

TRADEWINDS

The Community Newspaper Since 1972 • St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

No Sidewalk, No Festival and Now No Shelia's Pot

Frank Powell Sr.
Park Renovations
Fence In 32-year
Food Vendor from
Serving the Public

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Not only has the fence surrounding Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay made walking near the waterfront difficult and dangerous and forced the St. John Arts Festival to be relocated, the obstruction has also closed down a beloved St. John eatery.

In anticipation of renovations to the park, government contractor Apex Construction erected a tall beige fence around the entire park including the sidewalk on the waterfront and bandstand on Monday, February 7. The fence will remain in place until renovations are completed, which is scheduled to be some time in June, according to government officials.



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Jaime Elliott

The tall beige fence surrounding Frank Powell Park, above, has shut long-time food vendor Sheila Liburd out of business.

With no sidewalk to use, pedestrians have been forced into the street, along with cars, safari taxis and buses. And the fence has also shut down Sheila's Pot.

Sheila Liburd has been serving

up delectable local fare near the bandstand in the Cruz Bay park for more than 30 years. Late last month, however, she was asked to relocate and then informed, via her attorney, that she might not be

able to reopen.

In a letter from Department of Housing, Parks and Recreation Commissioner St. Claire Williams, dated January 26, but not

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ST. JOHN
magazine



Lucinda Sewer Millin



Janette Millin-Young



Historical Bits & Pieces

by Chuck Pishko

Celebrating Black History Month

The Millins—Their Second Century of Community Service

St. John Tradewinds

Last week Senator Janette Millin-Young began visiting the public schools on St. Croix and St. Thomas to see firsthand the environment in which our teaching professionals work and our chil-

dren study and learn daily.

As chairperson of the Senate Committee on Education, Youth and Culture she rightly believes that the job can't be done from behind a desk. This brand new Senator doesn't enter upon this

task with a blank slate. The Millin legacy precedes her.

Her grandmother, Lucinda Sewer Millin, was born in Coral Bay, St. John, in 1892. She married Allan A. Millin and had three chil-

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Meet the Filmmakers of “Taking Root” at Screening on February 22 at SJSA

The St. John Film Society is hosting a free screening on Tuesday, February 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the St. John School of the Arts, at which the filmmakers will be present as well.

Stop by SJSA in Cruz Bay at 7:30 p.m. to watch “Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai,” an 80-minute film by Lisa Merton and Alan Dater. The filmmakers will be present for questions and answers after the screening.

This award-winning documentary tells the dramatic story of Kenyan Nobel Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai whose simple act of planting trees grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights and defend democracy – a movement for which this charismatic woman became an iconic inspiration.

Next Chamber Chapter Meeting Feb. 22

Cheryl Francis, Junior Achievement of the Virgin Islands Chair; Jason Charles, Project Manager; Bonny Corbeil, JAVI Board Member; and Pastor Themba, Acting JAVI Executive Director, will be making a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce-St. John Chapter on Tuesday, February 22, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Battery. See page 12 for more information.

VINP Postpones 20th Annual Folklife New Date Not Yet Scheduled

The management of Virgin Islands National Park regrets to inform the visiting public that this year's Annual Folklife Festival, which was scheduled for February 24, 25 and 26, has been postponed to a later date, to be announced.

This action was taken due to unforeseen circumstances which hampered final planning of the event.

This annual program has been well-attended in the past, and VINP officials are looking forward to presenting a great educational and inspiring program this year as well.

Before setting a new date, VINP management will confer with school officials in order to maximize attendance by students.

The VINP officials wish to thank all who look forward to this program for their understanding. For more information contact VINP Ranger Denise Georges at 776-6201, ext. 239.

Whale Watching Feb. 27 and Mar. 7

The Environmental Association of St. Thomas/St. John will host its annual whale watch on three days in February and March.

The all-day sails will be on Sunday, February 27 and March 7, aboard the catamaran *KeKoa*. Eco-guides will be aboard to educate participants about whales, dolphin, sea birds and other marine life. A snorkel and swimming stop, including a discussion of what can be done to help stop the spreading of lionfish in local waters will be made available as well.

Tickets are \$55 for members and \$65 for non-members and can be purchased at Dockside Bookstore at Havensight Mall, Barefoot Buddha Cafe and Red Hook Plaza.

Participants are to meet at the Red Hook Ferry Dock at 8:30 a.m. the day of the sail. For details, call 774-1837 or 777-7190.

GHS “Culturalypso” Set for March 5

Giffit Hill School announces “Culturalypso,” a school-wide community carnival, on Saturday, March 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. There will be free activities, a bouncy house and food for purchase available. Call 776-1730 for information.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

When arriving on St. John, visitors and locals are greeted by a tall beige fence surrounding Frank Powell Sr. Park which also blocks the sidewalk, forcing pedestrians into the street.

Frank Powell Sr. Park Renovations Fence In Sheila's Pot

Continued from Front Page

delivered to Liburd until January 31, she was asked to relocate her vending business no later than February 5.

"In an effort to assist you in acquiring another location to conduct your vending business, an alternative site in the vicinity of Nature's Nook has been identified and recommended," Williams wrote. "Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Any inconvenience is deeply regretted."

Liburd, however, had no intention of relocating. Instead, when word spread of her imminent closure, a petition circulated across St. John and garnered more than 300 signatures to keep Sheila's Pot open in its current location.

"I got five days notice to pack up and leave," said Liburd. "This is my busy season and my livelihood. They want me out of the park."

No resolution was reached and Liburd had no choice but to watch her vending business be blocked

"They want me out of the park...When you are in a place for 10 years, it is supposed to be grand-fathered in. This year will be 32 years I am here, November 8."

— Sheila Liburd, owner of Sheila's Pot food stand

off by the fence on February 7. On February 14, Governor John deJongh visited St. John for meetings and Liburd approached him with her petitions.

"I talked to the governor for a short while, but he didn't really say anything," said Liburd. "We were going to talk more when he got out of the meeting. But I didn't see him again."

Several phone calls from *St. John Tradewinds* to Government House requesting comment went unanswered last week.

Renovations to the park are needed and part of the work entails burying underground utilities,

explained St. John Administrator Leona Smith.

"The park is being renovated and everyone had to be out of the park," said Smith. "You can't be in there when they are doing the underground electricity. The renovations are long-needed and it's the first thing you see when you get off the boat."

The park's central Cruz Bay location, is exactly why renovations should have been planned for off-season, according to St. John homeowner Ronnie Lee.

"Why are they doing this now at the height of season?" he asked. "It just doesn't make sense."

The government's failure to give Liburd adequate notice is "terrible," Lee added.

"To shut her down virtually overnight is awful," he said. "I think it's terrible. She has been around for so many years with local flavor and has been frequented by locals and tourists."

"Sheila belongs in the park," said Lee.

When Liburd's attorney Henry Smock tried to express those sentiments to Commissioner Williams, however, he was informed of several "areas of concern" regarding the location of Sheila's Pot, ac-

cording to Liburd.

"This is not just for four months, this is for ever," said Liburd. "They want me out of the park permanently."

After three decades in business in the same location, and with her strong faith, Liburd believes that everything will work out, she explained.

"I believe in God and have faith that something will be worked out," Liburd said. "When you are in a place for 10 years, it is supposed to be grand-fathered in. This year will be 32 years I am here, November 8."

Rosa and Brady Arrested on Assault Charges

St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Police Department officials on St. John arrested two persons on separate assault charges last week.

One suspect threatened a victim and the other case involved domestic violence.

Victor Rosa, 31, was arrested

just before 3 a.m. Tuesday, February 15, and charged with Aggravated Assault and Battery, Domestic Violence for grabbing his wife by the shirt and slapping her in the face. Bail was denied due to the domestic charge.

Buster Brady, 50, was arrested shortly before 8 p.m. Mon-

day, February 14, and charged with Third Degree Assault for threatening a victim with a machete. Brady's bail was set at \$25,000.

Both suspects were remanded to the Bureau of Corrections on St. Thomas pending further court action.

2011 RAIN DATA at Trunk Bay

January

0.80 inches

Average

3.17 Inches

Total YTD

0.80 Inches

Average YTD

3.17 Inches

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Triopical Focus

Couples gathered on Trunk Bay beach at sunset, above, on Valentine's Day to renew their vows during the ninth annual Celebration of Love.

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More Than 125 Couples Renew Vows at Valentine's Day Beach Celebration

By Jaime Elliott
 St. John Tradewinds

Valentine's Day on Love City brings bouquets of roses, oversized stuffed animals, balloons and hundreds of people to Trunk Bay for one simple reason — to reaffirm their love.

For the ninth year in a row, Cathy and Billy Dove and the island's barefoot minister Anne Marie Porter hosted more than 125 couples in a Celebration of Love vow renewal ceremony on Monday, February 14, on Trunk Bay beach.

In total more than 2,000 years of marriage were represented on the alabaster sands of Trunk Bay. The Doves, who moved to Florida last year, weren't about to miss the event and added their 39 years of wedded bliss to the tally.

"I'm here because where else would I be," said Cathy Dove. "I love this. We have been renewing our vows for the past nine years and it feels as good now as it did back then."

The Celebration of Love was started in 2003 when a friend of



Love City's barefoot minister Anne Marie Porter, above, led the vow renewal on Trunk Bay beach on February 14.

the Doves suggested they take advantage of their 30 anniversary to renew their vows.

"We were celebrating our 30th anniversary and a priest friend said, 'Why don't you renew your vows,'" said Dove. "I told Anne Marie and we thought it might be a good opportunity to show the youth of the island that marriage is important to everyone. As we

continued talking about, we came up with this idea of a Celebration of Love."

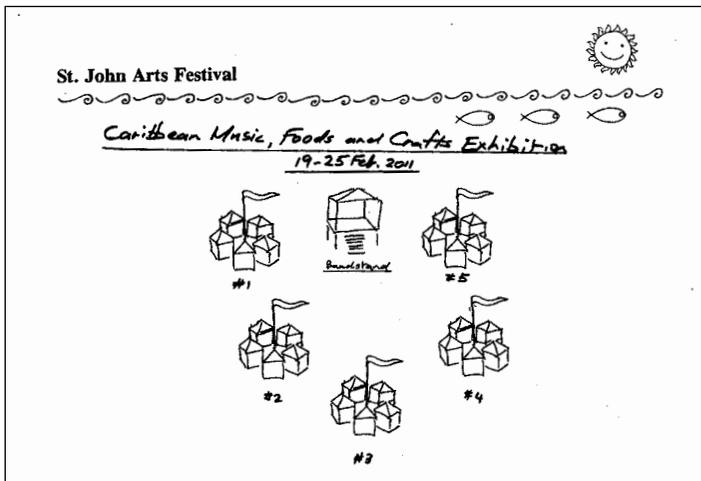
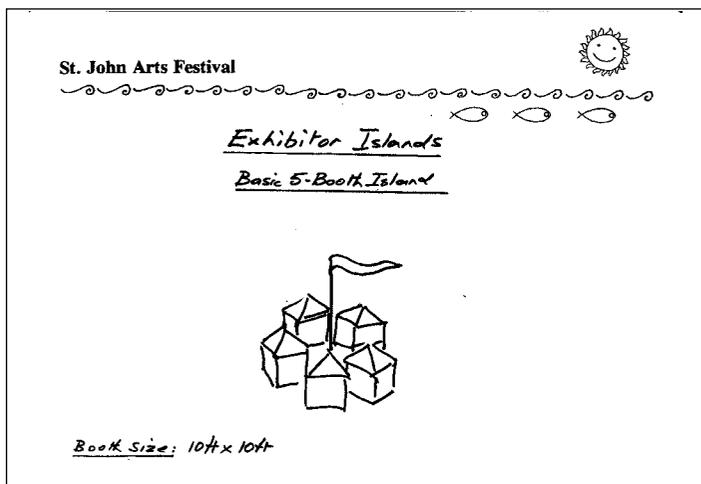
From the first gathering nine years ago which drew 70 couples, the number of participants has steadily grown, with this year's event drawing the biggest crowd to date. Locals and visitors alike — many of whom plan their vaca-

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11th St. John Art Festival Unveils New “Mini Expo” Format at VINP Ball Field

St. John Tradewinds

The 11th Annual St. John Arts Festival, which kicks off this week, will host its music, food and crafts events in the V.I. National Park ball field instead of the little Frank Powell Sr. Park.

With this transition comes a whole new look of the arrangement of booths into “Expo Islands” of five booths each, surrounding a raised band stand and each with a flying pennant to create a festive atmosphere.

Unlike previous years, there is a broadening of types of exhibits this year to include high-quality glass, pottery and hand-woven fabrics from Maho Bay artists. Their participation was not possible with the cramped spacing of booths in the little park. Also, special exhibits from senior citizen crafts people and schools will have their own “islands.”

It is amazing how what seemed to be a blah, desert-like venue at first

sight with no shade, has been transformed into a promising Mini St. John Expo, thanks to the help and cooperation of Department of Public Works St. John Deputy Director Ira Wade and St. John Deputy Director of Sports, Parks and Recreation Hubert Muscoso.

The novel “exhibition island” concept of exhibition booths together with a large shade tent for visitors is going to be fantastic.

Caribbean Food and Crafts Exhibition will take place all this week in the V.I. National Park ball field from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Caribbean Music Concerts are scheduled throughout the week as well from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Inner Visions play on Monday, Echo People on Tuesday, Koko and the Sunshine Band on Wednesday, Sambacomb on Thursday and Musical Vibrations on Friday.

St. John School of the Arts is hosting a special student performance on Monday night, February 21, from 6

to 9 p.m. St. John Film Society is screen “Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai” on Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. at SJSA.

Stop by Cinnamon Bay archeology museum on Thursday, February 22, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for a look at “Taino Heritage” featuring a timeline of artifacts and a film depicting the migration of Tainos from South America to the Caribbean islands.

Art galleries across the island will host daily shows of fine paintings, sculptures, jewelry and ceramics. Many restaurants throughout St. John will feature live music for the week as well. Schedule on page 11.

Printed St. John Arts Festival programs are available at Connections in both Cruz Bay and Coral Bay.

This is a whole “new look” show and the only Arts Festival in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Do not miss this unique festival celebrating the islands and learn about the true culture of the people — it’s very special.

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Safety Takes Center Stage at Bicycle Rodeo Hosted by CIT and VIPD

— Only 2 of 30 Participants Pass Inspection

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

A bicycle safety rodeo hosted by the V.I. Police Department's Community Integration Team (CIT) on Saturday, February 12, intended to make children safer riders, but also raised concerns among the island's competitive adult bikers.

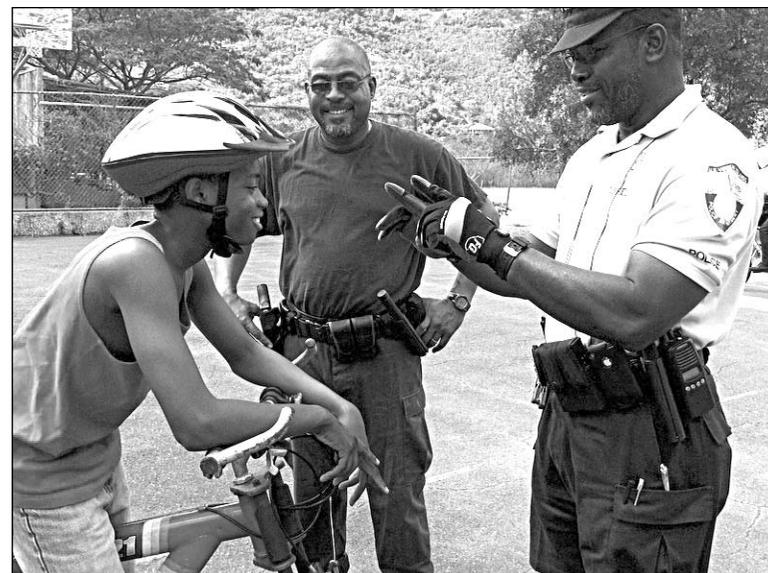
"The goal was for the kids to learn safety rules of the road for bicycles," said Linda Bechstein, St. John CIT chairperson. "Our original report was that kids out in Coral Bay were running with cars on the road with their bicycles and we wanted to stop that. The intention was to make children riding bicycles safe and to be honest I didn't even think about the adults."

CIT, VIPD officers and officials from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) gathered in the Coral Bay ball field first and then took the rodeo to Cruz Bay at the V.I. National Park ball field. The day was also intended to raise awareness about laws regarding bicycles, which stipulate the need for license plates, warning signals, reflectors and more.

A total of about 30 children attended both rodeos, of which only two were able to get their bicycles inspected. The other children were turned away because they didn't have the required safety features and licensing requirements.

All bicycles must be registered with BMV, to the tune of \$15 each per year, and must feature a bell or horn attached to the frame of the bike, a light on the rear of the bicycle and a license plate. The children who were unable to get inspected were turned away because they didn't have all of the equipment, Bechstein explained.

A lot of what is needed is relatively inexpensive," said the St. John CIT chairperson. "But they are not available on St. John, so you have to go to St. Thomas. We have discussed as a group obtaining some bells and horns and making them available to people who can't afford them or offer them at a discounted rate."



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of VIPD

VIPD Sgt. Clayton Browne (center) and Bicycle Officer Earl Mills (right) give a young St. John rider safety instructions.

CIT has urged VIPD to enforce the long-ignored laws after a two-month grace period to give riders a chance to comply, explained Bechstein.

Children are also not allowed to ride on public streets under the age of 12 without adult supervision, according to the V.I. Code. Children were able to complete an obstacle course, after which they were given bicycle helmets courtesy of the St. John Accommodations Council.

Adult competitive bicyclists, however, might even have a more difficult time complying with the decades old V.I. laws.

"I think it's a great idea for kids and I'm all for safety procedures," said one rider, who wished to not be identified. "But for adult riders there are quite a few of us with high-tech racing bikes and trying to comply with this law is going to be difficult to impossible. These laws were written 20 years ago and bike designs today are so high-tech, when you put these things on it that aren't supposed to be there, it could affect the performance of the bike and the safety of the rider."

"There might not even be room enough on new bikes to put all of

the equipment required," said the bicyclist.

Updating the bicycle safety law might be the way to go since the existing law also doesn't address what is probably the most dangerous element of bike riding today, according to the St. John cyclist.

"A new law, reflective of 2011 bikes and concerns, could include something like no headphones, which is a major safety concern," said the rider. "That would be more sensible than making everyone get a license plate and a light. I'm all for trying to comply with safety regulations, but the regulations should be realistic and up-to-date, and the existing law isn't."

The day did give children an opportunity to interact with VIPD officers in a positive environment, according to Bechstein.

"As a whole, a lot of the day was just about children being comfortable talking with police officers and having a friendly conversation with them," said Bechstein. "It was about being instructed how to do the right thing instead of being told they were doing the wrong thing."

CIT members will focus next on preparing for a summer activities fair in May, Bechstein added.

Threatened by Development, Future of Haulover Hangs in Balance

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

More than three acres of pristine land on the East End could be the site of major development, or be preserved for future generations and the St. John community could help determine which becomes reality.

The 3.6 acres are spread over four parcels of land located on both sides of the narrow Haulover isthmus on the East End. The eastern portion of the land abuts V.I. National Park property and is located close to the V.I. Coral Reef National Monument.

South Haulover beach, on Round Bay, is on one parcel of the property, and the stunning snorkeling spot on North Haulover on Dreekets Bay, is on another parcel of the land in question.

The wetland habitat on the land is a significant resource to protect and there could be archaeological significance as well, according to Rafe Boulon, V.I. National Park Chief of Resource Management.

"The wetland habitat there is pretty important to protect and we've never done any archaeological studies there so there could be

"The park is tied up right now — along with Friends of VINP and Trust for Public Land — with getting the various Maho acquisitions funded, which is a multi-year commitment they've already made. They do not feel they can start the process of requesting funding for Haulover for at least a few more years."

— Rafael Muilenburg,
Attorney for Family Properties Caribbean LLC (FPC)

pre-history ruins in the area as well," said Boulon.

While the property doesn't actually abut the V.I. Coral Reef National Monument, its proximity means any development on the land would certainly impact the fragile area, Boulon added.

"That is a significant nursery reef habitat and there are important sea grass beds that would certainly be impacted by development in the area as well as the park on the north side of the property," he said.

The land is owned by Family Properties Caribbean LLC (FPC) a long-time client of Morrisette and Muilenburg LLP, Attorneys at Law. The land is zoned R-2 (residential medium-density), which

allows for two dwelling units per quarter-acre. The developers have expressed an interest in applying for a Group Dwelling permit to get the "highest and best use" of the land, according to Attorney Rafael Muilenburg.

"Various people have been looking at these parcels, with several showings recently, including certain stateside developers," he said. "Zoning of all the parcels is R-2, so we believe that the 'highest and best use' (and the likely form of development) would be to construct at least 20 condominium dwelling units — up to 28, given that there are 3.6 acres with two dwellings potentially allowed on each quarter acre."

"The condo units would prob-

ably be clustered on the hill adjacent to the VINP-facing east, probably using a group dwelling permit as permitted by DPNR regulations," said Muilenburg. "Parking and other amenities (tennis courts possibly) could go on the flat land adjacent to the trail up to the north beach. Needless to say, for those who love Haulover in its natural state, this would not be a great outcome."

FPC, however, is looking to sell the property, Muilenburg added.

"The seller has recently dropped the market price of the Haulover parcels from approximately \$3 million down to \$1.9 million," said the attorney. "We believe something is likely to happen soon on this that will forever remove the

possibility of conservation."

To avoid a new condominium development on St. John, FPC principal David Prevo is willing to sell the land for conservation at the discounted price of \$800,000, according to Muilenburg.

"David is a longtime fan of the Park, and is intrigued about the benefits for FPC's nearby development at Dreekets Bay of dedicating this piece as conservation property," Muilenburg said. "As such, FPC would be willing to sell it for conservation at the amount they paid for it about 10 years ago, plus property taxes and other costs incurred, approximately \$800,000 total, which is half or less of the likely market price."

FPC can't afford to just donate the land to V.I. National Park and in turn the VINP's hands are tied due to the Estate Maho Bay acquisition, Muilenburg explained.

Two years ago the national non-profit Trust for Public Land raised the money needed to purchase the 400-plus acre Estate Maho Bay — the largest expansion of the park since its inception more than 50 years ago — to eventually sell to

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Kalousek Takes Over Reins of St. John Community Foundation

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Community Foundation has a new helms-woman.

After serving as the group's resource developer since March 2010, Celia Kalousek officially took over the group's reins on Monday, February 7. Former SJCF executive director Paul Devine, who led the group for three years, stepped down on February 4.

"I decided to retire," said Devine. "I tried to retire before I took the job and then decided to do it. I went into it with my feet dragging a little but after the first few months it was one of the best jobs I've ever had."

Devine led the group following former SJCF director Carole DeSenne's passing and helped the organization grow both in its volunteer base and programs.

"I really enjoyed building the community foundation up from what it was before," said Devine. "We didn't have too many programs going and now we have 12 major programs and we continue to grow."

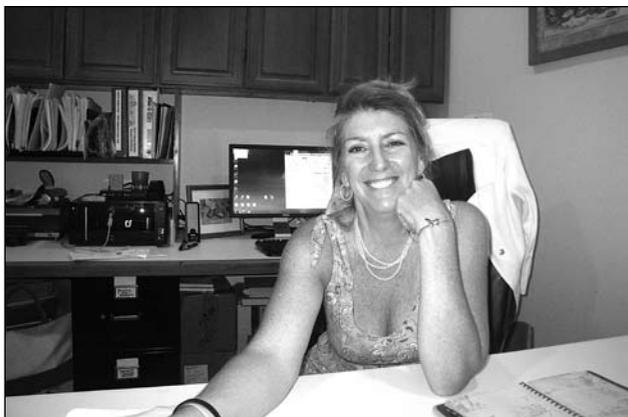
Handing over leadership to Kalousek will ensure the continued growth of SJCF, Devine added.

"Celia is so professional and experienced and her abilities are tremendous," he said. "We're blessed to have her taking over the position and she's really going to make SJCF even better."

Devine is transitioning to the SJCF board of directors, which also counts Lonnie Willis, Senator at Large Craig Barshigner, Harry Daniels, Jessica Richards-Daly, Ronnie Jones, Leslie Smith, Rob Crane, Oswin Sewer and Alecia Wells among its ranks.

Kalousek has been working with and supporting local non-profit organizations for years, having most recently launched the organization Community Service Involvement in order to revamp volunteer requirements in high schools.

"All local high schools require a minimum hour of volunteer time in order for students to graduate," said Kalousek. "In 1998 the requirement was 500 hours and then in 2003 they dropped that to 100 hours because kids were having a really hard time meeting the requirement."



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Celia Kalousek

"In 2009 we hosted a non-profit expo to put everyone together," said the SJCF executive director. "What we found out was that the non-profits weren't ready for the students, so we began training the non-profits to handle the students and keep them engaged. We're already seeing a lot of improvement there."

Kalousek has also worked closely with COAST, a local substance abuse prevention group, as well as the Island Green Building Association. Collaborating with various island organizations is exactly the trend Kalousek plans to foster at SJCF.

"My two main things are promoting volunteerism and being a volunteer coordinator," she said. "If we know you want to volunteer, we can farm you out to whatever organization needs you. We are not operating in a vacuum and we don't want to duplicate what another organization is doing, but we can support their efforts with volunteers and resources."

SJCF's programs like Dial-A-Ride and aluminum can recycling will also be boosted under Kalousek's leadership.

"We're focusing on growing the programs we have going already," she said. "For Dial-a-Ride we now have a community bus and have been expanding our route. Our recycling efforts are being expanded into a full Go Green Initiative

through which we are collaborating with other island organizations in order to expand the entire island's environmental programs."

The new executive director of SJCF is in the process of obtaining her Master's Degree in educational psychology at the University of the Virgin Islands. Her studies at UVI relate directly to her work at SJCF.

"One of my professors is the director of United Way in the Virgin Islands and my research project will be turned in as a grant request as soon as the class wraps up," she said.

Kalousek is also focused on getting the community more involved in directing the community foundation, she added.

"We really want to hear what the public wants as far as programs and plans for the future," said Kalousek. "I see a lot more collaboration as far as working with the community. We have so many talented and willing people on this island and if we focused that, we could achieve amazing results."

SJCF's annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, at the Fish Trap Restaurant. A dinner will be hosted at 6 p.m. with the meeting kicking off at 7 p.m. and the community is invited.

"Come to dinner or the meeting or both and tell us what is important to you," Kalousek said. "We have two and a half acres at Bellevue where we're planning to build a community center and we just got a grant to clear the area. We have so many ideas of what we can do there, but we want to know what the community wants."

Kalousek is keeping the organization's website, www.sjcf.org, up to date and residents can register to volunteer in any area of interest right on the site. For Kalousek, volunteering is something intrinsic to a healthy community.

"It's simple — be a part of the change you want to see happen," she said. "We all have something to give. Even if all you have is time, that could be really valuable to someone else."

For more information about SJCF or to volunteer, call Kalousek at 693-9410 or stop by the office on the third floor of The Marketplace.

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“Peace at Dusk” by Bob Schlesinger, featured photographer at GHS’ 25th Annual Auction.

GHS Marks Silver Anniversary of Annual Auction; Full Night of Fun Is Planned for March 12

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

Giffit Hill School officials are gearing up to celebrate a milestone at their annual auction on Saturday, March 12, at the Westin Resort and Villas.

The night marks the silver anniversary of the annual auction to support the island school, which began as the Pine Peace School 33 years ago. That small school grew into today’s kindergarten through 12th grade GHS, following a merger with the Coral Bay School in 2004.

The March 12 auction will honor the school’s founding members while raising money for the GHS scholarship fund, upon which 60 percent of the student body relies, according to Molly Murrill, GHS’ development director assistant.

“First and foremost we are honoring the founding families of Pine Peace School which was started 33 years ago,” said Murrill. “Janet and Andy Rutnik, Donald and Debbie Schnell, Dorothy and Peter Muilenburg and Viktor and Anna Johansson were the families which started it all.”

The theme of the 25th annual auction, which kicks off at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and a silent auction, is “Honoring Our Past, Celebrating Our Future.” The event will keep guests entertained throughout the night with a live auction and a few exciting games.

The silent auction will give guests a chance to bid on a bevy of items, from original paintings to handcrafted birdhouses. Featured artists this year include John Dickson, Les Anderson, Janet Rutnik, Bernice Shaller and Lisa Etre among others. The night’s featured photographer is Bob Schlessinger of Tropical Focus, who has prepared a wide range of images highlighting his diverse talent behind the lens.

Darron and Hope Mares, from Mares Auction Group, will be back again this year leading the live auction which includes a number of enticing travel packages, jewelry and more. The night will also feature a screening of Steve Simonsen’s video about GHS, which the renowned local photographer unveils each year at the event.

“Steve’s video is also a high-

light of the night,” said Murrill. “It really hits home the point of why we are raising money for the school.”

Last year’s auction raised \$140,000 and GHS officials are hoping to top that on March 12. To reach their goal, school officials have games and raffles planned for the evening.

Tickets for the auction are \$125 each and tables of 10 are available for \$1,000. GHS officials are urging guests to pre-register with their credit cards and contact information to avoid long lines at the entrance, Murrill added.

“Guests who pre-register their tables will enjoy the discounted table price of \$900,” Murrill said. “It’s just a little incentive to get people to pre-register so we don’t have those lines piling up when guests arrive.”

Last year’s popular game the “Wall of Wine” is back again. GHS secures donations of bottles of wine — last year the “wall” featured 100 bottles — and then plays a “last man standing” type of game.

Continued on Page 16

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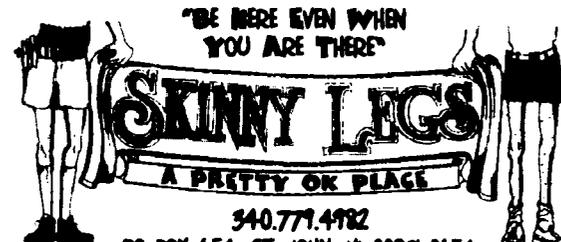
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V.I. RC&D Council Seeking Students for 2011 Georgia Conservation Camp

St. John Tradewinds

The V.I. Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. (V.I. RC&D) is seeking 10 Virgin Islands' high school students between the ages of 15 and 18 to attend the 2011 Natural Resources Conservation Workshop from June 5 to 9, at the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia.

The week-long conservation camp is usually only open to Georgia students; but through the sponsorship of V.I. RC&D and the V.I. Urban Forestry Council, over 48 USVI students have participated in this valuable and unique learning experience since 2003.

V.I. RC&D is looking for youth

who are mature and interested in the natural sciences and/or agriculture. Students selected to participate will be exposed to various natural resources: soil; water; air; plants; minerals; and animals.

Student applicants must be between 15 and 18 years of age, but not a graduating senior at the time of the camp. Students must fill out a registration and medical application form, provide copies of valid insurance and proof of citizenship with photo ID (e.g. valid passport), and submit a one-page essay describing their interest in natural resources and/or agriculture and why they wish to participate in the conservation camp.

Information on the conservation

camp and application packages are available from the V.I. RC&D Office, located in the Merrill Lynch Building in Gallows Bay, or by calling the office at 692-9632 x. 5.

Application packages can also be downloaded from the V.I. RC&D website at www.usvired.org. The application deadline is March 31. Additional information on the Georgia Natural Resources Conservation Workshop and the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College is also available at www.abac.edu/psbo/nrcw/.

This project is generously funded by a grant from the V.I. Department of Agriculture Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of V.I. Audubon Society

This year's V.I. Audubon Plant Sale has been moved from its usual home in Frank Powell Sr. Park, above, to the Nazareth Lutheran Church.

V.I. Audubon Plant Sale To Be March 5 at Lutheran Church

St. John Tradewinds

The V.I. Audubon Society has been raising money for the past 13 years through its plant sale.

The funds are used to sponsor numerous programs for local school children on St. John, preservation and restoration efforts at the Small Pond at Frank Bay — a Virgin Islands-designated Wildlife and Marine Sanctuary and area adopted by the Audubon Society — and participate in events on Earth Day and Reef Fest hosted by the Friends of the V.I. National Park.

This year's plant sale will be on Saturday, March 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Nazareth Lutheran

Church in Cruz Bay.

Once again Audubon will offer a wide variety of plants for sale. Anyone looking to add palms, co-leus, bay trees, desert rose, agaves, ground covers, orchids and other garden favorites to their landscapes, should make sure to stop by the plant sale. Tomato plants and herbs will also be for sale.

Anyone who would like to donate plants (plants in pots only, please) for the sale, just drop them off at the church yard on March 5 between 8 and 9 a.m. For further information contact co-chairs Dave Spoth at (716) 472-6888 or Mary Moroney at 779-8091.

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2011 Summer Food Program Applications Available

The V.I. Department of Education's State Office of Special Nutrition Programs announces the availability of the FY 2011 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

School age children two years through 18 years may receive free meals through SFSP. Persons 19 years of age and over who have been identified to have a mental or physical disability, as determined by a State or Local Educational Agency, and who participates during the school year in a public or private non-profit school program established for the mentally or physically disabled, is also eligible to receive meals.

Any public or non-profit organization interested in obtaining a Sponsor Application Package or more information may contact the State Office of Special Nutrition Programs at 774-9373.

Join Eddie Bruce and Friends for Drumming Showcase on Thurs-

The community is invited to come out and join Eddie Bruce and friends in a weekly drumming showcase at Cinnamon Bay amphitheater on Thursday evenings starting at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Friends of V.I. National Park, the weekly showcase highlights drumming, dancing and more with audience participation always welcome. Great fun for the entire family awaits at Cinnamon Bay amphitheater, each Thursday night through April.

Fire Service Revokes Burning Permits

V.I. Fire Service's Fire Marshal Leon Battiste notified the public last week that effective Monday, February 14, all previously issued burning permits were revoked.

There will be no issuance of new burning permits throughout the St. Thomas/St. John district until further notice. Residents are urged to be mindful of dry weather conditions and circumstances which make burning rubbish at this time extremely hazardous. Battiste apologized for any inconvenience.

League Keeps St. John Youth Playing Flag Football

By Jaime Elliott
St. John Tradewinds

After six years of enjoying flag football in a league hosted by the St. John American Legion, local youth were in danger of sitting on the sidelines this season.

As squeals of laughter from a group of boys gathered at the Winston Wells ball field can attest, that is no longer the case. Da Football League is in full swing and the four teams already have two games under their belt. Launched by Kent Wessinger, the league is formatted to mirror the men's flag football league, which was created by Brummel Germain.

"I was playing catch with my son one day and within 15 minutes, all of a sudden 25 kids were here wanting to play," said Wessinger. "I sat up in the bleachers watching and I really felt this fragrance of despair. The garbage was overflowing, there were rats around and these kids had nothing to do."

"I knew I had an opportunity to help and give life to these kids," Wessinger said.

Now that scent of despair has been replaced with laughter and the sounds of football practice and games. Da Football League, for youth between 8 and 12, has four teams, modeled after the men's league. The Junior Bulldogs, Jr. Wildcats, Jr. Boondocks and Jr. Storm square off on Tuesday and Friday afternoon at 5 and 6 p.m., just before the men's games, which start at 7 p.m.

"I wanted to make sure the kids felt like they were important," said Wessinger. "The kids play two games before the men's games start. The field is chalked and there are people in the stands and the PA system is on."



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Wessinger, center, launched Da Football League to keep island 8- to 12-year-olds on the field, instead of the sideline.

Da Football League will also play its playoff and superbowl games when the men's football league does in the last week of April. Practices are Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Each team has three coaches, one adult and two high school students, who are getting volunteer hours toward their graduation requirements. Other than Wessinger, Germain, Sergio Adams and Ganson Pollock are also adult coaches.

While the league keeps the kids playing, it also helps them to dream big.

"I just like to play football," said Kyriq Browne, a sixth grader at JESS and member of the Jr. Wildcats. "I want to be a quarterback when I grow up."

St. John Arts Festival



Restaurant Live Music Series

Saturday, February 19

6:30pm-9:30pm	Skinny Legs , Hot Club of Coral Bay	String Swing Vocals
6:30pm-9:30pm	Morgan's Mango , Luba	Piano Vocal
7pm-10pm	Rhumblines , Lauren	Guitar Vocal

Sunday, February 20

10am-2pm	Miss Lucy's Brunch , Sambacombo	Latin Jazz
10am-1pm	Concordia Brunch , Bo	Guitar
3:30pm-6:30pm	Aqua Bistro , Lauren	Guitar Vocal
6:30pm-9:30pm	Shipwreck Landing Hot Club of Coral Bay	String Swing Vocals
6:30pm-8:30pm	Ocean Grill , David Laabs	Classical/Contemp. Guitar

Monday, February 21

6pm-9pm	Ocean Grill , Chris Carsel	Guitar Vocal
6:30pm-9:30pm	La Tapa , Sambacombo	Latin Jazz
7pm-10pm	High Tide , Steven Sloan	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	Rhumblines , David Laabs	Classical/Contemp. Guitar

Tuesday, February 22

6:30pm-9:30pm	Morgan's Mango , Greg Kinslow	Guitar
7pm-10pm	Island Blues , Lauren and Bo	Guitar Vocals
7pm-10pm	High Tide , T-Bird	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	Shipwreck Landing , Chris Carsel	Guitar Vocal

Wednesday, February 23

5:30pm-7pm	Coconut Coast Studio , St. John Flutes	Flute Duet
7pm-10pm	Island Blues , James Cobb	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	High Tide , Chris Carsel	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	Sun Dog Café , Open Mike	Guitars Vocals

Thursday, February 24

6pm-9pm	Banana Deck , Lemuel Callwood	Steel Pan
6pm-9pm	Miss Lucy's , Rich & Gregg	Jazz
6:30pm-9:30pm	Skinny Legs , Lauren	Guitar Vocal
6:30pm-9:30pm	Ocean Grill , Rascio	Steel Pan
6:30pm-9:30pm	Morgan's Mango , Mark Wallace	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	High Tide , Steve Sloan	Guitar Vocal

Friday, February 25

5:30pm-8:30pm	Aqua Bistro , Mark Wallace	Guitar Vocal
6pm-9pm	Ocean Grill , Luba	Piano Vocal
6:30pm-9:30pm	Morgan's Mango , Lauren	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	High Tide , John Lee	Guitar Vocal
7pm-10pm	Skinny Legs , Chris Carsel	Guitar Vocal

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Roundabout at right took the second regatta of the season, Island Hopper, hosted by The St. John Yacht Club.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo
Courtesy of Jim Furneaux

Roundabout Takes Second Straight Regatta in Winning Island Hopper

By Jim Furneaux
St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Yacht Club's Island Hopper regatta winner, Paul Stoeken of St. Thomas, skippered his JC-24, *Roundabout* to a second straight victory in convincing fashion Saturday, February 12.

In January, Stoeken and his crew won the club's Duke's Trophy Race.

The regatta experienced perfect sailing weather for most of the race with 12 to 15 knot winds in three to four foot seas. The participants were however subjected to a passing storm late in the race which tested the racer's mettle.

The start between Two Brothers rocks and Lovango Cay was very competitive but *Roundabout* took an early lead by the first mark at Rata Rocks. *Zing* and *Southbound* vied for second as the fleet sailed back down past Lovango, Mingo and Grass Cays and then around Thatch Cay.

As the sailor's approached the west end of Grass Cay, *Zing's* skipper George Stuckert took the aggressive approach of passing between Boss Rock and

Grass Cay to put the vessel securely in second place. Stuckert's move was somewhat daring as Boss Rock is notorious for the number of boats that have come a cropper on its well hidden danger zone.

The fleet then sailed back up around Carvel Rock then back down around Grass Cay and finally past Stephens Cay to the finish in front of Gallows Point. The course measured a total of 17.5 miles.

The final result was *Roundabout* in first, *Zing* in second and Larry Boxerman's *Southbound* was the third boat. *Roundabout's* skipper, Stoeken, a sailing instructor from St. Thomas, was presented the Bill Morris Trophy by Lee Morris, widow of the late past St. Yacht Club Commodore for whom the trophy is named.

The next St. John Yacht Club regatta is the Around St. John Race currently scheduled for April 10. The organizers are considering switching the date to Saturday, April 9, and hope to hear from racers about their preferences.

For more information call SJYC Commodore Scott Barnett at 693-8577.

Junior Achievement Program To Be Discussed at Next STJ Chamber Chapter Meeting Feb. 22 at Cruz Bay Battery

St. John Tradewinds

Cheryl Francis, Junior Achievement of the Virgin Islands Chair, (and the Lt. Governor's wife); Jason Charles, Project Manager, Bonny Corbeil, JAVI Board Member, and Pastor Themba, Acting JAVI Executive Director, will be making a presentation at the monthly meeting of the St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, February 22, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Cruz Bay Battery.

The Junior Achievement of the Virgin Islands (JAVI) Program is designed to introduce students to the principles of budgets, taxes, savings and spending. Through experience-based learning with professional development programs and volunteers from the community, students learn about the relationship between education and successful participation in the economy.

JAVI Programs partner with local businesses and Educators to teach students the economics of life.

The St. John business community is invited to hear about this exciting program and to consider being involved as either a JAVI Program volunteer or help the program "grow" JAVI for other class levels and skill building.

At present they have two 7th and 8th grade classes slated to begin at Julius E. Sprauve School soon, with their ultimate goal being to reach out to all of the children and offer these much needed skills at other levels.

"Please consider the great impact you can make as a St. John business person for our children's future success," said chamber board member Kate Norfleet. "They hope to not only educate our St. John community on the great need for this program for our children but to get business people 'on board' to consider being directly involved in doing the programs in the classrooms."

"There is only a six week/one-and-a-half-hour direct time commitment in doing this, and JAVI does a great training session that is both informative and fun," said Norfleet. "A sample training kit will be available and training will happen on St. John when enough volunteers have signed up. The St. John Chapter looks forward to seeing you on Tuesday."

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Rhythm & Views

An outlook on young adult interests and concerns
by Coral Breuning

An Amazing Class Trip to Italy

St. John Tradewinds

I recently came back from a school trip to Italy with the Giff Hill School. It was truly amazing! The sights were fantastic, the food was incredible and the people were friendly and interesting.

St. John is an exotic place to live but Italy is right up there on the list of amazing places in the world. We spent 11 awesome days exploring Venice, Florence and Rome.

I vividly remember flying in to Venice. Soaring over the incredible snow-capped mountains which penetrated the sky below is an image I will never forget. The Venice airport was small and a little dreary, but dreary was soon outweighed by the sights that we passed on the water taxi on the way to our hotel.

Now don't get me wrong, you don't take a water taxi everywhere; you actually do a lot of walking. There are endless steps and cobblestone streets. But it was great to get away from cars, be responsible for your own transportation and work off all those calories from the delicious food.

In Venice, we stayed at a quaint hotel that had everything you needed. From the hotel, we explored St. Marks Square and the Ducal Palace. The palace had the most incredible art I have ever seen.

How would feel if you had gold-flaked ceilings? Well just standing under them made me feel special. I couldn't imagine being the artist laying horizontal for hours upon hours to create it. We saw the Grand Canal and some churches too.

The buildings were fantastic and the true Italian food was also incredible. American food has nothing on Italian; even the Coca-Cola was better there. The gelato, like ice cream only richer and better, was so good. We spent many days gelato hunting throughout the trip. It was so delicious!

Florence was our next stop, which was a nice change. The temperature was warmer and the



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Coral Breuning

The sights in Venice, above, were truly awe-inspiring.

sun greeted us as we stepped off the fast train. Our hotel was almost in the center of the bustling town, making it easy to explore all day.

The first thing we absolutely had to see was the Duomo. It's pretty hard to miss a large towering dome above the middle of the city. Florence was the place to shop, and especially for leather in particular. In parts of the city, an aroma of leather wafted through the streets and the smell of rich food accompanied it.

A big part of Florence was the David, the famous sculpture, as well as the Uffizi Galleries, a museum of various art forms and artists. The Pitti Palace and Boboli Gardens were also impressive. All were truly amazing, really simply mind-blowing.

The last city we visited was also the biggest, Rome. Rome was huge compared to the previous cities and busier too. Our first site was St. Peter's Cathedral. The inside of the cathedral was so amazing; the art on the walls which looked like paintings were really mosaics. It was intense to see how this huge amount of small squares was assembled to make a single masterpiece.

After St. Peter's, we went to-

ward the bridges in search of food; the sun was starting to set and the lights were just coming on in the city. We had a great meal followed by the best gelato on the trip. I have never seen so many flavors in one store. I spent at least five minutes deciding on what flavor to try.

The next day in Rome we visited the Vatican where we spent endless hours looking at all the artwork. I never knew how amazing "art" could be. The Coliseum and the Pantheon were also interesting places to visit. Rome was a great city to experience.

If I could go to Italy again, I would go in a heartbeat. There was so much to do and so many places to explore. The culture was intriguing and the people interesting and friendly. I can't even come close to really explaining how amazing it was, you have to experience yourself. I miss the food and sights already, I can't wait to go back.

Editor's Note:

This is Coral's final column for St. John Tradewinds, at least until next year. The Giff Hill School student is now off in the icy clime of Wisconsin where she is attending a semester of school. Meet our new student "Rhythm and Views" writer next month.

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Letters to Tradewinds

It's Time for Leaders To Get To Know the St. John Community

Where are the leaders of this community and what are they thinking? Last week's *Tradewinds* was very interesting. There was an article and a letter from a visitor about a cop roughing up a lady for not wearing her seat belt properly, under the "Make every visitor feel special" sign.

So the leaders of the community corrected the problem, by removing the sign.

On the next page was the article about Frank Powell Sr. Park being closed and fenced off for the rest of the season. What it didn't say was the sidewalks around the park were going to be fenced off also.

So now our leaders are proposing to have hundreds of people every hour getting off the ferry and walking in the road, amongst the cars, trucks, safari buses and Vitran buses while dragging suitcases.

We are in a very fragile economic environment and not only are our leaders proposing to raise the gross receipts tax and the room tax and force us to pay two years of property taxes in one year, but they are making it very difficult to maintain a visitor based-business on St. John. Which is the only kind of business that we have.

The timing of this project not only affects the small businesses that set up in the park, and the businesses adjacent to it, but it affects every business on St. John. I suggest either putting this project off until after St. John Festival or moving the ferry operation to the Creek dock until the project is completed, soon come.

I think that it is time that the leaders of this community get out amongst the people and get to know this community, see how it functions and start to try and make it better.

Greg Miller



Onesie the Cat Is Missing

After maintaining a feeding station in Estate Susanaberg for a decade, an island cat lover has lost one of her beloved kitties.

The grey and white neutered male island cat, Onesie, has not been seen for three weeks and her human and cat friends are worried. Onesie is a timid elderly cat. He has a very close cat friend who has been terribly depressed since he has gone missing.

He might have been trapped and relocated on accident. Anyone who has spotted Onesie or knows of his whereabouts is asked to contact the *St. John Tradewinds* at 776-6496 or email editor@tradewinds.vi.

Onesie and his friends thank you!

Correction:

The phone number of the Julius E. Sprauve School, listed in the February 7-13 issue of *St. John Tradewinds* was incorrect. The school's phone number is 776-6336. *Tradewinds* apologizes for the error.

February Is Dental Health Month in V.I.

St. John Tradewinds

Governor John deJongh proclaimed the month of February as "Dental Health Month" in the U.S. Virgin Islands, a time to concentrate on efforts to promote dental health education.

Good physical and mental health can be achieved through healthy habits learned early and practiced throughout life, including regular dental care. The American Dental Health Association advises maintaining dental health by eating well, practicing good

hygiene and getting regular check-ups. Good dental health habits are essential to one's overall well being.

The Virgin Islands Department of Health, through its Division of Dental Health Services, annually marks the observance of Dental Health Month by conducting dental health screenings, examinations, public education and related activities in the territory's schools. The future of the territory is dependent on the good health of our children, the leaders of tomorrow.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN! Residential Electronic Devices Recycling Drive

RECYCLING SCHEDULE

ST. JOHN	WATER ISLAND
February 22 - 23, 2011 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Winston Wells Ball Park	February 23, 2011 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Water Island Transfer Station
ST. CROIX	ST. THOMAS
February 24-25-26, 2011 9:00 am to 1:00 pm 941-946 Williams Delight (East of Sunshine Mall)	February 24-25-26, 2011 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Community Motors Warehouse (East of Frenchtown Texaco)

Items That Will Be Accepted For Recycling:

- CPU's
- Disk Drives
- Keyboards
- Lap Tops
- Monitors
- Mouse
- Projectors
- Scanners
- Speaker Sets
- Surge Protectors
- Two-way Radios
- Video Cameras
- Walkie-Talkies
- Copiers
- Printers
- Fax Machines
- Televisions
- PDA/Handheld Systems

Residential Drop-off Requirements

- Bring your electronic devices boxed
- No more than 3 of the same items per household will be accepted
- Provide manpower to unload and load items

VIWMA has a new collection program for Businesses and Government Agencies

**Electronic devices will be accepted by appointment ONLY
(Other requirements and applicable fees will apply)**

To schedule an appointment and to find out about the new collection program, please contact:

St. Croix: Jennifer Russell at 712-4987 or 712-4962

St. Thomas: Cordell Jacobs at 777-3073

For More Information Contact:

St. Croix
Jennifer Russell
712-4987



St. Thomas/St. John
Cordell Jacobs
777-3073

GHS Auction Silver Anniversary

Continued from Page 9

“Guests get into the game by purchasing \$50 chances — last year they were the flashing lights — and play a heads or tails game which whittles down the audience little by little until there are four or five people left,” said Murrill. “Then the games continues until there is only one person left standing, and that person wins the ‘wall.’”

The school made a lot of money on last year’s Wall of Wine because the winner, Dustin Prudhomme, turned around and donated the wine right back to the school, Murrill added.

“Ultimately we were able to auction the wine off in a live auction and raised a lot of money for the school,” she said.

Residents are encouraged to donate bottles of wine for the game. Starfish Wine and Gourmet will donate 10 percent of the purchase price of wines for the GHS auction right to the school’s scholarship fund, Murrill added.

Another game at the auction will allow guests the chance to take home a stunning diamond and silver necklace from R&I Patton. Guests can purchase \$25 glasses of champagne, fine wine or specialty cocktail in order to get a raffle number, and have a chance to win the necklace.

The popular golden ticket from last year is back again as well, Murrill added.

“Golden tickets are \$100 each and when you purchase a ticket you are given a list of the travel packages which are going to be auctioned off,” said the GHS development director assistant. “Last year we had about 15 items on the list and the golden ticket winner is able to choose which travel package they want. Then we don’t auction that item off and the winner gets it.”

“The packages can be valued at up to \$5,000,” said Murrill. “Last year Jonathan Doran won and he chose the Beaver Creek trip so we didn’t auction that off.”

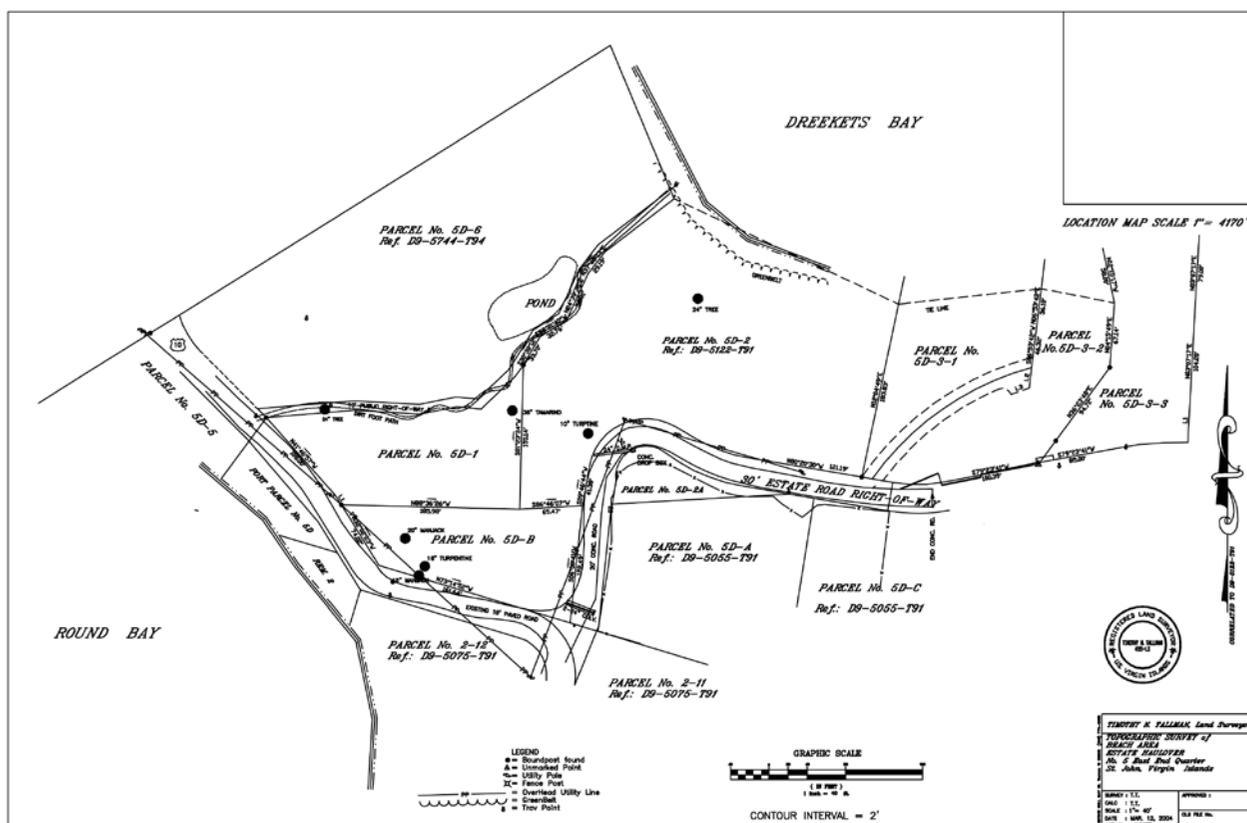
After the festivities at the Westin wrap up, GHS officials are taking the fun over to La Plancha del Mar in Mongoose Junction, for an after party and a chance to raise even more money for GHS.

“We’re having the after party this year at La Plancha del Mar; we’ll have a DJ, a few more raffle prizes and we’ll dance the night away,” said Murrill. “We’re sort of toting this as a party and you don’t have to be an auction guest to attend. Auction guests will have free entrance, and we’re asking the public to make a donation in order to join the party.”

The night would not be possible without the generosity of the Westin Resort, which is the event’s biggest sponsor, Murrill explained.

“Westin is our biggest supporter with the location, the food and the staff,” she said. “We couldn’t do this without them.”

The auction is GHS’ main fundraising event of the year and comes together thanks to a team of hardworking parent volunteers. GHS is still accepting donations for live and silent auctions. Call the school at 776-1730 to pre-register, purchase golden tickets and to donate.



Future of Haulover Hangs in the Balance

Continued from Page 7

VINP, Muilenburg explained.

“The park is tied up right now — along with Friends of VINP and Trust for Public Land — with getting the various Maho acquisitions funded, which is a multi-year commitment they’ve already made,” said Muilenburg. “They do not feel they can start the process of requesting funding for Haulover for at least a few more years.”

With that road a dead end, Muilenburg and FPC have been pursuing a different route to getting the resources at Haulover protected. Muilenburg and Prevo have been working with another national conservation group, called The Conservation Fund, to acquire the land for eventual transfer to VINP.

A boundary adjustment by VINP — which it does not have the funding to implement — is the first step, Muilenburg added.

“Without the boundary adjustment, TCF cannot buy the parcels, since they are not yet in the park’s system for funds allocation, and they need to get assurance of prompt repayment,” said the attorney. “A real ‘catch-22’ and the clock is ticking for development.”

Which is where the community comes into the picture. Muilenburg has outlined a conservation land structure in which supporters would essentially make zero-interest loans or outright donations to TCF, which would then use the funds to buy Haulover from FPC.

“We have proposed a structure in which interested residents, the ‘Friends of Haulover,’ would make donations or zero-interest ‘conservation loans,’ through the nonprofit group we’ve been working with, TCF,” said the attorney. “TCF then would use the money to buy the property and hold it until the VINP buys it, at which point the loans to the St. John supporters would be repaid using the VINP funds.”

“Or we may be able to ‘buy out’ the loan people if we get more donations later on,” Muilenburg said.

The proposal’s advantages include TCF’s national prominence, its ability to take over responsibility for liability, insurance and other expenses and its 501c3 status — allowing a tax deduction for donations — and avoiding the need to form a new entity, explained Muilenburg.

The proposal, however, relies on the future assurance of VINP’s commitment to purchase the land and then repay the loans.

“The VINP will issue us a letter of assurance stating their intent to purchase the property, acknowledging that the investors are relying on the park’s assurance, and stating that Haulover will be the park’s top priority for funding once the Maho purchases are funded,” said Muilenburg. “The park believes that would likely take five to 10 years, though officials cannot commit to a definite period.”

“This would need to be a medium- to long-term commitment, but the money will eventually be repaid,” said the attorney. “If the VINP should fail to fol-

low through, TCF would be able to sell it to a conservation buyer to get funds to repay the loans.

Muilenburg is looking for substantial donations — \$100,000 or more — from residents interested in preserving Haulover. So far the local attorney has raised about \$200,000 and is hoping to attract more donors.

“We are hoping for donations or loan commitments in the range of \$100,000 or more to make this happen, and to prevent the group from becoming too large, which makes coordination unwieldy,” Muilenburg said. “But we will consider smaller amounts if needed. In addition to loans, we are hoping some people will be able to donate funds — the advantage there is that they would receive a tax writeoff for the amounts donated.”

“So far we have \$200,000 in commitments toward the \$800,000 needed,” he said. “Of that \$100,000 is in loan funds and the other \$100,000 is in donations.”

Muilenburg is working as the threat of development inches closer with the opportunity to preserve a special piece of St. John hanging in the balance.

“This is a chance to really make a difference for the VINP and for St. John,” said Muilenburg. “I’d imagine we could get the VINP to erect a bench or plaque on the site honoring those who have been financially involved. But the satisfaction of keeping Haulover natural and undeveloped would be the biggest reward.”

To contribute toward the conservation of Haulover or for more information on TCF proposal, call Muilenburg at 693-8255 or email raf@stjohnvilaw.com.

David Dorney Will Be Guest Speaker at UU's February 27 Sunday Service

The Unitarian Universalists of St. John meets at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday in the Great Room at Giff Hill School.

On February 27 the guest speaker is David Dorney, whose talk is titled, "Enough" ain't near enough." For transportation from Cruz Bay, call 776-6332. Childcare is available upon prior request. For more information, visit www.uufstjohn.org.

ACC Sets New Shelter Visiting Hours

The Animal Care Center of St. John announces new hours for the shelter. Visiting hours at ACC's shelter are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The shelter is closed Sunday and Monday. For more information call the ACC at 774-1625.

Annual Plant Sale Set for March 5

The V.I. Audubon Society will host its annual plant sale on March 5, at Nazareth Lutheran Church.

Mary Moroney and Dave Spoth are chairing the plant sale this year. One gallon pots are needed, and can be dropped off at Elaine Estern's studio. The group is trying to propagate more native and non-invasive plants to sell this year.

With that in mind, anyone who has Bay Rhum trees, any edible fruit or vegetables potted, are asked to donate these to the sale. Spoth will also be propagating some vegetables and ornamentals for the sale and orchids will be ordered.

25th Annual GHS Auction March 12

The 25th Annual Giff Hill School Auction will be Saturday, March 12, at the Westin Resort and Villas. For more information call the GHS development office at 340-776-1730 or email ghsdevelopment@mac.com.

Two Film Screenings Set for March 15

St. John Film Society is hosting a free film screening and a special tribute on Tuesday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the St. John School of the Arts.

A Tribute to Annie Love will start at 7:30. An eight-minute film by Jeremy Garza and Trent Myers, which documents the event which took place at Rhumb Lines in memory of Annie Love on June 6, 2009.

"Heart of the Sea," a 57-minute film by Lisa Denker and Charlotte Lagarde. The film is a portrait of Rell "Kapolioka'ehukai" Sunn, who died in 1998 of breast cancer at the age of 47.

Intermediate Bookkeeping Course To Begin March 29 at UVICELL

The University of the Virgin Islands - Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning Center will be offering a course for individuals interested learning bookkeeping in order to function as an entry-level bookkeeper or manage their own books.

On St. Thomas, Intermediate Bookkeeping will be from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning March 29. All sessions will be at the UVICELL Center on St. Thomas.

Participants will learn how to prepare basic financial statements, journalize and post accrual, reconcile a bank statement, prepare payroll and much more.

For more information or to register, call the UVICELL Center at 693-1100 or visit cell.uvi.edu.

No Parking Exception



With the new "No Parking" signs clearly erected in the Cruz Bay roundabout, at left, it seems there is an exception for some vehicles as this photo, snapped by a reader, attests.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Police Log

Friday, February 11

9:11 p.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident p/r that her landlord turned off the water in her apartment. Landlord/tenant dispute.

10:17 p.m. - A Calabash Boom resident p/r that he was assaulted by a female tenant. Simple assault.

11:00 p.m. - An Estate Little Plantation resident p/r that her vehicle was struck while driving on Centerline Road. Hit and run.

Saturday, February 12

3:04 a.m. - A citizen c/r a male and female fighting on Maho Bay. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

3:31 a.m. - An Estate Power Boyd resident r/ that her niece destroyed her door.

3:15 p.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident c/r that her landlord turned off the water in her apartment. Police assistance.

8:17 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident c/r that her peace was disturbed. Disturbance of the peace.

Monday, February 14

7:20 a.m. - V.I. Fire Service r/ damage to a vehicle at the Cruz Bay station. Damage to a vehicle.

4:43 p.m. - A citizen r/ an auto accident in the area of the

post office. Auto accident.

6:13 p.m. - An Estate Power Boyd resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace.

6:43 p.m. - A Coral Bay resident r/ an auto accident in the area of Cocoloba. Auto accident.

7:07 p.m. - A Coral Bay resident r/ that he was assaulted. Assault in the third.

10:30 p.m. - Badge #98 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Buster Brady of Estate Little Plantation under arrest and charged with assault in the third. Bail was set at \$25,000 by order of the court. He was detained at Leander Jurgen Command and later transported to the Bureau of Corrections on St. Thomas.

9:06 p.m. - A citizen r/ a disturbance in the area of Dolphin Market. Disturbance of the peace.

Tuesday, February 15

1:13 a.m. - A citizen r/ that she was assaulted at Guinea Grove Apartments. Aggravated assault and battery, D.V.

2:45 a.m. - Badge #515 with Unit 431 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Victor Rosa of Guinea Grove Apartments under arrest and charged with aggravated assault and battery, D.V. No bail was set by order of the court. He was detained at

Leander Jurgen Command and later transported to the Bureau of Corrections on St. Thomas.

8:56 a.m. - A citizen r/ an auto accident in the area of Estate Pine Peace. Auto accident.

1:51 p.m. - A citizen p/r that he was threatened in the area of Coral Bay. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

5:04 p.m. - A citizen r/ an auto accident in the area of South Shore Road near the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Auto accident.

Wednesday, February 16

9:23 p.m. - Badge #747 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Irvin Marsh under arrest and charged with delaying and obstructing an officer in his duties. Bail was set at \$500 by order of the court. He was detained at Leander Jurgen Command and later transported to the Bureau of Corrections on St. Thomas.

Thursday, February 17

2:20 p.m. - A citizen p/r an aggravated assault and battery, D.V. Aggravated assault and battery, D.V.

5:14 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident c/r a disturbance with her brother. Disturbance of the peace.

5:20 p.m. - A citizen p/r an auto accident in the area of The Marketplace. Auto accident.

Ferry Schedules - Cruz Bay and Charlotte Amalie**CRUZ BAY TO RED HOOK**

Every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

RED HOOK TO CRUZ BAY

Every hour on the hour from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m.

CRUZ BAY TO DOWNTOWN CHARLOTTE AMALIE**Leaves Cruz Bay**8:45 a.m.
11:15 a.m.
3:45 p.m.**Leaves Charlotte Amalie**10 a.m.
1 p.m.
5:30 p.m.

St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

Accommodations**Caribbean Villas & Resorts**
tel. 1-800-338-0987
or locally 340-776-6152**Island Getaways**888-693-7676, islandgetaway-
sinc.com
kathy@islandgetawaysinc.com**Suite St. John Villas/Condos**tel. 1-800-348-8444
or locally at 340-779-4486**VIVA Vacations**tel. 779-4250
P.O. Box 1747, STJ, VI 00831**Architecture****Crane, Robert - Architect, AIA**
tel. 776-6356
P.O. Box 370, STJ, VI 00831**Barefoot Architect, Inc.**tel. 693-7665 fax 693-8411
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The Marketplace (340) 776-6552**Beauty/Spa****Westin Resorts & Villas**
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tel. 693-8780 fax 776-6685
Located at The Marketplace**Insurance****Theodore Tunick & Company**
Phone 775-7001 / Fax 775-7002
www.theodoretunick.com**Jewelry****R&I PATTON goldsmithing**
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Chat@pattongold.com**Landscaping****Alfredo's Landscaping**
tel. 774-1655 cell 513-2971
P.O. Box 91, St. John, VI 00831**Coral Bay Garden Center**tel. 693-5579 fax 714-5628
P.O. Box 1228, STJ, VI 00831**PROPERTYKING**tel. 643-6348
Landscaping & Irrigation**Property Mgmt****Cimmaron Property Management**
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www.stjohnvirealestate.com**John Foster Real Estate**tel. 714-5808 or 340-642-5995
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P.O. Box 56, STJ, VI 00831
info@islandiarealestate.com**John McCann & Associates**tel. 693-3399 fax 888-546-1115
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tel. 779-4047
Located in Coral Bay

Celebrating Black History Month

Continued from Page 2

dren. One of whom was Henry A. Millin, a successful businessman and the 3rd elected V.I. Lieutenant Governor.

Lucinda Sewer Millin began her teaching career with the Moravians in 1910 and then taught at the Naval Academy. The move to the Naval Academy was not a simple shift to a new administration but a major upheaval and total change in the basic education system — European to American.

The first naval governor, J. H. Oliver, reported to the Secretary of the Navy on August 1, 1917, that the current education system was inadequate. There were no trade or agriculture schools. A large proportion of the children here grow up without hope of improving their lot in life.

Admiral Oliver further reported there was little money in the Colonial Treasury to support the Moravian schools responsible for education outside the towns. And finally monies must be provided to build schools, buy furniture and equipment, and hire and pay instructors.

Doctor Isaac Dookhan in "A History of the Virgin Islands," states that "the greatest achievement of the naval administration was in the field of education."

The governor provided all of the above improvements. In addition, there was an improved American curriculum with greater emphasis on junior and senior high school education.

Mrs. Millin worked in the new public schools until 1923. She then established her own private school where she educated Virgin Islanders for 35 years. In 1954 at a time in life when most are considering retirement, she changed careers, to become the first woman elected to the Virgin Islands Legislature. She served five terms until 1964.

In my opinion her greatest legislative achievement was the establishment of a home for the aged. She was widely respected and admired and used these talents to cajole her fellow senators into approval.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to and concern for the elderly, the institution was named the Lucinda Millin Home for the Aged. Thus her concerns for the most valuable segment of our people, our youth and elderly, were the focus of her life.

Those concerns are now the focus of her granddaughter and the daughter of Henry A. Millin, Senator Janette Millin-Young. She has begun her legislative career on a positive note by getting to know one of her constituency, the education system.

The Culture responsibilities of her Committee represent the glue that holds together the young and old. It represents that necessary link between our future and the meaningful heritage that gives our society its critical anchor. Senator Millin-Young has a tough job ahead of her but she has the cultural heritage to see it through.

Church Directory**Baha'i Community of St. John**For Devotions and Study Circles, call 714-1641
7:30 p.m. Fridays; Study Circles 9 a.m. Sundays
776-6316, 776-6254**Bethany Moravian Church**

11 a.m., Sunday School 776-6291

Calvary Baptist Church13 ABC Coral Bay, 776-6304
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday evening 6 p.m., Thursday 7 p.m.**Christian Ministry**Cinnamon Bay Beach
Inter-Denominational, Sunday 8:30 a.m.**Christian Science Society**10:45 a.m. Sunday- Marketplace
Wednesday Testimonials
7:45 p.m. on last Wed. of Month**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**Sun. 9 a.m., on St. Thomas . 776-2379
Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard**Cruz Bay Baptist Church**

Sunday 11 a.m., 6 p.m. 776-6315

Emmaus Moravian Church

Coral Bay, Sun. 9 a.m. 776-6713

Jehovah's Witness7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m.
Saturdays (Español), 10 a.m. Sundays, 340-715-0530**Missionary Baptist Church**9:30 a.m. Sunday Services, 10:45 Worship,
Tuesday 7 p.m. Bible Study 693-8884**Nazareth Lutheran Church**Sunday 9 a.m., Sunday School 8 a.m.
776-6731**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**Sat. 6 p.m., Sun. 7:30 & 9:30 a.m., Spanish Mass
5:30 p.m.; Monday and Tuesday, 7 p.m.;
Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. 776-6339**St. John Methodist Church**

Sunday 10 a.m, 693-8830

Seventh Day Adventist

Saturdays, 779-4477

St. John Pentecostal ChurchSunday 11:05 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays Prayer 7:30 p.m.,
Thursdays Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
779-1230**St. Ursula's Episcopal Church**Sunday 9 a.m.; Bible Class, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.
777-6306**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

9:45 a.m. Sunday, 776-6332

Word of Faith ChurchWord of Faith International
Christian Center, Sundays 7:30 a.m.
Giffit Hill School Call 774-8617

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Community Calendar

St. John Tradewinds welcomes notices of community-oriented, not-for-profit events for inclusion in this weekly listing. Call 776-6496, e-mail editor@tradewinds.vi or fax 693-8885.

Tuesday, February 22

The next meeting of the St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce will be at the Cruz Bay Battery from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

St. John Film Society is hosting a free screening at 7:30 p.m. at the St. John School of the Arts.

Saturday, February 26

The Virgin Islands Disciples of Christ will host Women's Day at the Ivanna Eudora Kean Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and enjoy a day of spiritual enrichment and fun. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from church members. For more information call 774-4459.

Saturday, March 5

The V.I. Audubon Society will host its annual plant sale at Nazareth Lutheran Church. Giff Hill School announces "Culturalypso," a school-wide community carnival, from 2 to 4 p.m. There will be free activities, a bouncy house and food for purchase available.

Saturday, March 12

The 25th Annual Giff Hill School Auction will be at the Westin Resort and Villas.

Tuesday, March 15

St. John Film Society is hosting a free film screening and a special tribute at 7:30 p.m. at the St. John School of the Arts.

March 18-19

The 9th annual Johnnie Walker Blues Festival will feature two nights of celebrity concerts in the Coral Bay ball field starting at 8 p.m.

Monday, March 28,

SJCF's annual meeting is scheduled at the Fish Trap Restaurant. A dinner will be hosted at 6 p.m. with the meeting kicking off at 7 p.m. and the community is invited.

Starting March 29

UVICELL will be offering a course for individuals interested learning bookkeeping in order to function as an entry-level bookkeeper. The course will be from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at UVICELL.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

Alcoholics Anonymous meets as scheduled: Sundays, 9:45 a.m. at Hawksnest Bay Beach; Closed meetings for alcoholics only at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cruz Bay at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays; Open meetings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p.m. at Nazareth Lutheran Church; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6 p.m. at Moravian Church, Coral Bay.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

Narcotics Anonymous has open meetings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Saturday at St. Ursula's Church.

AL-ANON MEETINGS

Al-Anon meets on St. John every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the picnic table at the VINP ball field.

PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14		15	16	17	18			
19						20							21				22						
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117								118												120			
121								122												124			
125								126												128			

MYSTERY SISTERS

ACROSS

- 1 Sailors' mops
- 6 Black sheep sound, in song
- 12 Tic — (tiny mint)
- 15 Huge-screen film format
- 19 Tiny hairs
- 20 Physicist Einstein
- 21 "Def Comedy Jam" ailer
- 22 Horror film staple
- 23 German king called "the Great"
- 24 Irregular spot
- 25 Suffix with north or south
- 26 Giant in elevators
- 27 Start of a riddle
- 31 Lassos
- 32 Press agent?
- 33 Tolkien monster
- 34 Riddle, part 2
- 42 Viper type
- 45 Book of maps
- 46 "Ye olde" settlement
- 47 Have — tolerance for
- 48 Brooch part
- 51 Arabian royal
- 53 "Woe —" (Patricia T. O'Conner grammar book)
- 55 Flock mother
- 56 Riddle, part 3
- 63 Apply heavily
- 64 Skillful feat
- 65 Beach find
- 66 Riddle, part 4

- 72 Fifth-cen. pope
- 75 Central Sicilian city
- 76 Microscopic creatures
- 80 Riddle, part 5
- 86 Stephen of "Ondine"
- 87 Kind of deer
- 88 Q.E.D. part
- 89 Just managing, with "out"
- 90 — Reader (eclectic magazine)
- 92 "I — break!"
- 96 "Have —" (host's invitation)
- 99 Bible bk. after Ezra
- 100 End of the riddle
- 105 Have lunch
- 106 Prefix with 4-Down or 70-Down
- 107 Metallic playing marble
- 111 Riddle's answer
- 117 Injury reminder
- 118 Gerund ender
- 119 Menlo Park inventor
- 120 Cruller's kin
- 121 It fills barrels
- 122 19th-century humorist
- Bill
- 123 "No, you —!"
- 124 Rub away
- 125 Cry
- 126 "My — Sal"
- 127 Utters
- 128 Is fearless

DOWN

- 1 Angry look
- 2 SWAK part
- 3 Sacrifice site
- 4 Of living things

- 5 Vocalized for the doctor
- 6 Get paid to watch Junior
- 7 Other: Pref.
- 8 Leigh Hunt's "— Ben Adhem"
- 9 "Miss Lulu —" (old novel, play, and film)
- 10 Bunker of TV
- 11 Desirous
- 12 In — (aware of a secret)
- 13 "— -Ca-Dabra" (1974 hit)
- 14 Certain central African
- 15 "Understood, man"
- 16 Flame-fancying flier
- 17 Opera tune
- 18 Crosses (out)
- 28 Spanish for "other"
- 29 Section of Lower Manhattan
- 30 Suffix with dull
- 35 Dogs may pull it
- 36 Not exciting
- 37 "— true?"
- 38 Prof.'s place
- 39 Anacin rival
- 40 A or I, e.g.
- 41 Tom of "Adam's Rib"
- 42 Put-ons
- 43 Not at all fat
- 44 Meat spread
- 49 Ballot lists
- 50 Part of m.p.h.
- 52 Bureaucratic form-filling
- 54 How some things are carved
- 57 — job on
- 58 Picnic crasher
- 59 Co. top dog
- 60 Nugent of rock

- 61 Oath reply
- 62 "Rats!"
- 67 Giggle part
- 68 Raggedy — (doll)
- 69 Genetic stuff
- 70 Giant fight
- 71 The Monkees' "— Believer"
- 72 Play, as a mandolin
- 73 Eta-iota link
- 74 Rimes with Grammys
- 77 "Oh, to — England"
- 78 Outstanding
- 79 D-I filler
- 81 Just sit there
- 82 Cook Paula
- 83 British baby buggy
- 84 Allay
- 85 "Up and —!" ("Rise and shine!")
- 91 Visine unit
- 93 The gospel
- 94 Car ding
- 95 Pregame songs
- 97 Removes (oneself)
- 98 Four: Pref.
- 101 Purring one
- 102 Tethered
- 103 Made grooves on, as the edge of a coin
- 104 Spanish Mrs.
- 108 Moon-related
- 109 Currently occupied
- 110 "90210" actor Rob
- 111 Highest point
- 112 A person goes by one
- 113 New Age music star
- 114 Escalate
- 115 This, in Havana
- 116 Policy guru
- 117 Cutting tool

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FEATURED LISTINGS

NEW LISTING
 ● "AVALON" this spectacular 5BR, 5BA Villa PLUS 2BR, 2BA Cottage is set high above Chocolate Hole w/stunning panoramic views and cooling breezes. This Villa offers gourmet kitchen, large pool and hot tub and beautifully landscaped grounds. Very Successful Rental History. \$2,995,000

REDUCED
 ● CAPTAIN'S CABIN! Established bar and video gambling business in high traffic beachfront location with pot, outdoor seating, long term lease and impressive numbers! Popular local and tourist clientele. Financials available. \$189,000

REDUCED
 ● CORAL BAY-Well maintained home in Coral Bay with EXTRA LOT! This home is nestled in the hillside with expansive valley views and a private location. Vaulted ceilings. Ample room to add more rooms downstairs or an additional unit. Keep the extra lot or sell to recoup some of your expenses. JUST \$299,000

HOMES

● PANORAMIC SUNSETS! 4 equal A/C BR's w/BA en suite on 2 levels Masonry const. Top of the line finishes. Large pool. \$2,650,000

● DRASTIC REDUCTION! This popular 3br, 3ba vacation villa with great Caribbean flair has amazing panoramic water views. Now only \$859,000.

REDUCED
 ● REDUCED! Bonus!! Private well maintained home in Coral Bay with an EXTRA LOT! Only \$299,000.
 ● REDUCED! Great value with this 4BR 2BA home. Use as 2 units or keep as 1 home. Large decks w/panoramic views. Only \$525,000.

CONDOMINIUMS

● PRICED TO SELL! Spacious, immaculate 3br 3ba unit with water views. Finishes include chef's kitchen with bar & granite c/tops/mahog kit cabs and a/c. Common pool. \$525,000.

UNDER CONTRACT
 ● WHY RENT! New 1BR 1BA with fantastic views and breezes. Priced to sell! Solid masonry construction! A/C in BR. Just \$289,000.

● MASONRY 1 bedroom 1 bath w/ocean & sunset views. Common roof deck. Walk to town. Just \$289,000!
 ● SOLD! Pastory Condos. 2BR 1BA top floor unit. Common pool. Low fees. \$379,000.

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● REDUCED! IMPROVED PARCEL on Bordeaux Mountain with income producing long term rental and separate foundation/cistern. Live on the parcel while you complete your dream home. This beautiful, moderately sloped parcel boasts views to the north and northeast which include Jost Van Dyke and Tortola. ONLY \$265,000.

● WATERFRONT! 2.1 waterfront acres on Lovango! 420 feet of waterfront! Private location w/unobstructed panoramic views from St. John to St. Thomas. Currently sub-divided into 3 lots, can be 4 lots. Tremendous value! \$1,300,000.
 ● SEAGRAPE HILL. Coral Bay views. Paved access. JUST \$125,000.

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● REDUCED! SCUBA DIVING BUSINESS! With BOAT AND EQUIPMENT. Walk on board and start generating income! \$189,000.
 ● REDUCED! Very successful, established catering/provisioning business \$199,000.
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"Le Chateau" - an elegant and private Mediterranean style pool villa on a 2 acre parcel in prestigious Estate Catherineberg with exceptional views of St. John's North Shore. The main house has a large great room with both indoor & outdoor living/dining, 2 spacious bedrooms with en-suite baths, & large pool deck. Separate caretaker's cottage has 2 bedrooms. There is also a parking garage and work shop. **\$3.5M**



"Glucksberg Gazebo" Wooded lot with large trees & a nifty large gazebo type structure with hip roof, screened walls & sturdy floor. A great spot for gardening. All wood is pressure treated, rafters are oversized 2 x 12, joints & footers are lag bolted & Hurricane ties at the rafters. Included in sale are new 90 watt solar panel system with charge regulator and 1200 watt inverter. All this for just **\$169,000**



"Someday Isle" is a well built, custom pool villa in a lush, tropical setting with great views overlooking Coral Bay & the Sir Frances Drake Channel. A popular rental villa, the main level has a well-equipped kitchen, cozy living area & large covered outdoor dining area with unobstructed views & cooling tradewinds. The 3 bedrooms are private & feature en suite baths. The lower level bedroom is a stand alone studio apt. **\$1.399M**



"Fish Beach" - a new Mediterranean Style two bedroom pool villa in Cocoloba Beach Estates. A private waterfront neighborhood with community beach parcel & dock bordering the National Park near Reef Bay yet near all the amenities of Cruz Bay. Features premium finishes including travertine floors, tile roof, antique brick & coral patios, cook's kitchen with stone countertops & stainless appliances. Park beaches are nearby. Unbeatable value at only **\$995,000**.



"Plumeria" - a well-appointed & successful short term rental villa with two bedrooms & loft offering panoramic views of Pillsbury Sound & St. Thomas with beautiful sunsets every night. A gated design ensures the ultimate in privacy for the pool & outdoor living area. The villa & lush tropical gardens surrounding the FLAT yard have been well maintained by on-island owners. There are plans for an additional master suite. Large storage area can store two cars or a boat. **\$1.299M**



"Ridgetop" - Is a two-story, two-bedroom private getaway vacation rental nestled in the hills overlooking Coral Bay. From its locale in Eden Place, a small private neighborhood, it is an easy drive to the island's beautiful beaches, hiking trails, restaurants and entertainment. A shared swimming pool with deck and gazebo is located adjacent to the house and is used by only four other homes. Ridgetop is a great buy at only **\$649,500**.



"Sundance & Moonsong" - Two houses for the price of one in desirable Estate Chocolate Hole. Both Sundance and Moonsong are successful short term rentals within walking distance to Hart Bay beach and just a few minutes from Cruz Bay on paved roads. Sundance is 3 bedrooms with a pool & spa with a large sundeck. Moonsong is 2 bedrooms with a spa. Just reduced to **\$1,275,000**



"Bordeaux Mountain House" enjoys a spectacular mountain top location with cooling breezes, exceptional views, privacy and tranquility, yet this custom designed villa is only a short ride to Cruz Bay, Coral Bay and the north shore National Park Beaches. This gated estate residence includes an elegant stone and masonry main house plus a large guest house, pool and spa all on level terrain. Finest quality construction throughout and terrific BVI views. MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE! **\$2.495M**



"Carolina Cottage" - Really cute two bedroom house with nice water views of Coral Harbor and Hurricane Hole. Faces east to catch the cooling trade wind breezes. Paved driveway and parking area. Partial furnishings included. A nice location close to Coral Bay with large deck and room to expand or add a pool. There is a laundry room on the lower level and space to add another bedroom. **\$575,000**.

DEVELOPMENT/COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES: Estate Pastory - Perfect deal for a spec home builder - 3 lots for the price of one at just **\$375,000**. Hansen Bay 7A is an 18 acre parcel with studies done and a 15 lot sub division permit. All lots have water views and breezes and 4 lots are on the flat top of a ridge with almost 360 degree views. Just reduced from **\$3.18M to \$2.99M**. Estate Zootenvaal 20 acres over looking the marine preserve at Bork Creek just east of Coral Bay **\$7M**. Adjoining 5 acre parcel with 4 cottages and white sand beach also available. **NEW - 4.5 Acres Above Newfound Bay** - Make an Offer. One acre subdividable parcel on Bordeaux Mt. with great views for **\$1.1M**. Chocolate Hole lot with duel bay views to Great Cruz & Chocolate Hole **\$695,000**

Upper Carolina lot with expansive panoramic views of the British Virgins, Hurricane Hole, Coral Bay, and the Caribbean Sea. High elevation, cool tradewind breezes and a downhill build. Paved roads deeded beach access at Johnson's Bay & a great price. Seller will offer some financing. **\$169,000**

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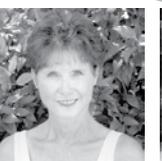
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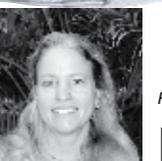
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REEF BAY VIEW - is a classic Caribbean style 4 bd/3 bath pool villa with pristine National Park views of Reef Bay & Ram Head, and the white sandy beach below. Consisting of 3 hip roofed buildings, connected by decks & covered walkways, white walls & turquoise accents. **Reduced to \$1,395,000**.



A BEST BUY! - Well built, poured concrete cottage w/ lovely covered wraparound porch in Est. Carolina. Tile floors, flat lot for gardening & concrete slab in place for future garage & expansion. Only **\$349,000**.

CBR HOME LISTINGS

SEASCAPE - Fabulous location on Bovacap Point! Spacious 2 bd main house w/lap pool & spa, plus a separate caretaker's cottage. Panoramic views, privacy & successful vacation rental. **\$1,095,000**.

GOLDEN DRAGON - Beautiful stone villa w/exceptional craftsmanship. 4 bds/4 baths, infinity pool, multi patios & decks, lush gardens, Pt. Rendezvous location. **Reduced to \$1,925,000**.

LIZARD HILL - A one of a kind villa, high above Cinnamon Bay & surrounded by Nat'l Pk. land. Enjoy the exclusive privacy, views to die for, gorgeous gardens, & easy access from this 3 bd/3 bath, with pool & caretaker's cottage nestled on over 1 acre in Catherineberg. **\$3,100,000**.

BLUE TANG - Charming, turnkey, rental villa in Great Cruz Bay. Privacy, vibrant sunsets, 60' covered deck overlooking sunny pool, 2 bd/2 baths, great kitchen, excellent floor plan, & terrific location. **\$1,295,000**.

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY - Apt. building w/adjacent parcels in Cruz Bay, newly renovated & well maintained. Only **\$490,000**.

WATERFRONT with DOCK - Masonry 3 bed/2bath home on lg. flat lot, with direct access to Fish Bay at your doorstep. Now only **\$920,000**.

AURORA - Enjoy 180 views, from Great Cruz to St. Thomas, from this masonry 4 bd/ 4 bath villa in Contant Pt. Great privacy, pool, multiple outdoor patios, excellent vacation rental history. **\$1,995,000**.

VILLA ROMANCE - New, exquisitely crafted, luxury villa, features a 30' pool in a tropical courtyard setting, 4 private bed/bath suites, chef's kitchen, A/C, gated entry & custom details throughout. All the bells & whistles for **\$2,150,000**.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS - 7 bd/7.5 baths, 2 swimming pools, 2 hot tubs, tennis court, walk to Chocolate Hole beach, impressive vacation rental history. **\$2,999,500**.

CALYPSO del SOL - Successful rental villa w/excellent Chocolate Hole views, 3 bd/bath suites, A/C, newer masonry construction, beautiful pool & hot tub, terrific lg. screened porch. **\$1,950,000**.

REDUCED! - Well built Bordeaux Mt. home w/ 3 bd/2 bath, lg. covered porch, southerly views, lg. trees, very gentle slope, room for expansion. **\$525,000**.

CHOCOLATE HOLE - Unique ruins of 1700's Great House, with a 1960's home on a beautiful 1.42 acre lot. **\$799,000**.

POINT RENDEZVOUS - Newer masonry villa w/easterly views to Ram Head, 3 bd, 2 baths, lg. covered deck, spa, vacation rental history, room for expansion. **\$1,595,000**.

WINDSONG - Stately Boatman Pt. villa, w/separate cottage, situated on a 1ac parcel w/panoramic views. 6 bdrms., 7 baths, huge pool, fully furnished. **\$3,495,000**.

CONTRACTED

STONE HOUSE - Spectacular Coral Bay views, 3 bd/3 baths, gorgeous stonework, covered rotunda, freeform pool, vacation rental history, easy access. **\$1,620,000**.

BOATMAN POINT - Masonry 4 bd. home on spectacular 1 ac. waterfront site with amazing views & outstanding neighborhood. **\$2,795,000**.

CBR BUSINESS LISTINGS

JOE'S DINER - St. John's oldest restaurant is looking for a new owner. Serving breakfast, lunch & drinks since 1972, and located in the center of Cruz Bay. Call CBR.

FABRIC MILL - Very successful Mongoose Junction business, est. 1982. \$150,000 includes inventory, equipment, & owner will train.

SILVER IGUANA - Beachfront shop w/eclectic collection of sterling silver jewelry & locally crafted gifts. **\$75,000**.

CBR CONDO LISTINGS

LAVENDER HILL - Tropical 2 bd/2bath penthouse unit w/wrap-around deck, pool & sunset views. **\$849,000**.

BETHANY CONDO - 2 bd/2 bath unit w/panoramic views, common pool. **\$449,000**.

CONTRACTED

CRUZ VIEWS CONDO - Nice 2 bedroom unit w/full A/C, sunset views, common pool, good rental history. **\$450,000**.

SELENE'S - Ideal in town location, w/parking, for living/rental or business. Terrific views. **Reduced to \$399K!**

GALLOW'S POINT CONDO - Waterfront, 1 bd/1bath condo in resort setting, pool, beach. Only **\$485K**.

CBR LAND LISTINGS

LUSH BORDEAUX MT. parcels w/views. **\$150K-\$285K**.

SUNSET VIEWS - close to town, easy build. Only **\$215K**.

LOTS TO CHOOSE FROM in Fish Bay - Starting at **\$108K**.

KLEIN BAY - Prestigious area w/common beach. **\$675K**.

SIDE-BY-SIDE flat parcels in Johnston Bay - **\$220K ea.**

CAROLINA, EDEN, CALABASH - Nice selection of affordable parcels. Starting at **\$99K**.

CRUZBAYTOWN - Walk to Frank Bay, R-4 zoning. **\$249K**.

GLUCKSBERG - Gentle grade, 1/2 ac., lg. trees. **\$125K**.

ZOOTENVAAL - Hurricane Hole views, paved road. **\$400K**.

GREAT CRUZ BAY - Prime 1.05 acre site w/fantastic harbor views & architectural plans. **A steal at \$595K**.

WATERFRONT on MONTE BAY - Spectacular 13.44 ac. site, ideal for private estate or subdivision. **\$2,900,000**.

AFFORDABLE PARCELS - in Est. Grunwald & Adrian. Easy building sites, close to town. Starting at **\$89,000**. **Call Today!**

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<p>CATHERINEBERG'S RIDGE 5 bedroom villa on 1+ private acre, bordered by National Park, features stunning north shore views, pool w/waterfall, spa, easy access to Cinnamon Bay beach.</p> <p>\$4,900,000</p>	<p>"CINNAMON RIDGE" 5 bedroom villa on 1+ private acre, bordered by National Park, features stunning north shore views, pool w/waterfall, spa, easy access to Cinnamon Bay beach.</p> <p>\$4,900,000</p>	<p>GATEHOUSE, a 2 bedroom, exquisite villa in Peter Bay Estates. Large lot gives great views and breezes. Michael Oxman plans available for expansion. Incredible Value!</p> <p>\$3,250,000</p>	<p>"SEA TURTLE VILLA" is a contemporary Skytop home with amazing water views, 2 master suites, 3 baths, tropical landscaping, pool, & open architecture set amidst secluded privacy. Great vacation villa or island home!</p> <p>\$1,500,000</p>	<p>"WINDWARD SIDE" BOOM offers 2 cottages with hot tubs in private setting. Panoramic views over harbor to BVIs. Charming brick courtyard, lush tropical landscaping, and outdoor showers. Excellent rentals.</p> <p>\$1,275,000</p>	<p>CALABASH offers 2 cottages with hot tubs in private setting. Panoramic views over harbor to BVIs. Charming brick courtyard, lush tropical landscaping, and outdoor showers. Excellent rentals.</p> <p>\$1,275,000</p>	<p>"SOUTHERN CROSS" - Big south-shore views - Danish-style stone home w/ wrap-around covered porches & 3 bdrm & 2 baths. Stunning cabinetry & exposed concrete beams & sills. Exceptional privacy in lush setting. Additional land available.</p> <p>\$1,259,000</p>	<p>"CASA YAYA" - Big-view villa on top the world in Coral Bay. 3 bdrm, 2 bath one level living w/ the BVI at your front door. Entertain by the infinity-edge pool and enjoy the indoor/outdoor great room with dramatic views from every room.</p> <p>\$1,200,000</p>
<p>"PARADISE ON THE ROCKS" Tropical living, big views & masonry home centrally-located on Ajax Peak. Two units: - 2 bedrooms, 2 baths & Great Room upstairs; private entry 1 bedroom apartment downstairs. Rent one, live in the other!</p> <p>\$1,165,000</p>	<p>"SEAVIEW" vacation villa. Charming 4 Bedroom, masonry home in excellent condition with large pool in convenient Chocolate Hole with deeded rights to two nearby beaches.</p> <p>\$1,150,000</p>	<p>"90 DAY SPECIAL" - \$300,000 Price Reduction! Fabulous views across Coral Bay to BVI in masonry 3 br/3.5 bath home. Private, pool, hot tub, stone walls, solar water heater, hurricane shutters custom cabinets, 10k generator plus cottage (NC) on property.</p> <p>\$1,000,000</p>	<p>WALK TO BRUNCH & BEACH plus ENJOY SOOTHING SURF SOUND from this unique, masonry & stone custom crafted, gated villa with panoramic water views. Flexible floorplan features 4 bdrms plus cottage.</p> <p>\$995,000</p>	<p>"VILLA MOLLO" A nature lovers dream, walk to 2 beaches! 3BR/2BA villa sits on the water's edge of a salt pond and features custom stone and wood work and amazing Caribbean views.</p> <p>\$595,000</p>	<p>"CONCH VILLAS": Why pay rent? Opportunity to own a 2br, 1ba &/or a 1br, 1ba condo close to Cruz Bay! Purchase one for yourself and stop throwing money away on rent or purchase both for additional income.</p> <p>\$205,000 & \$230,000</p>		

<p>"MILL VISTA - CAROLINA" Easy access & build on Centerline Rd. Views, breezes and paved access</p> <p>\$ 115,000</p>	<p>"FISH BAY" Views, breezes and paved access</p> <p>CONTRACTED</p>	<p>"LEAST EXPENSIVE WATERFRONT" Gentle slope, 4 min. walk to beach</p> <p>\$ 285,000</p>	<p>"SUGAR APPLE WEST" Harbor views gentle 1/2 ac. with Topo</p> <p>\$ 299,000</p>	<p>"CONTANT" lot with Great Cruz Harbor View. Owner Realtor</p> <p>CONTRACTED</p>	<p>"CALABASH BOOM" .4 ac. GREAT views, private. Topo map</p> <p>\$ 475,000</p>	<p>"BOATMAN POINT WATERFRONT" Sunset Views and Gentle Site.</p> <p>\$ 825,000</p>	<p>"ESTATE CONCORDIA" hillside sites with stunning views ranging from the BVIs, down St. John's eastern coast to Ram's Head, St. Croix. From \$275,000</p>	<p>"UPPER MONTE BAY ESTATES" 7 Spectacular private parcels above Rendezvous Bay; paved road, stone walls & underground utilities. From \$799,000</p>	<p>"NORTHSHORE PROPERTIES" Peter Bay & Hawksnest/Denis Bay exquisite home sites with breathtaking views over the North Shore, BVI & many cays in between. Call for a tour today. Call for Prices</p>	<p>"PETER BAY ESTATES" Exquisite home sites with breathtaking views over the North Shore, BVI & cays between. Prices from \$1,750,000</p>	<p>BEST BUY BEACH FRONT "GREAT CRUZ BAY" private dock access, quiet upscale neighborhood, awesome views. Owner/broker. PRICE REDUCED. \$1,300,000 \$998,000</p>	<p>SELLER FINANCING WITH GREAT TERMS!</p>	<p>"HAULOVER" BEACHFRONT 3.71 acre sub-dividable borders National Park! AMAZING VIEWS! \$1,900,000</p>	<p>"SABA BAY" WATERFRONT & HILLSIDE Incredible BVI views! 12 acre sub-divideable waterfront lot for \$9,999,000 plus 4 hillside lots available from \$699,000</p>	<p>"DRECKETS BAY ESTATES" spectacular BVI views, excellent roads, underground utilities, stone walls, planters, common beach. Minutes from Coral Bay. 12 lots from \$399,000</p>	<p>Ask about "MUST SELL BEST BUY" SITUATIONS Call or email today for info!</p>
<p>EAST END LAND Parcels in Privateer Bay and on far East End. Coral Bay views and underground utilities. From \$265,000</p>	<p>"CHOCOLATE HOLE" Breezes and views to St. Thomas. From \$285,000</p>	<p>"VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES" Gated sub-division, sunset views. Can build FRACTIONAL HOME! Paved roads. 3 from \$499,000</p>	<p>"LOVANGO CAY" Waterfront & hillside properties; upscale amenities including barge docks, paved roads, undgrd utilities beach & views. From \$275,000</p>	<p>OWN A MONTH (OR MORE) in a 3 or 4 bedroom luxury home. Magnificent views and sunsets from 3 homes with all amenities, pools w/waterfalls and spas. Deeded 1 month ownerships from \$59,000</p>	<p>WESTIN RESORT TIMESHARES: Own a week, a month, or more & enjoy all the resort amenities! Most unit sizes and weeks available. Priced from \$2,000</p>											

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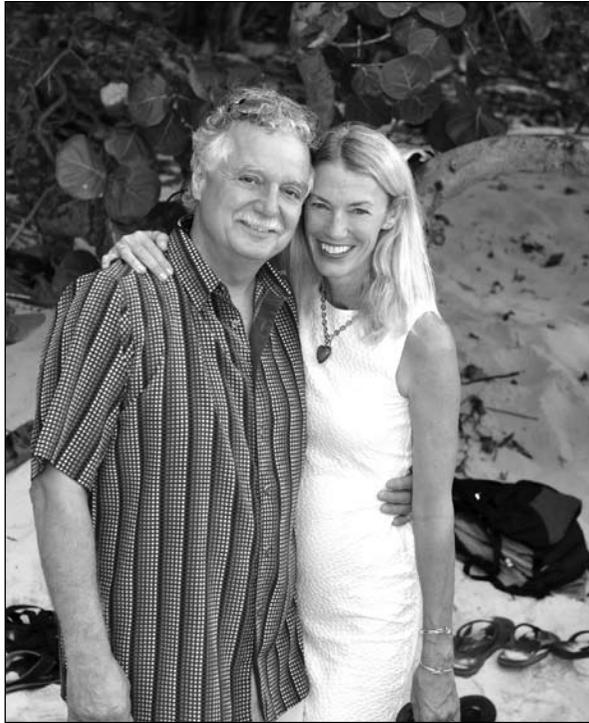
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<p>RAINBOW PLANTATION A private, family estate house on 1.6 acres. Features one of the largest private pools on St. John (w/diving board). PRICE REDUCED \$1,095,000</p>	<p>WATERFRONT RETREAT Privateer Bay. 3BR/3BA casual beach house steps from the water. Paved roads & u/g utilities. \$975,000</p>	<p>NEW! ISLANDS END Nat'l Pk beaches close by. 5BR/5.5BA, HOA common dock \$1,850,000</p>	<p>NEW! PELICAN'S PERCH Masonry 3BR/3BA pool villa with panoramic water views and separate guest cottage. \$1,269,000</p>	<p>FUN & CONTENTMENT 180° views. Tiled pool deck, 2 large AC. suites & mahogany hardwoods. Plans for 3 more bdrms. \$1,235,000</p>
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<p>NEW! Caribbean cottage that currently caters to short term rental guests. Listed price includes adjacent vacant lot for expansion. \$599,000</p> <p>UNBELIEVABLE NEW PRICE FOR BLUE HEAVEN! Cute Caribbean home overlooking Rendezvous Bay. Popular vacation rental. 3BR/3BR \$527,000</p> <p>AMOROSA A brilliant Tuscan inspired villa in Peter Bay. Sweeping views, deeded walking path to the beach, 4BR, 5BA. Live webcam & virtual tour @ americanparadise.com \$7,450,000</p> <p>NEW! Income producing 2 unit in Chocolate Hole. Large flat yard, walking distance to Chocolate Hole Beach. Island stone incorporated throughout. \$875,000</p>	<p>AMANI Spectacular 180° views, prestigious Maria Bluff, 3BR/3BR in the main building, plus guest cottage \$1,795,000</p> <p>SUSANNABERG! New masonry home on FLAT lot plus separate rental cottage. Borders Nat'l Park. \$750,000</p> <p>VILLA TESORI! Luxurious custom home, uncompromising quality, exquisite finishings, sweeping views. 5BR/5BA. \$4,250,000</p> <p>UNBEATABLE VALUE! ALLESANDRA Luxurious masonry villa, renovated in 2007, views of 3 bays, 3BR/3BA, 2 car garage REDUCED TO \$1,769,000</p> <p>MYSTIC RIDGE 4 BR/4.5BA, dramatic views, short distance to North Shore beaches, cooling breezes \$1,990,000.</p>	<p>APPROXIMATELY 150' FROM THE WATER at Pebble Beach with fabulous water views! Beautiful woodwork; upper level is a 3 BR unit & lower is a 1 BR unit. \$675,000</p> <p>NEW IN CAROLINA Masonry 2x2 main house with 2x1 lower apt & separate cottage. Complete solar systems. Paved driveway, valley views. \$600,000</p> <p>NEW! IXORA on Ajax Peak, bordered by Nat'l. Pk, adjacent to North Shore beach access, 3 pavilions linked by decks & walkways, pool, 5 BR. \$1,700,000</p> <p>NEW! "MILES AWAY" "Immaculate 2BR, 2.5 BA masonry villa w/ pool, successful short term rental, in prestigious Point Rendezvous. \$1,450,000</p>	<p>BAREFOOT New 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath guest cottage in quaint neighborhood. \$599,000.</p> <p>PRICE SLASHED FOR NORTH SHORE! Cinnamon Day Dreams, 3 BR/2.5BA, in Nat'l Pk boundaries in Catherineberg. 1 acre. \$1,795,000.</p> <p>AMARILLA VILLA 3 BR, 3.5 BA villa, superior craftsmanship, Spanish tile roof, 180° views, large pool & hot tub \$2,595,000</p> <p>MAMEY PEAK 1.05 acres, 1x1 Main House and 1x1 Guest Cottage. Flat slope and stunning views. One of a kind fixer upper!!! \$795,000</p> <p>MILL RIDGE Attention to detail, Classic Caribbean architecture, masonry 2BR/2BR, office/3rd BR, garage & pool. \$1,595,000</p>	<p>ZOOTENVAAL! Newly built multi unit tasteful masonry home sited on 1.36 FLAT acres. Expand or subdivide. Private with large yard. \$925,000</p> <p>SOLAR POWERED BED & BREAKFAST! "Garden By The Sea" is a quaint Caribbean home. Owners' apartment & 3 income producing A/C units. \$1,800,000.</p> <p>NEW IN CAROLINA! Beautiful, peaceful mostly flat parcel with end of road privacy. Masonry 3x2 upper unit and 1x1 lower unit. \$750,000</p> <p>CVISTA Magnificent open air 4 bdrm villa above Rendezvous Bay. Stunning residence exudes comfort, class & elegance. \$3,895,000</p>
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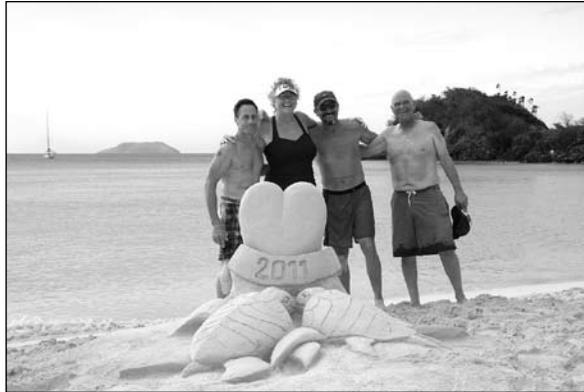
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Michael and Barbie Barry



Chuck and Terry Pishko



Cathy and Billy Dove, second from right and far right, pose with sand sculpture artist Larry Safady, second from left.



Dove, at left, shares the microphone with Jackie Levine, who renewed her vows with husband Howard after 62 years of marriage.



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Tropical Focus

Maria Ines Elliff and Carlos Di Blasi



Michael Banzhaf on flute.

More Than 120 Couples Renew Vows at Valentine's Day Celebration

Continued from Page 4

tions to coincide with the event — come back to renew their vows year after year. Cathy Dove knows why, she said.

“Doing this really makes a difference,” she said. “We had a good marriage before we renewed our vows, we really did. But doing this for the past nine years has changed mine and my husband’s lives.”

“Things are so much better,” said Dove. “It absolutely makes our marriage stronger and better, which I didn’t think was possible.”

A rainy morning on February 14 cleared for a perfect afternoon ceremony on Trunk Bay. Even the no-seesums stayed away so as not to distract from the event’s focus. Couples were greeted with the sound of Michael Banzhaf’s flute as they walked the path down to the beach.

On the shoreline, a sand sculpture of sea turtles wel-

comed couples to the event. The sculpture was crafted by Larry Safady, who spent the entire painstakingly making the sand creation.

“I saw the flyer about this and I thought it was so cool,” said Safady. “They all do this for free, I thought I could donate my time and skill for them.”

Safady, who was helped by the Doves, started his sculpture at 10 a.m. and wrapped up the finishing touches just before the event’s 5 p.m. start.

Porter, who passes up the chance to officiate at what surely are in demand sunset Valentine’s Day ceremonies to oversee the vow renewal, is continually inspired to give her time, she explained.

“To me this is the most meaningful way a couple could choose to celebrate Valentine’s Day,” said Porter. “There is no more meaningful thing for a couple to do on this day than to reassert their love and commitment to each other.”

After 21 years of marriage, this year was the first time Steve and Janet Simonsen chose to join in the Celebration of Love.

“We’re here because it’s a good time to do it,” said Janet Simonsen.

“We are super in love this year more than ever,” said Steve Simonsen. “This seemed like the thing to do.”

With the Caribbean sun beginning its descent to the horizon, couples gathered on Trunk Bay and gazed into each other’s eyes.

“It’s so important once a year to look your mate in the eye and reaffirm your love,” said Dove.

Following Porter’s vow renewal ceremony, each bride was given a long stem rose and each couple a thick-stock certificate of marriage vow renewal to take home.

For more information about the Celebration of Love, check out www.vivows.com.