

WCVI-TV

Christiansted, Saint Croix

Issues and Programs List for WCVI-TV / ECVI-TV

**Third Quarter
2023**

From July 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, WCVI in Christiansted, Saint Croix aired an average of five hours of local news programs on a weekly basis.

Weekday Local News Programs

USVI News: The Virgin Islands

USVI News: [WCVI] Tuesday – Friday, 6:30-7:00am, 12-12:30pm

USVI News: [WCVI] Monday – Friday, 6-630pm, 7-730pm, 11-1130pm

USVI News: [ECVI] Monday – Friday, 6-630pm, 11-11:30pm

USVI News: [ECVI] Friday, 2-2:30am

Weekend Local News Programs

USVI News [WCVI] Saturday, 6-6:30am, 11-11:30pm, 2:30-3:00am

USVI News [WCVI] Sunday, 8:30-9am, 6-6:30pm, 11-11:30pm

USVI News [ECVI] Saturday, 6-6:30am, 11:30pm-12:00am, 2-2:30am

USVI News [ECVI] Sunday, 6-6:30am, 9-9:30am, 11:30pm-12:00am

List of Issues – WCVI-TV programs and PSAs provide significant treatment of the following issues that are important to Christiansted, Saint Croix in the Third Quarter 2023:

Community / Culture / Family Strengthening

Economy / Finance / Poverty

Education

Environment

Health concerns

Government

Safety / Crime Safety

Issues and Programs List

07/03 28 sec Government / Community

July 3rd marks the official 175th anniversary of emancipation in the Virgin Islands. The day recognized with a freedom walk and race, parade, tribute to the ancestors, official emancipation ceremony, fireworks at 8pm, and the Unshackled Music Festival in Freedom City. The weekend full of music, dancing, special gatherings, and other events commemorating freedom. One event was the 2023 Folklife Music Festival. The St. John Festival also held multiple shows. Remember to stay hydrated as you enjoy all the festivities!

07/03 30 sec Government

Governor Albert Bryan took action on 8 bills last week, and acknowledged 2 resolutions. Two bills were passed. The first law had 3 functions; let people living outside the Virgin Islands to serve on boards & committees, increase retirement pensions for national guard retirees & fund raw basketball and little league. The other bill passed takes 7-hundred thousand dollars from the general fund to hire dialysis nurses and other staff. Two resolutions recognized efforts of the Board of Elections and DJ Avalanche. 6 zoning requests were also approved.

07/10 30 sec Safety

There's an urgent warning for US Virgin Island residents and businesses near the Bovoni Landfill area. Beware of fire related risks as some of the airborne particles released into the air could be hazardous. The Virgin Islands Fire and Emergency Medical Services is providing these guidelines for respiratory health and safety to all residents close to the landfill. Limit outdoor activities, close windows and doors, avoid physical exertion, and if you need to venture out, you're advised to wear an n95 mask to protect yourself from hazardous smoke.

07/10 22 sec Government

Governor Albert Bryan Jr has announced proposed legislation that aims to fix run down and abandoned properties throughout the territory. The legislation, which is being finalized, would let these properties be rehabbed or developed without changing ownership. The governor has already held meetings with some stakeholders and will be holding town halls about the legislation in the next few weeks.

07/12 41 sec Government / Community

Organizations across the territory won over \$400,000 in humanities grants. Those grants were awarded by the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands- CFVI for short-, and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The goal of the grants is to increase projects and programming around humanities education and lifelong learning. 19 organizations won a total of \$407,500. Some of the projects include museum exhibits, speaker series, website updates, training, films, festivals, and more. CFVI President Dee Baecher-Brown shared a statement, saying "the impressive body of humanities work that has been funded in 2023 is so very timely, given it is the year of our 175th Emancipation Commemoration."

07/12 39 sec Community

The territory continues to mourn the loss of police detective Delberth Phipps Jr. The Virgin Islands Police Department and the entire community honoring the life of detective Delberth Phipps Jr. Youth runner: Zechariah running one mile carrying the blue line flag to show his respect for the fallen police officer and honor his life. His commitment to serving his community and his ultimate sacrifice. This meaningful movement is part of an effort by running for heroes incorporated. This young man paying tribute to fallen officer Phipps after seven years of unwavering service to the Virgin Islands.

07/17 19 sec Safety / Health

It's been one year since the launch of 9-8-8, the easier to remember number anyone can dial, text, or message through a chat, in order to get support through the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Here's what the US Secretary of Health and Human Services says about the first year of 9-8-8 and what needs to happen now to get care to those who need it.

07/21 22 sec Community / Education

The work to educate at-risk kids in St. Thomas just got a big boost! Liberty Foundation has given ten thousand dollars to My Brother's Workshop. They provide education, counseling, and training services for at-risk kids in the Virgin Islands. They'll be using this money to fund their career skills workshop along with their cafe and bakery program. My brother's workshop was founded in 2007.

07/21 39 sec Health

The US is in the middle of one of the worst cancer drug shortages in history and health experts say the effect on cancer research may be felt for years to come. At least 25 cancer drugs are currently in short supply. It's affecting thousands of patients who face delayed or canceled chemotherapy appointments but it's also impacting research. Two drugs in particular, carboplatin and cisplatin, may be hurting research the most, because they are used with such a wide variety of cancers. According to the National Cancer Institute, Cisplatin and other platinum-based drugs are prescribed for 10 to 20 percent of all cancer patients. The institute says at least 174 of its own trials may be affected by the shortages.

07/21 99 sec Health

It's estimated that at least 39 million Americans live with migraine attacks, according to the American Migraine Foundation and health experts say extremely hot weather can not only make these painful headaches happen more often but can also cause them to be more severe. More on how to manage migraines in the heat.

07/26 28 sec Economy / Government

Governor Albert Bryan Junior is responding to a court decision that says the EPA overstepped its authority when it required a refining company to get a permit before restarting their refinery. He said the court's decision is a quote "significant" milestone in the refinery restart and for the St. Croix manufacturing economy. He also said that he understands the value of the refinery because he used to work there. You can go to [transparency dot vi dot gov](https://www.transparency.vi.gov) for more information about these projects.

07/26 23 sec Safety

They kill more kids and teenagers than anything else in the US, guns surpassed car accidents in 2020, as the leading cause of death in children but a new study suggests a one-minute video on gun safety could save lives. Let's take a look at the data.

07/26 49 sec Environment

An alarming new study shows what could lie ahead if climate change is not brought under control. Researchers say the warming of the planet has the potential to collapse the world's crucial system of ocean currents. These currents act like a giant global conveyor belt. They transport warm water from the tropics toward the north Atlantic, where the water cools, becomes saltier and sinks deep into the ocean, before spreading south. The currents help regulate global weather patterns and researchers warn if this so-called conveyor belt breaks down, people would see more extreme winters and sea levels rising. Scientists say it is not a matter of if the system will collapse but when. Some think it could happen as early as 2025, but others say the collapse is decades away unless carbon emissions are cut to zero, global temperatures are reduced, and melting in the arctic is slowed.

08/01 135 sec Environment

A ban on incandescent lightbulbs is now in effect, meaning you soon won't be able to buy them. It's a big change, because consumer data shows about a third of bulbs purchased in the US are the traditional incandescent lights. The ban is a push toward energy efficiency. It's a simple change, and it could save you money. Our USVI news' Ethan Kibbe has details on the ban and answers to common questions.

08/01 32 sec Environment / Community

It's been about a week and we now have the numbers that show just how big Christmas in July was this year! It was record-breaking, more than five thousand people and 475 vessels made their way to Pond Bay Beach in Virgin Gorda. This was for the traditional end of the summer Christmas in July event. The event was also different because of its environmental protection efforts. This included recycling stations throughout the beach, and the donation of some profits to an environmental nonprofit called beyond the reef. Some of the musical acts were 'The Final Faze' and Mango Bajito.

08/01 51 sec Health

It's the fourth most common cancer in the US and a recent study is showing colon cancer is on the rise in younger adults. The American Cancer Society recommends adults at average risk start regular screenings starting at age 45. USVI News Emily Matson has more on some of the red flags to watch out for.

08/01 21 sec Health

In these dog days of summer, it's always a good reminder to pack your sunscreen. Dermatologists are stressing how important it can be year-round, regardless of your skin tone. Jarred Hill has more.

08/01 31 sec Health

The US Food and Drug Administration has issued warning letters to several e-cigarette distributors. The agency is accusing them of selling and distributing unauthorized products that appeal to minors. ABS Distribution, EC Supply and Easy Wholesale have all received letters of notice from the FDA. Regulators allege the companies have distributed products that do not have marketing authorization, in violation of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The distributors have 15 days to respond with steps they plan to take in correcting and preventing violations.

08/03 26 sec Education / Safety

Tutu Park Mall hosted their annual back to school event. The Virgin Islands Department of Highway Safety was one of many agencies at the event to support parents and kids starting their new school year. Highway Safety focused on car seat safety and had plenty of props to keep guidelines visual. Other agencies that were present included the Department of Education, Disability Rights Center, Board of Education, Doctors Choice Pharmacy, 'By Invite Only VI', and S3 Media Services.

08/03 113 sec Education / Finance

Public school students will head back to class in a couple of weeks now, on August 23rd. and some experts are predicting an increase in back-to-school spending this year, even though there's a slight slowdown in inflation. USVI News Emily Matson has a look at how much more parents are spending this 2023 and five tips to save some cash.

08/08 27 sec Education

Monday, August 7th was the first day of school for students across the territory. The Department of Education hosted back to school events on St. Thomas and St. Croix to kickstart the day. Parents and students got the chance to ask

questions, get free books, and enter a raffle for free. Governor Albert Bryan Jr. also spent the day visiting schools and saying hello to students. Energy was high across the islands as teachers welcomed students into their new classrooms and kickstarted the school year.

08/08 131 sec Health

It's a common and serious, potentially life-threatening condition but there is now a new treatment for those in the US experiencing postpartum depression. The US Food and Drug Administration has approved the first oral pill to treat this illness. Our USVI News Emily Matson has more on the medication and how it may help.

08/08 26 sec Finance

The African Export-Import Bank has opened its Caricom office in Barbados. The bank's regional headquarters will support the implementation of the partnership agreement between the bank and Caricom member states, which is aimed at expanding Africa-Caribbean trade and investment relations. Prime Minister Mia Mottley said the development will provide the opportunity to assist the region's vital tourism sector.

08/10 121 sec Health

When it comes to packing school lunches, we can all get into a rut! If your child complains about getting the same sandwich every day, don't worry! We have you covered. Our USVI News Emily Matson has ten healthy lunch ideas, sure to get a smile!

08/15 33 sec Safety / Government

Townhall meetings are being set up as an action step in the Governor Albert Bryan Jr's administration plan to address abandoned and derelict buildings. The meetings will take place on August 28th and August 30th. The public is invited to attend. The administration has been talking with stakeholders in districts they want to address. Governor Bryan wants to address derelict buildings as health and safety hazards, not just visual blights. The August 28th meeting will be at the Charlotte Amalie High School auditorium at 6pm. The August 30th meeting is at the St. Croix Educational Complex also at 6pm.

08/15 32 sec Community

The donation check from the King of the Wing contest was presented to the Virgin Island Children's Museum on Monday, August 14th. The check presentation showed that around \$125,000 dollars were donated this year, all the proceeds from the event. The King of the Wing contest is an annual chicken wing cook-off held at Magens Bay Beach. It took place in June. This year's winner, in the restaurant division, was the Tap Room / St. John Brewers, a laid-back eatery and brewpub in Mongoose Junction in Cruz Bay. The VI Water and Power Authority won best overall wing and the non-restaurant division.

08/15 26 sec Finance

A new report shows Americans are getting more pessimistic about the economy. The University of Michigan's Measure of Consumer Sentiment is down point-four percent between this month and last month. Inflation and consumer confidence tend to go together and gas prices have risen in recent weeks. July's consumer price index is up point-two percent compared to June. US economists say Americans are likely to get even less optimistic in the near future, due to those high gas prices.

08/15 50 sec Finance

The Dominican Republic and Guyana signed a memorandum of understanding for the establishment of a new oil refinery in Guyana. The Dominican Republic will be the majority shareholder, with a 51 percent stake. A feasibility study for the

50,000 barrels per-day oil refinery will be conducted. Guyana has been seeking a private developer to invest in an oil refinery processing about 30,000 barrels of oil daily to satisfy local needs. The MOU related to the oil refinery was one of six bilateral agreements signed by the two countries while Guyana's President Irfaan Ali was on an official visit to the D.R. Ali said the agreements will create strong and significant value for both countries, ultimately positioning them as leaders in food and energy security beyond the Caribbean region.

08/17 26 sec Education / Safety

The back-to-school rush is underway, that means the roads are extra busy with students and pedestrians. Today, the VI Office of Highway Safety and the VI Police Department are urging motorists to prioritize safety and follow speed limits. They're offering some tips to avoid speeding. They say to plan ahead, leave early, follow school zone signs, anticipate traffic, and avoid distractions. They say it'd not only about getting to the destination quickly; it is about arriving safely.

08/17 29 sec Education / Health

School bells across the country are beginning to ring, but doctors and parents are worried about a shortage of ADHD medicine. The Food and Drug Administration posted information about more shortages last month. As students return to class, some parents and educators say the drug scarcity could have an impact on learning in the new school year. Some parents say they've had to skip doses or ration pills for their kids because pharmacies are out of the medicine. Recently, the FDA urged drug makers to increase production.

08/17 10 sec Education

Now to the Bahamas, the Ministry of Education is rushing to get ready for the start of school. Our correspondent Deandrea Hamilton details the efforts underway for the new school year.

08/22 31 sec Safety

The Virgin Islands Police Department has issued a warning to residents about a trend in carjackings. These carjackings are targeting women. Criminals will rush towards a woman approaching her vehicle, and threaten her at gun point to steal her keys and other belongings. Chief Detective Naomi Joseph urged car owners to be aware of their surroundings when leaving or arriving at any location, whether it's home, work, stores, or parks. If you are approached, give over personal items but observe and memorize as many details as possible about any attackers and the situation.

08/22 28 sec Education

Ross Cares Foundation donates backpacks to students for the 2023-2024 school year. The foundation donated over 400 backpacks. They partnered with the Virgin Islands Department of Education and gave them to students at 5 different schools: the Ulla F. Muller Elementary School, Julius E. Sprauve Elementary School, Lockhart K-8 School, Jane E. Tuitt Elementary School, and the Charlotte Amalie High School. Past the schools, the foundation also gave bags filled with essential care items to several civic and non-profits.

08/22 59 sec Health

There is hope for patients suffering from critical cardiovascular issues in the Caribbean. Addressing the 36th Caribbean Cardiac Society Conference last month in Kingston, Jamaica, Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil highlighted the life-saving ECMO or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation process. He's the Senior Consultant and Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery and Clinical Director at Health City Cayman Islands, ECMO is a form of life support for patients successfully and consecutively performed at the Caymanian facility. The respected surgeon cited a case of a child who is doing well following the treatment and transfer to the United States for a heart transplant.

08/24 26 sec Safety

The Governor Albert Bryan Jr administration and key stakeholders did a tsunami awareness workshop. Christa Von Hilderbrandt Andrade, Deputy Director at the International Tsunami Information Center, led the classes. Participants learned about the USVI's new alerting protocol guidelines from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. The workshop overall was in collaboration with VITEMA and helped enhance preparedness and community awareness about tsunamis.

08/24 27 sec Safety

The temperature continues to soar this summer and as coaches and athletes prepare for the upcoming season, health experts are sending out a warning, the heat and humidity can be especially hard on young players. Here's more on how to keep student athletes safe.

08/24 123 sec Environment

More shoppers are choosing electric vehicles so far this year than ever, according to recent vehicle sales data. Our USVI News Emily Matson has a look at what's behind the rise in sales and what to know if you're in the market for an EV this year.

08/24 80 sec Community / Government

Jamaica's National Council on Reparation has been tasked to review a paper that says the country is owed trillions of dollars in reparations for the Transatlantic Chattel Slavery. The report which was compiled by international economics consulting firm, brattle, assesses reparations for harm done during the period when chattel slavery was carried out and for continuing harm thereafter. For Jamaica, it is estimated that the United Kingdom owes Jamaica 9.5 trillion US dollars while Spain owes 103 billion US dollars. The report was presented by Justice Patrick Robinson of the International Court of Justice to Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport Olivia Grange who has asked the National Council on Reparation to study the report to see how it can inform the roadmap to reparation. Justice Robinson said the document is historic.

08/24 33 sec Economy

St. Lucia will be home to the first all-inclusive secrets resorts in the eastern Caribbean region. Officials said that over the course of the construction phases and completion of the 351-room property, hundreds of new and sustainable job opportunities and careers will be created. The groundbreaking ceremony for transformation of the former St James's Club Morgan Bay on the northwest coast of the island, into the adults-only resort took place on Tuesday. Secrets Resorts is expected to be completed in August next year. Prime Minister Philip Pierre said the developers have the government's full support.

08/29 14 sec Education

The Turnbull Regional Library temporarily closed its doors on Monday, August 28th. The library is undergoing renovations, with construction slated for completion in 2024. Those renovations are being completed by the Four-Star Construction Co.

08/29 36 sec Education

The Caribbean Examinations Council, or CXC, is concerned about irregularities in this year's exams, which included cheating, use of cell phones and smartwatches, and impersonation. Director of Operations Dr Nicole Manning said while the overall number of cases of irregularities was only one more than last year, there was a significant increase in cases in the Caribbean advanced proficiency exam in particular. There were only two this year, but 17 this year. Dr Manning says the use of cellular phones is the biggest issue.

08/31 32 sec Education / Community

Lieutenant Governor Tregenza Roach visited the organizers of Spruce Up YRC, also called Youth Rehabilitation Center. Spruce Up YRC was an event that recently took place as a way to support the facility. Several government departments organized the event, the Judiciary from the Family Division of the Superior Court, and Representatives from the Virgin Islands Department of Human Services. Other businesses and organizations donated time and materials, including Home Depot, the University of the Virgin Islands, and other fraternal, governmental, and civic organizations.

09/04 49 sec Finance / Community

The Women's, Infants, Childrens program, also called WIC, is moving from the Charles Harwood Department of Health Modularity to the Sion Farm Shopping Center. That center is located between Mid-Island Frederiksted Health Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Group. Staff is working remotely but do have some in person hours. Those hours being Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2 to 4pm. The Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture is encouraging participants in the WIC program to take advantage of the resources, which include nutrition education and counseling services. In the meantime, the Department of Human Services is also urging SNAP participants, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, to only use their benefits for food, and buying nonfood items is fraud. Being caught in fraud can lead to temporary or permanent disqualification. The department is urging integrity in the program.

09/04 26 sec Community / Health

The Department of Agriculture is taking time to thank everyone who came to their National Farmers Week and National Health Center Week activities. The events took place on St. John, lasting from August 6th to August 12th. They posted the pictures playing to showcase some of the activities, which included local fresh produce for sale, storytelling, and a compost demonstration. The goal of the events was to share tips on how to live healthier, more enjoyable health styles.

09/04 85 sec Government

The Bahamas Government has launched public consultations on legislation to decriminalize cannabis for medical, research, and religious purposes. The focus is on the cannabis bill 2023, which sets the stage for local cannabis production catering to medical needs and potential industry growth. The legislative package aims to destigmatize medical cannabis, offering relief to Bahamian patients suffering from chronic illnesses. It also outlines economic possibilities, with licensing for various aspects of cannabis production and strict quality regulations. The proposal aims to empower local involvement, with foreign investors allowed up to 70% ownership in specific areas, while others are exclusively for Bahamian businesses. Attorney General Ryan Pinder and Minister of Health and Wellness Dr. Michael Darville have initiated public consultations, including closed sessions and upcoming public meetings, to gather insights from experts and citizens across sectors.

09/06 29 sec Economy / Environment

The Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture in partnership with the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and the Southern AG Exchange Network is launching the Farm Stress Assistance Program. This program is a Virgin Islands specific Farm Stress Reduction Program. They are holding an informational session today at 5:30 pm to discuss the project with farmers and the community, gather feedback and answer any questions. The informational will be held at the Ruldolph Shulterbrandt Agricultural complex on St. Croix.

09/06 41 sec Safety

A weather system labeled Tropical Depression 13 is expected to strengthen into a major hurricane later this week. The system is predicted to travel 200 miles north of the territory. If the path of the storm makes any changes or threatens the US Virgin Islands, update notices will be issued. Should a credible threat be determined, Jaschen said sandbags will be distributed beginning Thursday on St. Croix at the Department of Public Works in Estate Anna's Hope, at DPW in Estate Concordia and at the Cotton Valley and Grove Place fire stations. Sandbags will be distributed on St. Thomas at

the DPW in Subbase and at the Fortuna and Omar Brown fire stations. On St. John, sandbags will be distributed at the Coral Bay fire station and at the DPW in Susannaberg.

09/06 26 sec Education / Finance

More than four-million people have enrolled in US President Joe Biden's new Save Plan, in an effort to get out from under student loan debt. The repayment plan promises to lower monthly bills as student loan payments are set to resume in October after a years-long pandemic-related pause. Borrowers who were not enrolled in REPAYE must apply for the save plan. Interest began accruing on federal student loans started accruing on September 1st for the first time since March 2020.

09/06 49 sec Education

With just days before school reopens in Jamaica, Minister of Education and Youth Fayval Williams has indicated that 854 teachers have resigned from the public sector so far this year. Up to August 18th, the ministry had reported 427 resignations, but in the 11 days that followed, there were 400 more. Williams made the disclosure at a post cabinet press briefing where she said a significant number of those resignations were sent to the ministry after the last pay cycle ended on August 25th. Despite the resignations, the education minister said 25,000 teachers remain in the system and an available pool of almost 1,700 teachers to be employed and she said there should be enough to meet the needs of schools which reopen next Monday.

09/06 26 sec Education

As kids head back to school, here's a reminder that reading is fundamental for everyone. Today is "National Read a Book Day!" Numerous studies over the decades have stressed the mental benefits of reading, which include boosting a person's memory and concentration. Older readers also seem to show a slower cognitive decline compared to those who don't read as much. Those who participate are encouraged to spread the word on social media by using the hashtag read a book day.

09/08 19 sec Community

Looking for something to do with the family this weekend? The WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program presents Family Fun Day! Tomorrow, September 9th, from 11 am to 4 pm, come to the Agriculture Fair Grounds for fresh produce, petting zoo, free popcorn, and much more for a day filled with fun. Tickets are free, and you can use your WIC or FMNP Coupons at the fair.

09/08 49 sec Safety / Environment / Health

Governor Albert Bryan Jr. has issued proclamations for the month of September in the territory. This is bringing awareness to emergency preparedness, several public health concerns, environmental initiatives, and contributions made by the territory's workforce. Governor Bryan has proclaimed September national preparedness month in the territory to urge virgin islanders to take concrete actions to further their preparations for emergencies and disasters, in keeping with the nation's establishment of National Preparedness Month. Some other proclamations to keep in mind this month is Ovarian & Prostate Cancer Awareness month, Sickle Cell Disease Awareness month, Suicide Prevention Awareness month, and Labor & Management Awareness month. Governor Bryan urges residents to take the steps they need in order to find out more information about these proclamations.

09/08 19 sec Safety

Hurricane Lee is predicted to keep making changes as it progresses and is tracking to well north of the territory. With this, sandbag distribution is discontinued for today at the Department of Public Works or the VI fire stations on St Thomas, St John, or St Croix. Residents are still urged to prepare in any way they can for the minimal impact of the storm.

09/08 14 sec Health

No matter the season, some of us love to head to the salon for pedicures, but certain nail treatments can be hazardous to your health if not handled properly. In today's health minute, Mandy Gaither explains how to avoid an infection at the nail salon.

09/08 24 sec Safety

Hurricane Lee has now strengthened into a category 4 hurricane. Peak intensity is expected this weekend to become a dangerous hurricane over the southwestern Atlantic early next week. Our Washington DC correspondent Rachel Knapp reports.

09/11 26 sec Safety

US Coast Guard Sector San Juan urges boaters & beachgoers in the US Virgin Islands to exercise caution during the weekend due to hazardous seas associated with Hurricane Lee. US National Weather Service advisories are alerting the possibility of life-threatening rip currents & seas of 10 to 15 feet affecting USVI waters. USVI port condition status is x-ray. During x-ray, the ports remain open to vessels & facilities are reminded to review their hazardous weather plans.

09/11 45 sec Health

Early data from South America shows the flu vaccine has cut the risk of hospitalization in half this year. It's a hopeful sign the vaccine will provide a similar level of protection in the US as the country heads into its own respiratory virus season. The southern hemisphere typically experiences its flu season a few months earlier than the US, and trends from that region can help the US prepare for the fall and winter. According to the CDC, this year's mid-season flu vaccine data from five South American countries shows vaccination has reduced the risk of hospitalization by 52 percent. That's based on about three thousand patients hospitalized between late March and early July. The specific virus strains that have been detected in the US this year so far have shown a similar pattern to those identified in South America.

09/11 26 sec Safety

Apple is urging iPhone and iPad owners to update their operating systems immediately. The company issued an update that fixes a vulnerability that hackers may already be exploiting. The Citizen Lab at University of Toronto discovered it. The security flaw exists in iOS 16.6.1. Experts say iPhone and iPad owners should immediately go to the settings menu on their devices. From there, select general, then software update. Tap install now to begin the process.

09/11 127 sec Education

It's back to school in the Bahamas. As our correspondent Deandrea Hamilton reports, the education sector there is struggling. Here's her report.

09/14 36 sec Safety

A smoke advisory has been issued on St. Thomas after a significant fire caused the closure of the Bovoni Landfill site. Residents in the area are being advised to take precautions, as firefighters actively address the situation. All Virgin Islands Fire and Emergency Services workers have been mobilized, acting quickly to ensure public safety is prioritized. This fire broke out early Thursday morning at the landfill. The public is strongly advised to avoid the area and stay inside if possible. If driving, you're asked to keep your windows up and vents closed. And if you know you have vulnerable neighbors, the public safety advisory asks that you check on them as well, to ensure the safety of all community members.

09/14 34 sec Education

A significant milestone for the VI Department of Education in the construction of the new Arthur A. Richards PreK-8 school site. The construction of a new school in the district of St. Croix is the first of its kind in decades. The previous Arthur A. Richards Jr. High School was severely damaged by hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017, leading to its demolition. The new Arthur A. Richards Prek-8 School is a substantial \$163 million dollar project that will provide state-of-the-art learning spaces spanning 145-thousand square feet. The school will be relocated to the former site of the Evelyn M. Williams Elementary School.

09/14 24 sec Safety

Repairs and installations will resume on the floating dock at Krum Bay on Saint Thomas this coming Wednesday. All boats must be removed from the floating dock area by Monday. Construction cannot continue on this project if the boats are not removed. The Department of Public Works appreciates the community's patience as they work to improve road conditions throughout the territory. The department thanks all for their cooperation.

09/14 124 sec Health

In the USVI, updated covid-19 vaccines will be available in the coming days. According to the CDC, the agency recommends the updated shots for the public, which means they'll be covered by public and private insurance plans. USVI News Emily Matson has more on how this vaccine is different and what you need to know about it.

09/14 35 sec Environment

As hurricane season reaches its peak in the Virgin Islands, the Hideaway at Hull Bay in St. Thomas is proud to showcase the impactful role played by the Hideaway Retention Pond. Constructed in 2019, the structure stands as a powerful shield against storm water runoff from the Upland Valley, safeguarding Hull Bay from excessive sedimentation. In the summer of 2023, the Hideaway Farm successfully removed approximately 45 cubic yards of sediment from the pond. The Hideaway at Hull Bay remains dedicated to championing responsible environmental practices and recognizing the interconnectedness of land, water, and community.

09/14 125 sec Health

We're heading toward respiratory virus season again and while illnesses like the flu and RSV tend to start spreading in October, the US is already seeing some sicknesses starting to tick up. USVI News' Emily Matson shares how to help identify viruses if your child gets sick.

09/18 124 sec Safety

Thank goodness the Caribbean was spared the wrath of Hurricane Lee earlier this month. And no matter what type of natural disaster or emergency residents face, it's critical to be prepared beforehand. And those who are older may have a hard time making arrangements. So, our Emily Matson has simple steps to help seniors prepare for an emergency in honor of National Preparedness Month.

09/18 15 sec Health

We're heading toward respiratory virus season again and while illnesses like the flu and RSV tend to start spreading in October, the US is already seeing some sicknesses starting to tick up. Mandy Gaither has more on how to help identify viruses if your child gets sick.

09/20 26 sec Safety

Governor Bryan has announced a state of emergency for the Virgin Islands in response to the ongoing fire at the Bovoni Landfill. The fire has been burning since last Thursday, September 14th, and can be seen and smelled for miles. This has resulted in poor air quality, and business and schools in the area have closed. The fire is not sustainably contained and external assistance is required to extinguish the flames below the surface of the green waster area of the Bovoni Landfill.

09/20 15 sec Environment

Climate change is the big focus Wednesday at the United Nations General Assembly gathering in New York. It comes after major speeches from both US President Joe Biden and the president of Ukraine calling for continued unity against Russia. Jarred hill reports.

09/20 43 sec Finance

Prices at the pump climbed to their highest level of the year this week, as oil prices push past \$92-dollar a barrel. Normally, gas prices cool off after the summer driving season ends on Labor Day. But the opposite has happened this year as Saudi Arabia's and Russia's aggressive supply cuts lift oil prices. The national average for regular gas hit \$3.88 a gallon on Monday, the highest price since October 2022, according to AAA. Gas prices have jumped by five cents a gallon in the past week alone. Rising pump prices are an unwelcome sight for consumers, as they threaten to undo progress on the fight against inflation. Although the national average is well below the record high of \$5.02 a gallon set in June 2022, gas prices are now 20 cents above where they were at this point last year.

09/20 32 sec Safety

More than 700 children were killed in car accidents in 2021 and of those killed, more than 36-percent weren't properly buckled up; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In honor of Child Passenger Safety Week, we have five steps to keep kids safe in a vehicle; it's today's Health Minute.

09/20 28 sec Health

A new study has found obesity has been an increasing factor in cardiac deaths over the last two decades. According to new research, adults whose obesity contributed to their heart disease death tripled from 1999 to 2020. Still, there was a nearly 18-percent decline in heart disease deaths during that time period. In general, the deaths were more common among men than women. The CDC says about 115 million people in the US are obese, and that number has been rising over the years.

09/22 34 sec Safety

As emergency services continue to respond to the Bovoni Landfill fire, several local businesses and organizations are donating supplies to first responders. Moes Fresh Market, Universal Concrete, Tropical Shipping & Construction Co, and World Fresh Market have all donated Gatorade, ice, water, and coolers to those on site. The donations were organized by the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs. H. Nathalie Hodge, the DLCA nominee commissioner, said it is "crucial to show our appreciation to firefighters and emergency services personnel who are tirelessly working to contain the fire and protect our community.

09/22 31 sec Community

Monday is the National Day of Remembrance for murder victims. In the Virgin Islands, the Department of Justice is teaming up with the Family Resource Center to honor local victims. The two agencies are hosting an observance on Monday at 5:30pm at the Emancipation Garden in St. Thomas. The ceremony is open to the public. There will also be a rose-laying ceremony at the waterfront in front of the Vendor's Plaza. The DOJ's Victim Services Coordinator Elma

Brathwaite says the ceremony is a chance for the community to show empathy and sympathy for victim's families and loved ones.

09/22 44 sec Government / Finance / Education

The 52nd Annual Legislative Conference for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation kicked off in our nation's capital. The conference focuses on policy, social justice, economic empowerment, education and other important topics for black Americans. The CBCF says against a backdrop of the Supreme Court's recent decision to strike down affirmative action programs and diversity, equity and inclusion stalling across corporate America, this year's conference will focus on securing democracy; protecting our freedoms and uplifting our culture. The Virgin Islands' representative Stacey Plaskett is the co-chair of this year's conference. She tells us she's invited the Virgin Islands' government to be part of the conference and shares what she hopes people can learn from this gathering.

09/22 39 sec Community / Government / Safety

The Office of the Children's Advocate in Jamaica is taking a significant step in the fight against child sexual exploitation. On Tuesday, they launched a groundbreaking anti-sexual grooming handbook, aimed at safeguarding children from online predators. In recent times, there has been a disturbing increase in predators using online platforms to target children with inappropriate and harmful sexual behavior. This alarming trend has prompted the OCA to take action. The primary objective of the handbook is to empower parents, caregivers, and educators with the knowledge and strategies necessary to identify and prevent potential dangers to children in both the online and offline world.

09/25 36 sec Safety

On Monday, the Bovoni Landfill fire reached day 12 of intense burning, first responders from across the islands battling the heat. VI Fire and Emergency Medical Services Director Daryl George called the fire a 'menace', and estimated it would burn for another week. The Department of Health is meeting needs of responders on site with a/c, water, and medical assistance as needed. Local businesses continue to donate supplies. Extinguishing methods have caused lots of smoke, which monitoring has shown does not have toxic particles at this time. The landfill was open for deposits on Monday from 5am to noon. There is no rainfall expected for the next few days.

09/25 43 sec Education

The Department of Education is navigating student protests and teacher 'job actions'. Last Friday, students at St. Croix's Central High School, Educational Complex High School, and John H. Woodson Jr. High school protested over the lack of air conditioning. Some elementary schools were also let out early due to personnel shortages from teacher union job actions. Over the weekend, the Department of Education released a letter saying they respect safe, lawful protests but telling students and teachers they needed to report to school on Monday. They announced early release times at several schools to combat heat and accommodate for faculty shortages. There is a public presentation scheduled for Thursday, September 28th where topics like federal funding, maintenance timelines, new school updates, and academic recovery.

09/25 14 sec Safety

It's baby safety month and new data from the US Consumer Product Safety Commission shows that young children are still dying from unsafe sleep environments or misuse of nursery products. Mandy Gaither takes a look at the report and has more on how to keep babies safe.

09/25 9 sec Finance

We begin in the Bahamas, that's where they're seeing an incredible boom in tourism. Our correspondent Deandrea Hamilton dives deeper into what's this means for the country.

09/27

29 sec Safety

The firefight at the Bovoni Landfill continues, with first responders from St. Thomas and St. Croix battling the fire in extreme heat for now the second week. It was first reported on September 14th. The intensity of the fire and smoke conditions prompted governor Bryan to declare a state of emergency on September 18th. Outreach workers visited households to inquire about residents' general health, their exposure history, and any pre-existing health conditions to offer guidance on what to do if residents encountered smoke from the landfill.

Public Service Announcements
07/1/2023 - 09/30/2023

Organization / Subject	WCVI -	
	CBS	ECVI - ABC
COMMUNITY PSA COALITION TO SALUTE AMERICA'S HEROES	86	115
COMMUNITY PSA: AIR FORCE PSA	595	583
COMMUNITY PSA: Air Force Recruiting Service	151	155
COMMUNITY PSA: AmeriCorps	119	136
COMMUNITY PSA: Dept of Veterans Affairs	57	61
COMMUNITY PSA: HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS PSA	88	125
COMMUNITY PSA: HOPE FOR THE WARRIORS PSA	82	114
COMMUNITY PSA: Peace Corps	149	182
COMMUNITY PSA: Special Olympics	54	53
COMMUNITY PSA: US Dept of Veteran Affairs	137	146
COMMUNITY PSA: VAMERICAN LEGION PSA	280	538
COMMUNITY PSAUSO (United Service Organization) PSA	86	102
EDUCATIONAL PSA: Social Security Administration	161	162
ENVIRON PSA: Nature Conservancy	616	608
ENVIRONMENT PSA: Best Friends Animal Society	56	54
ENVIRONMENT PSA: EarthJustice	153	161
ENVIRONMENT PSA: National Park Foundation	100	126
ENVIRONMENT PSA: Preventing Food Waste	631	622
ENVIRONMENT PSA: World Wildlife Fund	660	659
HEALTH PSA: AIR FORCE PSA	86	126
HEALTH PSA: Buzzed Driving Prevention	53	52
HEALTH PSA: CDC Drug Overdose and Prevention	660	647
HEALTH PSA: Children's Cancer Research Fund	56	59
HEALTH PSA: Middle School Mental Health	139	144
HEALTH PSA: National Pest Management	657	633
HEALTH PSA: PARALYZED VETERANS PSA	591	583
HEALTH PSA: Prostate Cancer Foundation	154	160
HEALTH PSA: Shriner's Hospital for Children	669	658
HEALTH PSA: Skin Cancer Foundation	123	132
HEALTH PSA: US DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES PSA	85	108
HEALTH PSA: US DEPT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS PSA	88	118
HEALTH/COMMUNITY PSA: US Dept of Vet Affairs	643	625
HEALTH: SAMHSA US Dept of Health & Human Services	85	114
SAFETY PSA: Ad Council Drug Impaired Driving	109	134
SAFETY PSA: Child Car Safety	86	125
SOCIAL PSA: American Humane	104	128
SOCIAL PSA: Foundation for a Better Life	191	164
Grand Total	8840	9412