



Amy Land-de Wilde

Happy Halloween!

Fall is arriving on the island, and with it some cooler temperatures and wonderful tropical breezes and tons of rain!

Our third annual St. Croix Property Showcase book went off to the printer earlier this month, and we are looking forward to seeing it on island in December. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact us. We will make sure we add you to our mailing list.

We are pleased to welcome Kim Lucas to the Coldwell Banker Land-de Wilde Realty team. Kim holds a Master's Degree in Measurement and Human Differences and



Kim Lucas

is certified in a myriad of personality and other types of assessments. She created, owned and managed a professional assessment firm, Assessment Plus, for nearly twenty years. In short, Kim excels at listening, problem solving, negotiating, and helping people.... qualities that make her an outstanding real estate agent.

The real estate market on St. Croix continues on its upward climb. The average days on the market continues to decrease while home values continue to increase.

Regards,

Amy Land-de Wilde
Broker/Owner

Coldwell Banker Land-de Wilde Realty

BUCCANEER HOTEL JOINS ELITE LIST OF HISTORIC HOTELS

St. Croix's Buccaneer Hotel has gained the unique distinction of being the first hotel in the Virgin Islands to be listed in the National Trust Historic Hotels of America (NTHHA), an organization that recognizes hotels that have faithfully maintained their historic integrity, architecture and ambiance.

The rich history of the Buccaneer made it a prime candidate for NTHHA status. The hotel opened in 1948 under the ownership of the Armstrong family. Prior to the Armstrong family, the property had numerous owners including the King of Malta, Danish Governor von Prock, the Heyliger family, and Michael Shoy - for whom the beach adjacent to the property is named.

GOLDEN ADDRESS ST. CROIX CHAMBER

Hotelier and investor Paul Golden addressed the St. Croix Chamber of Commerce at a lunch meeting held in early October. Golden spoke about his long-delayed plans to build a casino resort in St. Croix's Great Pond area. He outlined the steps that have taken place to lead to the present, why there have been delays, and how much money is in the balance. He also repeated previous statements that a well-known international hotel brand will be involved, but until the project is begun, he cannot announce which one.

Golden further presented his position that if the VI Conservation Society appeal is resolved, he intends to break ground by the end of the year, and aim for completion by the end of 2008.

ROYAL CARIBBEAN TO RETURN TO ST. CROIX

Royal Caribbean cruise ships will return to St. Croix in November for a third season of bunkering calls and will receive discount fuel from Hovensa.

According to a schedule released by the V.I. Port Authority, the refueling stops will be made at the Ann Abramson Pier beginning Nov. 15 and will continue with two calls a month through April 2007.

ST. CROIX COULD BECOME THE ST. CROIX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Earlier this month the U.S. Senate approved two bills that might afford protection to St. Croix's natural and cultural resources and now await President Bush's signature to become law.

The first of the two bills would designate the entire island of St. Croix as the St. Croix National Heritage Area directing the Secretary of Interior to determine its feasibility. The second bill directs the secretary to determine the feasibility of making Castle Nugent Farms part of the National Park Service (NPS).

In order for St. Croix to be named a National Heritage Area, the secretary must determine whether the island has an "assemblage of natural, historic and cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation and continuing use."

If St. Croix were named a National Heritage Area, it would join 27 other areas around the U.S. with this designation according to the NHA website.

The proposal naming Castle Nugent Farms as a National Park Area is not

specific in its designation. It could be a historic site, a monument or a park.

LORINE WILLIAMS VOTED REALTOR OF THE YEAR 2006

Lorine Williams, of Coldwell Banker Land-de Wilde Realty, was named REALTOR of the Year at the Virgin Islands Territorial Association of REALTORS (VITARS) awards presentation, which wrapped up the two-day annual meeting in St. Croix, VI. This award is earned based



Lorine Williams receives the REALTOR of the Year award.

on association and community involvement at the national and local levels. Until this year, no REALTOR in the V.I. has ever received this prestigious award twice. However, this was the second time Williams has received this honor.

In addition, two other Coldwell Banker Land-de Wilde Realty REALTORS received awards. Sharon Thayer received the Leadership Extraordinaire award, and Nancy Gentry received an Invaluable Right Hand award.

POLL SAYS OUTCOME OF GUBERNATORIAL RACE DEPENDS ON UNDECIDED VOTERS

According to a recent poll, voters that are currently undecided about who

they will cast their vote for in the November election will determine the outcome in the race for governor and lieutenant governor.

According to the poll, 27 percent of respondents said they were undecided about whom they will vote for, with another 11 percent saying they didn't know or refusing to answer.

In the race for the governor and lieutenant governor, the poll currently gives the John deJongh/Gregory Francis team the edge with a total of 36 percent of respondents saying that they would vote for the Democratic team of deJongh/Francis.

FEATURED HOME OF THE MONTH



Private retreat for lovers of the sea. Imaginatively set on the rocks overlooking the turquoise Caribbean "Rainbow Cove" is a breathtaking hideaway with a 2-bedroom main house and pool, and a charming 2-storey guest house with its own pool all linked together by galleries and walkways. The exquisite granite gourmet kitchen has all Viking appliances and a beautiful hardwood floor. \$1,790,000. MLS#06-1665. Call Amy Land-de Wilde or email amydewilde@att.net



ST. CROIX REAL ESTATE AT A GLANCE

Jan-Sept 2005 vs. Jan-Sept 2006	Sold J-S '05	Avg. days on market	Avg. price	Sold J-S '06	Avg. days on market	Avg. price
Home sales	133	313	\$365,672	148	288	\$498,363
Condo sales	153	264	\$165,700	134	154	\$183,359
Land under \$39,999	102	721	\$25,658	144	762	\$26,888
Land over \$40,000	120	487	\$134,353	195	382	\$140,510
Commercial properties	13	487	\$746,923	17	535	\$475,000

* Information from the St. Croix Multiple Listing Service