Our Island Knows How to Party:
Last Week's St. Maarten/St-Martin Festivities

There was so much going on during the past week that even the most party-hearty visitor or resident had difficulties choosing which events to attend.

The yachts were still competing in the Heineken Regatta during daytime hours last Sunday, with spectator boats circling the action and beachfront homes busy throwing parties for regatta watchers.

At the same time, the St-Martin Carnival parade snaked through Marigot. There was the spirit in the air of having overcome some of the hardship of 2017 and the aftermath, with spectacular costumes on display and an appreciative crowd lining the streets. Six troupes competed with dancing- and show routines for the honors of winning this year's French-side carnival event.

While the carnival celebrations continued at Marigot's waterfront during the evening hours, the main show at the Heineken Regatta Village brought The Jacksons as headliners on stage.

Now that the St-Martin Carnival and the Heineken Regatta is behind us, our island is not resting. This is the season of special events, culminating in the many festivities around Dutch side carnival in April/May.

What is next in line? The SXM Festival will take place in its third edition between March 13th to 17th, attracting thousands of fans of electronic music, presented by some of the best known DJ's in the field.

St. Maarten Beauty Company Surpasses Organic Criteria

When St. Maarten Nectar was ready to bring their products out of the kitchen and into their stores it became evident that they were so much more than what was on the market and being called ‘organic’ simply wouldn’t cut it.

Fly Like a Kite on the Water: Kitesurfing Lessons Available

If you have ever visited Orient Beach on a very windy day, you might have seen kitesurfers out on the water. These extreme sports enthusiasts can be found out on the water for hours- jumping over waves and doing tricks.

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Letter From the Editor
March 8, 2019

Hello to our readers! Thank you for choosing our publication to find out where to dine, shop, party and find activities encompassing both the French and Dutch sides of our island.

Having come off a busy party weekend, we drew inspiration for this week from the Heineken Regatta, Carnival and now are looking to the other festivities to come later this month. I look forward to this time of year as it brings joy and smiles to faces having a bustling island.

I encourage you to enjoy the down time that we have this week, because next week brings SXM Festival and St. Patrick's Day- and who doesn't love green beer?

As always, all our previous issues are available on the ST-MAARTEN.COM website. If you enjoyed our publication and would like to continue to read from home, wherever that may be, please use the QR code to the right to access our digital publication.

Hilary Grant
Editor

Online Portal

For in-depth information about our island, consult ST-MAARTEN.COM - the official online portal. Please use the convenient QR codes with any smart phone to access individual pages directly.

Visit Us Online for FREE Business Directory

What does the number on each advertisement stand for?
Please refer to the map on Pages 10/11. Regions of this island are marked with a number which corresponds to the number you see on ads.

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Hospital: 910 or +1 721 543-1111
Police: 911 or +1 721 542-2222
Fire Department: 919 or +1 721 545-4222

French Side
Ambulance: +590 (590) 52 00 52
Hospital: +590 (590) 52 26 29
Police: +590 (590) 87 88 33

Entire Island
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ST-MAARTEN.COM Weekly Edition

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Please email 'letters to the publisher' to sxm@email.com
Celebrating the Legend: Bob Marley

A splendid nod to this world-class music icon, timepiece brand Raymond Weil introduces the Bob Marley tango GMT timepiece. Designed in collaboration with House of Marley, this tango limited edition has only 1,500 pieces available worldwide.

“Raymond Weil has always been closely linked with music and we are overjoyed to collaborate with House of Marley to honor this legendary artist,” says Elie Bernheim the CEO of Raymond Weil.

The black dial is decorated with the iconic lion head that every Bob Marley fan recognizes. With a color palette inspired by the Ethiopian flag, this exclusive watch features a sapphire crystal with a red second hand, green GMT hand and yellow circumference circle.

The numbered case back is engraved with Bob Marley’s signature and the famous “TIME WILL TELL” mention is a reference to the title of his Kaya album. Housed in a 42mm polished steel case with a GMT function, the timepiece is finished by an aluminum black and grey anodized bezel.

As well as a stunning appearance, the tango GMT Bob Marley stands up to the strength of the Raymond Weil tango collection and is water resistant up to 300 meters. With a stainless steel bracelet, completed with double pusher security clasp, this Limited Edition is a must-have item for any Marley fan.
Asking the Tough Food Questions

Uncertainty around food rules and misinformation plague the internet and made us want to ask the tough questions to someone who is world-renowned for their experience in the food industry. So, we sat down with Marty Gushwa, former Director of Quality Assurance at Nestle; where he covered the territories of the United States, Canada, Mexico and Europe. He was also the Director of Quality Assurance at Carnation, North American Coffee Alliance and finished his career before retirement at See’s Candies- a western US chocolate company known for their quality and craftsmanship (and the iconic I Love Lucy ‘Switching Jobs’ chocolate conveyor belt TV episode).

Marty wrote the questions for the exam still being given for the certification to become a certified auditor to audit establishments to ensure they comply with food safety regulations. He has a Master’s degree in microbiology and is a National Environmental Health Association Food Safety Professional. With over 40 years' experience in food industry, we couldn’t think of anyone more qualified to give sound advice on the following questions.

Pull-by and best-by dates- what are they and are they arbitrary?

“Pull-by in the United States is the date that retailers are required to remove items from the shelf, based on guidelines by the Food and Drug Administration or United States Department of Agriculture, depending on the type of product. It is not arbitrary date. The date provides a usual guarantee that when removed by the pull-by dates, the consumer has a short time period in which to use it without it losing its freshness.

Best-by or use-by are dates that manufacturers put on products to let you know the date at which they recommend that you use it by for it to have most of original flavor, color or in case of vitamins or nutritional supplements- it keeps original potency.

Rice is a great example of a use-by date that is arbitrary, because nothing will go wrong with it in its original sealed container under normal dry conditions. Weevils aren’t usually considered a health hazard, so fish those suckers out and still cook the rice.”

Another great example is flour, originally sifted to get rid of those litter critters, but now flour goes through an extensive screening process and is unnecessary. It doesn’t change the flour.

I might forget to put the leftovers in the refrigerator. How long can cooked meats sit out before I throw it away?

“Any seafood or meat like steak, poultry, pork the maximum time is three hours. The general rule of thumb is if the meat is stored above 40 degrees Fahrenheit or above 140 degrees Fahrenheit, it’s fine. Anything between 40 and 140 has four hours maximum. But, because you are talking about food out in a tropical location, it is best to stick to three hours before the food can start growing bacteria that can make you sick.”

The grocery store is selling dented cans cheaper. Are they safe to purchase?

“Dented cans are a big deal- do not purchase and if you have some in your pantry, throw them away. You can get a failure of either a side seam on the can or double seam on top of which can cause spoilage.

There are two types of this- plain or contamination with pathogen. There is no way to look at a can and know which type of contamination it is. This requires advanced testing.”

So, unless you enjoy having food poisoning, stay away from dented or swollen cans. Got it.

Can you reuse plastic bottles?

“If you finish a bottle of water and want to fill it with room temperature water, that is fine. But hot water speeds up the transmission of plastic degradation into your water.”

Do you believe in a 3, 5 or 30 second drop on the floor rule?

“Dry foods like bread or biscuits, one or two bounces is ok, assuming it’s a relatively clean floor. But if you want to go by the rules, the United States restaurant rule is that if it hits the floor its done. If you drop a piece of meat, throw away or rinse off with hot water. Or a third option is to cook it to boiling to get rid of bacterial contamination.”

Of course, Marty Gushwa reminds us that there are always exceptions to the rules, and when in doubt throw it out. We’re glad we have the opportunity to pick his brain on some questions that most of us ponder over on a weekly basis.
Looking for Land? Kenepa Gardens Now Selling Residential Lots on Dutch Sint Maarten

Lush green hills and cool breezes are signature elements of nature at the Kenepa Garden Estate, a new private residential development by M & M Development N.V. The 29 lots are located behind Emilio Wilson Historical and Cultural Park just off L.B. Scott Road and adjacent to St. John’s Estate.

A symbolic ground-breaking ceremony was held on Tuesday, March 5, when six-year-old Ocean Brookson Frigon, grandson of developer Henri Brookson, deftly maneuvered a backhoe to move dirt at the site, to the cheers of his family and guests.

The development was toasted to with a lime punch, made from Brookson’s mother’s own recipe. Brookson said traditions are important and his mother already said the lime punch helps “to keep the spirits away.” Toasting with a little rum is a very Caribbean tradition at the start of new venture.

A model house has been designed for Kenepa Garden Estate to help inspire potential residents. This design can be adjusted to the specific needs of lot buyers. Design elements mirror the Caribbean houses of olden days as the developers seek to reflect the heritage of the land upon which Kenepa Garden is built. Landscape Architect Bruno Doedens of the Netherlands has put his creative stamp of Kenepa Garden. He is responsible for the layout of what is St. Maarten’s newest neighborhood.

The lots, starting at 880 square meters, are large enough for a sizable family home with maximum one attached apartment, pool, and ornamental or kitchen gardens (the soil in the Cul de Sac basin is very fertile for planting). Most lots are on flat or very gently sloped land which allows for immediate construction without additional cost. The hillside lots have Kenepa Garden is accessed by a newly constructed high quality and durable 20-centimetres thick concrete road with proper drainage, curbs, sidewalks, streetlight, sewage line and fire hydrants.

Starting price of the residential-only lots is US $136,000. Building footprint per lot is set at 25 per cent to ensure privacy of neighbors and full respect for nature and history.

The Independent Consulting Engineers N.V. (ICE) has designed Kenepa Garden Estate’s infrastructure.

The entrance road to the cul de sac will have “sleeping policemen” or speed limiting bumps and will have security for additional peace of mind. The private road only accesses Kenepa Garden; with no other through traffic it provides for safety for children riding bikes and neighbors taking strolls in the mornings or afternoons.

To maintain a level of aesthetics, M & M Development N.V. will construct the walls of each lot running along the entrance road. This natural stone wall will have a height of 1.80 meters and a width of 20 cm.

It will have a reinforced footing consisting of steel. This rock wall will be constructed one meter inside of each lot and this one-meter space will be used to add more greenery to the landscape.

ICE is the project supervisor for the entire common infrastructure construction.

“Purchasing a lot in Kenepa Garden is a sound investment for the future. One will receive quality for his/her money. The quality of the infrastructure will allow the homeowners association fee to be very low,” said Kenepa Garden Estate developers.

“Kenepa Garden Estate will be a peaceful area, away from noise pollution where you can relax and energize yourself after a hard day’s work,” said Brookson. “We chose for big lots, because we want people to live spacious. It is an ideal area for family with children.”

Also, partnering with Kenepa Garden Estate is Banco di Caribe for loans for qualifying lot buyers, Island Real Estate (IRE) Team, and Esli Construction.
The Unique St. Maarten/St-Martin Crossword Puzzle

Find out if you are a truly knowledgeable about our region and its culture, history and geography

ACROSS
2 Lots of sand right on water's edge
7 Tiny nectar drinker
9 Official language of St-Martin
11 Dutch national airline
12 Beer of Jamaica
13 Color of Simpson Bay diamond
14 Well shielded sea creature
16 Game at the Jump Up Casino
17 Plant to make rum
20 Island off Orient Beach
21 Fuel brand of new gas station in Simpson Bay
22 Sport in Mullet Bay
24 Sushi at Paradise Mall
25 Nature island nation to the South

DOWN
1 Month to start hurricane season
3 Dutch side internet provider
4 Handtool to cut brush
5 After which city is the fort named?
6 Where to get pleasure toys
8 German restaurant in Simpson Bay
10 On what side of the road do they drive in Anguilla?
15 Beach bar in Simpson Bay
18 Build by corals
19 Industrial product before tourism
22 What do Rastafarians smoke?

Puzzle Solution on Page 22

Careful! This week's crossword puzzle has a couple trick questions. You will notice that all questions are rooted in the Caribbean hemisphere and might take a bit of research to answer if you haven't spent much time here. It also means: the answers are valid for St. Maarten/St-Martin and the neighboring islands. For example, if we ask for an island directly to the North of our location, it can only be Anguilla.

If we are using compound words in the answer, they do NOT have spaces!

If you try to solve the puzzle as a visitor to our island and you get stuck: don't be shy! Approach a local and ask. You might find they struggle to answer as well. Or strike up an interesting conversation and learn a bit about our very unique region.

Mistakes do happen, even though our puzzle is produced right here on the island. If you detect an error, drop us a line at SXM@EMAIL.COM.

Puzzle Solution on page 22
NOW PLAYING!

ALAN SHEPPARD

A SEASONED INTERNATIONAL ARTIST
ALAN HAS PERFORMED IN NEW YORK, TORONTO, MIAMI, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA
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PERFORMING FAVORITES OF THE 70s, 80s AND TODAY IN A HIGH ENERGY SHOW,
ALAN IS A MULTI-INSTRUMENTALIST AND SING-ALONG WITH THE VIEWERS WORKING WITH
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St. Maarten Nectar: Where Organic Truly Means No Synthetics and 100% Natural

The word ‘organic’ is thrown around extensively in all markets, including the beauty industry. Companies tout being natural, organic, friendly to those with allergies and skin issues and hypoallergenic. But, a quick google search on any of these terms related to the beauty space quickly reveals that there is no industry wide standard rules or regulations requiring being followed prior to a company using them.

So, when St. Maarten Nectar was ready to bring their products out of the kitchen and into their stores it became evident that they were so much more than what was on the market and being called ‘organic’ simply wouldn’t cut it.

From that she continued to expand to other products, filling a void in the market. Her products quickly became a favorite amongst friends- who pushed her to finally bottle and sell her synthetic free concoctions. “I want better (products) for myself, my family, my company,” Nalia states.

Of course, it isn’t as easy as slapping a label on a bottle to put on a shelf, her products went under meticulous testing to ensure that her products are the real deal when it comes to organic and natural.

That is the story of how St. Maarten Nectar came to be, now with five locations on the Dutch and French side, as well as the cruise harbor. It is important to Nalia that all products are 100% manufactured right here on island, with a well-appointed creation center right in Simpson Bay overlooking the lagoon.

St. Maarten Nectar also exports their scent-licious products to twelve islands and is now prescribed by pediatricians for infants.

Products available for purchase include body and hair care, facial care, sunscreens, mosquito repellents, perfumes, candles, soaps and much more totaling over 200 products that are produced right here on Sint Maarten.

All goods are Fairtrade, eco-friendly, made with zero preservatives and are one hundred percent vegan made with pure, natural ingredients. And if you are looking for reef-safe sunscreen you are in luck as St. Maarten Nectar’s passes the test with flying colors.
St. Maarten Nectar: Where Organic Truly Means No Synthetics and 100% Natural

Continued from previous page

In the mood for treatments using these yummy essential oil products? The newly renovated and reopened Oyster Bay Beach Resort now is home to the St. Maarten Nectar Hair Salon and Wellness Spa. The menu of treatments is vast: waxing, body scrubs and massages to blow outs, haircuts, manicures and pedicures. The hair salon and wellness spa is open to island visitors and St. Maarten/St-Martin residents. The St. Maarten Nectar Signature massage is divine, leaving you with a refreshed glow. Wellness packages are also available, combing several services that will revitalize you from head to toe.

St. Maarten Nectar Hair Salon and Wellness Spa
USD per person.

Perhaps you prefer to take a tour of their laboratory to channel your inner mad scientist. St. Maarten Nectar is happy to provide you with a ten to fifteen-minute look at the inner workings of their lab and showroom so that you can see the products being made with your own eyes.

To book an interactive class, take a tour or pursue their extensive line of wellness care; contact:

www.StMaartenNectar.com
or call +1 721 544-2337.

A new island activity is also available- creating your own body lotion, soap or candle.

St. Maarten Nectar will give a brief class that will provide you with step by step instructions to make your own product, which not only gives you more insight into how fabulous their merchandise and ingredients are, but gives you an irreplaceable experience while in St. Maarten.

The 90-minute class starts as low as $25
The Red Piano's Church on Monday

There is now one week to bridge for the party crowd between the Heineken Regatta and St-Martin Carnival festivities and the 3rd annual SXM Festival. To avoid serious party withdrawal symptoms and to battle this condition with the best live entertainment on the island, we recommend you start by going to Church on Monday.

Unless you have attended church service in a bar, we are confident that this is not the church you are thinking of. The Red Piano is home to weekly favorite amongst the locals; Church on Mondays. The only singing involved is that of the band performing live on The Red Piano’s stage; unless after a few cocktails you decide to sing along.

Boasting free entry, this weekly live show is one of the many reasons that The Red Piano was voted as the ‘Best Live Music Venue’ year after year. We recommend you arrive early, as the bar gets packed and becomes standing room only. Mingle with island visitors and residents alike, and learn yet another reason St. Maarten/St-Martin is called ‘The Friendly Island’.

So, saddle up next to the bar and order an adult beverage that will bring out your gregarious and fun-loving side. We recommend their espresso martini to get the party started, and to make sure you stay awake until the wee hours of the morning when it is time to head home.

Doors open 8 PM and the show starts at 9 PM.
Find Shopping, Activities and Services Here

1. **The Art Box**
   - Gallery
   - More than a gallery
   - Open Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 6 pm
   - Address: The Art Box Gallery, Home of Zdenka West Indies, 89A Welfare Road, Cole Bay, +1 721 358 9999
   - Email: theartboxsxm@gmail.com

2. **Adult Toy Box**
   - Toys for Big Kids
   - Three Palm Plaza, Welfare Road, Cole Bay
   - Phone: +1 721 544 2412
   - Website: www.AdultToyBox.info

3. **NoCo Art Studio**
   - Art Studio
   - Sábado: 5:00-8:00 PM
   - Address: Jolly Hall Rd, Simpson Bay (Saint Maarten)
   - Call for appointments: +1 721 543-0008

4. **INCREIBLE FITNESS & MORE**
   - Rhine Road 146, Culebra
   - Call: +1 721 533-4666

5. **Topper’s Rhum Distillery Tours**
   - St. Maarten’s newest attraction
   - Book your tour today: +1 721 520-0008
   - Website: topperrhumentours.com

6. **Your Full Service Optician!**
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   - (Opposite the Horizon View Hotel)
   - Call: +590 690 36 64 65
   - Email: eyelandoptic.sxm@gmail.com
   - Visitors: Emergency Repairs Available!

7. **Centre Commercial de Mont Vernon**
   - Open from Monday to Saturday, 10 AM - 6 PM
   - +590 27-1784
   - onebykintstore

8. **Sint Rose Arcade**
   - Shopping right in the heart of Philipsburg, St. Maarten

9. **Simpson Bay Pharmacy**
   - www.sxmpharmacy.com
   - Your #1 Drugstore for:
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   - Happy Hour: Beer $2 - Margarita $5
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3. **Little MOBAY**
   - Authentic Jamaican Cuisine at Maho Village
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4. **St. Maarten’s Best International Restaurant**
   - +1 721 566-3500
   - SXMtopper.com
   - Steak • Seafood • Pasta

5. **Snoopy's**
   - Bar and Restaurant at the bridge to Snoopy Island
   - Great food, great Happy Hour, live entertainment!
   - Welfare Road, Simpson Bay, St. Maarten
   - Call for Reservation +1 721 580-4202

6. **Plantation Restaurant & Lounge**
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8. **Pollos Hermanos**
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   - 121 Simpson Bay Road
   - Info@polloshermanos.com +1 721 523 96 63
If you have ever visited Orient Beach on a very windy day, you might have seen kitesurfers out on the water. These extreme sports enthusiasts can be found out on the water for hours—jumping over waves and doing tricks.

Kitesurfing is similar to wakeboarding in that you are harnessing power to pull yourself on a surf-style board on top of the water. Instead of being towed behind a boat, the surfer is attached to a kite designed in parachute style, which they can use to control their direction and speed.

The origin of the sport dates back several decades to a time when many inventors were attempting to use kites as a power source for things like carts on land and boats. The first patent of a kite for surfing purposes is held by a Dutch inventor by the name of Gijsbertus Adrianus Panhuise issued in 1977. He described a kite used to propel athletes on a board in the water. Since this time the kites have had several changes in design to go faster and get more height during jumps.

This hobby holds many advantages over its competitors like traditional surfing, wakeboarding, and windsurfing. The ability to use the kite to propel you in the wind opens up many different conditions and locations that traditional surfers wouldn’t be able to ride in. The size of the kite can also be chosen based on the speed of the wind. Without the need of a boat the surfers can also launch from the beach.

St. Maarten is the perfect place for kitesurfing as the island’s water stays warm year-round and the wind is always blowing, which is essential for the sport. Advanced surfers can use the gusts to be pulled up off the water and into the air using the waves to get more height, while at St. Maarten Kiteschool beginners can try out the sport.

According to Antoine Deschaux, the owner and instructor at SXM Kiteschool, anyone can learn to kiteboard as long as they have proper and safe instruction.

“All of our instructors hold French certificates to teach. Each of our students has a VHF radio on the helmet to receive tips and security control. As well, we offer supervised practice with a security boat for experience riders, these riders must have a minimum level of being able to surf upwind,” says Deschaux.

Just to watch kitesurfers out on the water would lead you to believe this sport is exclusively for only the most advanced athletes, but after these dedicated lessons from Deschaux and his team you will soon be riding the waves.

If you are interested in learning how to kitesurf you can book your session directly at sxmkiteschool.com. The instructors try to schedule three courses with two students each day, a beginner rate is 145€ for a two hour session. Packages are available for multiple classes, which cut the cost per lesson.
The Music Festival is Right Around the Corner: SXM Festival Interviews DJ Kora

What about SXM are you most looking forward to?

So many thing. Of course sharing music, but also exploring the island and discovering its people, food, landscapes and culture. I’ll have the opportunity to spend a few days there to get a good feel of the place but also listen to bunch of artists I love and meet new ones.

I’m also very much looking forward to seeing what flourished from the reconstruction work that has been done after the hurricane. As an artist, regularly on the road I’ve been lucky enough to witness the world in many extremes from the beauty of Athens to the slums of India. The hurricane was a terrible natural disaster for St. Martin, I will be happy to see the local people and enterprises back on their feet.

How do you think the island’s crowd will differ from others?

I guess on an Island in the middle of the ocean, you get a gathering of all sort of beautiful & crazy people who have a passion for music and a good taste for adventures. I can guess there’s a lot of lovely friends and familiar faces from Quebec who will be present since the festival is organized by Montrealers.

What makes a festival successful in your eyes aside from sales?

I think it can be determined by a special ingredient that is hard to «buy» in a grocery store... I’m talking about a little bit of magic. When things are made with love and passion, the audience, artists, staff and volunteers can feel it in the experience and that’s when a special type of energy is created. It can sometimes be a very simple and minimal setup or line up with the most incredible vibes.

From another perspective, a factor that is very important for me and many other artists in 2019 is that every step of the production of an event should be earth conscious and take every action possible to be careful of its footprint. I believe there’s a way to celebrate life and enjoy music while taking care of our planet.

Is there anything special you’re doing to prepare for SXM?

I never know what I’m going to play, this is why it’s important for me to arrive earlier to the island so I can get a feel of the place, the crowd, the energy. I love taking risks and improvise. I’m working on lots of new music at the moment also, so I’ll make sure to test out some new songs in my set.

If you could switch lives with one other artist performing at SXM for a day who would you choose?

As it’s going to be my very first time St. Martin, I’m very much looking forward to seeing the experience through my own eyes, haha! But mmmm, I would switch with maybe Traumer & Viken Arman as they are both very talented musician and I love their music. By borrowing their brain and ears for a few hours, I could learn new studio tricks and sound design tips.

SXM Festival 2018 parties in Happy Bay, St-Martin
Adventures in Sex and Dating in St. Maarten
A Regular Column by Leslie Hickerson

Several drinks later, her two friends were ready to head home for the night, but the couple decided to stay out for ‘just one more’. Neither of them is entirely sure of the events that happened.

The next thing they remember, one of the girls was tapping them awake on the living room couch. Both Alison and Jack were buck-naked on the couch, the apartment was a disheveled mess, and it was about one in the afternoon. Whoops!

The girls had attempted to wake up Alison and Jack when they left in the morning to no avail. So when they awoke to a disaster zone, and tried to piece together the happenings; it was a disaster to say the least.

Other than being embarrassed about being jay-birds, Jack was supposed to be at work at 8 AM and had to rush out half dressed to run with a heavy hangover at the hottest part of the day. Alison rocked a two-day hangover and will never hear the end of her antics from her houseguests!

Heineken Regatta has loaded us up with a whole new set of stories about debauchery for the next few weeks!

Alison came to the island for a short trip just to watch the races. Months in advance she booked an AirBnB for the long weekend and convinced two girls to join for the party. On their first night the girls went out for drinks on the town. Alison caught the eye of Jack who is here working on a yacht.
Sudoku Puzzles
Try your skills on our Sudoku. Ranging from easy to difficult, giving you the opportunity to see if you are a puzzle master.

Need help or want to see if you got it correct? Find the Sudoku solutions on Page 22. Good Luck!

Nominations Requested for "Citizens of Change"

Les Fruits de Mer association and Be the Change Foundation are partners in this project.

“Amuseum Naturalis is a place to share all the stories of St. Martin,” explained Les Fruits de Mer President Jenn Yerkes. “Citizens of Change is an opportunity to share the stories of everyday people who made a difference. It's also a chance for the community to tell us what they want to see in the Amuseum.”

People are encouraged to nominate anyone, living or dead, who made a difference on St. Maarten/St-Martin. Nominations for teachers, writers, artists, builders, farmers, craftsmen, cooks, parents and storytellers are encouraged. By “citizen” we refer to ordinary members of the community, rather than political leaders. Nominees may be of any nationality.

Nominations can be made by email to info@lesfruitsdemer.com, on the Les Fruits de Mer Facebook page, or in person at Amuseum Naturalis at The Old House. Nominations should include the name of the person nominated and a description of their contribution to the island.

“Citizens of Change is a new project from Les Fruits de Mer to celebrate St. Maarten/St-Martin who have made a difference on the island. The public is invited to nominate people they would like to recognize. The stories of their work will be featured in an exhibit at Amuseum Naturalis at The Old House and online. The success and survival of St. Martin has always depended on ordinary people making a difference,” said Be the Change Foundation Director Melanie Choisy.

“Our organization is dedicated to the kind of giving, sharing and volunteering that is part of St. Martin culture. We're excited to support a project that celebrates this spirit and the people who embody it.”

The Citizens of Change project is the Be the Change featured project for March. Donations made to the foundation this month will fund the creation of this exhibit. Donations can be made online at www.BeTheChangeSXM.com.
Aquamarine is the Gem for March Birthdays

By Hilary Grant, GIA Graduate Gemologist

Stunning Aquamarine gemstones are reminiscent of the tropical waters surround St. Maarten/St-Martin. The name itself is Latin, aqua-water and marine-of the sea. Since this gorgeous gem is named after the ocean, its blue watery hue is thought to keep you as calm as the waves and keep sailors safe while at sea.

Perhaps it is because of its calming qualities, but wearers of Aquamarine are sure that it enhances the happiness of their marriages- also maybe the reason this gem represents 19th wedding anniversaries.

The best Aquamarines are high in clarity (meaning you cannot see anything without the aid of a high-powered microscope) and range in color from blue to a slight greenish blue. Just think of the Caribbean waters when purchasing, and the color will be spot on!

Aquamarine crystals

Aquamarine is a member of the beryl family. Distant cousins are Emerald and Morganite. The crystal structure and transparency of the gem allow it to be fashioned into many intricate cuts as well as carvings.

Happy Birthday March babies, visit jewelry retailers on Front Street to find you the perfect birthstone to add to your jewelry collection- Aquamarine!

Aquamarine jewelry in stunning Caribbean blue shade

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Impressions of the 39th Heineken Regatta in 2019
Impressions of Marigot Carnival Parade on Sunday

Continued from Page 1
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