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**ST. JOHN**

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# **TRADEWINDS**

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

## **Goodyear – New Year!**

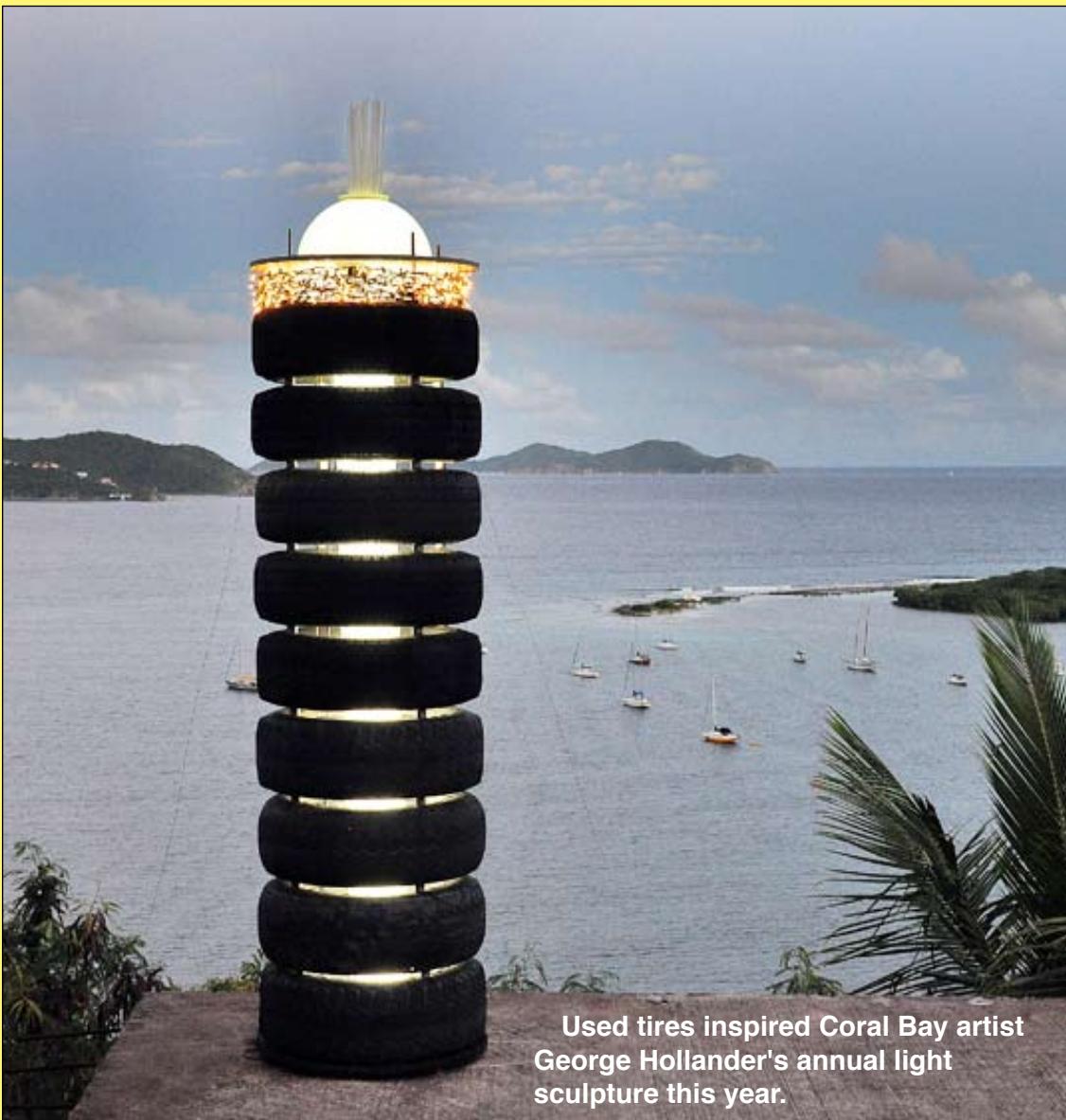
By Jaime Elliott  
*St. John Tradewinds*

Each year around the holiday season Coral Bay artist and artisan George Hollander creates a unique and inspirational light sculpture on the edge of his deck overlooking the harbor.

Hollander's past installations have reflected arrows shooting skyward, star bursts soaring over the hillside and more. This year, the artist was inspired by a more down-to-Earth material — old tires.

While speaking to environmental concepts, the sculpture also reflects hope and peace with twinkling lights and an ethereal feeling.

*St. John Tradewinds News  
Photo by David D'Alberto*



Used tires inspired Coral Bay artist George Hollander's annual light sculpture this year.

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# Austin "Butchie" Smith Dies Hours After Being Assaulted

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

Austin "Butchie" Smith died last week at his Estate Carolina home, several hours after being assaulted.

Smith, who was in his mid-50s, reported that he was assaulted at 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, according to the V.I. Police Department's incident log at the Leander Jurgen Command. The incident was classified as an aggravated assault and battery, according to the police blotter.

At 1:01 a.m. on Friday, December 16, Smith's brother reported to VIPD that Smith was

not breathing. The incident was recorded as a D.O.A.

While wide-spread rumors had Smith being assaulted by a group of men in Cruz Bay on December 15 at least twice, there was no official word from the VIPD and those rumors could not be verified.

Officials are waiting to receive a report from the territorial medical examiner before releasing additional information, explained St. John Administrator Leona Smith, who was Smith's first cousin.

"We have to wait until the medical examiner does his rul-

ing to see what the cause of death was," said Leona Smith. "If indeed it was a blunt force trauma to the head which killed him, they will investigate further and will arrest the suspect or suspects."

Butchie Smith was a well-known character both in Cruz Bay and Coral Bay, who admittedly enjoyed having a good time, explained Leona Smith.

"We all know he liked to crack jokes at people, but it doesn't give anyone the right to take anyone's life," she said. "I am certain this matter will be thoroughly investigated."

## St. John Singers Holiday Concerts December 21 and 23

### St. John Tradewinds

The St. John Singers, now in its 30th year under the direction of John Cahill, will celebrate the holiday season with concerts at 7:30 p.m. on December 21 in Cruz Bay and December 23 in Coral Bay.

In addition to popular holiday songs and lesser-known Christmas carols, the choir will sing a short work by J. S. Bach and a selection from "A Ceremony of Carols" by the 20th century British composer Benjamin Britten.

Long-time fans of the singers will be thrilled to hear that flutist Nancy Ruffer will be a guest soloist. Ruffer, a professional mu-

sician who lives in London, has often performed with the choir when spending the holidays with her family at their home on St. John.

Recent fans of the St. John Singers will look forward to an encore performance by two young, talented Virgin Islands violinists, Alana Davis and Isis Collier.

Pianist Janice Ballard, who accompanies the choir, will lead the audience in a traditional carol sing.

The first concert will be in Cruz Bay on Wednesday, December 21, at the Nazareth Lutheran Church. The second concert, on Friday,

December 23, will be in Coral Bay at the Emmaus Moravian Church. Both concerts start at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students and will be available at the door.

The St. John Singers have a special gift this year for St. Thomas residents who wish to attend either concert — their admission is free if they show a receipt for the purchase of a round trip ferry ticket from Red Hook on the day of the concert. Concert-goers should be sure to ask the cashier for a receipt when they buy their ferry ticket and present the receipt at the door.

## Chamber Meeting Dec. 20 at Battery

The St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce will meet next on Tuesday, December 20, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Battery in Cruz Bay.

## Coral Bay Sing Along Is December 22

The Coral Bay Community Christmas Tree/Carole Sing will be on Thursday, December 22, at 6:30 p.m. at Sputnik's patio.

Join everyone in singing carols and welcoming Santa for the kids! This annual tradition brings neighborhoods out to sing in a "competitive challenge for festiveness." So bring those voices and those neighbors!

No talent is required, just lots of holiday and community spirit. This is co-hosted by the John's Folly Learning Institute and the Coral Bay Community Council. Everyone is encouraged to bring gifts for Santa to give local children, so please buy a gift or two and wrap them and label for boy or girl and age as appropriate. Or drop off gifts at CBCC's office anytime during normal working hours.

See you Thursday, December 22, at 6:30 p.m. Parents need to accompany their children. Santa will arrive at 7:45 p.m. if their children have been good!

Potential volunteers should contact Alvis Christian or the CBCC office, if they are willing to help with the logistics for this event. For more information call 776-2099.

## School Holiday Concerts December 22

Students across St. John are gearing up for their annual school holiday concerts and programs, and the entire community is encouraged to attend.

The Guy Benjamin School's program will be on Thursday, December 22, at 9 a.m. in the school's courtyard.

Julius E. Sprauve School's Christmas program is scheduled for Thursday, December 22, at 10 a.m., with a holiday concert to follow that evening at 6:30 p.m. on the school's campus. Both events are open admission, and the entire community is invited to come out and support the students.

A choir performance is also scheduled for Government House on St. Thomas at 10 a.m. on December 21.

## St. Ursula's Advent Season Scheduled

Christmas Eve service at St. Ursula's Episcopal Church will be on Saturday, December 24, at 8 p.m. Christmas morning service will start at 9 a.m. on Sunday, December 25.

New Year's Eve service will be on Saturday, December 31, at 8 p.m. New Year's Day service will start at 9 a.m. on January 1.

For more information, call the St. Ursula's Episcopal Church at 693-8580.

## Meeting Acting Commissioners of VIPD and DOH at Dec. 23 Open House

Governor John deJongh's administration and St. John Administrator Leona Smith is hosting an open house at the Cruz Bay Battery on Friday, December 23, from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Residents are invited to stop by the Battery and meet V.I. Police Department Acting Commissioner Henry White and Department of Health Acting Commissioner Dr. Mercedes Dullum.

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# Helicopter Finds Lost Diver After Drifting for Three Hours

Local resident Eric Lambert is spotted at sea by U.S. Coast Guard helicopter

By Jaime Elliott

*St. John Tradewinds*

What started out as just another dive in a lifetime of diving in very familiar water for one local resident, turned into a three hour ordeal, ending with a search and rescue at sea, thanks to a U.S. Coast Guard MH65 Dolphin helicopter.

But Eric Lambert was never worried. Even when his legs cramped up after an hour of fruitlessly trying to swim to St. John from beyond Dog Island, Lambert was never concerned about his safety.

"I personally was never concerned," he said last week, a few days after being rescued at sea after scuba diving near Dog Island. "I never got upset. I knew my friend would know who to call and that stuff would be put in motion. I knew people would be looking for me."

Lambert, 60, a long-time St. John resident and 28-year diving veteran went out with his friend, who is also a veteran diver, U.S. Coast Guard auxiliary member, former EMT and owner of the commercial fishing boat *Sword Master III*, on Sunday morning December 11. Also aboard the power boat was the future son-in-law of Lambert's friend.

The weather was a bit overcast — for which Lambert would be grateful later — with about four to six foot seas, according to the diver. The three headed out to Dog Island, just east of Little St. James, but Lambert was the only one who went diving that morning.

"My friend was a bit congested and I was fine diving by myself because we do not take chances," said Lambert. "We've done several hundred dives together and we made a plan that I would go down by myself and he would stay at anchor. I have a whistle and when I got back up to the surface, I was going to give a long blast."

Lambert headed down, bagged two lobsters and was back at the surface about 25 minutes later. He gave a blow on the whistle, which his friend obviously heard because it sent him into action, pulling up the anchor, Lambert explained.

"We've talked about it since



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

After being spotted by a USCG MH65 Dolphin helicopter, St. John Rescue officials plucked Eric Lambert, above, from the water about a mile and half from Dog Island.

then and what happened was my friend heard the whistle and told his future son-in-law to keep an eye on me while he got the anchor up," Lambert said. "I saw my friend going for the anchor, so I knew that he had seen me. But then they just roared past me."

The incident technically was not a diving accident, since Lambert had no trouble during his dive. But when he surfaced, the designated spotter took his eyes off Lambert for just a second and lost sight of the diver.

"I asked my friend now after the fact, why things happened," said Lambert. "The spotter, the son-in-law, was supposed to keep an eye on me but they went roaring right by me because the spotter looked away for just a second and lost me. They were about 30

feet from me, but they flew right by me."

Most people don't realize how difficult search and rescues at sea are, precisely because it's so easy to lose sight of a person, explained U.S. Coast Guard spokesperson Ricardo Castrodad.

"When doing searches at sea, people don't realize how difficult it is," said Castrodad. "The truth is you can be very close to someone but if you take your eyes off of them, you can completely lose where that person is."

"Basically all you see is someone's head and they're like a speck in the sand," Castrodad said. "It's very easy to lose sight of someone."

When the boat passed by Lambert the first time it was 10:30 a.m. Lambert would spend the next

three hours, swimming, then treading water until finally being pulled from the sea thanks to emergency responders from St. John Rescue, USCG and V.I. National Park.

"I just treaded water for about 20 and I thought they would find their way back to me," said Lambert. "The whole time you're listening for a motor because that is what is going to find you. When I was floating along, I was trying to keep my bearings, but I was mostly turned away from St. John because of how the seas were."

"I swam for about an hour trying to swim toward St. John," said the diver. "I could tell I was drifting eastward and not making any headway to St. John, but being taken in the other direction. Then my legs started cramping up and I

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## Third Annual Friends of VINP Online Auction Rakes in More Than \$30,000

*Donations kept coming in until the last minute*

By Jaime Elliott

*St. John Tradewinds*

Friends of V.I. National Park officials recently wrapped up another successful online auction, which netted the non-profit arm of the Virgin Islands National Park more than \$30,000 to support cultural and environmental education and resources.

"Once again, response from donors was amazing," said Friends' development director Heather Ruhsam. "Our bidders had a lot of great items to choose from, and it shows in our numbers, which exceeded last year. And we had a significant increase in bids this year too."

With 53 items up for bid in the group's third annual online auction, which ran from November 18 through December 4, Friends of VINP had netted \$28,650 when one late donation came in, explained Ruhsam.

"We got a last minute item, which someone donated on Sunday morning, December 4," said Ruhsam. "We didn't expect it to draw many bids on that final day, so we posted it again the next weekend, ending on December 11."

The last minute donated item was a big one; a two-week stay at a two-bedroom, three-bath villa at the Westin Resort and Villas for this Christmas.

"It was a two-week stay at a Westin villa from December 18 to January 1 of this year," said Ruhsam. "It was worth about \$16,000 and our opening bid was \$1,000."

The two-week holiday stay ended up going for only \$1,500, quite a steal for prime time at a two-bedroom Westin villa.

During the full auction, the seven-night bareboat charter on a *Hylas 54* brought in the highest bid; going for \$5,100. Other big-ticket items included a week's stay at a ski-in and ski-out villa in Park City, Utah, which fetched \$3,500 for Friends and a three-night stay at Caneel Bay Resort, which went for \$3,000.

"The auction was definitely successful," said Ruhsam. "Our goal was \$30,000 and we reached it in

the end with the last minute Westin vacation donation. We had a few bidding wars in the end, which was fun to watch."

Also fun for Ruhsam was checking the Bidding For Good website each morning to find out what new donations came in, she explained.

"It was so much fun, when I'd get into work in the morning and get an email with new pending items which people had donated overnight," she said.

Auction trends this year saw several people put together vacation packages, with nights at Concordia or a cottage and a few boat trips or dinners at local restaurants, according to Ruhsam.

The VIP treatment at the January Love City Live! reggae concert, with special events with the bands and a two-night stay at the Inn at Tamarind Court, went for \$295 to a St. Croix resident, according to Ruhsam.

"That item went to someone in St. Croix, which is perfect because they're coming over for the concert and will really have a great St. John experience," Ruhsam said.

Anyone who missed out on the jewelry, private chef services, artwork, boat trips and more which were up for bid during Friends' online auction, should just gear up for next year, which will give bidders more time to get in on the action, according to Ruhsam.

"We'll absolutely do this again; expect the fourth annual online auction next year," she said. "We're going to run it a little longer next year because, although we like the fact that it starts the week before Thanksgiving so people can look at it at home with relatives, we also recognize that the week after Thanksgiving is also hectic."

"So next year we'll extend the auction one extra week and we'll end it in time to get stuff out for the holidays," said the Friends' development director.

Friends officials expect to have their revamped website up and running soon, and Ruhsam is excited about a few new programs for the group's supporters, she explained.

"Our new website should be

up and running soon and our online store is being completely revamped," said the Friends' development director. "We'll have a wish list function and we're updating some of our giving plans to expand the ways people can support us."

"We've been discussing other way of planned giving beyond wills," said Ruhsam. "We're trying to get creative in this financial time to find ways for people to give by appreciated stocks or property with tax breaks. We're trying to reach people who want to support Friends, but can't take on the immediate burden of spending cash."

Friends' officials are also excited about a matching donor program underway through the end of the year, Ruhsam added.

"We've had a donor step forward who helped us last year with a matching program and because of the success of that, which raised \$34,000 in the last two weeks of the year, we're doing it again," she said. "This year it was upped to \$40,000 with the possibility of more. So every \$50 donation becomes \$100 and \$100 becomes \$200."

Friends supporters should also mark those calendars for Saturday, February 4, when the group hosts its exclusive gala fundraiser. This year the party will be at Marea, the Ditleff Point home of Judy and Michael Skurnik.

Rudy and Irene Patton of R&I Patton are also pitching in to help Friends reach its fundraising goals. The goldsmiths have created a hand-made 18k gold chain with 6.6 ctw emerald nugget necklace and earrings set valued at \$4,200 for the group. Friends will sell only 100 raffle tickets at \$50 each for the set, beginning on December 20.

Donations for the matching donor program must be made by December 31, either online at [www.friendsvinp.org](http://www.friendsvinp.org), or call the group at 779-4940. Raffle tickets for the R&I Patton set will be available at the Friends Store starting December 20.

# GHS Students Honing Skills Far Beyond Three Rs Thanks to New Laptops

By Andrea Milam  
*St. John Tradewinds*

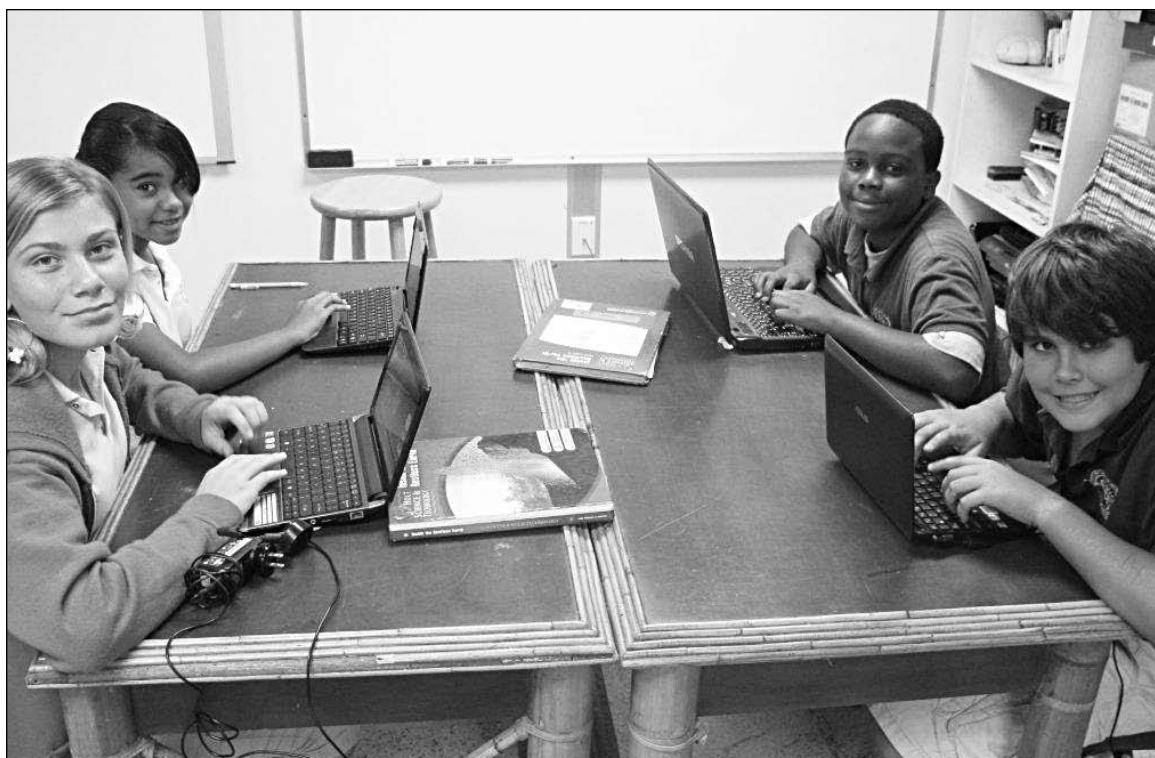
There's no doubt that the face of education has changed dramatically over the last two decades.

Whiteboards have replaced chalk boards, research is conducted via the internet rather than at the library, and, at Giff Hill School, personal laptops have replaced three-ring binders stuffed with papers.

Aside from the obvious benefit of reducing the amount of papers students must shuffle through, lug around and keep track of, GHS teachers are noticing an unexpected bonus of the laptops that were purchased this year for fourth through ninth graders using a combination of school and V.I. government funds: lessons on organization and responsibility.

"That's the unsung hero of this program," said Liz Kinsella, GHS middle school dean and English teacher. "Organization and personal responsibility are harder to quantify and we don't put a grade on these skills, but sometimes they're even more important to long-term success than whether you got an A in history."

The laptop program got its roots



*St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Andrea Milam*

GHS sixth graders get to work on their laptops, which have replaced three ring binders and notebooks, at school.

from a government-funded trial a few years ago, when GHS fourth graders were each given their own laptop thanks to Title V, which aims to improve student academic

achievement.

"Last year, those fourth graders were sixth graders, and they were still using the laptops they'd received in fourth grade," said

Kinsella. "I was so impressed with the vastly improved quality and quantity of the writing they were producing, and also at the degree to which the individual owner-

ship of the laptops had positively impacted their organization skills and responsibility. So I started advocating that we do this school-wide."

The government program that initially purchased the laptops was no longer in existence, so Kinsella convinced GHS Headmaster Judy Chamberlain to invest school funds, and with some help from the V.I. government, laptops were purchased for fourth through ninth grade students for the 2011-2012 school year. Kinsella hopes to have the laptops rolled out for fourth through 12th graders by the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

Between English students submitting papers via email to electronic grade books that can be checked by students at any time, GHS is transitioning to a much more paperless type of instruction.

"It's opened up a whole new realm of possibilities for us instructionally," said Kinsella.

The laptops are kept at school until sixth grade, when parents pay a security deposit and students are allowed to bring their computers home. At the end of the school

*Continued on Page 16*

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos

With Christmas lights aglow, above, St. John Animal Care Center officials welcomed a huge crowd — including Santa and an elf, at left — to the organization's open house last week. Several attendees even took home some furry friends for the holidays.

## Presents and Adoptions Mark Successful ACC Holiday Open House

**By Jaime Elliott**

**St. John Tradewinds**

Almost 100 animal lovers — including Santa Claus himself thanks to Gary Cox — packed the St. John Animal Care Center's Estate Enighed shelter on Tuesday evening, December 13, to ring in the season with the island's non-profit animal welfare organization.

"It went great," ACC shelter administrator Sally Nelson said about the group's open house last week. "It was huge. A lot of people got here early and stayed for the whole time."

While enjoying complimentary treats and drinks, many ACC open house guests

also took home a furry friend.

"We had lots of adoptions," said Nelson. "A couple who are leaving Monday for Boston are taking two of my old cats, who have been at the shelter for more than a year."

The visiting Massachusetts couple ran into several ACC volunteers and dogs on a Sunday morning hike recently and mentioned they were planning to adopt a few cats when they got home, Nelson explained.

"They came by during the open house, since they were going to adopt two cats when they got home anyway," she said. "They ended up adopting two adult cats from the shelter and will be taking them

home to Boston with them."

A dog named Sid has already left the shelter for a potential new home and his fellow abandoned dog Nancy was set to go to a new home last week as well. Even the ACC's model, Buster — who posed as Santa for the group's Holiday cards and ads — was set to try out a new home last week, Nelson explained.

"Buster is going to do a sleep-over over the weekend to try out a new home," she said on Thursday, December 15.

While some ACC open house guests took home new friends, many others brought presents for the animals at the shelter.

"The amount of things that people

brought — food, toys, collars, leashes — was just amazing," said Nelson. "There is a huge amount of presents here for the animals. My tree is overflowing and we have a second tree downstairs for the dogs."

The ACC open house was such a success, Nelson promised to make the soiree an annual event.

Anyone who missed last week's ACC open house should keep an eye on the group's Facebook page for an in-the-works New Year's Day polar bear dip at Cruz Bay beach.

For more information about ACC or to make a donation call the shelter at 774-1625 or go to [www.stjohnanimalcarecenter.com](http://www.stjohnanimalcarecenter.com).

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo

VINP is proposing to construct a floating dock adjacent to the park's boat ramp while dredging Cruz Bay Creek, above.

## Environmental Assessment Ready for Proposed Floating Boat Dock and Dredging of Cruz Bay Creek

### **St. John Tradewinds**

The V.I. National Park has released the Environmental Assessment for improvements to the bulkhead and finger pier adjacent to the Visitor Center at the Creek in Little Cruz Bay where park vessels dock and loading and unloading of vessels is allowed.

As a result of commercial barge and ferry boat traffic in the Creek that re-suspend and transport sediments into adjacent park waters and the addition of sediments carried by upland runoff, sediments have built up, reducing the depth of water near the Visitor Center and finger pier.

Due to the sediment buildup, over one third of the park service bulkhead is no longer accessible by boat. The National Park Service is proposing to dredge the NPS portion of the Creek in Little Cruz Bay and construct a floating boat dock adjacent to the park's boat ramp.

The Environmental Assessment has been prepared to analyze the potential for impacts of the proposed project on the human, physical, and natural environment.

The dredging project would include the removal of approximately 8,300 cubic yards of sediment. The sediment would be dried on the park's property and ferried to the Bovoni Landfill on St. Thomas. The NPS invites the public to comment on the Environ-

mental Assessment.

The floating boat dock would be constructed adjacent to the park's boat ramp and would be used to dock the park vessels. One boat slip would be available for temporary use by the public during unloading and loading of boat trailers.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available at the Park Visitor Center at 1300 Cruz Bay Creek in Cruz Bay. The Environmental Assessment will also be available on the National Park Service's Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>. Under "Choose a Park" click on "Virgin Islands National Park" and follow the link to Dredge Little Cruz Bay Environmental Assessment.

Please send comments by January 19, 2011. It is NPS practice to make all comments, including names and addresses of respondents who provide that information, available for public review. Individuals may request that the NPS withhold their name and/or address from public disclosure.

Commenters using the website can make such a request by checking the box "keep my contact information private." If submitting written comments, please state this request at the beginning of the comment. The NPS will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law.

[skinnylegs.com](http://skinnylegs.com)

## 2012 New Year's Eve Extravaganza!!

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# ISLAND NOTES

from the publisher

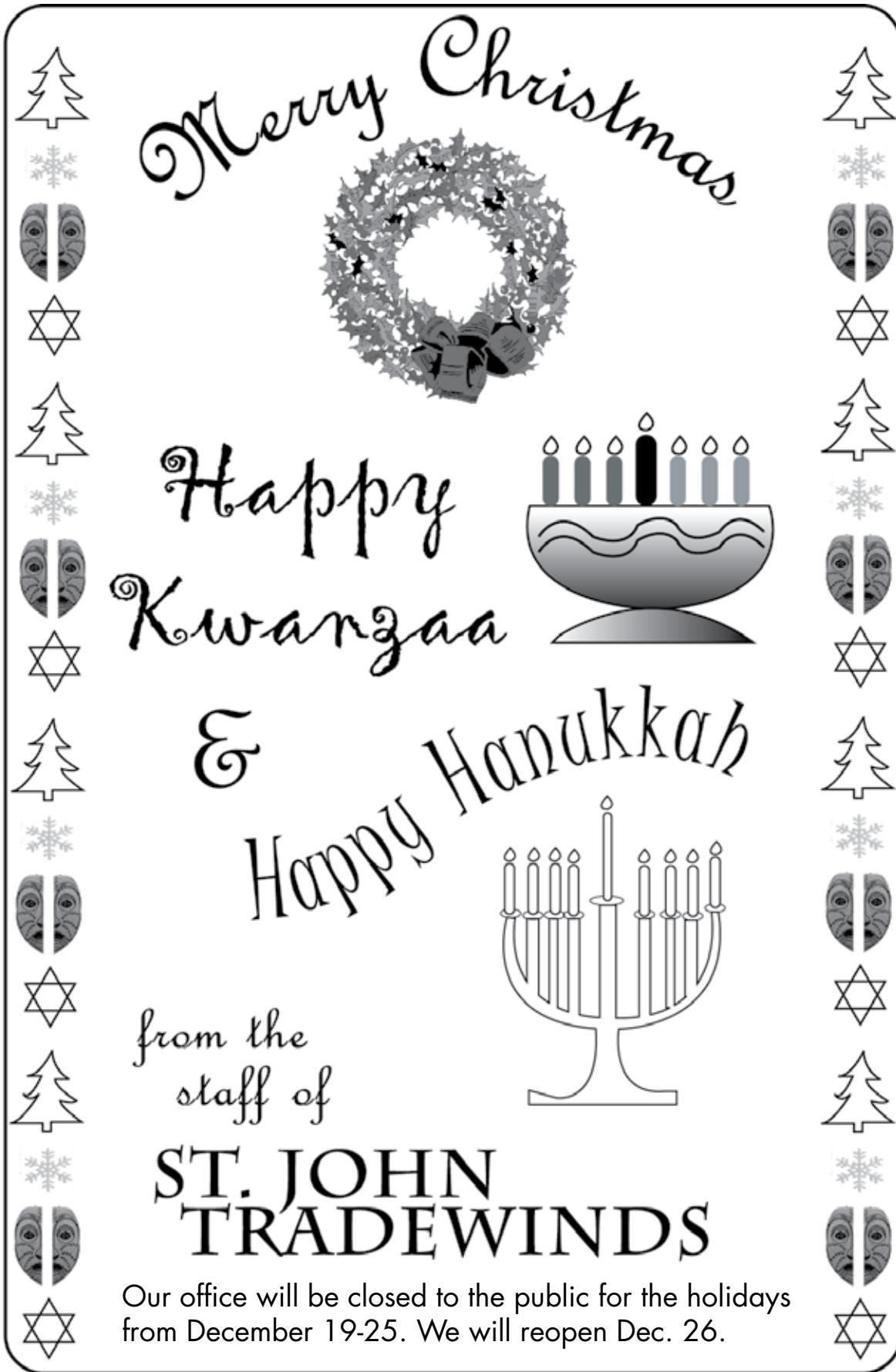
## Happy Holidays To One and All!

Our office will be closed to the public from Monday, December 19, to Sunday, December 25.

There will be no new issue on Monday, December 26.

Our holiday issue is this issue, December 19, 2011 - January 1, 2012.

*Our office will reopen Monday, December 26th.*



## ACC Donations Make Great Gifts

Donating to the Animal Care Center as a gift in someone's name is like giving twice.

The ACC gets much needed funds for the shelter and the recipient will appreciate not only the generosity, but also not having to find a place to display/store/refrigerate a gift!

For a donation to the ACC, a minimum of \$20 please, recipients will receive a beautiful gift card. Just go to <http://www.stjacc.org/payments/donate.htm> to make a donation through PayPal. At checkout, enter "Instructions to the Seller" to select "Holiday-Buster" for the dog card, or "Holiday-Darla" for the kitten card.

## Give Before December 31 and Double That Gift To Friends of the VINP

If anyone has been waiting for the right time to make a gift to Friends of Virgin Islands National Park, this is it!

A generous donor has stepped forward and enabled Friends to pursue a swift year-end campaign. Donations made to Friends Annual Fund between December 15 and December 31 will be matched up to \$40,000.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to double the impact of those gifts. A \$25 gift doubles to \$50; a \$50 donation becomes \$100. Any amount sent is worth twice as much during this matching gift challenge!

Gifts can be made online at [www.friendsvinp.org](http://www.friendsvinp.org), or sent to the address, P.O. Box 811, St. John, VI, 00831. Donate today — the matching gift challenge ends December 31.

## Friends of V.I. National Park Offering Free Trunk Bay Passes to V.I. Seniors

The Friends of Virgin Islands National Park, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of the natural and cultural resources of Virgin Islands National Park and the promotion of the responsible enjoyment of this unique national treasure announced last week that they will provide Annual Family Passes to Trunk Bay to Virgin Islands seniors, free of charge.

Friends' President Joe Kessler said that the non-profit organization is pleased to provide these passes as a sign of respect to seniors in the community and to promote the local enjoyment of this iconic beach in VINP.

The passes are valid for 12 months for the seniors named on the passes. As a "family pass" the pass-holder(s) may be accompanied by their children and/or grandchildren, age of 18 and under, without having to pay additional user fees. The passes are not transferable and you must show identification matching the name(s) on the card.

The Annual Trunk Bay Family Passes may be obtained at the Friends of the Park Store in Mongoose Junction upon presentation of a valid USVI Senior Citizen ID Card. For more information, please contact the Friends at 779-4940.

## Gail Karlsson Is Guest Speaker at Next Unitarian Universalists Meeting

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

The guest speaker for December 25 is Gail Karlsson who will speak on "Creating a Climate of Compassion." For transportation from Cruz Bay call 776-6332. Childcare is available upon prior request. For more information visit [www.uufstjohn.org](http://www.uufstjohn.org).

## Santa Spotted at Sun Dog Cafe



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Andrea Mialm

The big man from the North Pole stopped by the Sun Dog Cafe on Saturday morning, December 17, to hear some last minute Christmas present requests from island children. Santa greeted a huge crowd of youngsters and made sure they were all on the Nice list during the annual Breakfast with Santa hosted by Michael and Barbie Barry, owners of Sun Dog Cafe.

## Broker and Sales Associates Join RE/MAX Island Paradise Realty

### St. John Tradewinds

John McCann, Broker Associate and John and Denise Obbagy, Sales Associates have joined RE/MAX Island Paradise Realty as the newest members of this dynamic sales team.

McCann brings to the office 16 years of experience in real estate and formerly owned and operated John McCann & Associates for seven years during which time he was voted #1 Real Estate Sales Agent on St. John in 2006 by readers of the *Daily News*. He is also a licensed real estate agent in Massachusetts.

"My first responsibility is to help my buyers and sellers," said McCann. "And my move to RE/MAX will be a significant benefit to my clients, because RE/MAX has the most powerful name brand in real estate."

"With nearly 90,000 Sales Associates in more than 80 countries, when I list a property here on St. John, it's exposed to a huge audience," said McCann. "That exposure is driven by the RE/MAX website, [www.remax.com](http://www.remax.com), the most visited real estate franchise site, which helps my clients get the best possible price for their property in the least amount of time."

John and Denise Obbagy first visited St. John in 1998 and immediately knew they would make this

island paradise their home. After many visits thereafter they recently purchased a villa in Chocolate Hole and have received temporary Real Estate Salesman's Licenses while awaiting the VI Government to schedule the real estate license exam.

The Obbagys said one of the many advantages offered by RE/MAX is the focus on continuing education. RE/MAX offers real estate courses 24/7, with an online platform that allows Associates to access hundreds of full-length training programs on-demand.

"No other real estate organization has a higher percentage of Associates with advanced, professional designations," said John and Denise Obbagy. "Keeping on top of the changes in protocol and procedure is extremely important. As agents, we need to know the latest techniques so we can do the best for our clients and customers."

Both Obbagys have an extensive background in construction and property management and are anxious to share their knowledge in assisting buyers with their plans to invest in real estate on St. John.

For more information, call RE/MAX Island Paradise Realty, located at Mongoose Junction, at 775-0949 or McCann at 998-0423, and Denise Obbagy at 244-4676 and John Obbagy at 244-7678.



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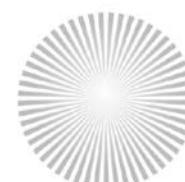
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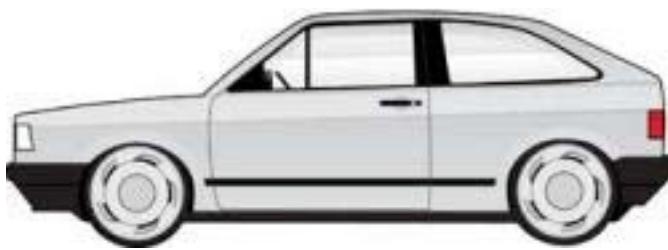
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# ASK THE AUTO DOCTOR



## Lug Nuts and Battery Terminals

**By Jack Brown**  
*St. John Tradewinds*

Welcome to Ask The Auto Doctor, a fun column to discuss your car, car problems and car repairs. In each column, I'll answer your questions in an effort to help as many car owners as possible here on St. John. I won't be able to answer all submitted questions but I will attempt to answer as many as possible.

### It's Driving Me Nuts

**Q:** I recently had new tires installed on my Jeep Liberty, and about a month later I picked up a nail in one of the tires and it went flat. When I went to change it with my spare, I found out that I had two different size lug nuts on my car and the lug wrench that the car came with only fit the larger sized nuts.

I had to call for roadside assistance and pay someone to come out to change my tire for me. When I checked my other wheels, they all had one or two nuts that were different. How did this happen? Did they switch my lug nuts at the tire shop?

**A:** No, I can guarantee you that the guys at the tire shop didn't switch your lug nuts. What happened is this. All Jeeps, Liberty's, Wranglers, and Grand Cherokees come from the factory with a two-piece lug nut. The actual nut itself, and a decorative shiny cap that is pressed onto the actual nut.

The problem occurs when these types of lug nuts are removed or installed with an impact gun, which is used in every shop. The gun tends to break loose the decorative cap and then they just vibrate off while you're driving along leaving only the inner nut.

The inner nut takes an 18 millimeter wrench if the decorative cap is missing as opposed to a 19 millimeter wrench if the decorative cap is in place. Your car only comes with a 19 millimeter wrench. That is why

you couldn't change your own tire. The two solutions would be to purchase and carry an 18 millimeter wrench with you in your car or simply have the damaged lug nuts replaced.

I check every Jeep that comes into my shop for damaged lug nuts and replace them with new nuts at about \$8 each. You can purchase your own Jeep lug nuts at your local auto parts store and install them yourself or ask your mechanic to check and replace them.

I suggest you get the remaining damaged lug nuts on your Liberty replaced right away to save you the same aggravation and expense again that you just went through. I also suggest that the next time you need to have your wheels removed for any reason, you insist that your mechanic only remove and install your lug nuts by hand and not use an impact gun. This only holds true for Jeep lug nuts. All other manufacturers, for the most part, use a single piece solid lug nut that cannot be damaged by using an impact gun.

The only reservation I have is that when using an impact gun, it's very easy to over-tighten lug nuts, making them impossible to remove with the lug wrench that your car comes with. I can't tell you how many times I've been called out to help someone change their flat tire because they couldn't get the lug nuts loose.

### Don't Get Me Started

**Q:** I have a Suzuki Grand Vitara and thought my starter was going bad. When I turned the key sometimes I would just get a loud click coming from the starter. If I kept trying, it would eventually turn over and start the car. Everyone I asked told me the starter was going bad, so I spent the better part of my day off

*Continued on Page 18*

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## Sisterhood/Brotherhood Agenda Hosting Second Annual New Year's Eve Youth Extravaganza

*St. John Tradewinds*

Sisterhood Agenda, with its Brotherhood Agenda division, is hosting its Second Annual New Year's Eve Youth Extravaganza at Franklin Powell Park in Cruz Bay on December 31, 2011.

The Sisterhood/Brotherhood New Year's Eve Youth Extravaganza is a unique, safe and fun youth event designed to have lasting impact throughout the year. With DJ's, glow-in-the-dark toys, giveaways, snacks, and midnight toast, parent registration is required and there are opportunities to sign up for youth programs in 2012.

Community partners include the VI Police Department, VI National Park, VI Department of Sports, Parks & Recreation, St. John Community Foundation, and UMOJA.

Corporate partners include The Westin Resort, Boyson Transportation, Love City Ferries, Grande Bay, St. John Insurance Company, St. John Hardware, The Marketplace, Drift Away Spa, St. John Dental, Senator Craig Barshinger's Office, Shani's Beauty Salon, Love City Barber Shop and PostNet.

Call Angela Coleman for more details at 714-7076.

## USFSC Partners With 8 Tuff Miles

*St. John Tradewinds*

Using Sport For Social Change announces its involvement in this year's 8 Tuff Miles "Sweet 16" road race on Saturday, February 25.

Each youth entrant under 19 years of age will receive a free sports ball and be able to win raffle prizes like an Apple iPad, iPod Touch and iPod Nano.

Entrants must register for this year's 8 Tuff Miles race, complete the whole course and finish the race, and visit the USFSC booth with a race bib to pick up a sport ball and register for the free raffle.

Entrants must be present at the awards ceremony at Mongoose Junction to win. To register for this year's 8 Tuff Miles race, please sign up at

The Tap Room in Mongoose Junction, or online at [www.8tuffmiles.com](http://www.8tuffmiles.com). Registration is only \$15 for kids and includes a T-shirt, food and drinks at the finish, a free sports ball (to all finishers) and entry into the USFSC and 8 Tuff Miles main raffle.

For more information on USFSC, visit their web site at [www.usingsportforsocial-change.com](http://www.usingsportforsocial-change.com).

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## Senator-at-Large Reports

By Senator Craig Barshinger

### Season's Greetings

#### St. John Tradewinds

Season's Greetings to One and All!

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, the Winter Solstice, or the Crucian Christmas Festival, this is the time of year to appreciate friends and family, take some time off from work, and generally enjoy the blessing of being alive together.

My staff and I wish you the best during this holiday season leading up to the welcoming of the New Year. We remind you to celebrate responsibly and this means no driving after drinking.

St. John residents gave themselves a Christmas gift last week by exercising their Democracy when they traveled to the law-making session of the Legislature on St. Thomas. Over 20 of our Seniors made this pilgrimage in support of my amendment to the budget that rescued the Dial-A-Ride Program.

The background is that in the 2012 budget, the Dial-A-Ride budget for St. John was cut by 56 percent. This huge cut was going to shut down the Dial-A-Ride transportation as of February. For 20 years, it has carried our seniors and the disabled persons.

Given the severe fiscal crisis and the climate within the Legislature, it was difficult to rescue Dial-A-Ride. How did we succeed? People power!

No senator could ignore their presence. Most senators greeted them cordially. When it came time for the vote, Senators Sprauve, Williams, Malone, White, Russell, Sanes, Richard, James and O'Reilly voted YES.

Sens. Hill and Dowe voted NO. Sen. Young abstained. Thanks to Celia Kalousek and Dean of the St. John Community Foundation and Abigail Hendricks of the Senior Center for organizing the very important show of support for the critical Dial-A-Ride program.

The seniors won the day by their presence.

The entire community is up in arms regarding the scathing audit of the Legislature that found that \$6.9 million has been misspent. A copy of the audit is available at [www.visenate.org](http://www.visenate.org), click Downloads. It is interesting reading. And infuriating.

Many Virgin Islanders have asked what they can do. Write, email, or call Senate President Russell and all senators, calling for the Legislature to release the names of those unnamed persons in the audit who misspent legislative funds. You have a right to know, as it is your tax money. Also, ask that the Inspector General's recommendations for transparency and openness be fully implemented.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are always a joy on St. John. This year, the Community Carol sing will be at Mongoose Junction at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. John, song sheets will be provided. Harvey Werbel will play the accompaniment on the piano. The Caroling will conclude at 7:00 p.m., and families often walk over to Cruz Bay Park to watch Santa Claus arrive.

The annual Coral Bay neighborhood sing-along will be on Thursday night, December 22, at the Sputnik patio starting at 6:30 p.m. Santa will be arriving at 7:30 p.m.

And don't forget the early morning Serenading that traditionally begins in Cruz Bay Park at dawn!

Parting thought: The Holidays can be an especially lonely time for some whose family and friends are far away, so take is the time to reach out to someone to whom you haven't spoken in a while. Your call or visit may be the most precious gift that your friend receives!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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## St. John Montessori Holly Bake Sale for the Holidays

St. John Montessori School hosted its annual Holly Bake Sale on Saturday, December 10, in The Marketplace. Student Roshan Kalantarian, pictured at right with her father Jeh Roberts, helped sell wholesome baked treats.

The sale raised \$408 which will be used for the school's third annual kid's fest and fish fry in April.



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## Hundreds Flock to Mongoose Juction for Annual All-Island Holiday Party



St. John Tradewinds News  
Photos by Bill Stelzer

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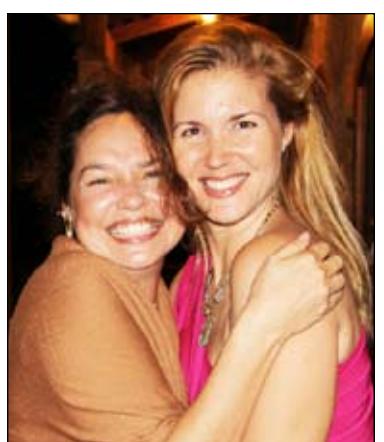
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After bad weather was forecasted for December 10, Mongoose Merchants rescheduled their annual All-Island Holiday Party to Saturday, December 17.

Residents and visitors hit the shopping center dressed island fancy — bringing holiday spirit and merriment to the fun-filled party scene.



## New York Empire Trio Performing at SJSA Jan. 22

### *St. John Tradewinds*

St. John School of the Arts will present New York Empire Trio on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

This power house trio includes world touring soloists as well as accomplished chamber musicians: Kalin Ivanov on cello, Entcho Todorov on violin and Margrit Zimmermann on piano. Each member of this group has been the recipient of distinguished awards and has traveled in the United States and abroad.

Ivanov has been compared to Yo-Yo Ma, Rostropovich and Jacqueline du Pré. He is a prominent soloist, chamber musician and recording artist performing in major centers in Europe and the United States.

Todorov's career is extensive from Broadway shows such as "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown" to "Fiddler on the Roof" to the Oscar winning soundtrack from the movie "Precious". He is the featured violinist for the Grammy-award winner Esperanza Spalding. He has recorded for Kelly Clarkson, Joan Osborne and Evanescence.

Zimmermann's artistry is rated with uncommon poetic talent, representing the best traditions of European and Russian piano schools. Her studies were completed at the world-renowned Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow with Dmitiri Bashkirov and master courses from Lev Naumov, Vera Gornostaeva and Vadim Sukhanov.

Their repertoire ranges from the early classics to the music of today performing standard chamber music literature and little known masterworks with great success. After the group's debut performance at Carnegie Hall, they were chosen to be Featured Artists of the Month at the Obama for the Arts and Entertainment Organization.

Tickets are \$30 and are available at Connections and SJSA. For more information call 779-4322. New York Empire Trio appears by the exclusive representation of BV Artists International, www.BVArtistsInternational.com.

## Happy New Year! Next Issue: January 2, 2012

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# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send your letter to editor@tradewinds.vi

**NEXT DEADLINE:  
THURSDAY, DEC. 29<sup>TH</sup>**

## Keeping Track of Crime

### 2010

Homicides: 0	Homicides: 0
Shootings: 0	Shootings: 0
Stabbings: 0	Stabbings: 0
Armed Robberies: 1	Armed Robberies: 0
Arsons: 0	Arsons: 0
1st Degree Burglaries: 3	1st Degree Burglaries: 2
2nd Degree Burglaries: 22	2nd Degree Burglaries: 8
3rd Degree Burglaries: 70	3rd Degree Burglaries: 48
Grand Larcenies: 67	Grand Larcenies: 54
Rapes: 0	Rapes: 1

### 2011-TO-DATE

As with many of our local government operation systems, the EDC program needs intense reform. The current list of beneficiaries is most revealing. It displays businesses as old as Methuselah, but who still get tax breaks like a newborn heiress gets diamonds — rich.

When the program was created, we really needed an influx of new businesses to boost the economy back then, but just how many consulting firms do we really need in this tiny territory? And how many watches does the watchmaker really produce for local retail or export?

Must all of our beach fronts have trees removed and replaced with concrete? How can these multi-billion dollar revenue generators, who save millions in taxes be allowed to force arbitration on their unparalleled employees? Where is the evidence of their timeless charity to our society?

Thanks for the good they do here, but it's like a teaspoon to every gallon; not enough. And what the heck is an EDC-like beneficiary? Either you get the tax breaks and the terms; or you don't!

And please don't have to take one before the V.I. Department of Labor. The very commissioner is the chairman of the EDC Board! Try that conflict-of-in-

terest on for size.

Our EDC program was created to attract new businesses to the Virgin Islands and to give them an incentive to profit short term. However, the renewing of certificates of old businesses with new owners near each term's end, and/or undeserved extensions there-to continue to be the name of the game.

And it's not like the Economic Development Authority does not know these schemes; it is actually condoned and tolerated. Time after time, the public has reported suspected violations to the Authority with little to no investigation or correction.

As I often say to our stubborn leaders, "This is your style of government. Run it as you want. Jail's for you; not for me."

Even the first term President Barrack Obama has got it: Stop letting the billionaires get away with eternal loop hole tax breaks. Our EDC program was been in operation for a combined 36 years now. It was first known as the IDC.

So, that much experience under our belt, why are we so slow to get it? Is it because some folks in this government benefit? Is there corruption in the EDC program too?

**Harriet Mercer lives on St. Thomas**

## Thank You Love City!

So, when I came down to the Virgin Islands in 2007, I was overwhelmed that I was actually going to be living on this little bit of rock called St. John in the middle of the Caribbean.

During those first few months, I would be over at Cinnamon Bay every Sunday, playing in the afternoon volleyball games; a day that always ended with me resting in the shallow water and staring gleefully toward the sunset in an amazing disbelief, a glorious image that is forever in my mind.

Well, it's been over four years since then, and it's time for me to find another adventure. When I began working at VIERS, I was excited to help continue the amazing work that had been done here since the earlier days of Project TEKTITE and before. I think that I have done that.

However, my success in working and living here can only be attributed to those that have surrounded me. The VIERS volunteers and all the people of St. John have been nothing less than extraordinary in their support and help. For them, I give my greatest appreciation.

The National Park Service, the USGS, St. John Rescue, St. John Tradewinds, The St. John Source, my

favorite hang-outs in Coral and Cruz Bay, all of our local dive shops, bakeries, local food and smoothie stops...well, they've all been amazing. It is a wonderful feeling to be able to go into a place and be recognized and appreciated; to be made to feel at home and welcome. This community has done this for me.

St. John and VIERS have been my home for the past great four years and leaving here is a bitter sweet transition. However, I take immense pride and a true satisfaction in leaving VIERS in the charge of Randy Fish, a truly wonderful, inspiring, and caring person that will take VIERS to even greater levels of community based education and involvement. I know that St. John will embrace him as they did me.

Lastly, I would like to publicly thank Clean Islands International, the organization that has managed VIERS for more than a decade, all its members are great inspirations. Specifically though, I would like to thank Randy Brown of Clean Islands, who has been an inspiring supervisor...but an even better mentor and friend. Thanks Pops!

Much Love, Love City. It's been real.

**Sincerely,  
Jamie Irving**

## Sax and Strings Thanks Supporters

Sax and strings would like to thank the general public for supporting our first Christmas concert, all the musicians who participated, Emmanuel Boyd for securing the park and most of all to God for blessing

us with a beautiful afternoon.

Enjoy your Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

**Emmanuel Prince**

## Crossword Answers — Puzzle on Page 20



## Letters To St. John Tradewinds

### Now It Makes Sense!

I think it was early 2010 when the Executive Director of the Senate, Louis Willis, was found to be building a beach on the Senate property in St. Thomas illegally and without the proper permits (correct me if I am wrong).

I was surprised that the then president of the Senate, Louis Hill, did not fire him. Now I read about all of the illegal activities of some (all?) of our Senators and think I know the reason he was not fired. Why would you fire the "gatekeeper" of the money who is permitting you to get away with your own illegal

activities?

If there are any honest Senators in the Senate I would hope they would band together and do what is necessary to let us know who the "crooks" are so they can be prosecuted and or at the very least, defeated in the next election.

If this does not happen, then I would hope that "we the people" are smart enough to replace all of them in the next election.

**Alan Benson Brown,  
St. Croix**

### Withdrawal

Withdrawal refers to the effects on the body that occur after a period of abstinence from the drug or alcohol to which the body has become accustomed.

Let's take this medical issue and turn it into a psychological problem. There are many habits in our lives that over time have become "normal." It can be as little as arriving to work late or as major as hitting a loved one in anger.

In most cases, we know that our actions are wrong. We desperately want to change and become a better person. However, the roots of these destructive behaviors are deep and firm. There are those with a strong will who can stop, but for some it takes a period of denial, anxiety and pain.

Emotional withdrawal can be as violent as a physical one. It's only because it's internal that many people don't know the turmoil you're going through. While many people go away to rehab, those of us going through emotional separation go about our daily duties pretending that everything is okay.

It takes a true brother (friend) to stick with you during this difficult time. The reason why I'm writing this letter is because we live in a ready made society with ready made answers. Before someone has finished speaking, we are giving answers. The problem is, these answers can't work because our emotional and physical habits control our destiny. In order to break them, we as an island have to go through a withdrawal period.

If our emotional bondage isn't broken, more marriages will dissolve. Kids will be lost to outside pres-

sures, businesses won't reach their potentials, churches won't be effective in saving souls and government will seem to be the answer to our every need.

Just as a baby is weaned from the mother's milk, we have to wean ourselves from destructive thoughts and habits. We need to take actions that will challenge, break and replace the ones that are in place. It will be painful. It can also be messy, but if you're like me, you are sick and tired of being stuck in the same rut.

Life is about exploring, loving and learning. Our island way of life is satisfying to some and stifling to others. Believe me, I love our laid back culture, but resting on our laurels can be counter-productive in the long-term.

Our destiny isn't decided by the number of tourists to visit our islands. It isn't determined by our income, church, political party or color. It is determined by our internal equilibrium.

If you're not happy with the results of your actions, change your habits. Go deep within yourselves and find out why you make decisions and react negatively in situations. Make an effort to work on developing new and positive habits.

Please note, in most cases you have to get upset with yourself in order to change. That's good because you can use it as the necessary motivation. Deal with the labor pain because soon the birth of a new you will emerge.

**Work in progress,  
Emmanuel Prince**

### ACC Thanks Open House Supporters

Thank you to all of our supporters and fans who stopped by our Holiday Open House at the Animal Care Center and brought gifts and holiday cheer to all of our resident cats and dogs.

We were overwhelmed with the turn out and the amount of treats stuffed in the animals stockings! There were new dog beds, chew toys, cat nip and the greatest gift of all was new homes for cats Thomasina, Olive, Jasper, and Ramona, and a new home for

Sid one of our puppies.

A huge thank you to all the amazing volunteers who brought treats for the people, donated the drinks and served them up and all the elves who decorated to turn the shelter into a winter wonderland. We could not do what we do without all of you.

St John is called Love City for a reason!!

**Sally Nelson**

**SEND LETTERS, GUEST OPINIONS & OBITUARIES:** editor@tradewinds.vi

**ST. JOHN**  
magazine



### THE BEST HOLIDAY GIFT IS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING OUTLETS:

#### CRUZ BAY

Bayside Mini-Mart  
Chelsea Drug Store  
Connections  
Every Ting  
Gallow Point Store  
Nest & Co.  
Now & Zen  
Papaya Cafe  
Post Net  
Starfish Gourmet  
Starfish Market  
St. John Spice

#### NORTH SHORE

Caneel Bay Gift Shop  
Cinnamon Bay Campground Store  
Maho Bay Camps

#### MID-ISLAND

Banana Jack's

#### CORAL BAY

Connections  
Jolly Dog  
Keep Me Posted  
Lily's Gourmet Market  
Love City Mini-Mart

### SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE

**EMAIL** info@stjohnmagazine.com

**TEL** 340-776-6496

## Fragrant Tamarind Skin Wreath



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Ted Scheer demonstrated how to make these beautiful and fragrant holiday wreaths at the Friends of the Park Store last week. A crowd enjoyed the demo and took home kits to make their own wreaths for the holidays.

## GHS Students Honing Skills Far Beyond Three Rs Thanks to New Laptops

*Continued from Page 5*

year, parents will be given the option to relinquish their security deposit and purchase their student's laptop at the bulk rate that was given to GHS.

So far, students seem to be taking ownership of the laptops quite seriously.

"These kids who can't manage to keep a paper in their backpack never lose their laptops," said Kinsella. "They're very careful and they take it seriously, because they know it's a valuable piece of hardware and a critical tool for them."

While staff feared that the building-wide wireless internet access at the upper campus might cause issues with students surfing the net in class, Kinsella notes that students have always been distracted throughout the history of education, whether thanks to doodling or passing notes.

"The challenges that people were worried about have not been as big of an issue as we feared," said Kinsella. "In fact, now that we're using more multimedia and a more interactive kind of instruction, the kids have been more engaged."



St. John Tradewinds News Photos

Eric Lambert, above, floated at sea for three hours before a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter spotted the lost diver.

## Diver is spotted at sea by Coast Guard helicopter

*Continued from Page 3*

had to stop."

"I thought 'this is a marathon, not a sprint,'" he said. "I was telling myself I could be out there all night. But I knew I wasn't alone and I knew I had a lot of people looking for me."

"I didn't know how long it would take, but I knew I would be found," said Lambert.

At that point, Lambert was still holding on to his lobster bag with two specimens in it, his dive belt was still attached, he had his dive equipment, two snares and a "safety sausage" flotation device on hand as well.

After the first two hours, Lambert tried to readjust his snares and the lobster bag, when it slipped out of his fingers.

"I was rearranging my snares and a clip unhooked itself," Lambert said. "I felt the bag fall away and my immediate reaction was to head down for it. I had to tell myself, 'No, just let them go.'"

Shortly after the lobsters got away, Lambert released his weight belt, which helped him lie down on the water in a more comfortable position. Soon, he heard a motor and blew his whistle and waved his arms, to no avail.

"One power boat zoomed by me but they didn't hear my whistle or see me at all," he said. "If they had been 20 feet closer, they would have run right over me."

Then, finally, Lambert heard the sound of a helicopter. He watched as the chopper headed out to Dog Island and then bank up the along the coast of St. John, Lambert explained.

"I knew they were looking for me because you al-

ways go to where the person was lost, which was Dog Island," he said. "Then they roared along the coast of St. John past where I could have possibly drifted in three hours. I was waving my arms back and forth and back and forth and going around in circles."

"After maybe about 15 minutes they headed right for me and I said, 'Hallelujah,'" said Lambert. "It took a few minutes more, but then I saw the St. John Rescue boat and then VINP and Coast Guard were there all lights aglow."

Lambert was pulled from the sea at 1:30 p.m. about a mile and a half from where he surfaced at 10:30 a.m. that morning. Once aboard the St. John Rescue vessel, Lambert was taken to Cruz Bay, where he met with USCG officials before finally returning home to his wife, Paula, who had no idea of the ordeal.

"My friend was going to call my wife, but then he heard I was spotted by the helicopter and that started a new chain of events," said Lambert. "I was the first to walk in the door and I told Paula, 'Boy, do I have a story for you.'"

A story indeed. Lambert has already ordered a new weight belt and lobster bag and plans to get back under the waves as soon as he can. But learning from this ordeal, Lambert said he's looking into getting a mobile EPIRB distress device, which would beacon his exact GPS coordinates if he ever found himself floating out to sea again.

In the days since his ordeal, news of which quickly spread across the island, Lambert has been overwhelmed by the outpouring of concern.

"The island reaction has been amazing," he said. "I've gotten hugs from so many people. It's just been an overwhelming response from the community."

## Memorial Submission

### Lillian Rebecca Smith March 25, 1920-December 1, 2011

#### *St. John Tradewinds*

"What is life, eh?"

You pondered that question often, sitting on your favorite perch — the front porch with the pelican's eye view of Cruz Bay.

You sat in your chair on that balcony, much in the last few years — surveying the town where you once held reign.

You loved that sight of all those boats coming in and out of the bay. We used to be able to see who was coming off the ferry from St. Thomas. That was before Homeland Security put up the fence. And before all the trees in town had grown tall and blocked the view.

It bothered you that the trees were so out of control. You spoke wistfully of the days of your familiar statesmen: George Simmonds and Julius Sprauve Sr. and Theovald Moorehead. "Surely", you mused aloud, "St. John would be different if they were still in charge."

But, you knew, sadly, that the St. John of your girlhood was long gone — accessed now only through your stories.

Riding horseback to Coral Bay by moonlight to a dance at 'Wall Street' with your sister Alma and Roy Sewer. Fishing on the rocks by Francis Bay with Uncle Fred and Uncle Austin, looking west to see if your father's sailboat was in sight. Stopping for something cool to drink by the Prince house on the Johnny Horn trail. Picking genips with Auntie Gladys going up King's Hill Road.

And those were just the St. John stories. You had St. Thomas stories as well: Auntie Esmie's dances at Krieger Flower Gardens; days working at the Continental store with your fine linens and crystals from Denmark; walking Sonny to Lutheran School from your house on Seventh Day Street.

Stories of European travel: Denmark; Switzerland; France; and Hawaii and Alaska; Niagara Falls; New York City; the 1982 World's Fair in Memphis, Tennessee.

And, of course, the stories of



Miss Lillian Smith

Miss Lilly's Grocery and Bar — 25 years strong in Cruz Bay — the Lilly that many knew. Anyone who has spent any length of time on St. John likely has a story to tell about you and your grocery store.

It wasn't just the stories, for me, though; through your company these past years, I savoured what felt like extra time with my beloved grandmother, your sister Alma Viola Smith, who left this earthly plane far too soon. You were as different as any sisters could be — like chalk and cheese. But you were both the proud daughters of Mary's Point, of Charles and Moriah Harley Smith, and you mirrored each other in sisterly ways: you had the exact same hands, long, slender and elegant fingers; the way you and she would both press your lips together to make a point; or the way you could communicate exactly what you were thinking with just a quick glance of your eyes. You will never know what a precious gift that extended connection was for me.

You looked so peaceful and relaxed after you had taken your last breath, lying there in your bed. No struggle at all; just like you were sleeping. I thought about your frequent query, "What is life, eh?"

I wonder what you think about that question now.

Rest in peace, Auntie Lilly. I will miss you. But I know that I will see you on the other side. We'll go for a ride and a sneaky.

*Submitted by Kim Lyons*

## Police Log

#### **Friday, December 9**

12:30 p.m. - An Estate Hard Labor resident r/ a break-in. Burglary in the third.

1:00 p.m. - An Estate Carolina resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

3:18 p.m. - A citizen r/ an auto collision in the area of Bellevue Village. Auto collision.

4:21 p.m. - A visitor from Ohio r/ a break-in. Burglary in the third.

#### **Saturday, December 10**

1:13 a.m. - An Estate Pastory resident r/ being involved in a verbal altercation with her boyfriend. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

8:46 a.m. - An Estate Enighed resident r/ that someone cut his vehicle's tires. Damage to a vehicle.

5:17 p.m. - A Starfish Market employee c/r that there was a larceny at the store and the suspect was detained. Police assistance.

6:54 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident c/r loud music. Disturbance of the peace.

10:45 p.m. - A visitor c/r being in an altercation at a Cruz Bay restaurant. Disturbance of the peace.

#### **Sunday, December 11**

5:35 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident r/ that someone destroyed his television. Destruction of property.

10:45 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r that she was threatened by her mother's neighbor. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

#### **Monday, December 12**

11:33 a.m. - A citizen r/ a man laying in the road by Calabash Boom. Police assistance.

12:00 p.m. - A Calabash Boom resident r/

someone messing with her vehicle. Damage to a vehicle.

#### **Tuesday, December 13**

2:25 a.m. - A citizen c/r a disturbance in the area of Estate Bethany. Disturbance of the peace.

10:44 p.m. - A citizen c/r loud music in the area of Coral Bay. Loud music.

10:45 p.m. - A visitor c/r that someone was banging on his villa door. Suspicious activity.

10:46 p.m. - A visitor c/r that his camera was stolen. Grand larceny.

#### **Wednesday, December 13**

10:17 a.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace.

5:00 p.m. - An Estate Enighed resident p/r an altercation with her mother. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

6:59 p.m. - An Estate Emmaus resident r/ that his residence was broken into. Burglary in the third.

10:04 p.m. - A citizen c/r loud music in the area of Coral Bay. Loud music.

#### **Thursday, December 15**

8:09 a.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

10:10 a.m. - An Estate Adrian resident r/ a missing minor. Missing person.

4:15 p.m. - An Estate Carolina resident r/ that he was assaulted. Aggravated assault and battery.

No time given - A Cruz Bay resident p/r being threatened. Disturbance of the peace, threats.

#### **Friday, December 16**

1:01 a.m. - An Estate Carolina resident c/r that his brother was not breathing. D.O.A.

## CRIME STOPPERS U.S.V.I. Organization Seeks Information on Crimes

#### **St. John Tradewinds**

Crime Stoppers needs the community's help to solve the following crimes. If anyone knows something, they should say something, as law enforcement cannot control crime without help. Even the smallest bit of information may be just what law enforcement needs to solve these cases.

#### **St. John**

On Wednesday, November 30, a home at 16-23 Estate Adrian was burglarized. The husband locked and secured the house at 7:24 a.m. and returned home at 4 p.m. The son came home at 3:30 p.m. and the wife was at the

home at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. None of them saw any signs of a burglary. But \$3,235 in cash plus eight items were stolen. See our website for a list of the stolen items. The minimum reward for an arrest is \$700 plus 10 percent of the retail value of all property recovered.

#### **St. Thomas**

On December 4, at 2:59 a.m. a 28-year-old Hispanic male who was walking from R&S Mini Mart to La Delicia Bar and Night Club on Veterans Drive near the intersection of Crown Mountain Road was struck and killed by a white vehicle that was traveling westward. Help

law enforcement identify this hit and run driver. The minimum reward for an arrest is \$900.

#### **St. Croix**

On November 19, 2003, Eisenhower "Tower" Thomas and Albert Fredericks were shot and killed near an abandoned building in the area of Estate Glynn and Northside Road. It is believed that three individuals were involved in the murders of these two men. A vehicle that may have been involved in the shooting was later burned. Please tell what you know so law enforcement can solve this double murder and arrest those who were involved. The mini-

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

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

**RED HOOK TO CRUZ BAY**

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

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

# St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

**Accommodations**Caribbean Villas & Resorts  
tel. 1-800-338-0987  
or locally 340-776-6152Island Getaways  
888-693-7676,  
islandgetawaysinc.com  
kathy@islandgetawaysinc.comSuite St. John Villas/Condos  
tel. 1-800-348-8444  
or locally at 340-779-4486VIVA Vacations  
tel. 779-4250  
P.O. Box 1747, STJ, VI 00831**Architecture**Crane, Robert - Architect, AIA  
tel. 776-6356  
P.O. Box 370, STJ, VI 00831Barefoot Design Group, LLC  
tel. 693-7665 fax 693-8411  
P.O. Box 1772, STJ, VI 00831**Banking**Firstbank  
Located in downtown Cruz Bay  
340-776-6881Scotiabank  
**#1 Mortgage Lender in the VI**  
The Marketplace (340) 776-6552**Beauty/Spa**Westin Resorts & Villas  
Spa Services  
tel. 693-8000, ext. 1903/1904**Construction**St. John Hardware  
tel. 693-8780 fax 776-6685  
Located at The Marketplace**Insurance**Theodore Tunick & Company  
Phone 775-7001 / Fax 775-7002  
www.theodoretunick.com**Jewelry**R&I PATTON goldsmithing  
Located in Mongoose Junction  
776-6548 or (800) 626-3445  
Chat@pattongold.com**Landscaping**Alfredo's Landscaping  
tel. 774-1655 cell 513-2971  
P.O. Box 91, St. John, VI 00831Coral Bay Garden Center  
tel. 693-5579 fax 714-5628  
P.O. Box 1228, STJ, VI 00831PROPERTYKING  
tel. 643-6348  
Landscaping & Irrigation**Property Mgmt**Seaview Vacation Homes, Inc.  
tel. 340-776-6805;  
888-625-2963  
www.seaviewhomes.com**Real Estate**American Paradise Real Estate  
tel. 693-8352 fax 693-8818  
P.O. Box 8313, STJ, VI 00831  
info@americanparadise.comCruz Bay Realty  
tel. 693-8808 fax 693-9812  
P.O. Box 66, STJ, VI 00831  
info@cruzbayrealty.comDebbie Hayes, GRI  
tel. 714-5808 or 340-642-5995  
debbiehayes@debbiehayes.com  
www.stjohnvirealestate.com**Holiday Homes of St. John**tel. 776-6776 fax 693-8665  
P.O. Box 40, STJ, VI 00831  
info@holidayhomesVI.com**Islandia Real Estate**tel. 776-6666 fax 693-8499  
P.O. Box 56, STJ, VI 00831  
info@islandiarealestate.com**Restaurants**Concordia Cafe, 693-5855  
Happy Hour 4:30-6pm  
Dinner 6-8:30pm Tues-SatFish Trap Restaurant  
and Seafood Market  
tel. 693-9994, Closed MondaysLa Tapa Restaurant  
tel. 693-7755  
Open 7 Days a WeekSkinny Legs  
"A Pretty OK Place"  
tel. 340-779-4982  
www.skinnylegs.com**Services**C4th Custom Embroidery  
tel. 779-4047  
Located in Coral BayIsland Solar  
"Off the Grid Living for 10  
Years" tel. 340-642-0531Terminix  
Termite, Pest, Rodent Control  
Problem Solved Guarantee  
340-777-4423V.I. Energy Office  
How can you cut your  
energy bill immediately and  
significantly?  
340-714-8436

# ASK THE AUTO DOCTOR

**Lug Nuts and Battery Terminals***Continued from Page 10*

and replaced it. Now I still have the same problem. What did I do wrong and where should I look next?

A: I believe that you may have a simple problem at your battery terminals. Even if they look to be clean and in good condition, there can still be a contact problem between the battery post and the battery clamp. About 20 percent of the starter problems I look at aren't the starter, and only need to have the battery terminals cleaned or the battery replaced.

Even if you get power to the starter, it may not be getting a good ground from the battery under a load when you turn the key to the start position. Aside from starting with cleaning your battery terminals and checking the condition of the battery itself, another option would have been to remove the starter and take it to your local parts store. They have a special bench test machine that can test your starter motor and tell you if it's working properly. There's normally a nominal charge for this test but well worth it.

If it tested as good, then you could have

saved yourself the cost of purchasing a new starter that you didn't need. This advise also holds true if you suspect your alternator is not charging. Just remove it and take it to the auto parts store for testing before you purchase a new one.

Almost all batteries, in time, begin to leak a small amount of acid past the battery post. When this acid contacts the battery terminal, it starts a corrosion process that produces a white crusty coating. This acidic corrosion also attacks the connectivity between the battery post and the battery clamp causing the kind of problems you're having. Whenever you clean your battery terminals, be sure to spray them with an anti-corrosive coating that's available at any auto parts store. This will help to keep future corrosion to a minimum. Hope this helps get you started.

*Jack Brown is a professional, factory trained mechanic with more than 30 years experience in car repair. If you have a question about your car, car problems or car repairs email Jack at asktheautodoctor@hotmail.com.*

# Church Directory

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

11 a.m., Sunday School 776-6291

**Calvary Baptist 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.**Christian Science Society**10:45 a.m. Sunday- Marketplace  
Wednesday Testimonials  
7:45 p.m. on last Wed. of Month**The Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints**Sun. 9 a.m., on St. Thomas . 776-2379  
Sun., 5 p.m., STJ, Lumberyard**Cruz Bay Baptist Church**

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

**Emmaus Moravian Church**

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

**Jehovah's 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**Saturdays 6 p.m.; Sundays 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 a.m.  
776-6339**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 9 a.m.; Bible Class, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.  
777-6306**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

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

**Word of Faith Church**Word of Faith International  
Christian Center, Sundays 7:30 a.m.  
Giff Hill School 774-8617

## Classifieds

### For Rent

New large 2BR, large bath, off-street parking, ceiling fans, microwave, security lights, spacious porch, gorgeous view overlooking Westin, \$1800/month  
340-776-6331  
or 678-715-1129

Coral Bay, Carolina Long Term, Furnished 2 Bed 2 Bath, Full Upper level, A/C in Bedrooms, Large covered deck, W&D, \$1650/mth.  
Call Ron 715-853-9696

Large 2 BR Apartment in Bethany overlooking the Westin. Great views, A/C; Call 690-1104

**SCENIC PROPERTIES**  
340-693-7777

#### Cruz Bay Apartments:

- Two bedrooms, two bath, Gift Hill \$2000
  - Coral Bay:**
  - One bedroom, one bath \$900
  - One bedroom, one bath \$1100
- Check out  
[www.stjohnlive.com](http://www.stjohnlive.com)  
for more details.

**Apartments For Lease**  
A/C, Washer/Dryer, balcony, clean, great location next to Westin, 1BR @ \$1,250, 2BR @ \$1,650-\$1,750, Security & 1st mo. Month to Month lease available. Call Laurie at 779-1804 or 227-6688

### For Sale

**CARNIVAL BOOTH FOR SALE!**  
Professional T 1/11 wood construction, plumbing, electric and gas line equipped. Ready to roll on a steel chasse and trailer. Includes 3 fryers, 2 marine coolers, 2 drink coolers and kitchen and bar supplies. \$10,000  
Call 244-4663

### Legal Notice

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DIVISION OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. JOHN

PIMPY'S TRUCKING SERVICES, INC. )	CASE NO:
AND WATER DELIVERY, ) Plaintiff, ) ST-11-SM-34	)
vs. )	)
SEWER ENTERPRISES, LTD., ) ACTION	)
Defendant. ) FOR DEBT	)

#### ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

This matter came on for a hearing on Friday, October 14, 2011 before the undersigned. The Plaintiff made an oral request to serve Defendant **Sewer Enterprises, Ltd.** by publication. The premises duly considered, and the Court being otherwise fully advised herein, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion to Serve Defendant by Publication is hereby **GRANTED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if Plaintiff wishes to pursue this matter it shall effect service on the Defendant by Publication pursuant to 5 V.I.C. 112(a)(5) in a local newspaper once a week for four consecutive weeks; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this matter is scheduled for Friday, January 20, 2012; 9:30 a.m. Boulon Center, St. John, Virgin Islands.

A copy of this Order shall be served upon Plaintiff.

**DATED:** November 16, 2011

**KATHLEEN MACKAY**

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**NEXT CLASSIFIED  
AD DEADLINE:  
THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 29<sup>TH</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 or fax 693-8885.

### Tuesday, December 20

The St. John Chapter of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce will meet next on Tuesday, December 20, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at a location yet to be confirmed.

### Thursday, December 22

The Coral Bay Community Christmas Tree/Carole Sing will be on Thursday, December 22, at 6:30 p.m. at Sputnik's patio. Join everyone in singing carols and welcoming Santa for the kids! This annual tradition brings neighborhoods out to sing in a "competitive challenge for festiveness." So bring those voices and those neighbors!

Students across St. John are gearing up for their annual school holiday concerts and programs, and the entire community is encouraged to attend! The Guy Benjamin School's program will be on Thursday, December 22, at 9 a.m. in the school's courtyard. Julius E. Sprauve School's Christmas program is scheduled for

Thursday, December 22, at 10 a.m., with a holiday concert to follow that evening at 6:30 p.m. on the school's campus.

### Friday, December 23

Governor John deJongh's administration and St. John Administrator Leona Smith is hosting an open house at the Cruz Bay Battery on Friday, December 23, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Residents are invited to stop by the Battery and meet V.I. Police Department Acting Commissioner Henry White and Department of Health Acting Commissioner Dr. Mercedes Dullum.

### Sunday, December 25

The Unitarian Universalists of St. John meet at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday in the Great Room at Giff Hill School. The guest speaker for December 25 is Gail Karlsson who will speak on "Creating a Climate of Compassion."

### Saturday, December 31

Sisterhood Agenda, with its Brotherhood Agenda division, is hosting its Second Annual New Year's Eve Youth Extravaganza at Franklin Powell Park in Cruz Bay on December 31, 2011.

### Saturday, January 21

The St. John Animal Care Center's Annual Christmas for the Animals fundraiser gala will be Saturday, January 21, at A La Mer villa.

## ALCHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

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

## NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

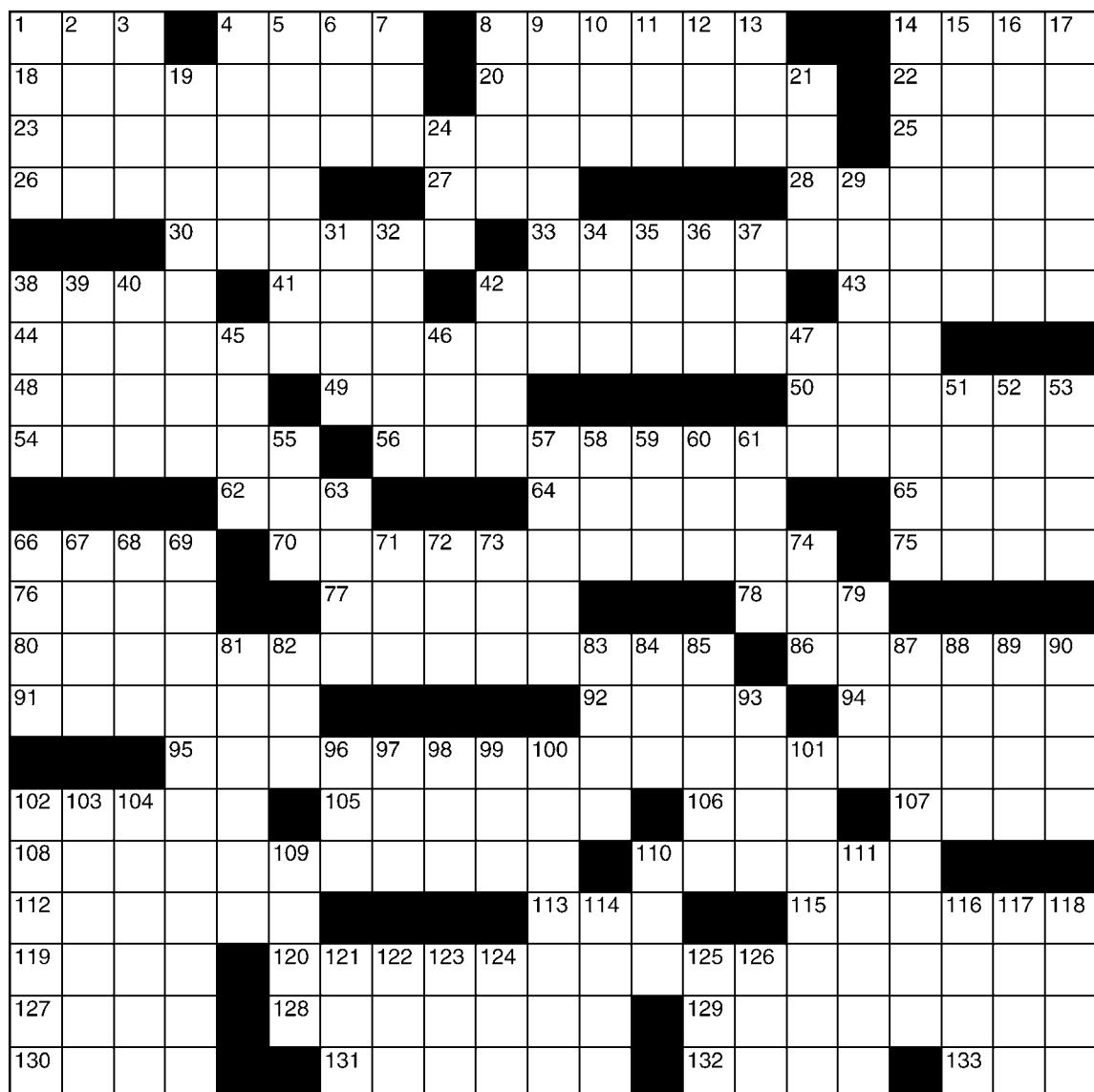
Narcotics Anonymous has open meetings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Saturday at St. Ursula's Church.

## AL-ANON MEETINGS

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

## PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo



## H2O

### ACROSS

- 1 Watch chain
- 4 Two or three
- 8 Narcotic drug
- 14 Gave rise to
- 18 Body of beliefs
- 20 Distortion
- 22 Do-fa links
- 23 Making of file cabinet inserts?
- 25 "Believe — Not!"
- 26 More than infatuated
- 27 Groom's vow
- 28 New edition
- 30 Act in opposition to
- 33 Emerald Isle when it's very snowy?
- 38 Seed case
- 41 Fire remnant
- 42 Actor Oskar
- 43 Vigilant
- 44 Let someone else have your warding-off job?
- 48 Money in virtual retail
- 49 What some readings get reset to
- 50 Amped up
- 54 Thermostat component
- 56 Ghastly proprietor?
- 62 "Correct!"
- 64 Rod attachments
- 65 Film director Ephron
- 66 — portrait
- 70 Arsonist's alibi?
- 75 Put with the luggage
- 76 Trendy berry
- 77 In — (stacked up)
- 78 No-goodnik
- 80 Cat's playing activities?

86 Baseball's "Georgia Peach"

91 Card game like écarté

92 Dog in Oz

94 Majestic

95 Like terrain cultivated to grow poison mushrooms?

102 2005 horror film sequel

105 Old Olds models

106 Lang. of Austria

107 Low marks

108 At a ferris wheel's pinnacle?

110 Next to

112 With 3-Down, seems familiar

113 Suffix with krypton

115 One of the B vitamins

119 Head, in Nice

120 Wright brothers' command?

127 Computer brand

128 What attics are used for

129 Square meter, e.g.

130 Boomers' kids

131 Golden age

132 Itches

133 Alternative to gmail

DOWN

1 Name for a poodle

2 Ingest way too much of, for short

3 See 112-Across

4 Brand of pain reliever

5 Prophesied

6 Yolked thing

7 Letter following ex

8 Outstanding

9 Many an ex-con

10 Gershwin or Aldridge

11 Liable

12 Mai —

13 Big head

14 Dresses with trains

15 Film do-over

16 Gushy actor

17 Most terrible

19 Scent-free

21 Adequate, in dialect

24 Tiny peeve

29 Believe that one will

31 Golfer Aoki

32 Below, as a goal

34 Kin of "ruff!"

35 Opposite of SSW

36 Hyena's lair

37 Munic. statute

38 "Rock of —"

39 Starchy food

40 Nobel winner Pavlov

42 "Do you know — am?"

45 Skipper's cry

46 Rocky crag

47 Aruba, e.g.: Abbr.

51 Lace snarl

52 Architect Saarinen

53 Do a sketch

55 KO counter

57 See 89-Down

58 Whammy

59 Sleuth, in slang

60 Viral malady

61 KGB's land

63 Thick slice

66 Guarded

67 Light beige

68 Nonclerical

69 British seafood sticks

71 Cartoon storekeeper

72 Prefix with calculate

73 Horror film director Roth

74 Munch

79 Tony-winning actress Daly

81 Asian cobras

82 "So's — old man!"

83 Takeoff guesses, briefly

84 Lawn layer

85 Theater part

87 "King Lear" daughter

88 Melancholy instrument

89 With 57-Down, teal or aqua

90 Mrs. Harry Truman

93 Tip jar items

96 Sallie —

97 Fairy

98 Narcs' org.

99 Fleischer or Onassis

100 Deposited dictator Manuel

101 TV's Merv

102 Extra levy

103 Individually

104 Cold season

109 Linden and Sparks

110 Apiary insect

111 Blockheads

114 Deuce taker

116 Home to the Taj Mahal

117 "The Cosby Show" boy

118 List abbr.

121 Afr. nation

122 Foot part

123 Sample

124 Possessed

125 Pay for

126 Ethyl ending

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"Colibri" – Superb sunset and water views from this three bedroom waterfront home in Great Cruz Bay. Features include native stonework, large pool deck with gazebo, masonry construction, air conditioning, water views from every room and pool, and lots of room for expansion. Deeded rights to beach and dinghy landing. A complete refurbishing has just been completed. Good view of boat moorings. **\$3,795,000.**

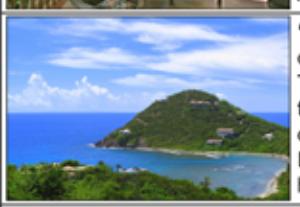
"Sunset Serenade" - New Listing-masonry with 180 degree views of St. Thomas, Pillsbury Sound & beyond. Enjoy breath taking sunset views from the large deck area with pool and hot tub. Main house is a comfortable 2 br x 2 bath with a well equipped kitchen, lg great room and is currently a short term rental. The spacious 1X1 apartment has separate entry & drive with full kitchen, living/dining area & great views. **\$1.1M**



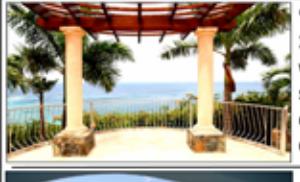
"Winter Moon" - Amazing views of Hurricane Hole and beyond from this well-built home with 1 bdrm, 1.5 bthm on main upper level and a 1 bdrm apartment ("Winter Moon" currently in short term rentals) on the lower level. Live in main house with income from lower rental apartment. Enjoy close and easy access to stony beach at Zootenvala, Brown Bay hiking trail and restaurants & shops in Coral Bay area. Plenty of room to expand and add pool. **\$950,000**



"Villa Lantano" - Has magnificent North Shore views over Peter Bay to Jost Van Dyke from this spacious home in Upper Peter Bay. Features include custom kitchen, granite countertops, stainless appliances, travertine marble floors throughout, including decks, lg pool deck with spa, water views from every room and lush professional landscaping. A beautiful new arched, stone gazebo makes a comfortable, shady outdoor seating area. **\$7.9M**



"Villa Meritage" - a private oasis nestled into the verdant hillside overlooking Hart Bay, Chocolate Hole and beyond to the island of St. Thomas and offshore cays. Facing west to capture stunning sunsets, the four bedroom, four bath pool home with Jacuzzi offers a separate one bedroom cozy cottage (built in 2000), with its own private Jacuzzi. Beautifully furnished and lavishly decorated with custom artwork, this home is a must see. **\$1.395M**



"Coyaba" - means heavenly in Arawak and this newly constructed 3-bedroom home is just that. On a flat one acre lot, Coyaba offers water views of the Caribbean Sea and the bay below. The large open-style great room, kitchen and dining area and bedrooms are located on one level. Enjoy the sounds of the surf together with breezy easterly trade winds from your pool deck. Priced to sell at **\$4,413,000**.



Mango Terrace Villas - Brand new and spacious condos on a hillside overlooking the turquoise waters of the Caribbean. All units have spacious interiors, ample decks from which to enjoy the cool easterly breezes & expansive water views. Amenities include private laundry, private decks, granite counters, tile floors, large shared pool and deck. Only six units in two buildings with proximity to Cruz Bay Town & Frank Bay beach. Financing available. Priced to sell at under recent appraised value. **\$499,000 to \$900,000**.



"Brisas del Mar" has beautiful panoramic views from every room looking over Coral Bay & Hurricane Hole to the British Virgins. There is an open floor plan with custom kitchen, 2 bedrooms on the main floor and a spiral stair case to the third bedroom suite, which has its own balcony. The pool & spa decks face the cooling easterly trade winds and rising sun and moon. This home is great for a family or for short term rental. Nice brick and stone detail. **\$1.45M**

**DEVELOPMENT/COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES:** Hansen Bay 7A is an 18 acre parcel with studies done and a 15 lot sub division permit. All lots have water views and breezes and 4 lots are on the flat top of a ridge with almost 360 degree views. Reduced from **\$3.18M to \$2.99M**; Estate Zootenvala 20 acres over looking the marine preserve at Bork Creek just east of Coral Bay **\$7M**; Adjoining 4.5 acre parcel with 4 cottages and white sand beach also available. **Group Dwelling permit for 6 apartments** and a driveway permit have been issued for this 0.9 acre lot in Estate Rendezvous & Ditleff. With sunset and water views to St Thomas from this gently sloping lot, this is a perfect parcel for development or for a single family home with lots of privacy. **\$549,000**

**Estate Pastory** - near Cruz Bay. Three adjoining lots at Estate Pastory with possible water views and gentle grades. Great spot for a contractor to build some spec homes or a family compound with several homes. Seller financing possible. **Starting at \$200,000 each or \$375,000 for all three!!!!**

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# DLCA Holiday Food Basket Survey Results: Dolphin Market Has Lowest Prices

## St. John Tradewinds

The Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs is notifying the public of its Christmas holiday food basket survey findings, which was completed on December 8 on St. Thomas and St. Croix, and November 12 on St. John.

The holiday food basket survey is designed to inform consumers of which stores have the best prices on grocery items typically used for a holiday meal. The number of items compared on each island varies as a result of comparison guidelines which require that items are identical in order to produce a valid survey.

## St. John

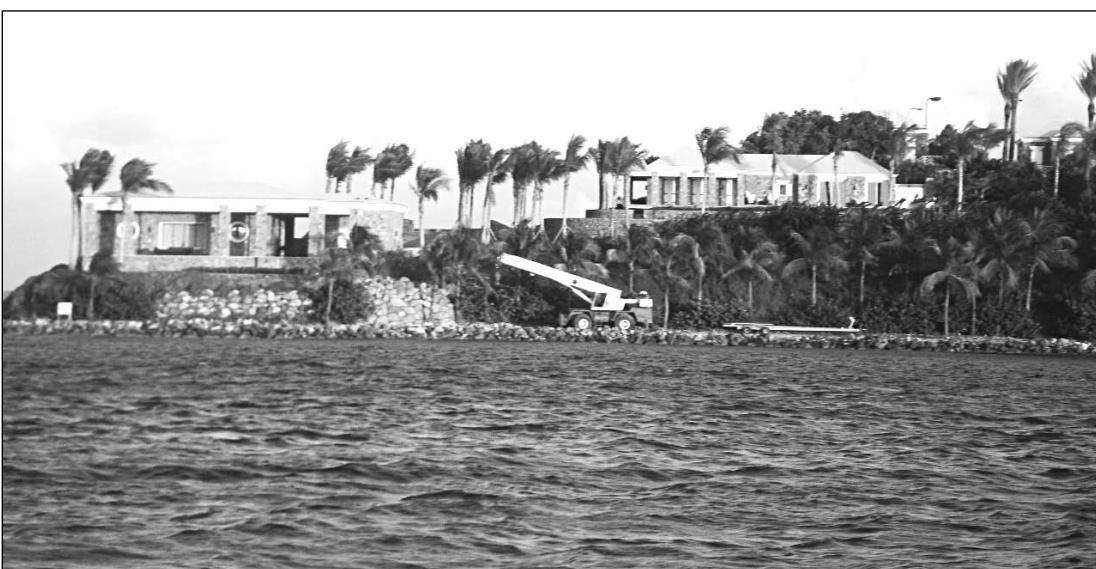
On St. John three stores were surveyed: Dolphin Market; Starfish Market; and Pine Peace Mini

Mart. A total of 20 of the same items were compared at each location. The difference between the highest and lowest priced holiday food basket for December was \$7.26.

Some of the items that made up the holiday basket for St. John included sweet potatoes, cabbage, fresh pumpkin, parsley, celery, onions, potatoes, green banana, plantain, chicken mix stuffing, turkey gravy, mayonnaise, baking powder, and condensed milk.

The lowest priced food basket was found at Dolphin Market with a basket cost of \$40.20. Pine Peace Market came in second with a holiday basket cost of \$40.36. Coming in third was Starfish Market with a food basket cost of \$47.46.

## Building Continues on Little St. James



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott

Infamous New York City money manager Jeffrey Epstein continues development of his private island, Little St. James. Several new stone buildings can be seen on the island — in addition to five concrete trucks, a crane and a cow. Epstein, who has been a V.I. Economic Development Commission (EDC) beneficiary, served 13 months of an 18-month sentence for soliciting an underage girl for prostitution in Florida, is a registered sex offender, according to reports.



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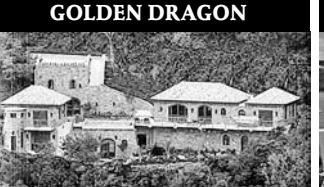
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<p>Absolutely beautiful location overlooking St. John's most virgin National Park with views of Reef Bay, Ram Head &amp; secluded white sandy beach below. Classic Caribbean style 4 bd/3 bath w/pool &amp; spa. \$1,395,000.</p> <p><b>A BEST BUY!</b> </p>				
<p>Exquisite stone villa w/exceptional craftsmanship, 4 bds/baths, chef's kitchen, full A/C, infinity pool, multi decks &amp; patios, lush gardens, meticulously maintained, impressive vacation rental, Pt. Rendezvous. A must see! \$1,550,000.</p> <p><b>CALYPSO del SOL</b> </p>				
<p>A delightful 2 bdm/2 bath pool villa nestled high on the hillside in Gt Cruz Bay. Offering privacy, vibrant sunsets, gourmet kitchen, 60' covered veranda &amp; sunny pool. Catered To's top rental villa. \$1,295,000.</p> <p><b>SEASCAPE</b> </p>				
<p>Amazing views of St. Thomas &amp; sunsets fr/this beautifully remodeled 6 bdm/5 bath villa w/high quality amenities, pool, spa, close to town. \$1,899,000.</p> <p><b>PRICED TO SELL!</b> </p>				
<p>Must see w/new improvements &amp; renovations! This 2 unit home features stone &amp; hardwood accents, vaulted ceilings &amp; borders a greenbelt in Fish Bay. Live in the upper unit &amp; rent the apt. Only \$495,000.</p> <p><b>LIZARD HILL</b> </p>				

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<b>OVERLOOKING CINNAMON BAY BEACH</b> — This is the only vacant parcel available in Catherineberg! Pristine Northshore location, 1.09 ac. \$1,500,000.	<b>BARGAIN IN PASTORY!</b> — Moderate slope, 1/3 acre, close to town. Only \$76,500.	<b>PARCEL 300-69C GREAT CRUZ BAY</b> — Prime 1.05ac site w/fantastic harbr views, walk to dinghy landing & architect.plans. A steal at \$499K.	<b>LEINSTER BAY</b> — Off the beaten track w/ views & privacy. \$149K & \$250K.
<b>CONTANT FARMS</b> — Nice corner parcel w/ocean & sunset views, paved road, close to town. \$275,000.	<b>CAROLINA, EDEN, CALABASH</b> — Nice selection of affordable parcels. Starting at \$84K.	<b>KLEIN BAY</b> — Prestigious area w/common beach. 3 parcels, starting at \$675K.	<b>LOTS TO CHOOSE FROM</b> in Fish Bay — Starting at \$90K.
<b>SUNSET VIEWS</b> — Over Cruz Bay & St. Thomas — close to town, easy build. Only \$159K.	<b>WATERFRONT PARCEL IN DREEKETS BAY</b> w/amazing BVI views! A bargain at \$695K.	<b>CRUZ BAY TOWN</b> — Walk to Frank Bay, R-4 zoning w/building plans. \$219,900.	<b>FRANK BAY</b> — Flat, 2 parcels, R-4, \$195K ea.
<b>WATERFRONT ON MONTE BAY</b> — Spectacular 13.44 ac. site, ideal for private estate or subdivision. \$2,900,000.	<b>SIDE-BY-SIDE</b> flat parcels in Johnson Bay, across from common beach — \$220K ea.	<b>GLUCKSBERG</b> — Gentle grade, 1/2 ac., lg. trees, end of road. \$125K.	<b>PT. RENDEZVOUS</b> — Outstanding views. \$199,900 & \$415K.

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\$2,450,000

**SEA TURTLE VILLA** is a contemporary Skytop home with amazing water views, 2 master suites, 3 baths, tropical landscaping, pool, & open architecture set amidst secluded privacy. Great vacation villa or island home!



\$1,500,000

**WHALE WATCH** - Enjoy pristine East End in this lovely, 2 bedroom villa with big water views. Downstairs apartment offers additional living & income space. Hear the sound of the waves lapping below.



\$1,275,000

**PARADISE ON THE ROCKS** Tropical living, big views & masonry home-centrally-located on Ajax Peak. Two units: 2 bedrooms, 2 baths & Great Room upstairs; private entry 1 bedroom apartment downstairs. Rent one, live in the other!



\$1,050,000

**KABEJ PATCH** Caribbean style 5 bdrm pool villa, in a quiet, breezy location in desirable Chocolate Hole. Beautifully finished Brazilian hardwood home w/ stone accents is charming! Walk to beach. Excellent short term rental or private residence.



\$595,000

**VILLA MOLLO** A nature lovers dream, walk to 2 beaches! 3BR/2BA villa sits on the water's edge of a salt pond and features custom stone and wood work and amazing Caribbean views.



\$715,000

**LAVENDER HILL** Luxurious 1 bedroom unit adjacent to pool with 2 decks. Walk to beach and town. Handsomely furnished, immaculately maintained, excellent rental management.



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**VILLA MOLLO** In-town living-1 bdrm/1bth Grande Bay condo. Views of Cruz Bay harbor & beyond from curved balcony, fully-furnished & equipped kitchen, easy walk to town. Amenities include pool deck, fitness & reception center, indoor parking & elevator service.

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## Hundreds Flock to Mongoose Juction for Annual All-Island Holiday Party



St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Bill Stelzer

Resident and visitors celebrate the holiday season at Mongoose Junction's annual All-Island Holiday Party on Saturday, December 17. [Additional photos on Page 12.](#)

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