of procrastination based on hopes and dreams the world problems will fade away or be solved by foreign good guys in shining armor.

The results of our diplomatic pullback, our military cuts, and decreased readiness have allowed the Russians to take the Crimea, North Korea to threaten South Korea, China to flex its military might in the Western Pacific, Iran to develop nuclear weapons,

and Islamic terrorists to establish a territory in Iraq and Syria for launching attacks in the Middle East and the world.

We cannot rely on other countries to take the lead in a dangerous world. As an example, since 2008 European governments have relinquished any leadership role by paying \$165 million in ransom to Islamic terrorists for the release of European citizens. To deter and defeat aggression in the world, the U.S. has to provide global leadership in our foreign policy strategies and decisions.

Donald A. Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH



1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

Remain Totally Anonymous
Collect Rewards in Cash
Help Our Community be Safe

Criminal Act Covered Up



St. John Tradewinds News Photos

In a criminal act of defacing public property and making terroristic threats, one opponent of the proposed Coral Bay Marina wrote threats against developer Rick Barksdale on Waste Management Authority dumpsters around the island after the CZM public hearing on the project. Civic-minded individuals concerned about the island's image quickly circled the island painting over the evidence — even going to the trouble of using the appropriate colored paint on different dumpsters — and themselves defacing public property!



This jukebox was reported stolen from a Fish Bay home in August.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Crime Stoppers U.S. Virgin Islands

St. John Tradewinds

Crime Stoppers empowers you to make your neighborhoods safer by reporting information anonymously. Visit www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org and click on How It Works. If you know something, say something, as your information, no matter how small, might be just what law enforcement needs to solve a crime.

St. John

On August 21, at about 12:20 p.m., police officers received a call regarding a burglary at Z3 Fish Bay that occurred between August 16-21. A jukebox, speakers, and two end tables were stolen from the home. You can go to our website for photos of the stolen items. Please tell us what you may know about this burglary.

On August 29, at about 7:45 p.m. officers were dispatched to #16-4 Estate Adrian regarding a third degree burglary. The complainant left his home secured around 11:30 a.m. and returned around 7:30 p.m. The suspect entered and exited the residence through the south east window. Items taken were: \$1,500 in cash; a gold Gucci hand chain with estimated value at \$300; and 1 pair of gold Dora earrings estimated value \$400.

Police are reminding residents that criminals are always waiting for the opportunity to commit crimes. Don't give them that opportunity! When fueling your vehicle, roll up the windows, and lock the doors before going inside the business to pay. Never leave your keys in the ignition or your car running while you step away "just for a minute" because a minute is all a criminal needs to steal your vehicle. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. If you see any suspicious activity, anywhere at any time, call 911 and let police determine if there is any threat to the public.

Let's continue to help make our community a safer place to live by submitting information on these or any other crimes. Your tips are completely anonymous, and the stateside operators speak several languages. If your tip leads to an arrest or the recovery of stolen property, illegal drugs, or weapons, you will receive a cash reward to be paid according to your instructions.

These crimes could easily have happened to you. Please tell us what you know about these, or any other crimes, at www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Or text "USVI" plus your message to CRIMES (274637).

9-7

CRYPTOQUIP

O Y C N I A V Z S N S I Q O S K Z E D O S L N N P
 Q E T O A , Y O T Q E L O A X O E P N L S E D N T N I K D V C
 Q N C N I M Z S Q E Z T E L O E D Z M V X Z S Q V Z E .

Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals T

St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

Accommodations

Caribbean Villas & Resorts
tel. 1-800-338-0987
or locally 340-776-6152

Island Getaways
888-693-7676,
islandgetawaysinc.com
kathy@islandgetawaysinc.com

Suite St. John Villas/Condos
tel. 1-800-348-8444
or locally at 340-779-4486

Architecture

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

Art Galleries

Bajo el Sol Gallery
Located in Mongoose Junction
tel. 340-693-7070

Kimberly Boulon Fine Art Gallery
Located at The Marketplace
340-693-8524

Banking

Firstbank
Located in downtown Cruz Bay
340-776-6881

Furniture

Carlos Furniture - 340-693-0016
Located at Tutu Park Mall on STT
Free delivery and setup to St. John

Green Building

Island Green Building Association
check www.igbavi.org for Seminar
Series info and ReSource Depot
inventory

Insurance

PGU Insurance
Located at The Marketplace
776-6403; pgunow@gmail.com

Theodore Tunick & Company
Phone 775-7001 / Fax 775-7002
www.theodoretunick.com

Jewelry

R&I PATTON goldsmithing
Located in Mongoose Junction
776-6548 or (800) 626-3445
Chat@pattongold.com

Landscaping

Alfredo's Landscaping
tel. 774-1655 cell 513-2971
P.O. Box 91, St. John, VI 00831

Coral Bay Garden Center
tel. 693-5579 fax 714-5628
P.O. Box 1228, STJ, VI 00831

Real Estate

340 Real Estate Company, LLC
340-643-6068 or 340-779-4478
340realestateco@gmail.com
www.340realestateco.com

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

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

Islandia Real Estate
tel. 776-6666 fax 693-8499
P.O. Box 56, STJ, VI 00831
info@islandiarealestate.com

Restaurants

Fish Trap Restaurant and Seafood Market
tel. 693-9994, Closed Mondays

La Tapa Restaurant
tel. 693-7755
Open 7 Days a Week

Ocean 362
American Contemporary Cuisine
For reservations, call 340-776-0001

Skinny Legs
"A Pretty OK Place"
tel. 340-779-4982
www.skinnylegs.com

Services

C4th Custom Embroidery
tel. 779-4047
Located in Coral Bay

Island Solar
"Off the Grid Living for 10 Years"
tel. 340-642-0531

Wedding Services

Weddings by Katilday
www.stjohnweddingplanner.com
340-693-8500 - Consulting, Travel
Coordination, Accommodations

Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

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SELF-CONTAINED SYNONYMS

ACROSS

- Do another shoot of "2001" co-star Keir
- Deli hangers
- Person de-wrinkling
- Narcissist
- Sea dog
- It aptly contains the letters R-A-I-N ...
- Dustin Hoffman film
- Lab aide with a hump
- ... O-P-E-N
- ... M-U-T-E
- "Failure is — option"
- Understand, in London
- "No need to wake me!"
- Think up
- Soviet relations
- Slate wipers
- ... T-A-I-N-T
- ... U-G-L-Y
- Like a sheep
- Bring up, as a subject
- AOL delivery
- Deer cousin
- ... F-I-C-T-I-O-N
- Martial arts teacher
- ... — horse to water ..."
- Tristan's companion
- ... E-A-R-L-Y
- NYC airport
- Posting with a hashtag
- Satire
- Watchable Web journals
- ... M-A-L-E

DOWN

- Tear
- Slip or trip
- Hostile force
- Magazine for an exec
- Necklace of flowers
- "— Passes By" (A.A. Milne play)
- Alternate route
- Lorre's role in "Casablanca"
- Auction set
- Cicero's card count?
- "— Beso (That Kiss!)"
- With 90-Down, free
- voice (under one's breath)
- "It's — cause"

15 Drug used to treat

- Parkinson's
- Flabbergast
- Face hider
- "Why would —?"
- Bygone British gun
- "Can — now?"
- French "a"
- In vogue
- Resort island near Venice
- Cake baker
- Sofa or pew
- This, to Juan
- Swiftness
- Wiesel who wrote "Night"
- Clangor
- Lip-puckering jawbreakers
- Fulfilled
- Hi-tech bookmark
- Ops
- Post-punk genre
- Morales of the screen
- "Pan Am" star Christina
- Terrified
- "— seen worse"
- None at all
- Like kiddie-pool water, often
- Partner of neither
- Misbehaving
- Seer's power
- Body of eau
- Meth- ending
- Method ending
- Arise quickly
- Way of film
- AAA service
- Land in l'Atlantique
- Bardic work

- After-tax
- Novelist Calvino
- See 77-Down
- Writer Leon
- With 73-Down, early portrayer of Tarzan
- Procured
- Farming-related: Abbr.
- Poison from a snake
- Addition total
- Plan (out)
- Tax Day mo.
- Lanka
- Plebeian
- Actress Delany
- See 12-Down
- Sci-fi empath Deanna
- Engrossed by
- Home to Honolulu
- Science guy Bill's family
- Prickly husk
- Cardinal's cap abbr.
- WWII ship sinkers
- Revolving gun holder
- Emerge
- Library gizmo
- Huge guf
- Modern: Prefix
- Ticking thing
- Brinker of kid-lit
- Harbinger
- Pixar title fish
- Barely made, with "out"
- Flying expert
- Rebel Turner
- College sr.'s test
- Try to win
- NHL great Bobby
- Sushi eggs
- Genetic stuff
- Antonio

Answer to Sept. 7 Cryptquip:
IF YOU PLAN ON USING A THIN WOOD STRIP, FIRST WIPE IT DOWN THOROUGHLY SO YOU CAN START WITH A CLEAN SLAT.

Classifieds

Commercial/Office



EVERYTHING YOU NEED ON EVERY LEVEL

GREAT PLACE TO SHOP, DINE AND WORK

COME JOIN US WE HAVE SPACES AVAILABLE — RETAIL, OFFICE OR STORAGE

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PASTORY SELF STORAGE
Available Immediately
5x5x8 up to 10x20x8
Starting at \$85/mo.
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Gentle grade, easy build.
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\$859,000.
Peter Briggs John Foster
R. E. 340-513-1850

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340-693-7777
CRUZ BAY

- Efficiency apt in Cruz Bay, \$900
- One bedroom, one bath cottage, washer, \$1300
- Two bedroom, one bath apt, screened deck, washer \$1500
- Three bedroom, two bath, large deck, w/d \$1800
- Two bedroom, two bath, washer, large deck, \$2100

Coral Bay

- One bedroom, one bath apt, small deck, \$1100

Commercial Space Available

COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE
Prime street level retail location,
FIRST MONTH FREE
with one year lease

At The Lumberyard
Downtown Cruz Bay, Where St. John Does Business

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For Space Call Nick**

For more information, call Nick at (340) 771-3737

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BUSINESS After Hours

In Recognition of Labor Month
The VI Department of Labor
STT/STJ Chamber of Commerce

Date: Thursday, September 11, 2014
Time: 5:30-7:30 pm
Venue: Petite Pump Room

Come out and learn about our new SIDES initiatives, latest Labor Market Information and our VieWS system.

Great Networking Activity!

Chamber of Commerce
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Real Estate

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Sprauve School Hosts Education Expo

Continued from Page 7

mentation the strategic plan will live only in the binder where it was written in its final form and in the minds of top Education officials who familiarize themselves with the details.

Familiarizing teachers and parents with the plan's objectives began at the first expo. Charts and posters came along with a brief explanation about what will be expected by the time the plan takes effect in 2015.

The plan seeks to improve math and English language arts proficiency by one full grade level each year and to improve overall test scores in these areas by 16 percent; to have career and technical education students raise the number of industry-recognized certifications obtained by 10 percent.

It also seeks to increase overall graduation rates by 15 percent; to increase student proficiency in the sciences by eight percent; to increase attendance rates for stu-

dents, teachers and staff by five percent.

The 2015 five-year strategic plan also speaks to the implementation of new teaching standards. Over the next five years, 85 percent of public school educators and support staff are expected to become proficient in VI Effective Leadership Standards.

To help get districts, schools, administrators, parents, teachers and stakeholders ready, Frett-Gregory has invited the Florida and Islands Regional Comprehensive Center. The one-year consultation comes at no cost to the department, the commissioner said.

FLICC works with education systems in Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The Tampa-based group works with school districts struggling to improve achievement rates and raise test scores. They also provide help when school administrators want to take their districts in a new direction.

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Guest Opinion

Are We Ready for Another Newtown?

Continued from Page 17

closed mental health hospital, Norwich State Hospital, was at one time located in that town and had housed over 3,000 patients with mental illness. Enough has been said about the carnage and untreated illness. What yet needs to be mentioned is the demise of mental health treatment, in Connecticut and elsewhere. When the state of Connecticut decided to “deinstitutionalize” patients and close the Fairfield Hills Hospital in Newtown and its sister hospital Norwich State Hospital, three factors were key to the shift in policy.

A “socio-political” movement for community mental health services and open hospitals.

The advent of psychotropic drugs able to manage psychotic episodes.

A financial imperative to shift costs from state to federal budgets.

The above policy [see Wikipedia: ‘Deinstitutionalization’], was originally formulated back in the Truman administration, and became federal law during the Kennedy administration (the Community Mental Health Act, passed by Congress in 1963).

The consequences were certainly dramatic, but whether this effectively addressed the needs of those requiring such care has been debated by experts and communities alike. That patients, removed from environments that were often considered hostile, negligent or usury, might be seen as better off is plausible; but how can the consequent dramatic rise in homelessness and incarceration be regarded as the best alternative?

The headline for an article on page 6 in the VI Daily News [January 26, 2013] read “Judge finds plan to treat mentally ill woman inadequate”. A bold caption below from Royett Russell, Luis Hospital legal counsel stated “Services in the community are nonexistent, so we will have to work around and address the next step and the next to create a meaningful plan.” As a former member of the Roy Lester Schneider Hospital Board I can state with complete accuracy that conditions were no different in 1996. The Virgin Islands Court had issued directives then as now, and to no avail. As in so many other aspects, our territory is but a mirrored existence, a microcosm of the greater American community to which we belong. The World

Health Organization has noted that the closing of mental health hospitals has often left communities without the prescribed alternatives that new laws had called for. This is not surprising, as has so often been the case, minorities, however sizeable, are never very high on the pecking order of politics. In this case, their general inability to organize and participate in the electoral process has effectively rendered them non-entities at best, or a public nuisance otherwise.

On Saturday morning, December 15, 2012, I went to a haircut appointment, and arriving early I became privy to the reactions of a young man, certainly no older than in the early 40s, who was there with his two young sons (about 6 or 7, who were twins). As a criminal forensic pathologist for the State of Connecticut, he was at the scene of the murders the day before, and it was clear that his professional experience was not able to prevent the emotional trauma that now affected him. Life sometimes presents us with very dramatic ironies, and in this case his departure was then followed by the arrival of another young man and his son of about 8 years. His profession was as

an arms dealer who sold plastic explosives, and it was apparently a fast-paced life and quite lucrative. He had clients all over the world, and was operating strictly under the oversight and approval of all U.S. authorities. With every conflagration now evident around the world, his view was that business was good, and his prospects even better. When we consider the violence that now characterizes events in so many countries, let us keep in mind that the United States is the largest arms dealer in the world.

In closing, I leave the reader with two considerations. First, a concerned citizen who remains silent is very much a part of “the problem;” and in some manner I hope my comments, though late in the offering, have a positive impact. Secondly, and again from my perspective which understandably will differ from that of a great many other people, the issue of legal gun ownership cannot be seen as the culprit in a mass shooting when both families and the general society cannot tangibly express concern or compassion for those who need it most.

Hugo A. Roller is a concerned citizen and farmer on St. John.

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