

The Virgin Islands Consortium

V.I. History Month Is Great Time To Reflect On Territory's Transfer From Danish To U.S. Rule, Mapp Says

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ST. THOMAS -- Governor Kenneth Mapp on Thursday reminded Virgin Islanders that March 1 marked the beginning of Virgin Islands History Month, and sought to encourage residents to reflect on the territory's storied past.

Act 6802, signed into law in 2006, created the monthlong recognition of Virgin Islands history and history makers. This year being the 100th centennial provides exceptional opportunity to revisit events related to the territory's transfer from Denmark to the United States in 1917, according to the governor.

“As we commemorate our centennial year as part of the U.S., it is important that we acknowledge the circumstances and individuals associated with our transfer,” Mr. Mapp said. “We can’t look forward with clear eyes without a sense of what and who brought us where we are today.”

The governor praised parents, educators and others making a special effort this month to teach the territory’s children more about our rich and interesting local history, according to Government House.

“Virgin Islands history offers many notable role models and learning about these individuals and other important events helps instill a sense of pride in our young people,” Mr. Mapp said. “I thank each Virgin Islander working to inform and enlighten our community this month and all year around.”

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