



The Virgin Islands

DAILY NEWS



A Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper



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MONDAY, JULY 29, 2013

82nd year, No. 22764

Secret ingredient is V.I. pride



Vendors display their products during the first Virgin Fresh Value Added Market Day on Saturday at Rudolph Shulterbrandt Agriculture Complex on St. Croix. The event showcased vendors who use locally grown food in their products. **Page 5**

Daily News Photo by JASON BRONIS

Havensight merchants warn 30% are on brink

Longer slow season, construction, competition hurting stores

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Scouts return from national Jamboree

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For Eagle, quitting was not an option

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Vietnam war hero Col. Bud Day dies at 88
Was McCain's cellmate **Page 27**

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Scouts represent V.I. at national Jamboree

By JOY BLACKBURN
Daily News Staff

ST. CROIX — Some 25 local Boy Scouts, fresh from the National Scout Jamboree, arrived at St. Croix's Rohlsen Airport Friday afternoon.

"Our scouts, they participated. They made friends. We had a good time," said Chris Brooks, the scoutmaster for the contingent that went to the jamboree. "Where there were challenges to be met, we met them head-on."

The 10-day National Scout Jamboree, which the Boy Scouts of America typically holds every four years, draws tens of thousands of scouts, volunteers, and staff from all over the country.

This was the first year the jamboree was held at the new Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia's New River Gorge area, which will now be the permanent home for the national jamboree. The reserve encompasses 10,600 acres.

"Mostly it was good," Philip Edwards, 16, the senior patrol leader for the Virgin Islands group, said of the experience.

Edwards said a number of storms and some lightning cancelled a few activities, including some zip line adventures the group had scheduled — but he described it as a "great trip" that scouts enjoyed anyway.

"I think they learned how to deal with disappointment," he said.

Marcus Norkaitis, 14 and a patrol leader, said



V.I. Boy Scouts arrive Friday at Rohlsen Airport on St. Croix after spending 10 days at the National Scout Jamboree in West Virginia.

it was his first national jamboree.

"I think it was a very productive jamboree. It was a wonderful experience," he said. "It was a historical experience."

Norkaitis said it was historical because it was the first national jamboree at the new reserve. For years, the national jamboree had been held at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia.

The group also learned to work together, he said.

"It was really cool because we all learned

teamwork," Norkaitis said. "We had some problems at first, but then we got more comfortable working together, working as a team."

The 25 scouts from the territory included boys from 11 to 17 years old from both island districts. They joined up with 10 scouts from the District of Columbia for the jamboree, Brooks said. The Virgin Islands District is part of the National Capitol Area Council in D.C., Brooks said.

Among the challenges the scouts faced was

“It was really cool because we all learned teamwork. We had some problems at first, but then we got more comfortable working together, working as a team.”

— Marcus Norkaitis, 14, patrol leader

getting up on time daily, getting their meals prepared, and cleaning up. The hot, humid weather in West Virginia was also a challenge, as was the size of the new site for the jamboree, according to Brooks.

The new reserve is so large, the group sometimes had to walk for more than an hour to get to an activity, he said.

Because the 35 scouts who were part of the group included scouts from St. Thomas, St. Croix and Washington, D.C., who did not necessarily know each other, one of the challenges was getting them to work together, Brooks said.

Making the scouts from different areas into a cohesive group that worked well together was one of the major challenges, according to Brooks.

"In doing that, they made friends for life," he said. "All in all, our scouts came back with a sense of accomplishment, a sense of friendship, and a sense of being able to safely do whatever task they were asked to do."

Matthew Edwards achieves Scouting's highest rank

By JOY BLACKBURN
Daily News Staff

ST. CROIX — Local Boy Scout Matthew Edwards recently earned the highest advancement award the Boy Scouts of America offer, becoming an Eagle Scout.

"We're delighted. We are very proud of him," said Dale Edwards, Matthew's father, on Friday as he and Matthew's mother, Lori Edwards, waited for other sons to return from the National Scout Jamboree. "He worked very hard for it."

Only 4 percent of all Boy Scouts become Eagle Scouts, according to a press release about Matthew attaining the Eagle rank.

To become an Eagle Scout, a candidate has to earn 21 merit badges, 11 of

which are specifically required, and successfully complete a community-related service project, the press release said.

Matthew's project involved a major cleanup at Buck Island Reef National Monument.

"I worked with the National Park Service and I coordinated and then helped them carry out a coastline/trail cleanup on Buck Island," Matthew said. The cleanup occurred as Buck Island Reef National Monument was celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Matthew, who has a brother who is already an Eagle Scout and two other brothers who are working toward attaining the Eagle rank, said he has been involved in scouting since he was little, and he assumed he would become an Eagle Scout — although he lost

interest for awhile when he got into high school.

But when he became a senior, he decided to complete what he started and earn the rank of Eagle, he said.

"I wanted to know the accomplishment of finishing it," he said, adding that he also felt like it was a family expectation.

So he plunged back into it. "I think it definitely gave me a lot of perseverance and pushing through," he said. "A lot of it was a lot of paperwork and organizing."

Matthew said that becoming an Eagle Scout required diligence and dedication — but it was worth it.

His advice for others who would like to become Eagle Scouts?

"Just not to give up because it's worth it once you've done it," he said.

"To be willing to put yourself out there, do something you're not comfortable doing, it's fulfilling."

Matthew is home-schooled and his immediate plan after graduation is to participate in a five-month discipleship training school with a focus on worship and music, through Youth With a Mission, according to the press release.

He will be recognized as an Eagle Scout in a ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the Howard M. Wall Scout Camp.

Matthew Edwards is the 11th scout to become an Eagle Scout in Troop 227, which was chartered by Country Day School.

— Contact reporter Joy Blackburn at 714-9145 or email jblackburn@dailynews.vi.



Matthew Edwards

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Contact us

Publisher
Jason Robbins
714-9107
jrobbins@dailynews.vi

Executive Editor
Gerry Yandel
714-9106
gyandel@dailynews.vi

Editor At Large
J. Lowe Davis
714-9138
lowedavis@dailynews.vi

Advertising
St. Thomas-St. John
714-9141 or 714-9147
Fax: 774-6886

St. Croix
773-4425
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Sports
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Opinions
714-9138
letters@dailynews.vi

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Struggling Havensight merchants see rent-abatement as last chance for them to resuscitate their businesses

By AMANDA NORRIS
Daily News Staff

ST. THOMAS — For merchants at Havensight mall, it's summer time, but the living is anything but easy.

After being granted six months of free rent by the mall's owner, the Government Employees Retirement System, many said this has been the worst off-season they have experienced.

They cited a perfect storm of prolonged road construction in front of the mall, fewer cruise ships docking in St. Thomas Harbor, competition from Crown Bay merchants and skyrocketing utility costs.

When the GERS board voted to relieve the tenants of rent obligations from July 1 to Dec. 31, they did so because tenants had accumulated a delinquency of more than \$2 million and reported that they could no longer sustain the cost of doing business. The board discussed the closure of Dockside Bookshop, which has announced that it will close within the next two weeks after 35 years in business.

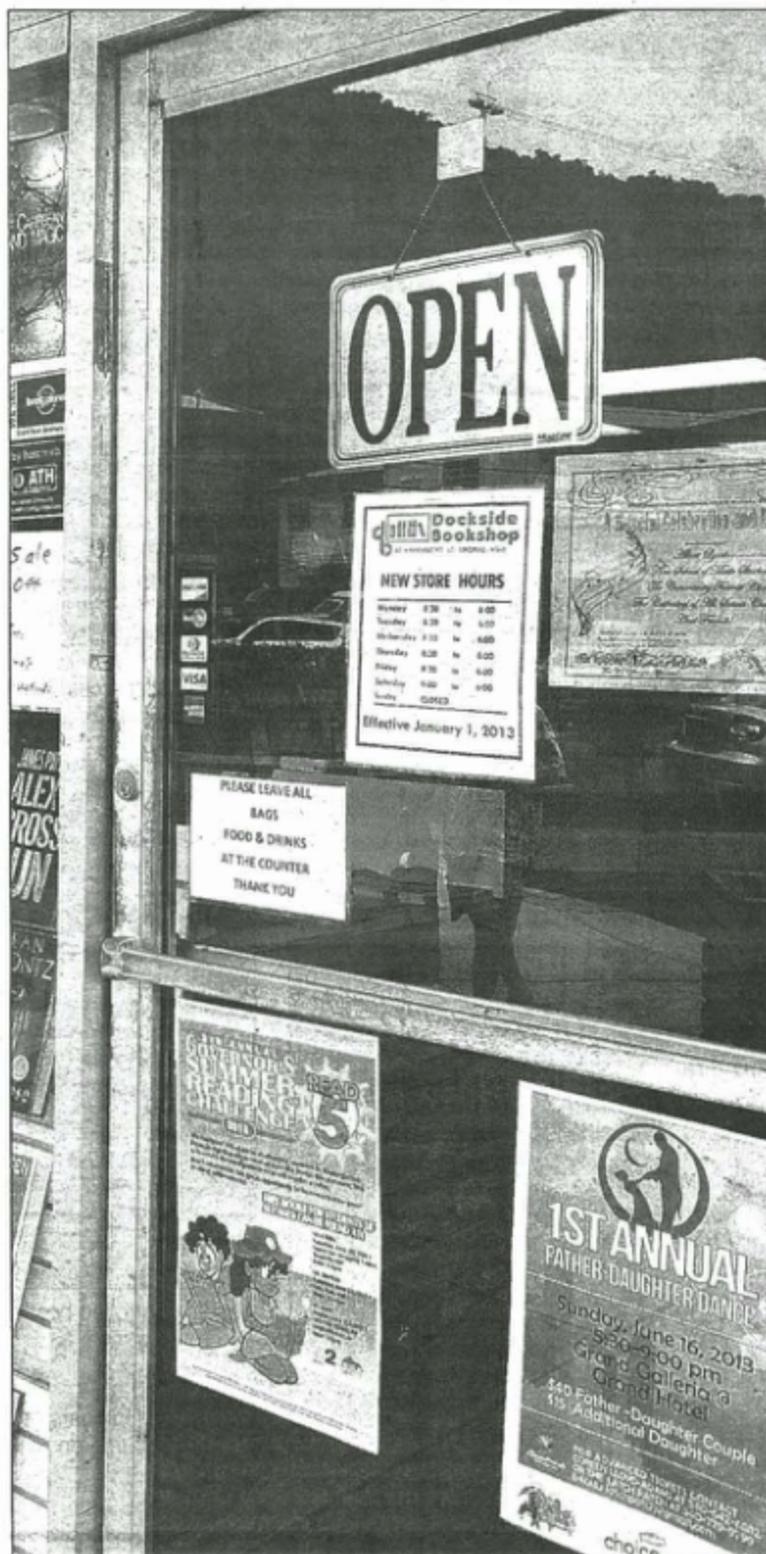
GERS Administrator Austin Nibbs presented the board with two options: forego rent for six months altogether with the stipulation that tenants pay all arrearages by April 1 or give tenants a 25 percent reduction in rent over the next 24 months. The board decided the six month abatement, which would cost GERS a little more than \$3 million, would be the most feasible way to give tenants a chance to pay the \$2 million in back rent owed.

"I don't like this rent abatement, but if we want to continue to have tenants, we are going to have to help them," Nibbs said.

At the meeting, some board members were under the impression that another Havensight business, an office supply store called The Draughting Shaft, was also scheduled to close, but, according to The Draughting Shaft owner, Terry Robinson, that was never the case.

Nevertheless, Robinson said, he has had discussions with GERS board members and attended meetings to inform them of the adverse conditions that had caused him to fall behind in his rent.

Robinson said his business, unlike many of the boutiques and stores that cater primarily to tourists, had been unduly hit by prolonged construction, with orange barricades diverting traffic into and out of the mall's parking lots.



Daily News File Photo

Dockside Bookshop in Havensight Mall is scheduled to close within the next two weeks after 35 years in business.

"Many of our customers are locals and residents, and many have called and said they just don't want to come in because they don't want to deal with it," Robinson said of the construction.

Robinson is among a number of long-time Havensight merchants who say they have been in business for decades but never had to weather

anything quite like the last six months.

"I remember in the 80s the slow season was only three months, now it is a full six months," Ram Mirpuri, president of the Havensight Merchants Association said. Mirpuri's son, Minoj Mirpuri, owns Bliss Jewelers.

Ram Mirpuri said he hoped the



Daily News File Photo

Havensight Mall merchants say because of the ongoing Long Bay road project, rising V.I. Water and Power Authority bills and other issues that they have had their worst off-season ever. The Government Employees Retirement System, the mall's owner, has granted the merchants six months of free rent to help them repay \$2 million in overdue rent.

"We were almost closing down. There was no way we could survive. We are extremely grateful for the abatement. It will be a big help."

— Sonny Panjabi,
jewelry store owner

six-month abatement would be the "springboard" Havensight merchants need to recover. If not, about 30 percent of the association's membership had reported that they would go under this year or the next, he said.

"The mall has been hurting since Crown Bay opened. We lost about 500,000 passengers because of that," Mirpuri said. He added that the larger Carnival cruise ships, the Oasis of the Seas and the Allure of the Seas, dock at Crown Bay, where the harbor can support them.

Projections are that, with more cruise ships scheduled through 2014, businesses on the brink of closure might be able to use the abatement to get through to a breakthrough season in the winter of 2014, Mirpuri said.

Other merchants said their WAPA bills had tripled or quadrupled since they opened, leaving them to wonder if an abatement would be enough to counter the rising rates.

"WAPA is killing us," Sonny Panjabi, owner of the Casa Blanca jewelry store, said. Utility bills total \$3,000 during the busy season, and

\$2,000 during the slow season, when hours of operation are cut back, he said.

"We were almost closing down. There was no way we could survive. We are extremely grateful for the abatement. It will be a big help," he said.

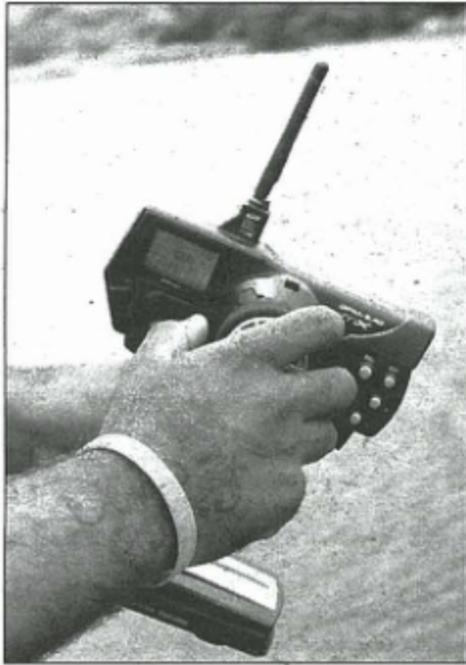
Since the recession hit, travelers "seem to spend all their money on the trip itself, and they come with less disposable income," according to Jerry Woodhouse, president of St. John's Bay Rum, a fragrance company that supplies other Havensight stores and has offices behind the mall.

Woodhouse also said that in the last decade hotels, which used to provide transportation to shopping districts, have shifted to providing as many amenities as possible to guests and have limited the excursions to beaches rather than shopping districts.

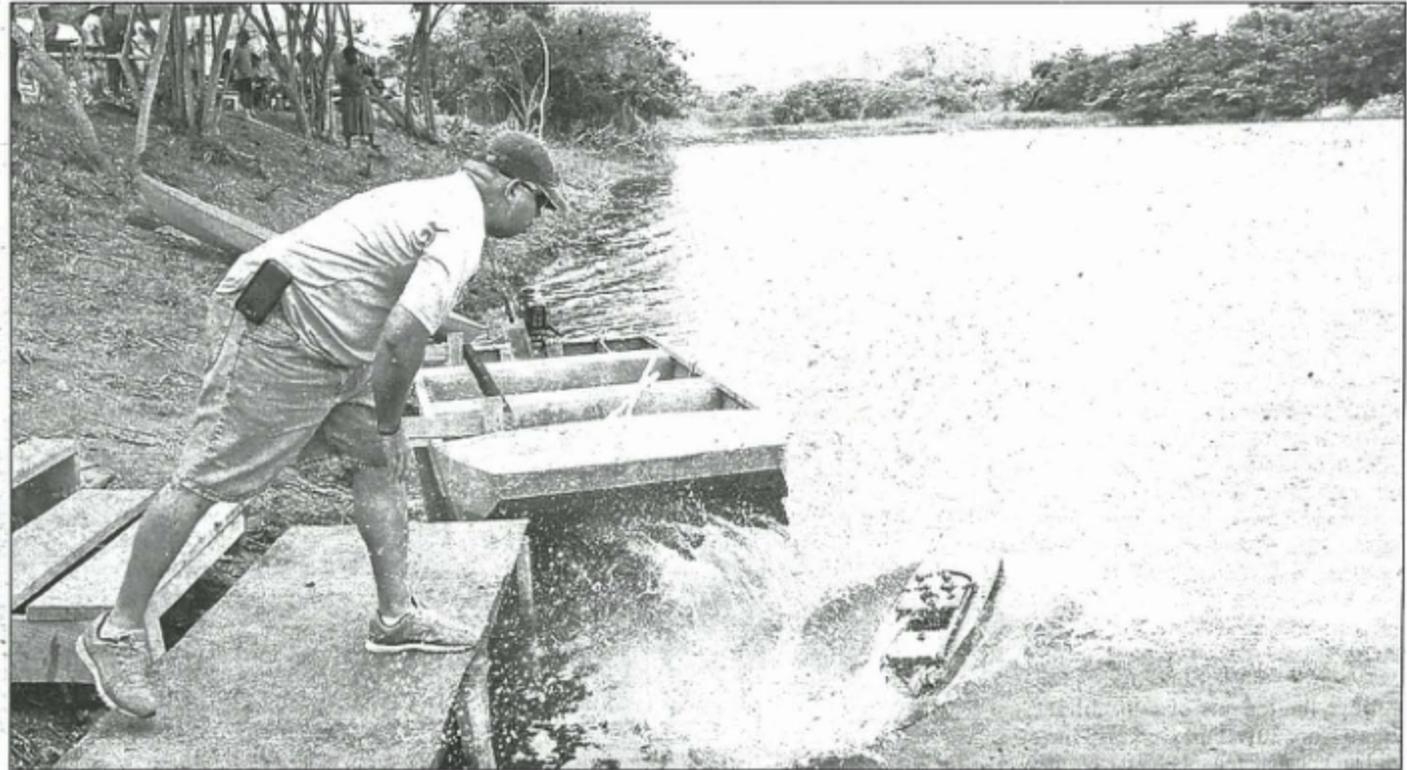
"They want to grab as much revenue as possible per customer while they are staying at the hotel," Woodhouse said.

— Contact Amanda Norris at 714-9104 or email anorris@dailynews.vi

Tiny boats, big speeds



A driver uses a controller to navigate the Bethlehem Pond course.



A racer launches his radio-controlled boat off a dock at Bethlehem Pond during RC boat races Saturday on St. Croix. The boats sped around the pond at speeds upwards of 50 mph during two days of racing.

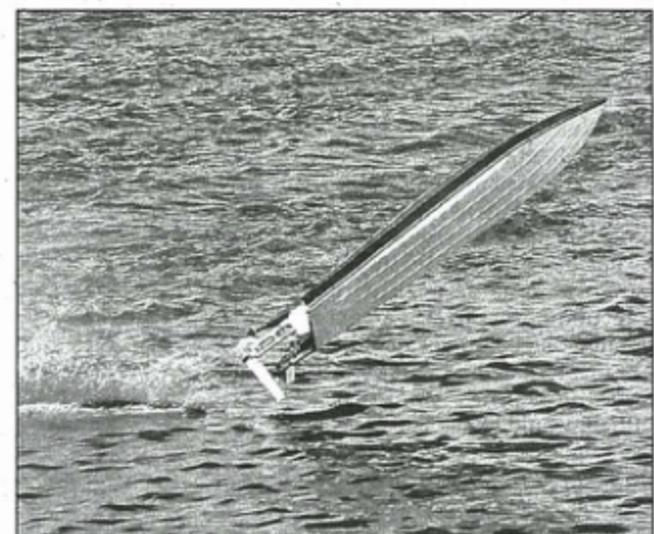
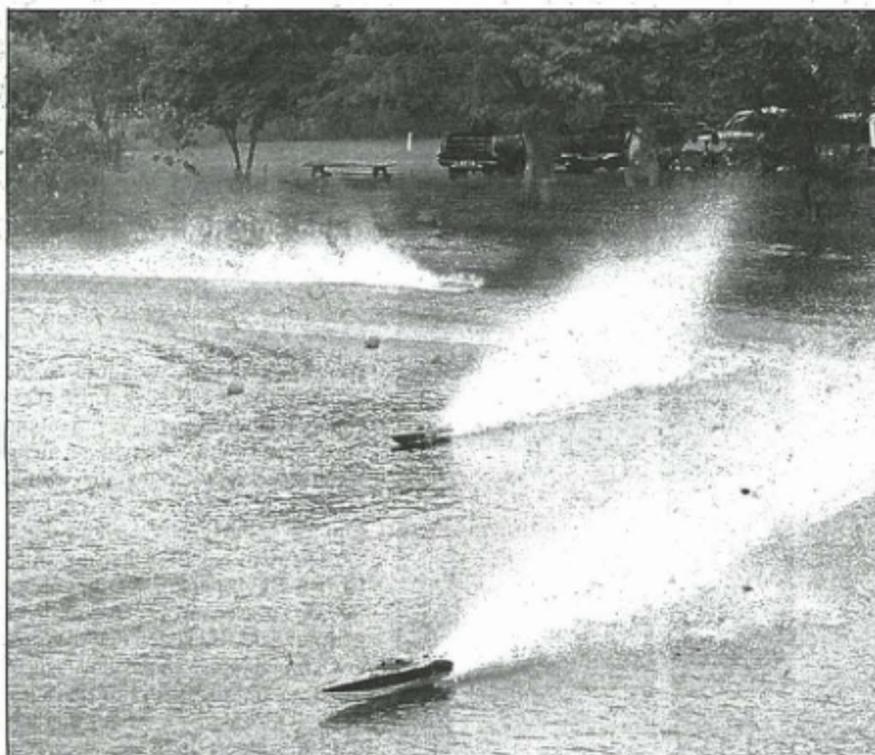
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V.I. government agencies defend budget requests

By AMANDA NORRIS
Daily News Staff

ST. THOMAS — Last week, the Senate Finance Committee heard testimony on fiscal year 2014 budgets from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Public Services Commission and the V.I. Economic Development Authority.

Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Bureau of Motor Vehicles Director Jerris Browne defended a General Fund appropriation of \$1,642,010 as sufficient to meet the bureau's needs. The request is a 5 percent decrease, or \$86,422, less than the 2013 appropriation.

Eighty-eight percent will go toward personnel services and fringe benefits, and the budget will be supplemented by a projected income of \$1 million from the bureau's revolving funds and another \$643,854 from the personalized license plate fund, for a total operating budget of \$3,285,864.

To meet fiscal constraints imposed by the governor's 5 percent cuts to most departments to balance the fis-

cal 2013 budget, the bureau eliminated two General Fund positions: an executive assistant and motor vehicle inspector, according to Browne's testimony.

The fiscal 2014 operating budget contains money for 52 positions, and to further meet fiscal obligations, the bureau intends to leave unfilled two more General Fund positions, according to Browne's testimony.

A critical hiring plan leaves room for five vacant positions to be filled, however, Browne testified.

The bureau's accomplishments for fiscal 2013 include: completing a REAL ID card concept design which allow for forensic analysis and provides specialized identifications to government employees; integrating facial recognition software, providing 24 hour access to the BMV database for law enforcement, installing additional security cameras and completing two grant packages for Division of Highway Safety awards totalling \$730,000 to be used to fund the motorcycle safety education program and to accommodate online vehicle registration.

Public Services Commission

Public Services Commission Executive Director Keithley Joseph testified that it is the commission's mission's goal to move from being a "government organization that is reactive to a proactive public policy making agency with results-based management."

The Public Services Commission is primarily funded through assessments levied on the utilities it regulates.

Joseph testified that the fiscal 2014 budget request from the V.I. government for the commission would be \$1,620,740. This represents an increase of \$57,373, or 3.54 percent, from its fiscal 2013 revenue assessment of \$1,563,367. Pursuant to Virgin Islands Code establishing the commission and stipulating that it be 100 percent funded by fees levied to the utilities it regulates, the commission's budget request reflects what it needs to maintain operations while it collects outstanding assessment from communications, water and electric, and public transportation companies, Joseph said.

The commission's uncollected rev-

enues from fiscal 2013 are \$384,630, according to Joseph's testimony.

It is anticipated that in fiscal 2014, the commission will collect a total of \$1,620,739 from the V.I. Water and Power Authority; VITELCO, Innovative Cable, Varlack Ventures, Transportation Services and the V.I. Waste Management Authority, according to testimony.

A total of \$1,081,113 will go toward "personal services and fringes," according to testimony.

V.I. Economic Development Authority

V.I. Economic Development Authority Chief Executive Officer Percival Clouden requested a General Fund appropriation of \$5,043,274. This amount represents an increase of \$325,574, or 6.9 percent over the fiscal 2013 appropriation.

According to Clouden, the additional money is needed to match federal funds for a small business incubator program, to institute a more aggressive marketing strategy for the Economic Development Commission's tax incentive program

and to enhance computer data analysis programs for the Economic Development Commission and the lending divisions, according to Clouden's testimony.

During fiscal 2013, the authority received \$2 million in grants from the United States Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration to assist small and mid-size businesses in the territory. The authority also relocated its offices on St. Thomas, realizing a 20 percent savings rental costs, 48 percent in utilities and 15 percent in other related expenses, Clouden said.

Also during fiscal 2013, the authority realized a 4 percent increase in collections and saw a 37 percent decrease in the number of delinquent borrowers due to enhanced litigation efforts, Clouden said.

To date, the authority has approved \$692,606 in new 2013 loans and collected \$842,224 in outstanding accounts. The number of delinquent borrowers stands at 242, for a total of \$7,470,534, according to Clouden's testimony.

— Contact Amanda Norris at 714-9104 or email anorris@dailynews.vi.

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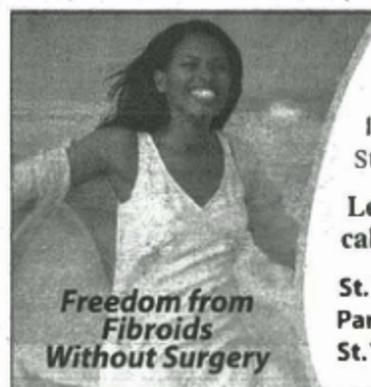
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HOVENSA cuts price for regular by 4 cents

Daily News Staff

ST. CROIX — After two weeks of significant increases in wholesale gasoline prices in the territory, some of the prices slipped slightly downward today as HOVENSA adjusted its rack rates.

The changes lowered the rack rates — the price of fuel purchased wholesale at the HOVENSA truck-loading station on St. Croix — for regular gasoline by 4 cents per gallon and for premium gasoline by a penny per gallon, while diesel fuel increased by 4 cents per gallon.

Under today's adjustments, independent gas station operators in the territory now are paying \$3.45 per gallon for regular gasoline, \$3.79 per gallon for premium gasoline, and \$3.57 per gallon for diesel fuel when they buy their fuel wholesale at HOVENSA. Those prices include the 14-cents-per-gallon tax that the refinery collects for the government.

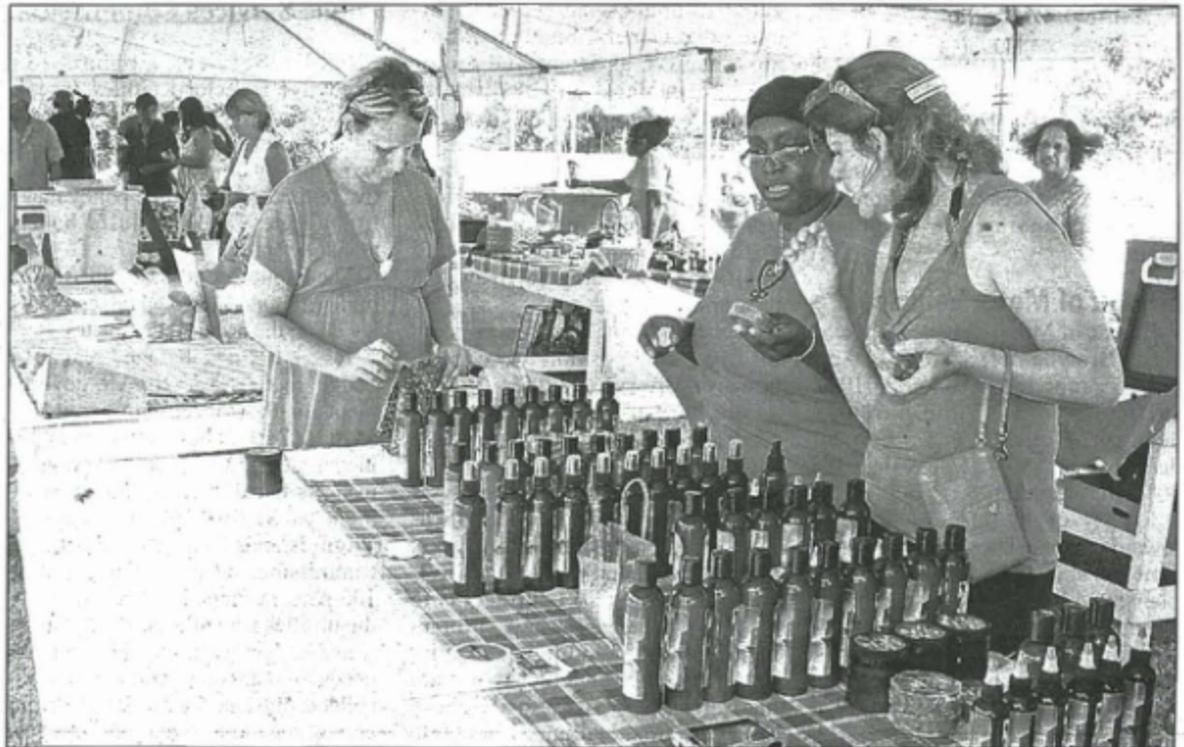
Independent gas station operators in the territory now are paying \$3.45 per gallon for regular gasoline

The rack rates influence retail gasoline prices in the territory because independent gas station operators can buy their gasoline at the loading station, then resell it to their customers. The new rates are effective through Sunday.

On the retail side, average retail gasoline prices in the U.S. on Thursday were also slightly down from a week ago, according to the American Automobile Association.

The average retail gasoline price in the U.S. on Thursday was \$3.648 per gallon for regular, \$3.976 per gallon for premium, and \$3.883 per gallon for diesel fuel, according to AAA.

Made and grown in the V.I.



Daily News Photos by JASON BRONIS
Shoppers browse vendors' tables during the first Virgin Fresh Value Added Market Day on Saturday at the Rudolph Shulterbrandt Agriculture Complex on St. Croix. The event showcased vendors who use locally grown food to produce processed or packaged items. Items for sale included jams, jellies, hot sauce, dressings, seasonings, fruit juices, smoothies and mead wine.



Foods made with local mangoes are displayed.

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Medicaid reimbursements to increase

Daily News Staff

ST. CROIX — The V.I. Human Services Department on Friday released a notice of intent to amend the V.I. Medicaid State Plan concerning the reimbursement of enrolled physicians.

The statement indicates that Medicaid reimbursement in the territory may be increasing.

For services provided in the terri-

tory, "upon approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services with a target effective date of Aug. 1, 2013, physicians in private practice enrolled as V.I. Medicaid Program enrolled providers will be eligible to receive reimbursement from the U.S. Virgin Islands Medicaid program for both inpatient and outpatient services" at 100 percent of the V.I. Medicare allowable rate, the release states.

"All such services must be authorized from the department or its agents," the release said.

For physician services provided outside the territory, the V.I. Medicaid Program will reimburse physicians enrolled in the V.I. Medicaid Program for both inpatient and outpatient services at the Medicare rate in the state where the service was rendered, according to the release.

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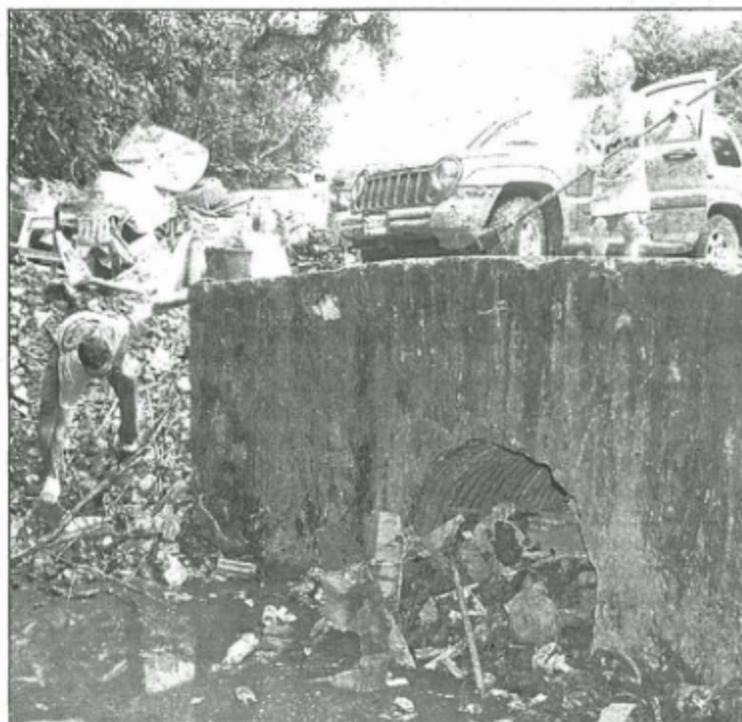
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CORE spruces up Caret Bay area



The CORE Foundation collected several bags full of trash Saturday near the Caret Bay dumpsite on St. Thomas. Furniture, household appliances, tires and an assorted list of other discarded items were gathered and deposited into the dump. CORE president John Rubattino, board members Jason Quetel, Kitty Edwards and Edythe Dirks, and a number of volunteers, including youngster Kendrick Dietsch, participated in the cleanup.

Daily News Photos by DENA FISHER

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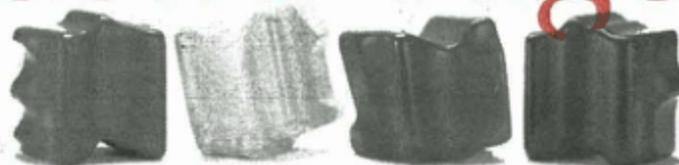
Cruise Ships

Today, July 29 Carnival Valor (2,974)	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Havensight
Tuesday, July 30 Oasis of the Seas (5,400)	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Crown Bay
Wednesday, July 31 Carnival Dream (3,646) Freedom of the Seas (3,600) Disney Fantasy (4,000)	7 a.m. to 3 p.m. noon to 7 p.m. 6:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.	Havensight Havensight Havensight
Thursday-Saturday, August 1-3 No ships		
Sunday, August 4 Jewel of the Seas (2,500)	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Havensight
Monday, August 5 Carnival Valor (2,974)	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Havensight

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Authorities targeting unregistered sex offenders

By JENNY KANE
Daily News Staff

ST. THOMAS — Although a sweep for unregistered sex offenders netted nine unregistered offenders in recent weeks, an unknown number still remain at large in the territory.

The Virgin Islands Department of Justice paired with local police and U.S. marshals to sweep the islands for unregistered sex offenders last week, primarily targeting ones that

have been convicted within the Virgin Islands. All but two local unregistered offenders last week were arrested and charged with failing to register.

Local police and U.S. Marshals initially arrested five unregistered offenders on St. Croix and three on St. Thomas in just seven days, and then arrested another at the very end of last week on St. Thomas — bringing the total to nine.

The department, however, has little

way of knowing how many unregistered offenders are here from other jurisdictions. Within the territory, offenders are required to register annually, though offenders sometimes come to the islands without notifying their jurisdiction of their move.

"They are supposed to notify someone," said Virgin Islands Attorney General Vincent Frazer. "We go out and look for them, but someone has to notify us."

The sweep last week was the sec-

ond "Operation Island Sweep" in the territory, Frazer said.

Currently, 55 sex offenders are registered between St. Thomas and St. John, and 42 sex offenders are registered on St. Croix.

Sex offenders are obligated to register in whatever community they reside in under federal law and territorial law, so as to make communities aware of where offenders live.

The department encouraged community members to visit usvi.usopw.gov to access the registry and view the list of sex offenders in the Virgin Islands.

The department also asked that anyone knowing the whereabouts of an unregistered sex offender to contact it at **774-5666** on St. Thomas or **773-0295** on St. Croix and provide information to one of the Sex Offender Registry coordinators.

— Contact reporter Jenny Kane at 714-9102 or email jkane@dailynews.vi.

◆ Funeral Schedule ◆

Name	Date of death	Service	Arrangements
St. Thomas			
Ovalda Millin Andre	July 18, 2013	Pending	Davis
Cyril Belleau		Pending	Davis
Robert Evans Sr.	June 15, 2013	Pending	John Thomas
Robert E. Francis	July 18, 2013	Aug. 10	Davis
Sylvanie Gilbert	July 3, 2013	Pending	Turnbull's
Jean A. Hatched	July 25, 2013	Pending	John Thomas
Samuel A. Henry	July 15, 2013	Pending	Turnbull's
Bernard O. Lake	July 18, 2013	Pending	Davis
Daniel LaPlace	July 13, 2013	Pending	John Thomas
Winthrop Gregory Lewis	July 24, 2013	Pending	Davis
Elizabeth Marshall	July 20, 2013	Pending	Turnbull's
Lillian Agatha Matthew	July 20, 2013	Pending	Turnbull's
Luda L. Francis Mulrairie	July 23, 2013	Pending	Davis
Cornelius Powell Sr.	July 22, 2013	Pending	Turnbull's
Francis Howard Pratt	July 17, 2013	Pending	John Thomas
Craig Lester Schneider	July 22, 2013	Today	Golden Gate
Elma Vanterpool	July 20, 2013	Pending	Turnbull's

Senate Agenda

Today

No meetings.

Tuesday

The Culture, Historic Preservation, Youth and Recreation Committee will

meet at 10 a.m. in Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas to hear bills on:

- Making the queen conch shell the official shell of the Virgin Islands.
- Authorizing the Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation to devel-

op a master plan for creating a public park and recreational area at Altona Lagoon on St. Croix.

- Redefining the use of the Enid M. Baa Library and Archives Building.
- Naming the archives division of the Charles Wesley Turnbull Regional Library the "June Lindquist Archives Division."

• Conducting a feasibility study to establish a festival and cultural park on St. Thomas.

Wednesday

No meetings.

Thursday

The Student Public Health Forum will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.

Police Reports

The police blotter is the V.I. Territorial Emergency Management Agency's list of incidents and the time they were reported to police.

St. Croix

Incidents in the police blotter over the weekend included:

Assault — 6:39 p.m. Friday, Strawberry; 3:01 p.m. Saturday, Queen Street, Christiansted; 3:23 p.m. Saturday, Prince Streetm Frederiksted; 12:03 a.m. Sunday, La Reine; 2:38 p.m. Sunday, Mars Hill; 6:17 p.m. Sunday, no location given.

Burglary — 3:43 p.m. Sunday, Hannah's Rest.

Fighting — 9:01 p.m. Friday; Harbour View Housing Community; 5:57 p.m. Saturday, Union and Mt. Washington; 7:55 p.m. Saturday, Mars Hill; 11:31 a.m. Sunday, Peters Rest; 11:57 a.m. Sunday, Welcome; 4:37 p.m. Sunday, Plessen; 6:18 p.m. Sunday, Frederiksted.

Larceny — 9:47 a.m. Saturday, Lower Love; 2:19 p.m. Saturday, Christi@nsted; 6:19 p.m. Sunday, Diamond-Ruby.

Outside fire — 8:34 p.m. Friday, La Grange; 9:15 a.m. Sunday, Marys Fancy; 4:20 p.m. Sunday, New Street, Frederiksted.

Reckless Endangerment — 6:42 a.m. Sunday, Mutual Homes.

Robbery — 5:14 p.m. Sunday, Yellow Cedar.

Weapons — 8:09 p.m. Friday, La Grange; 10:46 p.m. Friday, Mutual Homes Housing Community; 11:34 p.m. Friday, Profit; 4:39 p.m.

Saturday Harbourview Housing Community; 5:40 p.m. Prince Street, Frederiksted; 9:16 p.m. Saturday, Bellvue; 4:26 a.m. Sunday, Castle Coakley; 6:14 a.m. Sunday, Mountain; 5:57 a.m. Sunday, Luis Hospital.

St. Thomas

Incidents in the police blotter over the weekend included:

Assault — 10:10 p.m. Friday, Hull Bay; 10:21 p.m. Friday, Bordeaux; 1:40 p.m. Saturday, no location given.

Burglary — 6:38 p.m. Friday, Nadir; 7:06 p.m. Friday, Frenchtown; 9:16 a.m. Saturday, Charlotte Amalie; 4:29 p.m. Saturday, Altona.

Indecency — 4:06 p.m. Saturday, Red Hook.

Larceny — 1:18 p.m. Saturday, Frenchman's Bay; 1:32 p.m. Solberg; 3:58 p.m. Saturday, Altona; 11:42 a.m. Sunday, no location given.

Robbery — 9:58 a.m. Sunday, no location given.

Runaway — 8:32 a.m. Sunday, Lucinda Millin Home.

Vehicle fire — 9:52 p.m. Friday, Black Point Hill; 2:39 p.m. Sunday, Estate Frydendahl.

Watercraft in distress — 7:15 p.m. Sunday, Magens Bay Beach.

St. John

Incidents in the police blotter over the weekend included:

Runaway — 5:04 p.m. Sunday, Westin Resort.

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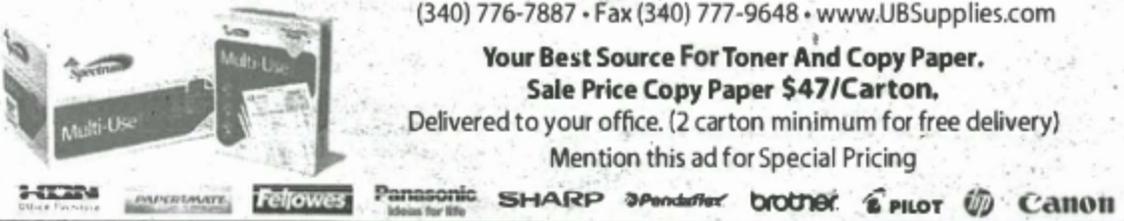
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What a city owes its residents

Though it is the biggest city in U.S. history to file for bankruptcy, Detroit is only one of 26 urban municipalities that have gone into bankruptcy or state receivership for fiscal insolvency since 2008. Detroit should draw attention and debate to a challenging issue underlying all these public insolvencies: What level of public services will we protect and guarantee for U.S. cities?

The Bankruptcy Court will have to face that question. It will have to determine whether Detroit can cut into current services any more than it already has. Unless the state or federal government steps in with funds for operating costs, the bankruptcy will function as a zero-sum game, with residents fighting creditors for a share of city revenue. Creditors have contracts to monetize what they are seeking, but how should the court determine the public spending that residents need today and tomorrow?

Politicians and judges who manage local fiscal crises speak of maintaining basic services and ensuring residents' minimal health and safety, but these concepts are short on specifics. While our laws provide an entitlement to a public education, and we have long struggled to interpret what constitutes a legally adequate education, there is little to nothing that would tell us what other services the local public sector must provide.

As a matter of law, there is no such thing as a crime rate that is too high or an ambulance response time that is too long. Should there be?

For now, it is left to politics and moral judgment to determine whether it is acceptable that less than one in three streetlights are operational in Detroit or that the city has 80,000 abandoned and blighted structures that it cannot afford to demolish. In Detroit, as in many other struggling cities, dramatic police layoffs mean that the average wait time after a 911 call for a police officer is 58 minutes, and a resident can rarely summon an officer at all if the reported crime is not in progress and violent.

As for other public functions that a high-poverty city (especially one with severe winters) might hope to have — such as reliable bus service, playground equipment, indoor basketball courts, after-school programs, active libraries and community centers for the elderly — these

Michelle Wilde Anderson

services are decades into deep cuts and widespread closures. Indeed, having curtailed everything beyond emergency services, it would be tempting to refer to a government like Detroit's as a night-watchman state — the libertarian ideal of a government focused only on public safety.

That is, we'd be tempted to use such a term for Detroit, and cities like it, were it not such a cruel irony: Detroit had more than 15,200 violent crimes and 500 acts of arson in 2012. The night watchmen are understaffed and underpaid. According to a 2012 study by economists Aaron Chalfin and Justin McCrary, public spending in Detroit on each police officer (including all wages, benefits and retirement costs) is less than two-thirds what it is just 45 miles away in the prosperous university town of Ann Arbor.

As a political and moral matter, as much as a legal one, Detroit represents an opportunity to take a stand for urban habitability. What belongs on our list of minimum standards for a city? Detroit invites us to have a public conversation about what services and public spaces we expect from city governments for human dignity and for humans to flourish. We have a chance to say that no one should have to wait hopelessly for an ambulance, that a violent crime in a neighborhood every few hours is intolerable.

Paying for such commitments should not just be the burden of creditors. Many of the city's creditors are rank-and-file public employees and retirees who have counted on a public pension and are not eligible for Social Security. Detroit's bankruptcy plan could send them into poverty in their old age.

Basic services and safety in our cities are the responsibility of states, the federal government, the private sector and voters. It is all of them — all of us — who have a role to play in the stabilization that Detroit is seeking through bankruptcy. All of us have a responsibility to help them give basic health and safety real meaning, and to make this bankruptcy a safety net, not a punishment.

— Michelle Wilde Anderson is an assistant professor of law at UC Berkeley School of Law.

Mrs. Anthony Weiner is Hillary 2.1

Christine M. Flowers

I sat there watching the television screen as Anthony Weiner squirmed before the microphones for the second time in two years, and realized that this was a *deja vu* moment.

At first I thought it was because the former congressman and aspiring mayoral candidate was, once again, apologizing for tweeting and cheating without really meeting. And then I took one look at Weiner's wife and realized that this had absolutely nothing to do with the fellow.

Huma Abedin might have creamy olive skin, beautiful brown eyes and long dark hair, but you don't need to put her in a pantsuit and slap a headband on her tresses to realize that we are now in the presence of Hillary Clinton, version 2.1.

We all remember the pre-Senate, pre-State Department Hillary who inspired both awe and revulsion for her assault on the East Wing. Never before had we been treated to a first lady who so blatantly and brazenly sought equal status with the guy we'd actually elected.

Eleanor Roosevelt, her idol, had exercised a considerable amount of weight behind the scenes. But it wasn't until Franklin died that she really came into her own. Not so Mrs. Clinton, or, rather, Mrs. Rodham Clinton.

It was painfully obvious to anyone paying attention that Bill's wife was hell bent on giving us that two-for-one bargain that the couple had promised during the campaign. Say what you will about her, Hillary was a force to be reckoned with. And praised. And loathed. Even her most strident enemies didn't underestimate her survival instincts.

Health care? (If at first you don't succeed ...) Whitewater? (Did any-

one say rafting?) Vince Foster? (Personal tragedy, nothing more.) And then came the stream of women: Gennifer (no relation,) Paula (a genuine victim) and, of course, "A little bit of Monica."

Anyone who thought that Hillary was going to let the Bimbo Bombs destroy her carefully constructed plans clearly didn't know just who they were dealing with. Our first lady stood by her philandering man and rode the crest of a sympathetic wave into the Senate. Mrs. Wynette Goes To Washington, so to speak.

And who did she take with her on that long and fruitful journey, ever upward, ever more successfully? Why none other than Mrs. Weiner, the lovely, inscrutable Huma.

Hillary once said that she had one daughter, but that, if she had another it would be her beloved personal assistant.

Huma Abedin has been by her mentor's side for almost two decades, and it is reasonable to think that she spent a large part of that time taking notes about how to thrive and survive in the political jungle. Therefore, it is not surprising that she (1) chose to marry an animal indigenous to that environment i.e., a cheetah, and (2) figured out how to make sure that she could withstand whatever wounds he managed to inflict on their shared ambitions.

Anthony's wife has taken a page from her pseudo-mama's dog-eared book and has perfected the art of damage control.

First, you assume a posture of dignified disappointment, wherein your whole body seems to just "sigh" under

the weight of the offensive conduct. It's a cross between an "I can't believe he did this to me" and a "boys will be boys, God bless their randy little hearts." Then, you gaze sadly at the perpetrator as he stares into the camera and apologizes for the second, third or 13th time for being a pervert with his privates. Then, you allow him to draw a line in the sand where he says he might be sorry but he won't go gentle into that good campaign and is continuing to seek the mayoral prize.

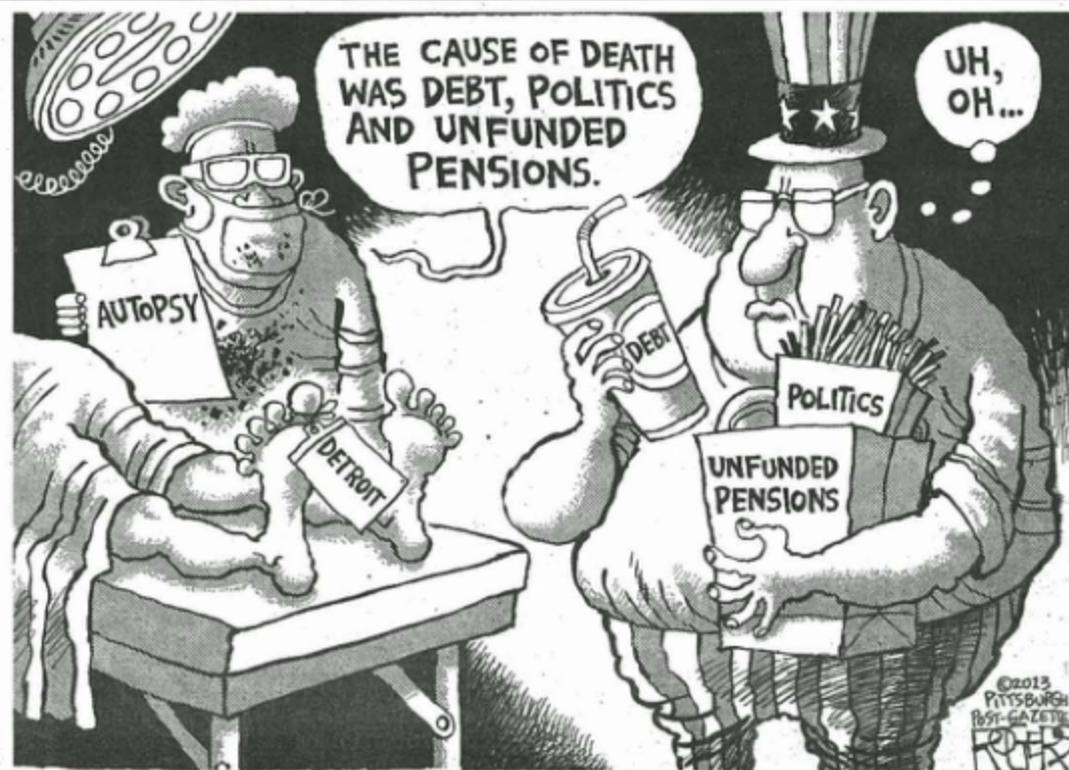
And then you spring into action. You straighten your shoulders, raise your pointed chin, allow a few wisps of that luxuriant velvet hair to fall across your delicately drawn cheek and assume a stoic pose. You love him, you say. You believe in him, you say. You forgive him, you say. You idiot, we say.

But you do not hear us speaking, because you do not care what the peanut gallery thinks. This is not about the crowds massed to watch this public shaming. This is not even about your husband who, truth be told, is probably sleeping in the garage these days, which is why he has both the time and the inclination to tweet.

This is about something far more important to you, perhaps almost as important as the future of the child you and the Tweeter have in common. This is about your political survival.

Huma Abedin learned at the feet of a master, someone who might very well parlay her experience as scorned wife into an office in the West Wing. Huma is a bit more modest, of course. Seems she'd be content to redecorate Gracie Mansion.

— Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News.



Luring elephants into big tent

Republican national chairman Reince C. Priebus could take a lesson from history in his efforts to herd his fellow elephants into a big tent. Nobody did a better job of coaxing feuding Republicans to cooperate than Ray C. Bliss, the Akron, Ohio, insurance man who chaired the national committee from 1965 to 1969. His success is worth remembering.

When Bliss became chairman in 1965, the Republicans were in much worse shape than in 2013: President Lyndon Johnson had won a landslide re-election over Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater, and the Democrats held large majorities in both houses of Congress and the statehouses.

The party was deeply divided between "moderates," such as New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, and "conservatives," like Goldwater. The latter appeared to bless strident voices when he famously proclaimed: "Let me remind you that extremism in defense of liberty is no vice. And let me remind you also that moderation in pursuit of justice is no virtue."

Although best known as a "nuts-and-bolts" party mechanic, Bliss used a two-step approach to address these ideological rifts.

The first step was to challenge voices that made Republicans look extreme to voters. On Nov. 5, 1965, he issued an even-handed critique of "radicals" on the left and right, singling out a staunchly anti-communist firebrand Robert Welch:

"One of my major concerns in the matter of extremism of the radical right is that honest, patriotic and conscientious conservatives may be misjudged because of irresponsible radicals such as Robert Welch, who has accused President Eisenhower of being a 'dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy.'"

"We've got to get this (party) in the middle of the road," Bliss explained, "Eisenhower and his people have taken enough."

There was a sharp backlash. One letter writer called Bliss "sneaky" and further:

"You recently asked all Republicans to get out of the

William Hershey & John E. Green

strongest and most effective anti-Communist organization in the United States. I question your motives."

Bliss wasn't bothered by the criticism. "I don't have the fixation I have all the answers," he told reporters, "everything is compromise."

His second step was leading Republicans to common ground.

The means was the Republican Coordinating Committee. Its members were a cross-section of the party: Eisenhower and four former presidential candidates — Goldwater, Richard Nixon, Alfred Landon and Thomas Dewey — as well as governors, members of Congress, state legislators and party leaders.

Eisenhower was a key to the committee's work. "He backed me up in the early days of my chairmanship," Bliss reported, "He had the respect of all factions."

The method was face-to-face dialogue.

"You don't say anything nasty, at least not publicly, about somebody you're going to dinner with tonight," Bliss said.

The committee eventually produced 48 policy proposals, offering an alternative to President Johnson's "Great Society" program.

In the end, Bliss got the results he wanted: the GOP made a huge comeback in the 1966 elections, and in 1968, it won back the White House.

Of course, 2013 is not 1965, Mitt Romney is not Barry Goldwater, nor is the party division identical. And the GOP may lack an Eisenhower to rally around.

Still, Chairman Priebus could take a lesson from Chairman Bliss' success in herding the elephants into a big tent.

— William Hershey is a former Knight-Ridder Washington correspondent and Columbus bureau chief for the Akron Beacon Journal and Dayton Daily News. John Green is director of the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron.

Time to hard-delete Carlos Danger

Maureen Dowd

When you puzzle over why the elegant Huma Abedin is propping up the eel-like Anthony Weiner, you must remember one thing: Huma was raised in Saudi Arabia, where women are treated worse by men than anywhere else on the planet.

Comparatively speaking, the pol from Queens probably seems like a prince. Even though he's a punk. After he got caught sexting and flashing women online in 2011, he promised to "never, ever" do that to his family again and slouched away from Congress. He cyber-creeped other young women in a pervy bout of tweet du seigneur as his wife traveled the world with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state.

Yet, while married to the classy, gorgeous mother of his infant son and planning a redemptive run for mayor, he told a Facebook friend and phone-sex partner he had never met that he loved her. Then he told her to "hard-delete" all their correspondence — if that is what you call it.

Aside from his zany Zorro-like nom de pom, Carlos Danger, Weiner has been called many things. His digital girlfriend and fellow extreme exhibitionist, Sydney Leathers (whose name sounds like a nom de pom), said that Weiner described himself to her accurately as "an argumentative, perpetually horny middle-aged man."

But Weiner's Goya-esque grotesquerie earns him another name: the "Rosemary's Baby" of the Clintons.

Bill and Hillary Clinton transformed the way we look at sex scandals. They plowed through the ridicule, refused to slink away in shame like Gary Hart, said it was old news, and argued that if Hillary didn't object, why should voters?

Poppy Bush thought Americans would reject Bill Clinton in 1992 because of his lascivious ways, but he learned that voters are more concerned with how their own lives will be changed than they are with politicians' duplicitous private lives.

Americans keep moving the marker of acceptable behavior, partly as a reflection of the coarsening of society and partly as a public acknowledgment that many pols with complicated personal lives have been good public servants.

Now, defining deviancy downward, Señor and Señora Danger are using the Clinton playbook.

The difference is, there's nothing in Weiner's public life that is redeeming. In 12 years in Congress, he managed to get only one minor bill passed, on behalf of a donor, and he doesn't work well with people. He knows how to be loud on cable and wave his Zorro sword in our faces.

Some sex scandals, like Mark Sanford's, fall into the realm of flawed human nature, and some, like Weiner's, fall into the realm of "Seriously, what is

wrong with you?"

Huma gained renown, movie star suitors and a Vogue spread as the stylish Muslim Garbo silently and efficiently parting the waves for Hillary. She had to be resilient to work her way up from intern to consigliere in 'tough Hillaryworld, and she saw firsthand how the Clintons beat back foes.

They love Huma, but the Clintons, now showcasing philanthropy and public service preparatory to Hillary's 2016 run, are not happy about getting dragged into the lewd spectacle that is a low-budget movie version of their masterpiece.

The former president is distancing himself, one associate said, noting, "He's not getting anywhere near that grenade."

Huma's friends are "slapping-my-forehead astounded," as one put it, that Weiner would get in the race knowing the online land mines that would rock Huma's world again and torpedo the campaign.

Weiner wooed Huma assiduously, showing up at the Westchester airport in the wee hours to pick her up when she came back from trips with Hillary. "They were two hyperdrive young brains that just clicked," said a friend. "She liked his Borscht Belt humor."

Her circle understands that "you love who you love," as one put it, marveling at Weiner's "madonna-whore" complex played out online. But that doesn't mean that you ask people to vote for someone who's dreadfully flawed for a major office, just because you love him.

They are worried that Huma's decision to vouch for her husband is starting to hurt her, the one person they all assumed would never be ensnared in anything weird or bad. "The hard stink of this one is going to get on everyone involved," said one friend.

Another agreed: "As soon as she stood up to say those words she changed herself from a sophisticated, mysterious guiding intelligence and beauty next to Hillary Clinton to the wife of a tarnished Anthony Weiner."

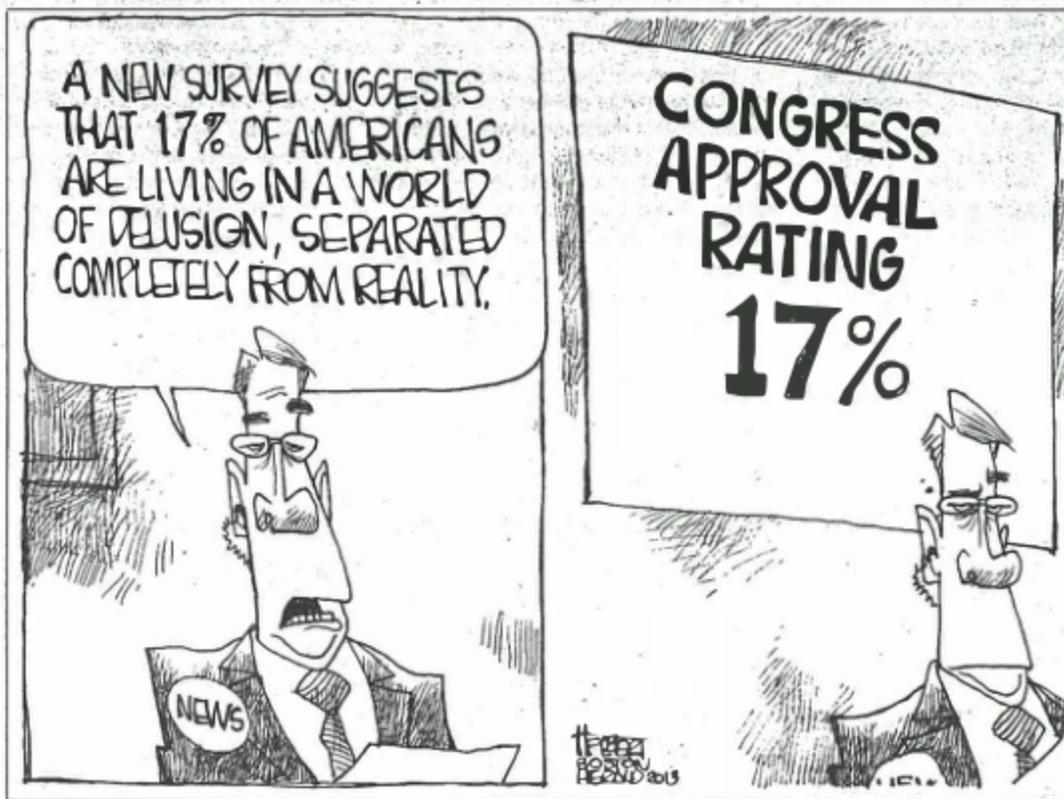
They fear Huma learned the wrong lesson from Hillary, given that Bill was a roguish genius while Weiner's a creepy loser.

"Bill Clinton was the greatest political and policy mind of a generation," said one. "Anthony is behaving similarly without the chops or résumé."

As often as Bill apologized, he didn't promise he would "never, ever" do it again, as Weiner did.

"What people won't forgive is lying in the apology," said the Clinton pal. "It has to be sincere, and it sure as hell has to be accurate."

— Maureen Dowd is a New York Times columnist.



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Team New Zealand defeats Italy in America's Cup challenger trials

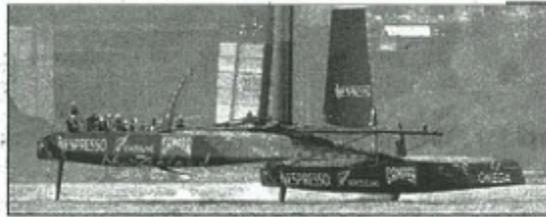
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Emirates Team New Zealand beat Italy's Luna Rossa by 3 minutes, 21 seconds in their final meeting of the round-robins in the America's Cup challenger trials Sunday on San Francisco Bay.

As the points leader in the round-robins, the Kiwis had the choice of advancing straight to the Louis Vuitton Cup final or picking their opponent for the semifinals. Skipper Dean Barker said that while the New Zealanders considered getting in more racing time, they've decided to advance straight to the finals in order to continue development of their 72-foot catamaran.

That leaves Luna Rossa to face Artemis Racing of Sweden in the semifinals starting Aug. 6. Artemis only recently launched its new boat and hasn't sailed in the round-robins. The syndicate has been slowed by the fatal capsizing of its first boat on May 9.

The Louis Vuitton Cup finals begin Aug. 17, with the winner advancing to face Oracle Team USA in the 34th America's Cup starting Sept. 7.



File Photo by ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emirates Team New Zealand.

Team New Zealand had a slight lead at the start Sunday and built its lead at every turning mark on the seven-leg course. It went 5-0 against the Italians, including the opening race that Italy boycotted due to a rules spat.

In their four head-to-head matchups, the Kiwis were so dominant that the Italians twice were officially ruled a DNF — did not finish — because they crossed the finish line more than five minutes behind Team New Zealand.

After the race, Tom Cruise and his son boarded Team New Zealand's boat and were given a ride across the bay.

USVI men volleyball team defeats Guadeloupe, 3-1, for fifth place at CAZOVA

Daily News Staff

Aseah Thomas had 23 points and team captain Nayib Gonzalez added 20 as they led the U.S. Virgin Islands junior men's volleyball team past host Guadeloupe, 25-21, 20-25, 20-25, 25-21, 15-9, on Saturday in the

fifth-place game at the ninth CAZOVA Junior Men's Championship in Guadeloupe.

Thomas had seven aces and one block, while Gonzalez's 20 points came by way of kills in the match, which lasted five.

Malick Frederic was Guadeloupe's top scorer with 22 points, while Yannis Biodore added 15 points and Meidhy Tacita added 10.

On Friday, the USVI was upset by a previously winless Bahamas squad, 25-16, 19-25, 25-17, 26-24, in the quarterfinals of the tournament.

Gonzalez led the USVI with a match-high 20 points, followed by Thomas with 16 points.

Team captain Rajahl Moxey led the Bahamas with 16 points, followed by Kenton Dawkins with 10 points, three of which were blocks. Justin Smith added nine points.

V.I. Future Stars Baseball Showcase



Daily News Photos by THOMAS LAYER

Coaches Skip Sherman, right, of Genesee Community College in Batavia, N.Y., and Scott Dulin, of Fisher College in Boston, Mass., holding a radar gun, scout baseball prospects at the V.I. Future Stars' annual Summer Baseball Showcase on Saturday at Lionel Roberts Stadium on St. Thomas. There were also representatives from Southern Connecticut State University, the San Francisco Giants, St. Louis Cardinals and Colorado Rockies. The showcase, organized by V.I. Future Stars president Daren Canton gives local players the opportunity to display their athletic skills for college and professional scouts.



Above, Malik Mitchell, a pitcher in his second year at Genesee College, throws a pitch for scouts.



At left, Leroy Simmonds, a shortstop and former student at St. Croix Central High School, makes a play to get a runner out at first base.

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