

WASTE AND INCIVILITY

VOLUNTEERS REPAIR THE DAMAGE



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Finally a Solution?**

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CASINO ROUGE ET NOIR
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wednesday **30th**
SEPTEMBER

\$22,495
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Bingo Game
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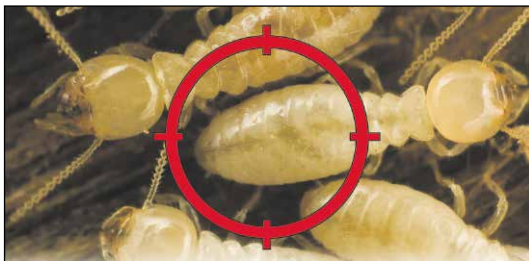
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Clean Up... what if the volunteers weren't there?

Last weekend, as part of the Clean Up Weekend organized for World Clean Up, citizens and numerous associations from both sides of the island came together to collect litter abandoned in nature. This initiative once again highlights the impact of incivilities and the limitations of public action in the face of pollution.

While at first glance, these cleanups contribute to the beauty of the area by eliminating visual pollution, they have become essential for preserving nature, both terrestrial and marine... because waste is not static and what is thrown on the ground often ends up in the sea.

The mobilization began last Saturday at Little Bay Beach & Pond. The first to get active on the ground were the students from Oranje School, Leonard Conner School, and Charlotte Brookson Academy... 96 students who in just one hour collected 123 kg of waste! They were succeeded by 175 volunteers who took on the thankless task, from the beach, around the pond, and along the road. In addition to the usual plastic bottles and cans, which are easier to throw out the car window than to take to a recycling bin, they unfortunately found much bulkier waste: significant amounts of construction materials and old car carcasses right in the heart of the mangrove. No need for a drawing to imagine the impact of these vehicles and their toxic components on nature! On this single collection day, 691 kg of small waste was collected... but, due to lack of resources, the larger items or those requiring specific treatment had to be left on site.

The next day, nearly 90 volunteers were again working, including those from the Clean St Martin association and those from the SNSM Saint-Martin station, to clean part of Anse des

Sables and Belle Créole. While the land teams meticulously combed the coastline, the sea rescuers intervened to recover submerged waste. They collected 110 bags, totaling over 740 kg, which were removed by dump trucks generously provided by LVMO and treated free of charge once again by Verde SXM.

WHAT ARE LAWS FOR?

The participants used the Clean Swell app from Ocean Conservancy (which can be used year-round) as well as data sheets to record the collected waste. This data helps identify the nature of the waste found on the coastlines and can contribute to waste management policies, combating illegal dumping, education, recycling, and marine environment protection, provided that public authorities take it into account. Indeed, nearly half (47%) of the waste recorded at Little Bay consists of single-use plastic or foam items: bottles, bags, cups, food containers, packaging, straws, and plastic cutlery. The same observation is made on the French side: plastic waste dominates there as well. The question arises regarding the enforcement of the law. Sint Maarten has had legislation since 2022 prohibiting single-use plastic bags, plastic straws, and food containers made of polystyrene. However, its enforcement was to be established by government decree. Since then, authorities have been working on a new legislative



framework aimed at regulating the import, distribution, and sale of these products. In France, the distribution of single-use plastic bags has been banned since July 2016 for shopping bags and since January 2017 for others. Since January 1, 2021, straws, disposable cutlery, stirrers, lids for takeout cups, expanded polystyrene containers, steak skewers, balloon sticks, plastic confetti, and other oxo-degradable plastic items are also prohibited. Volunteers also questioned the large amount of fill and debris obstructing certain parts of the public beach near Little Bay Pond. In a context of decreasing public accessibility to several local beaches, this situation is particularly concerning. This is a phenomenon observed across the Caribbean. In France, a decree published in the Official Journal on June 4 strengthens the rules regarding the disposal, sorting, and abandonment of waste... but who controls it?

ARE WE ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS?

In any case, whether on the Dutch side or the French side, it is the volunteers, armed with only their gloves and pitiful trash bags, who take on part of the territory's cleanup. Every year, communication campaigns about the collection of

bulky items and end-of-life vehicles spring up... just like the litter, because they are not followed by action! As for the cleaning agreements, which aim to pool resources between the two parts of the island, their effects remain barely visible on the ground. To their credit, it is the citizens who are the primary polluters. What are the solutions to stop this human pollution? Changing mindsets is undoubtedly the first step: educating the younger ones, of course, but also reminding adults that they too have a duty to set an example. Don Quixote fought against windmills; our humanity now fights against its own foolishness. To all those who, after a drink or a picnic, abandon bottles, wrappers, and leftovers in the bushes or rocks of Friar's Bay: you came with them, why not take them back? To the artisans and businesses who confuse the containers in Baie Orientale with the waste disposal site: no, paint cans and old air conditioners are not household waste. To consumers of plastic bottles: it is possible to drop them off in the machines at both Super U stores and earn a few cents. To car manufacturers: put ashtrays back in vehicles! In the meantime, a half-filled can of water works just fine...and also works on the beach to prevent cigarette butts everywhere. Really everywhere. Everyone must do their part. It cannot always be the same people fixing the incivilities of others.

A.B



We are mobilizing for the next cleanup

The next meeting, this time with the Clean St Martin association, will be on Sunday, October 4th at 8 AM at La Belle Créole to finish the cleanup and connect the two parts of the beach already completed during the Clean Up Weekend. The mission is open to everyone, including children. Participants should bring a water bottle, sneakers or closed-toe shoes, sunscreen, and if possible, gloves. It would be good if it were not always the same volunteers picking up the trash for others and that citizen mobilization was more substantial.

A.B

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COURNEAU**
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BOILON 2024
BLAYE CÔTES**
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JAULIEN
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The language of Molière opens the doors to autonomy

On the occasion of the 13th edition of the National Days of Action against Illiteracy, the 6th organized in the territory, several stakeholders gathered on Wednesday in Quartier d'Orléans for a day of awareness at the initiative of Jielle Formation.

The organization, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, with seven years of presence in the territory, specializes in acquiring basic skills, enhancing the skills of vulnerable populations, and supporting them towards employment. Jielle Formation had gathered in its premises in Quartier d'Orléans FORE IDN, AKTO, the CCISM, France Travail, and the RSMA. These stakeholders, each at their own level, contribute to guiding both young and older individuals towards employment, but also, upstream, towards a better mastery of the French language. In a multilingual territory, the issue of illiteracy

requires an adapted approach. The organization relies on multilingual consultant-trainers to gradually guide beneficiaries towards learning French. Over seven years, hundreds of people have been trained and, for many, supported towards employment. Because beyond acquiring basic knowledge, the goal is also to enable everyone to build a genuine professional project. Learning takes various forms: films, theater, music, sports, or tailored workshops to reach all audiences, both young and adult. Educational outings are also organized to help them better understand the island and its history. Many beneficiaries have received little or no

education in their country of origin and are currently working in the territory without sufficiently mastering French. In some cases, it is the companies themselves that request support for their employees. The day also offered a workshop for social workers, to better understand situations of illiteracy, but especially to learn how to identify and support the individuals concerned. Since last year, the reading plan implemented in preschools also allows for starting this learning at a very young age, while valuing the child's mother tongue. Gradually, the child is thus guided towards the French language. The RSMA, now based in Saint-Martin, also observes the difficulties faced by young people during the entrance tests. A refresher course is then offered to them with a teacher from the National Education. For the head of the RSMA house in Saint-Martin, the stakes are fundamental: the ultimate goal remains professional integration, which notably requires the ability to

understand instructions, follow training, or even obtain a driver's license. At the end of this day, seven people received their French language studies diploma (DELFF), rewarding the journey taken and the progress made in mastering French.

A.B

Kooyman

Tool Fest

Stay cool Drive Thru

September 28

10 AM - 2 PM

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Unpaid invoices: finally a solution?

In a press release, the Community announced the implementation of a monitoring system for purchase orders and invoices from its service providers. There will be no contact person, but an email address will be available starting September 28 to report a situation and receive a response.

The device was promised to socio-professionals during the meetings on August 12 and September 22. Companies experiencing difficulties in processing their purchase orders or in settling their invoices can now send an email to facturation@com-saint-martin.fr. However, only requests with supporting documents will be processed. The requester must indicate the name of the company, the invoice number submitted on Chorus pro (which remains the only billing channel), or the reference of the purchase or-

der or contract and provide the said purchase order or the progress report of the work. An acknowledgment of receipt of the email will be sent ONLY on Tuesdays and Thursdays! The concerned service will then have time to review the request, and the response will be sent within 7 to 15 business days. The same address can also be used to obtain a certificate of service rendered for factoring or a Bpifrance file. The form will be available online on the Collectivity's website starting Monday, September 28.

Video surveillance : soon 80 cameras installed

The Prefect Cyrille Le Vély signed, on Wednesday, September 23, the order (n° RAA-2026-288 published in the Collection of Administrative Acts) authorizing the deployment of the video surveillance system for the benefit of the Collectivity of Saint Martin. This equipment, which plans the instal-

lation of 80 cameras, represents a highly anticipated step to enhance security across the entire territory. The State reaffirms on this occasion its commitment, in close cooperation with the services of the Collectivity, to ensure the daily safety of residents and small businesses that form its economic fabric.

Family Trail Reprise

The Family Trail, organized by Dream of Trail, resumes with a first outing this Friday, September 25, with a lovely walk along the Customs Path... at sunset. The departure will be at 5:30 PM at the autonomous port roundabout for a walk of about an hour and a half, accessible to all (level 2 / 5). You should be equipped with a headlamp if possible (or flashlight), enough water, a snack, and especially wear good sneakers. For anyone wishing to join the Family Trail, membership – only €25 for the entire season, until the end of June – allows you to enjoy a monthly hike, with certain themes at times that should appeal to the whole family. Children can, of course, participate in these outings, each time different, provided they are accompanied by an adult.

Casting Top Model

Those who dream of a career in the fashion world can try their luck during the pre-selections of Top Model Europe. The castings for the Caribbean region will take place on October 4 in Guadeloupe, October 11 in Guyana and Saint Martin, and October 25 in Martinique. The competition, to become a model or photo model, is open to anyone over the age of 15, from all countries, of all ethnic backgrounds, sizes, genders, and sexual orientations. The participation details and steps of the competition can be found at: <https://topmodeleurope.net/info-casting/>



Charity concert

The Rotary Club Saint-Martin Nord is organizing a charity concert for the health of mothers and children and the education of young girls. "The Voice of the Heart" will offer the public an immersion into the world of opera with the first performance in Saint-Martin by soprano Leïla Brédent, accompanied on piano by Dominic Boulianne. In a "candlelight" atmosphere, the evening will feature pieces including "Casta Diva" by Bellini, excerpts from Norma and Lakmé, "The Bell Song" by Léo Delibes, and a work deeply rooted in Caribbean memory, "From Louis Delgrès to the Entire Universe."

The funds raised will contribute to the purchase of maternity kits for mothers and their newborns, as well as educational materials for young girls on puberty, self-confidence, personal development, and inspiring women's journeys. The Club also aims to contribute to the acquisition of materials for courses promoting the education and empowerment of women and young girls from Île-à-Vache in Haiti. Performances: Friday, October 9, and Saturday, October 10, at 7 PM at the La Chapelle theater in Baie Orientale. Tickets (€45) are available online at: theatresxm.fr

Special Halloween Stage

Soccer is getting into the spirit of thrills and monsters for this camp organized by Soccer 5, from October 19 to 23, reserved for children aged 6 to 9 years. The program includes fun soccer workshops, Halloween-themed craft activities, and surprise animations. Each child will leave with a small gift at the end of their camp. With limited spots available, it is recommended to register as soon as possible: €150 for the week in half-day (9 AM to 11:30 AM) or €250 for the week in full day (9 AM to 4 PM) with lunch included. Registration: 06 91 27 91 21.

The Dog Corner

Created to improve the daily lives of dogs and cats deprived of their most essential needs, the 4 Leaf Rover association organizes sterilization and care campaigns, provides food and essential supplies, and works to find families for abandoned animals. Its teams will be present on the island again from October 12 to 16 to sterilize dogs and cats for free. This is an essential action to prevent unwanted litters, improve the health and well-being of animals, and help reduce the number of animals left to fend for themselves on the streets. To register, simply scan the QR code on the poster or on the «St. Maarten Veterinary Clinic» Facebook page.





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Read to live

This week's news focused on National Days of Action Against Illiteracy... A great opportunity to remind us that the best way to enrich one's vocabulary, to stimulate one's imagination, and especially to continue thinking for oneself, is still to dive into a book. For the youth, it is enough to draw from the many novels by Franck Lopez, who is rela-

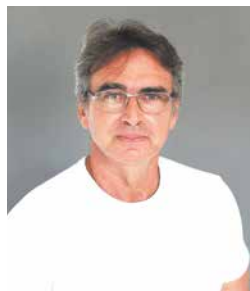
sing a new work this literary season. For adults, we have selected the first volume of a novel that fits within the fantasy genre. "Read to live," wrote Gustave Flaubert. A perhaps even more relevant invitation in the age of artificial intelligence, whose emergence in the publishing world is already fueling debates, particularly about the role it can, or cannot, play in writing. **A.B**

« Irma, the story of Aquila » de Franck Lopez

Nine years after ... Irma is still on people's minds, especially in that of Franck Lopez. In this new novel, the author revisits one of the most significant episodes in the recent history of Saint Martin. But rather than recount the hurricane once again through numbers, damage, or images of desolation, he chooses to make it come alive from a child's perspective.

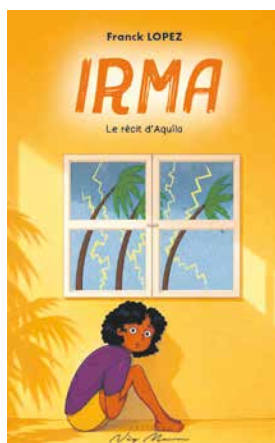
Irma is thus revealed through the eyes and experiences of Aquila. The fear, the waiting, the roar of the wind, and then the discovery of a transformed island take on a different dimension when told with words accessible to the youngest. A way to pass on the memory of this event to a generation that was sometimes too young to remember it, or who was not yet born.

Behind the narrative, there is also the story of a territory that had to rise again, rebuild, and find its bearings. Without erasing the violence of the event, Franck Lopez chooses a writing style suitable for youth, which allows addressing this painful chapter without making it inaccessible.



Having been a teacher in Saint Martin for a long time, Franck Lopez has published numerous novels, many of which are aimed at young readers. With this new publication, he once again turns to the island and to a memory still very present among those who experienced the cyclone's passage.

Aux éditions Nèg Mawon. 12,90 €.



« The Last War of the Angel, the Amerine of Ozré » de Chantal Rainouard

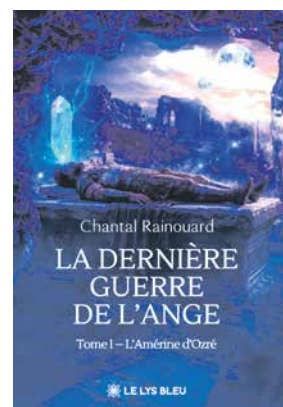
Set to be released on September 29, «The Amerine of Ozré,» the first volume of «The Last War of the Angel,» takes the reader to Pyris, a refuge planet created by the Eternal, where a silent threat looms. In the shadows, Sayath extends his influence, corrupting men and creatures. Opposing him are Helmori, guardian of ancient knowledge, Garadas, a young innocent spirit, and Aatsu-bala, a doctor in search of truth, who discover that their fates are linked to a prophecy capable of disrupting the balance of the world. An intriguing epic at the borders of the sacred, power, and destiny, where ancient enigmas, the struggle against evil, and the quest for truth intertwine throughout the adventure.



Chantal Rainouard crafts stories enriched with legends, ancient enigmas, and epics. Between the Caribbean, Europe, and other horizons explored during her travels, she draws landscapes, myths, and atmospheres that become the living material of her fictional universe. Her writing, driven

by a taste for secrecy and adventure, opens the doors to worlds where the unknown continually challenges the imagination. An author based in Saint Martin, Chantal Rainouard presents with «The Amerine of Ozré» the first volume of a fantasy saga where everyone must find their place in the face of a threat that surpasses their own destiny.

Aux éditions Le Lys Bleu. 29 €. En vente en ligne : <https://www.lysbleueditions.com>.



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La tournée de Mimi

97150 #1043 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026 - PAGE 10

FOR YOUR LIVELY EVENINGS...

AU LOTUS CLUB (Simpson Bay)



The Night Club invites you on Friday, 9/25 for the 'About Last Night' party with DJs Wikked, Perfect & Kembe, on Saturday, 9/26 for 'Hip Hop Saturday' with DJs Prince, Outkast &

Kembe, and every Wednesday for 'Ladies Night Party' with DJs Wikked & Prince,

AU RENDEZ-VOUS (Porto Cupecoy)

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

AU BUCCANEER (Simpson Bay)

The Bar-Restaurant invites you to its events on Friday starting at 5 PM with Connis &

Michael 'Soul-Jazz', Saturday for 'Reggae' with Percy & his Band, and Sunday 'Classic Rock' starting at 5 PM with Lee-Gianfranco

AU SOGGY DOLLAR (Simpson Bay)



The Bar-Club invites you to its evenings starting at 7 PM, Friday 'Fridazz' with Dj Em, Saturday 'Signature' with Dj Em, Sunday 'Reggae Night' with Percy Rankin and Bunfire Band & Dj Flexx, then Tuesday 'Latin Night' with Latin Sugar Band & Dj Euro, Wednesday 'Ladies Night' with Dj Em, and Thursday 'Throwback' with Dj Em,

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 Gianfranco singer-guitarist, Thursday Eduardo, Friday & Saturday various guests, and Sunday with Jo & Cyndel.

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 RAINFOREST (ST Maarten)

With its stunning panoramic view, also enjoy the events on Friday, October 3rd with the 'Panorama Sessions' hosted by DJs Joeski (New York) and Stban & Niko (Spain), then on Saturday, October 4th, the 'Sol & Luna Party' from 3 PM to 7 PM with many guest DJs,

LE LIVING ROOM (Porto Cupecoy)

Ce Bar-Restaurant sur la place Porto de Cupecoy is open from Monday to Sunday from 5 PM to 1 AM, offering delicious Provençal & Catalan cuisine with its chef Stéphane, as well as

enjoying weekend entertainment with DJ parties starting at 9 PM,

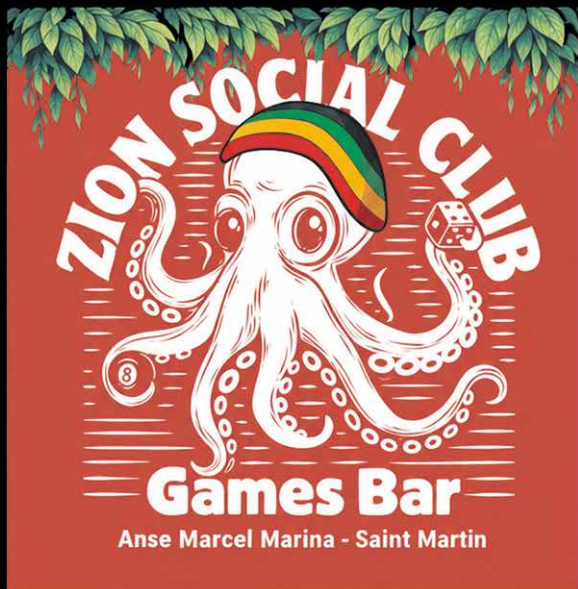
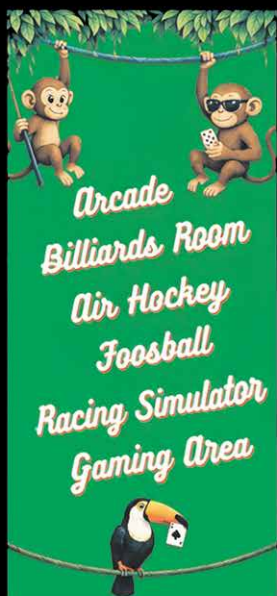
AU NOWHERE SPECIAL (Simpson Bay)



The Rum Bar & Restaurant invites you to its events, on Friday 'Block Party' with DJs Blaze, Sexer, Smudge, Siw'Roo, Kenzz & Joseph (drums), Saturday 'Special Saturday' with Royalty & Krg Band & DJs, Sunday 'Sunday Flex' with DJs Siw'Roo, Kembe, Blaze, Thonyy, & Joseph (drums), and Thursday 'Ladies Night' with DJs Siw'Roo, Outkast, Blaze & Thonyy,

CHEZ JOCELYN ARNDELL (Festival Village Philipsburg)

Saturday, September 26th 'All White Birthday Bash' with Dj Gstar, Thuggy, Jet Lee, Joël, Silva Hype, Pekus, Crazy Omar and Girls Dem SugarELLIPSIS_CHARACTER-then Friday, October 2nd 'Epic Friday' live



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La tournée de Mimi

with Strictly Vibes Band, Peppa Seed, Sensi Z & Dj's, and Saturday, October 3rd 'Pretty Like a Dolly' with 10 Dj's,

THE CAVE ROOFTOP (Simpson Bay)



The Bar-Lounge on Airport Road awaits you at its DJ Parties on Thursday 'Hip Hop' with DJ Ras Tyl, Friday 'We Outside' with DJ Brukshot, Saturday 'Worst Behavior' and Sunday 'After the Beach' DJ Outkast,

AU MADISON (Maho Plaza)

The Karaoke Bar announces that it will be open in September on Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays from 7 PM to 3 AM,

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.

A HUPPEL THE PUB (Simpson Bay)

The Sports & Music Bar reminds you eve-

ry 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 every day on 4 screens your sports appointments and all the Football matches from the European Championships,

AU ALIZEE CONVENTION CENTER (Philipsburg)

Saturday, September 26 starting at 8 PM 'Libra Takeover' with Triple Kay International and Pumpa & Skillful Band, Shiff, and DJs JP, Kembe, Siw'Roo,

AU RED PIANO (Pelican Key)



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

AU TORTUGA (Maho Beach)

Le Bar-Restaurant organise des soirées musical performances starting at 6 PM,

Wednesday with Arlington, Thursday with singer Sol, Friday with Shantilla, Saturday Gianfranco on guitar, Sunday The Mojitos 'Havana Night', then Monday with Michelle Parris, and Tuesday 'Ladies Night' with singer Cyndel,

AU SANDBAR (Beacon Hill)



The Bar-Restaurant, which is open 7 days a week (Lunch & Dinner), offers you 'Reggae Music' every Friday from 6 PM to 10 PM with Percy Rankin, and every Saturday starting at 6 PM 'Golden Hour Jazz' with Connis & Friends (Saxophone Vibes).

AU FAT'S TONY (Cupecoy)

The Bar-Grill offers musical entertainment every Tuesday with 'Steak Night' featuring Nacio Sutton on 'Steelpan', Thursdays with 'Chocolate Sax', and different guests on Sundays.

AU GRINGOS BAR (Simpson Bay)

Cet authentique Tex-Mex & Caribbean Flat bar is open every day from 4 PM to

2 AM and offers all sports on Live TV, along with musical entertainment for relaxing moments by the water.

AU JAZZ SPOT (Marigot)

This Beer-Bar located on the Royal Marina offers its 'Karaoke' with Dj Frantz on Wednesdays starting at 8 PM, 'Soul-Jazz' with Yemaya on Thursdays, 'Live Music' with various singers on Saturdays starting at 9 PM, and 'Smooth Jazz' starting at 6:30 PM on Sundays

AU HOLE IN THE WALL (Maho Plaza)

The Bar-Concert offers 'Pop-Rock-Funk-Jazz-Soul' starting at 7:30 PM every evening, featuring Cédric-Fredo, Shantilla, Squall, Bobby-Gianfranco, Stephan-Gordon, Amin-Sol & Karaoke among others.

AU GRUMPY'S BAR

(Dock Maarten Marina)
Friday, October 20 starting at 7:30 PM, the Sports & Music Bar invites you to the return of 'Live Music' nights with the band Livin'High for the Rock Party,

A LA LOTERIE FARM (Pic Paradis)

The Bar-Restaurant located at the Nature Reserve awaits you every Saturday from 1 PM to 5 PM for its 'Poolside Music' with Dj Em, and on Sundays for its 'Pool Party' with different D's,



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- Squid Provençal

MAIN COURSE

- Provençal Chicken
- Green olives, cauliflower, creamy polenta
- Grill Butcher Steak
- Mashed potatoes, veggies
- Red Snapper Fillet
- Rice, veggies, lemon butter sauce
- Provençal Beef Stew
- Linguine pasta or rice
- Linguine Clams
- Mediterranean Burger
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