



APRIL 2015 HISTORICAL CULTURAL CALENDAR

COMPLIMENTS OF:

VIRGIN ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF
VIRGIN ISLANDS CULTURAL EDUCATION

*Building Our Future Through
Education, History and Culture!*

***** SPECIAL TRIBUTE *****
ST. CROIX, ST. JOHN, & ST. THOMAS ADMINISTRATORS
SERVING THE CHILDREN OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
8TH of 9 Series

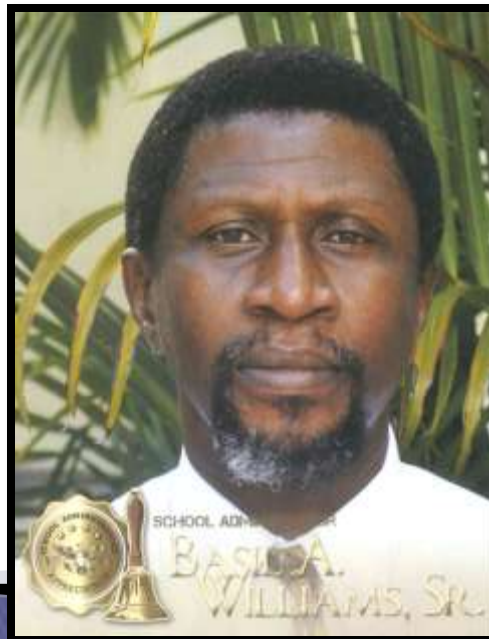
ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL
(STX)



Father John Mark
Principal

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ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
(STX)



Basil A. Williams, Sr.
Principal

Courtesy of

Text & Pictures: School Administrators Appreciation Booklet, November 27, 2012

***** SPECIAL TRIBUTE *****
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ST. PATRICK SCHOOL
(STX)



Elizabeth John-Baptiste
Principal

Courtesy of

Text & Pictures: School Administrators Appreciation Booklet, November 27, 2012

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**ST. THOMAS CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
(STC)**



**Melicent Thomas
Principal**

Courtesy of

Text & Picture: Ms. Millicent Thomas

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ST. THOMAS HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT, INC.
- SEAVIEW ADOLESCENT PROGRAM
(STT)



Tesha Tyson
Program Administrator



Gordon L. Williams
Education Coordinator



Karen Rey
Director of Nursing

Courtesy of
Text & Pictures: Administrators

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**ST. THOMAS / ST. JOHN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SCHOOL
(STT)**



Whitman Browne, Ph.D.
Principal

Courtesy of
Text & Pictures: Whitman Browne, Ph.D.

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STS. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
(STT)

Picture
Not
Available

Father Eduardo Ortiz Santiago
Principal

Picture
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Available

Father Bruce Anderson
Vice Principal

***** SPECIAL TRIBUTE *****
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8TH of 9 Series

**SCHOOL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
(STX)**



George Franklin
Principal



Susan P. Eversley – Wells
Assistant Administrator and Business Manager

April 1st:

1982:

Prinair Airline cut service between St. Thomas and St Croix, while retailers pressed the government for duty and tax cuts.



Courtesy of:

Text: The Daily News

Picture: <http://www.edcoatescollection.com/ac3/Airline/Prinair%20Riley%20Heron.html>

April 2nd:

1919:

Loredon Lorence Boynes, Sr. was born on St. Thomas and was an invaluable resident of St. John. In his early days, he proved to be athletic as he played 'round dove', volleyball, basketball and cricket. As a musician, he sang and played the banjo and saxophone, which he did in the US Armed Forces. He served as a Park Ranger for the National Park Service and as captain for the VI Government, he operated the ferry between St. Thomas, St. John, and Tortola. His family business operated Caribe Sunrise, Caribe Time, and Caribe Tide, which offered ferry service between St. Thomas and St. John. He was captain of 'Native Robin' that was intercepted in Cuban waters and held for 18 days.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 3rd:

1927:

Aster Maria Van Beverhoudt Benjamin was born. Her passions included playing the violin, dressmaking, crocheting, and making hats. Until her retirement in 1975, she worked for the Department of Vital Statistics and the Department of Commerce and Tourism.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 4th:

2008:

Family Resource Center Inc. (FRC) presented their Spring Fashion Fling at Café Amici, A.H. Riise's Alley. The family event featured Star Models and a fashion show with over 15 models, including children, women and men. The clothing came from local boutiques and fashion houses. The proceeds benefited the FRC.



Courtesy of:

Text: <http://stthomassource.com/content/community/organizations/2008/03/15/family-resource-center-presents-spring-fashion-show>

Picture: http://www.activeislandvi.com/hunt_for_holiday_cheer.html

April 5th:

1923:

Vicente Garcia was born in Rio Piedras, PR. As a teenager, he relocated to St. Thomas and worked with his dad to build the military barracks in the Sub Base area during World War II. He later opened his own grocery store in the heart of Savan. He was fluent in English, Spanish and local dialect of French.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 6th:

1914:

Jeanette Esmeralda Gomez Plunkett was born on St. Croix. She was a foster mother to numerous children. Determined to provide the very best care to all her children, she entered a nursing program and received a certificate of nursing from the Metropolitan School of Infant Care.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 7th:

1961:

Joryn Mirthice Turnbull was born on Nevis, West Indies. In St. Thomas, she was first employed as salesperson at the English Shop and later with distinction as sales supervisor at Little Switzerland Gift Shop. She was the coordinator of Information with the VI Department of Tourism.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 8th:

1920:

Walter E. Chinnery was born on Jost Van Dyke, BVI. In St. Thomas, he started several business. His first business was a furniture store, the island's first fried chicken restaurant, 'Snugcove', Chinnery's Meat Market, Chinnery's Steak House, three locations of Chock-Full-O-Food, and Bee-Hive. He also started the legendary all nighter, 'Squirrel Cage'.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 9th:

1906:

Gerda Nathalia Marsh was born in the Carolina Estate Hill House in St. John. She was a noted leader and trail blazer. After teaching at several locations in St. John, she served as Social Welfare Director and Customs Officer for St. John. She was a shop owner / operator, guest house operator, avid cricket player, horseback rider, and generally a matriarchal figure in the community.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 10th:

1936:

Mary Rose Benjamin was born in St. Thomas. She was first employed by the Fire Department and then the Department of Health at the Knud Hansen Memorial Hospital where she retired after 40 years of service. She was known as a ‘pillar’ of the Department of Health due to her dedication and loyalty to Commissioners Dr. Roy Anduze, Warren Smith, Dr. Roy Schneider, and Dr. Alfred O. Health, its employees, and community members.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 11th:

1929:

Isa Theolinda Stout-Frett was born in East End / Long Look (The Bay) in Tortola, BVI. As a resident of St. Thomas, her developed passion for cooking matured even more. It was with this passion that she opened and operated ‘Arianne’s Restaurant’, a local cuisine restaurant.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 12th:

1917:

Mary Skelton Francis was born on Tortola. As a teacher, she taught at the then Commandant Gade and Lockhart Schools. At CAHS, she was known as the African History and Black Studies teacher and for starting a candy sales project that raised money for college scholarships for students. She was chosen as Teacher of the Year. She was a staunch member of the Liberal and Unity parties and was the first secretary of the Virgin Islands Democratic Party.



Courtesy of:

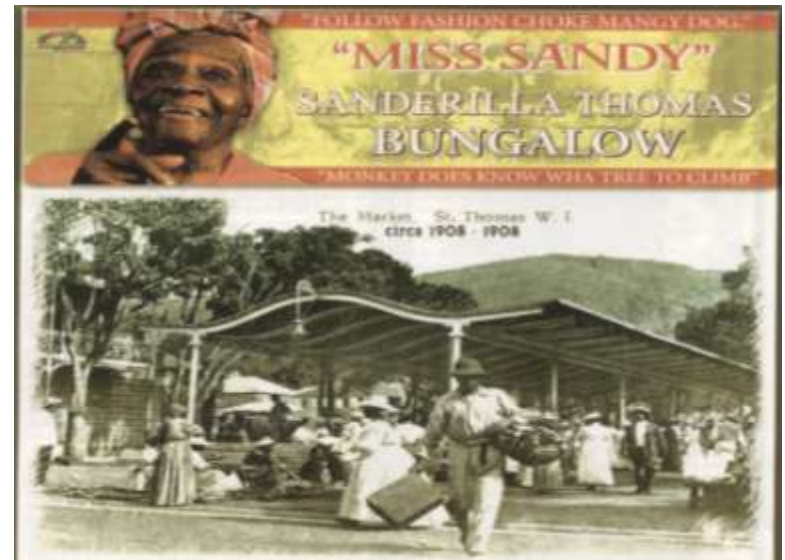
Text: The Umbilical Cord, Harold W. L. Willocks, page 142

Picture: <http://newsbusters.org/blogs/noel-sheppard/2013/07/03/cuban-tv-airs-first-american-major-league-baseball-game-52-years>

April 13th:

1984:

Act #4928 was approved to rename the Bungalow at St. Thomas' Rothschild Francis Square (commonly known as 'Market Square') in honor of Sanderilla Thomas.



Courtesy of:

Text: Legislature Archives

Picture: Commemorative Booklet

April 14th:

1982:

A center to address homelessness of alcoholics started on St. Croix.



Courtesy of:

Text: The Daily News

Picture: https://www.westcare.com/page/where-we-serve_UV

April 15th:

1930:

Helen Elizabeth George Vessup was born on St. Thomas. A teacher by profession, she taught at our public and private schools. She was the recipient of AARP's 2007 Andrus Award for outstanding volunteer service. She was honored to serve as the 1996 Children's Carnival Parade Marshal.



Courtesy of:

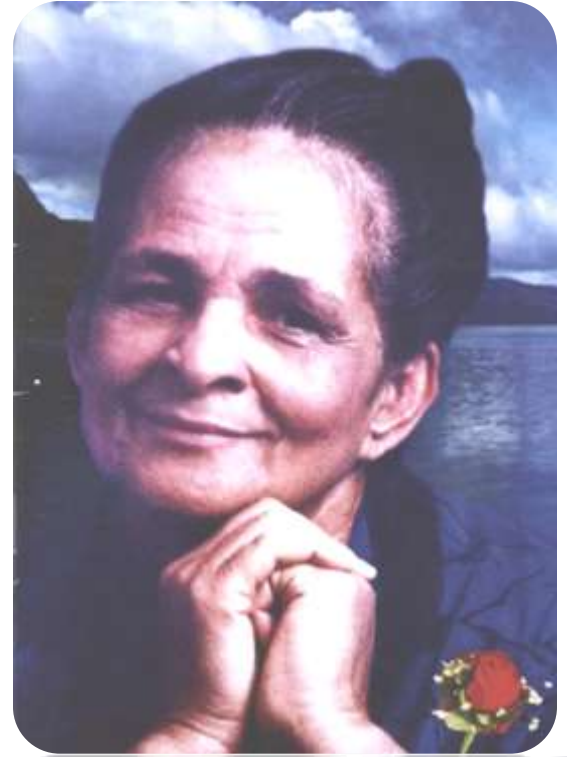
Text: The Daily News

Picture: <http://newsbusters.org/blogs/noel-sheppard/2013/07/03/cuban-tv-airs-first-american-major-league-baseball-game-52-years>

April 16th:

1930:

Rose Gladys Webster was born in Anguilla. As a resident of St. Thomas, she was an avid gardener and her culinary local delicacies satisfied many. She was a member of the STRIVE Center for Senior Citizens in St. Thomas.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 17th:

1963:

Robert O'Neill Ventura was born. While residing in St. Croix, he worked with his father in the family business, Ventura's Electric. His talents extended into plumbing, mechanics, carpentry, and masonry and he was definitely a Master Electrician with the VI Water & Power Authority. He was a great lover of horses and the sea, and a certified scuba driver.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 18th:

1943:

Llewellyn Adrian Sewer was born on St. John. After joining the US Army and completion of his active duty, he joined the VI National Guard where he was one of the organizers of the Guard's elite force, the 'Pathfinders'. He was the dynamic radio personality that named St. John 'Love City'. He formed his own record label 'Truckerman Records'. He was one of the driving forces behind TriIsland Economic Development, Inc., which helped to stimulate economic activity in the VI. He also designed the self-help program which allowed several St. Johnians to build their own homes with the assistance of Federal funds.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 19th:

1957:

Myron Nicholls was born on Nevis, West Indies. He was a Mathematics teacher at Ivanna Eudora Kean High School who was nominated as Teacher of the Year. After his retirement, he became part-time Mathematics professor at the University of the Virgin Islands. With his love for music, he was a vocalist and played the organ.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 20th:

1939:

Angel Luis Lebron was born on St. Thomas. Earlier in his life, he was the Chief Pharmacist at the hospital, worked at The Cathedral Pharmacy, and served as the Director at East End Health Clinic. He also served as Deputy Commissioner of Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs and later as Commissioner of Conservation and Cultural Affairs. He was the owner of Nisky Pharmacy.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 21st:

1945:

Hezekiah Rogers was born. He was a body builder and lifeguard at John Brewers Bay. As a security officer at USVI Superior Court, he served with professionalism and exemplary service.



**Courtesy of:
Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet**

April 22nd:

1934:

Helen Dawson Prince was born in Cane Garden Bay, Tortola BVI. With her warm compassionate personality, she was a faithful dedicated foster grandparent with the St. Thomas Human Services Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 23rd:

1991:

Resolution #1447 was passed to honor and commend Eileen Huggins for her 34 years of service with the VI Government.



Courtesy of:

Text: Legislature Archives

Picture: <http://www.awardshere.com/1-40-Years-Pins-s/1.htm>

April 24th:

1961:

James E. Ruan, Jr. was born on St. Thomas. In his early years, he worked in the construction field. Later he became the Vice President of NR Electric, an electric company based on St. Croix.



Courtesy of:

Text: The Daily News

Picture: <http://newsbusters.org/blogs/noel-sheppard/2013/07/03/cuban-tv-airs-first-american-major-league-baseball-game-52-years>

April 25th:

1926:

The St. Thomas Roman Catholic Chapel in Mafolie, St. Thomas was named Our Lady of Perpetual Help.



Courtesy of:

Text: Commemorative Booklet

Picture: <http://stthomassource.com/content/news/local-news/2012/09/02/faith-matters-our-lady-perpetual-help-celebrates-25-years>

April 26th:

1930:

Stanley Ivan Leonard was born on Tortola. As a resident of St. Thomas, he was known as an excellent chef and baker. He was especially known as the candy man because of the Danish girl, peppermint, and other old time candies. As an avid supporter of the Carnival Food Fair and the Committee to Revive Our Culture, he would be selling his wares, saltfish cakes, pates, vienna and carrot cakes, stewed tarmarind and cherry stews, and potato pudding.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 27th:

1917:

Maria Perez was born on Santo Domingo. Known to her customers as ‘Doña Maria’, she was co-proprietor of Manual Rivera Groceries in Contant, St. Thomas.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 28th:

1982:

The Government of the Virgin Islands was immobilized due to a job action when unions rejected a 5% pay increase.



Courtesy of:

Text: The Daily News

Picture: <http://jobaction.org/>

April 29th:

1949:

Sandra Patricia George Faulkner was born on St. Thomas. After thirty years with the Department of Education, she retired as an Administrative Secretary of the Adult Education Program. She was a member of the Elskoe and Associates Carnival Troupe for more than 20 years.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet

April 30th:

1928:

Catherine Louisa Gibbs was born in Santo Domingo. She worked at the Kirwan Terrace School as a custodial worker for many years and assisted in providing school meals to many children. She was a member of the Project STRIVE Senior Center and a member of the Methodist Circuit Benevolent Society and the Marthas.



Courtesy of:

Text & Picture: Funeral Booklet



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**Virgin Islands Department of Education
Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education**



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