

SANDY GROUND

TIME IS OF

THE ESSENCE



Late Payments:
The Local Government's
Responses

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An Asset for
the Region

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A sport, a club:
rugby with
the Archiball

page 09

NEXT ISSUE

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Sandy Ground : the files are progressing slowly, the expectations remain

More than a celebration, the Sandy Ground neighborhood festival is the recognition of an entire community. However, it is also during the official speeches a rhetorical contest between the representatives and residents of the neighborhood and the elected officials. This year again, during the five addresses on August 15th, there was discussion of the progress of projects, sometimes stalled... like some of the residents.

Georges Richardson, president of the "Sandy Ground On the Move" association, opened the speeches by calling on the authorities to take action—particularly regarding energy—as he expressed concern for the future of Sandy Ground for generations to come. Deputy Frantz Gumbs addressed broader topics such as improving the organic law, environmental competence, and the hospital... for which, he admits, political will is needed but also resources, constrained due to national debt, as well as local debt. Cédric André, representative of the neighborhood council n°6, got straight to the point, reproaching the Collectivity and the State for not hearing the grievances conveyed. He believes a system must be found for neighborhood councils to be heard, otherwise their presence in the organic law makes no sense. He also reminded of the needs of associations to manage a disaffected youth. For him, prevention comes through actions that allow young people to build a future. However, he believes that it is the volunteer associations that carry out a large part of this work, and «today the associations are at their wit's end.» He also called for awareness in the face of the wave of delinquency that has put the population under pressure. «There is no question of classes or

paces when it comes to the suffering of people,» he stated, urging everyone to rise above individual interests «so that this island can become like it was before.»

THE STATUS OF ONGOING PROJECTS

After praising the solidarity and resilience of the residents, Louis Mussington updated on the investments made by the Collectivity, while acknowledging that some projects were not yet as advanced as he would have liked. «Even though I would have liked to bring you finalized projects, administrative time is not political time,» he explained before detailing the various works. At the Albéric Richard stadium, the clearing and leveling work is nearly 80% complete, the complete renovation of the fence has begun, and the installation of modular units for the locker rooms is progressing. The second phase of work on the sports plateau, which concerns the construction of restrooms, the installation of ball barriers, the covering of the locker rooms, and the development of the parking lot is in preparation. The president also assured that the guardrails that were supposed to be installed

between the Jérôme Beaupère and Aline Hanson schools and the Sandy Ground bridge will be done by September at the latest. Road repairs are also planned, as well as the installation of new speed bumps. Finally, while the demolition of the old MJC building has been completed, the project is still in the design phase. Louis Mussington, regretting that the studies are dragging on, admitted that delays should be expected.

APPOINTMENT FOR A SECOND TERM

The President remains optimistic about the follow-up of the projects, indicating that «What will not be done during this first term will be done during the second.» On the neighborhood councils, he was very clear: «Yes, I have heard you, yes, I have understood you!» He acknowledged «the urgent necessity» to better support them, believing that efforts need to be multiplied and exchanges strengthened. However, «there is no question of removing them from the organic law.» Regarding delinquency, he denounced the recurring episodes where «a few thugs seek to tarnish the image of the neighborhood.» These «miscreants do not represent the majority,» and



he asks the population to mobilize to denounce such acts. Furthermore, he indicated that he would no longer go out into the field, as he had done in the past, in order not to give them any more credibility. Fabrice Thibier concluded these speeches, specifying that in the face of all these challenges, the State alone cannot provide all the answers. He did, however, remind that the renovation of the water network would begin, that work was underway on the lagoon decontamination, that 4,500 people had been received at France Services last year, and that the State also supported the sports community by participating in the renovation of infrastructures. It is surely a bit too slow, he acknowledged, but «things are moving forward.»

A.B

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Four young people signed, on August 13, their commitment contract as part of the Cadres d'Avenir program. In return: financial and educational support to continue their studies in France, with the goal of returning to use their skills for the benefit of the region.

a diploma and have a professional project in one of the sectors facing recruitment challenges. For this 2026 cohort, there were four young high school graduates, selected for their academic background, motivation, and professional project, who signed their commitment contract before flying to mainland France. A «solemn» moment for Agnès Lautone, head of the territorial unit of DEETS, as these young people embark on a long process with the desire to commit to Saint Martin.

The only girl this year, Thaïra Samer wishes to become an architect, but she initially opted for civil engineering studies in Bourges, in order to acquire solid foundations, particularly in terms of structural renovation, which she believes is necessary given the needs of the territory. Another sector lacking managers is construction. This is the path chosen by Keanu Rapin, who will go to Anglet to prepare for a BTS with the idea of returning as a works manager or site supervisor. The other two candidates have decided to focus on a thriving sector, tourism, and will start a course in hospitality and restaurant management in the fall. Gabriel Cadiou will join the Médéric school in Paris and Mathéo Ginkels will attend Vatel in Bordeaux. Two recognized institutions in this field that should provide them with the necessary training to open their own establishment upon their return. In return, they have committed to returning to work in Saint Martin at the end of their training. However, this timeframe is considered a bit short, as in practice, as Fabrice Thibier points



Signing of the Cadres d'Avenir commitment contract for four motivated young graduates.

Supported by the Collectivity of Saint Martin and LADOM (the Overseas Agency for Mobility), Cadres d'Avenir includes a relocation assistance of €800, coverage for a round-trip plane ticket each year, and a monthly flat allowance of €808. However, as indicated by Nesly Dolne, head of LADOM in the Northern Islands, beneficiaries also receive administrative and educational support with a dedicated contact person, and assistance during their professional integration. A significant financial aid for families and an important support for young people who find themselves «expatriated» often facing adaptation difficulties. Candidates are selected from those who have already obtained

out, it is often necessary to complete an internship at the end of studies. A point on which Junisa Gumbs, cabinet director for the president of the Collectivity, agrees, who has supported the deployment of the program in Saint Martin since its inception, and indicated that a reflection is underway so that, on a case-by-case basis, future managers can be given time to gain initial professional experience before their return. It should be noted that the financial aid from Cadres d'Avenir is cumulative with APL (personalized housing assistance) and the scholarship granted by the Collectivity for higher education (up to a doctorate). **A.B**

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35~~

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~~1€
15~~

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50**
~~2€
25~~

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90**
~~1€
30~~

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85**
~~1€
25~~

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55**
~~2€
20~~

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BILLE EFFAÇABLES U**
Pointe 0,7 mm
Coloris assortis

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6,04 € LE PRODUIT
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**20 FEUTRES DE COLORIAGE
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Contenance: 40g
OU 3 RUBANS D'EMBALLAGE
BRUN ROLLAFIX UHU
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3,74 € LE PRODUIT
4,30 € LE PRODUIT
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**CISEAUX
MAPED SENSOFT**
Lames de 16 cm
Modèles au choix
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3,30 €
2,55 € LE PRODUIT
2,93 € LE PRODUIT
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**COFFRET
DE COMPAS 6
PIECES STOP
SYSTEM MAPED**

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1,07 € LE PRODUIT
1,23 € LE PRODUIT
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**5 RUBANS
CORRECTEUR
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Bande 6mx5mm

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5,46 € LE PRODUIT
2,95 € LE PRODUIT
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SOIT 1,80€ VERSÉS SUR
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**80 PASTILLES
ADHESIVES U**
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0,98 € LE PRODUIT
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**8 FEUTRES EFFAÇABLES
BIC VELLEDA**
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Modèles au choix bleu ou assortis

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2,24 € LE PRODUIT
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**ARDOISE BIC
VELLEDA + 8
FEUTRES ASSORTIS**
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21x31cm

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2,79 € LE PRODUIT
3,21 € LE PRODUIT
-30%
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BIC KIDS EVOLUTION**

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2,65 € LE PRODUIT
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**POCHETTE DE
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DE PAPIER
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2,49 € LE PRODUIT
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SOIT 1,50€ VERSÉS SUR
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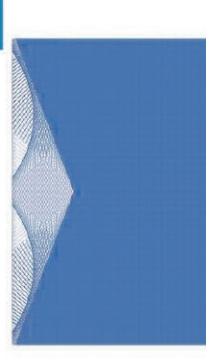
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U UNITAIRE**

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BIC Carte U



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GAMME CAHIER
KOVERBOOK
CLAIREFONTAINE**

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SOIT 0,39€ VERSÉS SUR
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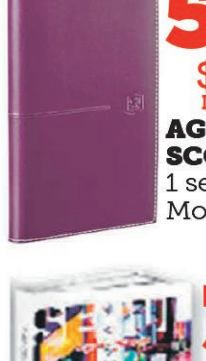
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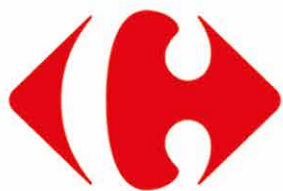
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Local life

First PSC Training with the SNSM

The SNSM station in Saint-Martin (National Society for Sea Rescue) is expanding its training offerings. It held its first Citizen First Aid (PSC) session this Saturday, August 15.

Until now reserved for volunteers of the SNSM, the training sessions are now open to the general public with a first day dedicated to PSC. The SNSM has indeed been able to acquire the necessary equipment for these training sessions thanks to financial support from the Community. This new activity reinforces the role of the station, alongside other associations present in the area, as a major player in rescue and raising public awareness.

It is also an opportunity to remind everyone how useful it is for each of us to know how to react in an emergency situation and to be trained in life-saving techniques. This first session was fully booked, with nine participants, including five people from outside the SNSM. Over a full day, they alternated between theoretical courses, practical exercises, and simulations.

Offered at a price of €70 for a day, the training is intended to be repeated several times throughout the year with the goal of training as many people as possible in first aid techniques.



Starting next year, the SNSM also plans to develop training for Level 1 (PSE1) and Level 2 (PSE2) First Aid Teams. **A.B**

Charity Sale of the Red Cross

The next solidarity sale of the French Red Cross in Saint-Martin will take place on Saturday, August 22, at Concordia (2 Rue du Soleil Levant), from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Organized for the benefit of the most disadvantaged, it allows the territorial delegation of Saint-Martin to carry out actions throughout the year.

The Red Cross of Saint-Martin receives numerous donations from individuals and businesses, which are not all distributed, as they are sometimes not suitable for the needs of the people welcomed or supported. The sale allows for a second life to be given to clothing, shoes, accessories, or small household items, and helps finance emergency aid actions. Besides the great deals that can be found there, it is also an opportunity to meet and interact with volunteers and perhaps decide to lend a hand by joining the Red Cross. Information: 06 90 14 98 45 or 06 90 48 90 15.

"Joker 2, Folie à Deux" in theaters this August

New programming for «August at the Movies,» this time at the Les Sucrieries residence in Concordia with the film «Joker 2: Folie à Deux» this Saturday, August 22. The outdoor screening is free and will begin at 7 PM. The film is shown in English with French subtitles. Three years after his crimes and just days before his trial, the Joker finds true love at the Gotham City psychiatric hospital where he is interned. Lee Quinzel, fascinated by his character, will draw him into this madness for two. Warning, this film is not recommended for those under 12 years old.

Capoeira Workshop



Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial art that combines muscle strengthening, agility, creativity, acrobatics, music, singing, and develops self-confidence and team spirit.

To wrap up the summer vacation, children can discover this discipline during a workshop organized in Grand-Case by Micka, a capoeira coach. The sessions will take place from 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM on Monday, August 24, Tuesday, August 25, Wednesday, August 26, and Friday, August 28, in Grand-Case, in front of the restaurant Le Pressoir, in the parking lot by the large Salt Mill (please note, there will be no workshop on Thursday). To conclude the week, Saturday, August 29, will take on an adventurous tone with a day of hiking, picnic, and beach, from 10 AM to 3:30 PM. Registration (145 € for the week for one child and 235 € for two children from the same family, or 35 € for the day): +590 690 22 17 99.



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A sport, a club: rugby with the Archiball

Far from the Anglo-Saxon lands that saw its birth, rugby also captivates in Saint-Martin. A sport that embodies values to which the Archiballs are particularly attached, such as mutual aid, solidarity, and self-overcoming.



Created in 1989 and chaired by Rachel Masi, the Archiball club brings together around a hundred members. From the first steps with a ball to senior championships, the association fosters a family atmosphere.

FROM WHAT AGE AND FOR WHOM?

Rugby can be discovered from the age of 3 with «baby rugby.» «Until the age of 5, sessions focus on motor skills and games around the ball, all without contact,» explains Rachel Masi. The rugby school then welcomes children from 5 to under 15 years old. Fields, rules, and exercises evolve according to age so that everyone progresses safely, develops their physical condition, learns to play in a group, but most importantly, has fun. Players under 15 and under 18, both girls and boys, play on a full-sized field and face teams from Guadeloupe during championships. Senior men and women can also participate in competitions or focus on the recreational section with «touch rugby» or non-contact rugby.

WHAT PROGRESSION?

«Rugby is accessible to everyone,» asserts the president of Archiball. Each body type and each skill corresponds to a position. Over the course of training, players develop their technique, game vision, and team spirit. Several young players who have played with Archiball have joined the CREPS of Guadeloupe before moving on to training centers in mainland France.

THE CLUB'S NEWS

This season, the women of Archiball were crowned champions of Guadeloupe. A victory achieved while the players were part of an

agreement with 10 players from the Rascasses of Saint-Barthélemy. «Today, the discipline is becoming more feminine. We often talk about contact, but initially, rugby is more of an avoidance sport; contact is not the primary goal,» explains Rachel Masi. Each year, the women of Archiball participate in events as part of Pink October. Currently, the team is conducting a recruitment campaign and partnering with other disciplines to promote women's sports in general.

TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

The different teams train twice a week, except for «baby rugby» and those under 7, who meet once on Saturdays. Training locations vary between Grand-Case, Quartier-d'Orléans, La Savane, the school complex, and Bellevue, depending on the available

fields. For those interested, it is possible to do a trial in September until October 1st. Once registered, players receive a kit that includes: a training t-shirt, a polo, a cap, a backpack, shorts, and socks. Only stabilized cleats are the responsibility of the player.

REGISTRATIONS AND FEES

The annual membership fee is €120 for «baby rugby» and U7, €150 for the rugby school and recreational activities, and €200 for seniors. It includes the license, insurance, and kit. The Pass'Sport and assistance from the CAF are accepted by the club, and an additional contribution may be requested for travel. Information: contactarchiball@gmail.com or 06 90 58 69 90.

L.G



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La tournée de Mimi

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FOR YOUR ENJOYABLE ANIMATED EVENINGS...

AU LOTUS CLUB (Simpson Bay)



The Night Club invites you on Friday, August 21, for 'About Last Night' with DJs Kembe, Perfect & Wikked, on Saturday, August 22, for 'Hip Hop Saturday' with DJs Kembe, Prince & Wikked, and every Wednesday for 'Ladies Night' with DJs Wikked & Prince,

AU SOGGY DOLLAR (Simpson Bay)



The Bar-Club invites you to its evenings starting at 7 PM, Thursday 8/20 'Adult Prom Party' with Dj Em & Sucre, Friday 'Fridazz' Dj EM, Saturday evening 'Signatures' with Dj

EM, Sunday 'Reggae Night' with Percy Rankin and Bunfire Band & DeeJ Flexx, then Tuesday 'Latin Night' with Latin Sugar Band & Dj Euro, Wednesday 'Ladies Night' with Dj EM, and Saturday 8/29 'Jam Session' with Live Band, Open Mic & Dj Kilo,

AU CAPTAIN FRENCHY (Grand Case)

The Beach Restaurant invites you every Saturday from 7 PM to 11 PM for its '80s ambiance with DJ Alex and on Sunday, August 23rd, for its big 'Beach Party' starting at 6 PM with DJs Eyedol, Speyenol, Big Boss, Maestro, Siw'Roo & Prince,

AU NOWHERE SPECIAL (Simpson Bay)



The Rum Bar & Restaurant invites you to its events, on Thursday 'Special Ladies Night' with Roxsy & Krg band plus DJs, on Friday August 14th 'Block Party' with DJs Blaze, Maestro, Sexer, Smudge, Siw'Roo, Kenzz & Joseph (drums), on Saturday 'Special Satur-

day' with Royalty & Krg Band & DJs, and on Sunday 'Sunday Madness' with numerous DJs,

MARY'S BOON RESORT (Simpson Bay)



The Beach Restaurant offers Lunch & Dinner 7 days a week, with 'Specials Every Day', every weekend 'Sexy Saturday' starting at 12 PM with DJ Sigma and on Sunday its 'Beach Party' with DJ Gringo from 1 PM to 6 PM.

AU GRAND ST MARTIN (Marigot)

The Bar-Restaurant welcomes you every day for Lunch, with its many special dishes in addition to the menu, and reminds you every day of your Sports appointments on the big screen with the return on 8/21 of Football in Ligue 1, La Liga, and the Premier League,

A RAINFOREST (ST Maarten)

With its magnificent panoramic view, also

enjoy on Saturday, August 22, your 'Sunset Hour' starting at 4 PM with ED music, for the 'Latin Vibes' and on Saturday, September 5, the 'Panorama Session' with Sydney Blu, Wild Dark & Torry Tildawn,

A HUPPEL THE PUB (Simpson Bay)

The Sports & Music Bar reminds you every Friday at 8 PM of its 'Karaoke' night with Greg, then every Monday at 8 PM of 'Rock-Soul' with the band Melting Pot & its guests, not to mention your sports appointments every day on 4 screens.

AU RENDEZ-VOUS (Porto Cupecoy)

The Bar-Restaurant awaits you every Friday for its dinner concert with Alfrédo from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM, and on Sunday for its 'Jazz Lunch' from 1 PM to 4 PM with a dozen musicians.

AU NARUTO (Simpson Bay)

The Bar/Restaurant invites you every Wednesday to its 'Live Music' night with singer & saxophonist Stephan Apianai from 8 PM to 10 PM

A SXM TAVERN (Simpson Bay)

This Sports Bar, which is open every day (closed Monday & Tuesday at the end of

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La tournée de Mimi

July), offers you its snack menu specials, billiards, darts, Corn Hole, and also broadcasts all sports on 4 screens with the first days of the Championships in Football starting August 21.

AU RAINBOW CAFE (Grand Case)



The Beach--Restaurant offers hot musical entertainment from 4 PM to 10 PM on evenings, with DJs Peter Sweet, Soleben & guests plus dancers on Saturdays, and on Sunday, August 23, Sam Baroni as Guest DJ and the Closing Beach Party on Sunday, August 30, with Jon Rocca & Vito starting at 6 PM,

AU BUCCANEER (Simpson Bay)

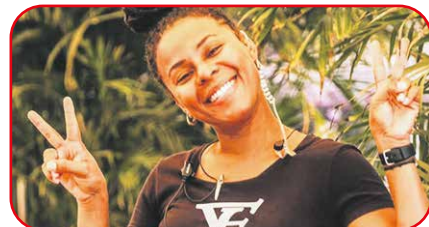
The Bar-Restaurant invites you to its events on Friday starting at 5 PM with different musicians, Saturday for 'Reggae' with Percy & his Band, and Sunday 'Classic Rock' starting at 5 PM with Lee-Gianfranco.

AU KARAKTER (Simpson bay)

The Bar-Restaurant invites you on Sundays

starting at 3 PM for its 'Adeptive Sundays' with DJs Leo, Mister T & Nicolas Barcel.

A LA LOTERIE FARM (Pic Paradis)



The Bar-Restaurant located at the Nature Reserve awaits you every Saturday for its 'Jungle Fest' with various DJs, and on Saturday 8/29 for its big 'Pool Party' from 12 PM to 8 PM with DJ Classy D & his guests,

AU RED PIANO (Pelican Key)

The Piano Bar awaits you every evening from 8 PM to midnight with the excellent singer-pianist Mike McCabe, and on Mondays for 'Church on Monday' with Royalty & KRG Band starting at 9 PM, followed by DJ Nachum from midnight to 2 AM,

AU SINT MAARTEN YACHT CLUB (Simpson Bay)

The Bar-Restaurant invites you to its 'Live Party' starting at 6 PM on Tuesday with the duo Ama, Wednesday with singer Ayan Farah, Thursday Eduardo, Saturday various guests, and Sunday with Jo & Cyndel.

LE LIVING ROOM (Porto Cupecoy)



This Bar-Restaurant on the Porto de Cupecoy square is open from Monday to Sunday from 5 PM to 1 AM, offering you delicious Provençal & Catalan cuisine with its chef Stéphane, as well as enjoying numerous weekend events with DJ parties starting at 9 PM and its 'Giveaway' lottery to win a dinner for two,

AU KRAKEN RAW BAR (Simpson Bay)

Musical animations every evening with Thursdays featuring Live Music by Amin & Sol, Fridays at 10 PM with the band 'Groov'n Vibes', Saturdays with 'Live Music Rock', and various musicians on Sundays.

MIMOSA SKY LOUNGE (Maho Plaza)

The Rooftop Bar Lounge is open from 6 PM to 2 AM with Fridays featuring your lively 'Happy Friday' hosted by DJ Alex.

AU D'S AU BEACH (Beacon Hill)

The Bar-Grill invites you to the 'Movie Party' on Friday starting at 6:30 PM, then on Satur-

day its 'Live Music Rock' with various bands starting at 6 PM, and on Sunday from 1 PM to 4 PM 'Good Vibes' with guests.

AU TORTUGA (Maho Beach)

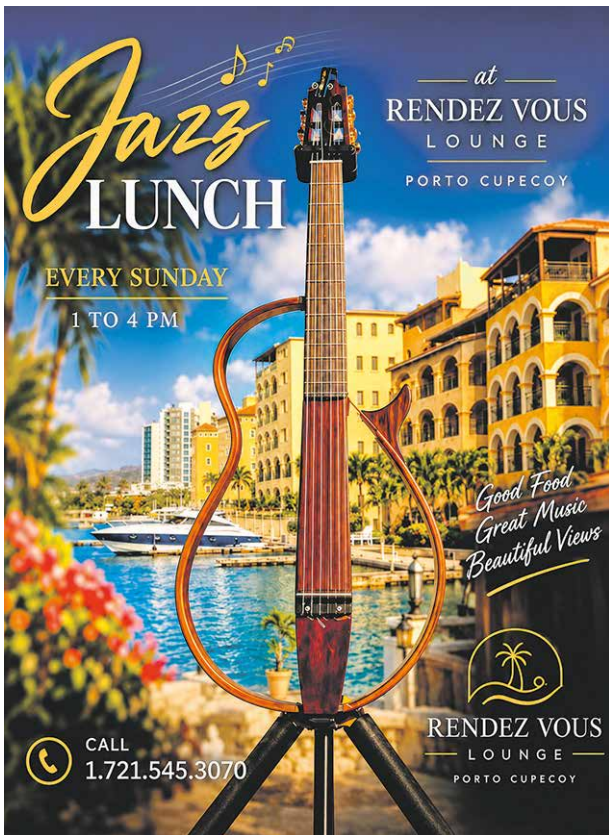
The Bar-Restaurant hosts musical evenings starting at 6 PM, on Thursday with singer Sol, Friday with Shantilla, Saturday with Gianfranco on guitar, Sunday with The Mojitos 'Havana Night', then Monday with Michellee Parris, Tuesday 'Ladies Night' with singer Cyndel, and Wednesday with Arlington,

AU JAZZ SPOT (Marigot)

This Beer-Bar located on the Royal Marina offers you every Wednesday starting at 8 PM his 'Karaoke' with DJ Frantz, Thursday 8/20 'Live Jackson & Marley' with Yemaya, then on Saturday 8/22 starting at 9 PM his 'Jazz-Soul' night with singer Joie'Nita, and on Sunday 'Smooth Jazz' starting at 6:30 PM.

AU 3 ANGLE (Simpson Bay)

The Sports Bar invites you every Wednesday to its 'Classic Rock' night starting at 8 PM with Ronnie & Lee, Thursday with Dude, Friday 'Disco/Funk' with DJ Nico, and 7/7 for sports broadcasts on 3 screens.



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