

**HONORABLE CARLA J. JOSEPH
SECRETARY OF 35TH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERAN'S AFFAIRS, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND all OTHER DISTIGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE AS A WHOLE. MY NAME IS ROOSEVELT STC. DAVID, AND I AM HERE TO SUPPORT BILL NO. 35-0006, AN ACT HONORING AND COMENDING FORMER SENATOR GEORGE E. GOODWIN, FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SIGINIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS HIS ADVOCACY, FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL.

ADDITIONALLY, I AM SUPPORTIVE IN RENAMING THE CRICKET FIELD, LOCATED ON PARCEL H OF TRACK 1, ESTATE NAZARETH, ST. THOMAS, VI, IN HIS HONOR, AND TO MERITORIOUSLY AWARD FORMER SENATOR GEORGE E. GOODWIN, THE VIRGIN ISLANDS MEDAL OF HONOR. MADAM CHAIR, SENATOR CARLA JOSEPH, I COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR VISION.

SENATOR GEORGE GOODWIN SERVED THIS COMMUNITY IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES, OFFERING HIS TALENT, HIS SKILLS AND SERVICE, TO ENSURE THAT MANKIND BE TREATED FAIRLY AND WITH DIGNITY; GEORGE SERVED WITH DISTINCTION, EVEN WHEN IT MEANT THAT HIS NECK WAS ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK, LITTERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY. GEORGE GOODWIN PRESSED ON, NO MATTER WHAT, AND THERE WERE TIMES WHEN HE WAS DISCOURAGED, BUT HE RATHER LEFT HIMSELF UNDONE FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS; I CAN ATTEST TO THAT, BECAUSE HE CONFIDED IN ME. GEORGE COULD HAVE BEEN ANYTHING THAT HE WANTED TO BE. AFTER FINISHING A 2-YEAR ACCOUNTING DEGREE AT CVI, HE COULD HAVE GONE ON TO ANY PRESTIGIOUS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY, AND FOCUSED ON HIS OWN UPWARD MOBILITY, BUT HE

OPTED TO FIGHT FOR FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE FOR PEOPLE OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

GEORGE REALIZED THAT UNDERPREVILEGED PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY IMMIGRANTS, WERE IN PERIL, AND LIKE MAHATMA GHANDI, NELSON MANDELA AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., HE SACRIFICED AND DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT; HE CONFRONTED THE SOURCE OF THE ATROCITIES.

GEORGE GOODWIN BECAME A RESPECTED FORCE WITHIN THE ALIEN INTEREST MOVEMENT, AS HE ASCENDED TO THE PRESIDENCY, SUCCEEDING NATHANIEL RICHARDSON OF ANGUILLA. BUT BELIEVE IT OR NOT, GEORGE WAS NOT ALONE, MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY BELIEVED IN HIS CAUSE, AND SUPPORTED HIM. AS A MATTER OF FACT, BEFORE THE SHARP AND BRILLIANT YOUNG ATTORNEY, ALEX FARRELLY BECAME GOVERNOR, HE CAME TO GEORGE GOODWIN'S RESCUE AND PROVIDED PRO-BONO LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE ALIEN INTEREST MOVEMENT.

FORMER DELEGATE TO CONGRESS, RON DE LUGO BATTLED WITH GEORGE AND SUPPORTED HIS CAUSE. AS A RESULT, THE GREEN CARD STATUS CAME INTO BEING, THROUGH A MEASURE PASSED BY CONGRESS. THE LATE GREAT EARL B. OTTLEY, AS WELL, RECOGNIZED GEORGE'S TENACITY, AND USED HIS INFLUENCE BEHIND THE SCENES, TO HELP. GEORGE IS A VERSATILE MAN, WHO TAUGHT TYPING TO THOSE WHO WERE INTERESTED TO LEARN, WITH THE HELP OF REVEREND DR. BENTLEY THOMAS. GEORGE ALSO HELPED TO PREPARE INDIVIDUALS, WHO WERE INTERESED IN GETTING THEIR **GED** CERTIFICATES. THIS RENAISSANCE MAN, LENT HIS FINANCIAL ACUMEN TO HELP MANY PEOPLE ACQUIRE THEIR OWN HOMES AND ALSO HELPED THEM TO SET UP THEIR OWN SMALL BUSINESSES.

MR. GOODWIN WAS A SPORTS' ENTHUSIAST, ESPECIALLY WHERE CRICKET WAS CONCERNED. WE PLAYED TOGETHER AND AGAINST EACH OTHER, AND GEORGE SAW THE TALENT AND POTENTIAL IN YOUNG CRICKETERS LIVING HERE; HE DEvised A PLAN TO EXPOSE THIS TREMENDOUS TALENT, AND PROPELLED THEM TO THE NEXT LEVEL. HE BECAME THE PRESIDENT OF THE ST. THOMAS CRICKET ASSOCIATION, WHILE I WAS TREASURER. AS A MATTER OF FACT, WE BOTH BECAME REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, TO THE LEEWARD ISLANDS CRICKET BOARD, WHICH IS THE SPRING BOARD TO WEST INDIES CRICKET. ACCORDINGLY, WE WERE ABLE TO GET THE VIRGIN ISLANDS ALL STAR CRICKET TEAM TO BE ADMITTED TO THE LEEWARD ISLANDS CRICKET TOURNAMENT. THAT WAS A HUGE ACCOMPLISHMENT. GEORGE BELIEVED IN SPORTS TOURISM, AND SO IN THE EARLY 1990'S HE WAS ABLE TO ORGANIZE A PROFESSIONAL CRICKET MATCH, BY INVITING AN ENGLISH FIRST CLASS TEAM TO VISIT ST. THOMAS TO COMPETE AGAINST THE VIRGIN ISLANDS ALL STAR TEAM. THIA GAME WAS PLAYED AT LIONEL ROBERTS STADIUM, AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HAD TO BE PRESENT TO PREVENT A STAMPEDE WITH THE TREMENDOUS NUMUBER OF PEOPLE, WHO CAME TO SEE THIS GAME. VENDORS DID VERY WELL; TAXI DRIVERS BENEFITED, AS MONEY CIRCULATED IN THE ECONOMY.

THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN ORGANIZATIONS WAS AN IMPORTANT ENTITY, OF WHICH I WAS THE PIONEER PRESIDENT AND GEORGE E. GOODWIN, THE KEY ADVISER. WE WERE ABLE TO SPEARHEAD ECONOMIC SUMMITS AT VICTOR'S HIDEOUT, WHICH DREW PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND FROM EVERY SEGMENT OF THIS COMMUNITY. EXHIBITORS AND INVESTORS FROM THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN AND THE UNITED STATES WERE IN ATTENDANCE. GOODWIN USED HIS GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND PERSUASION TO MAKE ALL OF

THIS HAPPEN. PEOPLE WERE MOTIVATED, MONEY CIRCULATED AND THE ECONOMY BENEFITTED.

IN 1986, THE BRILLIANT ATTORNEY, ALEX FARRELLY, ENTERED THE RACE FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP FOR THE THIRD TIME, WITH ATTORNEY DEREK HODGE, AS HIS RUNNING MATE. CLEVERLY, FARRELLY SELECTED GEORGE GOODWIN AS THE CAMPAIGN MANAGER. DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT FARRELLY DID FOR THE ALIEN INTEREST MOVEMENT? ONE HAND CAN'T CLAP, AND ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES RECIPROCATION. GOODWIN WAS A UNIFIER, AND SO HE EMPLOYED A STRATEGY THAT BROUGHT PEOPLE TOGETHER, NATIVES AND NATURALIZED CITIZENS, AND CONTINENTALS ALIKE. AS A RESULT OF THIS, FARRELLY-HODGE TICKET WON A CONVINCING VICTORY AND WAS ASCENDED TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

THE FIRST RESTRUCTURING OF GOVERNMENT, IN MODERN TIMES, TOOK PLACE ACCORDINGLY. SUBSEQUENT TO ALL THIS, GOODWIN WAS SELECTED TO BE THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GERS SYSTEM. GEORGE USED HIS INFLUENCE TO ADVOCATE FOR MORE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCALS. DURING A VERY HISTORIC PERIOD, GOVERNOR FARRELLY SAW IT FIT, TO SELECT GOODWIN TO BE A PART OF A NEGOTIATING TEAM TO ACQUIRE WICO. LET'S NOT FORGET THAT ATTORNEY ARTURO WATLINGTON, JR., ALSO PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THAT ACQUISITION.

IN 1992 GEORGE GOODWIN DECIDED TO RUN FOR A SEAT IN THE VI SENATE. HE CHOSE LINCOLN DUGGINS TO BE HIS CAMPAIGN MANAGER AND CHOSE ME TO BE HIS MAIN ADVISOR AND STRATEGIST. GEORGE USED THE UNIFIER APPROACH ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL. HE BELIEVED IN THE ONE PEOPLE, ONE CARIBBEAN, ONE FAMILY CONCEPT. MORE AND MORE UNITY PERMEATED THROUGHOUT THE CAMPAIGN AND THE

COMMUNITY. WHAT WAS UNIQUE AND IMPRESSIVE, DURING THAT CAMPAIGN, WAS THE FACT THAT THE POWERFUL MOOLENAAR FAMILY BELIEVED IN THAT CONCEPT; AND NOT ONLY DID THEY JOIN THE GOODWIN MOVEMENT, THE ESTEEMED AUTHOR AND POET, DR. RUTH MOOLENARR, PUBLICLY ENDORSED GOODWIN'S CANDIDACY. AND IF THAT WERE NOT ENOUGH HER SON, DR. LUCIEN MOOLENAAR, ALSO ENDORSED THE GOODWIN CAMPAIGN. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL EITHER, BECAUSE THE ILLUSTRIOUS, CHARMING EDUCATOR, DR. GWEN MOOLENAAR, ALSO BROUGHT HER OWN ENDORSEMENT TO THE GOODWIN CAMP AS WELL. AFTER ALL THIS, HOW COULD GEORGE NOT WIN? HE WAS SOLIDLY ELECTED TO THE 20TH LEGISLATURE. DURING THE TIME THAT GEORGE SERVED, HE RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SHOPPERS VISA, WHICH WOULD BRING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO THE VI ECONOMY, AND STRONGLY ADVOCATED FOR IT. WHILE THIS HAS NOT YET COME TO FRUITION, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING, THAT OUR DELEGATE TO CONGRESS, STACEY PLASKETT, IS WORKING VIGOROUSLY TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.

MADAM CHAIR, GEORGE E. GOODWIN, FORMER SENATOR, BUSINESSMAN, PIONEER, A HUMBLE MAN, MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS COMMUNITY WHICH HELPED TO BRING TREMENDOUS PROGRESS. AND SO, WITHOUT EQUIVOCATION OR HESITATION, I FULLY SUPPORT AND ENDORSE THIS MEASURE ON BEHALF OF MY FRIEND, FORMER SENATOR GEOGE E. GOODWIN. I THANK YOU. I AM READY TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS.