

Local News
in English

FREE

St-Barth WEEKLY

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05 90 27 65 19 - stbarthweekly@wanadoo.fr

Magali Solignat in Cabaret Matisse, an original theatrical production created and performed with Sabine Boukobza, directed by Benedicte Budan, and performed in Saint Barth last Saturday and Sunday. After the local company, SB Artists, presented "La Nuit de Valognes" on Tuesday and Wednesday, Clémence Massart will perform on Thursday and Friday evenings (May 11 & 12) in a musical song cycle, "La vieille au bois dormant," which is based on old, often forgotten, French songs, and premiered at the Avignon Off Festival last year.



FIFTH ANNUAL THEATRE FESTIVAL THROUGH MAY 13

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Banque Populaire Wins The Amigo Challenge



Alain Haillant, president and founder of Dauphin Telecom, and Philippe Morel, sales and marketing director, presenting first prize in the Amigo Challenge, to the winners, Banque Populaire, with skipper Jeanne Grégoire and Gérald Veniard, and their guests.

The Amigo Challenge, the epilogue to the Transat ag2r, was held on Thursday, May 4, with the Figaro Banque Populaire taking first place, with skipper Jeanne Grégoire and Gérald Veniard, who took third place in the Transat ag2r, a transatlantic race from Concarneau to Saint-Barth, arriving after 19 days, 23 hours, 15 minutes, and 55 seconds at sea. The Amigo Challenge, sponsored by the new cell phone network, Amigo, launched by Dauphin Telephone, was cut short due to dubious weather conditions— heavy rain and weak winds of just three to five knots. Scheduled as an around the island regatta, the itinerary was reduced to four miles, a round-trip from Gus-

tavia to the Amigo buoy in the bay at Salines, and back the finish line in Gustavia. Brit'Air (Armel Le Cleach/Nicolas Troussel) was the first boat to pass the next to last buoy of the Amigo Challenge, but were nosed out of first place right before the finish line by Banque Populaire, whose passengers for the day were Jacqueline Tabarly (widow of the acclaimed sailor, Eric Tabarly) and Jean-Jacques Pêqueur (administrator of the ag2r). Brit'Air finished second, in front of Delta Dore (Jérémie Beyou and Vincent Riou).

The award ceremony— including the first place trophy of carved wooden dolphins— and prizes for all participants, was held immediately after the

race. Alain Haillant, president and founder of Dauphin Telecom, and Philippe Morel, sales and marketing director, presented the prizes.

STANDINGS IN THE AMIGO CHALLENGE

1. Banque Populaire
 2. Brit Air
 3. Delta Dore
 4. Groupe Celeos
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 9. ATAO Audio System
 10. Axa Atout Cœur pour Aides
 11. Bostik
 12. Siemens
 13. Suzuki Automobiles
 14. Des Pieds et Des Mains
 15. Roxy
 16. Donneurs de vie – All Mer
 17. Entreprendre au pays de Lorient
 18. Guy Hoquet Immobiliers
 19. Lubexcel
 20. Objectif Océans
 21. Port Olona
- Boats not completing the race
- Gedimat
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Les Mousquetaires



61st Commemoration of 1945 Victory



On Monday, May 8, mayor Bruno Magras presided over the 61st commemoration of the May 8, 1945 victory in WWII. In keeping with the annual tradition, he placed a wreath of flowers at the war monument in Gustavia. Philippe Enault, president of the veterans of foreign wars association, also placed a wreath in tribute to the victims of the Second World War. Two junior high school students then read the national message from the French Union of Foreign War Veterans (the UFAC) that was distributed throughout all of France. Since he did not have the speech from

the French minister for war veterans, Hamlaoui Mekachera, Bruno Magras delivered a personal speech recalling the events of May 8 when the surrender of the Third Reich marked the end

of five years of war. It was also the opportunity for the mayor to explain the island's commitment to this commemoration: "With more than 60 men who were mobilized and sent to Fort Richpanse in Basse-Terre, awaiting shipment to France, how could the island of Saint-Barthélemy forget those who fought alongside the leaders of the country, in the name of the entire population, and suffered the horrors of war, beyond all expectations?" After the flag was raised and a moment of silence, the cortege moved on to City Hall for the traditional champagne toast the closes the commemoration ceremony.



14 KILOS OF COCAINE FOUND OFF THE COAST OF SAINT BARTH

As a sailor who was navigating off the coast of Saint Barthélemy pulled a large package of cocaine out of the water. This event took place in mid-April, according to the national police, who seized the 14 kilos of cocaine in question. The substance was divided into packets of two kilos each and was said to be of very high quality. Additional bundles of 20 kilos each were found off the coast of Guadeloupe, and the police have not dismissed the possibility that both packages were part of the same

delivery. The discovery of these illegal shipments, at sea by sailors, or by those walking on the beach, is fairly frequent in this area of the West Indies, a relay zone that is popular with drug traffickers based in Latin America.

Police blotter

PETTY THEFTS MORE NUMEROUS...

During the night of May 4 to 5, the cloth top of a Samurai was stolen from the car while it was parked in front of the Tom Beach hotel. The next day, the night of Saturday to Sunday, a bag containing two cell phones, a Visa card, and identity papers, was stolen in a nightclub. Then on Sunday, in broad daylight, a couple of tourists were robbed of their suitcase containing personal effects, eye glasses, and identity papers, from their car parking in the lot at their hotel. The same day, in Gustavia, a minor stole a rental scooter and took off with one of his friends, only to abandon the scooter near the fish market. Identified by a witness, the thief was questioned and will appear before the juvenile court.

MORE NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS...

The police report indicates numerous tickets for illegal parking, as well as tickets for bald tires and driving under the influence. Five people were stopped for not wearing helmets while driving scooters or motorcycles, and one for not wearing a seatbelt, which resulted in a fine of 90 euros.



APRIL 2006: HOTTER THAN USUAL

The monthly weather recap by René Fury, director of Espace Météo Caraïbe, Météo France, Gustavia

Temperature

With an average temperature of 81.5°F, the month of April 2006 was a hot month, 0.33°F hotter than normal. The daytime average temperature of 87°F was higher than expected, as was the lowest nighttime temperature of 76.2°F. The average temperature for the month was the same as that of the ocean, 81.5°F by the end of April. Extreme monthly temperatures: a low of 72.5°F on April 14; a high of 91°F on April 27.

Wind

The wind came mostly from the North-East in early April, then shifted to the South-East. The strongest gusts were barely 60 km/h.

Rain

While the average rainfall for April is 1.9", this year saw just 0.98". The island did not experience the heavy rains usually associated with the month of April.

Since the beginning of 2006, there has been 6.5" of rain, a little less than average.

Three-month forecast

Weather models for the next three months are not calling for anything out of the ordinary in terms of temperature. Rain over the Northern Islands is tied a system over the island of Hispaniola. An active hurricane season is expected due to high ocean temperatures and the absence of the "El Nino" phenomenon.

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5th Edition of Rotary Rally:

The Internet Gets In The Race



Sunday, April 23 was the date for the fifth annual inter-company rally organized by the Rotary Club, and whose profits will go toward the training of a local member of the Red Cross. Fifty people took part in this around the island chase for cars, and information—a quiz based on questions about the history of the island and its environment was an essential part of the rally. Zooming about in ten vehicles, the participants crisscrossed the island in search of clues and riddles. New this year: the Internet played its role in the game, and was of great use to the competitors: each car had a "hotline" to a base station where net surfers could look up information and help answer different questions in the rally. There were also various sports activities to complete such as scuba diving, kayak, rock climbing with ropes, dirt bikes, etc. Since it was also International Book Day, the final test was a dictation. The rally ended with the traditional luncheon at the Rivage restaurant, whom the Rotary would like to thank for its support of the event.



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Classified ads

Real Estate

85-88- For sale owner to owner, panoramic view of St Jean Bay beautifull villa entirely new. Contact 06 90 711 575 or kayquattrochi@hotmail.com

For sale: brasserie business located in St. Jean. 3-6-9 year lease. For additional information write to brasserie_creole@wanadoo.fr

Exclusivity For Sale : 6 bedrooms / 4 bath villa, living room, large terrace + additionnal fully equipped studio, pool, sea view, Flamands area. Well maintained, furnished. 2.250.000 euros. Contact "St Barth Properties; Sotheby's internationnal realty" at 0590 29 75 05

For Sale, Saint.Jean, close to the beach, 2 bedrooms / 2 bath villa, living room, pool, ajouta. Recent building. 1 200 000 euros. Contact "St Barth Properties; Sotheby's internationnal realty" at 0590 29 75 05

Villa for sale- Villa near St Jean, Lovely beach, 2 bed / 2 bath

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Looking for Rental

"Mature American couple seeks long-term (one year) rental of 2 or 3 bedroom house, beginning May 1 or May 15. All areas of island considered. House with view of the sea or close to the beach preferred. Pool not necessary. Contact Neil : neil_104@yahoo.com or 001-781-259-0190"

Looking for work

My name is Andrea, I am looking for a house-keeping job. I am a very serious woman. Please call 06 90 711 575

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