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# ST. JOHN TRADEWINDS

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

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Cautious Concern
from Watchdogs

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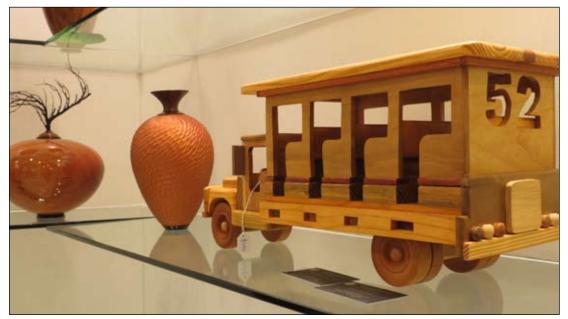
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## **Avelino Samuel Showcases Art at Woodworkers Expo**

Carved and lacquered wooden vases by Avelino Samuel sit next to a whimsical safari bus by Howard Ferrary in a pop up gallery at Yacht Haven Grande. The gallery space provided a showcase for the 2014 Woodworkers Expo, sponsored by the University of the Virgin Islands' Cooperative Extension Service.

The finely crafted stock of a spear gun by Avelino Samuel on display at the 2014 Woodworkers Expo held Dec. 5-7 at Yacht Haven Grande.

St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Judi Shimel





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## Moravians, Environmental Group File Appeal of CZM Summer's End Permit

## By TOM OAT St. John Tradewinds

CORAL BAY — As officials of the Moravian Church of the Virgin Islands said before the St. John Coastal Zone Management Committee (CZM) voted in October to approve the controversial mega-yacht marina covering more than half of historic Coral Harbor, when it comes to the development of a marina in Coral Bay, the Moravian Church wants half.

Attorneys for the Moravian Council filed a voluminous appeal in opposition to the permitted Coral Bay Marina, The Yacht Club at Summer's End with the Board of Land Use Appeals to support their opposition. The copy of the legal document available on the internet does not have page numbers, but has been described as 30 pages in length and includes copies of the two CZM permits being appealed.

The entire document can be found at the savecoralbay website.

#### "Numerous Errors of Law"

"The Moravian Church Conference of the Virgin Islands... hereby appeals the decisions of the St. John Coastal Zone Management Committee (CZM) rendered on October 10, 2014," the Petition for Appeal stated.

"The Moravian Church challenges the decision due to the numerous errors of law and arbitrary and capricious actions, the effect of which would be to substantially damage the Coastal Zone environment and deprive the Moravian Church of its rights as an historic owner of shoreline property abutting Coral Bay, including the right to full and equitable use of its land as a site for a long-planned marina," the document states.

Opponents of the competing mega-yacht marina project which extends more than halfway across the broad shallow bay from leased property on the opposite shore of Coral Bay Harbor have supported the Moravian Church's position that it has equal riparian rights from the shoreline of its property.

## Marina Developer Admits Dispute With Designer As It Seeks Investors

## By TOM OAT St. John Tradewinds

The developers of a proposed mega-yacht marina in Coral Bay acknowledge they have a cash flow problem which they say won't affect the possibly years-long federal approval process for their controversial project necessary to begin construction.

The designers of the controversial project, Applied Technology and Management, want to get paid the \$51,803.87 they claim they are owed for the preliminary design work which won the developers of the multi-million dollar

Continued on Page 15

#### **VICS Also Files Appeal**

The V.I. Conservation Society also filed a 55-page appeal of the CZM decision on November 14, according to published reports. Counsel for the V.I. Conservation Society did not return an e-mail request from *St. John Tradewinds* for a copy of the organization's appeal or for comment on their appeal on Friday, December 5.

The Moravian Council appeal was prepared by Atty. Mark D. Hodge of the St. Thomas Law Firm of Hodge and Hodge who could not be reached for further comment.

Project architect Woods chairs the Board of Land Use Appeals and has said that he would recuse himself from any action on the appeals of the Summer's End Group marina permit.

There was no information on when the appeals would be considered.

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#### SJFS Kick Offs Season December 9

The St. John Film Society kicks off the 2014-2015 season on Tuesday, Dec. 9, with "Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision" at 7:30 p.m. at the St. John School of the Arts in Cruz Bay. There is a suggested donation of \$5.

#### **ACC Holiday Open House Dec. 11**

The Animal Care Center of St. John is extending an invitation to the community to join the organization at the shelter, for their annual holiday open house on Thursday, December 11, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The furry, shelter dwellers have hung their stockings on their kennels to receive any treats you wish to bring. Complimentary beverages, appetizers, licks, kisses, purrs and cuddles will be available all evening. Bring the whole family and join the fun!

#### Coral Bay Carol Sing December 17; Santa To Give Gifts on Dec. 19; CBCC Helping Light Coral Bay Harbor

The Coral Bay Community Christmas Tree/Carol Sing will be Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Coral Bay Basketball Court

Join everyone in singing caroles and welcoming Santa for the kids! This annual Tradition brings neighborhoods out to sing — in a "competitive challenge for festiveness" between neighborhoods. So bring your voices and your neighbors — so you can sing loud! No talent required — just lots of holiday and community spirit.

This is cohosted by the John's Folly Learning Institute and the Coral Bay Community Council. Everyone is encouraged to bring gifts for Santa to give the children. Please buy a gift or two and wrap it and label for boy or girl and age — as appropriate. Bring it with you or drop off gifts or \$ at the CBCC office or Connections East. See you Friday, December 19 at 6 p.m. Parents need to accompany their children. Santa will arrive about 6:30 p.m. — if you've been good!

For more information contact CBCC at 776-2099.

#### Lighting the Bay

Boaters are putting up Christmas Lights this year to twinkle across the harbor. No WAPA expense for them! Please donate working lights that are not in use to the Coral Bay Community Council office and we will give to boats to display!

#### Mega-Yacht Hearing Set for Dec. 17

The permit for the Coral Bay mega-yacht marina will go before the V.I. Legislature's Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture and Planning for a public hearing on Dec. 17 at the Legislature Building on St. Thomas.

#### **Kids And The Sea Sailing To Start**

Any child wanting to enroll in the Rowing & Seamanship Program of Kids and the Sea needs to take a swim test. KATS will provide swim instruction after the test if students do not demonstrate adequate swimming skills. The swim test will be Saturday December 20.

Participants need to meet at Skinny Leg's around 9 a.m. and should plan on returning to Skinny's by 11:30 a.m. KATS will transport students to Maho Beach for the test. Children should wear bathing suit and sunblock, bring a towel and water. Parents welcome to accompany. For more infomration Jennifer 514-3718 or email katsstjohn2001@yahoo.com.

## Zone Change for Moravian Coral Bay Property Attracts Small Crowd, Faint Praise — and Some Muted Criticism

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

EMMAUS — Preliminary plans for the landside portion of the "other" Coral Bay marina project got their first official public airing on December 4 and received a kinder and gentler reception from a handful of resident testifiers than the controversial competing "mega-yacht" marina project already approved for Coral Harbor.

The plan also received testimony of support from a handful of native St. Johnians, including from one of the partners in the competing controversial megayacht marina already approved by the St. John CZM in October which is currently in the federal approval process – and which approval is under appeal. (See related story.)

The unpublicized Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning hearing was called to discuss a zoning designation change requested by the developers of the "second" marina project which will include a proposed landside hotel and parking structure.

Two Coastal Zone Planning staff members, including Director Stuart Smith, questioned the architect representing the developers, now reformed as Sirius Development LLC, who have a long-standing, long-range lease agreement with the Moravian Church Council of the V.I. for Emmaus Moravian Church property on the shore of Coral Harbor and an adjoining parcel leased from the V.I. government.

## **Unpublicized Hearing Draws Small Audience**

The presentation drew a relatively small audience of approximately 20 people – remarkably fewer than the overflow crowd at the August CZM hearing which was mostly opposed to the "mega-yacht" Coral Bay Marina, The Yacht Club at Summer's End project already approved for the opposite shore of Coral Harbor from the Moravian property. (See related stories.)

"This project has been around

a long time," St. Thomas architect John Woods acknowledged. Rory Calhoun of the project's initial developer T-Rex has been involved with the property for about 30 years, according to Woods, who said he has been involved in the redesign of the project with the project since 2006.

The developers, who have a long term lease on the "approximately 12-acre" site comprising three parcels of church-owned property and a V.I. government-owned parcel, according to Woods, have requested a zoning designation change to waterfront pleasure, W-1, for a portion of a parcel currently zoned as residential low density, R-2, and part of a parcel zoned waterfront industrial, W-2.

The developers have "worked tirelessly to come up with a project that would be the right fit," according to Woods. Originally planned as "fractional or timeshare" ownership, "that's not viable anymore," Woods explained, of the change to the mix of one-and two-bedroom residential units and proposed three-story hotel.

"It became clear we needed to pull back and do a market study and determine what the best project would be," said Woods. "It was important to get the right feel for the project."

The original plan had called for more upland construction on the hillside above the historic Emmaus Moravian church which location was changed because of presence of a species of endangered plant, according to Woods.

The rezoning request that is the subject of the application would allow the development to locate the residential portion of the project and the commercial elements in a shoreline design which is planned to include a three-story hotel building and "parking structure" on a portion of the property which is the subject of the zone change, Woods explained. The site includes one V.I. government-owned parcel.

"We're not asking for rezoning to build a marina," Woods em-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

Architect John Woods discusses the Moravian Church zone change request as CZM Planning Director Stuart Smith listens.

phasized. "What we're focusing on tonight is the land that needs to be rezoned for the landside (of the project)."

The preliminary plan submitted with the rezoning application also includes a two-story parking structure to serve the proposed residential and commercial development and the planned marina on the site of the current ramshackle parking and boat storage area which includes a V.I. governmentowned parcel between the shuttered historic Guy H. Benjamin Elementary School and Skinny Legs

The parking structure would not actually be two stories because the design would take advantage of the "10-foot" drop in elevation between Route 10 and the shoreline of the bay, the architect explained.

#### Marina Still in Planning Stage

The marina portion of the project, shown in the conceptual drawings as blank white squares representing the large waterfront dry storage building of indeterminate height, boat launch ramp and a small finger pier on the shoreline portion of the project behind the iconic Skinny Legs restaurant on the drawings submitted for the rezoning request, is still in the planning stages, Woods explained.

In the artist renderings of the project, the shoreline drystorage building appears to be a large multi-story building sited on the waterfront approximately where the current boat landing has evolved over the years into a small boat dock.

#### "Good Feel for Community"

"We have a very good feel for the community," added Woods, who said the group expected "sometime next year to put together a CZM package for the marina" portion of the project.

The entire project area is just under 12 acres, Woods said of the development footprint which includes the Moravian Church ball field property and waterfront parcels extending along Coral Harbor behind the shuttered Guy H. Benjamin Elementary School, the Coral Bay Fire Station and Skinny Legs.

The plan has been expanded to include the construction of a new community recreational field on a separate parcel on Rte. 10 west of the current community ball field in what is known as "Lala Land," which would likely be built before development begins on any portion of the existing ball field, Woods said.

The rezoning application will be referred to the V.I. Legislature for approval after Smith and his staff make their recommendations. There was no indication of when Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning staff would act on the rezoning request.

The actual permit to construct the project would require subsequent additional CZM approval of the final plans.

Members of the public who want to comment on the zone change can e-mail CZM's Smith at stuart.smith@dpnr.vi.gov.

## 2014 RAIN DATA

at Trunk Bay
(Courtesy of Rafe Boulon)

#### **MONTH:**

**NOVEMBER 2014** 

7.75 Inches

#### **AVERAGE**

**NOVEMBER** 

6.92 Inches

#### **TOTAL Y-T-D**

47.93 Inches

#### Y-T-D AVERAGE

44.52 Inches

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#### **NEXT DEADLINE**

Thursday, Dec. 11th

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St. JohnTradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

**Scenic Bargain:** On its route to Saltpond Bay, the VITRAN bus offers a scenic view of Coral Bay harbor.

## Thrill Ride or Inexpensive Tourist Excursion, New VITRAN Cross-Island Bus Trip Is Bargain – Although Motion Sickness Challenge for Some

## By TOM OAT St. John Tradewinds

The windows of the shiny new, bright blue and white VITRAN buses may be covered with condensation from the air conditioning and the winding roads may take their toll on those with a propensity for motion sickness, but there is no doubt that the \$2 round-trip fare for a ride from Cruz Bay to Salt Pond on Route 10, Centerline Road, and Route 107 from Coral Bay to the southeast tip of St. John is affordable for residents and a value for visitors.

The posted \$20 per person (\$14 for each additional passenger) one-way taxi caravan fare may be prohibitive for most visitors, but it makes the inexpensive round-trip to the southeastern end of St. John from the Cruz Bay Loredon L. Boynes ferry dock — where passengers can connect with the infamously "new," similarly-color coordinated VITRAN ferries — on the island's new buses seem like a deal, if not a steal.

In fact, the new, enhanced bus service has already has been touted by Conde Nast Traveler magazine as a bargain, according to St. John VITRAN Operations Manager Donna Roberts.

"Actually, ridership is up 80 percent," said VITRAN's Roberts

There is no question the \$2 VITRAN round-trip provides an inexpensive excursion to one of the most under-visited and pristine

beaches in the Virgin Islands National Park at Saltpond Bay, with its neighboring namesake "salt pond" renowned by locals for its "spa-like" mud bathing and natural salt which is on the popular trail to the majestic views south to St. Croix from historic Ram Head point and access to the fascinating cobble beach of Drunk Bay.

#### First Run Leaves Cruz Bay at 6 a.m.

For those who want to experience the first rays of sunshine on St. John, the first run from Cruz Bay starts at 6 a.m. after the arrival of the first morning "commuter" ferry from Red Hook. The long day of service ends with the final run to Cruz Bay from the Salt Pond parking lot at 8:10 p.m.

(The first run of the day leaves Salt Pond at 5 a.m. to begin bringing residents of the isolated south shore neighborhoods to work and school — the fare for students in uniform is only 75 cents.)

As a public transportation service for residents of the Lameshur, Concordia, John's Folly and the Bellevue community at Johnson's Bay, the ride also allows visitors to mingle with residents on their daily commute to and from their relatively isolated island communities — and vice versa.

The fleet has two pairs of two different size heavy-duty buses — two 30-foot long vehicles seating 52 passengers and two 27-foot long vehicles with room for 32

riders

The smaller of the two new buses in the VITRAN St. John fleet is also proving to be a viable and popular public transportation service for residents and visitors on its route along Route 104, Southside Road, which goes over the challengingly steep Jacob's Ladder to bring shoppers to St. John Market and to drop workers and savvy guests — at the bus stop at the Westin Resort on Great Cruz Bay before traveling on to the Bellevue housing community where it turns around to head back on the same route to the Cruz Bay traffic circle intersection with Route 10, Centerline Road.

From Cruz Bay the route takes riders up Centerline Road to the island's Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center in Susannaberg before returning to the traffic circle and heading back along South Shore Road again to Bellevue.

#### Long Walk Back for One Queasy Rider

The island roads can present a challenging ride for those with a propensity for motion sickness, however.

"I had to get off before we reached Coral Bay," one queasy young resident rider confessed after being picked up at the Reef Bay trailhead while hitchhiking and walking back to Cruz Bay — after abandoning his first long-distance VITRAN ride.

## December Town Meeting Discusses St. John Public Transportation Issues

By JUDI SHIMEL St. John Tradewinds

**CRUZ BAY** — Even though he is in the last days as the head of Public Works in the de Jongh Administration, DPW Commissioner Darryl Smalls presented St. John residents with a wish list of transportation improvements at a meeting in early December.

About a dozen residents turned out for the December 4 town meeting, one of three held across the territory. Smalls said the goal was to address road conditions, pedestrian safety, infrastructure and public transit. Deputy Public Works Commissioner Karole McGregor and consultant Marie Powell joined took turns sharing different aspects of the transportation initiative.

#### **Future St. John Projects**

Close to 20 separate projects were listed for St. John. Projects ranged from those requiring some effort and available resources, like coordinating VITRAN bus schedules with ferry arrival and departure times to some highly-ambitious plans requiring major effort and resources, like connecting roads and building sidewalks.

The list of projects was developed through a series of meetings with residents in focus groups, McGregor said. There were also a host of government agencies adding input to the studies. Many of those agencies like police, the U.S. Postal Service, the Port Authority and the National Park Service, interact with trans-

portation systems daily. Other agencies such as the VI Territorial Emergency Management Agency, Homeland Security, and Planning and Natural Resources, address transportation from a policy or emergency management standpoint.

Those projects were broken down into those meeting different transportation needs: mass transit, island wide projects, safety and operational improvements and congestion relief.

#### Park and Ride; Shuttle Service

Suggested St. John projects included: Initiation of a Park and Ride parking lot on Gifft Hill near the Myrah Keating Smith Clinic; shuttle service from Cruz Bay Creek and the Enighed Pond parking lot to the Loredon Boynes Ferry Dock; construction of a connecting roadway along the South Shore from Reef Bay Road to Cocoloba Point; and modification of the bus route endpoint for evening VITRAN service to Coral Bay.

Smalls told the gathering there was at least one transportation system at work on St. John he would like to implement on St. Thomas.

"One of the things we are trying to mimic on St. Thomas is having a bus at the ferry dock, waiting to take riders to one of the commercial areas, like Tutu Park Mall," Smalls said.

There was also extensive discussion about the role of mass transit on St. John. Public works officials said they were surprised when they first noticed how much use VITRAN buses got and how much revenue the mass transit system collected on St. John.

Then, Smalls said, they took a closer look and noticed who was using mass transit. That group included hotel workers, construction crews, public safety personnel, students, working commuters headed for offices on St. Thomas, and shoppers.

Residents attending the Wednesday night town meeting at the Legislature in Cruz Bay had concerns of their own they wanted added to the list.

Melville Samuel patiently explained the history of Jacob's Ladder, a steep hill on Southshore Road, Route 107, which becomes dangerous even when a light rain falls.

If the road that climbs Jacob's ladder is dry, Samuel said, there's no problem. If it's raining heavily, he said, no problem.

But, the road gets slick when a light rain falls and vehicles lose traction, Samuel said. Mc Gregor told Samuel the agency could take a look at resurfacing programs used by the Federal Highways Administration.

Public Works officials said they would wrap up the series of town meetings by taking the input received from the public and comparing it to the information they received from the focus groups. After that, they said, they would refine the list of transportation improvements and get ready for further talks with local policy makers and their federal transportation counterparts.

DPW Commissioner
Smalls Continues
Progress on St.
John Transportation
– With Planning
for Next 25 Years

By TOM OAT
St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Department of Public Works (DPW) Commissioner Darryl Smalls deserved a larger, more appreciative audience at the final public meeting of five years of work on the territory's Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan 2040 at the St. John Legislative Annex on Wednesday, December 3.

After a challenging year spent bringing the controversial new VITRAN ferries into service between St. Thomas and St. John and overseeing the introduction of a fleet of new VITRAN buses to the territory which expanded public transportation service across

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Paige Clarke

Paige Clarke, center, with her U.S. Virgin Islands team in Veracruz, Mexico.

## **Coral Bay Sailor Paige Clarke Does V.I. Proud Racing at CAC Games**

By JAIME ELLIOTT St. John Tradewinds

CORAL BAY — Although St. John sailor Paige Clarke didn't race to her best results at the recent Central American and Caribbean Games in Veracruz, Mexico, she found the experience invaluable.

"I didn't end up doing as well as I was hoping to do," said Clarke. "But it was still an incredible experience and I am definitely glad that I went."

The 15-year-old junior at Antilles School sailed a Laser Radial in a fleet of all older girls off the coast of Veracruz, Mexico. On the first day of the CAC Games conditions looked promising for Clarke, but increasing winds set her behind the pack.

"The first day it was light air and that was great," Clarke said. "I got a second place finish that day. But then after that the wind picked up like crazy." The older and bigger girls against whom Clarke was racing were better suited to the windy conditions at the CAC Games.

#### Youngest Laser Radial Competitor

"I was the youngest girl there for Laser Radial and a lot of the girls were bigger than I was so it was tough," said Clarke.

In the end, Clarke finished in 13 place out of 15 sailors and enjoyed the experience of representing the Virgin Islands at the competition.

"I was hoping to do better but it was a great experience and I learned so much new stuff," said the St. John sailor. "It was really great to race against all the girls in the central Caribbean."

Eight Caribbean and Central American countries competed in the sailing events at the CAC Games which drew a total of 5,000 athletes from 31 countries to the competition in Veracruz, Mexico.

The athletes competed in 36 different sports ranging from archery to wrestling.

The Virgin Islands delegation at the CAC Games numbered around 60 athletes, coaches, parents and supporters.

Clarke is no stranger to international competition, having raced again sailors from across the globe in the summer's Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China. Up next for the Antilles student and member of the school's sailing team is the Orange Bowl in Miami.

Clarke continues appreciating the support of friends and family as well as local sports organizations, she added.

"I'm thankful for the never ending support and encouragement from the Virgin Islands Olympic Committee), Virgin Islands Sailing Association), Kids and the Sea St. John and the community," said the sailor.

### "Beauty and the Beast" Performances Set for January

#### St. John Tradewinds

Gifft Hill School students, in partnership with New England Youth Theatre, will be performing in a production of "Beauty and the Beast" on Friday, January 9 and Saturday, January 10, and Sunday, January 11 at the Upper Campus.

Stay tuned for details and/or call 776-1730 with any questions.

## Save Coral Bay Campaign Members File Appeals with BLUA Against Summers End Group Mega-yacht Marina

By JAIME ELLIOTT St. John Tradewinds

On the heels of filing two appeals against Summers End Group's permits to construct a mega yacht marina and major shore-side development, Save Coral Bay campaign organizers continue to spread their message.

"We're working to get the message out, particularly to visitors to the island who want to know about anything that might impact their preferred getaway destination," said David Silverman, a community activist and one of the main Save Coral Bay campaign organizers. "People come to Coral Bay because it's quiet, because it's not overbuilt and because of the proximity to the V.I. National Park resources. These people ought to know that this is not something that is guaranteed; this is something that we have to work to preserve."

The Summers End Group plans to construct a 145-slip mega yacht marina that would take up more than 40 acres of Coral Bay harbor. The group's shore-side develop-

Adults Only. Island Fancy Dress.

ment plans include a restaurant, apartments, parking facility, office and commercial spaces

The developers were granted a major water trust permit and a major land use permit for the project by the Department of Planning and Natural Resources' Coastal Zone Management Committee in October.

In response to CZM's decision, a group of neighbors, former residents and Coral Bay fans united to fight the development. The Save Coral Bay Fund was launched on November 1 at www.gofundme.com/coralbay, and has already garnered more than \$75,000 for the group's legal fees.

A bumper sticker campaign has also helped to raise awareness and money for the campaign and Save Coral Bay organizers operate a popular Facebook page and up-to-date website to keep people informed on the mega marina project and the fight to stop it.

In mid-November, the Save Coral Bay campaign took its first legal actions against the development. In collaboration with the V.I. Conservation Society, the group filed two appeals with the Board of Land Use Appeals against Summers End Group, explained Silverman.

"We filed two appeals on November 14," said Silverman. "We filed an appeal of the major water permit which was granted by CZM on October 1 and an appeal of the major land permit which was decided on October 1 and signed on October 24."

Representing Save Coral Bay in the cases are former CZM staff Attorney Jennifer Jones and veteran St. Croix-based environmental lawyer Attorney Andy Simpson.

In their appeal of the land permit, Save Coral Bay and VICS members allege that Summers End Group has no proof of legal interest to develop the land and that CZM Committee member Brion Morrisette had "a glaring conflict of interest."

Attorney Morrisette, with his partner Robert O'Connor, possesses several leases for Coral Bay properties, which happen to be

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Message in a bottle!



## Community Rallies for Calabash Market Family

## By JAIME ELLIOTT St. John Tradewinds

Two weeks after kicking off a fundraising campaign for the owners of Calabash Market, the community has raised more than \$9,000 to help off-set medical costs for the family's daughter.

Mamoun Bayatnah, known to all as Ali, and his wife Mercedes Zapata, called Maria by many, own and operate the popular Calabash Market in Coral Bay. Loyal Calabash Boom customers were worried when they found the store's doors unexpectedly closed in mid-November.

Bayatnah and Zapata, however, were not on a much-deserved family vacation. The couple was forced to close their store for several days when their five year old daughter Salma was stricken with pneumonia.

The Julius E. Sprauve School kindergartner had been treated for pneumonia on St. John several times and spent about a week at R.L. Schneider

Hospital when her lung stopped working. After being told there was nothing more medical staff on St. Thomas could do for the little's girls condition, the family had no choice but to fly to Miami Children's Hospital.

Salma and her family spent about a week at the Miami hospital before returning home to St. John on December 1. While the infection in her lung has cleared and her condition has improved, Salma remains ill, Bayatnah explained.

"She is definitely better, but she still has a fever and she's still not well," said Bayatnah. "The good thing is that she's home and she can take antibiotics orally now and does not need to be on an IV."

The little girl will return to St. Thomas for a check up next week, Bayatnah added.

With the Bayatnah and Zapata family facing mounting medical costs, Leah Randall launched a GoFundMe site at www.gofundme.com/salma on

November 21.

After two weeks, the site has raised more than \$9,000, with additional donations being accepted. The site's goal is \$15,000 and anyone who wants to help can to go www.gofundme.com/salma to make a donation. Donations for the family are also being accepted at Keep Me Posted.

The amount of support has meant a lot to the family, explained Bayatnah

"We really appreciate all the help from the community," he said. "I could not imagine people would be so kind. It is really what keeps us strong."

"People have been amazing," Bayatnah said. "People keep coming in an asking for Salma and her friends from school and from Calabash have been bringing her get well cards. Everyone's love and prayers has been amazing."

To help the Bayatnah and Zapata family with Salma's medical bills go to www.gofundme.com/salma.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

Salma getting treatment at Miami Children's hospital last month.



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of the Pack	more	

\_\_\_\_ "Hush Puppy" (Anonymous)

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
December 11, 2014 at 5:30 pm

ANNUAL MEETING January 8, 2015 at 6:00 pm

#### WINTER GALA

January 24, 2015 at 6:00 pm See more at: http://www.stjohnanimalcarecenter.com/ #sthash.M9HEIQ4n.dpuf

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Give the Gift of the ACC. Help make the animals Christmas brighter by donating to the ACC. We will send you the donation card for your own mailing or we can have one of our famous residents put it in the mail for you. Cards are \$15. Place mailing details in "Instructions to Seller" when checking out.

You can give a great Christmas gift by donating on line! Dog and cat donation cards available from \$15 - \$100.

## **Coral Bay Bizarre Bazaar Ready** To Be Highlight of the Season

St. John Tradewinds

With about a week to go the Coral Bay Bizarre Bazaar is all set to be one of the highlights of this year's holiday season. Returning on December 13th for its second year at Pickles In Paradise on route 107 just past the Coral Bay Triangle, there are already over 60 vendors signed up to offer great holiday shopping for locally made arts, crafts, jewelry, food and drink. The event will be from 11am to 4 pm.

Come and enjoy non-stop music, dancing, eating, drinking, shopping, children's activities and donkey rides, a surprise visit from Santa Claus, raffles, a beer brewing and tasting contest, auctions, a plant sale and last but not least, a yard sale. Items are still being accepted for the yard sale. So clean out those closets and drop off your items at the Coral Bay Community Council located across from the Fire Station and Skinny's in Coral Bay Monday, December 8 – Friday, December 12: 8:30 am until 6:00pm.

The Coral Bay Community Council (CBCC) is the host of the Bizarre Bazaar and uses the proceeds

to fund its programs. The CBCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed by two employees and dozens of volunteers, and gratefully receives charitable donations. The CBCC helps assure that the Coral Bay community has safe drinking water, clean beaches and bay waters, cultural and environmental protection, and land-use and development accountability. For more information, visit CBCC's website at: http:// www.coralbaycommunitycouncil.org

The CBCC will direct the proceeds to projects supporting the Coral Bay community. The Coral Bay Agriculture Center has been selected to receive a portion of this year's funds for repairs to the building that houses the community room in cooperation with the American Legion Post.

The Bizarre Bazaar planning committee is still accepting donations for the auction, the raffle, the yard sale, the plant sale and sponsorships. Volunteers are needed. Direct questions and sign up to volunteer via email to CBbizarrebazaar@gmail.com or call Nancy Stromp at 775-0533

### AIST Hosting Basketball Clinic on St. Thomas Dec. 18

classic at the University of the Virgin Islands Thursday, December 18 at the UVI Gym from 4 to 6 p.m.

Four NCAA Division III Women's Basketball teams will be competing in this first annual event.

AIST is hosting a basketball The teams participating are Nichols College, Randolph-Macon College, Virginia Wesleyan University and Emerson College.

> In addition to the games, Emerson College Head Coach William Gould and his team will be hosting a basketball clinic for any youth

age 10-18 who is interested improving their basketball skills.

The clinic is free, so take advantage of the opportunity to work with Emerson College coaches and players.

For more information email info@aist.us.

## SAVE THE DATE!

The 29th Annual Gifft Hill School **AUCTION** 

> will be held on Saturday March 7, 2015

at the Westin St. John Resort & Villas!

Please contact the Development Office at 776-1735 or email mollymurrill@giffthillschool.org for more information or to donate or volunteer.





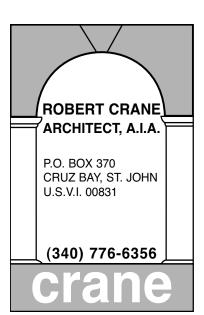




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## St. John Singers Concerts Set for December 19 and 22

The St. John Singers, now in its 33nd year, will present two holiday concerts this season.

Choir director Janice Ballard has chosen music from a range of time periods and countries of origin. This season's concerts will include settings of traditional carols, classical and contemporary pieces, spirituals, and an upbeat calypso Christmas tune. As always, the audience is invited to join the choir in a traditional carol sing-along.

In order to promote our local talent, the featured guest artists will be student musicians.

The first concert will be held in Cruz Bay at the Nazareth Lutheran Church on Friday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m.

The second concert will be held in Coral Bay at the Emmaus Moravian Church on Monday, December 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the door: \$20 for adults; children will be admitted for free.

#### **Holiday Decorating Competition**

Mongoose Junction is hosting its annual contest to elevate the season's spirits. All participating stores are decorating their doors for the holiday and the competition is fierce!

Everyone is invited to come to Mongoose Junction and look at the decorations and vote for the most festive decorations. The public can vote as many times as they'd like to see their favorite store win. Ballots are available in all participating stores.

Come and have fun at Mongoose Junction! The contest officially begins Monday, December 1, and the winner will be announced Monday, December 22.

For more information call Linda Gabriel at (340) 693-7005.

#### **Writing Workshop Set at SJSA**

St. John School of the Arts is teaming up with award-winning author of children's books Cristina Kessler and offering a sixweek writing workshop concentrating on memoirs. This is a great way to reflect on your life while being creative and it's a great way to share your legacy with family. "Senior Moments Memoir Workshop" is 90 minutes each week for 6 weeks. The workshop starts Saturday, January 3 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and will run every Saturday through February 14 (January 30, no session). The cost for the workshop is \$120. You must register for the full workshop; no walk-ins. Call 779-4322 for more information and to sign up.





St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Sea Tow

Rescuers, above, helped pluck six boaters from the waters off Nanny Point on November 24.



## Sea Tow "Salvages" s/v Aurora From Nanny Point on East End

**By TOM OAT** St. John Tradewinds

**CONCORDIA** — The 48foot chartered sailboat Aurora, which grounded in bad weather on the rocky promontory of Nanny Point on the eastern end of St. John on Monday, November 24, with six vacationers on board and was severely damaged, was removed from the rocky shoreline on Wednesday, December 3.

The clean up operation was conducted by long-time St. Thomas salvage operator Capt. Alan Wentworth of Sea Tow.

"Aurora is completely salvaged," Capt. Wentworth told St. John Tradewinds on Friday, December 5. "We finished up

Wednesday and it was moved to Water Island where it's being broken into smaller pieces and going into the dumpster."

"We picked up the entire area," Wentworth added. Sea Tow also picked up all debris and personal belongings, including clothes, which were strewn on the rocks and shoreline of Nanny Point, the long-time Virgin Islands salvage operator added.

Sea Tow employees also removed any debris from the surrounding coral reef, Wentworth

#### **Severely Damaged Vessels Are Scrapped**

"Years ago I used to take vessels apart," explained Capt. Wentworth, who estimates his company has salvaged 300 to 400 wrecks in the region during his career on St. Thomas — including 50 vessels on St. Croix after Hurricane Hugo.

Nowadays, there is little market for salvage from boats and severely damaged vessels are just broken up and hauled to a landfill, according to Capt. Wentworth.

#### **USCG Rescues Six**

The six boaters, three male and three female U.S. citizens, who

Continued on Page 16



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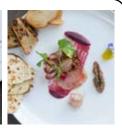
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## On the Market

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

#### **Enjoy Sunset Views and Cruz Bay** Hot Spots from Lavender Hill

#### By JAIME ELLIOTT St. John Tradewinds

Enjoy all the exciting dining and nightlife options of bustling Cruz Bay within walking distance and soak up stunning water views right from one of your two private decks at your own Lavender Hill condominium unit.

This first floor one bedroom, one bathroom unit at Lavender Hill, at 3Abb-3 Cruz Bay, is for sale for \$459,000, explained Christie O'Neil owner/broker of Holiday Homes of St. John.

"This is a great value in a great location," said O'Neil. "The property is fully insured, all masonry construction and offers relatively low HOA fees when compared to other condo developments."

Lavender Hill is a quaint condominium complex perched on a knoll overlooking Cruz Bay harbor and Pillsbury Sound out to St. Thomas in the distance. Step out your condo door and walk to nearby Honeymoon Beach for a perfect day in paradise without having to deal with taxis or rental cars.

The complex includes a centrally located swimming pool offering the perfect vantage point to soak up beautiful sunset views over Pillsbury Sound. Watch the tropical sun sink below the horizon before heading down to Cruz Bay for a fantastic meal and a little live music.

This first floor one-bedroom, one bathroom unit at Lavender Hill overlooks the inviting and

refreshing swimming pool. The spacious and well-appointed unit is tiled throughout and features mahogany details.

While just a few minutes walk from ferries, shopping, dining and nightlife, this condominium unit also boasts two private decks.

This Lavender Hill unit is already a popular short-term rental, but would also make a great yearround home, explained O'Neil.

"The property would provide good income as a short term rental or it could be a most desirable full time island residence," said the Holiday Homes of St. John broker/ owner.

Lavender Hill, which enjoys the perks of Cruz Bay water hook-up, also boasts its own back-up gen-



Lavender Hill condominium is "great value in a great location.

erator O'Neil added.

"This complex has city water plus backup generators, so is not affected by power outages," she

Whether renting it out short term or calling it home, this condominium unit's affordable price

tag can make your St. John property ownership dreams a reality.

For more information about 3-Abb-3 Cruz Bay, a first floor unit at Lavender Hill, call Christie O'Neil at Holiday Homes of St. John at (340) 774-8088 or on her cell phone at (340) 998-7451.

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## Two Veterans Taxi Medallions Are Set for Auction December 16 on St. John

Two St. John taxi medallions for St. John Veterans of the U.S. Armed Services will be offered at auction by the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission on Tuesday, December 16, at 11 a.m. at the St. John Administrator's Office.

The minimum acceptable bid for a St. John medallion is set at \$20,000.

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

Bid applicants must be present at the time of auction and bid envelopes will be publicly opened on the date and times indicated pursuant to Title 20, Section 407 (c) of the VI Code.

Bid forms must be deposited in the bid box no later than 10 a.m. on the day of the auction. Applications can be picked up at the Taxicab Commission's Office during regular working hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Applications must 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 is scheduled.

Only approved buyers may 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.

A down payment of 10 percent of the bid amount, which would be a non-refundable deposit if the sale is not consummated, is required at the time of the bid or no later than 3 p.m. on the same day. This down payment must be paid in money order or certified check payable to the Government of the Virgin Islands. No payment will be accepted in cash.

The remaining balance of 90 percent must be paid in a like manner within ten (10) days after the date of the auction sale at which time a Certificate of Entitlement and the Medallion will be issued. If the sale is not consummated within the allotted ten (10) days, the second highest bidder will automatically be awarded the bid.

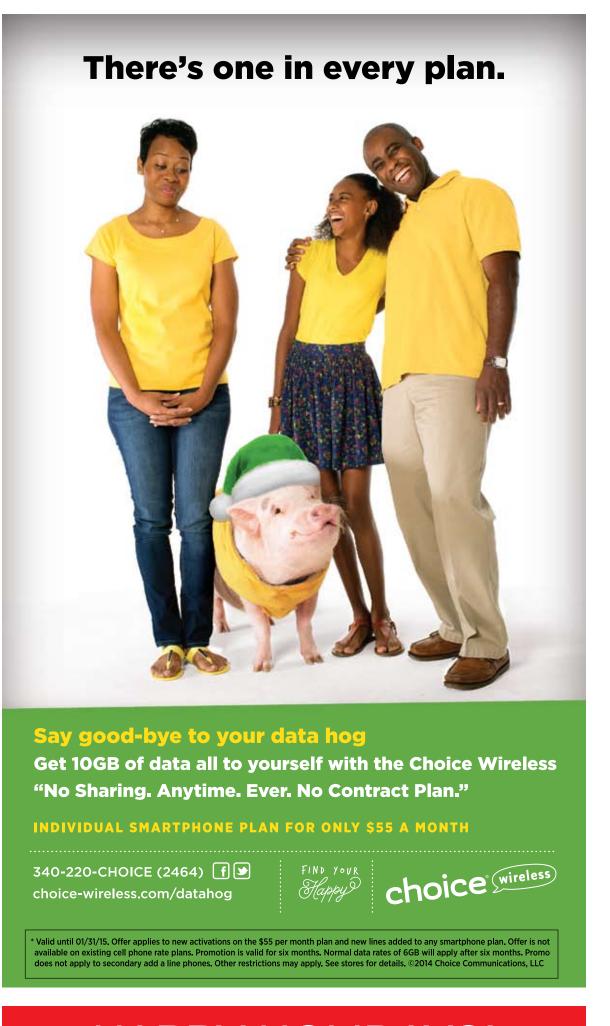


501 (3) c NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

OSCAR is about 9 months old and is a wonderful dog. He loves people, other dogs, and is extremely playful and outgoing. Oscar would do well in a home with kids and others dogs, but does get excited about cats in a playful way. He had very bad nange when he arrived but has made a full medical recovery. Oscar would make a great family dog.



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## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

- from St. John Tradewinds

### Letters to St. John Tradewinds

#### Thank you for Rib Cook-Off Success

Afternoon, St. John Rescue would like to send its sincere gratitude to the residents of St. John for supporting our organization at the second annual rib cook off.

The community of St. John raised \$10,500 which will ensure St. John Rescues ability to respond to any and all emergencies within our community. As a completely volunteer agency, St. John Rescue members spend countless hours training, fundraising, performing maintenance and other duties.

Without the incredible support from the community we would not be able to exist as an agency and your support is critical to our mission that we strive for everyday.

Officially, we have 26 volunteers on St. John Rescue, but we feel as though every resident of St. John is a member of St. John Rescue! Thank you once again for your support over the years.

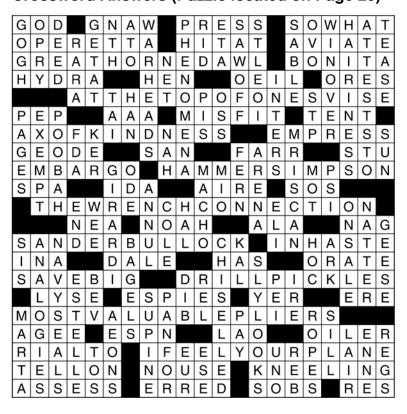
Andrew Peter NREMT-P Vice President St. John Rescue

# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send your letter to editor@tradewinds.vi

## NEXT DEADLINE: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11th

#### **Crossword Answers (Puzzle located on Page 20)**



#### Where Is the Love?

As I read an article about banning corporal punishment in public schools, there was a second story of the Senate committee considering harsher penalties for truancy, with fines and possible jail time for students and/or their parents.

Please, my fellow Virgin Islanders, help me to understand. It appears that government leaders want to eliminate a proven method of correction in favor of instituting a policy that deals with the aftermath of uncontrolled bad behavior.

This is nonsensical.

One of the purest forms of love is when an adult administers corporal punishment in an appropriate, controlled manner. This act should only be performed when the adult and child have a strong relationship so the child will understand that the punishment is being used to deter the child from further misbehavior.

In many public schools, there is no law and order in the classrooms, and it gets worse as the kids get older and the class sizes get larger. Teenagers will instinctively challenge authorities. That is why it is important to instill a healthy dose of respect at an early age.

An amazing attribute of children is they will love you even after being punished.

Many adults today can remember being punished as a child and are now thankful to those parents, teachers and other adults for correcting them. Our islands would be in a far worse condition if it wasn't for the corrective measures taken by concerned parents, teachers or caretakers.

Let us also face the fact that there are folks who have taken corporal punishment to extremes. I agree that this is detrimental to the emotional and physical well being of a child. These adults need to learn how

to manage their emotions when dealing with a problem or a problem child.

Programs to teach better parenting skills should be offered when it becomes apparent that the parent is young and not fully capable of administering the appropriate level of correction for a child's misbehavior

Our society today often has students and parents in too many activities. Children are preoccupied with the Internet and television, and teenagers are trying to become adults too soon. Adults are working harder and longer hours so their parenting time with offspring becomes shorter.

Suggesting that a financial burden in the form of a fine be placed on parents is ludicrous. Even worse is a possible jail sentence. Such legislative action would put a lot of undue pressure on the parents and the court system.

It is sad to note that our Senate didn't step in to save our beloved Guy H. Benjamin School in Coral Bay, but they are willing to strip disciplinary power from teachers and school officials. This is a far deeper issue than some folks seem to realize.

The action by the Senate committee is another example of the secular worldview trumping a time-tested and proven method of correction. Our school system isn't only about academic excellence, it also incorporates checks and balances to ensure that every child understands and feels that for every undesirable action there will be a consequence.

Corporal punishment is used to create a barrier against future misbehavior and further ill will. It first begins in the home and is reinforced in the schools.

Train Up a Child, Emmanuel Prince

#### Marina Developer Admits Dispute With Designer as It Seeks Investors

Continued from Page 2

project their V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) Coastal Zone Management (CZM) committee approval while the plan makes its laborious way through the labyrinthine federal approval process – which could take months or years.

The drawings for the proposed two-phase construction of the proposed 145-slip, fixed-dock marina were submitted on April 4, 2014, and deemed complete and ready for committee action in July.

Opponents of the controversial plan heralded the news reports in early December revealing the lingering fee dispute between the design firm and the developer—which was the subject of an Au-

gust 11 letter from the designers to SEG partner Chaliese Summers that was also filed with the CZM.

The design company reportedly brought the dispute to the attention of permitting officials in a subsequent second letter to the CZM reiterating their claim, days before the August 20 CZM hearing on the controversial project which was packed by opponents of the project.

The fee dispute has lingered since the CZM approval of the project in October.

Although the developers received CZM approval for the project, SEG is still facing a long federal approval process for the project – as they actively seeking

investors to pay their bills.

"Summer's End acknowledges that there is an outstanding dispute with a former contractor, as is the case in most if not all developments," The Summer's End Group, LLC, Managing Member Chaliese Summers e-mailed St. John Tradewinds in response to an e-mail request for comment on the dispute. "Summer's End has endeavored to act within its rights and responsibilities at all times, and will continue to do so."

SEG apparently will be paying a 1.5 percent monthly interest charge on the outstanding bill for the marina design until that bill is paid, according to their contract with the design company.

## Second Marina Plan Elicits Cautious Concern from Community Watchdogs

## By TOM OAT St. John Tradewinds

EMMAUS—Like Goldilocks and the Three Bears, community "watchdogs" who have been leading opposition to proposed development in Coral Bay Harbor and who have deemed an approved mega-yacht marina proposed for the south shore of the historic port as "too big," found portions of a competing plan for development on the northwest shoreline which includes a three-story hotel structure to be "too tall" – among other concerns.

The development of the back-water of massive Coral Bay once again was a hot topic at a Thursday, December 4, Cruz Bay hearing before two Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning staff members on a proposed zone change filed by the property's owner, the Moravian Council of the V.I., to enable evolving plans for a residential and commercial development on the northwest shore of inner Coral Bay.

#### **Zone Change Allows Three-story Hotel**

A major impact of the proposed zone change would be to allow the construction of a three-story hotel structure and a two-level parking deck on the site proposed for rezoning, according to the architect for the developers, the Sirius Development Group.

Several Coral Bay community activists who address the planners argued that a use variance limited to the specific project should be considered in lieu of a permanent zone change which could allow any other future developer to build more three-story structures than proposed by the church's current development partner.

In an exchange with audience members after the testimony, however, Comprehensive and Coastal Zone Planning Director Stuart Smith said that even a variance "runs" with the property if the Sirius project doesn't go forward.

#### Small Crowd, Mixed Views

Unlike the raucous crowd of residents which overflowed the St. John Legislature for the August CZM hearing on plans for the controversial mega-yacht marina proposed to extend from the southwest side of the broad harbor, the hearing on the Moravian Church property development attracted less than two dozen residents with mixed views on the plan. (See related story.)

St. Thomas architect John Woods, the designer of the Moravian property project went to great lengths to describe the efforts to retain the historic church's view of the bay by retaining much of the open space of the community's ball field which is located on church property in positioning proposed construction to retain an unobstructed view from the church on the hillside above the bay. (See related story on Page 3.)

An official of the Moravian Church Council of the V.I., which has been in a moribund long-term lease of its shoreline property to a St. Thomas development group including Rory Calhoun of T-Rex for more than 30 years, reiterated the church's continued support for the still-evolving plans for the latest iteration of the project now being shepherded by Sirius.

At the start of the hearing, Samuel Rymer, Property Manager for the Moravian Council, introduced the developers who hold the long-term lease on the shoreline property historically owned by the Emmaus Moravian Church that sits majestically on its major property holding overlooking the small community of Coral Bay.

One Moravian Church member, Elsie Thomas Trotman, testified near the end of the hearing to clarify the public perception of the project.

"The V.I. Conference is not in partnership with the developer," Trotman averred. "We leased the property. Don't look at this as a joint venture."

#### **Early Support Is Tempered**

Ironically, the evolving development group, which has had a long-term lease on the Emmaus Moravian Church shoreline property for decades, had been lauded by the same community activists opposed to the competing project when they presented the same

preliminary plans for a waterfront residential and commercial development and marina at an October 18 meeting with community members in the historic church.

However, the marine development portion of the plans for the Moravian Church property are still amorphous – actually presented in the artist's rendering of the project for the zone change application as blank spaces with unspecific dockage, although project architect Woods said marina plans could be ready by early in 2015.

In response to one testifier, Woods also assured the mariners in the small hearing audience that community access to the water currently provided by a small dock and boat launch behind the iconic Skinny Legs restaurant would be retained in the marina development on the waterfront, the marine portion of the plan, including a boat launch.

The majestic trees on the school property will not be affected by the project, Woods explained. The parking structure would not actually be two stories because the design would take advantage of the "10-foot" drop in elevation between Route 10 and the shoreline of the bay, the architect added.

Testifiers did not press Woods for more specific information on the large blank portion of the plan which depicted an amorphous, multi-story "dry-storage" shoreline building of indeterminate height to be built on the shoreline behind Skinny Legs on property already zoned Waterfront Industrial, W-2, Woods explained.

The majestic trees on the school property will not be affected by the project, Woods explained. The parking structure would not actually be two stories because the design would take advantage of the "10-foot" drop in elevation between Route 10 and the shoreline of the bay, the architect added.

Members of the public who want to comment on the zone change can send CZM's Smith an e-mail at stuart.smith@dpnr. vi.gov.

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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, December 8

— St. John Youth Coalition meeting is Monday, December 8 at 5:30 p.m. at Da Coal Pot across from da Livio's Italian Restaurant in Cruz Bay.

#### Tuesday, December 9

— The St. John Film Society kicks off the 2014-2015 season on Tuesday, Dec. 9, with "Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision" at 7:30 p.m. at the St. John School of the Arts in Cruz Bay. Suggested donation of \$5.

#### Thursday, December 11

- Two St. John taxi medallions for St. John Veterans of the U.S. Armed Services will be offered at auction by the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission on Tuesday, December 16, at 11 a.m. at the St. John Administrator's Office.
- The Animal Care Center of St. John is extending an invitation to the community to join the organization at the shelter, for their annual holiday open house on Thursday, December 11, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

#### Saturday, December 13

— On Saturday, December 13, the Coral Bay Bizarre Bazaar returns for its second year to Pickles In Paradise — just past the Coral Bay Triangle.

#### Wednesday, December 17

- The permit for the Coral Bay mega-yacht marina will go before the V.I. Legislature's Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture and Planning for a public hearing on Dec. 17 at the Legislature Building on St. Thomas.
- The Coral Bay Community Christmas Tree/Carole Sing will be Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Coral Bay Basketball Court.

#### December 19 and 22

— Mark your Calendars! St John Singers will perform in concert Friday, December 19 at the Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay and on Monday, December 22 at the Emmaus Moravian Church in Coral Bay. Both concerts are at 7:30 p.m.

#### Thursday, January 8

The Animal Care Center of St. John (ACC) will have its Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 8, at 6 p.m. in the activity hall of the Lower Gifft Hill School campus.

#### **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

#### Comm. Smalls Continues Progress on St. John Transportation

#### Continued from Page 5

St. John Commissioner Smalls and DPW staff met with a small group of residents mostly comprised of St. John Community Advisory Group members. (See related stories.)

"The reception was pretty good," DPW Strategic Planner Keith Richards told St. John Tradewinds of the plan for the next 25 years of public transportation in the territory after the last in a series of meetings conducted by DPW on all three Virgin Islands over the past five years. St. John representatives in the planning process included Harry Daniels, Sharon Cauldron, Lorelei Monsanto, Ronnie Jones and Jose Penn.

Through the community meetings the three island committees developed a list of projects ter-

ritory-wide for the next 25 years, Richards said, including about 20 projects "that will impact the residents of St. John."

#### **Major Initiative on Cruz Bay Congestion**

"(The public) will see the attention paid to the roadway, safety issues – guard rails, striping and sidewalks," Richards told St. John Tradewinds. "Those are short term."

St. John will also enjoy the increased bus service and increased reliability," according to Richards. "And, more bus shelters and a park-and-ride in Coral Bay and mid-island."

In "downtown" Cruz Bay there will be a "major initiative on congestion at the creek in conjunction with the Port Authority," Richards added. "The Port Authority is working on a long-range plan."

### Sea Tow "Salvages" s/v Aurora From Nanny Point

#### Continued from Page 11

reportedly chartered the *Aurora* in St. Thomas for a recreational sailing trip in the U.S. Virgin Islands, were hoisted to safety after the grounding by U.S. Coast Guard helicopter rescue crews from Air Station Borinquen in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico.

Coast Guard Watchstanders in Sector San Juan received a MAY DAY radio call Monday afternoon from the grounded sailing vessel communicating the distress. A Coast Guard boat crew from Boat Forces Saint Thomas, responded to the call aboard a 29-foot Response Boat Small II along with a *Sea Tow* salvage vessel, according to Ricardo Castrodad of U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan Public Affairs.

Two Coast Guard MH-65D rescue helicopters from Air Station Borinquen were also launched to deliver rescue assistance, while National Park Service Rangers deployed to the area by land.

#### Rescue Swimmer Deployed

USCG rescue swimmer Petty Officer First Class Matthew Baynes was credited with coordinating rescue efforts with two Coast Guard MH-65D aircraft, Castrodad reported.

The *Aurora* was hard aground on the rocks taking six- to seven-foot waves from the stern and the heavy seas did not allow for the USCG to remove the boaters from the rocks with the responding boat crews, according to Castrodad.

After the first Coast Guard helicopter moved in to recover the boaters and closely assessed the situation, the Coast Guard helicopter crew deployed rescue swimmer PO Baynes to assist the boaters, who were all wearing life jackets, into the water to swim



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Sea Tow

Sails and rigging hang from stranded *Aurora* on the rocks of Nanny Point.

them away from the rocks and the grounded vessel, Castrodad said.

Five of the boaters were hoisted via a rescue basket aboard the Coast Guard helicopter, the USCG civilian information official added. The rescue swimmer and the remaining boater were recovered by the Sea Tow vessel.

The second Coast Guard helicopter recovered the rescue swimmer and remaining boater from the *Sea Tow* vessel and transferred the boater to National Park Service Rangers, Castrodad said.

The Coast Guard helicopter transferred four boaters to National Park Service Rangers on land at the scene, while one of the boaters with a foot injury was transported to the airport in Saint Thomas, where she was received by awaiting Emergency Medical Service personnel, he reported.

#### 12-7 CRYPTOQUIP

VFUET ETWZCUCH FDV PD VDZA W YPUSA YFURP UCYPTWB DR WC WMPDIWPUS, U HMTYY DCT UY UC PZWCYUPUDC.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals S

## Audubon Society's 115th Annual **Christmas Bird Count December 14**

St. John Tradewinds

December 14th is for the birds! And bird counters. Environmentalists on St. Croix are participating in the Audubon Society's Annual Christmas Bird Count. This year's count will be the 115th year the international organization has hosted the count all over the world. Volunteers on St. Croix have participated for the past consecutive 15 years. Unfortunately, the volunteer count is down for this year's event due to the number of people who have "flown" the island. Needed are experienced and amateur bird watchers, as well as novices who can join the mentoring program being launched this year which will allow them to work with more experienced counters.

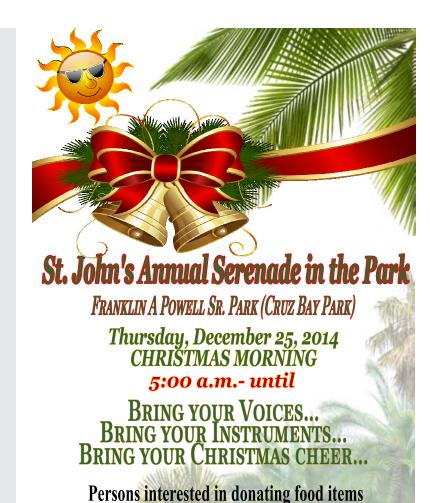
According to Bill Boyton, this year's coordinator, "The count helps scientists evaluate the environment. The growth or decline of overall bird population often indicates changes in the local environment that otherwise would be overlooked." Identification of changes in numbers and in the types of species on the island helps determine whether or not a bird is put on the endangered list.

It also gives support to identifying environmental dangers that are present on the island. "With the wet conditions that we have had lately and the blessing of no major storms this season, we are looking for a count with record numbers this year," Boyton added.

#### **Choose Area Close To Home**

Volunteers will be assigned ponds on the island and given a tally sheet and bird-identification card. On the day of the event, they are asked to do a slow walk through the areas assigned and tally the number of birds of each species that are sighted. The volunteer assignment can take a couple of hours or all day depending on the willingness of the volunteer. People may choose an area close to their home or another area where they feel comfortable watching and counting the birds.

If you would like to participate as a Christmas Bird Count volunteer, email Bill Boyton at garvinlj@gmail.com or call 340-690-3005. You may pick your area and further instructions will be given. Bring your friends and make some new ones for this very worthwhile event.



can call: 340-775-6609/340-513-2159

























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#### **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 v. Divine Worshin 8:30 a m. 7

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 Photos Courtesy of Facebook

"Save Coral Bay" stickers are popular, no matter what your vehicle.

## **Save Coral Bay Members File Appeals with BLUA**

#### Continued from Page 7

the site of Summers End Group's proposed shore-side development.

Although Morrisette recused himself from voting on the permit, the St. John attorney's presence at CZM Committee meetings on the development enabled the group to form a quorum and vote.

"The public hearing and decision meeting were clearly held upon unlawful procedure," according to Save Coral Bay's Notice of Appeal to BLUA for the land permit. "Commissioner Morrisette participated in both hearings by establishing a quorum, sitting through the hearings, and on at least two occasions, whispering to the Chairman during the public hearing. Moreover, he helped SEG's application process by giving a power of attorney to SEG to apply for the permit."

"The right to develop the property remained with Morrisette and O'Connor," according to the group's BLUA appeal. "Thus, as one of the lessees of the property who stands to benefit if the project goes through, Mr. Morrisette should not have participated in any way with the SEG application and should have disqualified himself or been disqualified by the Chairman."

The appeal also alleges that the land and water permits, since the two parts of the developments are entirely dependent upon each other, should have been combined in order to offer a comprehensive picture of the cumulative impacts of the project.

Save Coral Bay's appeal of the development's water permit al-

leges that Summers End Group's application was incomplete because — in addition to numerous other shortcomings — it lacked relevant water quality data, reliable wave studies and feasible mitigation measures to reduce impacts.

After filing its appeals, Save Coral Bay got a boost from Friends of V.I. National Park, Silverman explained.

"On November 19, we got a letter of support from Friends of V.I. National Park," he said. "They sent a letter out to all 15,000 of their members very clearly expressing their concerns that the marina could impact National Park resources, the waters of Hurricane Hole and the Coral Reef National Monument which all surround this marina."

"Friends of VINP made it very clear to their membership that they are concerned about this and as a result we got a huge response in terms of activity on our website," said Silverman.

Save Coral Bay gained national recognition thanks to the National Parks Conservation Association, Silverman added.

"The National Parks Conservation Association with 400,000 members, have come out and agreed to take up our cause," said the community activist. "They are concerned about the threat this marina poses. Getting national support for our little Coral Bay is very, very heartwarming."

"It's good to know that we've been able to shout loud enough that there is no place for a mega marina nestled in and surrounded by National Park resources," said Silverman

And Save Coral Bay is not the only entity which has filed an appeal of Summers End Group's permit. On November 24, Emmaus Moravian Church officials — who have Coral Bay marina and shore side development plans of their own — filed an appeal with BLUA against Summers End Group's mega marina.

The church's appeal alleges that the CZM should have consolidated the water and land permits and that the project fails to incorporate mitigation measures to the maximum extent feasible.

Now with two appeals to consider, BLUA should schedule a hearing within the new few months, explained Silverman.

"According to the code, BLUA has 60 days in which they are supposed to respond, but they don't have to and they often don't," he said. "I would not at all be surprised if BLUA chooses to consolidate the appeals rather than hear them separately. There is a good chance they will have one hearing for the two appeals and I would expect them to schedule a hearing within the next few months."

Summers End Group's permits are essentially on hold until BLUA issues a decision on the appeals, according to the Virgin Islands Code. Once it hears the cases, BLUA can either send the permit back to CZM for further review, add conditions or leave the permit unchanged. Save Coral Bay officials are confident that BLUA will agree with their arguments against

Continued on Next Page

#### **Save Coral Bay File Appeals with BLUA**

Continued from Previous Page the permit, according to Silverman.

"We are very confident, given the weight of multiple appeals and the sound arguments laid out in the appeals, that BLUA will do the right thing and return the permit for further review by CZM," he said.

In the meantime, the group continues to watch the territory's top brass and legislature's actions.

Governor John deJongh, who will be replaced in January by Governor-elect Kenneth Mapp, has already signed Summers End Group's water trust permit and urged members of the senate to act quickly on the permit.

The normal route for a water trust permit is to proceed through the Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture and Planning before being heard before the full legislature.

With only a few weeks left for members of the 30th Legislature, Save Coral Bay organizers are keeping an eye on the senate agendas.

"We are watching closely what is going on in the legislature," said Silverman. "We are prepared to submit letters and testimony to the senate committees and legislature at the appropriate time."

Save Coral Bay members have met with officials from the Army Corps of Engineers, which must approve Summers End Group's mega marina before construction begins.

"We have also met with the ACOE to see what we can do to facilitate their review of SEG's application," said Silverman.

The group is also focusing on spreading its message especially as the island's high season approaches, Silverman added.

"There is a lot of work going on and a lot of people involved," he said. "As we're now approaching our peak season we're trying to get our message out to visitors. We're making sure there is printed material for people, the bumper stickers and temporary tattoos."

To donate to the Save Coral Bay Fund, go to www.gofundme. com/savecoralbay. For more information about the Save Coral Bay campaign go to www.savecoralbay.com.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of Facebook

Amy Ramsdal shows off her "Save Coral Bay" tattoo.

## Crime Stoppers U.S. Virgin Islands

St. John Tradewinds

Crime Stoppers USVI is a community program in which members of the community, the media, law enforcement agencies, and businesses work together to solve crime. Citizens are encouraged, via cash rewards and a promise of anonymity, to provide information leading to the arrest and indictment of criminals.

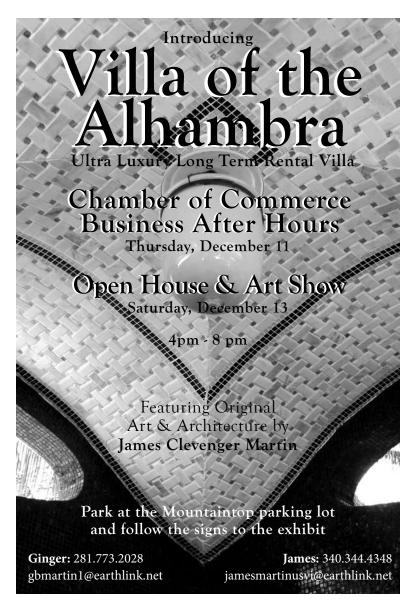
Crime Stoppers USVI is made up of local volunteers willing to take action against crime. They want our community to be safe and are willing to work to make it that way. A board of directors, giving of their time and talents, administer the program.

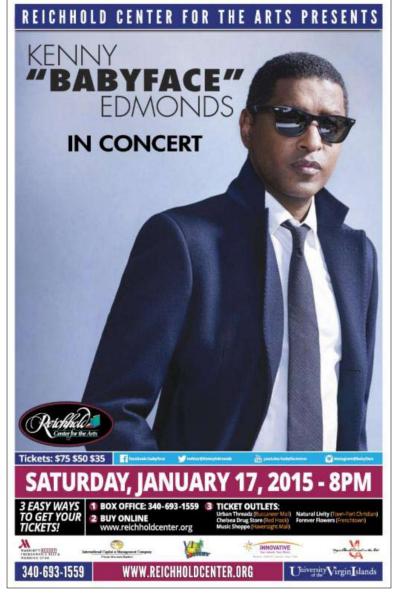
Local citizens formed Crime Stoppers USVI about 6 years ago as a non-profit corporation. Its directors establish policy, determine amount and method of reward payments, work closely with law enforcement and the media, and oversee the program. The directors are also responsible for fund-raising, community education, and volunteer service. The program is supported by the public through tax-deductible donations from businesses, corporations, individuals, and service organizations.

Information related to unsolved crimes and wanted persons are distributed to the community via the media. Citizens are encouraged to call Crime Stoppers and anonymously give any information related to the unsolved crime. Crime Stoppers forwards the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency to assist in the investigation or the location of a wanted fugitive. If your information is used by law enforcement and leads to a resolution, you will be eligible to receive a cash reward.

Our community benefits when it comes together to assist law enforcement. A criminal who is taken off of the streets is not a threat to you, your children, your neighborhood, or your business. In a community where citizens work together to solve crimes, the threat of swift, sure punishment serves as a strong deterrent to would-be criminals.

Continue to help make our community a safer place. Submit information on crime at www. CrimeStoppersUSVI.org, or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by texting "USVI" plus your message to CRIMES (274637). If you know something, say something.





## 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

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#### Landscaping

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

#### **Real Estate**

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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

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#### Skinny Legs

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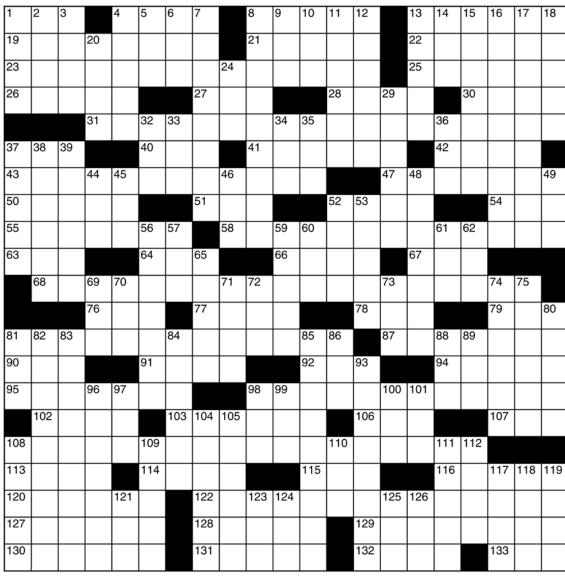
#### **Wedding Services**

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

Answer to Dec. 7 Cryptoquip: WHILE LEARNING HOW TO WORK A STICK SHIFT INSTEAD OF AN AUTOMATIC, I GUESS ONE IS IN TRANSMISSION TRANSITION.

#### Crossword

#### By Frank A. Longo



#### **TOOLING AROUND**

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Divine one 4 Chew on
- Part of UPI
- "Yeah and?"
- 19 Gilbert and Sullivan work 21 Try to swat
- 22 Operate a 767, say
- 23 Tool with a large bony projection?
- "La Isla —" (1987 Madonna hit)
- 26 Freshwater polyp
- 27 Clucking bird 28 Eye, in Versailles
- 30 Mined rocks 31 On a tool's upper
- surface?
- 37 Oomph 40 Roadside assistance gp.
- 41 Odd one out
- 42 Bazaar sight 43 Tool given as a peace
- offering? 47 Czarina, e.g.
- 50 Glittery rock
- Jacinto 52 Jamie of old sitcomdom
- 54 Sutcliffe or Erwin
- 55 Trade sanction
- 58 Hit a cartoon dad with a tool?
- 63 Trendy resort
- 64 State south of B.C.
- 66 Ending for million
- 68 Add-on accessory for a
- 76 "The Big Read" org.

- 77 Ham's father
- 78 Mode or king preceder 79 Remind over and over
- 81 Male bovine using a
- 87 Hurriedly
- 90 "Be there sec" 91 Glen
- 92 Owns
- Speak to the masses 95 Get a steal at a store
- 98 Use a tool on some Heinz products?
  Disintegrate, as cells
- Sees in the distance
- out!" (ump's call) 106 Before
- Priciest tool? "Permit Me Voyage" 113
- writer James "Mike & Mike" airer
- Taoism's -tzu Crude-carrying ship Venetian island
- Statement upon locating someone's lost tool in the dark?
- Expose by being a fink "It's —!" (quitter's cry)
  Getting set to propose
- 130 Gauge Did it wrong
- Cries noisily 133 Thing, in legalese
- **DOWN**
- 1 Artist Vincent van -Grand Ole
- Skillful feat
- Gain access to 5 Final degree
- From -
- 7 Missile parts

- 8 Observable occurrences
- 10 JFK posting 11 Remove, as a branch
- 12 Canonized fifth-cen.
- pope 13 Weasel's kin
- 14 -lacto-vegetarian
- 15 Gain the support of
- 16 Quality of a yeti or a yak
- 17 Certifies
- 18 Bedevil
- 20 avis (wonder) 24 With 110-Down, post-tax
- revenue
- 29 Buries
- 32 chi ch'uan 33 Solo in films 34 Followers of omicrons
- 35 Pre-CIA gp. 36 "The Racer's Edge"
- 37 Printing units 38 Free from obligation
- 39 Big cheese 44 Rx overseer
- 45 Plop lead-in 46 Informal turndown
- 48 X-ray alternative 49 Earth lighter
- 52 Flowerless office plant 53 Match milieu
- Yankees manager Joe
- 57 Lofty verse 59 Quite manly 60 My, in Milan
- 61 Pithy saying 62 Follower of chi
- 65 Void legally 69 Call a halt to
- 70 Barely visible 71 Tune penner Porter
- 73 71-Down, collegiately

- 74 Cut-rate
- 75 Talk nonstop
- 80 Ducks' kin 81 Bro's counterpart
- 82 Comparable things 83 Members of an elite U.S.
- force 84 Rolls with holes 85 Shaped with a certain
- cutting tool 86 Penn of "Epic Movie"
- Ad -
- 66 Au 89 Boat built by 77-Across 93 Knowing glances 96 Parsons of "Roseanne" 97 96-Down's "Roseanne"
- 98 Fish by letting the bait
- bob 99 Clergyman's subj. 100 JFK Library architect
- 101 Deep anger
- 104 Lying face-up 105 Try to separate out, as
- gold 108 One of the von Trapp
- daughters 109 Time on end 110 See 24-Down
- 111 Riatas, e.g. 112 Many a sunlit ledge
- Lion's den
- 118 Suffix akin to -trix 119 Partner of rules, briefly
- 121 Lean- (sheds) 123 Locale of Sp. 124 U-turn from WNW
- 125 Game akin to crazy eights 126 Civil War southerner

### **Classifieds**

#### **Request for Proposal**

RFP for Marine Salvage work Removing Derelict Vessel Wrecks in Coral Harbor, St. John.

Request for Proposal may be obtained via email to <a href="mailto:sean@coralbaycommunitycouncil.org">sean@coralbaycommunitycouncil.org</a> or by phoning Sean Richardson at the Coral Bay Community Council office at 340-776-2099.

Proposals due: **Monday, December 22, 2014 at 5:00pm** (AST) by email or at office

#### **Employment**



Seeking Administrative Assistance, Front Desk Agent, Housekeepers, and Security Officer

Positions available immediately, hourly with good benefits, email resume to akhil@gallowspointresort.com or fax 340-776-6520.

#### Real Estate



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#### **Dolphin Market Opens in Coral Bay**



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Judi Shimel

Grand opening day customers keep cashiers busy Dec. 6 at Coral Bay's newest grocery. A colorful selection of fresh produce greets shoppers as they enter the front door. Floor-to-ceiling coolers, a refrigerated dairy case, fresh meats and specialty items fill the store. Shoppers are welcome seven days a week.

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## SJFS Screening "Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision" on December 9

St. John Tradewinds

St. John Film Society (SJFS) kicks off the 2014-2015 film season with the screening of "Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision" on Tuesday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John School of the Arts in Cruz Bay

The Vietnam Memorial was one of the most controversial monuments of its time. Thrust into the eye of the storm was architectsculptor Maya Lin, whose design for the memorial was chosen in 1981 when she was a 21-year-old college student. Withstanding bitter attacks, she held her ground with clarity and grace.

Lin's starkly simple polished black granite inscribed with the 57,661 names of those who died in Vietnam was viciously attacked as "dishonorable," "a scar," and "a black hole," but Lin remained committed to her vision, and the Memorial, a moving tribute to sacrifice and quiet heroism, was built as planned. Since then, Lin has completed a succession





St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of SJFS

"Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision" will be shown on December 9 at 7:30 p.m. at SJSA.

of eloquent, startlingly original monuments and sculptures that confront vital American social issues. Freida Lee Mock's Academy Award winning feature documentary follows a decade in the life of this visionary artist.

The film opens with footage chronicling the hailstorm that followed the selection of Lin's

unconventional design. Political commentator Patrick J. Buchanan and Illinois Republican Representative Henry Hyde led the fight, circulating letters alleging that one of the jurors on the selection committee was a communist and that four had been active anti-war protestors.

Lin withstood the personal and

artistic attacks and she prevailed with her original design. "The Memorial would not have been built without her central position in the fight to maintain the integrity of that design... It was her single-minded devotion to what she thought was right," declares Mock. The Memorial's dedication in 1982 was a profoundly cathartic moment — not just for those who fought in Vietnam, but for the entire nation. Since its completion. Americans have flocked to the site to grieve, to contemplate the consequences of war, and to heal.

"If you can't accept death, you'll never get over it," says Lin. "So what the Memorial's about is honesty... You have to accept, and admit that this pain has occurred, in order for it to be healed, in order for it to be cathartic... All I was saying in this piece was the cost of war is these individuals. And we have to remember them first."

There is a suggested donation of \$5 or become a St. John Film Society Member (\$35 for individuals / \$50 for families).

SJFS is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, Virgin Island Council on the Arts and St. John Community Foundation.

For more information contact St John Film Society stjviff@ gmail.com or www.stjohnfilm.

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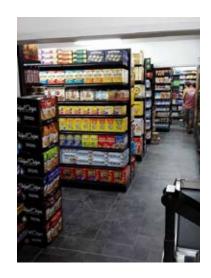
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