

# ST. JOHN

# TRADEWINDS

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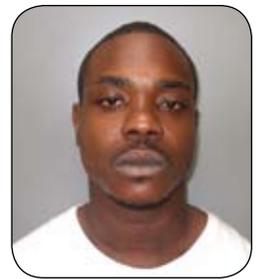


St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

## Four Generations of Samuels on St. John

John's Folly Learning Institute honoree Melville G. Samuel (right) joined his son Neville E. Samuel Sr., center, grandson Neville Jr., left, and great-grandson Noah Lee Samuel for a portrait of four generations after the elder Samuel was honored at the 19th annual program at JFLI. Samuel, a retired teacher who taught at JFLI when it was the Horace Mann Elementary School, regaled more than 50 supporters of the school and neighbors, family and friends with tales of simpler times on St. John at the Saturday, April 18, event at the education center on the southeast tip of the island.

Attendees enjoyed a sumptuous banquet of native dishes prepared by Roane Christian and fare contributed by the nearby Concordia Resort. Senator at Large Almando "Rocky" Liburd, a former student of Samuel, shared stories of Samuel's influence on his education and Samuel presented Liburd with a St. John "rock" Samuel proposed be carved into a likeness of Rocky. JFLI founder Alvis Christian delivered the invocation. Former V.I. Delegate to Congress Dr. Donna Christensen continued her unbroken string of attendance at the annual event as well.



## Mekel Blash, 27, Arrested for the Murder of James "Jimmy" Malfetti

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## Man “Harassing” Minor on Ferry Jailed, Charged with Disturbance of the Peace and Vagrancy

*St. John Tradewinds*

**CORAL BAY** — Albert Henry Guzman, 23, was still being held unable to post \$10,000 bail after being placed under arrest and charged with Disturbance of the Peace and Vagrancy on April 14 in connection with an incident involving inappropriate contact with St. John child that occurred on the VITRAN St. John ferry and a VITRAN bus on Monday, April 13.

Guzman, who authorities said is from Texas and may be homeless, was arrested on Tuesday night after witnesses reported his behavior. He remained in jail on Friday unable to post \$10,000 bail set by the court.

Guzman, reportedly from Texas, had been positively identified by a witness as the individual who was harassing and disturbing the peace of a minor who was riding

from St. Thomas on the St. John Ferry with three siblings and an escort. Witnesses told police that Guzman followed one particular child onto the VITRAN public bus, according to a VIPD release.

Witnesses Observe Behavior

Guzman invited the minor to play video games at his house and continued to speak to the minor even though he was being ignored, according to a VIPD press release on the preliminary investigation. Several citizens observed Guzman’s behavior, according to the VIPD statement.

The minor had no knowledge of who Guzman was and other riders removed him off the bus, according to the VIPD release.

“He told the kids that he was taking them home as well,” the children’s mother wrote on Facebook on the day Guzman was ar-

rested. “Thankfully for the community and my family, a bunch of gentlemen got together as they noticed what was going on and made the man exit the bus.”

“By the time my sitter and kids got home, the police had already been called and they were able to make a statement,” the mother added.

Guzman was charged with Disturbance of the Peace and Vagrancy, with bail set at \$1,000. Unable to post bail, Guzman was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections, pending his Advise of Rights Hearing. On Wednesday, April 15, Guzman appeared before V.I. Superior Court Magistrate Carolyn Hermon-Purcell who increased his bail to a \$10,000 cash bond.

This case is presently under investigation by the Investigation Bureau.

## VIPD Arrests on St. John for April 10-13

*St. John Tradewinds*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10** – Rafael G. Dalmida, 28, of Pastory was arrested and charged with Simple Assault and Battery, in connection with an incident, where he was placed under Citizen’s Arrest after he was positively identified by the complainant, as the individual that physically assaulted and threatened to kill him. Bail for Dalmida was set at \$500 and unable to post bail, he was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his Advise of Rights Hearing.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11** – William Y. Quiones, 24, of Bellevue Village was arrested and charged

with Destruction of Property (DV) in relation to an incident where he punched a woman’s bedroom door, causing damage. No bail was set for Quiones, and he was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his Advise of Rights Hearing.

Jamaal L. Clendinen, 28, of Calabash Boom, St. John was arrested and charged with Aggravated Assault and Battery (DV) after he was identified as the individual that slapped his girlfriend in the face and scratched her about the body. No bail was set for Clendinen, and he was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his Advise of Rights Hearing.

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## Bethany Moravian Movie Night Apr. 24

The Bethany Moravian Church will be hosting Family Movie Night on Friday, April 24, at 7 p.m.

This month’s feature is a movie entitled “To Save a Life,” an excellent movie for the entire family.

Everyone of all denominations are welcome to join in this “free,” family-friendly activity. For more information call the church at (340) 776-6291.

## Hendricks To Address UUF Service on “Transcending Duality” April 26

Nana Hendricks will be speaking on “Transcending Duality” at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (UUF) of St. John Service, at 10 a.m., April 26, at Giff Hill School Lower Campus.

“You are an infinite eternal Soul. You exist way beyond the skin that you are living in. As you awaken and rediscover your higher states of consciousness, you begin to experience your Oneness. You transcend the false belief that you are separate or alone. You have found your way home, back into Wholeness.”

“Nana Hendricks is an international spiritual teacher. She is a mystic and visionary who teaches from the heart with simplicity and lighthearted humour. Her passion and goal in her work is to connect people to their own Soul and provide Guidance on how we can all live from the Soul light inside of us.

Hendricks’ website is [www.thespiralstair.com](http://www.thespiralstair.com)

## 5% 2014 Property Tax Discount Period Now Extended Until April 30

The five percent discount period for 2014 property taxes is extended until Thursday, April 30, 2015, Lieutenant Governor Osbert E. Potter advised Virgin Islands property owners.

No additional discounts will be offered for the 2014 Property Taxes after this date.

The Tax Collector’s Offices are open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Payments can be made on St. John at the Islandia Building.

## Pre-registration Opens for Greatest St. John Dog Show, Family Fun Night

All dog show participants may fill out a registration form online at [www.wagapalooza.com](http://www.wagapalooza.com) or at the Animal Care Center shelter on the library road in Cruz Bay.

Registration forms will also be available at the ACC Tuesday Adoption Clinic at The Marketplace. Registration is \$20 for adults for each class entered, or three classes for \$50. Children 16 and under may register for \$10 a class or three classes for \$25.

Registration on the day of the event will be \$25 for adults per class and will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Dog show classes are on the website and on the back of the registration form. First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded in all classes.

ALL proceeds go directly to funding the care, feeding, shelter and medical needs for St. John homeless dogs and cats. Thank you for your support!

## Summer Youth Fair Is May 6 at JESS

This year the Summer Youth Fair is coming directly to schools. Participating providers can display their programs at the May 6 monthly Parent Teachers Organization Meeting at the Julius Sprauve School from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This way, parents and students can be fully involved in choosing a summer activity.

# Malfetti Family Grateful for Homicide Arrest After More Than a Year

By TOM OAT  
St. John Tradewinds

**ST. THOMAS** — After more than a year of persistent efforts — including federal political contacts, a private investigator and measured public criticism of V.I. Police Department — to keep attention on the unsolved murder of their son on St. John, the family of James Malfetti III, 41, responded succinctly to the announcement of the arrest of a suspect in the case.

“We are filled with gratitude and joy at the news of an arrest,” Ro Malfetti of New Jersey e-mailed *St. John Tradewinds* after the arrest was announced late Friday, April 18. “It has been a long, trying, and difficult 15 months, yet the love, prayers, and support of others sustained us and gave us the much needed strength to carry on.”

Malfetti, 41, an internet entrepreneur, was found dead in his newly-rented south shore apartment on St. John with his throat stabbed and slit in January 2014, the apparent victim of a burglary. His parents, James and Rosemary,

reached out publicly for help in the face of apparent missteps in the investigation of their son’s death which may have begun with the initial police response to the scene on a burglary report at the main house on the property one day before Malfetti’s body was discovered.

Subsequently, there were questions raised about Malfetti being the victim of mistaken identity having recently moved into the apartment whose previous tenant was scheduled to testify in a criminal case which was dropped after the murder.

The V.I. Police Department issued a simple three-paragraph press release announcing the 5:30 p.m. Friday arraignment of Mekel Blash, 27, of Nadir “who was arrested and charged with First Degree Murder, Second Degree Murder, First Degree Assault, Third Degree Assault, Use of a Dangerous Weapon during the Commission of a Crime of Violence, Grand Larceny and first Degree Burglary.”

“The arrest of Blash was made



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

James Malfetti III

in connection to January 19, 2014, homicide of Mr. James Malfetti that occurred in Chocolate Hole, St. John.

“No bail was issued for Mekel Blash by order of the Honorable Judge Kathleen McKay of the Superior Court,” the VIPD statement concluded. “Mekel Blash was processed and remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his Advise of Rights Hearing.”

**Family Hopes  
“Justice Will Prevail”**



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Mekel Blash

Ro Malfetti’s wrote *St. John Tradewinds* and the St. John community shortly after the arrest was announced.

“We started this public journey to honor our son, determined to bring his murderers to proper Justice,” Ro Malfetti wrote. “During this process, our eyes were opened to the very high homicide rate in the territory, and the inappropriate ratio of cases that result in an arrest and conviction.”

“We came to recognize that this

was not just about us, and our son, but that we were part of a much bigger story.

“It was this realization that made us determined to bring greater transparency to the concerns regarding the Justice system in the territory, and to persevere in our efforts for all the families that have been pained by crime, and continue to await Justice,” Mrs. Malfetti wrote. “Our greatest hope is that Justice will begin to prevail for all victims of crime and their families.”

“Please note that we could never have reached this point without the support, love and prayers of our dear family, friends, and the engagement of the V.I. community,” she added.

“To the people of the USVI, it was your stories and your engagement that propelled us forward in our fight for Justice for Jimmy, and for ALL the victims of crime in the territory,” she concluded her brief message. “We pray this momentum can continue, and together we can be part of true and lasting change in the USVI.”

# Former Sen. Barshinger’s WAPA Battles Continue in Fighting “100-Foot” Antenna



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

WAPA crew members cleared a small site adjacent to the Mamey Peak neighborhood and brought in heavy equipment to lift the three sections of a hollow communications tower into place on April 16.

By TOM OAT  
St. John Tradewinds

**MAMEY PEAK** — Retired three-term V.I. Senator at Large Craig W. Barshinger may not see nor appreciate the humor or the irony in his current bugbear, but his latest brush with the V.I. Water and Power Authority has equal doses of both.

Cradling his week-old daughter Caire Urbi Barshinger, the former senator was calling any V.I. official he could as he waited for the police to show up (of course *St. John Tradewinds* got there first) with a cell phone in one hand and Claire sound asleep in the crook of his free arm.

A frantic call from private citizen Barshinger to St. John Tradewinds on Thursday, April 16, showed just how far the mighty can fall — a retired politician was calling the newspaper for help in dealing with government bureaucracy.

“The police came up and they were able to do nothing,”

Barshinger reported.

**WAPA Gets Job Done**

The WAPA crewmembers, meanwhile, were conducting themselves professionally in the heat of the day — nonchalantly easing giant sections of the pole/tower top the ground on the cleared site in preparation for fitting the three tapered pieces of the hollow fiberglass “pole” together.

It seems that WAPA was installing a three-section “100-foot pole” on property adjacent to Barshinger’s aerie of 30 years on the top of Mamey Peak — which the retired V.I. senator says is part of National Park Service property extending to the North Shore of St. John.

**Communication Tower?**

And, the “pole” actually was a hollow communication antenna, according to Barshinger, who charged the antenna was being assembled and erected by WAPA without a required building permit.

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**Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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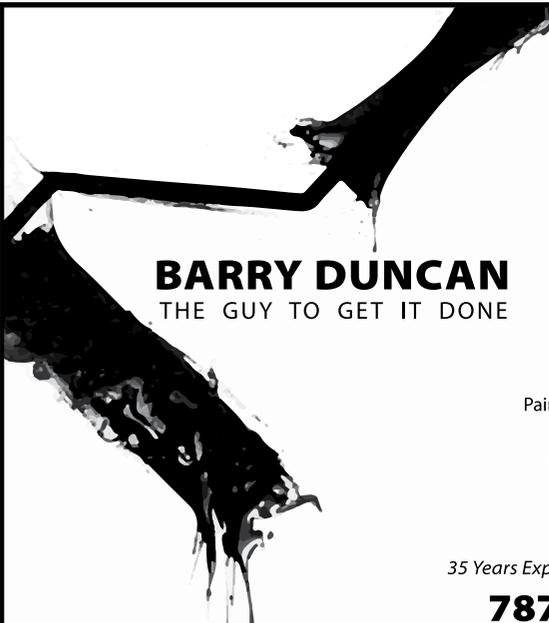
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**"That investigation has revealed evidence that methyl bromide has been used improperly in Puerto Rico," the report added. "Documents suggest that methyl bromide may have been improperly applied at various locations in Puerto Rico. EPA is working closely with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry to follow up on any possible health effects."**

## Federal Investigation of Toxic Pesticide Gas Confirms Island Professional's Predictions

By TOM OAT  
 St. John Tradewinds

**CRUZ BAY** — As the Delaware family of four poisoned by their exposure to a highly toxic chemical gas on St. John in late March continues to deal with their on-going medical crisis, the government investigation into the lax controls on the toxic fumigant is confirming initial St. John Tradewinds reports on the incident.

Federal and V.I. officials have been conducting a high-profile investigation of methyl bromide usage and storage by exterminating companies in the region while withholding the names of some of the companies investigated for their use of the highly-regulated pesticide. Authorities are investigating the handling and sales of the pesticide in Puerto Rico — specifically sales to Virgin Islands exterminating companies — and the storage, handling and application of the highly-toxic chemical in the USVI.

Shortly after the tragic exposure of the family to the highly toxic Methyl Bromide gas, St. John Solutions owner Todd Roskin predicted what federal investigators would find when they traced the source of the gas used in a neighboring unit of the condominium project where the family had rented.

"My guess is that it came from Puerto Rico," the pest control professional said in late March of the highly toxic methyl bromide which is "banned" from use in structures but has industrial and agricultural fumigation applications.

"My guess is they have a lot," Roskin added presciently.

### EPA Announces Findings

"A federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigation has determined that the pesticide used in the U.S. Virgin Islands came from licensed distributors in Puerto Rico," EPA officials announced April 17. EPA notified the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, which has direct enforcement authority for pesticide use violations, according to an EPA press release.

"The Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture and EPA are gathering information from pesticide suppliers and applicators of methyl bromide products in Puerto Rico regarding their distribution or use of the products," the EPA statement continued.

"That investigation has revealed evidence that methyl bromide has been used improperly in Puerto Rico," the report added. "Documents suggest that methyl bromide may have been improperly applied at various locations in Puerto Rico. EPA is working closely with the Agency for Toxic Substances and



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Methyl bromide is a pesticide gas released from pressurized canisters, above, with strictly limited uses. (Related story on Page 6.)

Disease Registry to follow up on any possible health effects."

### Warnings and Restrictions

In response to the initial public concern over the Sirenusa poisoning, Roskin had come forward to explain that the use of methyl bromide and other "replacement" fumigants — gases which are "released" not "sprayed," he elaborated — is replete with warnings and restrictions on its usage.

A specific warning on the label of one of the products which replaced Methyl Bromide for use in structural applications cautions against use in multi-unit buildings such as the Sirenusa condominiums with shared air conditioning or ventilation systems

The condition of school administrator Stephen Esmond and his wife, Dr. Theresa Devine, improved after the family members, repeat visitors to St. John, were airlifted back to Delaware for treatment. Dr. Devine was released from the hospital in early April and at last report Esmond was still hospitalized but conscious. The couple's two teenage sons, 14 and 16, were reported still to be in induced comas in mid April.

The family's representative, Delaware Atty. James Maron, also a longtime St. John visitor, has asked that the family's privacy be respected during their difficult recovery from what he called a "tragedy."

The poisoning has been the subject of national reports on CNN and Fox television news channels.

Even Gov. Kenneth Mapp revealed to the media that he was informed that he may have been exposed to Methyl Bromide while staying at a rental property on St. Croix.

# St. John Dial-A-Ride Program for Seniors Canceled in “Crisis Mode” Over Funding

By TRADEWINDS STAFF  
St. John Tradewinds

**CRUZ BAY** — The St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation (DART) and Supportive Services program of the St. John Community Foundation is being forced to cancel services until Legislative Funding is processed through the Departments of Human Services and Property and Procurement.

“It is most unfortunate that this is taking place now, just two weeks before Older Americans month, a time set aside for the nation to recognize the valuable contributions our seniors have made to all generations,” Celia Kalousek, Director of the St. John Community Foundation, told *St. John Tradewinds*.

St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation and Supportive Services program of the St. John Community Foundation has been in “crisis mode for the past several months,” according to Kalousek.

“As it stands now, our elderly, disabled and disadvantaged community members will not only be deprived of the reliable and compassionate services needed to get to vital medical appointments, congregate meal sites, social activities and shopping” Kalousek exclaimed.

“But they will also be denied the ability to be transported via



St. John Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of SJCF

Seniors arrive at Adrian Senior Center with assistance of Program Manager and driver Dean Thomas.

the SJCF DART bus to get to the events and activities meant to honor them unless the funding that was promised last year is released,” the community activist added.

### Program in “Crisis Mode”

“Although services have been limited (much to the dismay of the seniors) we have been able to hold off on closing the program until now, because we believed

the promises that the reimbursement of program expenses accumulated since October 2014 are imminent...but there seems to be one delay after another,” Kalousek wrote *St. John Tradewinds* on Friday, April 17.

On April 9, Kalousek attended a St. John Town Hall meeting to make a plea to the Senators present to see if they do anything to

help speed up the processing of the funds that the Senate allocated to the St. John Community Foundation to provide essential St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation and Supportive Services.

### Unreimbursed Expenses

“As of today, we have over \$50,000 of unreimbursed expenses

for these services,” Kalousek emphasized. “We have been a reliable service provider five days a week, and by appointment on weekends and ‘after-hours’ for the elderly disabled and disadvantaged members of this community for over 26 years, but we are in crisis,” Kalousek acknowledged.

“The Senate knows the value of these services and promised to partner with us by committing partial financial support of this program — but we are not getting that support in time to serve the seniors, disabled and disadvantaged citizens in the way they need us to!” the community organizer emphasized.

“We have used our emergency reserves and it seems that every year receiving the funding is a challenge,” Kalousek explained. “Several years ago, in the wake of a large funding cut, the seniors went to the legislature to let them know their health and well-being was being severely compromised without the St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation and Supportive Services program. Although the process was hard on everyone, the senators voted to reverse the cut and reinstate most of the crucial

*Continued on Page 18*

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# Giff Hill School's Energy Initiative Will Save More Than \$1 Million Over 20 Years

*St. John Tradewinds*

**GIFFT HILL** — Giff Hill School has installed an Energy Initiative that will provide significant future savings and ultimately zero out the electric bill at the Upper Campus. A committee comprised of staff and trustees has been working hard on this project, which includes energy saving efforts, equipment retrofits, and a net-metered solar system.

For the initial phase of the Energy Initiative, ProSolar Systems installed 285 energy efficient LED bulbs at the Upper Campus over spring break. Last week, ProSolar installed three inverters and 126 solar panels and Angel Electric performed electrical work on a new 35 kW solar system.

The system, which became fully operational on April 14, supplements the school's existing 12 kW array. The Energy Initiative will allow the school to save more than \$46,000 per year, with a cumulative project value of \$1.27 million over 20 years.

A monitoring system will be installed the week of April 20 and will provide the school with real-time tracking of electricity production and consumption. Data collected by the monitoring system will help inspire further energy savings and will be used for analysis and problem-solving in GHS science and math classes.

Giff Hill School's goal is to raise \$153,000 to fully fund the project. GHS has received \$91,000 in gifts and pledges to date and is continuing to fundraise to complete the final phase of the initiative, which involves further retro-fitting of the Upper Campus with more energy-efficient equipment, as well as costs associated with maintenance of the new equipment over the next 20 years.

Giff Hill School is the only preschool through high school program on St. John, currently serving more than 160 students.



*St. John Tradewinds News Photo*

Giff Hill school will save more than \$46,000 per year on energy costs with new solar system.

## Liburd Calls for Ban on Pesticide That Sickened Family Visiting Sirensa

*St. John Tradewinds*

**CRUZ BAY** — Senator Al-mando "Rocky" Liburd has proposed that the territory ban the importation and use of methyl bromide —the dangerous pesticide that is blamed for seriously injuring a family of four after they were exposed to it last month on St. John.

Sen. Liburd said he awaits an official account from the V.I. and federal government agencies investigating the matter, but that in the meantime he supports an outright ban on the use of methyl bromide locally.

"My preliminary research indicates that there are unlikely any approved uses for the chemical here in the territory," he said. "This is a strong and dangerous substance that only has very specific agricultural applications."

The senator said that if anyone can demonstrate that they have a legitimate use for methyl bromide that he would consider amending the law to allow for special exceptions or a waiver process.

Liburd remains very concerned about the Delaware family still hospitalized, as well as about Virgin Islanders who may have also been exposed.

"This is a true tragedy," he said. "I have reached out to this

family by letter and by phone to let them know that we are very sorry this happened here and that there are many Virgin Islanders praying for their full recovery."

Sen. Liburd said it was very troubling to note that this pesticide has apparently been utilized throughout the territory, despite the fact that experts deemed methyl bromide too dangerous for widespread use nearly 20 years ago.

The senator said he worries about Sirensa employees and other Virgin Islanders who may have unwittingly had contact with the chemical.

"There are people who may have been repeatedly exposed over the years," Liburd said.

Liburd said he delayed submission of his bill request for the ban on methyl bromide in hope that there would be a "clearer picture" in regard to the incident that put the family of four in the hospital, but that many questions remain unanswered. He said at least one other senator also supports the methyl bromide ban and has made a similar request for legislation to be drafted.

"I am calling on all my colleagues to join me in sending a strong message on behalf of protecting public health and our environment," Liburd said.

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# St. John Rescue Nears Funding Goal for Jaws of Life Replacement Bargain

By TOM OAT  
St. John Tradewinds

**CRUZ BAY** — St. John Rescue members know they are lucky every day that they don't need the specialized extrication equipment that recent rescue missions have worn out.

"We know it's going to happen," St. John Rescue's Bob Malacarne acknowledged. "It's just a matter of when."

"Crazy things happen here," Malacarne said of the recent high-intensity rescue operations in three serious automobile and heavy equipment accidents involving 11 victims, including two fatalities, between December 2014 and March of this year.

Now patched together with duct tape, the non-profit volunteer organization's Jaws of Life equipment was stressed by the six-hour extrication effort in the February North Shore Road crash of a construction crane which killed a passenger and seriously injured the driver.

## Almost New Equipment Located

"Right now we have a line on some 'almost new' equipment," St. John Rescue's Bob Malacarne told St. John Tradewinds. "Some people came down from the states" as visitors and contacted St. John Rescue

about the availability of the used equipment, according to Malacarne.

"It looks brand new," Malacarne told *St. John Tradewinds*. "It's all the equipment we need."

And, the \$14,600 used equipment is compatible with V.I. Fire Department equipment on island, he added.

"Right now I think we've got about \$12,000 raised," Malacarne said Saturday, April 18. The organization has a GoFundMe internet site.

The vital need for new rescue equipment is not the only financial demand facing the volunteer rescue organization, Malacarne admitted.

"Government funding has pretty much dried up," Malacarne said.

The all-volunteer organization also is looking for less expensive training and meeting space – or a permanent home, Malacarne said. The rent for the non-profit organization's current location on Center Line Road in Pastory is convenient, but the "rent's to darn high."

St. John Rescue performs at least equivalent services as similar organizations on St. Thomas and St. Croix, yet only receives a third of their government funding, Malacarne pointed out.

# Family Continues Recovery Vigil for Inner Visions Reggae Legend Phillip "Grasshopper" Pickering

By JUDI SHIMEL  
St. John Tradewinds

**SAN JUAN, PR** — The father of Inner Visions reggae artist Phillip "Grasshopper" Pickering says his son's condition is showing improvement since he was transferred to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Puerto Rico.

Jens Pickering says Grasshopper's mother, Irma, is at his bedside, overseeing his recovery from a sudden illness that struck the renowned St. Johnian musician in late March.

"He's in stable condition. He

still is not talking yet. He's doing a little bit better in Puerto Rico than he was in St. Thomas," Jens Pickering said.

The well-known St. John musician and community activist was transferred to Puerto Rico April 5 after being admitted to the Intensive Care Unit of the Schneider Regional Medical Center in late March. Brother and Inner Visions band mate Alvin "Jupiter" Pickering said different family members are planning to take turns at Grasshopper's bedside, keeping watch over his progress.

"Everything's in God's hands now," his father said.

Several community fundraising events have taken place since Pickering was stricken.

Organizers of an event last weekend to raise funds to cover expenses for transportation and other costs say they met with success. According to Adonis Morton, one of the entertainers at the April 11 fundraiser, close to \$10,000 was collected.

Morton called it a great event, produced in the spirit of a community coming together.

# Stelzer To Present Visual Treat to Audubon Society

St. John Tradewinds

V.I. Audubon Society members are in for a stunning visual treat at the organization next meeting as Bill Stelzer presents a slideshow of photos he's shot of the natural wonder of St. John that he's then worked with digitally to bring them into a more "painterly" realm.

This month's meeting is set for Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m., on the 2nd floor Marketplace.

Stelzer is a freelance artist/filmmaker specializing in digital media. He has worked on a wide array

of commercial film and video projects in the Virgin Islands, including work for AT&T, Caneel Bay Resort, Chase Bank, Heineken, V.I. Health and the CDC, NPS, USGS, USVI Tourism and Friends of Virgin Islands National Park.

Before coming to St. John in 1992, Stelzer worked during the first Gulf War as graphics director for the ABC-TV affiliate in Central Texas and as a special effects director using computer and model animation for accident reconstructions. Stelzer was also part of a research expedition into the Venezuelan Amazon.



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## Family Resource Center Applies for Block Grant Funds

By JUDI SHIMEL  
*St. John Tradewinds*

**CRUZ BAY** — An established non-profit giving service to victims of violence against women and families appeared at a public hearing in Cruz Bay to defend their request for a Community Development Block Grant.

The Family Resource Center was the only St. John group applying for funds in the CDBG 2015 grant cycle. The first public hearing was conducted in Cruz Bay on April 15.

FRC St. John is requesting \$40,000. If awarded, the funds will be used to provide child and youth counseling services, FRC Executive Director Vivian St. Juste said.

“I was surprised to see that I was the only agency pursuing funds from this grant for the island,” St. Juste said. “There are needs, unmet needs, on St. John.”

The Family Resource Center, originally the Women’s Resource Center, has come to the aid of domestic violence victims and

helped batterers meet their court mandated obligations for more than 30 years. The FRC opened a satellite service agency on St. John more than a year ago which operates from the Myrah Keating Smith Clinic on Giffit Hill.

A total of 18 agencies from St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix have submitted applications for 2015 CDBG grants totalling \$5,739,672.58. All are subject to review and approval by the VI Housing Finance Authority Governing Board.

## Summer Trail Crew Offers Summer Job Opportunity

*St. John Tradewinds*

This summer, Friends of Virgin Islands National Park (Friends) will work in partnership with Greening Youth Foundation (GYF) and Virgin Islands National Park (VINP) to sponsor a summer trail crew for six weeks during the months of June and July. This year’s crew will work from June 22 thru July 31.

The Friends’ Summer Trail Crew program provides Virgin Islands high school students ages 15-19 with a unique outdoor experience repairing and maintaining hiking trails within Virgin Islands National Park. Through this program, trail crew members are introduced to a variety of topics including outdoor work, hiking skills, and a basic cultural and ecological knowledge of the island.

**Spots for Eight Students**

This summer’s crew will consist of eight high school students from St. John and St. Thomas, along with two crew leaders. At the request of the park’s maintenance department the crew will complete various projects including clearing vegetation, building and repairing stone steps, drainage ditches, and removing loose rock on park hiking trails and historical ruins.

The effects of their work will reduce erosion to trails vulnerable to deterioration due to steep slopes, shallow topsoil, and severe rain. There will also be several educational/recreation days including seashore walks, kayaking adventures, a trip to Hassel Island, experiences with VINP’s archaeology program, and a three-day camping trip at Cinnamon Bay to round out the crew experience.

In addition to learning about

trail maintenance and developing an understanding of their role as responsible stewards of the environment, the students will learn important team building and leadership development skills.

**Six-Week Program**

At the end of the six-week program, the park will have between six and eight miles of its most heavily-utilized trails in safe and environmentally-sound condition. As our national parks continue to face severe maintenance challenges due to continued federal budget cuts, Virgin Islands National Park is able to successfully maintain its natural and cultural resources with increasing reliance on volunteer groups like Friends of VINP.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply by May 18. For more information, call Karen Jarvis at 340-779-4940.

## SJSA Offering Two Summer Vocal Camps

*St. John Tradewinds*

St. John School of the Arts (SJSA) is offering two summer camps this year: “Get Real!” — Teen Vocal Camp, June 15-19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for ages 13-17 and “The Rainbow Sea,” July 6-24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for ages 6-12.

Students who like to sing are encouraged to sign up for this Teen Vocal Camp, directed by Kristen Carmichael-Bowers and Becky Graber who have more than 50 years of combined teaching experience.

Teens can learn to sight sing, have an individual coaching on a song prepared by the student, improvisational singing, choral singing, vocal health and much, much more! Tuition is \$250 and SJSA does have financial assistance available. There is very limited space, so interested students are urged to sign

up early to secure a spot!

SJSA will offer a free three-week summer camp called “The Rainbow Sea.” Students will sing, dance and act to perform this wonderful Broadway-style original musical at the end of the camp. Many thanks to ASCAP Foundation and a New York non-profit organization Elixir Nepenthe, Inc. for their full sponsorship of this camp.

Andrea Green, an award winning music educator and music therapist, is the director and creator of this original musical. Her musicals are filled with messages of understanding and acceptance and she likes to work with a diverse group of children: the more diverse, the better!

To download enrollment and financial assistance forms or for more information, visit [www.stjohn-schoolofthearts.org](http://www.stjohn-schoolofthearts.org) or call the school at 779-4322



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# St. John Merchant Complains Proposed Waste Management Fees Will Hit Business

By JUDI SHIMEL  
St. John Tradewinds

CHARLOTTE AMALIE —

A St. John appliance merchant spoke out at an April 15 meeting held on St. Thomas about proposed solid waste handling fees. The fees are being proposed by the V.I. Waste Management Authority for electronic waste, lubricating oil, household appliances, fluorescent bulbs, used tires, and vehicles.

Patrick Pierson, owner of Appliances Plus in the St. John Lumberyard said he was worried that attaching an import fee — as being proposed by WMA — would make it harder for him to sell his products.

“People aren’t buying like they used to,” Pierson said. “I already have to compete against other big box stores. It’s very hard for small businesses to stay in business and stay open when we have to add these extra fees.”

WMA officials articulated their proposal as part of an overview at a public hearing held April 15 at Barbel Plaza, St. Thomas before hearing examiner Dolace Mc Lean. The hearing is part of the application process which waste management hopes will result in gaining approval to impose the special waste handling fees.

The hearing was conducted on



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

Household appliances form just one of the piles at the Susannaberg Transfer Station on St. John.

St. Thomas and St. Croix by way of teleconference.

But PSC Legal Counsel Tanisha Bailey-Roka said some waste disposal fees — for used vehicle tires and car batteries — are already being imposed by some retailers. Bailey-Roka, Mc Lean and some residents who testified at the hearing asked WMA to explain what they have done so far to capture some of the revenue already being collected and turned over to the government.

The law that created his agency called for it to become financially self sustaining. Collecting revenues through special waste fees, tipping fees and other charges is the way WMA expects to meet that mandate, WMA Operations Director Steve Aubin told Mc Lean.

Justin Moorhead, a financial advisor to Waste Management, said if adopted, residents could expect to pay an average of \$56 per year in special waste disposal fees.

# 12th Annual Beach-to-Beach Power Swim Is Only Six Weeks Away

St. John Tradewinds

The 12th annual Beach-to-Beach Power Swim is only six weeks away — Sunday, May 24 and to help swimmers train for the event, Friends of Virgin Islands National Park has two remaining scheduled practice swims: April 27 from Maho to Cinnamon or Trunk and May 11 from Maho to Cinnamon, Trunk or Hawksnest.

The practice swims will all start at 8:30 a.m. (please note that on race day the swim will start at 8 a.m.) from the north end of Maho Beach.

As always, safety is of utmost importance and Friends will have kayaks, SUPs and safety boats accompanying the swimmers.

Swimmers coming from St. Thomas, should take the ferry that leaves Red Hook at 7:30 a.m. The Friends will have a vehicle meet the ferry and transport swimmers to Maho.

The Beach-to-Beach Power Swim contains four simultaneous events:

- Short course (solo) from Maho Beach to Cinnamon Beach (1 mile)
- Intermediate course (solo) from Maho Beach to Trunk Beach (2 ¼ miles)
- Long course (solo) from Maho Beach to Hawksnest Beach (3 ½ miles)

• Long course (three-person relay teams) from Maho Beach to Hawksnest Beach. The relay team transition points will be at Cinnamon Beach and Trunk Beach.

In each of the events, swimmers may compete using snorkels, fins, and/or exposure suits in a separate category of “assisted” swimmers. However, swim paddles, webbed (training) gloves and other swim aides are not permitted.

Registration is open. There are reduced registration fees for swimmers 17 years and younger; as well as reduced registration fees for early registration (thru May 2).

Please visit [www.friends-vinp.org/swim](http://www.friends-vinp.org/swim) for complete information on this event and to register. Swimmers can also register:

By phone by calling 340-779-4940

Or in person on: St. John at The Friends of the Park Store in Mongoose Junction or Connections in Cruz Bay or Coral Bay; St. Thomas at Caribbean Surf Co. in Havensight or Red Hook and St. Croix at SCUBA in Christiansted.

Race director Joe Kessler reminds interested swimmers that registration is limited to 350 swimmers.



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## Technologies Digitally Preserve in 3D Annaberg Plantation, St. John Heritage

### St. John Tradewinds

**ANNABERG** — Set against the breathtaking backdrop of a rich natural landscape, Virgin Islands National Park possesses a lengthy and complex history of slavery, cross-cultural migration and agriculture.

The VINP has partnered with CyArk, an international non-profit organization dedicated to the digital preservation of world history for future generations, to record in 3D (three dimension) the Annaberg Sugar Plantation and Guard House on the island of St. John.

This project is part of a larger collaboration between CyArk and Trimble to document, in 3D, heritage sites associated with the exploitative trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, a system responsible for the forced movement of 10-12 million people from western Africa to the Americas and critical to the history of the world as we know it today.

The Annaberg Sugar Plantation was a Danish colonial-era processing facility, or “sugar works,” which facilitated the large-scale production of raw cane sugar into rum and molasses for export. Constructed between 1797 and 1805, at the peak of the great sugar boom in the New World, the 518-acre Annaberg Sugar Plantation quickly became one of the largest sugar producers on St. John, an economy that was dependent on slave labor to work the labor-intensive fields.

As part of CyArk’s trans-Atlantic Slave

Trade project, the Annaberg Sugar Plantation and Guard House will be documented in 3D using the latest Trimble technologies, including 3D laser scanning, the Trimble® UX5 Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), the Trimble V10 Imaging Rover, along with the latest GNSS survey system—the Trimble R10.

Annaberg will be the second site to be documented as part of this project, following the 3D scanning of Natchez National Historical Park in September, 2014. Ultimately, this project will include 10-15 sites across western Africa and the Americas, a multifaceted project that builds on the pioneering work of University of Cape Town’s Professor Heinz Ruther and the Zamani Project to document the heritage of Africa, as well as the work of the Voyages Database and other scholars in the field.

At Annaberg, the digital preservation efforts build upon and complement the work of researchers from the SAXO Institute and the Department of History at the University of Copenhagen currently working with the Virgin Islands National Park. The resulting data captured will contribute to their ongoing research, conservation, and interpretation of the site, and will also be eligible for nomination to the CyArk 500 Challenge, an international initiative to digitally preserve 500 at-risk cultural heritage sites over the course of five years.

“We are looking forward to an exciting

**“This site speaks powerfully to the sugar economy of the colonial Caribbean, and represents a vital piece in the longer history of the slave trade. We hope to see Annaberg join sites such as Pompeii and Chichén Itzá in the CyArk 500 Challenge.”**

month ahead, bringing together 3D digital preservationists, the Danish student historians, and the park archaeologists and interns into one project. Our goal is to discover and preserve an important chapter in the island’s past when so many people sought freedom from enslavement,” says Ken Wild, Virgin Islands National Park Archaeologist, on behalf of his colleagues at Cinnamon Bay Archaeology Museum and Lab.

“We are thrilled to partner with Virgin Islands National Park and Trimble to digitally preserve the Annaberg Sugar Plantation and associated structures as part of the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade theme,” said Elizabeth Lee, Vice President of CyArk. “This site speaks powerfully to the sugar economy of the colonial Caribbean, and represents a vital piece in the longer history of the slave trade. We hope to see Annaberg join sites such as Pompeii and Chichén Itzá

in the CyArk 500 Challenge.”

Though the history and lasting impact of the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade cannot be conveyed in one site, the digital preservation of Annaberg aims to advance the site’s long-term conservation efforts while contributing to the ongoing research and conversation about the slave trade, according to CyArk. Each site included in CyArk’s trans-Atlantic Slave Trade theme will be linked through an interactive map, placing each within the cultural context of a larger and global story, according to the organization.

“Trimble is proud to both sponsor and actively participate in the documentation efforts around such an important project. Delivering new, 21st century, interactive digital content to showcase the sites and structures associated with this part of our history, in partnership with the CyArk team, has been a very gratifying experience for us,” says Bryn Fosburgh, Vice President of Trimble’s Construction Technology Divisions.

A digital record of sites associated with the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade helps to preserve our global heritage for long-term conservational efforts and provide open access to a global forum for further academic research and discussion. The digital preservation of the Annaberg Sugar Plantation and Guard House will become a vital part of this ongoing effort to expand our understanding of the slave trade and its role in shaping the world today.

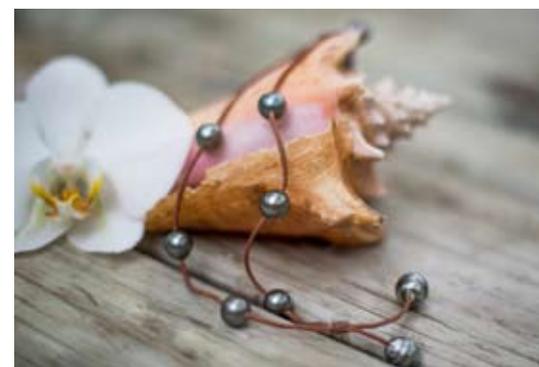
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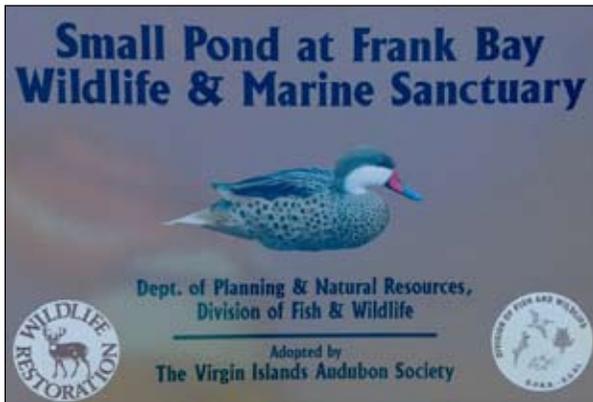
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St. John Tradewinds News Photos

A new sign is being fabricated, above. Alex Brookes lowers footings into pond with extended lift, middle. Mary Moroney, Dave Spoth and Tim Moroney mix the concrete for footers, right.



## V.I. Audubon Members Installing Bird Viewing Platform in Frank Bay Pond

*St. John Tradewinds*

**FRANK BAY** — Many changes are happening with the V.I. Audubon Society.

Volunteers are progressing on the construction of the bird-viewing platform at Small Pond across from Frank Bay. Darrell, from Asplundh, removed and chipped a tree with the company's equipment.

Three VIAS members — Tim Moroney, Dave Spoth and Mary Moroney — built the forms for the footings, mixed and poured

cement into them and waited the requisite three weeks before hiring Alex Brookes to move them into the pond with an extend lift. We will wait for them to settle before the wood frame is built by the end of April.

"We have had obstacles and delays, we are proceeding with speed now," Mary Maroney e-mailed St. John Tradewinds. "We need to wait until the concrete footings settle into the silt bottom for a few weeks. After that we will be building the platform, it is a

basic T-shape with a 6-foot by 12-foot platform at the end of a straight dock. The materials will be both wood and Trex boards."

### Better Viewing, ADA Compliant

"Our goal has always been to allow better viewing of the numerous birds on Small pond to residents and visitors alike," Maroney explained. "The dock/viewing platform does not go far into the pond, just far enough around the mangroves to make viewing possible."

"We have designed the platform to be ADA, handicap accessible," she added. "We will continue to have our school children visit the pond and learn about the birds on St John."

"We have a brand-new, aluminum composite sign being designed and fabricated, which will be on site within the month," Maroney continued. "The project is permitted through DPNR."

*Continued on Page 17*

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# Rutnik's Fund Continues To Award Scholarships To Pre-school, Young Women in Memory of Ruby

*St. John Tradewinds*

**FISH BAY** — April 9, 2015 – Today Ruby would be 40 years old had she not died tragically in an auto accident at the tender age of 21. Words cannot express the depth of grief we feel or the great joy we take in knowing that this beloved girl's memory will live on in our hearts and so many others.

For 17 years, with the encouragement and support of the Virgin Islands community, our family has hosted a Softball Tournament in Ruby's honor which raised funds for scholarships awarded to over 40 college bound V.I. girls as well as several young students attending Giffit Hill School. More than \$160,000 was given out in awards from 1997 to 2014.

After the last Tournament in 2012 the Ruby Rutnik Scholarship Fund, Inc. Board elected to turn over the endowment fund, totaling nearly \$300,000, to the Giffit Hill School, originally founded as Pine Peace School in 1978 for preschoolers like Ruby, who was in that first class. In so doing it has become the cor-

nerstone of a million dollar endowment fund campaign to insure that Giffit Hill School will continue to grow with the community and be able to meet its expanding educational needs.

Additionally the Ruby Rutnik Scholarship Fund will continue to award annual scholarships totaling \$5,000 to St. John girls to attend or who are attending an accredited college or university.

The Virgin Islands community so generously supported the Tournament and Scholarship fund each Spring usually held at this time of year, by writing checks for innings at \$100 each, games at \$700, or scholarships at \$2500 or in kind services. It is our hope that this same kind generosity will continue in Ruby's memory for the benefit of future Virgin Islands children wishing to attend Giffit Hill School and those graduating young women who need a little help pursuing their higher education ambitions.

Donations can be made to the Ruby Rutnik Scholarship Fund by contacting Giffit Hill School Development Office at 340-776-1735 or mailing to Giffit Hill School, Box 1657, St. John VI 00831.

Applications for college-bound girls may be picked up from Giffit Hill School (776-1730) or Connections (776-6922) in Cruz Bay and Coral Bay from April 20. They will be due back by May 20. Giffit Hill Scholarships for students entering pre-school through 12th grade should be applied for directly through the school.

For more information kindly call Beth Jones, GHS Development Director (776-1735) or Beth Knight, head of Lower School (775-6595) or the Rutniks at 693-8069. On behalf of our family and the Ruby Rutnik Scholarship Fund we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

## View Platforms on Cleared Battery Hill Lot Portend More Cruz Bay Skyline Buildings



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tom Oat

The morbidly-monikored Gallows Point is just down the hill, but the scaffolding on the ridge top lot adjacent to the Ivan Jadan Museum overlooking Cruz Bay is just as foreboding to residents of the quiet Frangipani Lane neighborhood above the town.

Neighbors have been told plans are for the construction of a "modest home" on the site which abuts the landmark three-story Battery Hill condominiums.

The three levels of platforms appear to offer views from different elevations of potential construction on the lot overlooking the terra cotta roofs of the already imposing Grande Bay Resort on the hillside below leading to Cruz Bay Beach. The owner of the site also owns several units at Grande Bay, according to a neighboring property owner.

Much of the south side of Battery Hill with views over Turner Bay to St. Croix already has been dotted with imposing apartment buildings and private residences on postage-stamp sized lots, the last of which are being filled in with multi-story structures.

Now it appears the ridgeline above Lavender Hill, Sirenusa and Cruz Bay Beach itself will continue to evolve. Residential properties on the west wide of the Ivan Jadan Museum property overlooking Gallows Point and Frank Bay are also undergoing major renovations.



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St. John Tradewinds News Photos

Finished lower level allows owner to enjoy the view of sunrise over Rendezvous and Ditleff Bays while finishing upper levels.



## On *the* Market

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By **JAIME ELLIOTT**  
*St. John Tradewinds*

**RENDEZVOUS** — Boasting panoramic views of Rendezvous Bay out to the turquoise Caribbean Sea, 15-I-1 Consolidat Rendezvous & Ditleff offers a unique opportunity to make your St. John home ownership dream a reality.

The three bedroom, two bathroom partially completed home is priced to sell at \$849,000, explained Tammy Donnelly, owner/broker of 340 Real Estate.

“You can finish the home to your own tastes,” said Donnelly. “And it is priced to sell.”

The partially constructed masonry structure is nestled on a 0.493-acre parcel of land in the Estate Rendezvous & Ditleff area just a few minutes from the dining, shopping and nightlife of Cruz Bay. The alabaster beaches of the island’s famed North Shore are only a short drive away as well.

Enjoy jaw-dropping views of the crystal clear waters of Rendezvous Bay below and out to the Caribbean beyond. You’ll never tire of watching the sun rise above the horizon as you start another day in paradise.

The upstairs of the property is still a work in progress, yet already frames the stunning water vistas in elegant masonry arches. The downstairs of the property at 15-I-1 Consolidat Rendezvous & Ditleff is completed, explained Donnelly.

“A buyer can live in the finished downstairs while they complete the house,” said the 340 Real Estate broker/owner.

The downstairs area is ready to welcome you home. The kitchen boasts wooden cabinets and a large island. The kitchen opens onto the great room which is flooded with light.

There are three bedrooms and

two full bathrooms on this level of the home. The master bedroom boasts an expansive en suite bathroom. The two additional bedrooms are spacious as well, offering plenty of living space as you complete construction projects on the upper level of the home.

One thing you won’t have to work on at this property is the view.

“There are panoramic water views of Rendezvous Bay, out to the Caribbean Sea and down the beautiful south shore of St. John,” said Donnelly.

This partially completed masonry home at 15-I-1 Consolidat Rendezvous & Ditleff is a must see, Donnelly added.

“This property is a must see and priced to sell,” she said.

For more details about 15-I-1 Consolidat Rendezvous & Ditleff, call Donnelly at (340) 779-4478 or at (340) 643-6068.

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## Letters to St. John Tradewinds

### Where Has Our Island Pride Gone?

**Good day.**

Where has our island pride gone?

Walk down any of the streets in Cruz Bay or Coral Bay and see litter trashing up our beautiful island of St John.

Who is to blame? We all are to blame. We walk down the streets turning a blind eye at the litter lying in the sidewalks, in the bushes and in our beautiful waters.

WE can change this, you and I by picking up trash that we see lying around. When you see people littering ask them to dispose of their trash properly.

Business owners please help by installing waste receptacles outside of your businesses. It's your civic duty to help St John be clean and pristine!

Tourism is our main economic generator. If we want guests to keep thinking of St John as being a nice clean island we need to do our part in helping it stay that way.

On Saturday, April 25, at 9:30 a.m. there will be an event called "Get Trashed St John" organized by Erin of the Facebook page Get Trashed St John. People will meet at the bandstand in the Powell Park to help organize cleaning up Cruz Bay and Coral Bay. Plastic bags, gloves passed out and clean up areas will be assigned then.

Please join this worthwhile community event. Afterwards there will be a get together to talk of more ways to help St John be a clean beautiful island that we all love and care for.

See you at the Bandstand April 25 at 9:30 a.m!

**Put litter in its place!**  
**Dan Boyd**

**SUBMIT LETTERS, OPINIONS & OBITUARIES TO:**  
**editor@tradewinds.vi**

### Crossword Answers (Puzzle located on Page 20)

A	L	I	M	B		F	W	I	W		P	S	I	S		I	M	A	C		
C	I	N	C	O		R	A	G	A	S		O	H	N	O		N	O	A	H	
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E	D	Y	S		S	S	T	S		S	N	A	P		D	O	R	A	S		

### It Sure Looks Like a Letter to the Editor...

I'm writing with a suggestion that your reporter follow up yet again with V.I. Waste Management as to their lack of progress with solid waste removal at the Susannaberg transfer station.

It's not being transferred again!

But it is also a problem for the entire island, which is overloaded with people and rental villas generating junk cars and heavy duty trash (not the wastebasket type).

The "tipping floor" and new waste removal procedures have never been put into operation. The place is

a growing mess. This ties into the article for the good-hearted souls trying to crush cans and bottles, when they really should be all over the government to use our tax dollars to provide basic government services like road repair and trash removal.

This is not a letter to the editor, just an alert for a potential story update on the pathetic situation at the Susannaberg transfer station and all our dumpsters around the island, including the growing number of junked cars parked everywhere they can be.

**Accountability**

### Former CZM Commissioner Hills Reiterates Terms of CZM Permit Granted for Enighed Parking Lot

**Dear Editor,**

I have sent a copy of this letter to the people mentioned in it. Comments regarding the gravel public lot in Cruz Bay, and news that the Port Authority is planning to turn the lot into paid parking.

To receive a permit for construction of the lot, The Port Authority was required to present the plans in a CZM Public Hearing and get a CZM Permit. This was determined to be a Major Permit Application in CZM Tier 1. The Commissioners voted unanimously for a free public parking lot.

There was no provision in the permit for assigned/reserved parking spaces for police vehicles, and there was no provision for paid parking. To put either of those into effect, another CZM Public Hearing is required under VI Law.

Further, the Permit for this public lot was granted with a Special Condition that it be landscaped. At one time there were funds for landscaping. The architect exchanged emails with me and told me that the landscaping funds were used for something else.

To Sandra Coldrone, St. John Chief of Police. The sign and barrier that the St. John Police Department has erected in the public lot are probably illegal and should be removed immediately. This lot was never intended to be for reserved parking for police vehicles. See photo.

To Roberto Clintron, Chairman of the Port Authority. As I understand the Permit, you can-



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Gerry Hills

#### VIPA's parking lot at Enighed Marine Terminal.

not arbitrarily start charging fees for parking in the public lot. You need permission from CZM, in the form of an Amendment to the Permit, which can occur only with a Public Hearing.

To Dawn Henry, DPNR Commissioner. This letter is for information only. The CZM Permit was granted under a former DPNR Commissioner, and it is probably on file. As with other Major CZM projects, a Public Hearing would be necessary to make changes to the Permit.

To Senator Rocky Liburd.

This letter is for information only. Thank you for holding the Town Meeting last week. This lot was mentioned by at least two testifiers. If further plans for development of this area are being considered, please note that the area would be considerably beautified by landscaping in the areas between the lot and the street — which were designed for that purpose. St. John has knowledgeable citizens who would be willing to recommend appropriate foliage.

**Gerry Hills**  
**St. John**

## Guest Opinion

### World Yacht Squadron Weighs USVI Attitude Toward Charter Yacht Fleet

I have been sailing to the U.S.V.I. for over 40 years. I am a professional seaman and captain of sailing ships and working vessels.

In the 1960s, 70s and 80s there was a large privately-owned charter fleet operating out of Charlotte Amalie Harbor. Many of these beautiful classic vessels worked at chartering in the winter season, then sailed to the Mediterranean sea and chartered there for the summer season. They sailed back and forth, crossing the Atlantic every year between the Virgin Islands and Europe. Boats coming from Europe to the Panama Canal stopped in St. Thomas to make repairs, rest a bit, and party a lot.

At that time, many light industries existed in St. Thomas to service and support this yacht traffic. Diesel engine shops, electrical repair shops, sail makers, canvas awning and cushion makers, carpenters and shipwrights, rigging shops, marine hardware stores, and markets sold provisions by the ton. Restaurants, bars, and hotels flourished. Money flowed in and business was good.

It was conservatively estimated that this yacht traffic brought in 100 million dollars a year to the U.S.V.I. economy.

Toward the end of the 1980's, the V.I. Government began to make its move to get their fingers into this money flow. Mooring laws, licensing regulations, taxes, and rude and downright mean water police were created under the excuse of "protecting the environment". They were armed, very aggressive, and intimidating. They came aboard and treated us as criminals.

We were just good and peaceful people who were here to do business, spend money, and have a good time doing it.

As one might expect, this activity completely surprised and alienated the cruising and charter yacht fleet. They sailed away never to return. The yachting service and support industry collapsed and disappeared. The U.S.V.I. had destroyed a major economic income industry. Word quickly went out on short-wave radio to the rest of the world. Stay away from the U.S.V.I. It was a case of authority gone mad.

Now, only a few yachts come to the V.I. It is well known in the yachting and ocean cruising world that the Virgin Islands is a place to avoid. Instead, they go to Antigua, St. Martin, Martinique, St. Lucia and Grenada.

Today, in the Eastern Caribbean an explosion of yacht traffic is occurring. There are now several thou-

sand boats here, but few come to the U.S.V.I. You are missing the greatest money-spending yacht fleet in Caribbean history. Your marinas and beautiful bays are empty of fine yachts and cruisers. In the national park there are only empty mooring balls littering the pristine beauty of the bays.

There is still a very small charter yacht and ocean cruising community in tge V.I. They are hanging on by their fingernails. In St. Thomas harbor, Sub Base, The Lagoon, Red Hook and Coral Bay, St. John.

This tiny boating industry is still under attack. Heavy taxes, in the form of exorbitant mooring and registration fees, and constant hassle by rude police and government officials. The boating community is constantly slandered and blamed for everything under the sun. They are barely making a living and are having difficulty maintaining their yachts.

These hard-working people are to be commended for their tenacity, determination and courage in preserving the last remnant of what once was a major yachting industry. I must take my hat off to them for their patience and strength in the face of this business-killing attitude

Those of us in Britain and France are watching you. We applaud your efforts. Please carry on. Don't give up. One can only hope and pray that the freedom and liberty to engage in honest business be restored in the Virgin Islands and that the Eco-tyranny be ended. We hope the V.I. will end their war on charter yachts and the ocean-cruising community and restore common sense and free-port status.

When this finally happens, we will come again and to support you. Freedom is good business. Believe me, my friends, we are watching you. Take heart. The sun also rises.

**Thank You,  
Captain: Sir Robin Smythe  
Physical Oceanographer  
Master Mariner  
Commodore: World Yacht Squadron**

#### Footnote:

The World Yacht Squadron is not on the internet. We are a private international organization that is owned by its members. We can be contacted only on short-wave radio at proper times and frequencies. Our membership has grown over 15 years by word-of-mouth only. Currently we have 17,331 vessels registered and 28,464 members. We continue to grow steadily. Watch for our flag.

# DID YOU KNOW...

## THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE NON-PROFIT GROUP AND YOUR ISLAND NEWSPAPER AT THE SAME TIME?

Animal Care Center of St. John  
Coral Bay Community Council  
Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park  
Giff Hill School  
Island Green Building Association  
Kids First!  
Kids in the Sea (KATS)  
Sisterhood Agenda  
St. John Audubon Society  
St. John Christian Academy  
St. John Community Foundation  
St. John Film Society  
St. John Historical Society  
St. John Montessori School  
St. John Recycling Association  
St. John Relay for Life  
St. John Revolving Fund  
St. John School of the Arts  
St. John Youth Coalition  
STT/STJ Chamber of Commerce - STJ Chapter  
Team River Runner  
Using Sport for Social Change  
(and many more)

Call to add your registered non-profit to this list

### IT'S A SIMPLE SOLUTION: Underwrite a yearly advertising budget for your favorite community group.

St. John Tradewinds supports  
all registered non-profit organizations  
with a non-profit advertising rate.  
For more information, call 776-6496.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Next Deadline: Thursday, Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup>

## 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](mailto:editor@tradewinds.vi) or fax 693-8885.

### Tuesday April 21

— V.I. Audubon Society members are in for a stunning visual treat at the organization next meeting as Bill Stelzer presents a slideshow of photos he's shot of the natural wonder of St. John that he's then worked with digitally to bring them into a more "painterly" realm. This month's meeting is set for Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m., on the 2nd floor Marketplace.

### Friday, April 24

The Bethany Moravian Church will be hosting Family Movie Night on Friday, April 24, at 7 p.m. This month's feature is a movie entitled "To Save a Life," an excellent movie for the entire family. Everyone of all denominations are welcome to join in this "free," family-friendly activity. For more information call the church at (340) 776-6291.

### Sunday, April 26

— Nana Hendricks will be speaking on "Transcending Duality" at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (UUF) of St. John Service, at 10 a.m., April 26, at Giffit Hill School Lower Campus.

### Thursday, April 30

— The five percent discount period for 2014 property taxes is extended until Thursday, April 30, 2015, Lieutenant Governor Osbert E. Potter advised Virgin Islands property owners. The Tax Collector's Offices are open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Payments can be made on St. John at the Islandia Building.

### Wednesday, May 6

— This year the Summer Youth Fair is coming directly to schools. Participating providers can display their programs at the May 6 monthly Parent Teachers Organization Meeting at the Julius Sprauve School from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This way, parents and students can be fully involved in choosing a summer activity.

### Saturday, May 9

— The Animal Care Center's Wagapalooza fundraiser will be on Saturday, May 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Winston Wells ballfield in Cruz Bay.

### Sunday, May 24

— The 12th annual Beach-to-Beach Power Swim will be on Sunday, May 24, in the protected waters of Virgin Islands National Park along the north shore of St. John.

### ALCHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

All meetings are now open. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 6 p.m. Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cruz Bay; Thursday 7 a.m. Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cruz Bay; Sunday 9:45 a.m., Hawksnest Bay Beach; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 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

For Al-Anon meeting location and times, please call (340) 642-3263



*Tradewinds News Photo Courtesy of the Campbell Family*

Amphisbaena fenestrata face, above, and a live one, at right.



### *St. John Tradewinds*

My scientist friend Kevel Lindsay from the Island Resources Foundation recently posted a picture of a little snake on Facebook. He identified it as a ground snake (*Magliophis exiguum exiguum*), a rarely seen Virgin Islands native, and expressed his concern about the survival of local species due to land development and loss of habitat.

Unfortunately photos of snakes are not too popular, so only a couple of people 'Liked' that post.

Imagine my excitement when shortly afterwards I spotted this little pinkish guy by the side of the road right near my house in Fish Bay. I wouldn't have even noticed it if I hadn't been pulling up some weeds next to it.

At first I thought it was a big worm, but then I saw that it had a face and a mouth with teeth. I called my husband over. "Look a little snake! I have to show Kevel." It wasn't moving, so I was able to get my camera and take some pictures of it.

Sadly, it was dead. Not just dead but all dried up and stuck in its twisty position. It was still there when we returned from our walk, so my husband picked it up and brought it inside. It seemed like it would be about 9 inches long if it was straightened out, and thinner than a pencil.

I posed it next to a scorpion exoskeleton I happened to have on my shelf in order to show its size, and sent the photo off to Kevel in an email titled "Dried up snake" with the message "Look what we found!"

My kids had reported seeing a blind snake one time when they went to camp at the VI Environmental Resource Station, but I had never seen one myself — or any other kind of snake here.

Kevel wrote back "Amphisbaena" and also forwarded it to Dr. Renata Platenberg, a herpetologist and Assistant Professor of Natural Resource Management at UVI. She confirmed that it was an *Amphisbaena fenestrata* and kindly shared a picture of a live one. I asked why the one I found was all dried up like that on the ground instead of rotten or eaten up by something. Apparently they are mostly found in moist

forest areas and under the ground, and their skin does not protect them from the sun, so they can quickly become desiccated.

Then I got another message from Kevel. "It's a legless lizard, not a snake."

Well, that was a surprise. I went on the Internet to find out more, and saw on the kingsnake.com website that "until recently they were considered to be legless lizards, but they are now placed their own taxonomic order, Amphisbaenia, apart from lizards and snakes".

I asked Renata about that and she said she has always considered them to be neither lizards nor snakes, though the most recent genetic studies place them closer to lizards. It seems they still have some traces of their former shoulders and pelvic girdles, which would clearly distinguish them from snakes.

The name 'amphisbaena' is from the Greek, meaning 'goes both ways' — because the head and tail look similar, and they can actually move backwards and forwards making tunnels underground. They eat insects and other invertebrates they find in the ground or under rocks and fallen trees. They don't come to the surface very often — usually only if they get flooded out or otherwise disturbed. It is hard to say why this one was caught out in the open and flash-dried by our house. There hadn't been any big rain storm that day to wash it out.

The VI Division of Fish and Wildlife reports that these creatures are not very abundant, and very few people have seen them. (Renata said she has looked and looked for them for 10 years and has only seen a handful.) Mostly gardeners and farmers come across them when they are digging in the soil. Or people's cats drag them in. Our cat is much too old now to catch lizards, even legless ones. I guess we just got lucky.

Now we are going to keep watching for a live one.

*Gail Karlsson is an environmental lawyer and part-time resident of St. John. Her book The Wild Life in an Island House is available on amazon.com — or view some of her other writing at [gvkarlsson.blogspot.com](http://gvkarlsson.blogspot.com).*

## Connecting with Nature

by Gail Karlsson

### It's a blind snake! A legless lizard! No – it's an amphisbaena!

## Senator Francis Urges VIPD To Move Quickly To Implement Crime Prevention Strategies

*St. John Tradewinds*

**CRUZ BAY** — Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr. today called on the Virgin Islands Police Department to move quickly as it implements crime prevention strategies needed to curb the occurrence of violent crime across the territory. Sen. Francis is the Chair of the 31st Legislature's Committee on Homeland Security, Public Safety and Justice.

Information provided by VIPD Acting Commissioner Delroy Richards at the March 24 meeting of the Committee on Homeland Security, Public Safety indicated that the Police Department is working to address violent crime, according to Francis. Francis is imploring the Police Department to step up its crime fighting measures, which remain critical as more innocent lives are lost to gun violence.

"The tragic loss of Mr. Terrance Moorehead reinforces the urgency of implementing strategies to curb gun violence and crime. Every life lost is one too many," Francis said.

Measures such as improved street lighting, surveillance cameras, routine traffic stops and increased police enforcement are proven crime fighting strategies, Francis said.

"In addition to increasing the ranks of our police officers, taking simple yet necessary steps like installing surveillance cameras in high crime areas and improving visibility in our neighborhoods and commercial areas can have a significant impact on overall crime prevention," he stated. "All of these visible and tangible measures help to reassure our community that their safety is a priority and that active policing is taking place."

Crime prevention is a high priority for him and his legislative colleagues, Francis added. Presently, anti-gang, no loitering and firearm importation measures are going through the legislative process.

## Bird Viewing Platform in Frank Bay Pond

*Continued from Page 11*

"When the Virgin Islands Audubon Society pushed to have the pond designated a Wildlife and Marine Sanctuary, decades ago, we also committed to being stewards of the area by "adopting" the small area of the pond adjacent to the bay," she explained. "VIAS has planted mangroves and plans on planting a native flower garden to attract more birds and butterflies. This is a little gem, close enough to town for both schoolchildren and sight seers."

While the small crew worked down at the pond, they were entertained by the peacocks, numerous white-cheeked pintail ducks and moorhens, according to Mary Maroney. A pair of yellow warblers darted back and forth in song.

Residents are encouraged to stop by to see the progress. By the way, the volunteers can really use help with building the framework. Dave Spoth has gone back to New York and so the crew is down to the Moroneys.

If you can help, please email me at [viadubonsocty@gmail.com](mailto:viadubonsocty@gmail.com). Please!

Longtime Officers Step Down

New developments have created changes with next year's slate of officers.

The trusty and energetic Bananaquit editor and board member, Judy Buchholz, is moving off island at the end of the summer. She has done a great job with the newsletter and has been a constant at both the National Park Headquarter's front desk and out at Francis Bay Pond for the weekly birdwalk with Ranger Laurel.

"Judy is going to be sorely missed but we are happy for her as well," Judy and her husband, Mike, will be near their daughter in Indiana, and we are sure they will continue to be active participants in whatever niche they choose. Thank you, Judy!

Longtime board member Terry Pishko will stay on St. John but she has decided to step down from the VIAS board. She has been active with Audubon and started the tradition of the annual plant sale as the society's main fundraiser. Terry was instrumental in the development and subsequent permit process for the bird-viewing platform. She has held many offices in VIAS and has been actively involved since arriving on St. John in the early 1990s. Thank you, Terry!

Phyllis Benton has served as secretary for the past two years and has chosen to continue as a board member but not as an officer. VIAS will continue to have a reciprocal relationship with Phyllis and her bird rehabilitation efforts.

**New Officers on Slate**

Although there are changes and people we will surely miss we do have a new slate of officers for 2015-2016. David Spoth for president, Mary Moroney for vice president, Peggy Spoth for treasurer and Marcia Sexton for secretary.

Marcia is a relatively new member of VIAS and has agreed to be a board member and secretary for next year. She lives on St. John part time, as do the Spoths. Marcia and her husband, Jim, hail from Cape Cod.

Anyone who would like to become a member or be more active in the organization is encouraged.

## V.I. Agriculture Dept. Offers Urban Forestry Grants

*St. John Tradewinds*

**CRUZ BAY** — Organizations and agencies in the U.S. Virgin Islands may apply for grants of up to \$20,000 from the V.I. Department of Agriculture, Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Assistance Program announces the availability of grants for the 2015 urban forestry program.

Grants require a 1-to-1 match to the amount requested; however, matches usually can be met through in-kind donations and volunteer time. Grant awards will be made on a competitive basis.

The deadline for proposal submissions for this grant cycle is Monday, May 4. Proposals may be mailed or delivered to the Department of Agriculture offices on St. Croix, St. Thomas, or St. John, or, preferably, emailed.

"Trees, properly planted and managed in our parks, along our road ways, in backyards, playgrounds, and other public spaces are invaluable in enhancing and improving the quality of life for our community," said Agriculture Commissioner Carlos Robles.

The U&CF Program is designed to encourage citizen involvement in urban and community forestry projects throughout the Territory. The Program seeks proposals for project funding from local government, nonprofit organizations, civic and/or educational organizations, including but not limited to schools, churches, homeowners' associations, service clubs, and environmental organizations. The U&CF Program does NOT fund strictly agricultural projects. Projects must have a forestry component to be eligible for funding.

### 5th Annual St. John Summer Youth Fair

May 4, 5:30-7:30pm at the Julius Sprauve School

Bring the Entire Family

Sign up for a Summer Program

Apply for a Summer Job

Are you a government organization, private business or non-profit organization who would like to promote their Summer Program to the youth of St. John?

Do you have Summer Employment or Internship Opportunities and seeking young, eager candidates?

Then get involved in the St. John Summer Youth Fair! You'll have an opportunity to promote your program and sign up candidates on the spot!

Phone 340.712.6080 to get involved!

Organized By



Helping Our Youth to

Have a Fun and Productive Summer

If you would like to participate as a service or job provider, contact **Kevin Jackson, VIPD Public Information Officer** at 340.712.6080

## 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

Sunday School 9 a.m., Divine Worship 10 a.m.

### Calvary Baptist Church

13 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.

### 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, Divine Worship 8:30 a.m., 776-6713

### Freshwater Church

Freshwater Church St. John USVI  
Sunday Worship 10 am at Hawksnest Beach  
Follow us on Facebook, 340.514.6578

### Jehovah's Witness

7:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 7 p.m.  
Saturdays (Español), 10 a.m. Sundays, 340-715-053

### 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 Catholic Church

Saturdays: 6 p.m.; Sundays: 7:30 & 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. in Coral Bay  
at the John's Folly Learning Institute & 6 pm. in Spanish;  
Mondays: 12:15 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 7 a.m.  
& Fridays: 7 p.m. Call 776-6339 for more information.

### Prayer House of Faith

Sunday Morning Service at 8 a.m; Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays  
Prayer services at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays; 340-690-3820

### St. John Methodist Church

Sunday 10 a.m, 693-8830

### Seventh Day Adventist

Saturdays, 779-4477

### St. John Pentecostal Church

Sunday 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 Church Service, 9 a.m.  
Bible Class on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. 777-6306

### Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

## St. John Dial-A-Ride Program for Seniors Canceled

*Continued from Page 5*

funds needed to serve this vulnerable population.”

### Financial Woes in 2014

In April of 2014, the program was in the same position of having allotments delayed and Dial A Ride was operating in “crisis mode” for four months until funds were released, according to Kalousek.

“This past year the senior center operation was cut substantially, but between Dean Thomas, the St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation and Supportive Services Program Manager and Driver, and the senior center Manager Abigail Hendricks and other DHS staff, they were able to keep the seniors busy with trips to the beach and picnics and shopping and more,” Kalousek said.

“However, we cannot afford to accumulate more than the \$50,000 unreimbursed expenses as it stands now, and it breaks my heart to have to deny them the services that they need,” Kalousek added. “I want to believe that it is true, and that funding is imminent. I hope for the sake of the seniors that it is true. We should all be able to celebrate Older Americans month in May... Especially the Seniors!”

### Enhancing Quality of Life

The main goal of St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation and Supportive Services program is to offer elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged individuals living on or visiting St. John transportation and supportive services that will help them achieve and maintain maximum independence and enhance their quality of life by providing the assurance that they will always have the mobility to do the things they need to do.

St. John Dial-A-Ride provides service regardless of a clients' ability to pay. They do ask for a small fee-for-service within the ability of the transportation program client and will accept donations that are used to offset costs of vehicle upgrades, safety checks, maintenance, repairs and other operating costs. However, no one is turned down for service if they are unable to pay.

St. John Community Foundation takes special pride in the ability to provide services beyond the demand response transportation by also providing assistance with organizing special get-togethers, events and activities, as well as collaborations with other organizations on events such as Health Fairs, Project Homeless Connect, the Visiting Veterans Wounded Warrior program, Intergenerational Community Service Projects and more!

“Our primary driver Dean, who has grown up with most of the seniors on island, is a trusted friend who is welcome in their homes and is often requested to help the homebound seniors with groceries and medicine pickups, provide haircuts and minor chores as needed,” Kalousek elaborated. “When the tasks are outside of his area of ability or expertise, he makes a concerted effort to make sure their needs are met via referral to other service providers.”

### Transportation and Support

Routine transportation and supportive services include (but are not limited to):

- Medical care appointments and medication pickup: Coordination of and transportation to doctor's appointments and drugstore/pharmacy for medicines and health supplies. Clients who need assistance

making appointments, coordinating multiple errands, require reminders or follow up services are also offered these services at no charge.

- Daily home pick-up service which allows seniors to attend local senior centers to take advantage of congregate meals, social, recreational and educational offerings. Many seniors lack a support system and this consistent interaction ensures they have someone who checks in on them regularly. This keeps them engaged and encourages continuous participation to reduce the risk of isolation, and helps identify seniors who may be at risk of the onset of dementia or depression due to lack of social interaction, mental stimulation or lack of access to basic health and human services.

- Grocery & personal shopping locally and includes trips to St. Thomas for buying in bulk at discounted prices. With sufficient funding, we plan to reintroduce the discounted grocery distribution program so seniors can take advantage of the bulk prices without having to store large quantities of household goods and supplies.

- Special get-togethers, events and community activities including cultural performances, educational and political forums, recreational and sporting events, civic activities including voting and town hall meetings, health fairs for vital screenings, preventative health care information and services.

- Referral services to outside service providers to help make the connections for proper health and well-being services. This includes assistance making appointments and completing forms for clients who cannot hear, see, read or write well enough to do this on their own. We also offer transportation to and from their appointments and are available for follow up service provision.

- Services available for elderly & disabled tourists, as well as providing tour operators and travel agencies with details on services available for travelers with special needs who want to visit St. John. The Cruz Bay tourist information booth routinely refers tourists with special needs to our agency for transportation while on island and information on accessible venues.

- Disaster relief transportation and supportive services St. John Dial-A-Ride Transportation is available to provide disaster relief transportation as needed for evacuation, delivery of food and medical supplies, and transportation to/from emergency shelters.

### SJCF Founded in 1989

The St. John Community Foundation was formed in 1989, to help St. John recover from the massive destruction caused by Hurricane Hugo. Through this community commitment toward a common goal, the Foundation was born and continues to serve the island's residents.

The St. John Community Foundation is a locally incorporated, non-profit Virgin Islands corporation whose mission is to promote programs that strengthen community and enhance the quality of life for all members of the St. John community.

Plans are underway for the development of a Community Pavilion and Gardens at Foundation Park, where the agency has also leased property to the St. John Historical Society to build a museum.

## St. John Students Celebrate Week of the Young Child



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Judi Shimel

St. Thomas-St. John District Superintendent Dionne Wells, left, greets children attending the April 17 fun day celebration the Week of the Young Child. The event was held on St. Thomas at the Addelita Cancryn Cricket Grounds. Students from the Julius E. Sprauve School, above, participate in a bean bag pick up race Friday on St. Thomas.

## Former Sen. Barshinger's WAPA Battles Continue in Fighting "100-Foot" Antenna

*Continued from Page 3*

"WAPA was trying to do this without a permit by calling it a utility pole," Barshinger explained. "It is a tower in a mono-pole."

"It is not a utility pole, it has transmission function," he elaborated. The hollow fiberglass "tower" gathers WIFI radio signals for WAPA's own electronic metering, according to Barshinger.

After the hollow pole is assembled it is filled to the density of concrete, the former Senator at Large explained.

### House in "Fall Zone"

Public citizen Barshinger expressed his concern about the hazard of this towering tube falling on his former bachelor pad across the narrow dirt neighborhood road — especially since the renowned island bachelor politician is now a proud papa just settling into fatherhood with partner and political-acolyte-turned-aspirant Jody Hodge less than 100-feet away in Barshinger's simple wood-frame home overlooking Carolina Valley.

"This thing would make an earthquake if it fell," Barshinger said. "The law is clear, when you have a tower you must have a 'fall area.'"

"They are trying to use the national park property, the roadway and my property as the 'fall area,'" the new father explained.

"They have been ordered to stop the tower installation," Barshinger reported on Friday, April 17. "DPNR told them to stop."

There remains a question about whether the tower will have support wires, according to Barshinger, who said the NPS officials have said they were told there would be no support wires on park property.

Ironically, Barshinger is renowned for his contentious history with WAPA in a battle of wills which actually led the future senator to become a forerunner in solar power on St. John after an infamous dispute with WAPA over utility service in his isolated neighborhood in the center of the island.

Which brings to mind a favorite island expression, "Time is longer than twine."

## Crimes of the Week

*Crime Stoppers USVI*

### If You Know Something, Say Something

Crime Stoppers empowers you to make your neighborhoods safer by reporting information while remaining totally anonymous. To learn how we how we keep you anonymous, please visit [www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org](http://www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org) and click on How It Works. If you know something, say something, as law enforcement needs to know what you know.

**St. John:** On November 18, 2014, at approximately 9:15 a.m., officers were dispatched to the area of Hansen Bay about a report that a man was discovered lifeless inside the residence. The victim has been identified as Edward Hutton Netherland. Anyone having information about this homicide can call the Major Crime Unit at 340-714-5617, Crime Stoppers, or 911.

**St. Thomas:** On April 9, Mrs. Nataya A. Melchior-Munoz reported that sometime around 7:45 p.m., while she was in the area of Dober School with some friends and speaking on her phone, she observed a black male walking towards her.

As she was about to put her phone into her bag, he came up to her and pulled her 14 karat gold Omega chain and gold pendant off her neck. He then took off running towards the vicinity of Savan. If you were in the area and saw something, please let us know.

Please continue to work for the good of all. Tell what you know about these, or any other crimes, at [www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org](http://www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org) or call 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or text "USVI" plus your message to CRIMES (274637).

4-19

CRYPTOQUIP

V M W L P W D L J V R F L P O V I L D Z I L M P Z I R Z P X ,  
D L J V S N D S U V W W V O D L Z A W D L N L U X V A N  
N L O J V P L N " S P L U W I F O V U L . "

Today's Cryptoquip clue: O equals C

# St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

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**Caribbean Villas & Resorts**  
tel. 1-800-338-0987  
or locally 340-776-6152

**Island Getaways**  
888-693-7676,  
islandgetawaysinc.com  
kathy@islandgetawaysinc.com

**Suite St. John Villas/Condos**  
tel. 1-800-348-8444  
or locally at 340-779-4486

## Architecture

**Crane, Robert - Architect, AIA**  
tel. 776-6356  
P.O. Box 370, STJ, VI 00831

## Art Galleries

**Bajo el Sol Gallery**  
Located in Mongoose Junction  
tel. 340-693-7070

**Kimberly Boulon Fine Art Gallery**  
Located at The Marketplace  
340-693-8524

## Banking

**Firstbank**  
Located in downtown Cruz Bay  
340-776-6881

## Furniture

**Carlos Furniture - 340-693-0016**  
Located at Tutu Park Mall on STT  
Free delivery and setup to St. John

## Green Building

**Island Green Building Association**  
check www.igbavi.org for Seminar  
Series info and ReSource Depot  
inventory

## Insurance

**PGU Insurance**  
Located at The Marketplace  
776-6403; pgunow@gmail.com

**Theodore Tunick & Company**  
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www.theodoretunick.com

## Jewelry

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Chat@pattongold.com

## Landscaping

**Alfredo's Landscaping**  
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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

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www.340realestateco.com

**Holiday Homes of St. John**  
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info@holidayhomesVI.com

## Islandia Real Estate

tel. 776-6666 fax 693-8499  
P.O. Box 56, STJ, VI 00831  
info@islandiarealestate.com

## Restaurants

**Fish Trap Restaurant  
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tel. 693-9994, Closed Mondays

**La Tapa Restaurant**  
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**Ocean 362**  
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**Skinny Legs**  
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www.skinnylegs.com

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## Wedding Services

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www.stjohnweddingplanner.com  
340-693-8500 - Consulting, Travel  
Coordination, Accommodations

### Answer to April 19 Cryptoquip:

AFTER THE LAWYER CAME HOME FROM WORK, HE LAID HIS ATTACHE ON THE DESK AND DECLARED "I REST MY CASE."

## 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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	27				28				29									
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33					34	35				36	37							
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82						83						84						
85				86				87			88	89				90	91	92
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100	101	102	103						104					105				
106								107	108				109	110				
111										112					113			114
115						116				117					118			
119						120									121			122

## UNSPOKEN BEVERAGE OF CHOICE

### ACROSS

- Out on — (in potential danger)
- "I'm just sayin'," in a text
- Letters after chis
- Apple variety
- de Mayo
- Indian melodies
- "Don't say it!"
- Famed flood figure
- Challenges
- School, in France
- Card game for one
- Start of a riddle
- Popular Eli Lilly brand
- Sacred vow
- Tidies
- Riddle, part 2
- Fit — bill
- Sodium hydroxide, chemically
- Lean- — (shacks)
- Octet count
- "You Got It" singer Bonnie
- Ghostly spirit
- Trivial lies
- Riddle, part 3
- Cozy spot
- Publishes
- Morales of Hollywood
- Citrate, e.g.
- Burrito topper
- Riddle, part 4
- Like a king

- Pupa-to-be
- Microwave, informally
- Islamic holy city
- Turn liquid
- Riddle, part 5
- "— Lama Ding Dong" (1961 hit)
- Like a scornful villain's face
- "Für —" (piano classic)
- Annual sports awards
- TV actress Arthur
- Roosevelt's terrier
- West (life jacket)
- End of the riddle
- Devotee
- Tombstone lawman
- Theater area
- Riddle's answer
- Sent by plane, as a letter
- Ghostly
- Pop singer Lopez
- Word after a noun, often
- Snow glider
- "Fear Street" author R.L. —
- Perfect spots
- Big ice cream brand
- Old fast jets, for short
- Finger sound
- TV "explorer" and others

### DOWN

- Have a role on stage
- Depend upon, as a decision
- Physically fit
- "Blind Willie —" (Bob Dylan song)
- Partner of Herzegovina
- At no charge
- 1993 siege site in Texas
- 1952 Walt Kelly comic strip collection
- "The Misfits" actor Eli
- Swank
- "Flee, fly!"
- Off the coast
- Evening do
- Out of place
- Silk pattern
- RBI king Hank
- The mating game?
- Catches sight of, biblically
- Josh
- Ops (CIA mind games)
- "— ya up to?"
- Curious pet
- See 70-Down
- "Taboo" cable chan.
- Copy a tiger
- "Keep dreaming!"
- Assuming it's necessary
- Fashion's Armani
- "Veep" cable channel
- "Tut" relative
- Flees
- Perfume from flower petals
- "— my fault"
- Singer Houston
- Stocking tips
- 168 in a wk.
- Car navig. aid
- Man-mouse link
- Old indoor light source
- "Go back" PC key

- "... we'll — a cup o' kindness ...": Burns
- Deuce beaters
- Lyrical Sammy
- Neighbor of Switz.
- 34th prez
- Lowest tier of a parking garage, perhaps
- "Further ..."
- With 34-Down, chew out
- Beetles, e.g., briefly
- CAT scan relative
- Three, in Milan
- been
- "Judge not, lest — judged"
- Roe, e.g.
- Spouts forth
- Biblical kingdom
- "Yes and no"
- Mink cousins
- Pain-relief pill
- More clouded
- Insect feeler
- Conceit
- Careless
- Boring tools
- Devil's place
- Notable time
- Leaning
- Afro, e.g.
- Tequila plant
- Dehydrated
- Cheerful
- Feet, in verse
- Cross paths
- Roush and Byrnes
- Singer Simone
- Don't discard
- Mag. printing

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<p><b>"MERMAID FALLS"</b></p> <p><b>VIDEO</b></p>  <p>MLS 11-385 <b>\$6,500,000</b></p> <p>Spectacular villa in prime Peter Bay area. 5x 5.5 with island stone, fine mahogany finishes, verandas, pool &amp; waterfall. North Shore views.</p>	<p><b>"BEACH GARDEN"</b></p> <p><b>VIDEO WATERFRONT</b></p>  <p>MLS 14-333 <b>\$4,900,000</b></p> <p>Ultimate privacy architecturally stunning Bali inspired 4x4.5 home, 1 ac. w/ pool, spa &amp; sounds of surf! EXCELLENT rental income!</p>	<p><b>"CINNAMON BAY ESTATE"</b></p>  <p>MLS 14-243 <b>\$3,599,000</b></p> <p>3X4, pool, spa, 1 ac. cul-de-sac in CATHERINE-BERG borders National Park; stunning views of Cinnamon Beach &amp; British Virgin Islands.</p>	<p><b>"KALORAMA"</b></p> <p><b>VIDEO</b></p>  <p>MLS 13-454 <b>\$2,975,000</b></p> <p>Classic modern home, 5x4.5 superbly designed &amp; finished, 40 ft. pool, large verandas, indoor-outdoor living in Virgin Grand Estates.</p>	<p><b>WALK TO BEACH! "SEA WAVES"</b></p>  <p>MLS 15-116 <b>\$1,995,000</b></p> <p>4x4.5 pool villa at Hart Bay. Exquisite construction, with interior stairway perfect for children, private. Lush landscaping.</p>	<p><b>"STONE POST COTTAGE"</b></p>  <p>MLS 13-7 <b>\$1,950,000</b></p> <p>1½ acre lot in Chocolate Hole. 3x3 main house, stone gthouse, &amp; small cottage. Spacious deck, 55x15 ft. lap pool &amp; spa.</p>
<p><b>"VILLA LE VIRAGE"</b></p> <p><b>PRICE REDUCED</b></p>  <p>MLS 14-233 <b>\$1,795,000</b></p> <p>Hear the surf from this Pt. Rendezvous / South Shore views / 4x4 villa, masonry, great porches, gentle trade winds, island stonework, tastefully furnished.</p>	<p><b>"VILLA MADELINE"</b></p> <p><b>VIDEO</b></p>  <p>MLS 14-332 <b>\$1,395,000</b></p> <p>A classic stone and tile roof exterior, with a modern, luxurious 2x2.5 interior plus pool and bar-b-que deck, overlooking Coral Bay!</p>	<p><b>"SEA CLIFF"</b></p>  <p>MLS 15-103 <b>\$825,000</b></p> <p>Cute cottage with sweeping water views in Calabash Boom. Lots of development potential from this 3½ acre site.</p>	<p><b>INVESTOR SPECIAL</b></p>  <p>MLS 13-129 <b>\$699,000</b></p> <p>The groundwork has been laid to complete this Fish Bay house! Masonry 2X1 apartment completed plus wooden private cottage.</p>	<p><b>YOU CAN SEE FOREVER!</b></p> <p><b>PRICE REDUCED</b></p>  <p>MLS 13-346 <b>\$499,000</b></p> <p>Exceptional Bordeaux Mt views to BVI's. Two independent cottages offer generous view porches, lush gardens on nearly 1/2 acre.</p>	<p><b>GIFFT HILL GEM</b></p>  <p>MLS 13-347 <b>\$475,000</b></p> <p>Quiet neighborhood, 2 unit home (2x1 up Studio down), level parcel, pleasant view to Pillsbury Sound, lush gardening opportunities.</p>
<p><b>"COQUI COTTAGE"</b></p>  <p>MLS 14-520 <b>\$372,500</b></p> <p>Caribbean cute and ready to be loved! Studio layout with king bed in a solid masonry building makes a great start on this .5 acre lot.</p>	<p><b>GALLOW'S POINT CONDO</b></p> <p><b>WATERFRONT</b></p>  <p>MLS 14-244 <b>\$1,100,000</b></p> <p>Unit 9C - 1x1.5 loft w/ private deck/patio, common beach, pool and spa. Restaurant &amp; concierge svcs. on property. Walk to town!</p>	<p><b>"STOWAWAY"</b></p>  <p>MLS 15-131 <b>\$689,000</b></p> <p>Cute UPPER DECK VILLAS CONDO w/ sea &amp; pool views from deck. 2 bdrm + loft/2.5 bath for family options, + large storage room.</p>	<p><b>"RAINBOW'S END" BATTERY HILL CONDO</b></p>  <p>MLS 12-358 <b>\$449,000</b></p> <p>2X1, clean and colorfully decorated poolside condo is close to town w/ nicely manicured grounds. Seller says make an offer!</p>	<p><b>OWN A MONTH IN A LUXURY HOME</b></p> <p><b>FRACTIONAL</b></p>  <p>From \$50,000</p> <p>3 BR/3.5 BA or 4 BR/4.5 BA villa in upscale Virgin Grand Estates. 3,000 sq ft villas w/ STT &amp; sunset views, pool, AC &amp; more.</p>	<p><b>COMMERCIAL</b></p> <p><b>PRICE REDUCED</b></p> <p><b>"KALEIDOSCOPE VIDEO" PROFITABLE OPPORTUNITY</b></p> <p>Why wait for the mail or unreliable internet downloads? Rent movies to watch tonight! Thousands of childrens &amp; family movies. Popular business for villa rental guests and locals. This turn-key business is perfect for a working owner. MLS 15-172 <b>\$20,000</b></p>

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Villa Firenze | \$1,295,000  
3 bed | 3.5 bath | 2,893 sqft



15 Unit 4 Enighed | \$325,000  
1 bed | 1 bath | 646 sqft



Bente's Fancy | \$2,350,000  
4 bed | 3 bath | 4,812 sqft



Tranquil Breeze | \$859,000  
3 bed | 3 bath | 1,900 sqft



Tree-Top Hideaway | \$399,999  
4 bed | 3 bath | 2,040 sqft



Milkmoon Cottage | \$895,000  
2 bed | 2 bath | 1,475 sqft



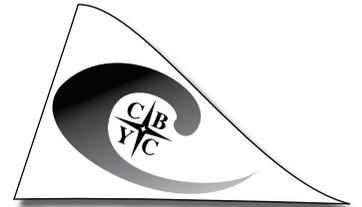
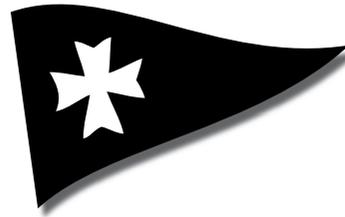
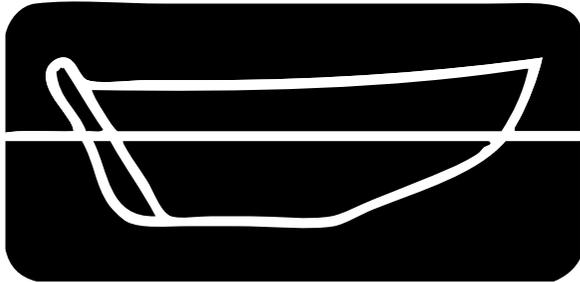
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