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No. 3230 * 61st Year * Tortola * British Virgin Islands * Saturday * 16 December 2023

HON. LUCE HODGE-SMITH IS CONCERNED ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE...p2 | POCKWOOD POND FIRE INCIDENT SOLUTIONS...p3

“THE PREMIER’ NON-ATTENDANCE AT SFC SESSIONS WAS LESS THAN IDEAL,” OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS

Premier Dr. the Hon. Natalio Wheatley has fired back at the Opposition and other critics who suggested that his publicly funded attendance at a recent climate change conference, was unnecessary because a senior public servant could have attended and the Premier should have remained in the Territory to attend to the budget discussions.

Premier Wheatley was in attendance at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference - (COP28) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, which concluded on 6 December with Arab countries not reducing their export of fossil fuels. During this period, members of the HOA were attending Standing Finance Committee meetings to deliberate on the 2024 budget alongside senior government officials. As a result, the Premier faced accusations of being absent at a critical juncture, with Opposition Leader Hon. Ronnie Skelton expressing

concern that there was no one available to address crucial questions during his absence.

At a recent press conference, Premier Wheatley addressed these criticisms, remarking: “Some individuals may question why I chose to attend COP 28 at this particular moment, but I would assert that these individuals may not fully comprehend the gravity of the situation, which constitutes an existential threat.”

He went on to defend his decision to travel, stating: “Of course, I would have preferred to be present during the Standing Finance Committee sessions. However, when circumstances necessitate my absence, I have capable individuals to represent me. This is precisely why we have an acting Premier in place.”

Premier Wheatley assured the public that he has been actively engaged with his

finance team, meticulously reviewing requests made during the SFC proceedings. He emphasized, “I am committed to a thorough examination of each request, acquiring a comprehensive understanding of the discussions, and addressing urgent issues that demand our attention.”

Describing climate change as the single greatest threat to survival and development, Dr. Wheatley stressed that the efforts and mobilization required to combat this crisis should not be underestimated or dismissed lightly. However Arab countries attitude rendered the whole COP28 exercise “futile theatrics” (according to Financial Post), or better yet “a farce rigged to fail” (according to The Guardian). “Humanity is in a battle for its very existence, and the most vulnerable are the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Among these, the Overseas Territories

Continued on page 2



Beautiful Christmas Tree at Pier Park
(Photo credit: Dean “The Sportsmand” Greenaway)



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“THE PREMIER’ NON-ATTENDANCE...*from page 1*

are even more vulnerable, as our existence often goes unacknowledged,” the Premier concluded.

WHAT LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION SAID

During the time of the Premier’s absence, Leader of the Opposition Hon. Ronnie Skelton questioned the BVI Leader’s decision to leave the Territory to attend a climate change summit while the House of Assembly’s Standing Finance Committee’ budget process was ongoing.

In his criticism of the matter, Hon. Skelton questioned the effectiveness of the SFC budget process in the Premier’s absence, given that the presence of the Premier, who also held the position of Finance Minister, was crucial for addressing key spending inquiries related to the Territory.

The Opposition Leader stated, “Presenting a budget to the parliament without being here to address the challenging questions that members may have renders

the process essentially pointless. There are critical needs within various government departments, ministries, and statutory bodies that are necessary for the betterment of the country, and these could not be addressed adequately without the Premier’s presence.”

Hon. Skelton had further emphasized that critical issues such as crime, policing, infrastructure development, roads, water supply, and other essential

matters required funding allocation by the Minister of Finance, and the Premier’s absence could have hindered progress in these areas.

While acknowledging Acting Premier Kye Rymmer’s efforts in facilitating the budget process in Premier Wheatley’s absence, the Leader of the Opposition indicated that the Premier’s nonattendance was less than ideal.

Hon. Skelton declared, “We currently have the Premier, Minister of Finance, and the Deputy Premier all away from the country, and I understand that the Minister of Health will also be departing soon. Consequently, it will be

necessary to appoint another junior minister to assume responsibilities within the country. This was not the optimal course of action.”

“We should not underestimate the importance of these procedures in facilitating the growth and organization of our society. With the Minister of Finance absent from this critical process, we were heading in the wrong direction,” he added.

Furthermore, Skelton pointed out that it was the members of the Opposition who were ensuring that the SFC met its quorum, a crucial requirement for the validity of the meeting’s proceedings at that time.

HON. LUCE HODGE-SMITH IS CONCERNED ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE

Junior Minister for Tourism and Culture, Hon. Luce Hodge-Smith has expressed her ongoing concern about the issue of gun violence in the Territory, especially when it affects young men the most.

During a recent interview with 284 Media Hon Hodge-Smith shared her deep sadness about the prevalence of gun violence in the community. She stated: “I am truly saddened by the gun violence in our community. Yes, I’m a mother, and I have two boys, and it seems to be the young men who are suffering the most. We are losing our young men, and it’s truly heartbreaking. Just when you think it might be over, it starts up again.”

In the year 2023, there have been six recorded shooting deaths in the Territory. The most recent tragic incident occurred on 6 November, when 25-year-old Julio Rivera, a resident of Purcell Estate, was fatally shot in a parking lot along De Castro Street.

Expressing her frustration,



Hon. Luce Hodge-Smith

the Junior Minister remarked: “You wonder what can be done? Where can you find these individuals and just shake them, and ask them, ‘What are you doing with your life? Why are you choosing this path?’ Then I remind myself that they are caught up in it and need to understand that there are consequences.”

Hon. Hodge-Smith also conveyed her bewilderment at the callousness of those who resort to gun violence, saying, “I cannot comprehend how someone can callously take a gun and another person’s life. So, the issue of gun violence in our community deeply troubles me.”

The Junior Minister further

pointed out her efforts to engage with seniors and women in a church setting to address violence against men, women, and children. She stressed that these discussions have led to a shared agreement on the importance of speaking out against violence.

She urged the community, particularly its seniors, to actively voice their concerns and provide guidance, stating: “As a community, we need to speak out. I have also spoken to seniors on two occasions and told them that they are the ones we are learning from. You have experienced what we are going through now, you have lived your life, and now you’re retired, but you still have a role to play in our community.”

Hon Hodge-Smith also called upon VI’s seniors to offer their wisdom and guidance whenever they notice troubling developments, saying, “We need to listen to you; don’t just take a back seat.”

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POCKWOOD POND FIRE INCIDENT ACCENTUATES NEED FOR SOLUTIONS



Hon. Vincent O. Wheatley

Following another fire incident at the Pockwood Pond dumpsite over the weekend, Hon. Vincent Wheatley, who serves as the Ninth District Representative and Minister for Health and Social Development with-responsibility-for waste management is advocating for recycling.

The Minister proposed that the challenges plaguing the local incinerator can be effectively resolved through a reduction in the volume of waste being processed at the facility.

This suggestion comes after residents expressed outrage over what they described as yet another fire incident at the facility. The fire which started around 4:00 am on Saturday, 9 December specifically affected the tipping area of the Pockwood Pond garbage facility. The resulting smoke plumes wafted across the western end of Tortola much to the discomfort of

residents, particularly those residing in Pockwood and West End.

During an appearance on the Monday, 11 December broadcast of the Da Morning Braff radio show, Minister Wheatley expressed his commitment to introducing a new Environmental Bill, stating: "If we do not curtail the amount of waste being sent to the incinerator, we will inevitably find ourselves facing similar challenges in the future."

Acknowledging the persistent issues with the incinerator, Hon Wheatley disclosed plans to issue a Request for Proposal for a

new incinerator, alongside a concurrent effort to restore the current facility to functionality. He also highlighted the existence of modern facilities capable of more efficient waste management.

The Minister of Health and Social Development encouraged-recycling practices, stating: "I urge everyone to maximize their recycling efforts. The less waste collectively sent to the landfill, the greater the reduction in the waste burden on our incinerator."

Furthermore, he noted that residents from the First and Second Districts, and

even as far as St. John in the US Virgin Islands (USVI), have had to contend with the consequences of landfill fires at Pockwood Pond over the years.

Regarding the repair of the current system, Hon Wheatley indicated that the Department of Waste Management is currently awaiting a shipment of parts, which is expected to enable the facility to resume operations in approximately four months. The Pockwood Pond Incinerator has been non-operational since February 2022 due to a previous fire.

PETITION DEMANDS REMOVAL OF COP

Approximately -30 individuals, -including members of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF), have united in a demand for the removal of-Commissioner-of Police Mark Collins from his current position. The grounds for this demand stem from the presentation of 55 serious allegations against Commissioner Collins.

Contained within an extensive 11-page petition addressed to His Excellency Governor John Rankin, the signatories not only stress the urgency of Commissioner Collins' removal but also call for

impartial investigations into allegations of misconduct in Public Office and the abuse of authority.

The petition firmly states: "It is imperative to acknowledge the recent circulation of an email dated 5 October 2021, allegedly from Commissioner of Police Mark Collins, within the public domain of the British Virgin Islands. We firmly believe that the intent and directives outlined in this email were crafted to obstruct the smooth functioning of the justice system, characterized by deceit, dishonesty, and unlawful behavior, thereby raising significant doubts

about the Commissioner of Police's credibility."

The leaked email that has captured collective attention reportedly concerns the arrest and charging of an Inspector, with Commissioner Collins providing updates to St. Clair Amory regarding the case. The Commissioner's email acknowledged 'issues with the arrest and process' and suggested the existence of 'potentially incriminating video footage of the incident that should not be used as evidence and should be destroyed.' The public's outrage over that leaked email stems from the fact that destroying evidence constitutes a criminal offense.

The petition also delves into the definition of misconduct in Public Office as outlined by the Crown Prosecution Service, underlining the Constitution's provision of fundamental rights and freedoms to the citizens and residents of the Territory. The document meticulously

outlines numerous grave allegations, -including, but not limited to, the destruction of evidence, obstruction of justice, defamation, -interference with administrative justice, and manipulation of the promotion process within the RVIPF.

Furthermore, copies of the

petition have been sent to Hon James S. Cleverly of Homeland Security, Hon David H. Rutley -Parliamentary Undersecretary of State (Americas and Caribbean), Premier Dr. the Hon Natalio D. Wheatley (R7), and Rosalia Gardener, Chairman of the Police Service Commission."





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Remarks By Premier Wheatley With Updates On Recent Duty Travel



Dr. the Hon. Natalio D. Wheatley

Climate change is the single greatest threat to our survival and development. As small islands, we contribute less than a drop in the bucket to the problem, yet, stand on the frontlines of the climate crisis, experiencing the worst and most severe impacts soonest.

Gone are the days when there is a debate about whether climate change is real. We are now living the reality of climate change. Without drastic action, the world is on a path to exceeding global warming of 1.5°C within the next 10 years. In such a world, the unbearable heat of this summer will become the norm year round. Fragile, temperature-sensitive ecosystems like coral reefs are at high risk of disappearing. Mass sargassum landings will persist.

The risk of dengue and other vector-borne diseases will increase and new diseases will emerge. We could experience 'runaway' sea level rise and lose our beaches, low-lying coastal communities and coastal infrastructure. Even with a warming of 1.5°C, flash floods like the one we experienced on August Monday 2017 will become

more common. On the other extreme, we can also expect more frequent and extreme droughts. Hurricanes like Irma and Maria will not be freak events but the hurricanes of our future. How many times can we afford to lose 200% of our GDP and take out hundreds of millions of dollars in debt to recover?

So, you see, climate change directly impacts every person, business and economic sector in The Virgin Islands. Climate change is the common denominator that has the power to cut down and set back any development strides we make. If we are to survive and thrive then, we must invest in adaptation - that is, actions to ensure our critical ecosystems, infrastructure, facilities, communities and economic sectors are more resilient to the various impacts of climate change.

But adaptation is very costly, more than we can afford. If we are to adapt then, we must be able to access the scale of financing that we will require over time, on the order of billions of dollars, from the developed countries that have created the climate crisis.

The COP28 is the shorthand for the 28th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Attending the annual conference is a priority for small islands development states. Some may assume that small

islands matter least in the global negotiations on climate change, but let me tell you, we matter most! Not just because we are on the very frontlines, but because history reflects that all the major victories in the climate change fight, including the recent creation of the Loss and Damage Fund, have been championed by small islands who have an equal vote.

The UK Overseas Territories, like all independent small island developing states in the Caribbean, were represented at COP28. The difference is that while our independent neighbours have access to the billions of dollars available through the various financing mechanisms under the Convention, such as the Green Climate Fund, and will now have access to the trillions of dollars expected under the Loss and Damage Fund, the Overseas Territories, including The Virgin Islands do not have access to any of those funds. Nor does the United Kingdom provide any direct climate finance to the Territories. While the world is warming up, we are being left in the cold.

As the clock runs out on our window to adapt, this Government saw it as a priority to start the important work of advocating for access to international climate funds under the Convention and to also advocate for a dedicated UK Climate Change Fund for Overseas Territories.

Without this win, The Virgin Islands will certainly fail on its development journey. Advocating requires firstly being at the table and this was the absolute imperative or necessity of attending COP28.

Towards this end, at COP28, Overseas Territory leaders, including Hon. Vincent Wheatley and I had a meeting with the UK Delegation on Wednesday December 6 and just this morning Hon. Wheatley represented The Virgin Islands in a meeting with Rt Hon Graham Stuart, UK Minister for Energy Security and Net Zero.

I'm pleased to report that as a result of the collective representation of the OTs at those key meetings at COP28, we now have agreement from the UK that the Territories will be engaged at the start of the cycle for the UK to prepare its negotiating strategy for COP29 and COPs going forward. This provides the critical window that we needed to ensure that our concerns and issues are considered in the process and have a chance to make it into the global negotiations.

Additionally, I'm

very pleased to report that Minister Stuart was open and receptive to the ask for a dedicated UK Climate Change Fund for its Territories and we have agreed that the next step in materializing this be a formal request from the Territories, outlining the details of what is required, through the Minister responsible for the Overseas Territories as well as the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs which is responsible for climate change adaptation in the UK. Hon Wheatley also raised the concern for support on building resilience in the health sector which was also well received.

Our collective objective now should be how to build on the great work already done to establish a Climate Change Committee, develop a Climate Change Policy and legally establish The Virgin Islands Climate Change Trust Fund and the foundation laid at COP28 to access climate finance to ensure that we are not left behind as victims on the frontlines. The media can partner with Government on this to help highlight the special case of the Territories.





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Government Evaluated For Financial Services Compliance

In March of this year, the Virgin Islands underwent a mutual evaluation assessment by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), the regional body

of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), to measure the Virgin Islands' compliance with the FATF's recommendations and the effectiveness of

its anti-money laundering and terrorist financing framework.

Minister for Financial Services, Labour and Trade Honourable Lorna Smith

said, "Although I was not in office during the assessment period, as the Minister of Financial Services, Labour and Trade, I bear the responsibility of ensuring our financial services industry's regulation aligns with global standards and that it recognises its obligations in this critical area."

In line with those responsibilities, Minister Smith recently attended the CFATF plenary held in Aruba, where the draft mutual evaluation report was tabled.

Honourable Smith stated, "A government presence at such international forums is vital. It underscores a country's commitment at the highest level to ensure that standards are met and that the FATF recommendations are adhered to. It also clearly demonstrates our readiness to address any identified issues with the necessary resources promptly and effectively. All those I met reinforced that political leadership in these matters is highly regarded."

During her time in Aruba Honourable Smith met the CFATF Executive Director Ms. Dawne Spicer and Honourable Samuel Bulgin K.C., J.P., the outgoing CFATF Chair of the Plenary, and Attorney General of the Cayman Islands, as well as other key figures.

The draft mutual evaluation

report remains confidential while it undergoes the usual CFATF/FATF quality and control checks. However, publication is anticipated in January 2024.

The Virgin Islands delegation included the Attorney General Honourable Dawn Smith, and comprised key personnel from the Attorney General's Chambers and other relevant authorities including the BVI Financial Services Commission, the Financial Investigation Agency, the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force, and the Director of Public Prosecution.

In partnership with all its competent authorities and industry stakeholders, the Government of the Virgin Islands is committed to addressing any recommendations identified in the final report and ensuring the availability of necessary resources for this purpose.

The FATF establishes international standards towards combatting money laundering, terrorist financing, and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The Virgin Islands is a founding member of the CFATF and the Government remains steadfast towards upholding international best practice standards on money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing.



PROGRAM LISTINGS

MONDAYS

- (1:00 PM) OMOJA - WITH EDJU EN KA
- (5:00 PM) TALKING POINTS - WITH MRS. VIOLET GAUL
- (7:00 PM) INSPIRATION MONDAYS - WITH MEADE MALONE
- (7:30 PM) TRANSFORMING YOUR TOMORROW TODAY - BY TRANSFORMATION CHURCH INTERNATIONAL
- (8:00 PM) NDP RADIO PROGRAM (1ST & 3RD MONDAYS) - BY THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- (8:00 - 9:00 PM) NEW COVENANT PRAYER LINE (EVERY 2ND MONDAY) - NEW COVENANT MINISTRIES

TUESDAYS

- (5:00 PM) HONESTLY SPEAKING PROGRAM - WITH CLAUDE SKELTON CLINE

WEDNESDAYS

- (10:00 AM) THE MORNING SHOW - WITH PAUL HEWLETT
- (1:15 PM) OMOJA - WITH "EDJU EN KA"
- (7:00 - 8:00 PM) DYAS VOICE PROGRAM - (2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAY) WITH DEPT. OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
- (7:00 - 9:00 PM) THE HOT SEAT REVISED PROG. - (1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY)
- (8:00 - 10:00 PM) THE HOT SEAT REVISED PROG. - (2ND WEDNESDAY) WITH CARL DAWSON, JULIAN GORDON, AND WALWYN BREWLEY

THURSDAYS

- (5:00 PM) HONESTLY SPEAKING PROGRAM - WITH CLAUDE SKELTON CLINE

FRIDAYS

- (7:00 - 8:00 PM) BODY AND SOUL PROGRAM - WITH REV. DR. PASTOR MELVIN TURNBULL, DR. KEDRICK PICKERING, REV. MICHAEL ANTHONY, PASTOR CALVIN MILLS, AND REV. DR. KEITH LEWIS

SATURDAYS

- (8:00 - 10:00 AM) MORE TALK, LESS MUSIC - WITH ZOE AND JOE JACK
- (10:00 - 11:00 AM) KNOWLEDGE IS POWER HOUR
- (4:30 - 6:00 PM) SPORTS TALK - WITH CLEMENT "BONE CRUSHER" DONOVAN, AND ROY PICKERING (ALTERNATING WEEKS)
- (6:00 - 7:30 PM) A LOOK AT THE COMMUNITY - WITH HOSTS ULRIC SCATLIFFE & DR. HARLAN VANTERPOOL

SUNDAYS

- (7:15 - 7:30 AM) HOPE FOR TODAY B'CAST - BY: CHRISTIAN FAITH ASSEMBLY
- (7:30 - 7:45 AM) VOICE OF THE LAMB B'CAST - BY: TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH
- (7:45 - 8:00 AM) ADVENT EYE MINISTRY (2ND & 4TH SUNDAY) - BY: BRO. MICHAEL WILLIAMS
- (7:45 - 8:00 AM) FAITH BELIEVING B'CAST (1ST & 3RD SUNDAY) - BY: UPPER ROOM DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE, BOSTON, MA
- (8:00 - 8:15 AM) VOICE OF HOPE B'CAST - BY: APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH
- (8:30 - 9:00 AM) GOSPEL OF JESUS B'CAST - BY: GOSPEL OF JESUS EVANGELISTIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
- (9:00 - 9:30 AM) SHOCKING BIBLE PROPHECIES - BY: SEVENTHDAY ADVENTISTS CHURCHES
- (9:30 - 9:45 AM) AGAPE TOTAL LIFE BROADCAST - BY: AGAPE TOTAL LIFE CENTER
- (9:50 AM) HOLINESS AWAKENING B'CAST - BY: CHURCH OF GOD OF HOLINESS, BAUGHERS BAY
- (10:05 AM) REVEALED TRUTH B'CAST - BY: SHAMMAH DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES
- (10:35 AM) UNSHACKLED RADIO MINISTRY
- (12:30 PM) ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, SEA COWS BAY SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE
- (1:30 PM) ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL ANGLICAN CHURCH (EXCEPT 2ND SUNDAY)
- (4:30 PM) HYMNS & THEIR MEANINGS PROG. (1ST & 3RD SUNDAY) - WITH BRENDA HERBERT STEWART
- (6:00 PM) METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY SERVICE (1ST SUNDAY)
- (6:00 PM) ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL ANGLICAN CHURCH (2ND SUNDAY)
- (7:00 PM) YOUR GOSPEL MUSIC PROGRAM - WITH VALERIE LETTSOME AND CLAUDE PARILLON (LAST 3 SUNDAYS)
- (7:30 PM) "VICTORIOUS PRAISES" B'CAST - WITH SIS. ESMIE POTTER (2ND SUNDAY)
- (8:15 PM) PRAISE & PRAYER SERVICE - BY: TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH (4TH SUNDAY)



BVI Post Letter Boxes Now Available



Mrs. Iris Romney

Letter box holders can now resume collection of their mail from their assigned BVI Post letter boxes at the location across from the Ralph T. O’Neal Administration Complex.

Acting Post Master General Mrs. Iris Romney said letter box holders of numbers 1 to 4347 in the Road Town area can resume the use of their boxes from December 11.

Mrs. Romney said, “Letter box holders are to return the keys for the old letter boxes and collect the new keys at the General Post Office located in the Maduro Building in Road Town.” She added that if persons are unable to return the old key, they will be required to pay a deposit of \$15.00 for the new key.

The rental of letter boxes are available at various locations throughout the Territory including Cane Garden Bay, Sea Cows Bay, West End, Cappaons Bay, Jost Van Dyke, Anegada; and Valley or North Sound, Virgin Gorda. Interested persons can apply for a letter box at the General Post Office or at any of the postal offices in their area.

For more information, persons may contact the BVI Post via telephone at 168-5160/5162.

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no later than December 18, 2023.



Construction Of National Emergency Operations Centre Progressing

The construction of the new National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) in McNamara, Tortola is progressing, with the concrete roof pour now complete.

The centre is designed to house the Government of the Virgin Islands operations in the event of a major emergency or hazard impact and is being constructed to standards that will allow it to withstand all natural disasters, including hurricanes, earthquakes and landslides.

Financial Secretary, Mr. Jeremiah Frett said following its destruction during the passage of Hurricane Irma in 2017, the Government of the Virgin Islands set out to rebuild the NEOC as a regional model for disaster preparedness and response.

Mr. Frett reiterated the Government's commitment

to ensuring projects that are vital to the Territory's National Disaster Management Plan are funded and managed well, including the ability to respond to hazard impacts.

Mr. Frett said, "Now more than ever, there is an undeniable need to ensure we fund these projects that will help to safeguard our Territory, and better prepare us for disasters. The construction of a state-of-the-art NEOC is a major priority, and the Government of the Virgin Islands remains fully committed to this."

Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Deputy Governor, Mrs. Sharleen DaBreo-Lettsome, MBE, who is a former Director of the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) said during the events of 2017, we fully understood and experienced some of the

natural hazards the Territory is exposed to.

Mrs. DaBreo-Lettsome said, "Our previous NEOC was destroyed during Hurricane Irma, displacing the Government's emergency operations centre. We want to ensure that does not happen again. The construction of a NEOC that is resilient and sustainable is a major priority as we plan for the Territory's future."

The new National Emergency Operations Centre features a foundation that was designed with ground anchors to ensure minimal movement during extreme weather, windows and doors rated far beyond Category 5 hurricanes, extra steelwork in size and quantity for increased rigidity, and an increased pound per square inch for concrete, to ensure a



stronger structure.

There has also been an increase in connectivity between structural elements to ensure minimal separation during earthquakes and other extreme weather events.

During hazard impacts, public officers who are a part of the NEOC may be required to remain in the centre for a duration of time, to ensure the operations of Government, including the immediate response to impacts are coordinated.

The new NEOC is therefore being constructed to ensure persons can comfortably remain in the building, including the installation of water storage and

solar technology.

The building is expected to be completed within the fourth quarter of 2024.

Tandem Development and D&B Construction are the contractors on the project that is being managed by Virella Crespo and Associates. The contract for the construction of the centre is valued at Nine Million, Eight Hundred and Three Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifteen Dollars, and Fifty-Three Cents (\$9,803,215.53)

The Government of the Virgin Islands remains committed to ensuring the Territory is prepared for hazard impacts, including the ability to prepare effectively, and swiftly respond.



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[s30]

Cabinet Approves 2024 Public Holidays

Acting in accordance with Section 5 of the Public Holidays Act (Cap 199), as amended, Cabinet has approved the following public holidays for 2024:

Monday, 1st January - New Year's Day

Monday, 4th March - The Anniversary of the Birth of Hamilton Lavity Stoutt

(In lieu of Thursday, 7th March)

Friday, 29th March - Good Friday

Monday, 1st April - Easter Monday

Monday, 20th May - Whit Monday

Friday, 14th June - Sovereign's Birthday

(to be confirmed)

Monday, 1st July - Virgin Islands Day

Monday, 5th August - Emancipation Monday

Tuesday, 6th August - Emancipation Tuesday

Wednesday, 7th August - Emancipation Wednesday

Monday, 21st October - Heroes and Foreparents Day

Monday, 25th November - The Commemoration of the Great March of 1949 and the Restoration of the Legislative Council

Wednesday, 25th December - Christmas Day

Thursday, 26th December - Boxing Day

Board Membership Training Series

11 December 2023 – On 6th December 2023, the British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) actively engaged in a collaborative and knowledge-sharing initiative as part of the Board Membership Training Series focused on corporate governance. Facilitated by George Henry Partners (GHP), the event featured interactive sessions with key figures, including the Board of Directors of the British Virgin Islands Port Authority, members of the British Virgin Islands Tourist Board (BVITB), and leaders of these various agencies, such as the Managing Director of Ports, Director of Tourism, and the CEO of Tortola Pier Park Ltd (TPPL). Together, they played a pivotal role in shaping the future of governance excellence within the Territory.



**MORE READERS:
THE ISLAND SUN**

Quijano & Associates (BVI) Limited (“QUIJANO BVI”) ROLE: Compliance Officer and MLRO

DESCRIPTION:

Quijano & Associates (BVI) Limited (“QUIJANO BVI”) is a Class 1 Licensed British Virgin Islands Trust Company offering a comprehensive range of fiduciary and corporate management services. QUIJANO BVI is now accepting applications for an experienced professional to join its firm as a **Compliance Officer & MLRO**. Key Responsibilities Include:

- ensuring that the licensee complies with its obligations with respect to the establishment and maintenance of compliance systems and controls;
 - identifying, measuring and assessing the compliance risks associated with the licensee’s business, including the compliance risks associated with the material changes in, or the development of new, products, types of business or customer relationships;
 - keeping the regulatory obligations of the licensee and the compliance systems and controls under review, identifying any deficiencies, making regular assessment reports to the board and senior management and making recommendations for any updates or revisions;
 - keeping the compliance manual under regular review and current;
 - maintaining a Licensee’s registers;
 - ensuring that the licensee complies with its reporting obligations to the Commission, including that returns submitted to the Commission are accurate, complete and filed within the relevant time period;
 - establishing and maintaining procedures for the monitoring and handling of complaints, and keeping the complaints procedures under review;
 - preparing and submitting to the Commission, on behalf of the licensee, an annual compliance report;
 - preparing and submitting to the board of directors an annual compliance report;
 - ensure annual training, provide advice and guidance to employees on subjects that relate to money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing;
 - informing senior management of compliance initiatives, compliance deficiencies, corrective action required and undertaken, new high-risk customers;
 - sanction screening and monitoring;
 - reporting suspected designated persons and sanction breaches to the Governor’s Office, FSC and FIA receiving and maintaining records of SARs/STRs;
 - promptly reporting every suspicious customer or transaction related to money laundering, terrorist financing, or proliferation financing relating to the Licensee to the Agency acting as liaison between the Licensee and the Agency;
 - ensuring staff compliance with internal reporting and compliance manual procedures relating to money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing;
 - ensuring staff compliance with the Regulations, Proceeds of Criminal Conduct Act, the Code and any other enactment relating to money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing;
 - inform the Compliance Committee and/or the Board of Directors of suspicious activity reports filed with the FIA and any advice or guidance issued by the FIA; and all other functions as set out in the Regulations and Code.
- Candidate must be bilingual with the ability to speak English and Spanish fluently. This would be a distinct advantage.

Candidate must be bilingual with the ability to speak English and Spanish fluently. This would be a distinct advantage.

| Email: tortola@quijano.com for more information

[s30]

EARLY WARNING SYSTEM TRIGGERS QUICK RESPONSE TO FIRE

New protocols implemented by the Department of Waste Management continues to result in early notifications, which led to swift action to extinguish an early morning blaze at the Pockwood Pond Dumpsite.

At around 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 9, the Department of Waste Management was notified of a fire at the Pockwood Pond Dumpsite on Tortola. The Fire and Rescue Service were immediately notified and

worked to extinguish the blaze started.

Director of Waste Management Mr. Marcus Solomon reported that the dumpsite tipping area caught fire, and the fire quickly extended to the BVI Electricity Plant, which is located in close proximity to the fire.

“The fire was likely caused by older garbage heat which came into contact with combustibles. The combustion of the materials could be heard

on the site and spread to the entire garbage load, which fueled the quick acceleration of the fire,” Mr. Solomon stated.

The Director further explained that because the incinerator is currently inoperable, we are having issues with processing the waste in a timely manner, which is contributing to garbage staying in the tipping area longer than desirable. We are working on waste management strategies to improve the way



we process our waste, but we still need assistance from the community to help avert future occurrences”.

According to the Director, while his Department is working on much needed equipment, improvement to the current infrastructure at the dumpsite, as well as the training and monitoring of contractors, he also needs the public to play their part.

“We are pleading with the community to reduce, repurpose, and reuse to assist with decreasing waste generation. We also want them to stop putting hazardous and flammable materials into the waste stream,” Mr. Solomon said.

As officials continue to work on extinguishing the flames, the

public is advised to take the necessary health precautions and avoid the smoke where possible.

The public should also be aware that until further notice the Pockwood Pond dumpsite will not be accepting any garbage. Only persons with the ability to reach to the top of the hill will be allowed to access the site.

The Department continues to work on best practice strategies to manage waste throughout the Territory. Subsequent updates will be provided where necessary.

The Ministry of Health and Social Development is committed to improving the health and well-being of the people of the Virgin Islands.

TO ALL OUR ADVERTISERS,
READERS, WELLWISHERS,
AND FRIENDS WE EXTEND

THE ISLAND SUN
BEST WISHES
for a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a **HAPPY 2024**

*May all that is beautiful,
meaningful and brings you joy be yours this
holiday season and throughout the coming year!*

**the
Island Sun**



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Governor's Office Funds Three Youth Empowerment Projects

The Governor's Office, through UK Funding, has provided three grants totaling \$30,000 to deliver youth empowerment projects in the BVI to 13 to 21 year olds.

The Governor's Office invited bids earlier this year and received 12 excellent applications from established non-profit organizations in the Territory which were assessed by a committee from the Governor's Office and BVI Government. The projects were required to contribute to the delivery of the BVI Sustainable Development Plan goal: Islanders are empowered for a Sustainable Future in an Inclusive Vibrant Society, Living Fulfilling Lives.

The grants have been awarded to:

Mentoring Anointed Leaders Everywhere (MALE) – who will run a series of intensive mental health workshops for young men.

Road Town Boys and Girls Brigade – who will revitalise their programs, with funding used to replace parade flags, drilling equipment, marching drums, uniforms and renew their websites and online store, amongst other things.

H. Lavity Stoutt Community College- who will deliver media production development workshops to empower BVI youth.

Governor John Rankin CMG met with the successful applicants on 7th December to offer his congratulations. The Governor said "I am delighted to announce today funding for three youth empowerment projects. I know these projects will benefit the lives of young people in the BVI. I am grateful for the very high calibre of applications we received and thank everyone involved."

Additional detail on the projects

Mentoring Anointed Leaders Everywhere (MALE) who will run a series of intensive mental health workshops for young men. The workshops will aim to deliver outcomes on the following areas:

Better awareness and relationship with self; positive approach to mental health – which will result in a better relationship with oneself, also better relationship with others.

Resolution conflict skills - better processing skills to navigate through difficult situations

Decision making and goal setting skills - positive approach to mental health result in higher aspirations for careers and fulfilling of dreams.

Mindfulness and Meditation – to help manage stress, anxiety, and emotions.

Expressive therapy – getting in touch with oneself and answering self-awareness questions through, art, music, and drama.

Outdoor activities, games, sports, arts and crafts: Positive approach to mental health result in better assessment and ability to make healthy decisions and choices by getting in touch with nature, hiking with nature and culture walks.

Group support and team building – Learning to respect and support others and create a non-judgemental, supportive environment and learning the value of community. The effects of this can trickle and ripple throughout homes, communities, and territories.

Coping Skills – Introducing practical skills such as time management, journaling, creative writing, and resolution conflict that are vital to releasing daily stress.

Self-care – How to detox, reflection and relaxation techniques, breathing exercises. Assist them in creating healthy boundaries and the importance of taking care of oneself.

H. Lavity Stoutt Community College will deliver film development workshops. This project will introduce a workshop series in media production to empower BVI youth. The workshop series will focus on developing skills in characterization, media production, and musical expression through practical exercises and research. Workshop participants will learn to identify and utilize platforms for creativity, experiment with diverse performance art forms, foster self-awareness, and promote collaborative teamwork. This initiative aims to cultivate practical skills, fostering participation in global and regional creative industries by opening doors to

platforms like Netflix, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube; as well as opportunities to participate in film festivals.

Road Town Boys and Girls Brigade will receive funds to revitalise their programs, including replacement parade flags and drilling equipment; replacement

marching drums; official parade uniforms; non-official uniforms for weekly company meetings and community service activities; special programs uniforms; badges and awards to award members for completing badge work; revitalization of RTGB (RTBB) websites and online store;

procurement of materials; and tools to carry out programming such as camping, traveling, transportation, first-aid certification and IT. The Brigades are international, interdenominational, uniformed, outreach organisations that empower youth and make a difference.

Come join us for some fun,
Entertainment, laughter & good food as

St. George's Fundraising Committee
Present it's

Christmas

Bazaar & Yard Sale!!!

Food & Drinks on sale • Fun Games for Kids

Saturday	11:00 a.m.	St. George's
16th Dec., 2023		Primary School Grounds

Bar B Que Chicken / Bar B Que Ribs / Fish / Chicken Roti
Hot Dog / Ham Burgers
Corn on the cob / Pease & Rice / Macaroni Pie / Green Salad / Assorted Desserts

"See you there"

Live Christmas music by D.J. Sealey!!!!



GLOBAL NEWS BRIEF

STORIES SELECTED BY GIORGIO MIGLIAVACCA

DARK CHOCOLATE UNDER SCRUTINY - A long time ago, many people switched from consuming milk chocolate to dark chocolate (much higher in cocoa), in search of healthier food. Today, however, some news suggests that chocolate may be contaminated with cadmium and lead... and that the concentration of these heavy metals may be higher in dark chocolate.

Does this mean that we're going to have to stop eating it? Well, if we actually analyze the information and put it into context, we can see that the risk isn't exactly as high as most headlines indicate.

In just a few years, cocoa has gone from being frowned upon — due to its association with unhealthy foods, such as sweetened milk chocolate — to essentially being a superfood. Nowadays, many people include pure cocoa — or chocolate with high cocoa content — in their diet, in search of a beneficial effect on health. But recent news is warning of the supposed

danger that its consumption entails, due to its content of heavy metals, specifically cadmium and lead. [El Pais]

FIGHT DIABETES - As fresh seafood, sardines can be a savoury, protein-rich addition to Caesar salads, pasta dishes, or enjoyable on their own. While fresh sardines are seasonal, reaching peak abundance between the months of July and November, they can typically be found in stores all year round.

According to a report by 20minutos, the fresh ones have a higher healthy fat content than their canned counterparts and are sometimes tastier, but experts urge the consumption of sardines of all varieties, including the canned ones.

In the study, the Barcelona researchers introduced the two cans of sardines to a group of people over the age of 65 with prediabetes, meaning they have high blood glucose levels and run the risk of developing diabetes in the future. Another, statistically

identical group was not given the sardines, and based on the results, researchers were able to confirm that the sardine-rich diet was instrumental in preventing the former group from developing diabetes. [El Pais]

R U S S I A - With challenges to his rule all but removed, Putin's next six years in office promise to keep Russia on its current trajectory. But the risk of an economic crisis looms.

In a choreographed and widely predicted move, President Vladimir Putin announced Friday that he will run for a fifth term in the 2024 presidential election next March.

The 71-year-old, who has been in power since 2000, is expected to run virtually unopposed apart from a few handpicked challengers following the adoption of wartime censorship and the crushing of the liberal opposition.

His next six years in office promise to keep Russia on its path of socially conservative policies and pivot away from the West, while his readiness to wage war on Ukraine for as long as it takes to win stands to

put mounting strain on the unity of Kyiv's allies, experts told The Moscow Times.

The Kremlin's confidence is boosted by the economy's better-than-expected growth under its second year of wartime sanctions, but experts warn that risks of economic overheating will persist. [The Moscow Times]

ITALY - The Intangible Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on Wednesday proclaimed the art of Italian opera singing to be part of the intangible heritage of humanity.

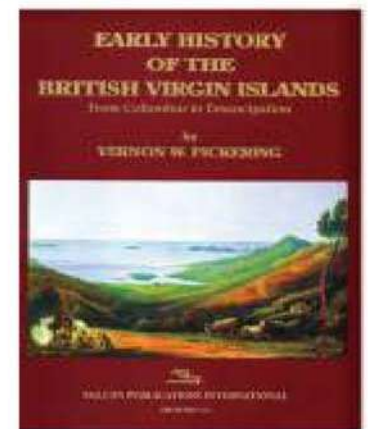
The decision came at a meeting of the Committee's member countries in Botswana.

In March 2022 Italy's UNESCO commission chaired by Franco Bernabè approved a bid by Italian opera to go forward as candidate to present to the UNESCO intergovernmental committee for the 2023 cycle.

Then culture minister Dario Franceschini said that with the opera bid "Italy is aiming for the recognition of one of its most authentic and original cultural expressions". (ANSA).

D O M I N I C A N REPUBLIC - Spanish authorities, including the Civil Guard and Customs Surveillance of the Spanish Tax Agency, have confiscated a staggering 530 kilograms of cocaine at the Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas airport. The illicit drugs were concealed within a shipment of avocados originating from the Dominican Republic.

The operation took place last Saturday during routine inspections of goods arriving at the international airport in Madrid. Suspicion arose due to potential tampering in a consignment labeled as fresh fruit, leading to a thorough examination by authorities.



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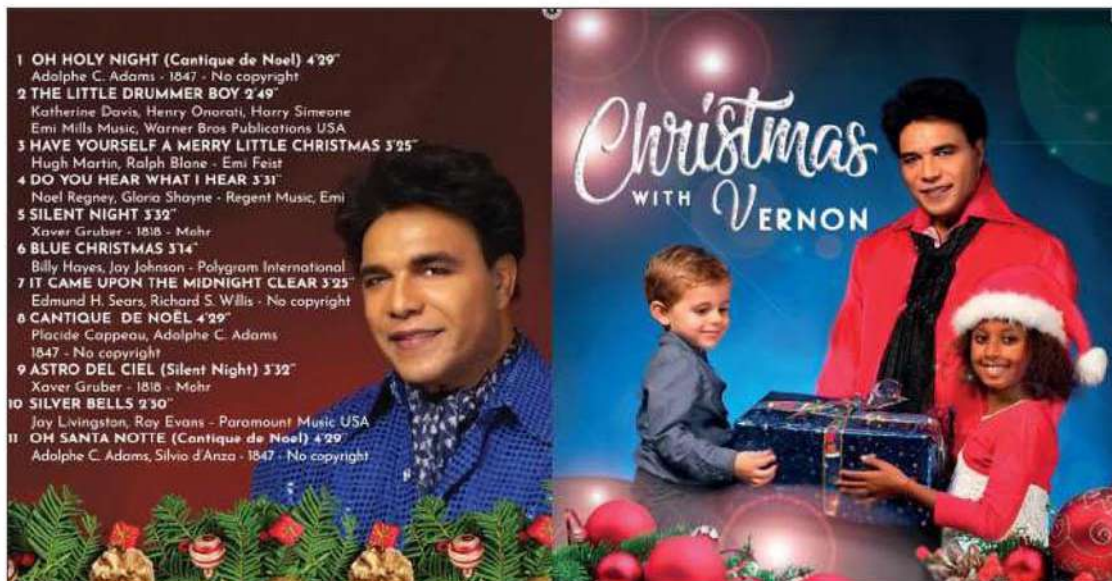
islandsun@surfbvi.com

The shipment, consisting of three pallets containing 38 boxes of avocados, concealed varying quantities of cocaine. The total net weight of the confiscated drugs amounted to 2,268 kilograms.

Traffickers employ this method, known as the "lost hook" or "rip-off," in an attempt to smuggle significant quantities of narcotics through airports without detection by import and export companies or customs officials. Criminals target shipments of legal merchandise from reputable import companies with consistent traffic, aiming to avoid suspicion during customs checks. [Dominican Today]

BAHAMAS - The United States has called for a comprehensive investigation into the recent attack on a 26-year-old transgender woman named China Diamond at a nightclub in The Bahamas.

Her attorney, Mark Rolle Symonette reported that the American woman, China Diamond, 26, claimed she was attacked by five or six men last Saturday in what she called a "hate crime". [CNW]



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RHYTHMS OF LOVE WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON IN THE BVI: WATCH HIM ON YOUTUBE

The Sunny Side Up



Through the Lens of The Sunny Side



The Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs & Sports' Choir, serenaded several Road Town businesses Thursday, 7 December, 2023

Photo Credit: Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

	PAGE 14 Willard Wheatley Primary School Spreads Holiday Joy with Spectacular Christmas Parade (Continue on page 16)	PAGE 15 · Ladyburd Talks · Ladyburd Mail Box · Lightbulb Moments · Poetry Corner · Tickle My Funny Bones · Pun Intended	PAGE 16 Willard Wheatley Primary School Spreads Holiday Joy with Spectacular Christmas Parade (Continue from page 14)
			PAGE 17 Divas On A Dime

WILLARD WHEATLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL PARADE SPREADS HOLIDAY JOY



The Willard Wheatley Primary School made spirits bright in the East End Long Look community on December 11 as they hosted a magnificent Christmas parade that left everyone in awe. The event was a resounding success, signaling the arrival of the holiday season with style and grace.

The heart of the parade was the vibrant participation of the school's Grade 4 marching band-clad entry. While Grade 6 students took

on the roles of "snow-girls and boys," turning the parade path into a winter wonderland with their enchanting performance. On another note, the Grade 2 students added a sweet touch to the parade with their candy cane-themed road performance.

The youngest members of the school, the kindergarteners, played Santa's little helpers, dressed as presents and gift boxes to the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16





Ladyburd Talks...

Dear Readers: Happy Holidays – Time To Relax, Reflect, and Recharge

The holidays have arrived, and although they may look different this year, they offer you the same benefit; extended time to relax, reflect, and recharge.

You may have many reasons why it is difficult for you take time off; just know that your mind, body, and your business will thank you for it.

Rather than contemplating the many tasks and responsibilities awaiting you upon your return, focus instead on what you will gain from these next few days.. Think of it as a present to yourself – an opportunity to replenish your energy and reset yourself for the new year.

Recharging during the holidays: Why is it important?

Rest is essential. Now, you may be nodding along thinking you agree with this sentiment. After all, you rest your body every night when you fall into bed. But rest is more than the six to eight hours of sleep you manage to attain every day. Genuine rest is only realised during an extended break from the everyday endeavours of work.

What are the benefits of rest?

It renews your passion. Just as absence makes the heart grow fonder, so too does time away from the daily routine of running a business. Taking a step back from your responsibilities allows you to refocus. It encourages you to revisit the joy of pursuing your passion.

It refuels your mind and body. “The Refueling Principle” is based on the premise that as humans, we have a limited pool of resources. When we stop to refill it, we enable our minds and bodies to replenish themselves.

With free time, you can top-up your supply of productivity and performance, allowing you to do more in less time. Rest generates “fuel for the energy, creativity and focus that lead to success”.

It recharges your mental and physical energy. Rest is a form of nourishment; just like food and water, it allows you to flourish and grow.

Slowing down and enjoying time spent with friends and family gives you clarity; with your mind and body recharged, you are ready to make decisions both big and small. *(Continue next week)*

Source: <https://ultimateacademy.com/confidence-for-success-courses/confidence-for-success-blog/happy-holidays-time-to-relax-reflect-and-recharge/>



LIGHT BULB MOMENTS

What is Christmas?

It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a wish that every cup may overflow with Blessings rich and eternal and that every path may lead to PEACE.

Agnes M. Pahro

Poetry Corner

Christmas Joys

*Evergreen boughs that fill our homes
With fragrant Christmas scents,
Hearts filled with the loving glow
That Christmas represents;*

*Christmas cookies, turkeys stuffed,
Festive holly berry,
Little faces bright with joy,
Loved ones being merry;*

*Parties, songs, beribboned gifts,
Silver bells that tinkle,
Christmas trees and ornaments,
Colorful lights that twinkle;*

*Relatives waiting with open arms
To smile and hug and kiss us;
These are some of the special joys
That come along with Christmas.*

© By Joanna Fuchs

Tickle My Funny Bones



You are not getting divorced!

An old man calls his son and says,
“Listen, your mother and I are getting divorced.
Forty-five years of misery is long enough.”

“Dad, what are you talking about?”
the son screams.

We can’t stand the sight of each other any longer, he says. “I’m sick of her face, and I’m sick of talking about this, so call your sister and tell her,” and he hangs up.

Now, the son is worried.

He calls his sister. She says,
“Like hell they’re getting divorced!”
She calls their father immediately.

“You’re not getting divorced!
Don’t do another thing.

The two of us are flying home tomorrow to talk about this.

Until then, don’t call a lawyer, and
The old man turns to his wife and says,
“Okay, they’re both coming for Christmas and paying their own airmiles.

Read more on page: <http://www.jokesoftheday.net/tag/friday/>

PUN INTENDED

“What did Adam say to his wife on the day before Christmas?”



WILLARD WHEATLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL PARADE SPREADS HOLIDAY JOY



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14



delight of the eager crowd. Similarly, Grade one students dressed as Santa's elves, infusing the parade with playful energy and joy. Besides the students' remarkable contributions, the parade featured a cast of beloved Christmas characters, including reindeer,

angels, and the nativity scene with Mary and Joseph, all evoking the timeless story of Christmas. Of course, no Christmas parade would be complete without the arrival of a class full of Santas



DIVAS ON A DIME

By Patti Diamond

FUSS-FREE FESTIVITIES:

3 NO-BAKE PEANUT BUTTER

DELIGHTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As the holidays approach, there's a certain magic in the air -- the warmth of twinkling lights, the aroma of cookies baking and the joy of creating sweet moments in the kitchen. Among the countless options for holiday recipes, there's a classic duo that is always popular: peanut butter and chocolate.

We're going to give the oven a break today as we craft three delightful and affordable no-bake wonders. These easy recipes are perfect for getting the whole family involved. Including children in holiday baking creates lasting memories and teaches valuable skills, making the kitchen a place for sharing time together and learning.

These recipes bring bliss to your taste buds without

PHOTO CREDIT: www.JasonCoblentz.com



The delectable duo of peanut butter and chocolate made easy

breaking the bank. Whether you choose to indulge in high-end nut butters and imported chocolate or opt for budget-friendly store-brand peanut butter and candy coating, the magic lies in the simplicity of each delectable treat.

THE EASIEST PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE

Yield: 40 pieces

Total Time: 1 hour

4 cups granulated sugar

1 cup milk

2 cups peanut butter

1 tablespoon butter

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Line a 9-by-13 baking pan with parchment paper and set aside. In a heavy bottomed saucepan, set over medium heat, slowly

bring milk and sugar to a boil. Boil for exactly 4 minutes, stirring constantly to dissolve the sugar into the milk. Over cooking leads to crumbly fudge. Remove from heat, stir in peanut butter, butter and vanilla until well incorporated and smooth. Pour into your prepared pan, let cool completely, then cut into delicious squares.

The following recipes require melted chocolate. Melting chocolate in the microwave is a quick and easy process. Break your chocolate into small, uniform pieces to ensure even melting. Place them in a microwave-safe bowl and heat in 15-second intervals, stirring after each interval. This prevents overheating and maintains a smooth texture. Typically, it takes around 1 to 2 minutes, depending on the quantity and type of chocolate. Just be patient, stir well, and you'll be rewarded with silky smooth chocolate.

PEANUT BUTTER TRUFFLES

Yield: 90 pieces

Total Time: 1 hour

3 1/2 cups sifted powdered sugar

1 1/2 cups creamy peanut butter

8 tablespoons butter, softened

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

1/2 teaspoon table salt

2 1/2 cups chocolate chips or chocolate candy coating

Mix powdered sugar, peanut butter, butter, vanilla and salt until well combined. Shape into 1-inch balls, placing them on waxed or parchment paper. Let balls stand for 20 minutes until firm. Melt chocolate according

The Sunny Side Up

to directions. Using a fork or skewer, dip each ball in the chocolate and let them dry. Store covered in a cool, dry place.

NO-BAKE CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

Yield: 30 sandwich cookies

Total Time: 1 hour, 30 min

1 cup peanut butter

60 buttery crackers (such as Ritz, 2 sleeves)

2 1/2 cups chocolate chips or chocolate candy coating

Line a baking sheet with parchment or waxed paper. Spread a generous

1 teaspoon peanut butter onto half of the crackers, then top with the remaining crackers. Put them on your prepared baking sheet and refrigerate until firm (20-30 minutes).

Melt chocolate according to directions. Dip each sandwich into chocolate to coat, and refrigerate until firm (about 30 minutes). Store in an airtight container for up to 1 week.

Whether you're gifting these delights or savoring them with loved ones, remember that the joy of the holidays doesn't need to come with a hefty price tag. Wishing you Happy Holidays, and may your celebrations be both frugal and fabulous!

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime -- Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com Visit Patti at www.DotCom.com. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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POLICE NEWS

ARREST BLOTTER

OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 26, 2023

BURGLARY

1. On 26-11-2023 at 1620hrs, Police arrested and charged Kempes Nicholls, 32, of Wickhams Cay I with three counts of Burglary and two counts of Handling Stolen Goods.

2. On 23-11-2023 at 1526, Police arrested and charged David Baronville, 45, of Long Bush with Burglary. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 25-11-2024.

3. On 23-11-2023 at 1323, Police arrested and charged Mikhail Howe, 33, of Lower Estate with Burglary. He was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 25-11-2024.

THEFT

On 17-11-2023 at 0945, Police arrested and charged Melissa Logan, 38, of Manchester with Theft. She was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 15-01-2024.

ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM

1. On 17-11-2023 at 1530hrs, Police arrested and charged J'Loni Martin, 22, of Purcell Estate for Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 18-01-2024.

2. On 01-11-2023 at 1620hrs, Police arrested and charged St. Clair Percival of Road Town for Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 18-01-2024.

UNLAWFUL AND MALICIOUS WOUNDING

On 24-11-2023 at 1643hrs, Police arrested and charged Verne Forbes Jr., 29, of Sea Cow's Bay for Unlawful and Malicious Wounding.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

On 04-11-2023 at 0955hrs, Police arrested and charged Danny Benjamin of Duffs Bottom with Disorderly Conduct, Disorderly Conduct in a Police Station, Indecent Language and Threatening Language. He was granted bail in the sum of \$2,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 18-01-2024.

“COP28 Is A Step In The Right Direction” - Premier Wheatley

Premier and Minister responsible for Climate Change, Honourable Dr. Natalio Wheatley is satisfied that his recent participation in the Conference of Parties (COP28) in Dubai will aid the Virgin Islands in navigating the impact of climate change.

Premier Wheatley who led a three member delegation to the conference said that as a result of the collective representation of the OTs at those key meetings, there is now an agreement from the UK that the Territories will be engaged at the start of the cycle to prepare negotiating strategies for COP29 and COPs going forward.

The Premier said, “This provides the critical window that we needed to ensure that our concerns and issues are considered in the process and have a chance to make it into the global negotiations.” Premier Wheatley highlighted that the Virgin Islands, along with the rest of the Caribbean region, stand on the frontlines of the climate crisis as they experience the worst and most severe impacts.

The Premier said, “Additionally, I am very pleased to report that the UK Minister of Energy Security and Net Zero, the Rt Honourable Graham Stuart, was open and receptive to the suggestion for a dedicated UK Climate Change Fund for its Territories.”

Premier Wheatley added, “We have agreed that the next step in materialising



this be a formal request from the Territories, outlining the details of what is required, through the Minister responsible for the Overseas Territories as well as the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs which is responsible for climate change adaptation in the UK”.

Honourable Wheatley also raised the concern for support on building resilience in the health sector which was also well received.

The Premier's delegation included Minister for Health and Social Development, Honourable - Vincent

Wheatley; Climate Change Officer in the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change, Ms. Angela Burnett Penn and the Acting United Kingdom/European Union Representative, Ms. Tracy Bradshaw.

The COP is an annual event where countries that are party to the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change, review and agree joint efforts to limit the extent of climate change and to support the most impacted and vulnerable countries, like small island developing states, adapt to impacts.

*Merry
Christmas*

INTRODUCTION TO THE STAMPS OF THE B.V.I.

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PART 10

By Giorgio Migliavacca

THE NEVER ISSUED STAMPS INSCRIBED "BRITISH"

In a previous chapter mention was made of the stamps celebrating the Restoration of the Legislative Council and Constitutional Rule. Among the innovations was also a set of stamps depicting King George VI and the map of the Virgin Islands. The unexpected surprise that may not have made a big impression was the name of the colony at top left of each of the four stamps: "BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS" never used before on local stamps. For the first time the word "BRITISH" was used on a Virgin Islands postage stamp.

Although essays of the 1952 definitive series with the new legend "BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS" were submitted to the monarch for his

consideration the issue with the new inscription never materialised owing to the King's death on 6 February 1952; as a result the new definitive series was issued on 15 April 1952 and reverted to the traditional inscription "VIRGIN ISLANDS".

Later on, as a result of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office memorandum, beginning in 1968 and with only two exceptions (1968, Martin Luther King stamps, and 1976 United States Virgin Islands and BVI Friendship Day) the local postage stamps are routinely inscribed "BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS".

The above-mentioned essays of the 1952 definitive series are part of the Royal Philatelic Collection and are shown by gracious permission of H.M. the Late Queen Elizabeth II in the Specialised Catalogue of BVI Stamps (page 164). The only essays in private hands are pictured here for the very first time.

TO BE CONTINUED



The only 1952 Essays in private hands [Giorgio Migliavacca Collection - ex Murray Payne, Stanley Gibbons]



Some of the issued 1952 definitive stamps which were not inscribed "BRITISH"

THIS WEEK IN CORRUPTION

ON THE COSP OF CHANGE

BY TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

With International Anti-Corruption Day and the biggest international anti-corruption meeting just around the corner, 'tis the season to fight corruption. And there's no better time than the present to get even more serious about holding power to account.

Tomorrow is International Anti-Corruption Day, an opportunity for the global community to reflect on the progress and challenges and consider the necessary steps to stop corruption in its tracks.

This year, it falls ahead of the 10th Conference of the States Parties (CoSP) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) taking place in Atlanta, Georgia on 11-15 December, where delegates from 190 countries gather to make decisions and pave the way forward. And since it's the 20th anniversary of UNCAC, this is a particularly unique moment to reflect on the advances promoted by the convention and to reconsider measures to strengthen its implementation and follow-up mechanisms - which are urgently needed.

With the conclusion of the informal negotiations in Vienna, there are already noticeable divisions. Similar to previous years, some states appear motivated to restrict civil society participation during CoSP and are set on blocking any resolutions that could bring about substantial change in the anti-corruption landscape. This concerning development is a stark reminder that even in these spaces, self-interest can take precedence. In order to win the fight against corruption, we need a united global movement - not one riddled with fragmentation.

Together with our many chapters and allies, we will be attending this year's UNCAC CoSP to push states parties to improve transparency in political financing, enhance beneficial ownership transparency and protect civic space, just to name a few of our priorities. The international community must take immediate action to bolster the fight against corruption and help prevent democratic decline - an ailment that no country is immune to.

The persisting lack of transparency in political finance in many countries is one area of concern. The opacity surrounding how much and whose money political parties and candidates receive and spend allows shady funds to enter politics, posing a direct threat to the foundations of democracy.

After two decades of UNCAC implementation, little progress has been made to advance transparency in political financing on the international level. Despite submitting over 60 resolutions throughout the last 20 years, states parties have yet to adopt one to strengthen Article 7.3 of the Convention on political financing - which is a very troubling reality. This is why we joined forces with over 100 civil society and international organisations to call on UNCAC States Parties to take action on

political finance transparency at the upcoming CoSP.

As shown in our recent submission to UNCAC CoSP and exemplified by the worrisome political finance challenges in regions like the Western Balkans and Turkey, world leaders must work together to close existing legal loopholes, ensure the proper disclosure of expenditures, donations and donors and address the inadequate oversight and accountability mechanisms. If you follow our work, you know how crucial beneficial ownership transparency is to the fight against corruption. Together with our allies and partners, we were successful in achieving a global consensus that government-held central registers are the only effective way to ensure transparency in company ownership. This CoSP is an opportunity to build on recent progress.

Transparency International is calling on UNCAC signatories to agree on new commitments to ensure that ongoing and future beneficial ownership transparency reforms are impactful. Key among them is promoting access to and use of beneficial ownership data by all actors who have a role to play in the fight against corruption. Better yet would be to adopt public registers.

Without beneficial ownership transparency, investigations into cross-border corruption and efforts to recover stolen assets are likely to hit a dead-end. This matters in all parts of the world, but especially in Africa, which loses billions of dollars each year due to illicit funds being siphoned abroad. Our new report, *Loophole Masters*, shows that foreign-registered anonymous companies are essential to corruption schemes originating from the African

continent. This is why our African chapters are urging CoSP delegates to make new pledges to help African nations curb illicit financial flows more effectively.

Last but certainly not least, it's crucial to emphasise the importance of protecting civic space to enable civil society's participation in anti-corruption efforts. While reviews on the implementation of UNCAC do not appear to point to significant challenges, other UN bodies - including the Human Rights Council and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders - and civil society organisations express serious concerns. Journalists, whistleblowers and civil society groups reporting suspected corruption cases and promoting reforms continue to face retaliation in the form of intimidation, threats, digital attacks and state-sanctioned violence.

The convention recognises that civil society is key in preventing and combatting corruption. However, this can only be fulfilled if they have the freedom to organise, form groups and associations, and operate safely, independently and without undue restrictions. States parties must take immediate action to effectively implement Article 13 of the Convention in order to protect those fighting corruption daily while strengthening civic participation during UNCAC meetings and beyond.



COMMENTARY

Land is Capital



Dickson Igwe

December 6, 2023

Land is part of the capital mix. Land as capital is the mold for shaping and situating human society, productivity and activity.

Now, the Caribbean cliché **“land don’t spoil”** is an appropriate assertion. We are born, exist, and die, on land. Nothing happens without the land. Civilization evolved on land.

Then all the various types of capital from enterprise, -labor, management - and technology to machinery, buildings, finance, and natural resources, require land to transform into the form that producers and consumers require.

One sage person stated that the person who owns the land owns the country. That was an accurate observation.

From ancient times, the people who owned and controlled the land possessed power to rule

and decide on scarce resource allocation.

Today, international borders determine social, economic, and political boundaries. That is so even when it may appear that the world is becoming increasingly borderless with Avant-garde technologies such as Artificial intelligence, robotics, internet banking, digitization, and wireless trading.

Land is a crucial asset socially, politically, and economically. Social capital such as schools, hospitals, care homes, ports, police stations, government offices all require land to exist. Economic capital, like shops, hotels, banks, farms, -warehouses, restaurants, -factories, and workshops- the list is endless- all require land.

Virgin Islanders guard their land zealously and rightly so. The Wickham’s Cay Matter with the Great Noel Lloyd’s Positive Action Movement where a threat to control key lands on the archipelago by Bates Hill and Co was a demonstration of this native understanding of the importance of land ownership for the country’s posterity.

That local land ownership was unlike the history of Caribbean Islands where land remained in the hands of the European planters, and then a wealthy European bourgeoisie, even after the plantation era. That inability to own the land by former slaves and their families created a permanent underclass of landless Caribbean indigenes.

However, in the British Virgin Islands, providence and history saw a significant portion of the land transferred to the native population. A landless population is a disenfranchised population.

Land ownership by the native population post slavery allowed for the building of humble homes, subsistence farming that fed the population, basic docking for fishing boats, the first schools and clinics, and more, leading to the establishment of a self-governing and self-sufficient community. Native land ownership has been integral to Virgin Islands culture.

Land ownership by natives started a new community led by light-skin creoles who were the

product of white planters and their enslaved mistresses. These creoles owned a greater proportion of the land than their darker skinned brothers and sisters post slavery, allowing these families to become entrepreneurs and landowners whose progeny became the new elite after the wealthy white planters returned to the United Kingdom. Social class in the Virgin Islands has land ownership as the key factor to this day.

Land ownership has driven the social structure of the Virgin Islands and enabled a thriving business community. The supermarket owner, drinking water supplier, quarry business, building contractor, building supplies, private hospital, local hotel, seaside restaurant, car rental, and so on and so forth,

would not exist without the efforts of forbears who owned land passed on. Businesses that rent premises also benefit from land as part of their capital mix.

Control and ownership of land has allowed native Virgin Islanders and citizens to own businesses, communal property such as churches and community centers, and the homes where they dwell. Land, with the added forms of capital such as enterprise and technology, drives Virgin Islands prosperity. Native Virgin Islanders, citizens of the Virgin Islands of all hues and ethnicities, must never take land ownership for granted, or they will wake up one morning to the life of regret of the dispossessed. **“Land don’t spoil”** and land lasts many generations.

Dickson Igwe

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Caribbean News / Regional News

COP28: Report recommends young people get a fair share of climate finance



Young people, who are among those most at risk to the impacts of climate change, are not accessing the funds they need to tackle the challenges posed by global warming, according to a report published yesterday.

The joint report by the Commonwealth Secretariat and YOUNGO, the children and youth constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), analysed 100 climate finance initiatives targeted at young people.

While it shows an increase in youth-focused climate finance, funds are mainly disbursed in small amounts, hindering large-scale youth-led climate action.

In addition, the audit information provided by funders lacked full transparency, especially about beneficiaries and what projects were funded.

In response, the report calls for a fit-for-purpose approach to deploying climate finance for youth-led actions to remove existing barriers and ensure young people receive a fair share of support.

The proposed solutions include targeted reporting, a streamlined process for accessing funds with a focus on clear eligibility criteria, increased private sector support and new innovative financing sources.

Climate finance, a core part of the Paris Agreement, is provided to help developing countries cut greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The report was launched at a side event, 'Empowering Youth

Leadership: Experiences from the Commonwealth in Access to Climate Finance, Capacity Building and Technology' – hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat in partnership with the governments of Fiji and Zambia on 9 December 2023 during the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28).

Speaking at the event, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, the Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC, said:

"Young people, who make up 60 per cent of Commonwealth citizens, are on the frontline of the climate crisis, living mostly in areas prone to extreme weather events.

"As a result, many are facing job losses, displacement, health issues and educational setbacks. In the face of adversity, the resilience of young people shines through as they harness their drive and talent to lead on powerful climate solutions."

She added: "This report reveals the dire need to scale up financial support for young people and prevent them from being stuck in the vicious cycle of chasing funds. We must work together with young people to address the barriers they face in accessing climate finance and support them in scaling contributions to meeting climate targets. This is essential to our belief that youth-led action is integral to our pursuit for a sustainable future for all."

During the event, participants shared their experiences on accessing climate finance, upskilling and leveraging technology to empower youth-led

efforts in tackling the challenges posed by climate change, while examining ways to maximise existing opportunities.

Collins Nzovu, Zambia's Minister of Green Economy and Environment, said: "The future belongs to the children, and we should do everything possible to ensure we leave a liveable climate for them. We realise we need to pass the baton of leadership to the youth. We are increasing our support to the youth to take leadership which demonstrates our unwavering support for the Commonwealth Year of the Youth."

The minister urged youth to use their energy, presence, connections and innovation to drive the change needed to save the planet.

In his remarks, Naipote Tako Katonitabua, Fiji's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, said: "The world is facing unprecedented impacts of climate change the global stocktake has shown us how far behind we are in our climate ambitions."

"We need dramatic actions to benefit our climate and we need them now," he added. "Youth inclusion at all levels in climate action including at political level is necessary to ensure the sustainability of our efforts."

Sheen Tyagi, Research Director at YOUNGO's Finance and Markets Working Group, said: "The seeds of environmental resilience are sown in the passion and innovation of youth. Investing in youth-led climate projects is not just an investment in the future; it's a commitment to safeguarding our planet."

She continued: "Climate finance directed towards our projects is the imperative bridge between aspirations and actionable change. The currency of change lies in climate finance for the youth, and to ensure a sustainable tomorrow, we need the unwavering support of governments, institutions, the private sector, communities, and every individual."

During the event, Dr Ruth Kattumuri, Senior Director at the Commonwealth Secretariat's Economic Youth and Sustainable

Development, announced this year's winners of the Commonwealth Sustainable Energy Transition Award.

Bangladesh's Areebah Armin Ahsan and Pakistan's Sarah Shahbaz Khan received awards for their outstanding short stories: 'Tragedy to Triumph: Biogas in Daria Nagar' and 'Mud-coated Walls and Sandy Dunes', respectively.

In the category of the best technical solution, Uganda's Michael Okao, Darius Ogwang and Joshua Elem were recognised for their solar concentrator that harnesses renewable energy for clean cooking.

Nigeria's Michael Chiangi Gbagir won the best educators award for his initiative 'EcoPower Adventure', which engages different communities through interactive learning activities, such as energy scavenger hunts.

The 'Availability of Climate Finance for Youth' report will inform the Commonwealth Secretariat's ongoing work, especially its Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub, which has supported small and vulnerable countries to access about \$322 million of climate finance for projects to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

CARICOM Statement on Venezuela-Guyana Border Controversy



CARICOM Heads of Government met in caucus on Friday December 8 to discuss the situation with regard to the Venezuela Guyana border controversy and agreed to issue the following statement:

CARICOM firmly supports Guyana in pursuance of the resolution of its border controversy with Venezuela through the process of the ICJ.

Further, CARICOM urges Venezuela to respect the conservatory measures determined by the ICJ in its recent ruling until a final resolution.

CARICOM reiterates its commitment to the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace and the maintenance of international law.

Accordingly, CARICOM calls for a de-escalation of the conflict and for appropriate dialogue between the leaders of Venezuela and Guyana to ensure peaceful coexistence, the application and respect for international law and the avoidance of the use or threats of force.

VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NEWS

10 Israeli Troops Killed in Northern Gaza as UN Calls for Cease-Fire

Israel's military Wednesday announced the deaths of 10 of its soldiers in fighting in the northern Gaza Strip, as it carried out attacks in its campaign to eliminate the Hamas militant group.

The Israeli military said it had attacked more than 250 targets during the past day.

Israeli airstrikes included hitting what the military said was a team preparing to launch rockets at Israel.

During an operation in Gaza, Israeli troops recovered the bodies of two people taken hostage during the Hamas attack in October that prompted the Israeli military response. An Israel Defense Forces spokesman said Hamas was holding hostages underground in crowded parts of Gaza, making rescue efforts complex but he said Israel would not be deterred in its mission to free every hostage.

The continued fighting came amid renewed warnings about the war's effect on Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

"Tragically, however, we foresee more civilian deaths and suffering and also further displacement that threatens the region," U.N. refugee chief

Filippo Grandi said Wednesday.

Pope Francis renewed his call for an immediate cease-fire, while calling for humanitarian aid deliveries to Gaza and the release of hostages held by Hamas.

In a sign that the United States is getting increasingly concerned over the scale of civilian casualties from Israel's military campaign in Gaza, President Joe Biden delivered a public rebuke to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Tuesday, even as he maintains staunch support for Israel.

"We have made it clear to the Israelis, and they are aware that ... the safety of innocent Palestinians is still a great concern. And so, the actions they're taking must be consistent with attempting to do everything possible to prevent innocent Palestinian civilians from being hurt, murdered, killed, lost, etc.," Biden said at a press conference.

Biden has grown more vocal with his public criticism of Israel's military campaign which is now in its third month. Speaking off-camera to Democratic donors for his 2024 reelection bid earlier Tuesday, Biden said Israel is starting to

lose support around the world because of its "indiscriminate bombings," according to a White House transcript of the event.

Biden's comment stands in contrast to those of White House officials who say Israel has taken measures to make their strikes more targeted to avoid civilian deaths.

"He's [Netanyahu] a good friend, but I think he has to change. ... This government in Israel is making it very difficult for him to move," Biden said.

The president singled out Itamar Ben-Gvir, Israel's far-right national security minister. "Ben-Gvir and company and the new folks, they don't want anything remotely approaching a two-state solution," he said. "They not only want to have retribution, which they should for what the Palestinians — Hamas — did, but against all Palestinians."

He suggested Netanyahu will need to empower the Palestinian Authority to become a partner in the peace process toward the two-state solution, which Israeli hard-liners oppose.

"You cannot say there's no Palestinian state at all in the future. And that's going to be the hard part," Biden said, even as he underscored that the U.S. will not do "a damn thing other than protect Israel in the process."

Biden said national security adviser Jake Sullivan will travel to the region this week and meet with the Israeli war Cabinet to emphasize U.S. commitment to Israel, as well as the need to protect civilian life and ensure more humanitarian assistance into Gaza.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin will also travel to the region to step up international efforts to protect the free flow of commerce through the Red Sea that has been disrupted by Iran-backed Houthi militants attacking vessels heading into Israel.

House Set for Key Vote on Biden Impeachment Inquiry as Republicans Unite

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House of Representatives is pushing toward a vote Wednesday to formally authorize the impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden as Republicans rally behind the charged process despite lingering concerns among some in the party that the investigation has yet to produce evidence of misconduct by the president.

The vote comes as House Speaker Mike Johnson and his leadership team face growing pressure to show progress in what has become a nearly yearlong probe centered around the business dealings of Biden's family members. While their investigation has raised ethical questions, no evidence has emerged that Biden acted corruptly or accepted bribes in his current role or previous office as vice president.

Ahead of the vote, Johnson called it "the next necessary step." He acknowledged there are "a lot of people who are frustrated this hasn't moved faster."

But Johnson said on Fox News he believes the resolution will pass the House and "we'll be in the best position to do our constitutional responsibility."

By holding a vote on the floor, the speaker, who has been on the job less than two months, will be putting his conference on record in support of an impeachment process that can lead to the ultimate penalty for a president: punishment for what the Constitution describes as "high crimes and misdemeanors," which can lead to removal from office if convicted in a Senate trial.

A successful vote would also ensure that the impeachment investigation extends well into 2024 when Biden will be running for reelection and seems likely to be squaring off against former President Donald Trump — who was twice impeached during his time in the White House. Trump has pushed Republicans to move swiftly on impeaching Biden, part of his broader calls for vengeance and retribution against his political enemies.

In a recent statement, the White House called the whole process a "baseless fishing expedition" that Republicans are pushing ahead with "despite the fact that members of their own party have admitted there is no evidence to support impeaching President Biden."

Some House Republicans, particularly those hailing from politically divided districts, have been hesitant to take any vote on Biden's impeachment, fearing a significant political cost. But GOP leaders have made the case in recent weeks that the resolution is only a step in the process, not a decision to impeach Biden. That message seems to have won over skeptics.

"As we have said numerous times before, voting in favor of an impeachment inquiry does not equal impeachment," Representative Tom Emmer, a member of the Republican leadership team, said at a news conference Tuesday.

Emmer said Republicans "will continue to follow the facts wherever they lead, and if they uncover evidence of treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors, then and only then will the next steps towards impeachment proceedings be considered."

Most of the Republicans hesitant to back the impeachment push have also been swayed by leadership's recent argument that authorizing the inquiry will give them better legal standing as the White House rebuffs their requests for information.

A letter last month from a top White House attorney to Republican committee leaders portrayed the GOP investigation as overzealous and illegitimate as the chamber had not yet authorized a formal impeachment inquiry by a vote of the full House. Richard Sauber, special counsel to the president, also wrote that when Trump faced the prospect of impeachment by a Democratic-led House in 2019, Johnson had said at the time that any inquiry without a House vote would be a "sham."

Representative Dusty Johnson, a Republican from South Dakota, said Monday that while there was no evidence to impeach the president, "that's also not what the vote this week would be about."

"We have had enough political impeachments in this country," he said. "I don't like the stonewalling the administration has done, but listen, if we don't have the receipts, that should constrain what the House does long term."



Mourners react during the funeral of Israeli military commander Lieutenant Colonel Tomer Grinberg, who was killed in northern Gaza, at Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem, Dec. 13, 2023.

SPORTS

Newbies dominate ‘amazing’ Josiah’s Bay Surf Classic men’s division

By Dean “The Sportsman” Greenaway

SURFING

Caption: Loic Jausoro was quite surprised to win the competitive men’s division in Sunday’s Josiah’s Bay Surf Classic, where newcomers dominated the top three spots in the men’s division, which attracted a record 21 of the 53 entrants in the one-day competition.

“I wasn’t expecting it,” Jausoro told Island Sun sports during the awards ceremony. “I got a really nice lift. It was a really long wave and I got three to five turns and that was it. It’s very special to have won this. I’ve been here for a year now and it’s just amazing, seeing all the people around and the event was amazing also. I’m really happy.”

Enjoying a holiday from Florida, Donovan Barnhart only learned of the event on Saturday while in Carrot Bay and said he too was surprised to finish second.

“I thought I would have gotten third,” he said. “I felt like I didn’t surf my best today but I’m really stoked to get second. I was super happy to find out about his event because I love competing.”

Third place finisher Mayon Height, said it was a tough competition, but it was good to be surfing with guys he surfs with on weekends. “It was really fun to be out there with my buddies,” he said. “The final was good. We got a couple sets in there that were big but for the most part we were scrounging around for waves. I just feel lucky to be able to catch the two I got.”

In the women’s division, Isla Byrd ended Tiara Jones’ streak of three victories. “I didn’t really know what to expect,” said Byrd, competing in the event for the first time. “But I thought I would surf really well today.”

Jones said that she was okay with her friend’s niece winning the competition. “I’m super stoked for her,” she said. “She’s just really got and surfed better than I did. She’s just great.”

Carol Schoonhoven had a rough day and was surprised with her third placed finish as she wasn’t able to get past the line and had to fight really hard to get past the white water. “I couldn’t and I was actually crying because I couldn’t get past the white water and I

decided to just stay there,” she said. “I got the little waves, so I was surprised and very happy.”

Ben Bamfort, who won the Super Legends division, said Josiah’s Bay is not the best surf spot on the island and it’s a little challenging. “I know the beach quite well and I was able to catch a couple of waves,” he said. “I knew the conditions and was a little lucky I think.”

Surf School BVI director Steve Howes, described the competition as an amazing event despite the waves being flat on Thursday, before huge swells came in thereafter, then everyone was worried about the rains that came and the swells being too big.

“I was like ‘nah, it doesn’t matter. We’ll be rolling with this. We’re going to do this no matter what,’” he told Island Sun Sports. “The weather came right, we had a bit of waves, a bit of rain to cool us down, then the sun came out and the turnout was great. So many good people. It was just great surfing and good vibes.”

With 21 entries, Howes said



Surfers competing in the finals of Sunday’s Josiah’s Bay Surf Classic

the men’s division was the most contested division. “I think it’s the most we’ve ever had in the men’s division,” he noted. “It was a good showing on that front.”

Results: Long Boarders: 1. Olly Henderson. 2. Zaute Dick-Read. 3. Tiara Jones. Super Groms, 12-17: 1. Tommy Bovio, 35.5. 2. George Hollingsworth, 27.5. 3. Finley Hollingsworth, 21.5. Girls Groms, 12-17: 1. Isla Byrd, 28. 2. Evie Stanton, 25.5. 3. Haren Meyers, 24. Boys Groms, 12-17:

Oakley Hodges, 32.5. 2. Brodi Hodges, 25. 3. Danny Henderson, 20.5. Wipe Out of the Day: Danny Henderson. Women’s 18+: Isla Byrd, 39. 2. Tiara Jones, 33. 3. Carol Schoonhoven, 20. Men’s Super Legends 55+: Ben Braford, 41. 2. Casey Flasciano, 24. 3. Tom Merrigan, 10. Men’s Legends: Steve Howes, 35.5. 2. Alex “Woo” Dick-Read. 3. Mark Doige, 27. Men’s 18-39: Loic Jausoro, 48.5. 2. Donovan Barnhart, 38.5. 3. Mayon Height, 36.5.

Football League heads to Christmas break with two shutouts

By Dean “The Sportsman” Greenaway



With just one point separating them in the standings, VG United and the Wolues head into the BVI Football Association men’s league division Christmas break, with shutouts of Positive and Old Madrid, respectively on Sunday in Greenland.

VG United held onto the top spot with 16 points, following a 5-0 of Positive, after the Wolues stayed in close contention with 15 points, by using a 9-0 rout of Old Madrid.

VG United had goals from Jaadon Quashie in the 12th minute, Levon Williams in the 34th, Joel Mars in the 48th and Thomas

Albert, who scored a brace in the 72nd and 87th minutes, for their one point cushion ahead of the Wolues.

VG United manager Jermain Abrams, said it is exactly where the team wanted to be at this point in the season. “We set ourselves a goal and so far are achieving what we set out to do,” he noted. “The 3 points was also a target for this game, so we achieved that as well and feel good about where we are at. The second half of the season will be much tougher, but we aim to complete our vision. Cudos also must go to coaches Glenn Bascome and Ritchie Morton who have worked hard to get the team to this point.”

Wolues though are hot on their tails and are scoring at an average of six goals per game and have the current league top scorer in Hugo Costa Liziario on the books with eleven goals. He scored a hat

trick in the win over Old Madrid and further goals came from Phil Nelson, who scored a brace in the 17th minute from the penalty spot and in the 83rd minute. Marcus Robinson netted in the 43’, James Malley in the 60th, Rush Broderick in the 68th and Noel Maxwell in the 74th.

“It was another comfortable win and a great way to go into the break,” Nelson said. “We are scoring lots of goals from lots of different people which is great, and it is really enjoyable playing with this team right now. Hopefully, we can keep going like this in the new year.”

The league continues on January 14, 2024. Early in the league, there will be a joint training camp between the U20 and men’s national teams from January 19-27. The U20 team will have two games in St. Kitts this weekend are preparing for the Feb 23-Mar



VG United’s Jaden Abrams heads the ball on a throw in vs Positive

2 CONCACAF U20 tournament in Nicaragua.

The men’s team will contest the FIFA World Cup qualifier on

March 18 and 26. Venues for the home and away legs have not been announced as yet by CONCACAF.

SPORTS

Josiah's Bay Surf Classic Spotlight



12 competitors awaiting their wave in the Josiah's Bay Surf Classic



Donovan Barnhard of Florida, in the middle of a 180 degree turn



Danny Henderson, left, and Rush Broderick caught the same wave

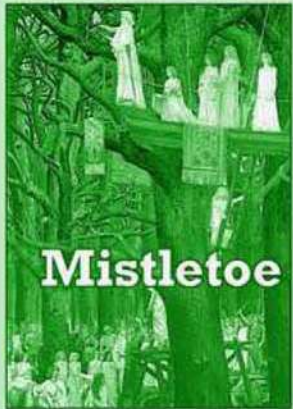


Surf School BVI director Steve Howes, rides a wave enroute to winning the Men's Legends division



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The Garden Bug



Pliny the Elder once wrote how the Druids held nothing more sacred than finding mistletoe growing on an oak tree. They prepared a banquet beneath the tree, while chanting. A priest dressed in white climbed the tree and cut the mistletoe off with a golden sickle, catching it in his garments. Two large white bulls were then killed as they asked their gods to accept their offering, and to impart fertility to any person or animal that ate the mistletoe berries. - Brenda Weaver

Source: thegardenstrust.blog

"Druids Cutting Mistletoe on the Sixth Day of the Moon" by Henri Motte (1890)

One can't judge Wagner's opera Lohengrin after a first hearing, and I certainly don't intend to hear it a second time.

~ Gioachino Rossini

AZ QUOTES

top ten

BEST-SELLING Chip Brands

IN THE U.S.

1. Doritos
2. Cheetos
3. Tostitos
4. Lay's
5. Cape Cod
6. Ruffles
7. Pringles
8. Fritos
9. Takis
10. Sun Chips

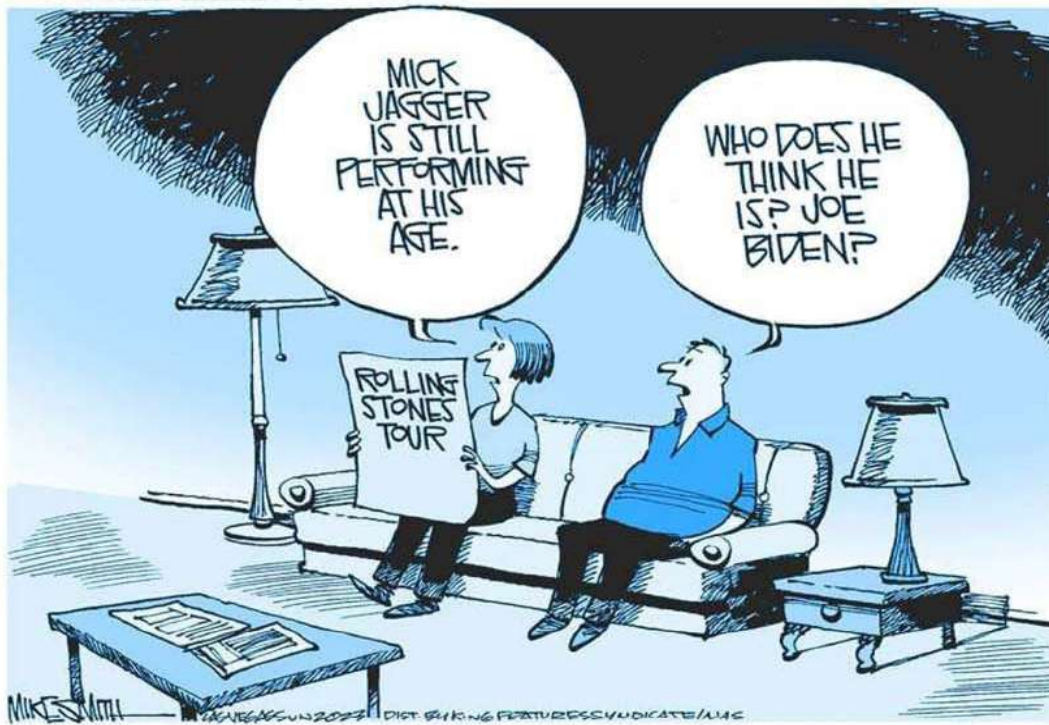


Source: CandyRetailer.com

GRIN and BEAR IT



"Deck the halls with more cameras."

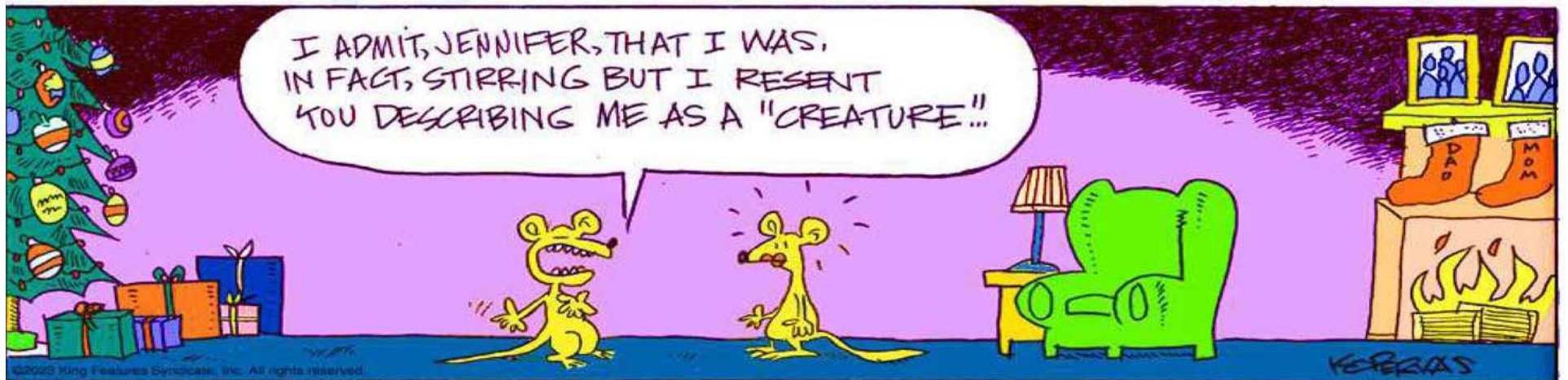


THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.

— MICAH 5:2 —

Out on a Limb



HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — The long-awaited third sequel to “Beverly Hills Cop” adds “Axel Foley” to its title and has completed shooting for a 2024 release by Netflix. **Eddie Murphy**, **Judge Reinhold**, **Paul Reiser**, **John Ashton** and **Bronson Pinchot** are back in their original roles, plus **Kevin Bacon** and **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** as new additions.

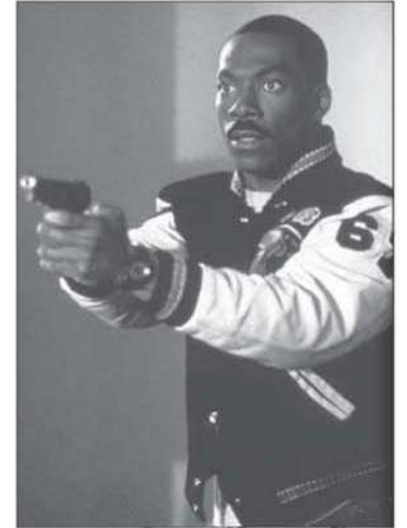
Jerry Bruckheimer, who produced the original film and the first sequel, has been trying to get Murphy on board again for years, and it was worth the effort, considering the profits for the three “Beverly Hills Cop” films (1984, 1987 and 1994) were \$735 million. That translates into \$1 billion in profits today. Netflix hasn’t said if it’ll have a theatrical release or hit their streaming platform straightaway.

Also getting a reboot is “The Karate Kid,” which has **Jackie Chan** stepping into the shoes of the late **Pat Morita** to star opposite **Ralph Macchio’s** Daniel LaRusso. Chan previously played Mr. Han (based on Mr. Miyagi) to **Jaden Smith’s** “Karate Kid” in 2010.

This year’s Oscar winner for Best Actor, **Brendan Fraser** (for “The Whale”), who is currently starring in “Killers of the Flower Moon,” has chosen his next project. He’ll play a down-and-out actor living in Tokyo who gets hired as the token American for a Japanese rental-family company, which takes him on an unexpected trip of self-discovery through the roles that he plays in other people’s lives. It’s filming in Japan and is called (what else?) ... “Rental Family.”

Tim Allen and **Tom Hanks** are in serious talks with Disney for “Toy Story 5,” even though Allen said, “You wonder if four was too many; is five too much?” But “Toy Story’s” screenwriter promises, “If I didn’t get this right, I wouldn’t do it.”

Before you run to tell your kids, you should know that it’ll take somewhere



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Eddie Murphy as Axel Foley in “Beverly Hills Cop III” (1994)

between 2026 and 2028 to be released.

Brad Pitt is fulfilling his fantasy of being a Formula 1 race car driver in an upcoming film. **Jerry Bruckheimer** is also producing this untitled action-drama, co-starring **Javier Bardem**. Pitt plays a former racer who had a horrible crash and is brought out of retirement by Bardem to mentor a rookie prodigy.

No one is talking over at 20th Century Studios or Disney about why they suddenly decided to farm out “The Bikeriders,” starring “Elvis” Oscar nominee **Austin Butler**. It was scheduled to open Dec. 1 in theaters after several stops on the fall film festival circuit, including Telluride, but Disney abruptly took it off their calendar and shifted it over to Focus Features for release early next year.

The film, which also stars **Jodie Comer** and **Tom Hardy**, will not qualify for the upcoming Oscar deadline. Maybe Disney was worried because ... “Elvis has left the building!”

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by Gary Kopervas

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		3	6					7
	6				9	3		
5			7				6	2
		6	5					1
1	8			4			7	
2			7		6			
3				6			1	
	4		3			2		
		7	9	5				8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

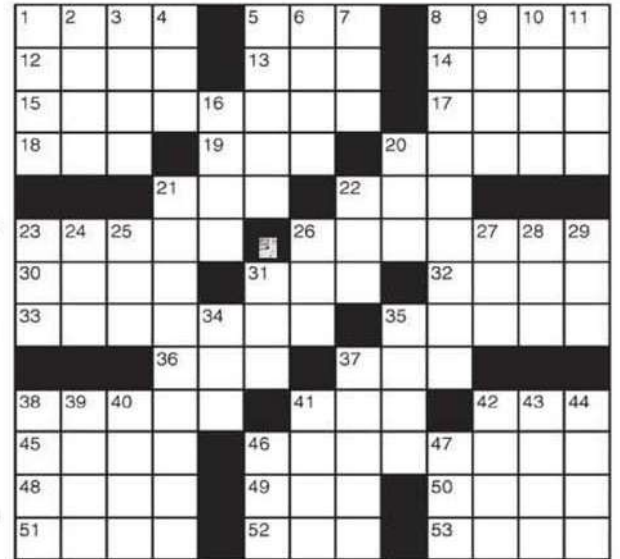
Differences: 1. Tassel is shorter. 2. Cuffs are missing. 3. Baseball bat is missing. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Sign is different. 6. Antenna is missing.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 North —
- 5 Green prefix
- 8 Oodles
- 12 Writer Kingsley
- 13 As well
- 14 Capri, e.g.
- 15 Souvenir seller
- 17 Move like a butterfly
- 18 Tours season
- 19 Snaky fish
- 20 Ceases
- 21 Solidify
- 22 Twitch
- 23 Shroud city
- 26 He can hold his head high
- 30 "Dream on!"
- 31 Zero-star review
- 32 Santa's runway
- 33 Old English Sheepdog feature
- 35 Skilled
- 36 Tramcar contents
- 37 "— the season ..."
- 38 Poker ploy
- 41 Fish propeller
- 42 Spa sounds
- 45 Protracted
- 46 Decorative paper
- 48 "There!"
- 49 Santa's help-



- 9 Capital on a fjord
- 10 Radar image
- 11 Collections
- 16 Beheld
- 20 — Lancelot
- 21 Eloquent person's talent
- 22 Can metal
- 23 Indent key
- 24 GI entertainers
- 25 Tease
- 26 Cowboy's sweetie
- 27 Nemesis
- 28 Dandy guy
- 29 Newt
- 31 Bakery pur-
- 34 Canine cry
- 35 "— Misbehavin' "
- 37 Squabbles
- 38 Diner orders
- 39 Cash advance
- 40 Loosen
- 41 Motion picture
- 42 Folksinger Guthrie
- 43 Saintly ring
- 44 Bridge
- 46 "My word!"
- 47 Pallid

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8	3	4	2	5	6	7	1	9
9	5	2	7	1	3	8	4	6
6	1	7	9	8	4	2	5	3
4	6	9	1	7	8	5	3	2
3	4	5	7	2	9	6	8	1
2	1	8	3	6	5	9	7	4
2	1	6	8	7	3	4	6	5
5	8	3	6	4	2	1	9	7
8	5	9	4	7	3	1	6	2

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

N	O	N	E	S	W	E	R	O	N	S					
T	A	V	A	L	F	E	L	F	A	L					
L	V	A	L	F	E	L	F	A	L						
P	A	V	A	L	F	E	L	F	A	L					
A	H	S	N	I	F	I	F	F	A	H					
B	L	U	E	F	F	F	F	F	A	H					
O	H	E	T	I	S	O	H	E	T	I	S				
B	O	B	A	T	A	I	L	A	D	E	P				
F	O	O	F	P	A	N	F	P	A	N	F				
T	U	R	I	N	G	I	R	A	F	A	F				
F	E	L	L	E	T	I	C	G	E	L	L	E	T	I	C
E	T	E	L	E	L	S	T	O	P	S					
G	I	F	F	S	H	O	P	F	L	I	T				
A	M	I	S	T	O	O	I	S	L	E					
P	O	L	E	G	O	B	S								

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY:** Which famous highway that stretches across the United States is sometimes known as the Will Rogers Highway?
- MUSIC:** Which country did the pop group ABBA come from?
- TELEVISION:** What article made Frosty the Snowman come to life in the popular TV special?
- FOOD & DRINK:** What is colcannon?
- U.S. STATES:** Which state is home to the Volcanoes National Park?
- MOVIES:** What is the name of the acapella group that Anna Kendrick joins on "Pitch Perfect"?
- INVENTIONS:** Who invented the Barbie doll in 1959?
- MATH:** How many tablespoons are in 1 cup?
- LITERATURE:** What is the title of the sequel to "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Which elected president is the only one to fail to gain his party's nomination for a second term?

MORE READERS: THE ISLAND SUN

Trivia Test Answers
1. Route 66; 2. Sweden; 3. A magic hat; 4. Mashed potatoes and cabbage; 5. Hawaii; 6. The Barden Bellas; 7. Ruth Handler; 8. 16; 9. "Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator"; 10. Franklin Pierce.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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BIBLIE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Bethlehem (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Where did the angel Gabriel appear to Mary saying, "Blessed art thou among women"? *Nazareth, Tyre, Ninevah, Gazi*
3. With perhaps two different biblical answers, who was the father of Joseph? *Jacob/Heli, Gideon/Ishmael, Solomon/Nahum, Samuel/Pilate*
4. Which Old Testament prophet predicted Jesus would be born in Bethlehem? *Amos, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum*
5. For the journey to Bethlehem, how did Mary and Joseph travel? *Bible not specific, Cart, Rode donkey, Small raft*
6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? *Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Nazareth, 3) Jacob/Heli (Matthew 1:16, Luke 3:23), 4) Micah, 5) Bible not specific, 6) Silver

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Sweden has a ski-through McDonald's.
- The world's most expensive perfume, Clive Christian No. 1 Passant Guardant, will set you back a cool \$143,000 for a 30 ml bottle. Of course, it does come in a flask studded with 2,000 diamonds.
- A 2018 psychology study found that millionaires who earned their wealth are moderately happier than those who inherited it.
- George Washington moved his slaves in and out of Pennsylvania every six months to avoid their taking advantage of a law whereby slaves residing in the state for longer periods could claim their freedom.

• One billion hours of video are watched on YouTube every day.

• When Peter Benchley had trouble coming up with a title for his novel "Jaws," his dad suggested "What's That Noshin' on My Leg."

• Bored with your limited supply of cuss words? Try learning Latin, which contains about 800 obscenities to English's approximately 20 (depending on how we define the latter).

• In 1924, half of the world's cars were made by Ford.

• Folks who have difficulty recalling someone else's name shortly after they've met can blame it on the "next-in-line-effect," or having too much anxiety about themselves and what they'll say next to focus on the name of someone to whom they were just introduced.

• A cyberchondriac is someone who scours the internet looking for details about their illnesses.

• Actor Frankie Muniz, who starred as the titular character in the TV series "Malcolm in the Middle," doesn't recall his time on the show, due to multiple concussions and TIAs (transient ischemic attacks).

• Fyodor Dostoevsky wrote "The Gambler" to pay off his gambling debts.

Thought for the Day: "Don't confuse your path with your destination. Just because it's stormy now doesn't mean you aren't headed for sunshine later. Don't lose faith." — Trent Shelton



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) At this time, you might want to resist that otherwise admirable Aries penchant for getting to the heart of a matter quickly. Keep in mind that a delicate situation calls for patience.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your aspects favor more diplomacy and fewer direct confrontations when dealing with a relationship problem. Avoiding hurt feelings can help in your search for the truth.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Positive aspects are strong this week. Although you still might have to deal with some problems caused by a recent period of turmoil, you are making progress, and that's what counts.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A family matter could benefit from your counsel. But don't bring yourself into it unless you're invited, and don't stay if you feel uneasy. Just remember to reassure one and all that you'll be there for them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) As the truth about an ongoing situation emerges, you could find that you were right to defer judgment before you had all the facts. Now would be a good time to move on to other matters.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your plans to take control of a personal situation because you feel the most qualified could create resentment. It's best to hear what everyone else involved in the matter has to say about it first.

LIBRA (September 23 to Octo-

ber 22) Uncovering some surprising background facts about that ongoing personal matter could make you reconsider the extent of your involvement. A neutral family member offers advice.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Religious or spiritual themes start to dominate your aspect this week. This can serve as a counterweight to the mounting effects of the season's growing commercialization.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Taking on that recent challenge impressed a lot of important decision-makers. Meanwhile, proceed with your holiday plans, and don't forget to include you-know-who in them.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Disagreeing with an opinion that you can't accept could be dicey, and your motives might be questioned. It's better to wait to mount a challenge until you have support for your position.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Getting involved in helping others during this increasingly hectic period makes the generous Aquarian feel good. You could also gain a more substantive benefit from your actions.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The Piscean way of thinking clearly and objectively helps you resolve a complex situation without creating any ill will. Don't be surprised if your counsel is requested on another matter.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of persuading people to look at the positive possibilities that make up for any hard choices they might face.

celebrity extra

by Dana Jackson

Q. Whatever happened to the guy who was pranked on the show "Jury Duty"? He seems like such a nice person. I hope he's doing well. — *D.D.*

A. Ronald Gladden worked at Home Depot before he volunteered for jury duty that was being filmed for a documentary. (Or so it seemed.) Instead, he was surrounded by actors, including movie star James Marsden who played an egotistical version of himself.

When it was revealed that it was a prank, the good-natured Gladden took it in stride. He went on a whirlwind of a press tour after "Jury Duty" aired on Freevee. Once the wonderful craziness died down, it was announced that he struck a development deal with Amazon MGM Studios. Producer Ronald Gladden is very likely to replace Home Depot on his resume from here on out.

Q. I loved seeing Candice Bergen on "Saturday Night Live" recently. Is there any chance she'll star in her own TV series again? I miss "Murphy Brown." — *J.W.*

A. Candice Bergen recently appeared on stage at "SNL" when Emma Stone was recognized for hosting the iconic NBC sketch comedy show for the fifth time. Bergen is listed as a five-timer host herself, with her last time hosting being 1990. She was the first woman to host "SNL" back in 1975 and was nominated for a Best Supporting Actress Oscar five years later for her role opposite Burt Reynolds in "Starting Over."

She's also been able to line her mantle with Emmy Awards, a total of five for her titular role on the CBS sitcom "Murphy Brown." The show was a big hit for 10 seasons on CBS during its initial run. It was brought back for a reboot in 2018, but only lasted one season due to lackluster ratings.

As for Bergen's career following "Murphy Brown," she's been keeping busy, having recently starred in "Book Club: The Next Chapter," an ensemble comedy film with Jane Fonda, Diane Keaton and Mary Steenburgen.

Q. I read that one of the actors from the TV show



Ronald Gladden
("Jury Duty")

Depositphotos

"Supernatural" had a heart attack. Who was it, and did he survive? — *K.G.*

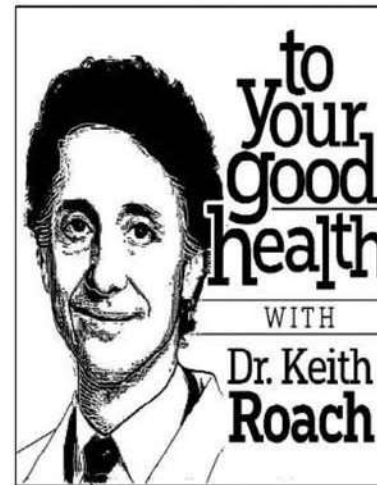
A. "Supernatural," starring Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles, ran from 2005-2020. Neither of the leading actors suffered a health emergency, but 59-year-old Mark Sheppard, who played Crowley on the show from 2009-2017, just had a miraculous recovery after his heart stopped. He recently posted on Instagram that he collapsed after suffering the first of six — yes, six! — heart attacks and was "brought back from the dead" four times.

It turns out he had a 100% blockage in the artery nicknamed the widow-maker. He went on to thank his wife, the Los Angeles Fire Department and the Providence Saint Joseph medical staff for saving his life. He didn't mention whether he has to undergo any surgery, but at the time of his post, he said that he expected to be discharged home the next day.

Hopefully, we'll be seeing a healthier Sheppard back on our screens soon. Post-"Supernatural," he was a regular on two series, "Walker: Independence" and "Doom Patrol," but both have been canceled.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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Ampullary Cancer Treatment Can Include Chemo Prior to Surgery

DEAR DR. ROACH: My husband was diagnosed with ampullary cancer. He has a tumor the size of a marble. We are told this is an aggressive cancer. My concern is that they are giving him chemotherapy before the Whipple surgery. Is this standard practice? — *P.T.*

ANSWER: The ampulla of Vater is an opening in the duodenum (the first segment of the small intestine), where the common bile duct releases bile and pancreatic enzymes to aid digestion. A cancer of the ampulla can originate from the pancreas, bile duct or duodenum, and these can all be aggressive cancers.

The standard approach in people with the possibility to be cured is called a pancreaticoduodenectomy, otherwise known as the Whipple procedure. Although this is a complex surgery that used to have a high mortality rate, the risk of death from the procedure in specialized centers is now about 1%.

Most people are familiar with getting chemotherapy after surgery to help remove any cancer cells that remain, a technique called "adjuvant therapy." However, giving chemotherapy before surgery ("neoadjuvant chemotherapy") has increasingly been used in people with ampullary cancer. The idea is to shrink the tumor to make it easier for the surgeon to remove completely. Chemotherapy may also kill any cancer cells that have already spread.

The decision of when to use chemotherapy depends on the individual's situation, so I can't tell you which would

be better in your husband's case, as I lack both the details of his tumor and the expertise. I can confirm that giving chemotherapy prior to surgery is being used in regards to ampullary cancer.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 22. I had an electrocardiogram (EKG) last year, which indicated an incomplete right bundle branch block and early repolarization of the ventricles.

Are these two related to each other? Are they serious to any extent, since I don't have any symptoms? How can my heart rate be normal if the ventricles repolarize early? — *B.A.N.*

ANSWER: Both early repolarization and an incomplete right bundle branch block are common findings in young people who are getting EKGs, usually as part of a school physical and often as an evaluation for athletes. Depolarization of the heart muscle is seen on the surface electrocardiogram and corresponds to the contraction of the ventricle (called the QRS waves). The muscle cells must then "repolarize" — that is, restore their electrical potential to get ready for the next contraction.

Early repolarization is a normal variant where the ventricle gets electrically ready for the next beat faster than average. In fact, one way to be sure that the EKG finding really does signify early repolarization is to put the person on a treadmill to raise their heart rate. The early repolarization will then go away, since faster repolarization is appropriate for a quicker heartbeat.

About 15% of young athletes with early repolarization will also have an incomplete right bundle branch block, which represents slowing of the electrical impulses within the ventricles and a widening of the QRS complex.

Fortunately, these findings almost never represent serious disease in people without any symptoms.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT IS A HIGH RISK AFFAIR

Foreign investment is often regarded as a positive aspect as well as a sign of confidence in the stability and future of the recipient country. However, investments have often proven risky even within the boundaries of a given country, imagine beyond such boundaries. Here, let us briefly explore a few, but significant, and often catastrophic, examples from the past.

The early phases of the 100 Years War (1337-1453) between England and France impacted not only the economy of the respective countries, but also that of Italy. King Edward III had received enormous loans from the Italian banking firms of Bardi and Peruzzi to finance his war and honour earlier loans he had made with other parties. Unfortunately, his chronic defaulting on repayments precipitated a dramatic financial crisis in the commercial cities of northern and central Italy. From 1342 to 1345, the managers and executive officers of both the Bardi and Peruzzi banks were arrested for bankruptcy and released on condition of renouncing all claims to interest, while the English crown canceled massive debts to the Peruzzi.

During the late 1460s, the mighty Florentine Medici Bank in London had made huge loans to King Edward IV and to the British nobility. Eventually, the War of the Roses was unfavourable to most of the major Medici borrowers, and the succeeding Tudors never paid off the debt left by their predecessors. When the Medici's

London branch completed its liquidation, in 1478, it had to swallow a loss of over 51,000 gold florins (equivalent to 392 pounds of pure gold) - a truly astronomical sum for the time.

Throughout the 1880s and until 1913, foreign investment played a leading role in the industrialization of Russia. Significant capital influx from France, England and, to a lesser extent, Belgium and Germany accounted for 40 percent of Russian industrial investment. Such a massive input of foreign investment was looked upon as a sign of confidence in the Russian economy, but it was also a vehicle of foreign interference in the decision-making process of a vast empire. By the end of the 1800s, most Russian industries were dependent on foreign capital, foreign technology, foreign entrepreneurship, and as a new century was born, Russia had accumulated the largest foreign debt in the world. *Deja vu?!*

Nevertheless, the stock markets of London and Paris continued to channel the money of the wealthy to St. Petersburg. By the outbreak of World War I, Great Britain had invested some 3 billion francs in Russia, representing 2.6 percent of her foreign investments. However, France outperformed everyone with 12 billions of francs invested in Russian securities, representing over 26 percent of her foreign investments. Then came the Great War and then the 1917 revolution, and with it the repudiation by the new regime of any foreign debt.

The story found its bizarre



Founded in 1962

by Carlos and Esme Downing
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denouement in the summer of 1986, when the Russian Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in London and agreed to settle a large portion of the Czar's debt to Britain, amounting to about 1 billion dollars. The French, *ce la va sans dire*, are still waiting for their billions.

While Europe was at war, foreign investment brought death and repression to Haiti. In 1915 the United States President, Woodrow Wilson, responded to complaints from American banks to which Haiti was deeply in debt, by occupying the country. The American occupation of Haiti lasted until 1934 and has been described as "self-interested, sometimes brutal, and causing problems that lasted past its lifetime."

Interestingly enough, until the early 1900s, the US, now a champion for the rights of foreign investors, was adamant in regulating foreign investment rather heavily. Furthermore, when Great Britain, France, and Germany became net capital-importers after the Second World War, they introduced a lot of formal and informal regulations on foreign investment.

Hopefully, history has thought us not to repeat the same mistakes. Foreign investment has its good sides, but it produces other less agreeable side effects. It is like salt, in moderation it makes our food rather tasty; nonetheless, too much of it makes the whole experience less than palatable. How would you feel if China invested \$20Billions in the BVI?

Guest Editorial by Giorgio Migliavacca



PUBLIC NOTICES

APPOINTMENT
JANOIRE LIMITED
 ("the Company")
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1536559
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that Janoire Limited is in voluntary liquidation. The date of commencement of liquidation is 7th December 2023. The liquidator is **Carmine Bailey of Kendall Corporate Services Limited, 2nd Floor Abbott Building, 87 Main Street, Waterfront Drive, P.O. Box 3169; PMB425, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated 11th December 2023
Carmine Bailey
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/1]

NOTICE
BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
 (NO. 16 OF 2004)
BROADFIELD ASSETS LIMITED
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 5th day of December, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.
 The Liquidators is:
Joan Johnson
 Of Nerine Chambers,
 Road Town, Tortola,
 British Virgin Islands
 [30/2]

NOTICE
BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
 (NO. 16 OF 2004)
THONIA LIMITED
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 7th day of December, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.
 The Liquidators is :-
Joan Johnson
 Of Nerine Chambers,
 Road Town, Tortola,
 British Virgin Islands
 [30/3]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.
METCO GLOBAL LIMITED
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 244990
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from December 7, 2023.
 Dated: December 8, 2023
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/4]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.
WILFORD EQUITIES INC.
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1794640
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from December 7, 2023.
 Dated: December 8, 2023
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/5]

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act. 2004
MAGNIFIED HOLDINGS OVERSEAS CO. LTD.
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1800622
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 11th day of December 2023.
 Dated: 11th day of December, 2023.
(Sgd.) Philippa V. O'Sullivan
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/6]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act
Scout Global (PTC) Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company Number: 1973766
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204(1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 11 December 2023. The Joint Liquidators are **Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated: 11 December 2023
Rachael Pape
 For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape
 As Joint Liquidators
 [30/7]

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act; 2004
ENKO INVESTMENT LIMITED
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1417745
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 8th December 2023.
 Dated: 8th December 2023.
(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/8]

NOTICE
BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
WATERTOWN ASSETS GROUP INC.
 ("the Company")
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 8th December, 2023; under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.
 The Liquidator is:-
Joan Johnson
 Nerine Chambers
 PO Box 905
 Quastisky Building, Road Town
 Tortola, VG 1110
 British Virgin Islands
 [30/9]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 203 of the BVI Business Company Act.
MEKONG MARINE CORPORATION
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1494585
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 203, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 7 December 2023. The Liquidator is **Harry J. Thompson of Harbour House, P.O. Box 4428, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated 11 December 2023
(Sgd.) Harry J. Thompson
 Voluntary Liquidator(s)
 [30/10]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 203 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Amazing Grace Staffing, Inc.
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 2081540
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 203, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 8 December 2023. The Liquidator is **Harry J. Thompson of Harbour House, P.O. Box 4428, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated 11 December 2023
(Sgd.) Harry J. Thompson
 Voluntary Liquidator(s)
 [30/11]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
China Xinhui Holding Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 2032546
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 23rd November 2023. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated: 23rd November 2023.
(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/12]

CTG Evergreen Investment XIX Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company Number 1879390
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, Subsection (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 28th day of November, 2023. The Liquidator is **Brian Jackson of Mandar House, 3rd Floor, Johnson's Ghut, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated this 29th day of November, 2023
Sgd. Brian Jackson
Brian Jackson
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/13]

Keen Dart Full Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company Number 2105213
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 28th day of November, 2023.
 Dated this 28th day of November, 2023
Sgd. Brian Jackson
Brian Jackson
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/14]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Martinon Services Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1712226
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. Voluntary liquidation commenced on December 12th, 2023. The Liquidator is **Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated: December 12th, 2023
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/15]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Barker Group Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1514289
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on November 20th, 2023. The Liquidator is **Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated: November 20th, 2023
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/16]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act, 2004
Sector Capital Holdings Ltd
 (The "Company")
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1865846
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on December 12, 2023. The Liquidator is **Meade Malone of Geneva Place, 2nd Floor, #333 Waterfront Drive, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated: December 12, 2023
Meade Malone
 Liquidator
 [30/17]

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act. 2004
Territories (PTC) Limited
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
 Company No. 1898201
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 12th December 2023.
 Dated: 12th December 2023
(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/18]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act. 2004
RMI Capital, Ltd.
 In Voluntary Liquidation
 Company No. 1838893
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 12th December, 2023. The liquidator is **Philippa V. O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola VG1110, British Virgin Islands.**
 Dated: 12th December, 2023
Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
 Voluntary Liquidator
 [30/19]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
GLOBODYNNE BUSINESS CORP.
 (In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on December 7th, 2023. The Joint Liquidators are **Michele Hibbert with address at Sea Cow's Bay, Tortola, British Virgin Islands and Saajid Jasat Bhana with address at Obarrio, Calle 59, Casa 5, Apartado 0816-04554 Ciudad de Panamá, República de Panamá.**
 Dated: December 7, 2023.
(Sgd.) Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana
 Joint Voluntary Liquidators
 [30/20]

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Virgin Islands

Probate No. BVIHPB2023/0252

In the Estate of CHEUNG LUI YUEN NAR also known as YUEN NAR LUI-CHEUNG also known as YUEN NA CHEUNG late of No. 138 Kam Shan Village, Kam Shan Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong, deceased.

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by YU FU CHEUNG also known as YU-FU CHEUNG also known as CHEUNG YU-FU of 71, Rowantree Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 8PN, United Kingdom, for a Grant of Probate of the will of the above named deceased who died on the 14th day of February 2023 wherein the applicant is the substituted executor

Any person having an objection to the application to the Grant of Probate shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 4th day of December 2023.

Filed by Walkers Attorneys-at Law whose address for service is

171 Main Street
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110
[30]

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
VIRGIN ISLANDS

BVIHPB 2023/265

In the Estate of MOISES AARON SMOLARZ late of Avenida Del Libertador 3672 Piso 16, CABA, Argentina 1425, deceased

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by AIDA ESTA SMOLARZ of Rambla Williman, Parada 4, Edificio Millenium, Piso 21-03, Punta Del Este, Maldonado, Uruguay. 21000 for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the only child of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on 29 th November, 2021 at Cervino 4720, City of Buenos Aires, Argentina, a married man.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 5 th day of December, 2023.

Filed by: SAMUELS RICHARDSON & CO
Legal Practitioners whose address for service is
Wattley Building, 2 nd Floor
PO Box 3410
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands

[30]

Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Company Act.

**ROSELIGHT
WORLDWIDE INC.**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on December 6th, 2023. The Joint Liquidators are Michele Hibbert with address at Sea Cow's Bay, Tortola, British Virgin Islands and Saajid Jasat Bhana with address at Obarrio, Calle 59, Casa 5, Apartado 0816-04554 Ciudad de Panamá, República de Panamá.

Dated: December 6, 2023.
(Sgd.) Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana
Joint Voluntary Liquidators
[30/21]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under
Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act

Victoria Lake Ltd

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on December 12th, 2023. The Joint Liquidators are Michele Hibbert with address at Sea Cow's Bay, Tortola, British Virgin Islands and Saajid Jasat Bhana with address at Obarrio, Calle 59, Casa 5, Apartado 0816-04554 Ciudad de Panamá, República de Panamá.

Dated: December 12, 2023.
(Sgd.) Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana
Joint Voluntary Liquidators
[30/22]

Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Companies Act

AL Delphin Global Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number: 2045144

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204(1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 13 December 2023. The Joint Liquidators are Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 13 December 2023
Rachael Pape
For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape
As Joint Liquidators
[30/23]



Land and Survey Department
Tortola, VG
British Virgin Islands

BY EMAIL AND VIRGIN ISLANDS GAZETTE
BVILR/PRE/13/2023

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR BY PRESCRIPTION SECTION 135 OF THE REGISTERED LAND ACT CAP 229 OF THE 1991 EDITION OF THE REVISED LAWS OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
West Central	2738B	177

The Chief Registrar of Lands hereby gives NOTICE that ELROY THOMAS, of Pasea Estate, Tortola, British Virgin Islands has applied to be registered as the Proprietor by Prescription of Parcel 177, Block 2738B, West Central Registration Section. Affidavits were filed in support of his application.

Parcel 177 registered to:

- NORRIS CHRISTOPHER

Anyone who has just cause to object to ELROY THOMAS registered as the Proprietor for the aforementioned Parcel 177, Block 2738B, West Central Registration Section should file their objection in writing at the Lands Unit on or before Monday 15th January 2024.

An Interim Restriction has been entered on the Land Register for Parcel 177 pending the outcome of the application for prescription. The filed application may be inspected at the Lands Unit upon request. Copies will be provided by the Applicant to any objectors.

Dated this 7th day of December 2023

Natalie Stevens-George
Administrative Officer
(for) Chief Registrar of Lands

To: David Abednego
Harbour Chambers (BVI)
12 Chalwell Street
Road Town, Tortola, VG1110
Virgin Islands
Legal Practitioner for Elroy Thomas, Applicant

Norris Christopher

Registered Proprietor of Parcel 177

Tel: Lands Unit: (284) 468-2017, Survey Unit: (284) 468-4321 | Email: Lands Unit: landregistrations@gov.vg, Survey Unit: landandsurveydept@gov.vg | Website: www.bvi.gov.vg

[30]

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
(PROBATE)

CLAIM NO. BVIHP 2023/0264

IN THE ESTATE OF FRANKLYN LEANDO FREEMAN, DECEASED

ADVERTISEMENT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Deborah Denicia Hodge of Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased.

Any person having an objection to the Grant of Letters of Administration to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 5 December 2023

Filed by Travers Thorp Alberga, Attorneys-at Law for the Administrator whose address for service is:
2nd Floor Jayla Place, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands; email: mpeters@tta.lawyer

[30]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act

Boxwood Holdings Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number: 1429798

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204(1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 13 December 2023. The Liquidator is Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 13 December 2023

Rachael Pape

As Liquidator

[30/24]

RIDLEY CAPITAL HOLDING LTD

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number 1753276

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 13th day of December, 2023.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2023

Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator [30/25]

Derby Road Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number 1559233

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 13th day of December, 2023.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2023

Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator [30/26]

HENDHAM INVESTMENTS LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number 1028468

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 13th day of December, 2023.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2023

Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator

[30/27]

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

VIRGIN ISLANDS

COMMERCIAL DIVISION

CLAIM NO. BVIHC (COM) 258 of 2023

IN THE MATTER OF BULL'S-EYE LIMITED

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE BVI INSOLVENCY ACT, 2003

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Application for the appointment of Ms Elaine Hanrahan of Kroll Advisory (BVI) Limited, 3rd Floor, Commerce House, PO Box 3110, British Virgin Islands, a licensed insolvency practitioner under the Act, and, Chan Ho Yin (also known as Michael Chan) of Kroll (HK) Limited, Level 3, Three Pacific Place, 1 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong, a foreign insolvency practitioner, as joint liquidators of of BULL'S EYE LIMITED ("the Company"), whose registered office is located at Conyers Trust Company (BVI) Limited and its registered address is c/o Conyers Trust Company (BVI) Limited, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, PO Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands, was made to the Commercial Division of the High Court of Justice on 30 November 2023 by INTENDED FEATURES LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION), a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands with registration number 255536 and an address of c/o Portcullis (BVI) Ltd, Portcullis Chambers 4th Floor, Ellen Skelton Building, 3076 Sir Francis Drake Highway, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands, the legal practitioners of whom are Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Any creditor or member of the Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an order on the said Application may appear at the time of the hearing on Monday 15 January 2024 at 10.00 am (or the time specified in the final Commercial Court list, if different) by himself or his Counsel for that purpose, at the BVI Commercial Court, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. A copy of the Application will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or member of the Company requiring the same on payment of the regulated charge.

NOTE: Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Application must serve on, or send by post to, the below named, notice in writing of his intention to do so, so that it reaches the undersigned no later than 16:00 hours on Friday the 12th of January 2024 The notice must be in compliance with Rule 162 of the Insolvency Rules, 2005 and must state the name and address of the person or firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any):

CONYERS DILL & PEARMAN

Legal Practitioners on behalf of the Applicant

Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1

PO Box 3140

Road Town, Tortola

British Virgin Islands

[31]

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
VIRGIN ISLANDS
PROBATE DIVISION
BVIHPB No. 2023 /0263

IN THE ESTATE OF DARVIN ORLANDO JENNINGS aka
DARWIN JENNINGS, LATE
OF BELLE VUE, TORTOLA, VIRGIN ISLANDS, DECEASED

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by MARIA FRANCISCA REYES DE JENNINGS (nee Reyes Rambalde), of Belle Vue, Tortola, Virgin Islands and ROSALIE ORLANDA JENNINGS, of Belle Vue, Tortola, Virgin Islands, for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicants, who are the wife and daughter of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 4 th day of November, 2023 at his home in Belle Vue, Tortola, Virgin Islands.

Any person having an objection to the Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 30 th day of November, 2023.

Filed by N. R Samuel & Co, Solicitors for the Administrator whose address for service is 3 rd Floor, Chevelle Center, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

[30]

PUBLIC NOTICES

**The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Virgin Islands
BVIHPB2023/0269**

**In the estate of Ferdinando Peretti, late of Via Margutta
51A 00187 Rome Italy, deceased**

TAKE NOTICE that MATTEO PERETTI of Av. Da Liberdade 234 Lisbon, Portugal, the only child and sole heir of FERDINANDO PERETTI, deceased who died on the 22nd day of May, 2022, domiciled in Italy; intestate (the Deceased), has applied to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the Probate Division for a Grant of Letters of Administration in the estate of the Deceased.

ANY PERSON having any objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the said MATTEO PERETTI, shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this Notice lodge with the Registry of the High Court in the Territory of the Virgin Islands a proper document setting out the said objections.



Solicitors for the Intended Administrator
[30]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
VIRGIN ISLANDS
BVIHPB 2023/266**

**In the Estate of IJAZ AHMAD late of 3, Old Avenue House,
Old Avenue, Weybridge
KT13 0PS, Surrey, United Kingdom, deceased**

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by JOSEPHINE ANN AHMAD, residing at 3, Old Avenue House, Old Avenue, Weybridge KT13 0PS, Surrey, United Kingdom for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the wife of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 13 th June, 2019 at St. George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road, Tooting, England, domiciled in Pakistan, a married man.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 5 th day of December, 2023.

Filed by:
SAMUELS RICHARDSON & CO
Legal Practitioners, whose address for service is
Wattley Building, 2 nd Floor
PO Box 3410
Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands
[30]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.

**CHING SISTERS
INVESTMENT
CORPORATION**
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 147327

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 12th day of December, 2023. The liquidator is **Philippa V. O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 13th day of December, 2023
Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[30/28]

*The BVI Business Companies Act
Advertisement of Liquidator's
Appointment Section 204(1)(b)*
**JACDOM HOLDINGS,
LTD.**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
BC No. 536130
(the "Company")

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Section 204(1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the above mentioned company has commenced liquidation and dissolution as of December 12, 2023. **Mr. Ryan Geluk of BDO Limited, Sea Meadow House, Tobacco Wharf, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, has been appointed liquidator.**

Ryan Geluk
Voluntary Liquidator
[30/29]

Notice of Appointment of a Voluntary Liquidator under Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004.

**HARROGATE GLOBAL
INVESTMENTS INC**
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2039521

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 24th day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray A. George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 24th day of November 2023

Ray A. George
Voluntary Liquidator
[30/30]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

(PROBATE)

CLAIM NO. BVIHPB 2023/0257

**IN THE ESTATE OF LENIA LUCINDA GREEN
DECEASED**

TAKE NOTICE: that Delvin Marshall Green Sr, Delvin Marshall Green Jr, Dondre Malik Green and Dmoni Mateo Green all of Great Mountain, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, intends to apply to the Probate of Division of the High Court of Justice in the Territory of the Virgin Islands for the letters of Administration of the estate of LENIA LUCINDA GREEN, deceased, late of Great Mountain, Tortola, British Virgin Islands who died on the 26th day of May, 2019.

ANY PERSON: having any objections to the grant of representation to the Intended Applicants shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this notice, lodge with the Registry of the High Court in the Territory of the Virgin Islands a proper documents setting out the said objections.

DATED: this the 30th November day of November, 2023.

The Applicants in Person
284-542-5879

[30]

**EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE**

(PROBATE)

BVIHPB2023/0276

**IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN WALTER TODMAN of
Tortola British Virgin, deceased**

TAKE NOTICE that EDITH VIOLET HODGE, CROMWELL STANLEY TODMAN and ELAINE ALTAGRACIA HODGE all of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, siblings of the deceased aforesaid, who died on the 14th day of September, 2018 intend to apply to the High Court of Justice in the Probate Division for a Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the Estate of the said JOHN WALTER TODMAN, deceased.

ANY PERSON or persons who has or have any objections to the Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the said EDITH VIOLET HODGE, CROMWELL STANLEY TODMAN and ELAINE ALTAGRACIA HODGE all of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of the publication of this Notice lodge with the Registry of the High Court of Justice in the British Virgin Islands the proper documents setting out the proper objections.

Dated this 14th day of December, 2023

Harbour Chambers BVI
Legal Practitioners for the Applicants

[31]

PUBLIC NOTICES



Lands and Survey Department
P.O. Box 142
Road Town, TORTOLA, VG1110
VIRGIN ISLANDS

BY EMAIL AND VIRGIN ISLANDS GAZETTE
BVILR/PRE/14/2023

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TITLE BY
PRESCRIPTION
SECTION 135 OF THE REGISTERED LAND ACT
CAP 229 OF THE 1991 EDITION OF THE REVISED LAWS
OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Virgin Gorda South	4840B	336

The CHIEF REGISTRAR OF LANDS hereby gives NOTICE that GERMAINE SCTALIFFE, of Road Town, Tortola, Virgin Islands has applied for Title by Prescription of Parcel 336, Block 4840B, Virgin Gorda South Registration Section. Affidavits were filed in support of the Application. Parcel 336 is registered to:

- KITTIE PENN GRANT AND SYDNEY KEITH A. GRANT, ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA, VIRGIN ISLANDS

Anyone who has just cause to object to GERMAINE SCTALIFFE being registered as Proprietor by Prescription of Parcel 336, Block 4840B, Virgin Gorda South Registration Section, should file their objection in writing at the Lands Unit on or before Wednesday, 24th January, 2024.

An Interim Restriction has been entered on the Land Register for Parcel 336 pending the outcome of the application for prescription.

The filed application may be inspected at the Lands Unit upon request. Copies will be provided by the Applicant to any objectors.

Dated this 14th day of December 2023

Toni Hodge-Davis
Executive Officer
for Chief Registrar of Lands

To: Patricia Archibald Bowers
JS Archibald & Co.
PO Box 3534
Road Town, Tortola, VG1110
Virgin Islands
Legal Practitioners for the Applicant, Germaine Scatliffe

Kittie Penn Grant and Sydney Keith A. Grant
Road Town,
Tortola, Virgin Islands
Registered Proprietors of Parcel 336

[31]

*Notice of Appointment of a
Voluntary Liquidator under Section
204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business*

Companies Act, 2004.

**TECHNIQUE
INVESTMENTS INC.**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2039512

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 24th day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray A. George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 24th day of November 2023.

Ray A. George
Voluntary Liquidator
[30/31]

*Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Company Act.*

CHING SISTERS

**INVESTMENT
CORPORATION**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 147327

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation- The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 12th day of December, 2023.

The liquidator is **Philippa V. O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 13th day of December, 2023

Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[30/32]

*Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Company Act.*

**MYTHICAL UNICORN
LIMITED**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1874356

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on December 14th, 2023. The Liquidator is **Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: December 14th, 2023

(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
Voluntary Liquidator
[30/33]

**EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE**

(PROBATE)

BVIHPB2023/0275

**IN THE ESTATE OF HARRIS TODMAN of
Tortola British Virgin, deceased**

TAKE NOTICE that EDITH VIOLET HODGE, CROMWELL STANLEY TODMAN and ELAINE ALTAGRACIA HODGE all of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, siblings of the deceased aforesaid, who died on the 8th day of November, 2017 intend to apply to the High Court of Justice in the Probate Division for a Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the Estate of the said HARRIS TODMAN, deceased.

ANY PERSON or persons who has or have any objections to the Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the said EDITH VIOLET HODGE, CROMWELL STANLEY TODMAN and ELAINE ALTAGRACIA HODGE all of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of the publication of this Notice lodge with the Registry of the High Court of Justice in the British Virgin Islands the proper documents setting out the proper objections.

Dated this 14th day of December, 2023

Harbour Chambers BVI
Legal Practitioners for the Applicants

[31]

NOTICE
BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
(NO. 16 OF 2004)

Speed Beta Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 29th day of November 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidator is:-
Wayne S. Francis
of c/o Sertus Chambers,
P.O. Box 905,
Quastisky Building,
Road Town, Tortola VG 1110,
British Virgin Islands
[30/34]



MORE READERS:
THE ISLAND SUN

UK Government And The British Overseas Territories Agree To Closer Collaboration

New Joint Declaration agreed by UK Government and elected leaders of British Overseas Territories (OTs)

Declaration commits to a new, more collaborative and 'modern partnership' between the UK and the OTs.

Includes plan to deepen bilateral partnerships enhance transparency and support the OTs to take on more responsibilities, alongside accountability should they wish to do so.

The UK Government and elected leaders of the British Overseas Territories, including the British Virgin Islands, have agreed a new Joint Declaration. The Declaration defines a new, more collaborative and 'modern partnership' between the UK and the OTs. The Declaration includes a commitment to practise the highest standards of governance, including in the areas of human rights, rule of

law, integrity in public life and financial management.

As part of the declaration, the UK and OTs committed to; improve transparency and deepen bilateral partnerships; consult OTs on UK primary legislation that impacts them; and support OTs to take on more responsibilities where they wish to do so.

UK Minister for the Overseas Territories, David Rutley, said: "The Overseas Territories are an important part of the British Family, and our shared values such as support for democracy and the rule of law underpin this close relationship.

"Our new Joint Declaration sets out more clearly than ever how the UK and Overseas Territories will work closer together on the opportunities and challenges of the modern world."

The Joint Declaration was agreed during the UK and

British Overseas Territories annual Joint Ministerial Council meeting in London on 14-15 November and has now been formally approved within the OTs.

Other commitments in the agreement include investigating improvements to how the UK provides financial support to OTs and agreeing to speak with one voice on the international stage, such as at the United Nations. It also creates more opportunities for the OTs to take on responsibilities where they want to, such as around transparency measures, and through the development of 'Compacts.'

These 'Compacts' will set out roles and responsibilities on specific issues bespoke to each community. The UK will seek to agree these detailed bilateral agreements with each of the OTs.

Sir Ronald Sanders invited by President of Guatemala for discussion on transition

Washington, DC. December 14... Antigua and Barbuda Ambassador, Sir Ronald Sanders, has been invited to participate in the transition of government in Guatemala by the country's President, Dr. Alejandro Giammettei.

Guatemala held Presidential and general elections in June 2023, with run-off Presidential elections on August 20. The presidential elections were won by Bernardo Arévalo of the Semilla party. However, while President Giammettei has pledged himself committed to a hand-over of the Presidency and the

government on January 14, there have been several attempts by the Attorney General and the Public Ministry to suspend Arévalo, and so disqualify him from taking office.

This issue has attracted the concern of the international community and has occupied the deliberations of the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States, under the presidency of Ambassador Sanders.

In accepting President Giammettei's invitation to Guatemala, alongside OAS Secretary-General,

Luis Almagro, Sir Ronald said, "I have accepted the President's invitation because everything possible must be done to ensure that the will of electorate of Guatemala is respected and upheld, consistent with democratic principles and the rule of law".

Sir Ronald will visit Guatemala on 15 and 16 December 2023, meeting the President and other key players in the country in an effort to contribute to the successful and peaceful transfer of government on January 14.

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

Parents! Teach your child the **PANTS RULE!**
Talk Pants and you've got it covered!

P Private parts are private. Nobody is permitted to touch it

A Always remember your body is yours and yours only.

N No means no. Never yield to pressure.

T Talk about secrets that upset you.

S Say something and speak up! Someone can help.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Before you discipline a child

S - stop! Calm yourself and your child

T - take a few deep breaths

O - observe the needs of your child

P - proceed in a kind but firm manner

problem — thinking — solution

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture

unicef

Funded by UK Government

This message was produced by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture in collaboration with UNICEF and funded by the UK Government.

Family Support Network accepts \$10K Seasonal donation from Drakes Traders



Traders. “The cash outlays needed to meet the needs of our clients along with our monthly overheads, are hard to manage as the demands are always fluctuating based on the areas of support needed in any one month.”

Mrs. Charles-Phillip explained that, besides the community pantry stocked by donations, the FSN’s supporting role extends from providing emergency shelter and food for individuals and families to counselling services and job placement support services.

“The needs for each client coming to us seeking support in escaping a domestic abuse situation varies,” said Mrs. Charles-Phillip. “We have arrangements in place to accommodate those that need shelter, but the cost, which includes 3 basic meals per day per person, is not a constant or something we can adequately budget for based on our assured annual income. The same goes for professional

counselling that is essential to help people break away from the cycle of abuse and rebuild their self-confidence to start building a sustainable new life away from their abuser.

“Our aim is to provide a medium-to-long term solution for people in abusive situations, where staying with the abuser seems like the only option based on their income, status or threats levelled at them or their children should they leave the home.

“The tragedy of this time of year, when the season is one of goodwill, is that it is also the time of year where we record the highest levels of domestic abuse.”

Drakes Traders, a community-oriented business, is strongly aware of the areas of need in the territory and continues its long-term commitment to support the efforts of the FSN.

“The Esser family and, by extension, the Drakes Traders

family, believes in compassion and action, especially in situations where the suffering is not of their own doing, be it health or domestic strife,” said Mr. Esser. “While we make our annual donations, we are in regular contact with FSN to ask where we can offer assistance. Our guiding principles are based on a responsibility towards those who genuinely are not in a position to help themselves and who need a helping hand to get back on track.”

The FSN, which serves clients in Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke and Angada, provides mediation and advocacy support as well as assistance with food staples, clothing, emergency temporary shelter and protection from domestic violence and abuse. A list of required items can be provided by the office. Beneficiaries and donors can respectively

Tortola, British Virgin Islands, December 13, 2023 – The Family Support Network (FSN) received a \$10,000 donation from Drakes Traders Ltd at the start of the Festive season. Mrs. Prudence Charles-Phillip, Interim Executive Director, FSN and Mrs. Judith Charles, long-time volunteer at the FSN, were presented with the cheque by the Drakes Traders team at the hardware store in Fish Bay, Tortola on Wednesday, December 6.

The gift matches the annual seasonal donation made by the community hardware store to the charitable organization last year. The funds were received with the same depth of appreciation by Mrs. Charles-Phillip and Mrs. Charles as in 2022.

“This generous amount of money that we receive from you always allows us to breathe a sigh of relief,” said Mrs. Charles-Phillip addressing Mr. Christian Esser, Managing Director of Drakes

Connectivity Unleashed: TRC’s Survey Shapes BVI’s Satellite Technology

14 December 2023 – The British Virgin Islands (BVI) is on the brink of a telecommunications revolution, and you’re invited to lead the charge. The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (Commission) is putting the power in your hands with a survey aiming to redefine telecommunications services via satellite technology (Satellite Services) under the theme “Connectivity Unleashed: Your Voice, Your Choice.”

Guy L. Malone, CEO of the Commission, states, “Connectivity-Unleashed means your choices matter; this is more than a catchphrase; it is our guiding principle. Let’s make history together; your input will define the next era of telecommunications in BVI.

Let’s craft a technology-centred future that’s truly ours.”

George Lewis, COO of the Commission, emphasises, “In our dedication to a community-centric-telecommunications landscape, -I-encourage everyone to participate in this survey. Your voice will guide the evolution of enhanced satellite services in the BVI.”

In recent times, the Commission underwent investigations into individuals and entities illegally providing communication services via satellite technology and decided to take proactive measures to regulate those operating without proper licensing. Mr. Malone clarifies, “Our commitment to delivering top-tier satellite services is unwavering. The investigations were conducted not to vilify anyone but to bring

order to the satellite services landscape and initiate the licensing process for the benefit of our community.”

Ready to make your mark? Here’s how you can join the conversation. The survey is scheduled to go live on 14 December 2023, and you have until 11 January 2024 to share your insights. Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TRCsatsurvey> or scan the QR code. The survey is designed to be short and user-friendly, ensuring everyone’s voice is heard.

The Commission eagerly awaits your thoughts and expectations in the survey. Let’s build a telecom future that truly reflects the choices and voices of the British Virgin Islands.

2023 Holiday Schedule for Offices and Warehouses and Extended Hours for Cargo Clearance

6th December 2023 – The British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) would like to inform the public of the following holiday schedule for the offices and warehouses and extended hours for cargo clearance on Tortola and Virgin Gorda.

Holiday Schedule

Saturday, 23rd December 2023	CLOSING at 1:30 p.m. (warehouses only)
Monday, 25th December 2023	CLOSED
Tuesday, 26th December 2023	CLOSED (Boxing Day)
Monday, 1st January 2024	CLOSED (New Year’s Day)

Extended Hours for Cargo Clearance

Saturday, 9th December 2023	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, 16th December 2023	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, 23rd December 2023	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cargo vessels will continue to be facilitated during the holiday period, except on Sunday, 25 December in accordance with the British Virgin Islands Ports Authority Regulations, 1995, 143 (3), “Every harbour shall normally be closed on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Festival Monday and Christmas Day.”

For more information, please contact 494-3435.

THE ISLAND SUN CLASSIFIED ADS



George & Son Quality Construction Company is seeking two masons, and three carpenters' fulltime with at least 10 years of experience.-BVI Islander preferred.-Interested persons please contact 344-1023 or our Facebook page [s31].

Total-Look-needs Experienced: Barber, Hair Stylist, please call 441 - 740 for more information [s30]

EMCS Caribbean is looking for Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Interested applicants can submit their CV/Resume with cover letter to P O Box 386 Road Town, Tortola, BVI or call 284-494-1300 [s31]

Wolvaadd (2021) Limited requires the following:
1 carpenter
1 mason
1 foreman
Please call 541 7818 for details or send resume to P.O. Box 2858 East End, Tortola, BVI [s31]

Reliance Maintenance is urgently seeking two employees to fill the post as a painter. Email resume to denisher1gayle@outlook.com. [s31]

TORTOLA - GENERAL SERVICES LTD. is looking for a Male Gardener to maintain the plants on the Property. Must be responsible, hardworking and able to work flexible hours daily Kindly call 543-3469. [s31]

TENNIS.BVI is looking for a highly experienced part-time Tennis Coach to assist with tennis coaching consisting of kids' tennis, junior tennis, and adult tennis group classes and private lessons, who also has a strong background in running successful tennis tournaments and social events. Required qualifications include:

High School Degree (Physical Education degree preferred).
Coaching certificates.
Extensive coaching, managerial, and administrative experience
Multilingual

Candidate must also have strong interpersonal skills, creative thinking and patience for teaching young children, empathy and positive attitude when dealing with customers of all ages and cultural backgrounds, be flexible in terms of working schedule, have the ability to anticipate and execute, is willing to learn, and has strong organizational and administrative skills.

Applicants can send their CV to tennis.bvi@gmail.com

[s31]

#1

OUR CLASSIFIED ADS PRODUCE RESULTS

Whether on line or on our **FREE DIGITAL** edition you will **GET GREAT RESULTS** at a **LOW COST.**

Offices: 123 - MAIN STREET,

Road Town, Tortola

TEL: (284) 494-2476

E-mail: islandsun@surfbvi.com

islandsunnewsp@gmail.com

TENNIS.BVI is looking for a highly experienced part-time Tennis Facility Manager to assist with tennis program and event management, administrative duties, and on-court coaching. Required qualifications include:

Master Degree (MBA preferred).
10+ years of extensive coaching, managerial, and administrative experience in the tennis industry.

Multilingual

Candidates must also have strong interpersonal skills, creative thinking, empathy and positive attitude when dealing with customers of all ages and cultural backgrounds, be flexible in terms of working schedule, have the ability to anticipate, execute, and have strong organizational and administrative skills.

Applicants can send their CV to tennis.bvi@gmail.com

[s31]

2

Pockwood Pond Dumpsite Now Open to The Public

The public is notified that the Pockwood Pond dumpsite is now open following a fire that occurred on Saturday December 9.

The public is further advised that the dumpsite will be open to the public Monday-Sunday from 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily until further notice.

Persons who are able to, are asked to transport their waste at the top of the hill at the dumpsite to reduce the garbage in the tipping area and minimise future occurrences of garbage related fires.

The Department of Waste Management thanks the public for its cooperation on the matter.

Be SMART
when using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG)
most commonly used for cooking.

DO's

- Before using your LPG cylinder, check the valve and other joints to make sure there is no leakage
- Keep your cylinder in a vertical position with the valve on top
- Install cylinder at ground level on flat surface
- Replace faulty cylinders
- Keep cylinder away from electrical sources, air conditioners and switch boxes
- Ensure regulators to be used on cylinder are the same diameter as the cylinder valve
- Check your lines once a year, many leaks are due to corrosion

DON'TS

- DO NOT ever install your cylinder near any heat source or exposed to sun, rain, dust and heat.
- DO NOT place cylinder inside a closed compartment.
- DO NOT fill up above the 85% fill mark. You must leave "head space" to allow for the expansion of LPG from liquid state to gaseous.

IMPORTANT NOTE IN CASE OF LEAKAGE

- Open all doors and windows.
- Turn OFF the regulator.
- Call a qualified inspector.
- DO NOT switch ON/OFF any electrical equipment inside the house.
- DO NOT light matches, lighter or stove.

A message from the Department of Disaster Management and Sol



THE ISLAND SUN CLASSIFIED ADS



The Island Sun ---Simply the Best for your Advertising Needs

To place your ad in The Island Sun: Call 284-494-2476* or email islandsunnews@gmail.com. The Island Sun reserves the right to edit, refuse or cancel any ad at any time. The Island Sun is not liable for any loss of revenue or expense incurred for erroneous or unpublished advertising.

STAFF WANTED

HELP WANTED:

Meridian Construction Company Ltd is currently accepting applications for **Finishing Carpenters, Masons, Steel Benders, Carpenters, Riggers, and Crane Operators.**

Applicants should have worked in the field for at least 5 years. Successful applicants will be hardworking, self-motivated, and prepared to work long hours and weekends. Please submit applications to The Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 978, Road Town, Tortola, or via email-hr@meridianbvi.com. [31]

ROAD TOWN FAST FERRY needs two full time BOAT CREW and two full time BOAT CAPTAINS for more information, telephone 499-2405 [s30]

Mac's Restaurant Ltd., a busy establishment located in the CBR Tortola Pier Park, currently has openings for the following positions:

- 1 - Experienced Breakfast and Lunch Chef
- 2 - Assistant Pastry Chef

Interested persons may call (284) 346-9777 or email macgarveythompson@gmail.com [s30]

EGS Construction Services is seeking full time:

- Carpenters,
- Masons,
- Steel Fixers,
- Electricians

Send resume to: P.O. Box 1048, Valley, Virgin Gorda British Virgin Islands. VG1150 Tel: (284) 540-5856 Or - Email - to : egsconstructions@gmail.com [s30]

Seamstress (full time) required at J & C Trading Call 494-3121 [s30]

FREDO'S BAR AND GRILL(dba Bananas Bar & Grill) Seeking to employ the following positions to their team:

One-Trained-COOK/CHEF with Caribbean/International-experience, ability to work on own with great creativity, and eye for quality and cost control.

One-experienced BARTENDER/WAITER/WAITRESS, trained with 3 Star and above experience with minimum 4 years working experience in hotel setting.

One-DISHWASHER/HANDYMAN, general cleaning and light maintenance duties, include, painting and maintaining herbs/vegetables/care of goats.

Please send CV to: ahenley284@gmail.com or collect application at Bar (No Calls please) [s30]

CONSTRUCTION UNITED is looking for full time qualified:

- CARPENTER
 - CONTRACTOR
 - ELECTRICIAN
 - MAINTENANCE
 - PERSONNEL
 - PLUMBER
 - TILE-MAN
- Telephone 441-3525 [s30]

PARADISE - BOAT RENTAL need a full time BOAT RENTAL WORKER. Telephone: 284-547-4735. [s30]

Project Manager for Systems-Integration company required. Must have 5 years minimum experience working in the field of Network Systems technology.-Belonger preferred, Send applications in PDF format via email to: info@avlbi.com Company name: AVL Ltd. Telephone: 284 494 2801 [s30]

Mlj breakfast & fast food is looking for the following:
2 Barmaid
1 Cook
2 Waitress
1 Assistant Cook (full time)
Please contact 541 7818 or send resume to P.O. Box 2858, East End [s30]

Hot Spot Club is seeking full time:
Bartenders,
Waitresses,
Cooks,
Cleaners
Send Resume to: PO Box 1048 Valley Virgin Gorda British Virgin Islands Tel: (284) 540-5856 [s30]

ANJULIENA'S-SCOOTER RENTAL needs one full time SCOOTER-MECHANIC. Applicants MUST be able to Spray paint, Weld and fix scooters. Telephone 344-1229 [s30]

Winnies-Steakhouse, -Virgin Gorda is looking servers, -bartenders, bussers, line cook, pastry chef and hostess. Please send your resume to winniessteakhousevi.com. [s31]

HIHO International Ltd:
Customer service & logistics coordinator - Tortola based lifestyle and clothing company seeks a customer service and logistics coordinator. Candidate must understand e-commerce platforms and web-based inventory management software. Good people & team work skills a must.-Occasional weekend and holiday work required. Candidate must also have a valid passport and US visa. Salary commensurate with experience. BVI islander or belonger preferred. Tel: 284 441-1964 or mail CV to P.O. Box 857, Road Town. [s31]

Wolvaadd (2021) Limited requires the following:
1 carpenter
1 mason
1 foreman
Please call 541 7818 for details or send resume to P.O. Box 2858 East End, Tortola, BVI [s31]

CLASSIFIEDS
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ISLAND DEPARTMENT STORE

DUFF'S BOTTOM
TEL: (284) 494 36 77
FAX: (284) 494 39 09
e-Mail: ids58@hotmail.com

BEST QUALITY

APPLIANCES
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
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