Heineken Regatta Festivities Simplified
Follow Our Suggestions

Regatta weekend is finally here! With so many parties, dining options and fun to be had, we thought we’d focus on the Simpson Bay area and let you in on the secret and (maybe) obvious party spots to ensure that you have a fantastic time while on St. Maarten.

First, let’s start by mentioning the non-obvious activity: shopping! You’ll find official gear at retailers like CarreFour supermarket and Shipwreck Shops around the island. Of course, official souvenir items will also be for sale at Regatta Village located at Port de Plaisance in Coley Bay. Also at the Village: ArtPark and EcoPark. Please, visit the tiny villages within the Village as they highlight local artists and craftspeople.

Of course, jewelry shopping is a must. If you are looking for something to do during the day (who knows- maybe sailing competitions aren’t your thing) then visit Front Street in the Dutch side’s capital- Philipsburg. Find the perfect souvenir to commemorate not just the Heineken Regatta but your time in St. Maarten as well.

Our publication is filled with jewelry stores that will treat you like royalty. Also on Front Street is Cariloa for luxurious bamboo sheets, Yoda Guy (Star Wars fans get excited), Pacific Avenue which carries brands like Tommy Bahama and Lily Pulitzer, and St. Rose Arcade ...

Welcome to the Heineken Regatta Village

For the first time, the Heineken Regatta Village will stay open for the complete Regatta week, giving sailors, vacationers and island residents many opportunities to enjoy all aspects of it.

Re-Planting St. Maarten's Mangroves

By Leslie Hickerson

The St. Maarten Nature Foundation, several students from Milton Peters College (MPC), and the Jorikhae Free Diving School recently re-planted approximately 200 mangrove trees at Mullet Pond.
Letter From the Editor

March 1, 2019

Island dwellers and visitors alike have waited an entire year for this… it is finally Heineken Regatta weekend!

Please make sure to drink responsibly, have a designated driver or call a taxi if everyone in your group wants to party hearty.

Watch the picturesque sailing races around the island, visit the EcoPark and ArtPark in the Village at Port de Plaisance and certainly; drink Heineken.

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.

Enjoy the endless parties, sailing competitions and awards ceremonies. We hope that you had a fantastic time on St. Maarten/St-Martin partying island style.

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 the island are marked with a number which corresponds to the number you see on ads.

Emergency Phone Numbers

**Dutch Side**
- Ambulance: 912 or +1 721 542 2211
- 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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Distribution: Aquiles Raphaela
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St. Maarten/St-Martin Internet Portal: www.st-maarten.com

Print: The Daily Herald

Please email ‘letters to the publisher’ to sxm@email.com
No Excuse Not to Spay Your Pet - Subsidized Certificates Available

No more excuses that it’s not affordable: The St. Maarten Animal Welfare Foundation is holding its annual February Spay campaign now. The pet sterilization campaign for female pets is funded by Island Gems Charity Foundation and friends of Dr. Aberson and will provide 30 low-cost certificates to Dutch side pet owners. The certificates cost US $25 for the spaying.

The idea of the pet sterilization campaign formed years ago after seeing February 28 is Spay Day in the United States.

Dutch side pet owners with their own transportation who are interested in sterilizing their female dog or cat can contact the Animal Welfare Foundation at +1 721 520-8887. Certificates are limited to one to a family, and the campaign will go on for as long as the certificates last. Certificates need not be used immediately if the pet is still quite young.

Every year the organization offers this sterilization campaign as a reminder that “pet romance” in February results in litters of puppies and kittens in May and June. Kathy Deher, Foundation President, said, “unwanted litters create a lot of problems for the community, so it is better they be humanely prevented.”

Dogs freely roaming the streets are a common sight on St. Maarten/St-Martin. Some are strays and living independently in small packs; others have a home but are allowed the freedom to walk around a bit. Visitors are often concerned about the well-being of the animals, especially when constantly having to wait for dogs to cross the road while driving around in a rental car. It takes a while to accept the fact that our island dogs understand traffic well and do not just run out on the road to get hit by a vehicle. This can happen, but it is a rare occurrence.

There are several organizations on island working hard to help animals. Among them is the Dutch side’s Animal Welfare Foundation, which has made great strides in limiting the number of strays. The latest campaign addresses pet owners directly because it is their responsibility to prevent their dog or cat from breeding uncontrollably. If you, as a pet owner, don’t get your animal spayed or neutered, you are responsible for the resulting litter. And if you don’t take care of this litter, please don’t classify yourself as an animal lover.

Puppy Lola was part of an unwanted litter and left to die - saved at the last moment
Decorate Your Property with St-Martin Indigenous Plants

Located in French Quarter, St-Martin is Amuseum Naturalis.

Amuseum Naturalis is a free museum highlighting the nature, history and culture of St-Martin and the Caribbean created by nonprofit, Les Fruits de Mer. This foundation’s mission is to increase awareness in numerous categories, including nature, of the nature, history and culture of St. Martin and the Caribbean, created by Les Fruits de Mer.

Amuseum Naturalis is located at the historic Old House in French Quarter, on the hill above Le Galion.

If you are looking to add some green to your yard or neighborhood, look no further than the free indigenous plants available at Amuseum Naturalis at The Old House in French Quarter. The free plant stand is located just in front of the Amuseum, and is stocked with an assortment of native plants and trees. The plants are provided by the Les Fruits de Mer association.

“Native plants are great for native animals, and after the destruction of Hurricane Inna, we still need to replace plants that were lost,” said Les Fruits de Mer co-founder Mark Yokoyama. “St. Martin is the most densely-populated island in the Caribbean, so there is not a lot of open space. Adding native plants around our homes can help make up for a lack of wild spaces.”

Les Fruits de Mer’s native plants nursery is one of several plant projects at Amuseum Naturalis. Promoting native plants helps local species and hopefully reduces demand for imported plants, which may arrive with unwanted pests.

The project is funded by donations and a grant from BirdsCaribbean’s Hurricane Relief Fund. This fund has provided support for birds and nature on islands impacted by the hurricanes of 2017.

“Please come by and pick up some free plants,” invited Les Fruits de Mer President Jenn Yerkes. “You can also visit the Amuseum for free while you are there! And please continue to share what you know about local plants and how they are used, so this knowledge can be passed on to future generations.”

Amuseum Naturalis at The Old House is a free museum, open 9 AM to 12 PM Tuesday through Saturday. But if it is the free plants you are looking for, the plant stand is in front of the Amuseum and accessible always.
You Too Can Partake in the SXMStrong Movement

Irma— a name that cannot be easily forgotten on St. Maarten/St-Martin. Rebuilding our tiny island has been a journey, one to remember although we wish we could forget at times, but has reminded island dwellers to join hands and remain strong in the face of adversity.

Ballerina Jewelers, located on Front Street in Philipsburg, is one such company. Wanting to participate in the #SXMStrong movement, they created a piece of jewelry to reference the strength and togetherness of our gorgeous island.

Proceeds from these unique pendants directly benefitted the Carib Swim Team, a non-profit organization to engage children in learning the fundamentals of swimming which directly corresponds to the booming water activity and yachting industry that is St. Maarten.

“Since our business revolves around milestones, celebrations and times of prosperity, it is our duty to reach out to less fortunate,” owner Mike Mirpuri explains.

The generous contributions and purchases of this pendant lent a helping hand to the youth of this island but putting Carib Swim Team back to work making swimmers out of the island’s youngest residents.

If you would like to purchase this diamond studded pendant as a souvenir from your visit, or just to contribute, please visit Ballerina Jewelers.
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
5. Beach behind Topper's
7. Supermarket
10. What was produced on Loterie Farm originally?
12. Location of El Zafiro
14. Cruise line named after an event
16. Popular at Jump Up Casino
17. Airline servicing our island
19. What are Buccaneeers?
20. What do they play at Q Lounge?
22. German car brand sold in Cole Bay
23. Beer of Trinidad

DOWN
1. Fancy watch
2. What wood describes the Boat Bar?
3. Regular breeze in the Caribbean
4. Two restaurants with this name
6. What is Isla del Sol?
8. Where is AXA?
9. Currency before the EURO
10. Single masted sailboat
11. What do they show at the Megaplex?
13. Bar in Simpson Bay
15. Banking institution from Canada
18. Gas station brand on French side
19. What do you watch at Driftwood Boat Bar?
21. Diving with a tank

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 18
HEARTS ON FIRE
THE WORLD'S MOST PERFECTLY CUT DIAMOND

MAJESTY JEWELERS
46 Front Street | Philipsburg, St.Maarten
Harbor Cruise Terminal | St.Maarten
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FOR RESERVATIONS OR TAKE OUT CALL 1 (721) 544-2323
Open 5 PM to 11 PM - Closed Tuesday
Welfare Road - Simpson Bay - Right next to Pineapple Pete
Diamonds Naturally Grow in Every Color
By Hilary Grant, GIA Graduate Gemologist

Diamond is one of Earth’s most extraordinary materials. It represents the peak for several material and physical properties. When it comes to diamond, near perfect D-Flawless and imperfections that result in a bright or surprising color tend to create lasting impressions.

Natural, fancy-colored natural diamonds are among the most highly valued gemstones due to their attractiveness and great scarcity.

For example, an 18.96 carat Fancy Vivid pink diamond (show above) named ‘The Winston Legacy’ recently made history for its selling price of over $50 million, setting the highest per carat price for pink diamonds at a Christie’s auction.

Fancy colored diamonds are not in the D-Z Scale (also known as the GIA Normal Color Range Scale) but fall beyond the color Z. So, if you are looking at a yellow or brown diamond it is not considered “Fancy” until the diamond exhibits color past the Z color.

These rare specimens come in every color of the rainbow including blue, green, pink and red.

Now, to understand the value of Fancy colored diamonds which often correlates to pricing. Diamonds in the D-to-Z range usually decrease in value as the color becomes more obvious. A G colored diamond will be more expensive than a Z colored diamond.

Fancy color happens one every ten thousand times in nature. So, the opposite happens with fancy color diamonds: their value typically increases with the strength and purity of the color. Large, vivid fancy colored diamonds are extremely rare and valuable.

Fancy colored diamonds come in almost any color you can imagine: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, black, gray and white (yes- Fancy white!). The 67.50-carat Black Orlov diamond, named after the Russian Princess Nadia Vyegin-Orloff, is the most well-known example of a Fancy black diamond.

Yellows and browns are the most common fancy colored diamonds, with purple and red taking the cake for being the rarest colors.

Grading fancy color diamonds is complex and specialized, and it takes highly trained laboratory graders to complete the process accurately. The GIA model for grading color diamonds shifts from a scale to a 3D model, considering hue, tone and saturation with many options in each category. The GIA system for color-grading fancy color diamonds is designed to accommodate the fact that not all colored diamonds have the same depth of color. For example, yellow diamonds occur in a wide range of saturations, while blue diamonds do not.

Continued next page
Diamonds Naturally Grow in Every Color

Continued from previous page

So, what gives these treasured diamonds their stunning color? Diamonds are 99.95% carbon— you knew this already.

But the other 0.05% is likely another mineral that influenced its color like boron creates blue diamonds, nitrogen is present for yellows and oranges, and a significant amount of hydrogen creates gray diamonds.

Green diamonds get their color when radiation displaces carbon atoms from their normal positions in the crystal structure. This can happen naturally when diamond deposits lie near radioactive rocks, or artificially, because of treatment by irradiation.

Other colors tend to be a formation abnormality, causing luscious shades of purple, red and pink.

The Argyle mine in Australia, shown above, set the standard for natural, Fancy pink colored diamonds.

Brown diamonds were typically considered good only for industrial use until the 1980s, when abundant quantities of them began to appear in Australia’s Argyle mine.

With a need to sell, Australian jewelers called them cognac’ or ‘champagne’—a great marketing campaign.

You might hear yellow diamonds called “Canary diamonds”. This is not proper grading terminology, but it is commonly used in the diamond world to describe fancy yellow diamonds.

On GIA colored diamond reports, colored diamonds are graded in order of increasing color strength from Faint, Very Light, Light, Fancy Light, and Fancy to Fancy Intense, Fancy Vivid, Fancy Dark, and Fancy Deep. Fancy Vivid and Fancy Deep generally command the highest prices.

You might see other labs categorize these colors differently.

Example of Argyle mine pink diamond
Little Bouddha: Enjoy Relaxed Waterfront Dining

Continued from Page 1

We have our Nuit Leau dinner service every Wed to Thur from 6:30 pm until late in our relaxing tropical area by the pool. For reservations, email us at reservations@loteriefarm.com or call us at +599-390-8786.16

Here we also have our Fly Zone & Fly Zone Extreme where you go from treetop to treetop using a variety of obstacles like zip lines, log bridges, ladders, nets, tight ropes etc. If you are game for some active excitement, you have come to the right place.

We are open from 9 am until 9:30 pm 7 days a week.

Indistree Monday

For you all in the service industry, we have our Indistree Monday with 50 Eur off on our regular and VIP cabanas. This offer does not include a discount for daybeds or cabanitas

www.loteriefarm.com

C’EST DANS NOTRE NATURE POOL PARTY

Every last Saturday of the month, noon to 8 pm
Every last Saturday of the month we have our famous, Treasure Pool Party here from noon until 6 pm. For cabana/cabanita and table reservations, please contact Samantha at sam@loteriefarm.com

Set back from the bustling road, in a small Simpson Bay/Cole Bay shopping plaza (next to Domino's Pizza) and right on the lagoon waterfront is Little Bouddha; a lounge and restaurant offering an exciting fusion of several Asian cuisines and an ambitious cocktail selection.

If you’d like to explore the tastes of Vietnamese dishes, Little Bouddha will provide you with a new culinary experience. Better known are the flavors of Thailand, which are also represented in the dining menu.

Sushi chef Tang is well respected on the island, and here Little Bouddha has a special and (on this island) unique offer for all lovers of Japanese food: all you can eat sushi for one very reasonable price.

The lounge and dining room is fully air-conditioned, the decor eclectic, with soft lighting and muted sounds. The outside terrace is built over the lagoon waters with a pleasant view of anchored yachts.

There is free dockage for tenders, making Little Bouddha one of the best dining and entertainment choices for yacht owners.

Open from 6 PM to 11 PM from Monday to Saturday. They are closed on Sunday.
Find Shopping, Activities and Services Here

1. The Body Spa
   - Massages, Facials, Body Scrubs, Body Wraps, Waxing
   - Manicure & Pedicure
   - Eyebrow and Eyelash Tinting
   - Sauna
   - Organic Skin Care
   - Gift Shop

   71 Billy Folly Rd. J Simpson Bay Nether Stel.
   71 Simpson Bay - St. Maarten
   Call for Appointment: +1 721 589 0680

2. NoCo Art Studio
   - FREE ENTRANCE
   - SATURDAYS 5:00-8:00PM

   Join us for the art tour at Terres Basses, lot 39.
   Info: +596 0690 106 463 or janko_n@web.nl

3. INCREDIBLE FITNESS & MORE
   - Rhine Road 146 - Cupecoy
   - Call: +1 721 554 4606

4. Toppers Rhum Distillery Tours
   - St. Maarten’s newest attraction
   - BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY
   - +1 721 520-0008
   - TOPPERSRHUMTOURS.COM

5. Your Full Service Optician!
   - Promenade Mall
   - 44 Front Street
   - (Opposite of the Horizon View Hotel)
   - Call: +590 690 36 64 65
   - Email: eyelandoptic.sxm@gmail.com
   - Visitors: Emergency Repairs Available!

6. Eye Land Optique
   - Promenade Mall
   - 44 Front Street
   - (Opposite of 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 10AM - 7PM
   - (+599) 590 27-1794
   - creativemarinstore.com

8. SIMPSON BAY PHARMACY
   - www.sxmpharmacy.com
   - Your #1 Drugstore for:
     - Prescription and over-the-counter medication
     - Beauty and personal care products
     - We sell well known brands such as L’Oreal, Mary Kay, Clarins, St. Barth’s, Clinique, Phyto and Neutrogena.
     - Marine medical kits and supplies
   - We are open 7 days a week:
     - Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 10:00 pm
     - Saturday: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
   - Simpson Bay Yacht Club, Welfare Road #68, Cole Bay
   - (+1) 721 544-3653
   - sbp.pharmacy@gmail.com

9. Caribbean Marins
   - Speedboats 5X5
   - Call +599 690 48 49 33
   - www.caribbeanmarins.com
   - Secluded Beaches
   - Best Snorkeling Spots
   - Deserted Islands
   - St. Martin
   - Anguilla
   - St. Barths
Visit the Island's Party and Dining Hot Spots

1. The Boon
'Right on pristine Simpson Bay Beach!'
Casual Gourmet Bistro
Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
(8 AM to 10 PM)
117 Simpson Bay Road, Simpson Bay
Call +1 721 545-3070 for reservation

2. Taco Macho
'Enjoy the best of Latin hospitality'
Mexican - Colombian Restaurant & Bar
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4. Orient Village Plantation Restaurant & Bar & Lounge
*Opening Hours*
Tuesday - Sunday
Breakfast 8am - 10am
Lunch 12pm - 3pm
Dinner 6pm - 9:30pm
Mondays CLOSED!

5. Rendezvous Lounge
Casual Gourmet Bistro
Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
5AM to 11PM
PORTO CURIOS MAYA MARINA
For Reservations call 721 545-3070

6. Aluna
Authentic Japanese Cuisine Prepared Fresh
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Piazzetta Chalbre, Simpson Bay Yacht Club

7. Little Mobay
Authentic Jamaican Cuisine at Maho Village
Open from 7 AM until late
For Reservation call +1 721 545-0279

8. Parrot's Nest
Blend of French, Asian and Caribbean cuisine
Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 10am to 10pm

9. Wetzel's Pretzels
N. Debrot Straat 4
(Across Post Office)
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten
CALL +1 721 542-3100

10. Mario Bistrot
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11. Bistrot Caraibes
Open for breakfast, lunch & dinner
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81 Boulevard de Grand Case
For Reservations Call +590 590 290 829 or +590 690 536 144

12. Karakter
Open from 9AM for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Live entertainment every day of the week from 7pm
121 Simpsonbay Road, Info: karakterbeach.com +1 721 523 96 83
Re-Planting St. Maarten's Mangroves
Continued from Page 1
By Leslie Hickerson

The St. Maarten Nature Foundation, several students from Milton Peters College (MPC), and the Jorahkae Free Diving School recently re-planted approximately 200 mangrove trees at Mullet Pond. These vital plants, like much of the island’s ecosystem, have taken substantial damage from over development of the coastline and high winds and waves during hurricane Irma.

Mangroves are a unique type of tree that can grow and survive in fresh, brackish or saltwater. This rare ability means that these plants can be found at the edge of shorelines, where freshwater and saltwater mix with sediments in the earth. The roots of the trees start above the water line and hold fast in the soft earth below. Their strength protects the coastline; if the plants are lost the land will erode away, making it impossible for the trees to re-grow in the same place.

The mangroves are so strong in fact, that many boats owners tied their vessels directly to the roots of the groves before Hurricane Irma. Instead of drifting away, these boats ended up on top of the plants, which held fast during the intense wind speeds of the storm.

Those boaters that relied on the mangroves to act as anchors left behind an incredible amount of debris to be cleaned. Washing machines, cabinets, toilets, anything that flew overboard, or needed to be dumped to lighten the load of the boat was tossed into the forest. Instead of acting as a home for marine-life and bird species these areas were treated as a dumping ground.

It’s strength and ability to live in salt water is not the only thing that sets the mangrove apart from other trees. Mangroves can absorb an amazing amount of carbon dioxide from the air we breathe, making them far more affective in combating climate change than other forest areas.

Not only can these plants help clean the air around them, they act as a natural filtration system for the water that runs through their roots. The trees actually absorb toxins and trap sediments, making the water around them cleaner.

With so many benefits it is easy to see why organizations like The SXM Nature Foundation and EPIC (Environmental Protection in the Caribbean) have made efforts to re-introduce the mangroves to our ecosystem.

These projects are vital as more than half of the mangroves that were native to the island were damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Irma.

“More people should see the value of mangroves and their protection. There should be a much larger scale of mangrove restoration,” said Project Officer Melanie Meijer zu Schlochtern, “Mullet Pond is the last intact mangrove forest in Simpson Bay Lagoon and provides vital protection.” There is a conservation zone around Mullet Pond area that protects these plants, but it is limited to a very small area.

To begin this process the Nature Foundation brought in seeds from a company in Florida with funding from the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance. “We started growing the seeds near our location in Cole Bay over five months ago,” stated Schlochtern.

There are several different ways you can approach the process of growing and re-planting mangrove trees. As seedlings these trees are delicate and can be wiped out by winds or high boat traffic. To combat this mangroves can either be transplanted after they have grown to a more stable size, or they can be planted with some sort of protection around them until they are strong enough for it to be removed.

The Nature Foundation chose to grow their seedlings until they were large enough to be planted individually. This is not a simple task as the mangroves started out in fresh water and then were slowly introduced to salt water as they matured, “The plants need a little transition time, we had 3 students from MPC come and first introduced 25% salt water, then 50%, 75%. This helped the plants to grow quickly,” says Schlochtern.

Using the other tactic, the group EPIC planted some of their seedlings in December of 2018 with PVC pipe protection around them. This will later be removed once the plant is large enough to survive on it’s own.

Along with the efforts of the above organizations the residents of St. Maarten can help the regrowth of these areas by never tying their boats to these trees or their roots and never dumping debris in the mangrove forests.
Resort Wear Brands Exclusively at Pacific Avenue

There is no better time or place to look for luxury resort wear full of colorful images, classy with a hint of fun in the cute sayings while in St. Maarten. But, where can one find such items that are made from high quality textiles and well-known brands? Look no further than Pacific Avenue.

With a name like Pacific Avenue; visions of beaches, palm trees and tropical drinks immediately come to mind. But their inventory lives up to the name. Pacific Avenue is the only authorized dealer on Sint Maarten for brands like Tommy Bahama, Lily Pulitzer, Gretchen Scott and Au Noir.

Located on Front Street towards the head of town, this treasure of a store is warm and inviting. With a variety of luxury brands for sale, they certainly cater to those who consider themselves to be resort casual dressers with a nod to embracing the inner child.

Tommy Bahama is one of the brands they are best known for. Pacific Avenue carries not just resort wear, but is now filling their shelves with colognes, sandals, luggage and even pajamas. If you love the panel back shirts, this is the store for you.

Lily Pulitzer and Gretchen Scott are new arrivals to this island boutique. Truly- nothing feels better than slipping into fashionable and stylish garments while on vacation on a tropical island.

While these brands carry clout and notoriety, it is important to note that the staff of Pacific Avenue in SXM are world class themselves. They are courteous, friendly and will go the extra mile to ensure that you not only enjoy your time in their store, but that you will come back year after year.
Adventures in Sex and Dating in St. Maarten
A Regular Column by Leslie Hickerson

Your first date was where? We thought we had heard all the worst first date stories we could handle, but this week is another doozy.

Jackie was new to the island when she went on her first date with Luis. To be fair, they had already hit it off one night drinking and had rounded 2nd base, so the date was more of a formality to get to the end of the game. Luis however, was one bold man and decided to take Jackie to Empire for their first date. In case you haven’t explored that part of the island, Empire is a ‘Gentleman’s Club’ wink wink.

Curious to see an adult entertainment venue like this one Jackie agreed to go along thinking it would be a fun place to have a couple drinks. When they got there however, things were awkward and Jackie wasn’t really feeling it. Rather than switch up the date location and try to salvage the night Luis took the easier (but more expensive) option.

Leaving Jackie at the bar he went to the back room with one of the girls and paid for some private services. Rather than taking a cab back home Jackie, just waited at the bar for him to ‘finish up’. We are going to blame that poor judgment call on her slightly naïve nature.

Bonus surprise- on the ride back Luis revealed that he was married with kids. Jackie didn’t contact him for a second date and never saw him again.
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 20. Good Luck!

This Weekend: Carnival Celebrations in St-Martin and Around the World

If you can't be tempted to watch the Heineken Regatta from shore or on a spectator boat, and if you need some excitement before the major nightly concerts at the regatta village, consider joining the annual carnival parade in Marigot.

The French side of our island celebrates Carnival at the 'correct' date, as set by the Christian churches about fourteen-hundred years ago. Around the world, the major parades and activities take place this year between March 3rd and 5th. Millions celebrate in Rio de Janeiro - Brazil, Port of Spain - Trinidad, Cologne - Germany - as they did for centuries.

The size of St-Martin's carnival might be no match for the extensive party season of the Dutch side later in April/May, but deserves respect and attention for maintaining an event close to the local cultural heritage, even though it falls into the busy high season.

So, if you'd like a taste of Caribbean carnival parades and costumes, join the celebrations on Sunday the 3rd from noon onwards. On Tuesday the 5th of March, there is the Mardi Gras Grand Parade in Marigot, starting at 2 PM. During nighttime and at the waterfront in the center of Marigot, there are live-concerts both on Saturday and Sunday.

It is unfortunate that the Heineken Regatta has chosen the same weekend for their event as the age-old custom of Carnival. You might decide to alternate the weekend evenings to give one day to Marigot and another evening to the Heineken Village performances.

For regatta visitors: Marigot is only a five minute car ride away from the Heineken Regatta Village. Dinghies can dock at Marina Royale.
Heineken Regatta Village Open Seven Days

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For the first time, the Heineken Regatta Village will stay open for the complete Regatta week, giving sailors, vacationers and island residents many opportunities to enjoy all aspects of it.

The village saw a fair stream of visitors as early as Monday evening, with live music performed on a secondary stage and several of the booths open and ready for business.

It is important to note that, especially the exhibitors at the Art Park, made the effort of being present from the first moment onward. Christiane Ladeon was available to present her beautiful aquarelle paintings, which we covered in the previous edition of this magazine.

The generous acreage of the Heineken Regatta Village is inviting even to persons uncomfortable in crowded environments.

With constant entertainment and many food choices available, the village is a great location to spend some leisure hours during this year’s regatta week.

Location: Port de Plaisance on Union Road in Cole Bay.

Motorworld display at the entrance

Andi Sieger presenting his cigar selection

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SUNDAY MARCH 3

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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 28
FUNKY HORNY HORNS
WHAT THE FUNK
DJ PRINCE

FRIDAY MARCH 1
ALISON HINDS
YOUTH WAVES
KING KEMBE
KENYO BALLY
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SATURDAY MARCH 2
THIRD WORLD
FATMAN SCOOP
DJ OUTKAST

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www.heinekenregatta.com/ticket-sales
Are you ready to explore St. Maarten/St-Martin in comfortable, reliable and air-conditioned transportation from a company that you know and trust?

Located on the Dutch side, close to the Princess Juliana International airport, is Avis and Budget Car Rental.

Whether you choose a stylish jeep, convertible or a classic sedan; Avis and Budget are ready to accommodate your needs once on St. Maarten/St-Martin.

If you have just arrived at the airport, an air-conditioned van will transport you from either the Dutch or French side airport to the car rental lot, where you will be equipped with the transportation of your choosing.

Of course, if you are already living up the island life and need a car for a few days; they can assist with that too.

When your vacation comes to an end, the shuttle will take you back to your designated airport, bidding you a fond farewell.

Now, all that is left to do is pick up an island map before you leave St. Maarten’s very own Avis and Budget Car rental, and start your expedition of our 34-square mile island, assured that you chose a dependable rental agency.

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Along with the best Johnny cakes, fried plantain and funchi you’ll ever find on the island.
Heineken Regatta: Dining and Partying Plan Simplified
Continued from Page 1

which is a small shopping center nestled between Front Street and the Boardwalk that has restaurants, bars and of course- shops.

Now, if you are looking for the best dining spots (lunch, dinner, late night) in Simpson Bay, here are a few that the food will be as delectable as the cocktails. Some have promotions that we heard:

Lagoones Bistro Bar
Happy Hour: $1 Heineken daily 5 PM – 6 PM, plus live music Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Marty’s
Get a catamaran (don’t worry- this is a dish and not a boat!) and a Heineken for $12

Alina Sushi
Buccaneers
Buffalo Wings
Greenhouse
Isola Ristorante
Jimbo’s Rock & Blues Cafe
Karakter Beach Bar & Restaurant
Melange Grill
Nowhere Special Rum Bar & Grill

Pineapple Pete Restaurant & Bar
Snoopy’s
The Boon Beach Bar & Restaurant
The Palms Restaurant
Thirsty Barons Sports Bar & Grill
Topper’s Restaurant and Bar
Wasabi Charlie Japanese Cuisine
Little Bouddha
Sale e Pepe

Full tummy and time to party. As for island nightlife, we will keep this short and sweet as you already know that there are concerts nightly at Regatta Village:

Lotus
Host of Thursday Feb 28’s Official After Party: 90’s theme as well as host of Friday March 1’s Official After Party: About Last Night theme with ladies receiving free entry and $3 Heineken All Night Long for all

Red Diamond Adult Entertainment
Three specials for Regatta weekend. Beer special: buy 5 Heinekens get 1 free, Champagne special: $150 bottle of Laurent Perrier or Moet & Chandon, Fun special: Buy a bottle of alcohol, get a lap dance for free

The Red Piano
While Regatta is technically over Sunday, the party keeps going Monday at CHURCH on Monday at this live music island staple evening at The Red Piano.

Q Lounge
Above McDonalds - late, late night after parties.

Simpson Bay Bridge Hours: Don't Get Caught!
Friday March 1 through Sunday March 1

Please Drink Responsibly!
Call a Taxi:
+1 721 543-7814
or
+1 721 543-7815

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Have a fantastic
Regatta weekend
Commit to the Calling

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