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# TRADEWINDS

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

## Bank Robbery Suspects Arraigned in Federal Court

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St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tropical Focus

### Funds Raised for American Cancer Society

The Second Annual St. John Relay for Life kicked off at 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 11. Team members settled in for a long night at Winston Wells ball field while raising funds for the local chapter of the American Cancer Society. Participants are pictured above during the closing ceremony. See next week's *Tradewinds* for full story.

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**Rest In Peace  
Hermon Smith**

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## Senator Urges Rotarians To Get Involved with Government

By Jaime Elliott  
*St. John Tradewinds*

“We work for you,” Senator Jeanette Millin-Young told about 15 members of the Rotary Club of St. John on Friday afternoon, February 10, at the group’s weekly meeting at the Westin Resort and Villas.

A Rotarian herself, and a past president of the Rotary Club of St. Thomas, Millin-Young shared her plans for an upcoming Economic Summit during the meeting and encouraged members to take active roles in government.

“We are your government,” said the senator. “But if we don’t hear from you we can’t represent you as well as we would like. I’m making a personal invitation to you to be a part of this government.”



*St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Tropical Focus*

Senator Jeanette Millin-Young was the featured speaker at last week’s Rotary Club of St. John meeting.

# BIR Reminds Residents To File Income Tax Returns in Territory

*St. John Tradewinds*

Director of the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue Claudette Watson-Anderson, CPA, reminded all bona fide residents of the Virgin Islands that they are required to file their individual income tax returns in the territory with the Bureau.

Bona fide residents of the Virgin Islands must not file their individual income tax returns electronically or by mail with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This is a violation of the law.

The income tax return is only considered filed on the date that it is received by the Bureau, not the date received by the IRS. Taxpayers who receive erroneous refunds from the IRS will have to repay the erroneous refund issued by the IRS, and will be subject

to penalties and interest.

Self-employed taxpayers are required to file two tax returns. The individual income tax return (Form 1040) and the self-employment tax return (Form 1040SS). The self-employment tax return should be submitted to the IRS. Please do not include payment of self-employment taxes on your Form 1040, which is filed with the Bureau.

“Electronic filing is currently not an option in the Virgin Islands,” said Watson-Anderson. “It is, however, a work in progress. Taxpayers are asked to submit paper returns to the Bureau for processing.”

For more information about filing requirements for bona fide residents call the Office of Chief Counsel at 715-1040, ext. 2249 or 714-9312.

## Rumors of GBS Closing Are False

By Jaime Elliott  
*St. John Tradewinds*

Rumors spread across Coral Bay last week that the V.I. Department of Education was planning to close Guy Benjamin School.

First whispered over the February 2 weekend, the rumors of shutting the Coral Bay elementary school reached a fever pitch by Thursday afternoon, February 9.

Parents need not fear, however, the rumors are false, according to DOE officials.

“There is no truth to the rumors that Guy Benjamin School is closing,” said Ananta Panoram, DOE’s Director of Public Information.

## Larsen Speaking to SJHS February 14

Please join the St. John Historical Society on Tuesday, February 14, at 7 p.m. at the Bethany Moravian Church Hall as preservationist, artist and architect Gerville Larsen presents “How and Why We Need to Preserve and Conserve the Built Cultural Heritage of the USVI.”

## 10th Annual Vow Renewal Is Feb. 14

The public is invited to Trunk Bay on Tuesday, February 14, for the 10th annual Celebration of Love where St. John barefoot minister Anne Marie Porter will lead a vow renewal ceremony starting at 5 p.m.

“All couples are invited to celebrate Valentine’s Day in a most meaningful way,” said Porter. “It’s free and fun. Over the years, about 800 couples have renewed their marriage vows at this annual Celebration Of Love.”

## Annual Plant Sale Set for February 18

The V.I. Audubon Society is hosting its 15th annual plant sale on Saturday, February 18, in the Nazareth Lutheran Church yard in Cruz Bay from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Eleanor Gibney Leading SJHS Tour of Estate Bellevue Cultural Landscape

On Saturday, February 18, at 9 a.m., naturalist and St. John Historical Society Historian Eleanor Gibney will offer an informative glimpse into the shifting cultural landscapes of St. John from the grounds of the historic Estate Bellevue great house.

Agriculture of the past, including the sugar era and the many decades that followed, will be discussed. Everyone is invited to meet at the St. John Community Foundation’s Bellevue property, at the beginning of the unpaved road just past the Bellevue housing development. Parking is limited, so carpooling is suggested.

## Almost-Annual CBYC Flotilla Fundraiser for GBS Is March 24

The almost annual Coral Bay Yacht Club Flotilla to benefit the Guy Benjamin School is set for Saturday, March 24, at Miss Vie’s Campground starting at noon.

Join CBYC members for a sail to the beach and back for only \$40, which includes lunch. Don’t feel like sailing? Drive out to the beach and pay \$10 for children and \$20 for adults for lunch and entertainment by local reggae favorites Inner Visions.

See you there!

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# St. John Bank Robbery Suspects Arraigned in Federal Court

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

Keven Fessale, Shevaun Browne and Kadeem Thomas were arraigned in federal court on Wednesday, February 8, in connection with a 2011 armed robbery of Merchants Commercial Bank.

The three St. John men are accused of robbing the Estate Chocolate Hole bank of \$47,529.30 during an armed robbery on January 11, 2011. All three men were nabbed by federal agents in separate locations across St. John on February 2.

A federal indictment handed

down on January 19, 2012, charges Fessale, 22, with Hobbs Act conspiracy, bank robbery by force or violence and possession of a firearm; Browne, 24, with Hobbs Act conspiracy and robbing a bank by force or violence; and Thomas, 22, with Hobbs Act conspiracy and bank robbery by force or violence, according to a report in the *V.I. Daily News*.

Hobbs Act conspiracy allows the federal government to try robbery cases involving firearms in U.S. District Court, according to the report.

Browne was painted as the ring

leader of the three, who organized the robbery and supplied the guns, according to the *V.I. Daily News* story.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Ruth Miller allowed Browne to return to St. John, on supervised release with electronic monitoring, in his mother's custody on a 10 percent \$25,000 bond, according to the St. Thomas newspaper.

Thomas also returned to St. John last week when Miller ordered his supervised release with electronic monitoring on a 10 percent \$25,000 bond and allowed him to work with his mother at an

unnamed St. John grocery store, according to the report in the *V.I. Daily News*.

Fessale remained behind bars last week on a \$25,000 bond, according to the report.

The robbery occurred around 2 p.m. on January 11, 2011, when two masked men walked into the bank with three firearms and ordered everyone to the ground, according to a V.I. Police Department prepared statement issued at the time.

After sifting through drawers and collecting cash from several desks at the bank, the two fled in

a blue GMC Jimmy and had remained at large until their February 2, 2012 arrest.

Surveillance video cameras recorded the men arriving at the bank, recorded the actual robbery as it was taking place and recorded the robbers leaving Merchants Commercial Bank in a blue Chevy Jimmy, which belonged to Browne, according to a U.S. Department of Justice press release.

The three St. John men will face a jury during a trial tentatively set to begin on March 26 in U.S. District Court, according to the *V.I. Daily News* report.

# 12th Annual St. John Arts Festival Kicks Off February 18

Week-long arts events start on Saturday in Cruz Bay's Frank Powell Park

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

The 12th Annual St. John Arts Festival kicks off on Saturday, February 18, with entertainment in Frank Powell Park and Caribbean food, arts and crafts exhibition in the little park near the Department of Tourism Visitors Center.

Local crafts people will be on hand all week long in the small park just off Frank Powell Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day through February 22. Stop by for local food, jewelry, hot sauce, paintings, clothing and more.

The musical portion of the 12th Annual Arts Festival gets underway at the Cruz Bay park at noon when Love City Pan Dragons Youth Steel Orchestra will entertain the crowd. Stop by the park before 4 p.m. to hear the talented youth of St. John on steel pan. The Love City Leapers will also dazzle the crowd on Saturday with their acrobatic feats from 2 to 2:30 p.m.

On Saturday night, St. John School of the Arts is the place to be for the 2nd VIP Mini Film Festival, produced by Janet Cook-Rutnik and Sigi Torinus in conjunction with the Arts Festival. The first festival, hosted two years ago, was a huge success and features both short humorous works as well as professional videos from award-winning filmmakers.

The festival fun continues on Sunday, February 19, with a Gos-



pel Concert at Frank Powell Park at 2 p.m. followed by the Mongo Niles Dancers who will perform traditional Quelbe numbers beginning at 3 p.m.

St. John youngsters will take center stage on Sunday night, when SJSA students will perform music and dance numbers for the audience in a special Arts Festival recital.

It's all about Old Time Caribbean fun on Monday, February 20, when the Caribbean Ritual Dancers along with a few Mocko Jumbies perform at 2 p.m. at

Frank Powell Park. Popular local scratch group KoKo and the Sunshine Band will keep the vibe going as they perform at the park from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Reggae is the theme of the day for Tuesday, February 21, when local favorites Inner Visions share their positive roots reggae stylings from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Music will swing from reggae to jazz on Wednesday, February 22, when Samba Combo entertains the crowds at Frank Powell Park from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The brainchild of Frank Lan-

gley, the St. John Arts Festival promises to be as entertaining and educational as ever this year, bouncing back from being displaced last year. Frank Powell Park was under renovations for most of the winter last year, and the Arts Festival was pushed out to the V.I. National Park ballfield, with attendance suffering.

This year, Langley is delighted to be back in the central Cruz Bay park with a full line up of entertainers and musicians. Don't miss any of the excitement of the 12th Annual St. John Arts Festival.

The 12th annual festival will bring arts, crafts, music and more to the Frank Powell Park starting on February 18.

St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

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**NEXT DEADLINE**

**Thursday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>**

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## Zuckergood Speaking to UUF Feb. 19

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

The guest speaker for February 19, is Dan Zuckergood, who will speak on "The Power and Beauty of Music in our lives." For transportation from Cruz Bay call 776-6332. Childcare is available upon prior request. For more details, visit [www.uufstjohn.org](http://www.uufstjohn.org).

## USFSC Hosting Social at SJSA Feb. 21

Using Sport for Social Change invites the public to a social gathering at the St. John School of the Arts on Tuesday, February 21, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Using Sport For Social Change, in conjunction with the St. John Community Foundation and Department of Parks and Recreation, invite everyone to attend this social gathering at St. John School of Arts. During this fun, casual event, an update will be given on what USFSC is, what it has accomplished in the past years and what officials are hoping to accomplish in the 2012-2013 year with the public's support. USFSC will also be unveiling its sponsorship levels for the 4th Annual Free "Just Play" event scheduled for October 8, 2012.

Email Dean Doeling at [islandsun40@yahoo.com](mailto:islandsun40@yahoo.com) for more info.

## Saxophonist Ashu Performing March 9

Virgin Islands music lovers are invited to come out and enjoy a unique aural experience as Ashu performs classical saxophone music beginning at 8 p.m. Friday, March 9, at Tillett Gardens on St. Thomas. Known for his dynamic performances, 26-year-old concert saxophonist Ashu has been captivating audiences across the world since making his recital debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall in New York, and his concerto debut at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., at age 16.

Drinks and a casual dinner will be available. Tickets are \$30 each. For more information about the concert, dinner or to reserve tickets, contact Arts Alive at 776-8566.

## Free HPV Vaccines at MKSCHC Mar. 10

Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center is offering free HPV Vaccines on Saturday, March 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The vaccines are available to all males and females between the ages of 11 and 26 years of age. Minors must be accompanied by a parent and all attendees are asked to bring their immunization cards.

# Giff Hill School Hoping for Best Year Yet at 26th Annual Auction, Set for March 10

By Andrea Milam  
St. John Tradewinds

The entire St. John community is invited to help Giff Hill Students "Bloom and Grow" at the school's 26th annual gala and auction on Saturday, March 10, at the Westin Resort.

The Bloom and Grow theme highlights the school's Education and Resiliency Through Horticulture program, a partnership with Iowa State that promotes sustainability among GHS students.

And along the lines of sustainability, the island's only private school is also working to ensure the auction is as environmentally friendly as possible, starting with the invitations and response cards, explained Molly Murrill of the GHS development office.

"Our invitations were printed with plantable seed paper, so people can plant their invitations at home," said Murrill. "All the response cards sent back to us will be planted by our EARTH program students."

The auction's dinner menu, a buffet created by the Westin's executive chef, will be inspired by local ingredients as much as possible, and some of the auction packages will reflect a focus on the environment and sustainability.

Event-goers can expect to be dazzled by the auction items, which include everything from jewelry donated by R&I Patton to trips to Washington, D.C., New York, Colorado, and even Africa. Pre-bidding is expected to begin this week on the school's web site, [www.giffhillschool.org](http://www.giffhillschool.org).

Golden tickets will be sold for \$100, and the winner of the golden ticket raffle, which is drawn at the beginning of the evening, can choose from the list of travel packages, meaning a trip to Africa could be scored for just \$100.

Local items up for bid include a sunset sail on *Kekoa*, a Mongoose Junction shopping spree, and a catered dinner by Mathayom Private Chefs.

Auctioneer Darron Meares of Meares Auction Group will return for the third year in a row to get the crowd hyped up and excited about bidding, and if last year's final tally of more than \$170,000 raised is any indication, Meares has what it takes to encourage the



St. John Tradewinds News Photo File

Guests should be ready for another fun-filled live auction at GHS' 26th annual gala on March 10.

community to support education on St. John.

"More than 60 percent of our students are on tuition assistance," said Murrill. "Our students need a lot of financial help. The auction is our biggest fundraising event of the year."

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a champagne reception and silent art auction, where works by 10 featured artists, in every medium from photography to ceramics to paintings, will be up for bidding. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., and the live auction begins at 8 p.m.

The event ends at 10 p.m., but the party doesn't stop there — it just moves over to La Plancha for the after-party, complete with a DJ and even more raffle prizes.

"It's a really fun, elegant event that supports education on St. John, specifically our scholarship and tuition assistance programs," said Murrill. "A lot of people who attend aren't even affiliated with the school. They just come because it's a way to be involved in the community and have a really good time."

Tickets are \$125 apiece, or \$1,000 for a table, and seats sell out fast. To book your spot at the event, contact Murrill at 776-1730 or [mollymurrill@giffhillschool.org](mailto:mollymurrill@giffhillschool.org).

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# “Wake Up and Plant a Seed” at the 21st Annual St. John Folklife Festival

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

The 21st annual St. John Folklife Festival has a clear message this year — Wake Up and Plant a Seed!

While the annual festival — which runs from Thursday, February 23, through Saturday, February 25, at the Annaberg Plantation Ruins in V.I. National Park — will focus on agriculture, the theme stands for even more, explained St. John Folklife Festival founder Denise Georges.

“Every Saturday on his radio program, Gene Emmanuel would end the show by saying, ‘Wake up and plant a seed,’” said Georges, a V.I. National Park interpretive ranger. “He meant it literally, go out and plant a seed. But he also meant how it’s important to define yourself and what makes you happy and then to go out and cultivate that.”

The University of the Virgin Islands professor Gene Emmanuel, who passed away last year, had played an integral role in each folklife festival, Georges explained.

“Gene contributed so much to the festival each year,” she said. “We worked together right from the very first one, Gene and I and Dr. Gilbert Sprauve. So this year’s festival is really a tribute to both of them in helping to put the festival together and to educate the youth and adults and park service.”

The first two days of the festival, Thursday and Friday, kick off

at 10 a.m. and wrap up at 3 p.m. Students from across St. Thomas and St. John will attend these days, with younger students enjoying the educational festival the first day and older students taking part the second day. All three days of the festival, however, are free and open to the public.

UVI Extension Services officials Carlos Robles, Mario Francis, Elridge Thomas and Chico will be on hand to discuss local agriculture practices, crafting and more, explained Georges.

“We’ll learn about agriculture, planting and grafting,” she said. “We’ll learn about soil and what crops grow here and how to be successful at growing food crops and more.”

Josephine and Hugo Roller of Coral Bay Organic Garden Center will be on hand with an array of cuttings and Elmo Rabsatt will demonstrate his bee keeping savvy. Raymond Thomas from the Department of Agriculture Station on St. John will also be on hand discussing local growing methods and crops, Georges added.

Trogenza Roach, Sprauve and other local tradition bearers will also discuss local literature, verse and language while live music will be provided by Smalls and the Merry Makers.

Volunteers will also be on hand both days to lead tours of the extensive Annaberg ruins while Kala will take guests around the provision garden at the site. Local crafts people will also be present, selling

their wares along with local fruit drinks and food.

“The big old oven will be lit up and we’ll be making and handing out dumb bread and I’m looking forward to frying up some fish too,” said Georges.

On Saturday, the St. John Folklife Festival takes on an entirely different vibe. Gone are the crowds of students and in their place is an inviting calm while guests sit among the ruins under the stars. The festival runs Saturday night from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. and will feature two impressive Carnival Troupes from St. Thomas, according to Georges.

“This year we are doing dancing only on Saturday night,” she said. “We’re going to have the St. Thomas Tropical Masqueraders and the Traditional Indians. The crowd is in for a treat this year.”

Saturday night festival attendees should bring along a chair and bug spray and be ready for a great time.

While soaking up the sights and sounds of the St. John Folklife Festival, festival goers should also walk away with a better understanding of the days of old on St. John, Georges added.

“We’re doing this to keep the culture alive and keep the past alive,” she said. “We do this to bring the past back to the present so that we all can have a better understanding of where we come from. You have to look back first before you can move forward.”

“Only once you know your own resources can you go out and embrace other culture and environments,” said Georges. “But you must know where you come from in order to be open to the wider world.”

Georges thanked all community sponsors, Friends of V.I. National Park, VINP staff and V.I. Council on the Arts for support in ensuring the success of the 21st Annual Folklife Festival.

Keep an eye out for the St. John Folklife Festival poster, designed by Les Anderson, which should be popping up across the island this week. For more information on the festival call the VINP Visitors Center at 776-6201.

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## High Season Is Perfect Time for Visitors To Adopt St. John Cats and Dogs

By Elaine Campbell  
Special to St. John Tradewinds

With “high Season” visitors filling the island’s resorts, rental villas, and time shares, the Animal Care Center (ACC) of St. John is calling attention to its “Off-Island Adoption” program whereby visitors to the island can help homeless companion animals by taking home a shelter kitty or dog.

Flying home with a kitty or small dog from St. John is not complicated. One can borrow or purchase an airline-safe soft carrier from the ACC shelter or from Canines, Cats, and Critters (CCC). If someone has a kitty visitor to their villa that they’ve become attached to, can invite him or her in for a welcome good meal and then take her to the nearby veterinarian at CCC for a rabies shot, and a quick health exam. Then the vet will write up an official health certificate to present to the U.S. Agriculture agent at the St. Thomas airport.

It’s even easier to adopt a kitty or puppy from the shelter. Sally Nelson, Shelter Administrator, will help equip anyone for their flight home. The shelter has in stock a supply of inexpensive, airline-approved, soft carrier cases for in-cabin use. Or invest in a collar and leash or a little harness to make sure kitty doesn’t escape in the airport when at the TSA checkpoint.

If anyone doesn’t feel at ease taking a new pet out of the carrier so the security guard can examine the bag, simply ask to have a supervisor come and assist. At the St. Thomas airport, “Ital” is one of the TSA supervisors who is most helpful. He’ll take passengers to a special area and gently hold the new family member while running a wand inside the carrier.

Continued on Page 15



## Historical Bits & Pieces

by Chuck Pishko

### “In their Own Words”

#### St. John Tradewinds

Cheese and Bread! It’s Black History Month once again. I think by now we’re all aware of the array of famous Black men and women who are deserving of our accolades and honor as well as the horrific travails that they suffered along their way to fame.

Howard Louis Gates, Jr. has published a new book, “Life Upon These Shores”, highlighting these major figures in many fields; politics, religion, scholarship, entertainment, sports, and others.

Professor Gates is also well known as head of the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard. Before you add Harvard to a long list of outstanding Black colleges; UVI, Howard, Hampton, Spelman, Morehouse, Grambling, etc., think again. It’s almost an impossible dream. Don’t give up, but be realistic.

My point is where are the stories

of the average African American and/or better yet the African/Caribbean? These stories exist but their well-hidden in obscure sociology studies such as “Caste and Class in a Southern Town” by John Dollard or lesser known authors and storytellers like Amiri Baracka, Geraldo Guirty, Claude Brown, and our own Gilbert Sprauve.

Stories and remembrances of St. Johnians exist as interviews in the files of the St. John Historical Society, but they have not been published. Publication would encourage others to share their stories. Also culture bearers are passing at what seems to be an alarming rate. Missed opportunities abound. The only true St. John society has only existed since the Danes and Dutch abandoned St. John.

One noted historian and sociologist, Karen Olwig, has noted:

“Many of the abandoned estates on St. John were parceled out to the local population, for example

Gift of Regnback and Grynfold among the plantations ... and even big estates which were kept in tact but not operated as great plantations had important functions.

“They were areas where the St. John small holders could burn charcoal, make a ground for cultivation and graze goats and cows. In this way, the waste land of the great estates provided extra land for the small farmers who might not have been able to subsist on the few acres they owned.

“When you examine the ruins of the old days of slavery and sugar cultivation it might thus be worthwhile to consider that the adventure of the European planters was relatively short and unsuccessful, whereas the independent small farmers, who arose out of the failing plantation system, established a long, living pattern of life and livelihood and can be seen to be the true founders of the island’s present culture.”

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# Virgin Islands Productions Mini-Film Festival Set for February 18 at SJSA

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

From funny outlandish stunts to art house imagery, the second Virgin Islands Productions mini-film festival is sure to impress viewers looking for laughs as well as those seeking inspiration.

Curated by St. John artists Janet Cook-Rutnik and Sigi Torinus, the second VIP mini-film festival is set for Saturday, February 18, at 8 p.m. at St. John School of the Arts. The festival is being produced as the kick-off event of the 10th annual St. John Arts Festival, which features dance, music and more all week long across the island.

In addition to Cook-Rutnik and Torinus, fellow video artists LaVaughn Belle of St. Croix and Love City's own William Stelzer, Tommy Ferrell and Andrea Leland will also be taking part in the festival.

But one does not have to be an acclaimed artist to show their work at SJSA, explained Cook-Rutnik.

"The festival is open to people of all experience levels," said the local artist. "Two years ago we hosted the first VIP film festival and we had videos which ranged from funny home movies to professional animation right up to award-winning work by international artists."

Anyone with any interest in video is encouraged to submit DVDs of 10 minutes or less to the Mail Center on the second floor of The



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Janet Cook-Rutnik will screen her new film "Our Father," during the festival.

Marketplace or mail to c/o Rutnik, PMB 192, 5000 Estate Enighed, St. John, VI, 00830. Submissions should include one's name, telephone number, email and mailing address along with any other pertinent information. Artists are asked to submit work no later than February 15 for inclusion in the festival.

A life-long mixed media artist, Cook-Rutnik herself turned to the medium of video several years ago as a way to freely explore concepts of identity and family.

"I like the medium because I like the moving images," said the artist. "I like what you can do with video. It's very contemporary and there are really infinite possibili-

ties — you can shoot video clips, you can work with still images, you can add music or animation or subtitles."

Cook-Rutnik started experimenting with video images in 2006 when she was in residency at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Since then, she had debuted several impressive works including "The Rock" and "Moments in Time." The artist's latest work is titled "Our Father," which literally depicts peace within chaos.

"The film uses video and stills shot on the grounds of a home on St. Croix which has been lived in for 84 years by a man whose refuge has been to organize this very personal inventory system," said the artist. "In the midst of this chaos there is this peaceful landscape. I focus on the dolls that were organized and assembled in different ways."

Cook-Rutnik's latest film was screened at the Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts on St. Croix as part of the show "Daily Strife" and at the New Media Festival in Cologne, Germany.

Following the screening of work during the film festival, audience members will have the chance to discuss the work with the artists themselves, Cook-Rutnik added.

For more information about the festival or how to submit work, contact Cook-Rutnik at cookrutnik@gmail.com.

## Submission Deadline for VIP Film Festival Is February 15

St. John Tradewinds

The deadline for submissions for the 2nd VIP Mini Film Festival is Wednesday, February 15.

DVDs, 10 minutes or less, should be sent or dropped off at the Mail Center, c/o Rutnik, PMB 192, 5000 Estate Enighed, St. John, VI, 00830. Submissions should include name, telephone number, email address and mailing address with DVDs along with any other pertinent information.

The 2nd VIP Mini Film Festival is on Saturday, February 18, at the St. John School of the Arts at 8 p.m. Produced by Janet Cook-Rutnik and Sigi Torinus, in conjunction with the St. John Arts Festival, the festival will feature local video productions by Virgin Islanders from all three islands.

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# Ostrich and Alligator Join Sting Ray Accessories at Sea Leathers

By Jaime Elliott  
*St. John Tradewinds*

Looking for the perfect accessory for that one knock-out dress or an elegant purse perfect for every day use? How about an exotic iPad or iPhone case?

Look no further than Sea Leathers and Antique Jewels, which recently opened in the former Coral Bay Jewelers location right off Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay.

Chris Ball bought Sea Leathers from the original owner eight years ago and operated the store in its former location in Mongoose Junction. Nest has taken over Sea Leather's former location and Ball, after closing her shop in September, recently opened for business in her new digs, complete with fresh paint and a shiny new awning.

While Sea Leathers is famous for its collection of sting ray accessories — everything from change purses to tote bags in natural colors and brightly dyed hues — Ball also carries an impressive selection of other leathers harvested both below and above the waves.

Ostrich, alligator and snake skins adorn accessories like purses, bracelets and belts. From the ocean there are eel, parrot fish, sea snake and shark skin items ranging from eyeglass cases to passport covers and over-sized hobo bags.

Ball also carries the LAND line of supple leather travel accessories for him and her. Computer bags, backpacks, messenger bags and roller bags as well as ladies' clutches, purses and tote bags are available from the fine leather company LAND, based in Colombia.

Despite the wide array of fine accessories available at Sea Leathers, Ball's sting ray goods are her most popular items. Choose from natural black and white motifs in bags of all sizes, wallets, check-book covers and iPhone cases, or opt for a bright red bag dyed for attention. One sting ray skin dyed Tiffany blue iPad case was certainly begging for attention on a recent visit to Sea Leathers.

As the store's name states, there is also jewelry available at the newly reopened Cruz Bay



*St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Jaime Elliott*

Sea Leathers and Antique Jewels, above, recently opened in a new location right off Frank Powell Park in Cruz Bay.

store. Ball carries one line of sterling silver and Swarovski Crystal bracelets and charms in whimsical designs — shoppers can pick up a sting ray purse and then a crystal studded sting ray charm — and a simple, but charming line of pencil silk bracelets.

There are also several larimar and sterling silver earrings, bracelets and necklaces and several pieces of estate jewelry, ranging from a small opal ring to a stunning amethyst cabochon. Antique silver ware and a unique embroidered purse round out Ball's estate collection, which she is always looking to expand.

Ball also offers Darleen's Designs, a line of glass bead adorned

sterling silver bracelets and earrings hand-sculpted in Washington's San Juan Islands.

Bright pink sting ray magnetic cuff bracelets are sure to fly off the shelves of Sea Leathers soon. So stop by and grab one of the cheery-colored, goes-with-everything accessories. Ball also carries blue and green sting ray bangles to set off those pink cuffs and adorn those wrists.

Sea Leathers and Antique Jewels is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call the store at 777-6850 or stop buy and say hello to Ball at the Cruz Bay store right off Frank Powell Park.



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# Chef's Corner

## Suprisingly Simple, But Impressive Valentine's Day Desserts

**By Mares Crane**  
*St. John Tradewinds*

Valentine's Day is right around the corner and it's the perfect time to impress that special someone. But who wants to spend all day in the kitchen?

These two decadent desserts will look like you've spent hours over the stove, yet are deceptively simple. But shhh...who needs to tell? The secret can be all yours! Enjoy and Happy Valentine's Day!

This iced chocolate terrine is always a hit with my guests who have no idea how easy it is to prepare. I have served it many times.

### Iced Chocolate Terrine With Strawberry Coulis

- 6 egg yolks
- 8 oz. sugar
- 8 oz. semi sweet chocolate
- 1 pint/20 fl. oz. whipping cream
- 4 oz. chopped walnuts
- 4 oz. chopped pistachio nuts
- 1 bag frozen strawberries or raspberries

**Preparation:**

Whisk egg yolks and sugar until color is pale and

doubled in volume.

Melt chocolate in double boiler and allow to cool. Add to yolk mixture with chopped nuts.

Whip cream until soft peaks form.

Fold cream into chocolate mixture.

Line a rectangular terrine/loaf tin with cling wrap. Pour in mixture and freeze.

**Coulis:** Blend strawberries/raspberries in a food processor and push through a sieve.

When ready to serve, take out terrine tin and turn upside down on a board. Peel off cling wrap and slice accordingly. One terrine will serve up to eight people. Slice for serving and put cling wrap back on and return to freeze for another time.

Serve with a spoonful of the strawberry or raspberry coulis.

Souffles are always a special treat. These souffles are slightly different from a traditional souffle, but just as satisfying. This is a simple recipe which always warms the heart.

### Individual Chocolate Souffles with Chocolate Covered Strawberries

- 2 oz. semi sweet chocolate

- 4 Tbsp unsalted butter
- 4 Tbsp sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 2 eggs
- Dash of vanilla essence
- Pinch of cream of tartar
- Vanilla ice cream
- 6 strawberries and 4 oz. semi sweet chocolate

**Preparation:**

Chocolate Covered Strawberries: Melt 4 oz. of the semi sweet chocolate and half dip the strawberries in and place on waxed paper to cool.

Set aside to enjoy with that special someone.

**Souffle:** Fill a saucepan about one-quarter full with water and bring to a simmer.

Place a metal bowl on top.

Add 2 Tbsp sugar, 2 oz. chocolate, butter and salt.

Melt gently and allow to cool.

Separate the eggs. Add yolks to chocolate mixture with the vanilla and stir well.

Whisk egg whites until soft peaks form and then add cream of tartar and the other 2 Tbsp of sugar.

Place into two buttered ramekin dishes on a baking tray.

Heat oven to 200 degrees.

Bake for 20 to 25 minutes until the souffles are browned a risen a bit, but not too much.

Serve immediately with a spoonful of ice cream in the center and accompanied by those chocolate covered strawberries and enjoy!

Souffles can be assembled a day ahead and set in the fridge. When ready to serve, heat oven to 200 degrees and bake.

*Mares Crane is a Cordon Bleu trained chef with over 20 years experience in catering. She has cooked in kitchens all over the world and owns Mares by La Mer Catering on St. John. Email your cooking and culinary questions to mares28@hotmail.com or call the chef at 340-244-6992.*

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St. John Tradewinds News Photos

Sea Blossom's pool is the perfect spot to cool off after a long day.



## On *the* Market

A feature dedicated to special homes on the market listed with *Tradewinds* real estate advertisers

### Sea Blossom: Caribbean Charm in Fish Bay

By Jaime Elliott  
*St. John Tradewinds*

From its flat lot — an ideal location for a swing set or a children's play area — to its expansive covered decks, Sea Blossom in Estate Fish Bay offers quaint Caribbean charm and water views at a price that makes it an option for people outside of Mitt Romney's tax bracket.

The three-and-a-half bedroom, three-bath cottage style home is listed on the St. John MLS for \$810,000. The house, which was built in 1994, has extensive covered decks and lush landscaped grounds, explained listing agent Abigail Schnell O'Connell of Holiday Homes.

Sitting on a half-acre flat lot with an interior staircase and two bedrooms in one pod, Sea Blossom would be ideal for families either calling the island home full time or

part time, explained O'Connell.

"One of the things that is really neat about Sea Blossom is that two of the three bedrooms are under one roof so the house would really nicely accommodate a family either residing full time or on vacation," said the Holiday Homes listing agent. "The interior staircase allows access to the lower level where there is also a smaller room currently housing two twin size beds."

"But that room would also make a great home office or den," said O'Connell.

The third bedroom is located in a separate pod, which could either offer guests privacy in their own unit, or would make for a spacious master suite, O'Connell added.

Along with lush tropical landscaping, Sea Blossom's flat lot make it perfect for a playground area, something almost unheard of

on St. John.

"Another factor that I like too is that it has a really nice yard," said O'Connell. "The yard is flat and if a family were to live there, they could easily turn the space into a great play area with a swing set and all."

Inside the cottage, a great room with cathedral ceilings flows into the open kitchen area, all with tiled floors. Double doors lead from the living space to the upper level covered decks overlooking the pool below and even out to the Caribbean Sea. Even more outdoor space is afforded on the lower pool level where there are also several peaceful nooks begging for blissful afternoons of relaxation.

The house is a popular short-term rental, which just adds to its financial appeal.

"I think Sea Blossom is a good value in today's market," said



O'Connell. "It could be a residence or a short-term rental property and it is in mint condition. The home has been beautifully maintained."

The quiet Fish Bay neighborhood, popular with joggers and walkers is an added bonus for this moderately priced home, located about two miles from Cruz Bay.

With solid masonry construc-

tion, airy Caribbean charm, endless decks for relaxing both in and out of the sun, and a pool for rejuvenating dips, all priced to move, Sea Blossom might not be on the St. John MLS long.

For more information about the home call Holiday Homes listing agent O'Connell at 774-8088 or at 998-1934.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo by Yelena Rogers

Gala guests mingle at Marea while enjoying the stunning views from Ditleff Point.

## Friends of VINP Raise More Than \$37,000 at Annual Gala

By Jaime Elliott  
St. John Tradewinds

Two amazing bands, one stunning location and more than 250 guests added up to a fabulous and successful Friends of V.I. National Park Gala on Saturday night, February 4.

About 275 people filled Michael and Judy Skurnik's expansive villa Marea on the very point of Ditleff Point for the eighth annual Friends of V.I. National Park gala which raised about \$37,000 for the non-profit arm of the V.I. National Park.

While the crowd might have set a record for Friends gala attendees, Marea's graceful layout allowed guests to mingle without feeling crowded.

"It was a fantastic venue and the layout of the house lent itself to hosting a party with that number of people," said Friends' development director Heather Ruhsam. "I only realized how many people were there on Monday morning when I was reading the guest list and realized that there were a lot of people that I just never saw."

The popular St. John group

**"The energy was really high and even the band was having so much they didn't want to stop playing. The time they were going to end came and went and they just wanted to keep playing. It was just the right vibe and everyone had a great time."**

— Heather Ruhsam, Development Director  
Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park

In the Sand Band got the crowd warmed up and the dance floor was full even before the sun went down. Following cocktails, the Jon Herington Band from New York City, kept the crowd on its feet.

Guests enjoyed a lavish spread created by Mathayom Private Chefs/St. John Catering while sipping vintages and cocktails from Skurnik Wines and Premier Wines and Spirits in some pretty fancy, and recyclable plastic stem-less vases.

"All of our sponsors did such a wonderful job," said Ruhsam. "Mathayom did a great job once

again with the food and everyone loved the wines from Skurnik Wines and drinks from Premier. That cool glassware was from GoVino and we recycled them."

"We try to practice what we encourage so we had the reusable plastic glassware and the compostable corn cups," said the Friends' development director.

When taking a break from the dance floor, gala goers perused an array of raffle prizes and silent auction items with winners picked by Friends officials without stopping the music, explained Ruhsam.

*Continued on Back Page*

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# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send your letter to editor@tradewinds.vi

**NEXT DEADLINE:  
THURSDAY, FEB. 16<sup>TH</sup>**

## Keeping Track of Crime

### 2011

Homicides: 0

Shootings: 0

Stabbings: 0

Armed Robberies: 0

Arsons: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 2

2nd Degree Burglaries: 8

3rd Degree Burglaries: 51

Grand Larcenies: 58

Rapes: 1

### 2012-TO-DATE

Homicides: 0

Shootings: 0

Stabbings: 0

Armed Robberies: 1

Arsons: 0

1st Degree Burglaries: 3

2nd Degree Burglaries: 1

3rd Degree Burglaries: 10

Grand Larcenies: 9

Rapes: 0

## Letters To St. John Tradewinds

### Friends of the VINP Thanks Community and Supporters for Making Gala Best One Yet

Thanks to our wonderful island community and our visitors, the 8th Annual Friends of VI National Park was our best yet!

About 275 guests gathered at Michael & Judy Skurnik's new home, Marea, on Ditleff Point, St. John on February 4th to celebrate and raise funds for a great cause.

Funds raised from the gala will help support Friends efforts on behalf of VI National Park in 2012. Thank you to Michael and Judy for hosting and sponsoring the event, and to all those who attended to show their support of our mission. We hope you had a great time!

A party like ours doesn't throw itself, and we would like to thank all those who helped us put on the event. Thank you to our sponsors and partners Baked in the Sun, Caneel Bay Resort, Sean Claxton, deSIGNS, GoVino Glassware, Grande Bay Resort, In the Sand Band, Jon Herington Band, Josephine's Greens, Merchant's Market, Premier Wines & Spirits, Skurnik Wines, Steve Smith, St. John Catering and St. John Rescue. Additionally, over 60 businesses and individuals helped us assemble a fabulous group of raffle and silent auction prizes. Thank you!

And finally, thank you to each and every one of our volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules, and from their jobs, to join us for the event, en-

uring its success. Mae Agna, Richard Baranowski, Justin Bartosh, Mike Bertolino, Mary Pat Brown, Courtney Christiansen, Brenda Dalmida, Meaghan Enright, Randy Fish, Toya Frazer-Ellis, Ned Gerard, Angela Gonzales, Allison Gould, Brian Grassi, Steve Gregoire, John Griffin, Cid Hamling, Tim Hanley, Debbie Hayes, Bradford Hunter, Donna Joyce, Cristina Kessler, Jess Kimball, Allen Lancaster, Tom & Amy Larson, Thomas Layer, Pat Lodge, June Mays, Erica Miner, Mike & Barbara Moroski-Browne, Lauren Pawlowski, Diana Ripley, Yelena Rogers, Vicki Rogers, Darcy Ryan, Kent & Paula Savel, Joy Stillman, Sarah Swan, Brenda Wallace, Weldon and Ellie Wasson, Larry and Joan Wilson, Teri Wine and Steve Yerger. We are incredibly grateful, without your help, it would not have happened!

We all know how special the Virgin Islands are, and the businesses and people who attended and assisted with 8th Annual Friends Gala are prime examples of how generous and thoughtful our community is.

Friends appreciates your support, and promises to continue our dedication to the unique national treasure that is Virgin Islands National Park for this, and generations to come.

**With gratitude,  
Friends of Virgin Islands National Park Staff**

### Past President of ACC Looks Back on Tenure



Cutline:

I would like to express my most sincere thanks to the community for its unending support of the Animal Care Center, particularly during the years I have been involved as a director.

There have been ups and downs, strong and weak personalities, achievements and hardships, joys and sorrows. But through it all, the citizens of St. John have remembered that "It's for the animals" and always come through.

As my leadership tenure ends and I become a worker bee again,

I am humbled by the dedication and love all the directors over the years have poured into the care of the islands abused, lost and homeless animals.

I know this pattern will continue and that the ACC will grow and prosper. This is critical to our community because the way we treat our animals is the example we present to our children for how to treat each other.

**Thank you one and all,  
B. J. Harris,  
past president ACC**

### Crossword Answers — Puzzle on Page 16

A	P	P	S		C	A	N	A	L		A	L	O	F	T		A	R	M	S	
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### The End Is Near

Now that HOVENSA is to close its doors in February and lay off over 2,000 people and the government will lose an estimated \$150 million, it's time to get out the old "oil lamps" or go to bed early.

This means no oil for WAPA and now that they will have to bring oil from the states, the price of electricity will go up from 48-cents a kilowatt to a lot higher. But the roads will be a lot nicer and more quiet as there will be no gasoline or diesel for the trucks to bring the food from St. Thomas, no ferries and no barges.

But not to worry! Anybody with a boat can go to the Better Virgin Islands (BVI) where they have a lot of food and all of it at a cheaper price too.

But the governor has it all under control, and promises that things will be alright in the distant future.

**Rest in Peace,  
Norm Gledhill**

**Editor's Note:** When this letter ran in the January 30 issue of *St. John Tradewinds* it included an error. The error has been fixed in this reprint.

## Letters To St. John Tradewinds

### Disappointed at Post Office — Packages Are Still Being Stored in Trailer

I'm writing to bring to your attention as well as your readers my huge disappointment with the latest attempt by the U.S. Post Office district management to deliver our packages.

When the package distribution was moved inside, my first thought was where are they going to put all the packages that barely fit in the trailer?

It turns out that they don't have room inside the post office and they are now using the trailer to "store" our packages until they can make room inside the building.

Most people don't know this but that trailer is completely full of packages that just sit there for days waiting to make their way inside the building for distribution. I used to receive packages on almost a daily basis but now sometimes days go by before I get a package.

When I passed by the trailer's open door on Wednesday, I saw a package sitting on the shelf that I'd been waiting for days to receive. Upon researching my package tracking numbers over the past two weeks it is clear that after they leave the sort facility in Catano, Puerto Rico and they seem to disappear into that trailer on St. John for on average six days and many times longer.

The next problem is that there are many times when I get to the post office only to find a half dozen people milling around the inside door waiting for the magic door to open up even after several times push-

ing the buzzer.

It seems to me that the person we were told was going to be assigned to the distribution window is too busy many times to answer the buzzer. The reason given by Mr. Hernandez, the district manager in Puerto Rico, for moving the packages out of the trailer was security, then why is the trailer loaded to capacity with our packages.

Perhaps Mr. Hernandez's concern that someone was going to break into the trailer and steal all of our packages comes from the skyrocketing crime rates he's accustomed to in Puerto Rico. I have to question whether Mr. Hernandez has ever even set foot on St. John. If he had, I'm quite certain he would see that it's highly unlikely that our trailer would be in any danger of bandits robbing it.

Our package distribution trailer has been operating for years without anyone attempting to break into it, so why all of a sudden has this become such a concern that he's willing to compromise our package service and inconvenience every person on St. John that receives mail?

I strongly urge every person on St. John to call Mr. Hernandez at 1-800-275-8777 and complain about the closure of the package trailer. If you don't call, nothing will happen and we'll be stuck with ever worsening package delivery.

**Jack Brown**

### Time To Reduce Number of Senators and Salaries for Upper Management

A few weeks ago, I wrote a letter about the idea of reducing the amount of legislators/Senators and Governor staff, we have in the USVI.

Normally, I would not pursue an identical letter, written in such a short time, but the closure of Hovenssa was so shocking,

I thought it would be a good idea to re-write, with some additional thoughts.

Look, I understand why there are 15 Senators. I understand why so many of our people work for the Government. I understand the reason why this government functions the way it does. I understand...

But, given the fact that almost \$70 million, will blow a hole, a very debilitating hole, in the already cash strapped government, I think it is fitting that, "nothing is off the table!"

The Governor needs to get rid of employees. There many, that have been considered, the first to go. I feel very strongly, that he should start at the top.

It should start like this...

First: Ten Senators and their staff must go...A savings of \$15 million per year. That would leave two Senators from St. Thomas, two Senators from St. Croix and one from St. John. Vote them out, however it gets done legally, this should happen as soon as possible!

Second: Reduce salaries...Go back to pre Act 6905 salaries for the Governor and the Senators and anyone who was affected by this act.

Third: The governor needs to reduce his staff, drastically. I'm not sure where, I don't know how it's made up.

Fourth: Reduce salaries for upper tier management (everywhere) 20 percent across the board. I say these things because, it is "fair." The President of the United States, just gave his "State of the Union" speech based on fairness.

I'm not sure what other cuts should be made, how they're made and for what reason. I only know, what I just outlined is proper. We are in a critical situation, here in the islands. We are all affected.

I'm not sure how all this will "pan out." What I do know, is that we're in for some hard times and hard decisions have to be made.

I would like, for once, that the "little guy" isn't the first to go or be hurt by this fiasco. I have no agenda, no personal animosities, towards anyone in government.

I am only giving my opinion! I have given it before! I hope some are listening!

**Best Regards,  
George Hollander**

### Calypso Thanks Russ Kerr Fundraising Supporters

Thanks everyone that turned out for the sunset sail benefit for Russ Kerr, which raised over \$5,317!

Thanks to Cafe Livin for dinner and donating all proceeds to Russ. Thanks to Woody's and Sheila for the raffle ticket sale and happy hour! Thank you to all who donated raffle prizes and Ella for making it happen!

Thanks to everyone for your time and donations. So many people, so many new friends. We all love Drew, Russ' son who flew down to be with us.

Love and miss Russ!

**Sheree York  
Calypso Charters**

### Hands of Time

If I could turn back the hands of time is a popular song by R Kelly. It is basically about going back in the past to make a different decision. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

If you had the opportunity, what would you change? Would you marry that person? Not spend all that money? Stay sober or change that vote?

Whatever the case may be, life has some regrets. For others, it's a lot! How do we make decisions that will impact our lives in a positive way? How much should our emotions play into making those decisions?

It's hard to find the right balance of maturity when nobody seems to take life seriously. It's just fun and games until someone gets hurt. Many valuable lessons come from the mistakes made in the past. But how many of us stop, analyze and learn from them?

Our lives become a repetition of bad choices. And we wonder what's going wrong. We definitely can't change people but circumstances that surround us can be modified. For example, if your children are exhibiting wrong behavior shown on television, simply unplug it. Don't let modern media have more influence over your home than you, the parents.

Set parameters in place for obstacles. Learn why you react negatively when that person is near. Then make a conscious effort to be nice or keep quiet. Check your attitude and put the big picture in action. You've made a bad choice today. But you're trying to make amends by apologizing, writing down the situation and what you plan to do next time.

It's probably a good thing that we can't go back in time, even if it was to correct a grievous mistake. Folks would probably make things worse by playing God.

So how can you and I steer a straight course through life? Trusting in God, obeying His proven word, research and prayer, making the best decisions and accepting the consequences.

**Looking forward,  
Emmanuel Prince**

**SEND LETTERS, GUEST OPINIONS  
& OBITUARIES:**

[editor@tradewinds.vi](mailto:editor@tradewinds.vi)

# St. John Tradewinds Business Directory

## Accommodations

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

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

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

**VIVA Vacations**  
tel. 779-4250  
P.O. Box 1747, STJ, VI 00831

## Architecture

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

**Barefoot Design Group, LLC**  
tel. 693-7665 fax 693-8411  
P.O. Box 1772, STJ, VI 00831

## Banking

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

**Scotiabank**  
#1 Mortgage Lender in the VI  
The Marketplace (340) 776-6552

## Insurance

**PGU Insurance**  
Located at The Marketplace  
776-6403; pgunow@gmail.com  
**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 00831

**Coral Bay Garden Center**  
tel. 693-5579 fax 714-5628  
P.O. Box 1228, STJ, VI 00831

**PROPERTYKING**  
tel. 643-6348  
Landscaping & Irrigation

## Property Mgmt

**Seaview Vacation Homes, Inc.**  
tel. 340-776-6805;  
888-625-2963  
www.seaviewhomes.com

## Real Estate

**Debbie 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-Sat

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

**La Tapa Restaurant**  
tel. 693-7755  
Open 7 Days a Week

**Skinny Legs**  
"A Pretty OK Place"  
tel. 340-779-4982  
www.skinnylegs.com

**Sun Dog Cafe**  
Casual Dining at Mongoose  
693-8340; www.sundogcafe.com

## Services

**C4th Custom Embroidery**  
tel. 779-4047  
Located in Coral Bay

**Island Solar**  
"Off the Grid Living for 10 Years"  
tel. 340-642-0531

**Terminix**  
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Problem Solved Guarantee  
340-777-4423

**Vezio's Custom Painting**  
Special Techniques  
340-776-6134  
design\_envir@yahoo.com

# Obituary

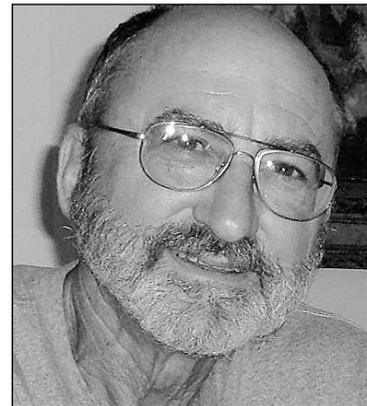
## Christopher John Angel December 16, 1946 – January 17, 2012

### *St. John Tradewinds*

Christopher John Angel passed away very peacefully at home on St. John on January 17, 2012 after a long struggle with cancer.

He was born on December 16, 1946 to Nicholas C. and Herborg Barhaug Angel. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Elsa Behn Angel, very special friends David Dostall, Patricia Capuano, Lani Clark, James Clayton and Crystal Gillich, all of St. John, Ellen Link of Newburyport, MA, and Alex Quintard and Diane Milners of Hernando Beach, FL, brothers Ron Cutts of Casper, WY and family, Philip Angel of Churchville, MD and family, Nicholas Angel of Sheridan, WY, John Angel of Denver, CO and family, father-in-law Frederick E. Behn of Columbus, OH, brother and sister-in-law Phil and Susan Behn of Houston, TX. And his faithful companion and service dog Phineas.

Chris was a sergeant in the U.S. Army and served as an infantryman in Vietnam in 1969 and 1970. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal



Chris Angel

and the Bronze Star.

He received a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Wyoming in 1974. He went on to become the Director of Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Cheyenne, Wyoming from 1974 – 1977, a Grant Writer for the Wyoming Emergency Services Association in 1978, and a Marketing Administrator for Mountain Bell/US West 1979-1987.

Chris's experience in Vietnam was a life-changing event, encouraging him to live life to the fullest, which quickly translated into sail-

ing. On his 40th birthday, Elsa said "Let's go sailing". Rafiki was purchased and they set off down the Intracoastal Waterway in search of fulfillment and adventure, ending up on St. John in December 1988. They fell in love with the island and made it their home.

After Hurricane Hugo in 1989 Chris began doing electrical work, and Angel Electric, Inc. was formed in 1994. Over the years Chris was involved as a volunteer with Rotary St. John serving as Secretary, Vice President and President, Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park, St. John KATS, Animal Care Center of St. John and St. John Carnival. Chris and Elsa continued to sail the Virgin Islands, snorkel, scuba dive, travel, hike and bike.

Chris was known for his caring, kindness, quick wit and sense of humor. He was a good listener and problem solver as well.

Chris's memorial service will be on February 26, 2012 at 5 p.m. at the Lime Inn in Cruz Bay. It will be a celebration of his life. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent in his name to the American Cancer Society St. John Relay for Life.

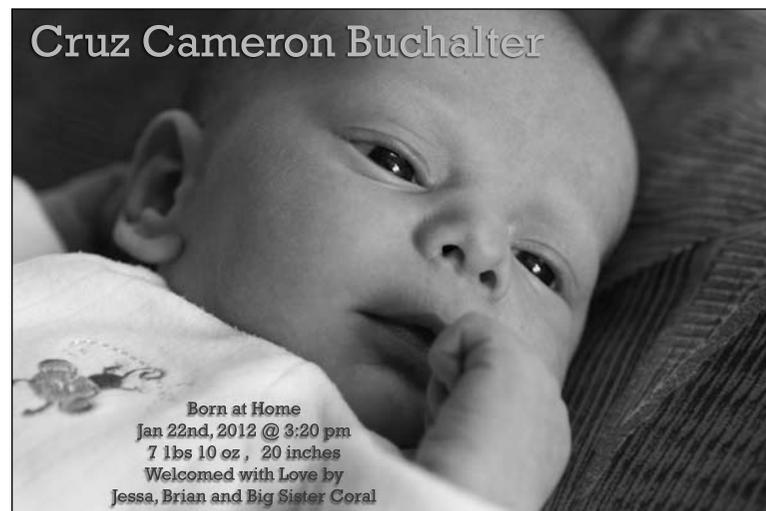


## In Memoriam: Nancy Lynn Hayes

July 7, 1954 - February 13, 2011



## Cruz Cameron Buchalter



Born at Home  
Jan 22nd, 2012 @ 3:20 pm  
7 lbs 10 oz, 20 inches  
Welcomed with Love by  
Jessa, Brian and Big Sister Coral

## Birth Announcement:

Cruz Cameron Buchalter was born at home on January 22 at home. He was welcomed with love by mom and dad, Jessa and Brian, big sister Coral and grandparents Bucky and Suki.

## Adopt St. John Cats and Dogs

### Continued from Page 6

Just keep in mind that once through the TSA security checkpoint at the airport, passenger and kitty or puppy are "home free!"

### Shelter and Vet Locations

The ACC shelter is located on the library road off from the South shore road. Visitors may find the puppy or kitty of their dreams from among the many adoptable cats and dogs in residence. All of the kitties are acclimated to living with other cats in the shelter and to being handled by humans. The dogs have all been leash trained, and ACC's many faithful volunteers walk them several times a day. They are all up-to-date with shots.

The island veterinary center CCC recently moved from near the Westin Resort to Centerline Road, two miles uphill from the Cruz Bay rotary. Dr. Laura Palminteri and Dr. Julie Overland are there to assist visitors wishing to adopt a cat or dog to take to a "forever" home in the States. CCC also sells soft, airline approved cases for cats and small dogs; these cases fit under the seat in front of your seat on the plane.

### Plane Reservations for Pets

Once on board the plane, stow that new pet under the seat in front. Do not plan on placing a kitty or small puppy in the cargo compartment in the hold. A large dog must, of course, fly in the cargo compartment. Sometimes climate conditions prohibit that, but the current season appears to be safe for cargo transportation of animals.

Be sure to call the airline ahead of time for a reservation for a pet because each plane limits the number of pets in each cabin. The cost of a plane ticket for pets varies with each airline. The price, however, is per carrier and not per the number of animals. For example, if someone adopts two little kittens (to keep one another company), they can put them together into one carrier and the cost is for one.

### ACC Flying Corps

The ACC has many happy stories of formerly homeless island cats who have adapted perfectly to an indoor life on the mainland. Caneel, Suzie, Grey Guy, Mushi, Stripey, Sheba, Maho, Orange, Calypso, Brassy, Peachum, Pussy Willow, Tiger Lily, Brindle, Little

Lady and her son Tripod are only a few of the shelter cats whose owners have sent photos and news of their beloved companions adopted from St. John.

High Season has barely begun and the shelter's kennel tech, Kimber Marnen, reports that two shelter dogs have already started on their journey to homes in the States. For dogs too large to fit into an under-seat soft carrier, the shelter has a few used hard carriers, medium- and large-sized, that adopting visitors may have for transporting their new pets.

Such carriers will be marked "Live Animals" and will be processed through the cargo area at the airport rather than through the TSA in-cabin checkpoint. In this respect, it's somewhat easier to have large animals approved for flight as they don't go through the passenger security check point, but it's important to allow plenty of advance time for cargo pets to be processed at the airport.

### A Last Word of Advice

Some of the multi-passenger taxi drivers going from Red Hook, St. Thomas, to the airport will not accept cats or dogs. It's wise to prepare in advance for this possibility by telephoning ahead to reserve a private taxi. Islander Taxi is one company that does accept four-legged passengers and they'll have a taxi waiting at Red Hook.

Another option is to ask the shelter staff if anyone is going over to St. Thomas on the car barge and would be willing to drive to the airport. It's well worth the higher car barge fee (which saves the cost of a taxi) to have safe and welcome transportation from Love City directly to the St. Thomas airport.

### Contact Information

Stop by the shelter to visit kittens, cats, puppies and dogs. Many of visitors have found that the shelter visit adds a new dimension to their vacation.

The shelter is open on Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information call 774-1625.

Canines, Cats, and Critters can be reached at 693-7780. Call ACC member Dr. Elaine Campbell at 693-7093 for a ride to the shelter, up to the vet center, or to the ferry dock with that new family member.

## Police Log

### Friday, February 3

6:09 p.m. - A citizen c/r an auto accident in the area of Jacob's Ladder. Auto accident.

### Saturday, February 4

7:30 a.m. - A citizen p/requesting police assistance with his son.

3:23 p.m. - A Housing Finance Authority employee r/a damaged car. Damage to a vehicle.

4:55 p.m. - An Estate Grunwald resident r/ a larceny. Grand larceny.

8:44 p.m. - An Estate John's Folly resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

11:24 p.m. - A citizen c/requesting police assistance with his son. Police assistance.

### Sunday, February 5

11:20 a.m. - An Estate Power Boyd resident p/r a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace.

1:20 p.m. - A citizen c/r an accidental injury. Accidental injury.

### Monday, February 6

9:31 a.m. - An Estate John's Folly resident p/r that a woman harassed her at her job. Disturbance of the peace.

10:50 a.m. - A citizen p/r that she was in a verbal dispute. Disturbance of the peace.

3:19 p.m. - Badge number 1105 p/ at Leander Jurgen Command with one Darcy Thomas of Estate Adrian under arrest and charged with brandishing and exhibiting, assault in the third, D.V. and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. No bail was set. He was detained at Leander Jurgen Command and later transported to the Bureau of Corrections on St. Thomas.

3:31 p.m. - A citizen c/r a disturbance in the area of Cruz Bay. Disturbance of the peace.

7:30 p.m. - A doctor at Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center c/requesting police assistance with a patient. Police assistance.

### Tuesday, February 7

2:35 a.m. - A citizen p/r a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace.

7:10 a.m. - A citizen p/r a disturbance of the peace. Disturbance of the peace.

1:12 p.m. - A Transportation Services Inc. employee r/ that

someone broke into the safe in the dock cashier office at the Cruz Bay ferry dock. Grand larceny.

2:00 p.m. - A citizen c/requesting police assistance. Police assistance.

### Wednesday, February 8

7:20 a.m. - A citizen p/r being in an auto accident in the area of Jacob's Ladder. Auto accident.

10:00 a.m. - An Estate John's Folly resident p/r that someone entered her home and damaged her things. Burglary in the second.

8:52 p.m. - A citizen r/ his vehicle was damaged in Estate Adrian. Damage to a vehicle.

### Thursday, February 9

3:55 a.m. - A citizen r/ and requested police assistance in removing individuals from the Cruz Bay Battery yard. Police assistance.

8:35 a.m. - A citizen p/r an auto collision at the Cruz Bay roundabout. Auto collision.

11:51 p.m. - An Estate Chocolate Hole resident r/ a disturbance. Disturbance of the peace, D.V.

## CRIME STOPPERS U.S.V.I.

### Organization Seeks Information on Crimes

Crime Stoppers is asking your help to solve the following crimes. If you know something, say something, as law enforcement cannot control crime without the help of the community.

#### St. John

On Friday, February 3, at approximately 2:45 a.m., two visitors in the area of Mongoose Junction agreed to give a stranger a ride to the Westin in their open Jeep. In the area of the Caravan Automotive store the man asked to be dropped off. He then produced a knife and a pitch fork and demanded money. One victim gave him \$20. The other victim exited the Jeep and ran westward in the direction of EC Gas Station. The suspect chased him to the gas station where he robbed him of \$250 and a black AT&T Pantech 7040 cell phone.

The suspect is described as a black male with a slim build, approximately 5'9" to 6'0", who was wearing a white baseball cap, white shirt, and dark jeans.

#### St. Thomas

On Saturday, January 28, at 10:22 p.m., V.I.

Police Department officers were dispatched to the area of Mountain Top Shops. On arrival VIPD officers found a black male lying face down in the Solberg area adjacent to the roadway. He had been stabbed several times and showed no signs of life. An hour later at about 11:35 p.m., police responded to a vehicle fire adjacent to the Taxi Association in Contant. It was later discovered that the vehicle belonged to the murdered male.

#### St. Croix

On Monday, January 9, at about 8 p.m., 27-year-old Manuel Alfonseca, Jr. was shot several times in the area of Building #1 of Paradise Housing Community. Alfonseca died as a result of the shooting. According to VIPD information, a 23-year-old male was also shot, but he survived.

Continue to help make the community a safer place to live by submitting information on these or any other crimes at [www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org](http://www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org) or by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Tips are completely anonymous, and the stateside operators speak several languages.



## Classifieds

### Real Estate For Sale

Cruz Bay Apartments, 20 unit apartment complex (6 one bedroom, 14 two bedroom) on St. John, USVI. Minimal acceptable bid is \$3,800,000.

The Property financed by USDA Rural Development, which may provide funding for purchase. Funding includes 100% rental assistance, 1% loan and \$50,000 grant for expenses. All processing subject to USDA Rural Development regulations in 7 CFR 3560.

Contact Cruz Bay Apartments, 21400 Ridgetop Circle, Suite 250 Sterling, VA 20166, attn: Roy Pingitore 703-406-3471 x119 for more details. Local USDA Rural Development Area office is St. Croix Area VII Office. (340-773-9146 x4)

### For Rent

#### FISH BAY LONG TERM AVAILABLE

**NOVEMBER 1, 2011**  
Furnished 2/2 native stone home w/office and covered decks. View w/privacy on 1.22 ac. 3k/month  
- Call 340-715-2666  
Email: info@cimmaronprop-ertymanagement.com

### For Sale

WIND TURBINE;  
Lightly used Skystream 3.7 with 45' monopole, gin pole, and marine battery winch. \$12,000. Details at bit.ly/x883gp. 340-696-5092

### Public Notice

A 22-foot by 7.7-foot boat found in Coral Bay. Registration # VI9449TA. Call Irvin Stevens at 340-642-2044.

### Services

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Downtown Cruz Bay  
Where St. John Does Business

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New large 2 BR, large bath, off street parking, ceiling fans, microwave, security lights, spacious porch, gorgeous view overlooking Westin, \$1600/month. 340-776-6331 or 678-715-1129

### For Rent

**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

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

**LONG TERM RENTAL**  
2-3 BR House on Bordeaux Mt., beautifully maintained with amazing views of BVIs. Available 3/1-12/31 for \$2,000-\$2,500 + Electric. Contact Mark for more info at 732-804-0600, or email mark@markofexcellence.com

**Chocolate Hole Apartment for Rent:**  
Furnished, one-bedroom apartment for rent in Chocolate Hole. Long breezy deck, quiet and private. \$1,000 includes electricity, laundry room, Wi-Fi. One person, non-smoking. 12-month lease, monthly afterward. \$1,000 security and first month. Call 693-7093 or email palomacat@earthlink.net.

#### SCENIC PROPERTIES 340-693-7777

- Cruz Bay Apartments:**
- One bedroom, one bath near Cruz Bay \$1100
  - One bedroom, one bath in Cruz Bay \$1400
  - One bedroom, two bath on Gift Hill \$1500
  - Two bedroom, one bath, washer in Fish Bay \$1800
  - Two bedrooms, two bath on Gift Hill \$2000
  - Two bedroom, one bath, furnished, A/C, w/d in Cruz bay \$2200

**Coral Bay Apartments**

- One bedroom, one bath \$900

Check out [www.stjohnlive.com](http://www.stjohnlive.com) for more details.

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

Three bedroom, one bath house for rent fully furnished, Giff Hill, some water view. \$2,100 month. 779-6418 or 227-0547.

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**STORAGE: SECURED LOCKERS**  
4X6X7' \$80 MO. 643-3283

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**NEXT CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, FEB. 16<sup>TH</sup>**

# ISLANDIA Real Estate



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(340) 776-6666

Serving St. John for over 40 Years



**"Skyway"** - Fantastic views to St Thomas and beyond to Vieques as well as the Caribbean as far as the eye can see. Almost flat lot with lush tropical landscaping, easy paved access, 13' by 24' pool with salt chlorine generator system and spa. Solar heater for water and pool. Fully furnished with interesting Indonesian pieces. Owner has recently completed a complete remodeling. **\$2.7M**



**"VOYAGES BUILDING"**-This combination commercial & residential property in the heart of Coral Bay is between the Cocoloba Shopping Center and a proposed 116 slip marina, this is an ideal location for a restaurant, retail shops or offices. There are two beautiful 2 bedroom apartments on the 2nd floor and a pool on site. Just across the road from the waterfront with great views. **\$1.9M.**



**"Pistarckle Cottage"** - Breathtaking Views, Privacy, Tranquility & Cooling Breezes make this charming 2 bedroom home in Privateer Bay Estates very special. Large masonry pool, native stone work, tastefully furnished and landscaped. Excellent vacation rental potential. Paved roads. Ownership includes access to 2 deeded beach parcels and use of the Newfound Cottages. **\$995,000**



**"El Cielo"** - This new masonry home has an ideal location in every way. Midway between Cruz Bay & Coral Bay this 4 bedroom home is perched on a flat ridge just above Upper Peter Bay & has National Park land to the north and east to insure quiet and privacy. Graceful arches frame the sweeping views from Lovango Cay to Jost van Dyke. A large deck with pool is accessed from the living room & master bedroom. Features include custom mahogany doors & windows, air conditioned bedrooms, & office. **\$2.250M.**



**"Calypso by The Sea"** - is a charming Caribbean style beachfront villa with an impressive rental history located in tranquil Johnson's Bay Estates - a truly picturesque & idyllic tropical site. Two master suites separated by a central great room which includes kitchen, dining and living areas, all opening up to an oversize deck with covered outdoor dining and a sunken spa. Located right on a sandy beach with good snorkeling. **\$995,000**



**Estate Freemans Ground** - Just a bit before Shipwreck Landing, this unique property is just across the road from the waters of Coral Bay and has beautiful views of boats anchored in Johnson Bay as well as to the East End and Norman Island. The hard part is done with a 2 story guest house nearly finished and concrete poured for the foundation of a 4 bedroom main house with 2 pools. Cool breezes and sun & moon rises. Perfect for a contractor to live in while finishing the project. **\$959,000**



**"Fish Beach"** - a brand new Mediterranean Style two bedroom luxury pool villa at Cocoloba Beach Estates, private waterfront neighborhood with community beach parcel & dock bordering the National Park near Reef Bay yet near all the amenities of Cruz Bay. Villa features premium finishes and cook's kitchen with stone countertops and stainless steel appliances and luxurious baths. Beaches are just a stroll away. **\$995,000.**



**"Cloud 9 Villa"** - Spectacular sunsets and breathtaking views over Pillsbury Sound to St. Thomas and south over Great Cruz Bay are highlights of this masonry home with pool, spa, air conditioning, Wi-Fi, & large, new sun deck with gazebo. The lot is almost flat and tropical landscaping abounds. Two bedrooms adjoin the pool deck and a comfy loft is accessed from the living room. A cool location high on Gift Hill and access is paved all the way. Cloud 9 Villa is a very popular vacation rental. **\$1,199M**



**"Sundance & Moonson"** - Two houses for the price of one in desirable Estate Chocolate Hole. Both Sundance and Moonson are successful short term rentals within walking distance of Hart Bay beach and just a few minutes from Cruz Bay on paved roads. Sundance is three bedrooms with a pool & spa with a large sundeck. Moonson is two bedrooms two baths with a spa. Both are excellent short term rentals. **\$1,199,000.**



**"Mango Terrace Condos"** - Michael Milne designed condos just completed in Cruz Bay. Two, three and four bedrooms available, A/C, walk to Frank Bay beach and town. Water views, large rooms, private laundry, high quality appliances. These are some of the most spacious condos on St. John. Bank financing with 20% down. Completed in late 2009. **\$499,000 to \$900,000**



**"Boatman Point Waterfront"** - Stunning easterly facing parcel with wonderful breezes, soothing sounds of the waves and breathtaking sun & moon rises. Spectacular homesite on a downhill build with topo included. The shoreline is a mix of cobble beach & rock face, with great snorkeling. 175 feet of frontage at a fantastic price with. **\$730,000**

**"Maho Bay"** - Rare opportunity to own 13.8 acres with over 850 feet of shoreline - mostly of white sandy beach (Little Maho), located within the confines of the Virgin Islands National Park on St. John's pristine north shore. The property is flanked by two very large National Park Beaches accessed via footpaths; Francis Bay at the east and Maho Bay at the west. **\$23M.**

**CONDOS** - We have over 45 condos for sale ranging from one bedroom at \$225,000 to 4 bedrooms at \$999,000. **Fractional Ownership** - There are now many fractional opportunities available on St. John from a summer week for \$3,000 to a prime holiday month in a 3 bedroom spa villa at \$950,000

**AND MUCH MORE...** This is a small sample of over 400 residential, condo, land and commercial listings currently available through Islandia Real Estate

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# IGBA Awards 5-Star Tropical Green Home Certification to Doug and Leslie White

## St. John Tradewinds

The Island Green Building Association has awarded a 5-star Tropical Green Home Certification to Doug and Leslie White for their outstanding eco-friendly home on the East End of St. John.

IGBA promotes responsible, sustainable development on St. John and the 5-star rating is the highest standard possible.

The White's home has many beautiful features that are easy on the eyes, the ecosystem and the energy budget. Highlights include charming vernacular architecture that blends in with the landscape; sustainable, recycled and local materials; independent solar features for power and water; organic gardens; native landscaping and Certified Wildlife Habitat. Every detail of the home has a story and environmental concern in mind, all set in a tranquil setting with stunning views.

The home will be the focus for the Build Green seminar, part of the Friends of the V.I. National Park's Seminar Series, on February 18. Space on the tour can be reserved by visiting [www.friendsvinp.org](http://www.friendsvinp.org) or calling Friends of the Park at 779-4940. Participants will enjoy green building ideas as well as the White's famous solar-oven baked bread.



St. John Tradewinds News Photo

Rob Crane, left, along with William Willigerod, right, present Doug White with IGBA's Five-star Tropical Green Building Certification.

Tickets are \$45 for non-Friends members, \$35 for members. A portion of the proceeds will benefit IGBA's green building education programs.

IGBA developed the Residential Tropical Green Home Certification Program to recognize and reward homeowners, builders and construction professionals who have

demonstrated excellence in the construction of homes which promote the protection and preservation of the spectacular natural beauty and environment of the Virgin Islands.

"Certified Green Homes are proven to have a higher market value, less time on the market, and lower energy costs," said Karen

Vahling, IGBA executive director. "Plus, they just feel great to live in. Building green in harmony with island ecosystems ensures a better future and quality of island life, and IGBA provides professional, local guidance for responsible, sustainable development."

Three, 4 and 5-star award levels which can be earned by following guidelines and inspection processes by the IGBA board. Criteria can be viewed at [www.igba-stjohn.org](http://www.igba-stjohn.org) and following the Programs link. The application process costs about \$700 and involves on-site inspections and guidance from IGBA experts, followed by an attractive award plaque made from recycled glass materials, and Certificates of Excellence for the professionals who built it with care.

The White's 5-Star Certified Home used reclaimed materials when possible and donated left over items to IGBA's ReSource Depot for second-hand building supplies. The ReSource Depot is open Saturdays by volunteers from 10 a.m. to noon, on Giff Hill Road across from the waste transfer station.

For more information and inventory list, visit [www.igba-stjohn.org](http://www.igba-stjohn.org) or call 227-1110 for donation pickups. IGBA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

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**"VILLA KALORAMA"** Panoramic views from classic modern 5 bdrm, 4.5 bth rental villa in Virgin Grand Estates features native stone, ipe hardwoods, glass walls & a secure property. Dramatic great room opens onto 40 ft pool & large verandas for spectacular indoor-outdoor living.



**\$3,700,000**

**"LIME IN DE COCONUT"** is a wonderful contemporary 4 bedroom home on Chocolate Hole that has every amenity and features a unique resort style.



**\$3,274,000**

**"VILLA MARBELLA"** Own this stunning 3 bedroom and 3.5 bath custom Virgin Grand Estates villa. View pool and large veranda. Great rentals & sunsets over St. Thomas & Pillsbury Sound. One level living w/ fabulous Great room!



**\$2,450,000**

**"CORAL POINT BEACH HOUSE"** for the active waterfront lifestyle. Ridge top, waterfront, open air solid masonry 3 bedroom home. Must be seen to be appreciated.



**\$2,300,000**

**"VISTAERO"** offers total privacy with breathtaking views over Rendezvous Bay & St. Thomas. 5 spacious bedroom suites, huge pool, gazebo & hot tub make this a top rental villa.



**\$1,875,000**

**"DOVE COTTAGE"** St. John's first luxury eco-villa 2 BR, 1.5 BTH w/ 280° views & pool. Solar & green building materials, recently remodeled w/ custom mahogany doors, room to expand or build more in upscale Dreetket's Bay.



**\$1,800,000**

**"WINDCHIME"** is a very private 1.4 ac. estate set high atop Giff Hill. Dramatic views to the east w/ spectacular breezes and sunrises. This 3 bdrm villa has room to expand with an oversized pool facing the terrific view.



**\$1,419,000**

**"POINCIANA"** is an island classic home on 1.24 acres of prime waterfront overlooking Hart Bay. 3 bedroom popular rental with one of the best views of the south shore.



**\$1,350,000**

**"SOUTHERN CROSS"** Big south-shore views - Danish-style stone home w/ wrap-around covered porches & 3 bdrm & 2 baths. Stunning cabinetry & exposed concrete beams & sills. Exceptional privacy in lush setting. Additional land available.



**\$1,259,000**

**"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!



**\$1,200,000**

**"TREE PALMS"** Versatile 5 BR 5 BA property with solid rental history. Charming home w/ 2 kitchens, covered verandas, stone entrance, garden fountain, concrete pool and spa deck. Solar panels, and ocean views complete the package!



**\$1,075,000**

**"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.



**\$880,000**

**"SEA BLOSSOM"** A Caribbean style 3.5x3 home in peaceful Fish Bay. Solid masonry construction, pool, and turnkey short-term rental capabilities make this a great value in today's market.



**\$810,000**

**"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.



**\$595,000**

**"FISH BAY" 4X2 INCREDIBLE VALUE!** Huge panoramic views and a quiet, private, breezy location that borders Nature Conservancy property make this home a must see!



**\$535,000**

**"BEST BUY MUST SELL!"** Newer masonry Flanagan's Passage income producing 2x2 with flexible floor plan, spectacular water views to BVIs, easterly breezes and end of road privacy!



**\$499,000**

**"COMFORTABLE CAROLINA COTTAGE"** offers open floor plan & views of historic sugar mill with room to expand this well-maintained home that features 2 parcels. Close to Coral Bay shopping and services.



**\$285,000**

**"CONCH VILLAS":** Why pay rent? Opportunity to own a 2br, 1ba &/or a 1br, 1ba condo close to Cruz Bay! Purchase one for yourself and stop throwing money away on rent or purchase both for additional income.



**\$185,000 & \$210,000**

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ESTATE CAROLINA	\$85,000	SABA BAY	hillside & WATERFRONT from \$199,000	BOATMAN PT./RENDEZVOUS	hillside from \$799,000	WESTIN TIMESHARES	two WATERFRONT lots \$345,000 each	SAUNDERS GUT	two WATERFRONT lots \$345,000 each
CONCORDIA PRESERVE	from \$115,000	PETER BAY/NORTHSHORE	19 ac. WATERFRONT \$9,990,000	VIRGIN GRAND ESTATES	WATERFRONT \$825,000	ONE MONTH FRACTIONALS	from \$2,000 per week	ALSO	
DREETKETS BAY	from \$275,000	LOVANGO CAY	WATERFRONT South shore from \$285,000	CHOCOLATE HOLE	from \$499,000				
	hillside & WATERFRONT from \$300,000				from \$365,000				

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*St. John Tradewinds News Photos by Yelena Rogers*

Popular local entertainers In the Sand Band, above, kept the well-dressed crowd, at right, on its feet throughout the night.

## *Friends of VINP Raise More Than \$37,000 at Annual Gala*

*Continued from Page 11*

“The raffles and silent auctions went really well,” she said. “We didn’t want to bore everyone with pulling each name and reading them, so we did that kind of behind the scenes. We have the list of winners posted at Connections and the Friends of the Park Store.”

While guests nibbled on desserts from Caneel Bay Resort and Baked in the Sun, In the Sand Band returned to the stage. Dancers kicked off their shoes and even strutted their stuff right in the shallow end of the swimming pool.

“The energy was really high and even the band was having so much they didn’t want to stop playing,” said Ruhsam. “The time they were going to end came and went and they just wanted to keep playing. It was just the right vibe and everyone had a great time.”

When not preoccupied with the music, food and raffles, guests also got the chance to read about some of the important work the Friends gala will fund, Ruhsam explained.

“We had story boards placed around the party letting people know about some of the projects we are working on,” said the development director. “We didn’t want to lose sight of the real reason we have the party and we wanted to make sure to high-

light some of the different things that we’re working on and what those projects actually cost.”

After the final guest filtered out of Marea and the sound of crashing surf below could be heard once again, the eighth annual Friends gala was deemed the best yet.

“It was definitely our best fundraiser in terms of how much we raised, which we are really happy to say, and we’re still accepting donations,” said Ruhsam.

The only problem for Ruhsam might just be finding a way to top the party next year, when the Friends of VINP will celebrate its 25th anniversary.

“It’s going to be hard, but we have to find a way to top this party because next year is our 25th anniversary,” said Ruhsam. “But people can expect that we’re going to have a fabulous event next year. We’re going to ask people to RSVP in advance because we are definitely going to sell out of tickets just like we did this year.”

The next Friends fundraiser is the ninth annual Beach to Beach Power Swim on May 27. Registration is already open for the popular swimming race. For more information, to register or to donate to Friends check out the group’s website at [www.friendsofvnp.org](http://www.friendsofvnp.org) or call 779-4940.

