



# Love City Livin'

## 'St. John-centric'

Ian Samuel is a tireless worker for the good of the community

By **ANDREA MILAM**  
St. John Correspondent

Ian Samuel was already making a name for himself as someone who fought to do good for the local community, and for St. John children in particular, when Hurricane Irma struck the island one year ago.

Seven years prior, he'd returned from the states where he was living at the time to care for his father after his mother passed away. By the time his father died in 2014, Samuel had been on St. John long enough to know he wanted to work to improve the island he'd spent weekends on during his time growing up on St. Thomas.

"I was DJ-ing at basketball tournaments and I realized I could help change the outlooks of some of our youths," Samuel said.

His interests took him to the Sports, Parks and Recreation Department, where he worked on improving after-school programs while continuing to DJ on the side, until Irma ripped across the island and changed everything.

Samuel's home was destroyed, his DJ income became nonexistent, and his fiancée and their three children evacuated to the states. As the vice president of St. John Rescue at the time, Samuel attended the daily recovery meetings in Cruz Bay, and at one of those meetings, he was asked to procure 10 rental Jeeps for one of the search and rescue teams on island.

"I went out and got the Jeeps, and as I'm walking to the meeting to hand over the keys, the rescue team was pulling out because of the threat of (Hurricane) Jose," Samuel recalled. "So here I am with keys to 10 Jeeps and no one to give them to, and I almost just went home, but something told me to continue on to the meeting. As I was walking out of that meeting, Tom Secunda approached me and asked if I

knew where they could get some Jeeps. I said, 'What color do you want?'"

Samuel continued to deliver exactly what Secunda and his Bloomberg team needed as the recovery progressed, and he was soon offered the position of community relations manager. Since accepting his role at Bloomberg, Samuel has been interviewed by national television media outlets and met former President Bill Clinton.

"It's given me a sense of purpose," Samuel said. "To be in this position to bring much-needed attention to some of the things that we as a community are struggling with is gratifying."

Samuel notes the Bloomberg-funded shuttle that took people between Cruz Bay and Coral Bay in VITRAN's absence as one of the recovery efforts of which he's most proud.

"When everybody walked out of their house after the storm, the first thing that came to mind was, 'How are we going to recover from this?'" Samuel said. "No one expected electricity to be back by Christmas. Being able to assist the organization that really had the people's best interests at heart, and pointing them in the right direction to make sure that

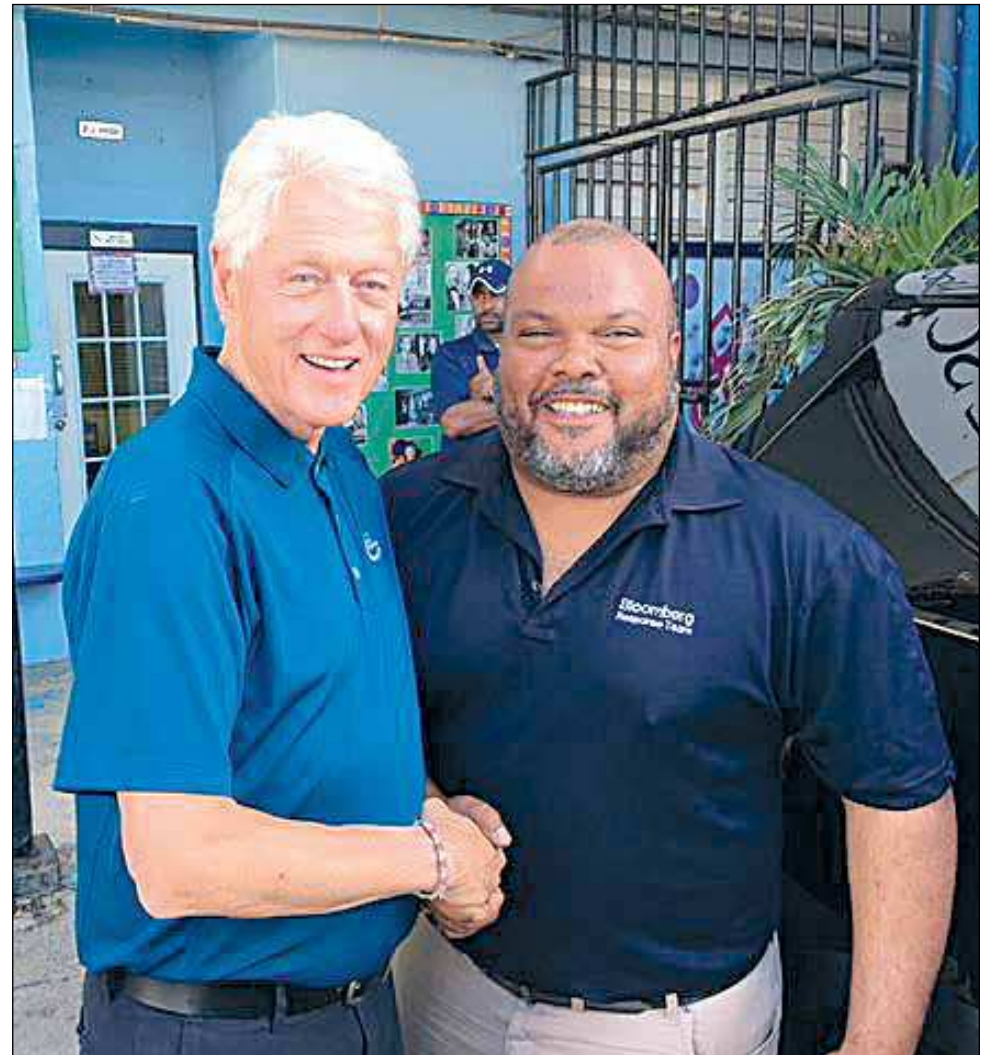


Photo by ANDREA MILAM

Ian Samuel, a fixture of the St. John community and now the community relations manager for Bloomberg, meets with former President Bill Clinton on his visit to St. John in August.

what they were doing was the most effective, is a great feeling to have."

Though the most urgent aspects of recovery are now in the past, Bloomberg is committed to St. John's long-term recovery, and Samuel is excited to help tackle the issues of improving infrastructure and relocating the Julius E. Sprauve School and the Myrah

Keating Smith Community Health Center. He hopes to see the implementation of a strong vocational program to educate the island's youth in the trades that are high in demand as the island rebuilds.

"We don't have strength in workforce

See **SAMUEL**, page 21

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Our community is made up of a lot of different types of people, and a lot of times, the locals get lost in the mix. I want to make sure we're not forgotten. I'm a firm believer that you have to take from one candle to light another, and I'm trying to light everyone's candles so we have a bright community. I'm completely committed to St. John. I'm St. John-centric.

— Ian Samuel

## SAMUEL

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development, and a lot of the rebuilding jobs are being filled by people outside the territory,” Samuel said. “This is an opportunity for us to make sure our children have options.”

Working to improve the lives of native Virgin Islanders is something Samuel has been passionate about for a long time, and he continues those efforts today by remaining a presence at Sports, Parks and Recreation, by volunteering with youth sporting activities, and by serving on the board of Love City Strong and as president of the St. John Community Foundation's Long-Term Recovery Group.

“Our community is made up of a lot of different types of people, and a lot of times, the locals get lost in the mix,” he said. “I want to make sure we're not forgotten. I'm a firm believer that you have to take from one candle to light another, and I'm trying to light everyone's candles so we have a bright community. I'm completely committed to St. John. I'm St. John-centric.”

Samuel's dedication to his community is not lost on Bloomberg L.P. co-founder Secunda, who praised Samuel's love for his home island.

“Ian has been a tremendous asset to our team's work on St. John,” said Secunda. “His love of St. John and his commitment to its recovery are surpassed only by his love for his family. He has helped us to do so many things since the storms, but most importantly he has always represented the best interests of St. Johnians so that our recovery efforts are the right ones for everyone on the island.”

## Labor Day weekend fun and games



Daily News photo by ANDREA MILAM

The Dynamic Dancers perform in the Labor Day parade that wound its way through Coral Bay on Monday.



Jude Woodcock crosses the finish line of the Francis Bay Fives event on Sunday. The St. John Landsharks saw a turnout of 50 runners, who competed in either a five-mile or a 5K course, both finishing at Francis Bay. Kevin Chipman took men's first place in the 5K race with a time of 24:29, and Rebecca Reinbold took first place in the women's division with a time of 27:35. Beau Layton came out ahead on the men's five mile course at 36:19, and Sarah Swan won the women's five mile race with a time of 42:53. The next St. John Landsharks event is the Turkey Trot 5K on Thanksgiving. Visit [www.stjohnlandsharks.com](http://www.stjohnlandsharks.com) for more information.



Daily News photo by ANDREA MILAM

St. John Festival Princess A'mrii Jones opens the Labor Day parade.



## Love City happenings

### Love City Rise Up! CD release party today

The public is invited to attend the Love City Rise Up! CD release party today from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at High Tide. Come mingle with the artists, who will be on hand to share their experiences making the song, which is a heartfelt tribute to St. John and its people's resiliency.

All proceeds from sale of the song, written by frequent visitor Dean Doeling, will be donated to nonprofit organizations on St. John that have helped in the hurricane recovery effort. CDs will be for sale at the party, or can be pre-ordered at <https://lovecityriseup.bigcartel.com/products>.

### St. John Ice operating from Port Authority's gravel lot

St. John Ice announces that it has temporarily relocated while the Lumberyard undergoes demolition. Ice and water will be sold from a truck in VIPA's gravel parking lot daily from 6 to 8 a.m., mostly to service the construction trade.

## Afternoon siesta



Pig siblings enjoy an afternoon nap near the Adrian dumpster, a location they frequent often.

Daily News photo by ANDREA MILAM

St. John Ice has a full supply of water filters for sale. Contact Alan Johnson at **340-690-1062** or [stjohniceco@gmail.com](mailto:stjohniceco@gmail.com).

### Love City Community Network benefit Saturday

Mongoose Junction will host a benefit for the Love City Community Network, the nonprofit organi-

zation that's provided internet free of charge to many St. John residents, on Saturday from 6:30 to 11 p.m. in the Cruz Bay shopping complex's courtyard.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to LCCN. Erin Hart and DJ Adonis will perform, and there will be brief speeches by Mongoose's Glenn Speer, Ryan West of Love City Strong, representatives

of LCCN, and D.J. Ahladis of North Shore Deli.

Food, drinks, and ice cream will be available for purchase, and attendees are asked to wear V.I.-themed gear for a group photo before sunset.

### Love City Car Ferries holding essay contest

Love City Car Ferries announces

its essay contest for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders who attend school on St. Thomas or St. John.

The topic, "My Virgin Islands. My Future" should focus on the student's favorite person or event in Virgin Islands history. There will be one winner per grade, with a prize of \$150 for the sixth-grade winner, \$225 for the seventh-grade winner, and \$300 for the eighth-grade winner.

All entries must be postmarked by Sept. 30, and can be submitted to P.O. Box 12209, St. John, VI 00831 or emailed to [info@lovecitycarferries.com](mailto:info@lovecitycarferries.com) with the subject line "Contest." For more information, visit [www.lovecitycarferries.com](http://www.lovecitycarferries.com).

### Carolina Corral fun day is set for Oct. 13

The Carolina Corral will host a free back-to-school fun day on Oct. 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a variety of games including balloon toss, egg and spoon, chicken races, and a donkey obstacle course.

There will be crafting activities and a contest to see who can take the best selfie with a Carolina Corral resident, along with food, drinks, and pony or donkey rides.

Free transportation will be provided between Cruz Bay and Coral Bay.

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**Results for Tuesday, September 04th, 2018**

### JACKPOT Games

Winning Numbers:  
For Draw # 926 Tuesday, 04th September 2018  
**03 10 13 22 24(06)**  
Jackpot for the next draw  
**\$1,830,000**

US VIRGIN ISLANDS  
**POWERBALL**  
Winning Numbers:  
For Draw # 1649 on Saturday, 01st September 2018  
**11 54 55 61 66**  
Jackpot for the next draw  
**\$100,000,000**

Winning Numbers:  
For Draw # 827 on Tuesday, 04th August 2018  
**02 07 25 35 44**  
Jackpot for the next draw  
**\$187,000,000**

Winning Numbers:  
For Draw # 1641 on Tuesday, 04th September 2018  
**01 08 15 17 24**  
Jackpot for the next draw  
**\$42,500**

[www.thecaribbeanlottery.com](http://www.thecaribbeanlottery.com)  
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All results posted in the press are manually entered and are subject to error. At all times results must be validated with The Caribbean Lottery

PICK 3

PICK 4

### 10RNING Draw #18999 Draw #18870

Prize 1	8 1 6	6 1 4 4
Prize 2	8 7 9	6 3 8 5
Prize 3	6 8 0	5 7 0 8

### MIDDAY Draw #19000 Draw #18871

Prize 1	2 3 3	7 1 2 1
Prize 2	3 4 5	8 2 1 9
Prize 3	3 4 0	8 5 5 8

### SUNSET Draw #19001 Draw #18872

Prize 1	2 2 6	7 2 5 8
Prize 2	4 9 1	2 9 8 1
Prize 3	2 4 7	3 6 0 7

### EVENING Draw #19002 Draw #18873

Prize 1	5 0 5	8 2 6 5
Prize 2	2 1 7	8 9 7 8
Prize 3	1 9 8	4 5 7 0