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St-Barth WEEKLY

Local News
in English

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FREE

Will There Be New Urban-Planning Rules?

NEWS BRIEFS

CTTSB WEBSITE RECOGNIZED



The Territorial Tourism Committee (CTTSB) is among the winners of “Les Trophées de la Communication,” as awarded on Friday, November 28, in the category of Best Tourist Office Websites. The CTTSB site, designed by Horizon Bleu agency, was selected as the third-place winner by a jury of professionals. First and second place went to the Tourist Office of Ajaccio (Corsica), and the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism respectively. The 14th edition of “Les Trophées de la Communication,” also had over 20 other winners in as many categories from Best Website for a city with more than 25,000 inhabitants and the Best Event Marketing to the Best Public Relations Campaign.

A VILLAGE FOR CHRISTMAS

As the holiday season draws near the island is preparing for its end-of-the-year festivities. The Collectivity



has decided to set a new benchmark in its illumination of Gustavia with a special presentation by the experts at Blachère Illumination. Their lighting is acclaimed around the world, especially decorating the Eiffel Tower and the Champs-Élysées in Paris. In addition, a Christmas tree will decorate the plaza by town hall, and the tourism committee (CTTSB) will once again organize a Christmas Village on the Quai du Général de Gaulle. Open from Saturday, December 13 to Sunday, December 21, activities include the traditional visit by Santa Claus on December 14, as well as surprise guests, according to the CTTSB, who are also planning more activities for kids at the village this year. Along with a varied program of events throughout the week culminating with a gospel concert the last day.

GWOKA ADDED TO UNESCO HERITAGE LIST

Gwoka has been added to the Intangible Cultural Heritage list as established by UNESCO. Gwoka, comprising music, song, dance, and cultural practices, is considered the traditional element of cultural identity in Guadeloupe. It was added to UNESCO’s list on Wednesday, November 26, during the ninth session of the inter-governmental committee for the preservation of intangible cultural heritage. “This recognition is a matter of great pride for Guadeloupe, where this musical genre draws its inspiration and has its roots,” notes French Overseas Minister, George Pau-Langevin, who herself is from Guadeloupe. “It is also a great distinction for France to have another of its overseas musical traditions recognized, after Mayola music from Reunion Island, inscribed in 2009,” she adds. Fleur Pellerin, French Minister of Culture, also applauds this decision made by UNESCO.

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REGATTAS: COURSE DE L'ALLIANCE

LIL'E SAINT BARTH WINS RACING CLASS



The Sint Maarten Yacht Club hosted the Course de l'Alliance regatta on November 28-30, with races between Sint Maarten, Saint Barth, Anguilla, and Saint Martin. The goal of the regatta is to improve the links between the four yachts clubs of the Northern Islands. The 2014 edition of the race saw 14 sailboats

in competition, and divided into three classes: racing (6), cruising (5), and multihull (3). Only one boat from Saint Barth was on the starting line: Lil'E Saint-Barth, a Melges 24, with skipper Mowgli Fox and his crew excelling in the racing class and leaving the other competitors in their wake, with no hope of victory. Lil'E Saint-Barth won the first two races and finished fourth in the last one. With this victory under their belts, the crew of L'il'E Saint-Barth is seeking a new set of sails for the rest of the racing season.

HOUSING IN ST JEAN INAUGURATED

New housing near the sports complex in St Jean was officially inaugurated on Thursday, November 27. Bruno Magras, president of the Collectivity, and Cécile Tiberghien, president of the island's sports commission, cut the ribbon. Housing for 48 people is divided between seven bungalows and intended for individuals or groups invited to Saint Barth for recognized sports and cultural events.



A NEW CONCEPT IN CATERING ARRIVED IN ST BARTH'S



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WILL THERE BE NEW URBAN-PLANNING RULES?



While working on the latest version of the urban-planning map for the island, the territorial council has consulted with professionals, starting with architects. Does that mean the rules will change? And if so, how?

What is happening with the new urban-planning map? As a reminder, in October 2013 the administrative tribunal rejected the previous version of the document created by the territorial council. The principal reason was the manner in which the document had been presented to the public, and the magistrates received at least 30 appeals.

The creation of a new map, launching the entire process again, began on June 6, opening a new period of consultation by the public. Individuals were invited to register their grievances by appointment with the urban-planning service of the Collectivity, on Monday or Tuesday mornings, or by writing in a register available at town hall.

It is no surprise that most of the items in the register were requests to change the classification of land

for construction, as the owners would all like to build. From time to time, a concerned citizen would express concern for the general interest of the island, such as “Mesdames and Messieurs of the council, a little restraint!” noted one contributor, following the awarding of permits he considered too ambitious.” Another register was open for comments by associations concerned with environmental protection. The most active environmental association on the island, St Barth Essentiel, had requested that the council engage in more of a dialogue with the population about the future of Saint Barthélemy in terms of the creation of a new urban-planning map.

Finally, the elected members of the urbanism commission engaged in consultations with professionals in the field. The first of these meetings was with architects, real-estate agents, notaries, and lawyers, on Tuesday, October

28. A second meeting exclusively with architects was held on Friday, November 22. “More meetings with them will follow,” indicates Karine Miot-Richard, vice president of the Collectivity, and president of the urbanism commission.

The goal of these meetings? “To get recommendations from them, as well as their analysis of requests sent to them by their clients,” explains Miot-Richard. The territorial council will later examine their responses. Can one deduce from these consultations with professionals that the council is not opposed to a rewriting of the urbanism regulations? Maybe to make certain changes or start again at zero? And if that is the case, what will be the new directions taken? After the prior map was cancelled last year, Miot-Richard feels that the judgment of the tribunal on the process followed did not negate the “funda-

mentals” of the documents—in other words, the zoning and subsequent regulations. And to make sure that there are no imprecise methods this time, the Collectivity plans to use aerial photos. For the opposition council members, primarily Benoit Chauvin et Bettina Cointre (Tous Pour Saint-Barth), the new map required by the council will give them the opportunity to correct certain rules. In the spirit of limiting development?

More flexibility in the regulations?

Almost everyone agrees that at the rate of 300 permits given out per year, construction on the island has almost reached the saturation point. The professionals consulted by the Collectivity think there are certain nuances to be considered. The concrete continues to be poured, that’s for sure. But there is also an alarm-

ing increase in rents on the island, which may just have surpassed Paris as an expensive place to live. The cause is “a shortage of housing for the close to 10,000 year-round residents,” notes one architect, who feels there should be more flexibility in order to meet this need. So should the urbanism regulations be relaxed? “Densification of the population, where that is possible, by authorizing construction over two stories in valleys or terraced on hillsides in order to avoid building on the hilltops,” he suggests, “and de-densification of other zones,” such as Flamands and Corossol, already at saturation. “One solution would be to have the rules differ per neighborhood, or even according to the relief of the landscape, he adds. Yet more nuance in the response to the problem manes

more finesse in the analysis of the situation.

As far as 300 permits per year are concerned, president Bruno Magras continually points out that many are simply to rebuild a fence or a garden shed. How many? And what is the exact number of new constructions compared to renovations? How many big houses are built, and how many are small? “How many buildings in each neighborhood?” queries this professional. “The council requested our opinion on the evolution of the regulations without giving us all of the necessary information. And for the moment, without having a perspective on development or a completely defined political position, they asked us to find the means to fight against a series of nuisances,” he adds.



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EHPAD To Open In Mid-JANUARY 2015

Recently built in Gustavia, the new Louis Vialec EPHAD for senior citizens is almost ready to house up to 30 residents, almost all women

The opening of the first old-age home (EHPAD) in Saint Barth is imminent. The new building, next to the Hospital de Bruyn in Gustavia, is entirely equipped and furnished, yet to make sure everything is up to code, there must be a visit of conformity from the Regional Health Agency (ARS) before the structure can open. In the meantime, director Hervé Magott, and health officer Danielle Renard, have their fingers crossed. If the ARS says everything is A-OK, the EHPAD will be able to open as planned on Saturday, December 20.

Once open, the EHPAD, which has been baptized after Louis

Vialenc (one of the earliest doctors in Saint Barth) will be open for its first residents. “Hopefully by mid-January,” indicates Magott. The managers of the Hospital de Bruyn, who will run the EHPAD, will organize a progressive entry of the 30 residents who will be housed there. The first to move in will be the seven senior citizens who currently live at the hospital. After that, the others will be integrated gradually. The average age of the first residents, almost all women, is 82.

By definition, an EHPAD is an assisted-living faculty for seniors. “But that does not prohibit us from housing older people

who are still independent,” notes Magott. The EHPAD comprises three levels of dependence, based on the residents’ ability to accomplish everyday tasks, such as bathing, dressing, eating, etc. “If the resident can do a task alone, needs help, or absolutely cannot do it alone,” adds Magott, who believes in maintaining an “open” establishment. “Open to aides, and to families who will want to visit. And also to associations with which we plan to create agreements,” he hopes. He also hopes that with the opening of the EPHAD, that seniors currently housed elsewhere will be able to return to the island.

JANUARY IS MUSIC MONTH IN SAINT BARTH



The 2015 edition of the St Barth Music Festival, organized by Francs and Jill DeBroff, takes place January 9-25, featuring classical and jazz, plus the return of the dancers from the Paris Opera and other surprises.

In Saint Barth, the month of January is dedicated to the St Barth Music Festival, as organized by Francs and Jill DeBroff. The 31st annual edition of the festival takes place on January 9-15, 2015, with concerts primarily in

the island’s churches. While the program is still being finalized, the main events have been announced, starting with the return of ballet to the festival thanks to Aubane Philbert, a member of the corps de ballet at the Paris Opera who will lead two evenings of dance on the Quai du Général de Gaulle, in Gustavia, to open the festival on Friday and Saturday, January 9 and 10.

Next up is classical music, then an opera evening featuring the Cuban-American coloratura soprano, Eglise Gutiérrez, on Friday, January 16. This year there is once again an accent on music for young people, with a concert for kids on Monday, January 19, comprising Debussy’s *La Boite à*

Joujoux. The St Barth Music Festival also embraces jazz in concert at the Anglican Church with the return of Jason Marsalis, as part of a much-anticipated trio with the blind pianist, Marcus Roberts.

Tickets for the St Barth Music Festival will be sold at the Tourist Office (CTTSB), near the port offices on the main dock Gustavia, starting on Monday, January 5. There is a 5% discount on all tickets bought from January 5 to 9, as well as a 10% discount on a full Festival pass. Concerts are free for kids under the age of 12. Or you can just come to the concerts and pay at the door— the old-fashioned way.

A GOOD EXAMPLE OF SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION

The Lions Club and the Rotary Club joined forces for the second time to organize a big St Barth Clean Up.

On Sunday, November 30 at 7am, close to 200 people showed up at the parking lot across from Tom Beach, including 50 kids thanks to the Early Act program at the elementary school and Interact at Collège Mireille Choisy. The students handed out gloves, trash bags, water, croissants, and t-shirts to the other participants.

The results were pretty spectacular, with 8,320 tons of trash and debris collected and taken to Public. In addition this year, an underwater clean-up operation was initiated by Serial Divers, who brought almost two tons of trash up to the surface: an initiative definitely worth developing. Thanks to the Territorial



Environmental Agency, which took care of the youngest kids and taught them about the problems if pollution, their parents could take part in the clean up without worrying about their kids.

The clean-up day ended on a convivial note with a picnic organized

at Zion Garden to thank all of the participants. The Bitin Brass Band provided a musical ambiance.

The organization, St Barth Clean Up, would like to sincerely thank all individuals, businesses, and organizations that helped make this operation such a big success.

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Gustavia

Bagatelle	05.90.27.51.51
Bar de l'Oubli	05.90.27.70.06
Bête à Z' Ailes (BAZ Bar)	05 90 29 74 09
Black Ginger	05.90.29.21.03
Bonito	05.90.27.96.96
Café Victoire	05.90.29.02.39
Côté Port	05.90.87.79.54
Do Brazil	05.90.29 06 66
Eddy's Restaurant	05.90.27 54 17
Gustav'	05.90.27.73.00
L'Avventura	05.90.52.45.31
L'Isola Ristorante	05.90.51.00.05
L'Isoletta	05.90.52.02.02
La Crêperie	05 90 27 84 07
La Cantina	05.90.27.55.66
Le Carré	05.90.52.46.11
Le Repaire	05.90.27 72 48
Le Vietnam	05 90 27 81 37
L'Escale d'Avriette	05.90.29 52 24
Pipiri Palace	05.90.27 53 20
Provença	05.90.27.71.83
The Strand	05.90.27.63.77
Thi Widi	05 90 27 90 60

Lurin

Santa Fé	05.90.27.61.04
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Public

Maya's	05.90.27.75.73
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Flamands

Casa Flamands (Taiwana)	05.90.27 65 01
Chez Rolande	05.90.27.54.42
La Case de l'Isle (Cheval Blanc)	05.90.27 61 81
La Langouste	05.90.27.63.61
Spice of St Barth	06.90.54.41.42



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Saline

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Grain de Sel	05.90.52 46 05
Meat & Potatoes	05 90 51 15 98

Lorient

Boca Loca	05 90 29 76 78
Le Bouchon	05 90 27 79 39
Le Wok	05 90 27 52 52
Le Portugal à St Barth	05 90 27 68 59
Yo Sushi Mania	05 90 52 96 17

Pointe Milou

Mango Bar restaurant (Lunch)	05.90.27.63.63
Taïno Restaurant (Diner & Lounge)	05.90.27.63.63
Ti St-Barth	05.90.27 97 71

Toiny

Le Gaïac (Hôtel Le Toiny)	05.90.29.77.47
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Anse des Cayes

Chez Yvon	05.90.29 86 81
Rackham le Rouge (Le Manapany)	05.90.27.66.55

Saint Jean

Chez Joe (Airport)	05.90.27.71.40
Eden Rock	05.90.29 79 99
Hideaway	05.90.27.63.62
Kiki e Mo	05.90.27.90.65
L'Ardoise	05.90.77.41.97
Le Diamant	05.90.29.21.97
Le Glacier	05 90 27 71 30
Le Jardin	05 90 27 73 62
Le Piment	05.90.27.53.88
La Plage (Tom Beach Hotel)	05.90.52.81.33
Modjo	06.90.66.12.61
Maya to Go	05.90.29.83.70
Nikki Beach	05.90.27.64.64
Salomé	05.90.29.25.57

Grand Cul de Sac

Bartoloméo (Hôtel Guanahani)	05.90.27 66 60
Indigo (Hôtel Guanahani)	05.90.27.66.60
Le Sereno	05.90.29.83.00
O'Corail	05.90.29.33.27
La Gloriette	05.90.29.85.71

Colombier

Les Bananiers	05.90.27.93.48
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Corossol

Le Régal	05.90.27 85 26
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Celebration of Sainte Barbe

▮ Saturday, December 13

Over the weekend, the local firemen will celebrate their patron saint, Sainte Barbe, with a dance held at the fire station in St Jean at 9pm

▮ Sunday, December 14

Then on Sunday morning, there will be a parade of fire trucks in the streets of Gustavia at 9am followed by a champagne toast at the firehouse at 11am.

Christmas Caroling

▮ Friday, December 19 at 7:30pm

The Carnival Committee of Saint Barthélemy invites everyone to a traditional singing of holiday songs at the Christmas Village on the Quai Général de Gaulle.

TIME OUT

Where to go dancing? See an art exhibit? Listen to live music? Time Out keeps you up to date on local happenings. Let's party !

Live Music

▮ Through December 13

- Buffalo Stack, from 8:30pm to midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes

▮ December 15- January 4

Darian Cuning, (Indie, Rock, Soul) from 8:30pm to midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes

▮ Every Day

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth
- DJ Rockbaze @ The First.

▮ Thursday, December 11

- Live Music with Soley from 7pm @ Boca Loca, Lorient

- DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

- Robb in live from 6pm to 8pm @ Taïno Restaurant, Christopher Hotel

▮ Friday December 12

- Ladies Night @ Bagatelle

- Live Music with Soley from

7pm @ Boca Loca, Lorient

- Live Music with Pierre Nesta @ Zen Bar from 5pm-7pm, Do Brazil

- I Love Friday, Dinner & Party, Music by DJ Rudy, Fire Spinner, Wild Side Fashion Shows, La Plage Restaurant, Saint Jean

- DJ Laurent Perrier from 8:30pm at Bonito

▮ Saturday, December 13

- Bikini Brunch at the Beach, from 12pm until 5.30pm,

Music by DJ Rudy, Bikini Fashion Shows, La Plage Restaurant

- Wine Tasting with the Wine Tasters of St Barth from 7 to 9pm, La Plage

- DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

▮ Sunday, December 14

- Amazing Sunday "Greek Party" @ Nikki Beach

- Live Music with Franck N. & guests Sunset Deep 2 to 7

pm, Do Brazil, Gustavia
- Sunday c'est Chic ! Beach

Lunch, Music by DJ Rudy, Wild Side Fashion Shows, La Plage Restaurant

- DJ Laurent Perrier from 8:30pm at Bonito

- Live music for the Brunch with Robb from 11am

@ Toiny Hotel.

- Black Sunday with Guest DJ Ralph "Electro Addict" @First

▮ Monday December 15

- DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

▮ Tuesday December 16

- Live Music with Pierre Nesta @ Zen Bar from 5pm-7pm, Do Brazil

- Live Jazz Music with Soley and Christian from 8pm to 10 pm @Christopher Hotel

- DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

▮ Wednesday December 17

- DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

Fashion Show

▮ Daily Fashion Shows

- Fashion Show: every lunch & dinner, La Plage

▮ Saturday, December 13

- Fashion Show «Marina» : from 2pm @ Nikki Beach

▮ Sunday, December 14

- Fashion Show «Sunday» : from 2pm @ Nikki Beach

▮ Tuesday December 16

- Fashion Show around the pool from 6:00pm, @ Hotel Isle de France, Flamands

Night Club

- Opening Yacht Club with On More Night, A tribute to Daft Punk ; live performance by DJ Ralph

Exhibitions

▮ Through Dec. 25

Permanent Vacation, an exhibition by the artist Kaws, at Eden Rock Gallery.

▮ Through Dec. 24

Donald Judd, Richard Nonas at Fergus McCaffrey St Barthélemy, Gustavia,

▮ Through Easter

Exhibition Of Exceptional Cashmere; Hand Made In The Himalayas @Galerie Asie

▮ Through December 23

- Mixed photography exhibition - Kieran Walsh, Paolo Nicola Rossini, Marco Cella, Philippe Pasqua, Arno Elias and Marco Glaviano @

Space SBH Gallery

- Ed Gudenas Photo Expo: In

tribute of the 65th anniversary of Le Select, photographer Edmund Gudenas has

created collages and photos of this legendary bar, on exhibit at Les Artisans.

- "Rock'Roll Never Ends" Limited edition, Exhibition

Olivia Art Works @ Marla Villas Agency, Gustavia

- Modernisme art & Antiques, Camaruche Gallery



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Holiday Sing Along



Traditional Christmas carols with the local group, "The Brothers Band," last Friday at the former school in Colombier.

The Carnival Committee of Saint Barthélemy invites everyone to a traditional singing of holiday songs at the Christmas Village on the Quai Général de Gaulle, Friday, December 19 at 7:30pm. Everyone is invited to share in the holiday spirit!



MASTHEAD

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Dasha Villa

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RENTAL: Villa Dasha is a 3-bedroom, 3-bath contemporary-style residence located at the top of Gouverneur. Dasha is only a few minutes from Gouverneur Beach, restaurants, shops, and Gustavia. The villa has a large living room, equipped with home cinema, large white sofas, and a gourmet kitchen. Each bedroom offers views of the ocean, and is furnished with a queen-size bed, air-conditioning, Wi-Fi, TV, US satellite, DVD, bathroom with shower.



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Real Estate

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STBARTH



VILLAGE
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December 13-21,
Christmas village and market...
by the sea

The Territorial Tourism Committee of St Barthélemy hosts a wonderful Christmas village by the sea, right on the main dock in Gustavia. Artisans and designers present their latest creations as gift ideas for the holidays. Plus a range of activities organized for kids.