



Daily News Photo by SEAN McCOY

ESPN anchorwoman Linda Cohn talks with Ivanna Eudora Kean High School students on Friday afternoon. Cohn and other celebrities taking part in the Beacon Schools Celebrity Golf Tournament visited Kean on Friday.

Celebs fire up students with speeches, music

By SEAN McCOY
Daily News Staff

ST. THOMAS — Star power fueled an uplifting event at Ivanna Eudora Kean High School on Friday afternoon as famous athletes and performers, on island for the Beacon Schools Celebrity Golf Tournament, visited Kean to talk to students.

The celebrities — ESPN anchor Linda Cohn, former NFL players Walter Briggs and David Duerson, singers Chris Richardson and Javier Colon, and former Major League Baseball player Reggie Smith — told students to dream big and work hard to accomplish anything they wish.

“Anything that might make you happy, keep it in your heart. You might be able to get paid for it one

day,” said Linda Cohn, a sports anchor at ESPN for 18 years who said that sports brought her joy as a child.

Other celebrities said hard work and motivation will carry students far.

“Everyone here has something that motivated them, that occurred in their lives, that told them, ‘Yes, I can do that,’” Smith said of the celebrity visitors.

Students cheered and applauded for performances by two of the visiting singers before mingling with the stars for a few minutes.

Pam Lancaster, executive director of Beacon Schools of the Virgin Islands, said students who need help with classwork should reach out to the Beacon School at Kean.

“If you are struggling with a

subject, we can help you,” Lancaster told the students.

Beacon Schools of the Virgin Islands is an after-school program that has seven sites in the territory with the main objective of tutoring young students with their homework. It also helps adults with computer, parenting and English as a second language classes.

Kean is one Beacon School location.

The Beacon School Celebrity Golf Tournament has raised more than \$1 million during the last eight years, Lancaster said.

This year, 23 celebrities are expected to participate in events throughout the weekend, including the Celebrity Golf Challenge, in which stars are grouped with a foursome for a best-ball tournament.

Man indicted on charges he stole 149 sea turtle eggs

By DANIEL SHEA
Daily News Staff

ST. CROIX — A federal grand jury determined that there was enough evidence to take a local man to trial in U.S. District Court on two charges stemming from an incident in June 2009, when, according to prosecutors, he took almost 150 hawksbill sea turtle eggs from their nest.

The grand jury indicted Juan Oscar Garcia on the charges of taking an endangered species and possession of an illegally taken endangered species. He faces up to a year in prison and a \$50,000 fine.

According to the indictment, Garcia removed the hawksbill eggs on June 6, 2009, from a nest in Frederiksted.

Federal authorities said they were able to recover and rebury 146 of the 149 eggs that were taken from the nest.

William Coles, the chief of environmental education for the V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources, said that locally “there is a belief that the eggs are an aphrodisiac.”

Normally, the eggs are only removed from the nests for consumption within a day or two of being laid — because even people who eat sea turtle eggs do not want a little turtle fetus inside, Coles said.

“The poachers want the least

developed eggs,” Coles said. “So if we can keep them preserved for the first couple of days, then, generally, they’re okay.”

The hawksbill sea turtle is endangered throughout its range — consisting mostly of the Caribbean, Mexico, Indonesia and Australia. About 15,000 females are estimated to nest in the Caribbean, making up 20 percent to 30 percent of the world’s hawksbill population.

The average hatching time for the turtles is 60 days, Coles said.

Larger hawksbills can reach up to 3 feet in length, and females of that size can lay more than 100 eggs in one nest, Coles said. But, more than likely, based on the quantity of eggs removed, they were taken from more than one nest, he said.

Coles said that egg-snatching is very prevalent, with four nests poached in only the last week.

Along with a patrol he does twice a week to check on nests, Coles has spoken with owners of beachfront property to have them keep an eye out and has spoken with the V.I. Police Department about some of the problem sites, he said.

Garcia was scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday before U.S. Magistrate Judge George Cannon.

Setting the record straight

A story on page 6 of The Daily News on Friday incorrectly described the amount of money the V.I. Water and Power Authority hopes to receive by re-issuing a 2008 loan. The utility would receive \$14 million in new funds and would use \$3 million to cover Hurricane Earl expenses, \$4.7 million to shore up WAPA’s disaster fund and \$6.3 million to pay for fuel.

Daily News Publishing Company Inc., owned by Times-Shamrock Communications, publishes The Virgin Islands Daily News daily, except Sunday, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day, at 9155 Estate Thomas, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, VI 00802. First-class postage paid at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

USPS 144-180

POSTMASTER, send Form 3579, Notice of Address Change, to: Circulation Director, Daily News, 9155 Estate Thomas, St. Thomas, VI 00802.

The Virgin Islands **DAILY NEWS** 80th Anniversary Since 1930

A Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper © 2010 Daily News Publishing Co.

Bridge.....22	Lottery Results 11
Calendar26	Nation & World13-15
Classifieds27-44	Obituaries10
Comics20-23	Opinions16-17
Crossword23	Police Reports10
Cruise Ships7	Sports44-48
Horoscope21	Stocks11

Contact us

Publisher
Jason Robbins
774-8772 ext. 307
jrobbs@dailynews.vi

Executive Editor
J. Lowe Davis
774-8772 ext. 350
lowedavis@dailynews.vi

E-mail
dailynews@vipowernet.net

Advertising
St. Thomas-St. John
774-8772
Fax: 774-6886
St. Croix
773-4425
Fax: 719-3000

Classifieds
714-2222
Fax: 774-6116

Mail
9155 Estate Thomas
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Opinions
774-8772 ext. 350

News
St. Thomas-St. John
774-8772 ext. 340
Fax: 776-0740
St. Croix
773-4425
Fax: 773-1621

Sports
774-8772 ext. 357
Fax: 776-0740

Circulation
774-8772 ext. 361

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One dollar daily. Other subscription rates available on request. The publisher reserves the right to change subscription rates during the term of a subscription with 30 days notice. The notice may be made by mail to the subscriber, by notice contained in the newspaper itself or otherwise. Subscription changes may be implemented by changing the duration of the subscription.

ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS:
paper.vi.dailynews.com

Printed on recycled paper