

# The Water Island Scoop

Published Every Now and Then

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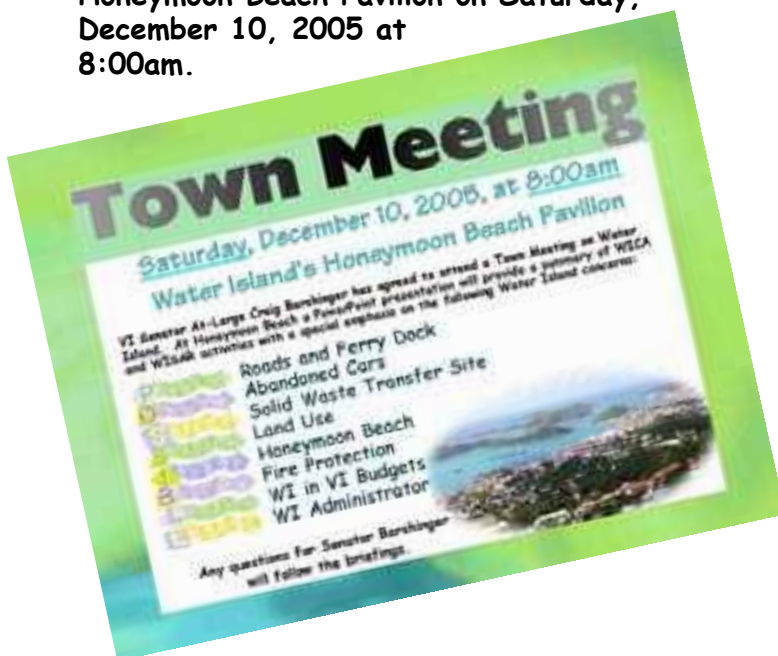
Issue Five

December 2005



Events of interest to all Water Islanders are coming up that you'll not want to miss. Here are several that you'll want to jot down on you calendar.

A Town Meeting with VI Senator At-Large Craig Barshinger will be held at the Honeymoon Beach Pavilion on Saturday, December 10, 2005 at 8:00am.



The annual Christmas Eve Party hosted by Pat and Eddy Cheesborough, along with Peggy Bennett and Wally Henshaw will be on Saturday, December 24, 2005 at Cheesboroughs' Casa Floride.

Not much chance of a White Christmas here, but fairly certain that Santa will make an appearance, and for sure the hot dogs will be cooked to perfection.



In January we have the WICA Annual Meeting to look forward to. It will be held at the Honeymoon Beach Pavilion on Saturday, January 28, 2006 with registration starting at 8:30am.

**PARTY!!!**

Just kidding! But now that I have your attention.

The Water Island Civic Association (WICA) annual meeting is on Saturday, January 28, 2006 at the Pavilion on Honeymoon Beach. Registration will begin at 8:30am. Meeting will begin at 9:00am.

It is very important that any member who is unable to attend submit a proxy designating an individual who will represent them at the meeting, since a quorum of voting members must be obtained.

Then last but certainly not the least is the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Island Auction being held at the Honeymoon Beach Pavilion on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at 10:00am.

**20th Annual Water Island Auction for the benefit of WICA**

Date: Saturday, February 18, 2006  
 Time: 10am Auction; 9am Registration  
 Place: Water Islands' Honeymoon Beach Pavilion

Refreshments and Lunch will be provided. Household items, gift certificates, food products, furniture, tools, and specialty items will be in the sale. Bring a chair, enjoy the sale, and a day full of fun activities.

**Water Island Ferry Schedule**

Departure times from :	
St Thomas	Water Island
6:30am	6:45am
7:15am	7:30am
8:00am	8:15am
10:30am	10:45am
12:00noon	12:15pm
2:00pm	2:15pm
3:00pm	3:15pm
4:15pm	4:30pm
5:15pm	5:30pm
6:00pm	6:15pm

**Happy Birthday!**

On Sunday, November 27, 2005 the beach was swarming with children who were attending the combined birthday party for Amanda Carvalho, Anthony Hutterer and Wyatt Ziel.



After eating and playing all day, the three birthday children, along with Trajan Ziel and Eli Munzar, with mom Renata, tried their luck at some not-so-deep sea fishing.



## Thanksgiving Dinner

Jim and Marion Wilkinson posted a sign-up sheet to see if there was any interest in having a Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner at the beach. There was interest alright, with over seventy attending!

Most people brought a side dish. The main meal was provided by Quality Foods and John Foster Real Estate.

Jim and Marion coordinated the entire event with great skill. A very good meal and a great day of shared friendships.



# Why We Live Here . . . .

By Rachael Ackley©

I sit in the shade of a palm, just wet from a dip in the sea, an easterly breeze cooling my skin. The sun is bright, shining from an afternoon sky, the puffy white clouds blow past over a dark blue sea. A couple of sailboats slip through the water, their sails filled with our well-loved trade winds.



The beach is clean and golden from this morning's beach cleanup. Both Heidi's and the Bohemian bar are alive with British sailors, locals and visitors. Some guys out in a little boat are having a great time polishing their water-skiing skills. Cosby lies at my feet, peacefully staring out to sea, thinking his own pleasurable thoughts. A hovering seagull eyes me to see if I might be nice enough to throw him a treat. The sound of the waves gently lapping at the shoreline and the happy noises of people enjoying Robyn's Margaritas fill the air.



Every 15 minutes or so an airplane grumbles by overhead, and although the noise isn't quite music to your ears (with

exception of the DC3, which sounds beautiful), it reminds us that people are enjoying the freedoms of air travel, keeping our economy going. A helicopter puts noisily by, showing happy tourists how beautiful Water Island is from the air. A fishing boat just came into Honeymoon Bay, and the gulls are collecting like flies around her stern, hoping for a scrap of unwanted bait.

The weather finally seems to be getting back to its normal Caribbean way. Thunderstorms blow up suddenly with torrential rains and then are gone again as quickly as they came. Then the air is clean and beautiful with the smell of fresh rain. The trees, grass and cisterns are certainly happy.



To think that today's picture could have been painted very differently had Dennis decided to stick around or if Philippe had gone straight, instead of turning, but once again the gods spared us the cleansing effect of Mother Nature's washing machine. Think how St Thomas would look had Hurricane Marilyn not stripped almost every roof from every house. In fact, think what Water Island would look like had Hugo not wiped out the Sea Cliff Hotel. Well, one thing's for sure a lot of people on Water Island would be short a few tables and chairs.

It's amazing to think how different today would be if there had been a little alteration, like a hurricane, in yesterday's weather. But nothing bad happened, and we are left to complain about the potholes in the road. And speaking of potholes, isn't

it better to think of them as Mother Nature's speed bumps? Since the ferry dock main road was paved, we've needed signs to remind us to slow down. Well, what do you expect when a nice piece of smooth road lies in front of you, and maybe the ferry is about to leave? A little acceleration is impossible to resist. Now, if everyone on Water Island drove only golf carts, no one could go faster than 10 mph even if they tried, and the island would look like a golf course with nice smooth roads and trimmed grass. But golf carts don't do so well carrying 90lbs. of cement or 5,000 gals. of water, so there goes that idea.

Maybe potholes aren't so bad, after all. They certainly are effective in keeping the roads safe for children and walkers.

At some time or another we have all complained about the terrible drivers and traffic in St. Thomas. But when I'm rushing about in St. Thomas so I can get home in time for the next item on the "To Do" list and I get behind some slow driver who won't go faster than 15 mph, one thing always brings me back to earth and it's this question: Why am I in such a hurry anyway? Why don't I just slow down and look out the window at Magens Bay? Even when you're stuck in traffic downtown, you can still see the beautiful blue water only 20 yards away from your vehicle.

At the end of the day, I find myself sitting in the hot tub at Providence Point, gazing at the boats and wondering what



Douglas is creating for dinner. I glance up and see a beautiful rainbow, and all I can think is Water Island really is the pot of gold. I know why I live here. Do you?



## Recurring Events

### Dominos

Every Sunday on the beach

It's not the slam-bam brand of dominos, but the Cardinal Mexican Train version holds the interest of a number of Water Islander's.



### ROMEO

Retired Old Men Eating Out



**PIRATE'S RIDGE**  
**WATER ISLAND**  
**WEDNESDAY NITE**  
**December 7 & 14 6<sup>pm</sup> until 9<sup>pm</sup>**  
**PIRATE'S RIDGE**  
**Arts & Crafts Festival**

The Pirate's Ridge Deli is sponsoring an Arts & Crafts Festival on two separate nights in December. On the first night there was a wide assortment of items and the event was well attended.



Some of the Water Island Artisans showing their work included: Jane Niblock, Paul Borghi, Lynn Joseph, Kathleen

Butler, Cheryl Shaw, Kathleen Carvalho, Ensor Colon, Pamela Pandella and others. The second night of this event will be on Wednesday, December 14, 2005 with the promise of even more artists and vendors participating.



Mark Pippen suggests: "Dress up, bring your wallet and enjoy complimentary wine, with handcrafted hors d'oeuvres. Stroll the courtyard, meet the artists and support your local talent." And, even if you aren't fully confident in your knowledge of the fine arts, a special seating area has been set up to give those who may be culturally challenged the opportunity to study the viewing habits of the more experienced patrons.



# Christmas Cookies

The Ladies of Water Island held their annual "Cookie Exchange" on Friday evening, December 9, 2005, at the home of Marion Wilkinson.



Each person brought ten dozen cookies to exchange with the other participants. Those attending this year were

Marion Wilkinson, Heidi Erwig, Cindy Wortman, Peggy Bennett, Joanne Bohr, Jeannine Mydlenski, Mary Ann Starr, Linda Gidley, Wendy La Franchise, Mercy Blosser, Jane Wherren, and Pamela Pandella.



In addition to the cookies, there was a gift exchange, trivia games, a name that tune contest and a birthday celebration for Linda Gidley.

