



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



DIVISION OF VIRGIN ISLANDS CULTURAL EDUCATION



MAY 2017



HISTORICAL CULTURAL CALENDAR

**SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO the Queen, Prince, Princess, and
Calypso Monarch of 2017!**
DIVISION OF VIRGIN ISLANDS CULTURAL EDUCATION



Mary-Alice Prosper
2017 Carnival Queen
St. Thomas, USVI



Taezha Maduro
2017 Carnival Princess
St. Thomas, USVI

Pictures Courtesy of:

Mary-Alice Prosper: Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education

Tae'Zha Maduro : Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education

**SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO the Queen, Prince, Princess, and
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***Jah'Syi Narcisse
2017 Carnival Prince
St. Thomas, USVI***



***Temisha "Caribbean Queen" Libert
Calypso Monarch Queen
St. Thomas, USVI***

Pictures Courtesy of:

**Jah'Syi Narcisse: The Daily News, April 2017
Ms. Jewel Ross-Braithwaite: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00102617/00012/68j>**

MAY 1st:

St. Johnian Karen A. Sewer – Buggs was born in Brooklyn, New York. She became a licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer in 1985. Shortly after, she returned home and in a family established business operated the very first native-owned Mortuary service, Creque's Funeral Home, on the island of St. Thomas.



Courtesy of:

Text: Family Member & Funeral Booklet

Picture: Funeral Booklet

MAY 2nd:

1905:

Distinguished Clinician, William Osler in a tribute expressed deep admiration for St. Thomas born Jacob M. DaCosta, who was a physician of national renowned. He stated in his tribute, “to make of myself a good clinical physician, to be ranked with the men who have done so much for the profession ... Bigelow, Metcalf ... Da Costa and others ... these great men whose names we all revere ...



Courtesy of:

Text: From These Shores, Axel C. Hansen, page 78

Picture: http://www.braceface.com/medical/Medical_Authors_Faculty/Da_Costa_John.htm

MAY 3rd:

1989:

WBS Middleweight Champion
Julian Jackson defeated Knox
Brown at the Forum in
Englewood, California.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News, May 15, 1989, back page

Picture: Daily News, 100 Years in the Virgin Islands, page 98

MAY 4th:

1738:

The first interracial marriage in the Moravian Mission took place on St. Thomas between slave born, Rebekka and Matthaues Freundlich, a missionary from Herrnhut, Germany. She headed a day school to promote literacy and Christian belief. She migrated with her husband to Herrnhut where he died. Her second husband, Christian Proffen took her to Africa where they established a school.



Courtesy of:

Text: 270th Anniversary New herrnhut Moravian Commemorative booklet, page 18

Picture: <http://www.leaksvillemoravian.org/>

MAY 5th:

2010:

The first art career showcase was hosted at Sunshine Mall to introduce junior and senior high school students to the career opportunities and vocational options that exist on St. Croix. The careers ranged from fashion and jewelry to photography, interior design and culinary. Many businesses provided first-hand experience to the youth.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News

Picture: <http://www.stcroixlime.com/content/>

MAY 6th:

2007:

The first ever Quelbe festival was held at Island Center, St. Croix with performances by over 100 students from schools throughout the Territory. Adult bands and quadrille dancers performed, as well.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News, May 7, 2007, page 5

Picture: <http://stcroixsource.com/content/news/local-news>

MAY 7th:

2010:

Ivanna Eudora Kean High School won the 16th annual Appellate Moot Court Competition.



Courtesy of:

Text: <http://virginislandsdailynews.com>

Picture: <http://stthomassource.com/content/news/local-news/2010/05/08/keen-young-minds-meet-moot-court>

MAY 8th:

2007:

The Daily News announced the winners of the 1st Caribbean Writer Humanities Festival Open Poetry Contest as follows:

1st prize: Patricia Harkins-Pierre,
“The Wings of Moths and Hummingbirds” and
2nd prize: Barbara Parry,
“The Man Who Walks the Islands”.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News, May 8, 2007, Page 22

Picture: <http://epsiplatform.eu/content/open-government-poetry-contest>

MAY 9th:

1966:

Irvin “Brownie” Brown began his calypso show on WSTA Radio in St. Thomas.



Courtesy of:

Text: Black Facts from the Facts Man, Wayne “Facts Man” Adams

Picture: <http://www.wsta.vi/people/>

MAY 10th:

1946:

Daily News editorial clarified for the public that the meetings between American Vice Consul and Chamber of Commerce Executive Board were not aimed at replacing native workers with aliens, but to fill employment gaps created by locals refusing that type of work.



Courtesy of:

Text: Thoughts Along the Way, Ariel Melchoir, Page 140

Picture: http://barnako.typepad.com/news_of_st_john_usvi/tips_for_visitors/

MAY 11th:

2010:

American Federation of Teachers
Local 1826 members oust union
president Tyrone Molyneaux, who
was the leader of the St. Croix
Federation of Teachers Union since
2000.



Courtesy of:

Text and Picture: <http://virginislandsdailynews.com>

MAY 12th:

2011:

Governor de Jongh and a senior delegation of USVI government officials met with its BVI counterparts, including Premier Ralph T. O'Neal, in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. The high-level meeting was the first full Inter Virgin Islands Council (IVIC) meeting during the de Jongh/Francis Administration and was an opportunity for the two governments to openly discuss various issues of shared concern and partnership.



Courtesy of:

Text and Picture: <http://www.governordejongh.com/blog/2011/05/usvi-bvi-governments-hold-inter-virgin-islands-council-meeting.html>

MAY 13th:

1975:

HESS contractor, Fluor Construction locked out 800 employees over labor dispute at the HESS Refinery expansion project site.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News 50th Anniversary, page A-97

Picture: <http://virginislandsdailynews.com/news>

MAY 14th:

2008:

The Daily News reported of 30 candidates HUD selected Robert Graham as Executive Director of Virgin Island Housing Authority at an annual salary of \$145,000.00. In stark contrast to a predecessor, Attorney Michael Hollis received almost \$1 million for 15 months work.



Courtesy of:

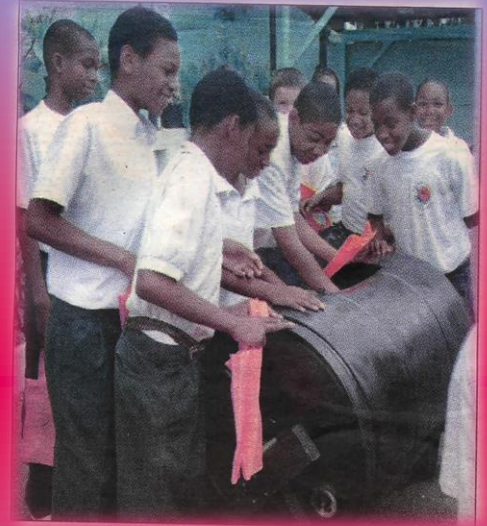
Text: Daily News, May 14, 2008, Page 6

Picture: http://www.glfrench.com/robert_graham.htm

MAY 15th:

2009:

First Lady Cecile deJongh and community leaders of Joseph Sibilly Elementary School in partnership to promote an environmental healthy Virgin Islands presented a compost bin to the deJongh's School Garden Project at the School.



Courtesy:

Text and Picture: The Daily News, May 19, 2009, Page 17

MAY 16th:

1994:

Act #1515 was passed to honor & commend Dr. Etienne Arrindell Paul Massac, Jr., for his outstanding contributions in the field of medicine and for the prestige he has brought to the Virgin Islands as a result of his surgical & managerial skills.



Courtesy:

Text: Legislative Archives

Picture: <http://nadiyahandetienne.tripod.com/>

MAY 17th:

2010:

Governor deJongh signed the \$250 million borrowing bill into law, in order to cover 2010 budget shortfalls and help the territory recover from the recession.



Courtesy of:

Text: virginislandsdailynews.com/news

Picture: <http://www.teachusvi.net/>

MAY 18th:

1849:

The Provisional Act for the island of St. John was passed to regulate relations between proprietors of landed estates and the rural free labor population.



Courtesy of:

Text: From Serfdrom to Fireburn and Strike, Peter Hoxcer Jensen, page 103

Picture: <http://www.travelmuse.com/articles/usvi/st-john-vacation-guide>

MAY 19th:

2009:

The raging five-alarm fire, which totally destroyed Mountain Top attraction, was extinguished after hours of battling the fire. Fire Service personnel, other local emergency responders, and private water haulers participated.



Courtesy of:

Text and Picture: The Daily News, May 19, 2009, Page 5 and cover

MAY 20th:

1899:

Entrepreneur David E. Chinnery was born in Jost Van Dyke, British Virgin Islands. He moved to St. Thomas and became known as a well-respected St. Thomas merchant. He opened and operated several businesses to include Bargain Corner, Chinnery's Grocery, Chinnery's Grocery & Liquor Store, and Chinnery's Food-O-Mat. In the 1950's he was a member of the board of directors of the West Indies Bank and Trust Company and the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: <http://history-corner.com/chinnery-shennery-shenery-shinnery/>

MAY 21st:

1921:

Rothschild Francis, councilman, civil rights and labor leader, produced the first issue of his newspaper, *The Emancipator*. This medium was used to champion popular causes, which often met with counter-attacks from business and other powerful groups.



Courtesy of:

Text: Rothschild Francis and Freedom of the Press in the USVI Islands, William W. Boyer, Page 10 and http://webpac.uvi.edu/imls/pi_uvi/profiles1992/Civil_Rights_Leaders/Francis_R/index.shtml

Picture: http://webpac.uvi.edu/imls/pi_uvi/profiles1992/Civil_Rights_Leaders/Francis_R/index.shtml

MAY 22nd:

2010:

The Board of Education approved changes to staff certification to allow veteran teachers of at least 15 years with a degree in the content area they teach, to earn a minimum of 130 points needed for certification by completing the Highly Objective Uniform State Evaluation (HOUSSSE) form.



Courtesy of:

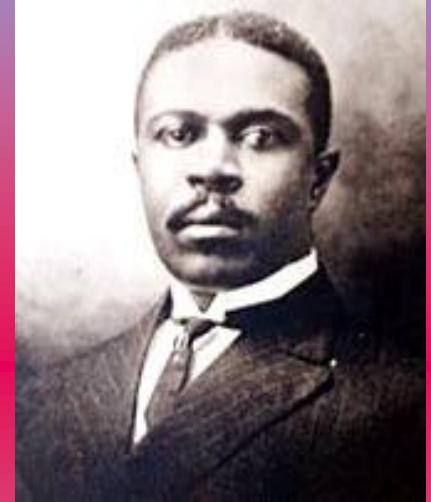
Text: Board of Education minutes

Picture: <http://www.teachusvi.net/>

MAY 23rd:

1916:

From the day the agreement of February 26, 1916 was signed to this date, D. Hamilton Jackson was sentenced four times to pay a total of 900 francs for libel - - once for “insulting accusations in connection with laborers treatment”.



Courtesy:

Text: Rothschild Francis and Freedom of the Press in the USVI Islands, William W. Boyer, Page 3

Picture: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/D._Hamilton_Jackson

MAY 24th:

2010:

The Major General Jean Augustine Romney Memorial Drive, Routes 70 and 652 on St. Croix was dedicated. He was a Virgin Islands senator in the 11th Legislature and St. Croix administrator. He held a variety of military positions before he was appointed Adjutant General of the Virgin Islands National Guard.



Courtesy of:

Text: virginislandsdailynews.com/news and <http://www.triborobanner.com/news/st-croix-road-renamed-to-honor-romney-1.814265>

Picture: <http://www.triborobanner.com/news/st-croix-road-renamed-to-honor-romney-1.814265>

MAY 25th:

2011:

Governor John P. deJongh proclaimed this day as “African Liberation Day” and May 22-28, 2011 as “African Heritage Week” in the Virgin Islands. Both served as a reminder of our territory’s proud African heritage.



Courtesy of:

Text: www.governordejongh.com/news/proclamations/2011

Picture: <http://sites.google.com/site/rastaspeak/events-1/chaptermeeting>

MAY 26th:

2008:

Daily News reported the St. Croix Dolphins dominated the 26th Invitational Swim Meet with championships in the 5 major categories from ages 8 and under to ages 15-17 over the weekend. They defeated teams from St. Eustatius, St. Martin, and New York.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News, May 26, 2008, Page 39

Picture: <http://fsted.com/news.php?default.0.100>

MAY 27th:

1971:

Governor Melvin Evans signed into law legislation allowing 18 year old to vote.



Courtesy of:

Text: Daily News 50th Anniversary, Page A-97

Picture: http://www.alexanderfarrelly.com/caribbean/gov_evans.asp

MAY 28th:

2008:

Interact Club of the St. Croix Educational Complex donated \$500.00 towards the Virgin Islands Cardiac Center at Juan Luis Hospital.



Courtesy of:

Text: The Avis, May 29, 2008, Page 3

Picture: <http://www.jflusvi.org/>

MAY 29th:

1945:

Iver A. Stridiron was born on St. Thomas, USVI. He is an attorney, and former senator who served in the 14th – 17th Legislatures and Attorney General. Currently, he is the General Counsel for the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority.



Courtesy of:

Text: Black Facts from the Facts Man, Wayne “Facts Man” Adams and

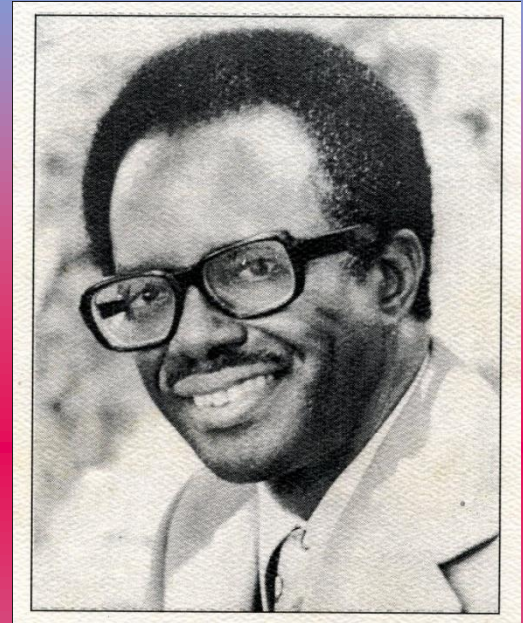
http://www.viwm.org/About_WMA/ExecutiveOfficersandSeniorStaff/Meet_the_ExecutiveOfficers.aspx

Picture http://www.viwm.org/About_WMA/ExecutiveOfficersandSeniorStaff/Meet_the_ExecutiveOfficers.aspx

MAY 30th:

1946:

Earl B. Ottley won his first election to the Legislative Assembly, as an Independent candidate.



Courtesy of:

Text: Trials and Triumphs, page 73 Earl B. Ottley

Picture: Funeral Booklet

MAY 31st:

1979:

Former Cultural Researcher at the Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education, Edgar O. Lake directed a documentary, highlighting the life of Danish Artist, Hugo Larson “Cultural Portrait of our Islands”. It was launched by video conferencing and simulcasted at University of the Virgin Islands campuses.



Courtesy of:

Text: Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education Records

Picture: <http://www.stjohnhistoricalsociety.org/Articles/DanishArtistHugoLarson.htm>

**For complimentary electronic monthly
calendars, please contact:**

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