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Armed Thief Sentenced To 18 Months In Prison

he armed thief who held up the cashier at the Oasis supermarket and was also suspected of three other thefts and an attempted robbery was brought before the judge in Basse-Terre on Tuesday afternoon at which time he was condemned to a 18 months in prison, with at least two months behind bars and a suspended sentence of two years. He was immediately incarcerated. This 29 yearold man—originally from metropolitan France—was already known to the gendarmes, who arrested him on Sunday morning. His chronic state of drug addiction influenced his behavior.

He had begun a series of robberies on the night of February 28-29, by throwing a rock through the window of a beauty parlor in the shopping center, La Savane, across from the airport. He illegally entered and stole cash. He then tried unsuccessfully to break into the boutique, Danièle B Diffusion, before heading to the Vaval shopping center in Saint Jean. He used the same technique—a rock through the window-to get into the toy store, Un dimanche à la mer, once again taking the cash, before doing the same at another boutique, Couleurs de Provence, where he took not only money but also several sets of knives. End of the first act.

The perpetrator reappeared at lunchtime, a motorcycle helmet on his head, at the Oasis supermarket in Lorient. He confronted the cashier, who was alone at the time. and menaced her with a knife, asking for the money in the cash register. The cashier, who was in a state of shock, gave it to him: net result of 1,,470 euros. The perpetrator was quickly identified and picked up on Sunday morning but the stolen money was not recovered. Under police surveillance, he admitted to another theft during the night of February 22 at the Garage de l'Etoile, where 50 euros and a printer were taken.

This was not the first time an armed robbery took place in Saint Barth, yet this kind of crime remains extremely rare. The last incident dates back to December 1995, when two men wearing full-face helmets held up the small post office in Lorient while it was closed for lunch. Brandishing their guns, they menaced the postal employee who was inside. They took the cash and fled on a motorcycle. They two men were later caught by the police in metropolitan France, and sentenced to three years in prison although two of three years were a suspended sentence.

580,000 Euros In Tourist Taxes In January

Bruno Magras Criticizes some Who rent directly To clients

nacted as of January 1, 2008, a new tourist tax of 5% of all sea-✓ sonal rentals brought in the sum of 580,000 for the month of January. This figure is lower than the expectations of the COM, whose president, Bruno Magras, points a finger at those who rent certain villas: "The hotels proceeded to declare and collect the tax, as did the 28 agencies that rent villas and apartments," explains Bruno Magras. But he feels that there are certain villa owners who rent directly to their clients via the Internet and who think they are exonerated from declaring their rentals and paying the tax. It is those owners that Bruno Magras will not excuse or offer favors: "We are currently doing research to identify these people. They will be taxed appropriately," notes Magras, who was to meet with Bernard Cressot, the general treasurer, on Tuesday, March 4, to discuss the procedure to collect the taxes. For the president, the desire to collect these taxes is not out of the norm: "It is to be expected. We need these taxes in order to meet the budget for the COM. It is in the interest of everybody on the island, since the more we can collect, the less risk there is of creating new taxes."

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02

GALERIE ASIE ANTIQUITES

"...We could as well be in Paris, New York, or London, but we prefer to be here!" After more than thirty years tra-

velling all around Asia, and the world, Jean-Pierre Hennequet has opened his second "Galerie Asie" in Gustavia, St-Barths, at the back of the harbour. His first one was opened on Paris'left bank in the mid-seventies, after he visited China as early as 1972.

In Galerie Asie, some visitors feel

like being in a Museum, discovering a very personal and eclectic choice, ranging from Papua New Guinea to

Tibetan religious pieces. Jean-Pierre also shows an impressive selection of Khmer sand-stone sculptures, and many smaller objects from almost every single asian country. As well as a few truly exceptional "Museum pieces", including some from...Africa!

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The Changing Climate

What are the consequences for the Caribbean?

René Fury is the head of Météo France, the French weather service in Guadeloupe de. Throughout his career, he has been interested n the climatic changes and greenhouse effect. For the readers of the Saint Barth Weekly, he examines the question of climate changes in the Caribbean and in Saint Barth.

"During the 1980s scientists began taking about the changes in the climate. At the time, they forecast an increase in temperatures by three degrees by the year 2100, but certain models calls for an increase of at least six degrees, if not eight. But we didn't dare believe it... three degrees would already be an incredible catastrophe.

Today, if the entire scientific community openly recognizes the dangers of climate change, there are different theories, based on various models of evolution. The differences are less due to the uncertainty of the models, but rather to the scenarios that man opts to follow. That means that an increase of three degrees would result only from a rigorous scenario limited greenhouse gas emissions. The six-degree increase would result from a less rigorous scenario.

What are the consequences for the Caribbean?

In the Caribbean, climate change has been marked by a change in temperature that is less than the global average, and not much of a change in rainfall; nor has there has not been a major change in the level of hurricane activity. One change however is the intensity of the hurricanes that take place and the amounts of rainfall during a fierce storm.

At first glance, changes in global climate do not seem to be causing major consequences on a regional level. Perhaps an increase of two degrees in temperatures would make it a little harder to support the heat in August, September, and October. Economically, things are different: the global increase in temperatures will in effect multiply the number of zones that have tropical climates, and are competitive in terms of tourism, at higher latitudes ...

But for the Caribbean and Saint Barth in particular, the largest danger would be an overall increase in sea level, due to global warming. This increase is essentially due to two phenomena: thermal expansion of seawater and widespread melting of land ice (glaciers). A few years ago, in 2001 to be exact, Météo-France participated in a simulation of the melting of the large polar ice floes. The model called for complete melting by the end of the 21st century. However they have found that the acceleration of this melting in 2007 was much faster than they anticipated. The consequence is that if this speed continues, the ice floes will no longer exist as early as 2070! Yet even the melting of all this ice would not cause an increase in sea level, as the mass of this floating ice is already taken into consideration.

But the rate at which the floes are melting is an excellent indicator that corresponds to the melting of the glaciers of Greenland, or North America, and the Antarctic. The total volume of these continental glaciers—more than 20 million cubic miles—is enormous, and if it were all to melt, the millions of cubic miles of ice would raise sea level by 275 feet!

Yet this will not happen tomorrow: at the current rate, it would take at least 500 years before this catastrophic scenario would take place.

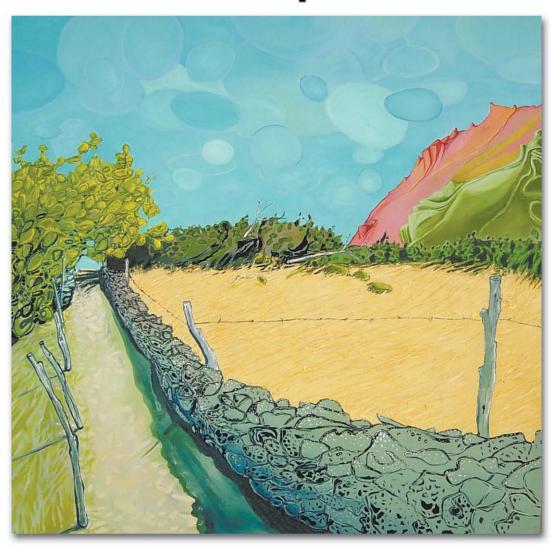
In Saint Barth?

Armed with this information, what are the possible consequences for Saint Barth? If what they predict is true, one can imagine that by 2050, with an average temperature a few degrees hotter, that the level of the ocean would increase by approximately one foot as a direct consequence. To that, one must add the increase due to melting snows, approximately one-half inch per year, or an additional 1.3 feet. Or by 2050, sea level might increase in Saint Barth by 2.3 feet. What happens to buildings along the beach, and also to

In conclusion, one can say that as the climate continues to change and reveal more surprises, whether one is an optimist, pessimist or fatalist, the rise of sea level is certitude, And if the increase in the water level by 2050 is five inches or thirty-five inches, the changes in the climate will have importance consequences that touch every person and every region in the world.

the port?

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Campaign SightFirst II

The Lions Club of Saint-Barth, The Most Generous In The Caribbean and Central and South America

S ince the kick-off of the project in July 2005, the Lions Club of Saint Barth has donated \$54,000 to the International Lion's Club Foundation for its Sight-First II campaign. The size of the donation makes the club the top donor throughout the entire Caribbean zone, as well as Central and South America, as we were told recently by the local club. This also makes it the most important activity of the club, especially for president Agnes Houchot (2007-2008), who thanks the population, both residents and visitors, for their generosity.

After a first campaign in the 1990s, the goal of First-Sight II, which ends this year during the annual convention of the service club in Bangkok, Thailand, was to fight against loss of sight through cataracts, river blindness, and trachoma, the leading cause of preventable blindness. The Lions Club hoped to collect 150 million dollars through the actions of 46,000 local clubs througout the world. According to the Lions Club, the SightFirst I campaign helped seven milion people recover their sight, and up to 20 million others avoid serious loss of vision.

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Let's Hear It For The Environment:

Miles electric cars arrive in Saint Barth



a time when Europe is just dis-**** covering electric cars, Auto Store Import is already bringing Miles electric cars to Saint Barth. Miles is a California company—based in Santa Monica-which was recognized as "the electric car company of the year" in 2007. For the time being they are producing four models: three small urban vehicles, the ZX40, the ZX40S, and the ZX40AD, plus a small utility vehicle—and they vary in price upon delivery in Saint Barth from \$19,500 to \$24,500. By the end of the year there should also be a higher speed sedan, and all five models are available in Saint Barth after a six-week wait.

This pro-environmental effort was the idea of Thierry Besse, who currently lives in Miami, and Alpha Delamotte, manager of Auto Store Import. The former, Thierry Besse, is a specialist in American automobile imports, and the latter is a mechanic and fervent defender of the environment; they quickly realized that there is a bright future for cars that cause

less pollution. The project got underway a little over a year ago and took root last November when Thierry Besse, seeking a rare pearl, discovered the Miles cars at an electric car show in California. It didn't take much to convince the two men to start importing these closed cars with real metal bodies designed to look like regular cars, and enough power to climb the island's steep hills.

Here's the real deal: the existing models have enough autonomy to go about 50 miles at a top speed of 40 mph. It takes four to six hours to recharge the car using any electric outlet, at a cost of just one euro for the power it takes to drive 50 miles. The six batteries that comprise the motors of these cars have an expected life span of four years or 30,000 miles. After that they must be replaced at a cost of \$350 per battery. Maintenance includes changing the automatic transmission oil every 4,000 miles. Other than replacing worn-out parts (brake pads, windshield wipers...) that's about it.

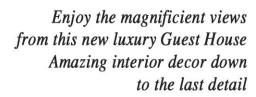


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Freestyle "Bowl in Saint-Jean

arim Allix is hard at work on the Glad Riders home in Saint Jean (next to the swimming pool). He is a volunteer who simply loves freestyle—on a bike or on skates—and is currently putting the finishing touches on a "bowl" or freestyle ramp in the shape of, well, a bowl. He has also added a dirt trail for freestyle bicycles. Thanks to his efforts, fans of freestyle sports can now sharpen their skills in an improved situation and in full safety. But to complete it all, Karim Alix-

that the skaters on the island could have the same type of infrastructure you find in the US or Europe. The bowl is made of wood and I think it is the only one like this in the Caribbean. It was very hard to build. First I had to find the money. I started three years ago and as of today it represents 400 hours of work. It was a real challenge!" Karim estimates that the work will be finished and the freestyle ramp should be open in another month and a half. To help Karim complete the

"bowl" for skaters and the



who did all the work by himself—needs a little financial help to balance his budget. Between hammering and cutting a piece of plywood, he told us the story of the bowl, which began three years ago: "I wanted to improve the first ramp I had built four years ago, so

dirt trail for freestyle bikes, you can contact him at 06.90.57.02.85, or via email:

gladriders971@yahoo.fr Karim can be found at the "bowl" on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons as of 3pm.

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Julie Allard Wins 2007 Young Writers Competition



ourteen year-old Julie Allard has won the 2007 Young Writers short story competition organized by the association Saint B'Art in conjunction with the Journal de Saint Barth, which published the 16 best stories of the 49 submitted. A student at the Mireille Choisy junior high until Chirstmas, Julie has since moved to Martinique where she now lives. She was not in Saint Barth on Tuesday, February 26 to receive the top prize: a laptop computer. Her apocalyptic scenario, in which she predicts the end of the earth by 2057, was radically different from the dreamlike story, Nelson And The Cave Of Dreams, written by 13 vear-old Mathieu Grard. also a student at the junior high and the second-place winner in 2007 (he

high and the second winner in 2007 (he also took second place with his first entry in 2005). Third prize went to Léa Goncalvès-Gouon for "Lost Prince." Lea, who is also 14 and a student at Mirelle Choisy, won a prize in 2006 when her first story won the

seventh-place prize.

Two additional prizes were given for the first time at the February 26 prize ceremony: the Lions Club Prize—a gift certificate for 150 euros worth of bookspresented by Solaure Gréaux, who honored the story that best embraced the values of the service club: friendship and altruism. This prize went to Taïnana Terrier for her story, Jessica The Little Girl Of Silence And The Night, which tells the tale f a young girl who becomes deaf and blind, and is keeping with the Lions Club's completion of its FirstSightII campaign against blindness. Principal Christian Ledée, on behalf of the school, offered the second new prize to the youngest participant, in this case Maïlis Fébrissy, just 11 years old.



Mathieu Grard and Léa Goncalvès-Gouon



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Translation : Ellen Lampert Greaux, Photo Impression : Daily Herald	ISSN-1766-9278 90.27.91.60	St-Barth WHEREVER YOU ARE EVERY www.stbarthweel	kly.com				
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- March 10-31,2008 Sue Mcnally, painting, Les Artisans, Gustavia
- Gerald Tessier. Photography, Toiny Hotel
- Sophie Burman, Galerie Porta 34. Gustavia
- Bruno Prost, "Cactus made in St Barth" Wall House Restaurant, Gustavia
- Alain le Chatelier. Les Artisans, Gustavia
- Rose Murray at Comptoir du Cigare, Gustavia

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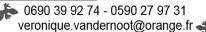
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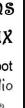
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WORLD PROPERTIES

■ Local Weather

Saturday Scattered Clouds High: 78° F / 26° C. Wind ENE 17mph / 28km/h **Night**: Scattered Clouds Low: 75° F. / 24° C.

1onday Scattered Clouds High: 78° F. / 26° C Wind ENE 15mph. / 25km/h. Night: Scattered Clouds Low: 75° F. / 24° C. Wind ENE 15mph/25km/h

Sunday Scattered Clouds

Wind ENE 15mph / 25 km/h

High: 78° F. / 26° C Wind ENE 15 mph. / 25 km/h. **Night**: Scattered Clouds Low: 75° F. / 24° C. Wind ENE 13mph / 21km/h

luesday Chance of Rain High: 78° F. / 26° C Wind ENE 15mph /25 km/h Night: Scattered Clouds Low: 75° F. / 21° C. Wind ENE 15mph/25km/h

Puzzle

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		- Marie						
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challenging. It's addictive!"Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9."That's all there is to it.

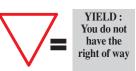
Driving in St Barths

ROUND-ABOUT AT LA TOURMENTE



The traffic circle at La Tourmente (the top of the hill near the airport) has altered the traffic patterns for who has the right-ofway. Now, vehicles already engaged in the traffic circle have priority. Below is a small diagram to help you figure out what to do.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION





Horoscope

will be on your mind, but you should be sure that you've got all your work up-to-date. Romance could develop through social activities or short trips. You will be inclined to make unwise investment choices. You will learn a great deal from people with different cultural backgrounds.

<u>TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)</u>: You will meet new romantic partners if you get involved in seminars or travel. Get involved in creative groups. You will meet new romantic partners if you get involved in seminars or travel. You can pick up information that will give you an edge.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Don't let others try to create unwarranted guilt if you can't meet their demands. You may be more emotional than usual. You will easily blow situations out of proportion. You will have excellent ideas for changing or renovating your home.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Promote your ideas now. Confusion could result when communicating with others. You are best to keep your cash in a safe place. Your financial situation may be draining and it's time to make some serious changes.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22): You need to spend time with friends and family. Take a second look; difficulties with appliances, water, or electricity in your home may be evident. Obstacles may stand in your way where career and success are concerned. Use your creative talent in order to accomplish your goals.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23): Be discreet about any information you uncover. Find ways to make extra cash. Start making things or reusing rather than buying ready made. Try to convince a good friend to take a holiday with you. A new relationship can be yours if you get out with friends.

ARIES (March 21- April 19): Travel LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23): Don't be alarmed. There's lots to be done and if you meet your deadline you'll be in your boss's good books. Limitations will set in if you haven't followed the rules. Avoid any intimate involvement's with coworkers or employers.

> SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22): Your competitive nature will enable you to win any contest you enter. Children may be difficult to handle. Your irritability may drive your loved ones crazy. You should get involved with activities that can be enjoyed by both young and old alike.

> SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21): Your high energy will help you through this rather hectic day. Opportunities for travel must be carefully considered. You're ready to take action and take over. Sudden romantic infatuations could lead to a significant and prosperous connection.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20): Do your work at home, if you can. Someone may be trying to make you look bad. Travel will be in your best interest regardless of whether it is business or pleasure. Your need to obtain additional details will lead you into strange topics of conversation. Don't be too quick to blame others for your bad mood.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19): Social activity with friends and relatives will be most successful. Deep discussions may only lead to friction. You will earn recognition for the work you are doing. You will have a little more energy than usual.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20): Jealous coworkers may try to sabotage your attempts to get ahead. Take time to reevaluate your motives regarding friendships. You will be in the doghouse if you are being. Your high energy will enable you to take the role of leader in group functions.

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IBARTH

HMW: Quartier du Roy, 0.49 acre lot with a certificate of urbanism. Quiet area and gorgeous ocean views.

Price: 1,865,000€

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Tel.: 05 90 29 88 91 www.sibarth.com

Real Estate

For sale, a 3 bedroom villa with pool with beautiful view situated on the hillside of Vitet. Very interesting price. Not to be missed. Contact St. Barth Property/ Sotheby's International Realty: 0590 29 75 05

For sale, a land with dramatic view situated in Dévé with a building permit for a 2 bedroom villa with pool. Contact St. Barth Property /Sotheby's International Realty: 0590 29 75 05

Marigot: Very nice 2 bedroom appartment like a small house, recently renovated, nice decor and paintings, large view on Tortue Island and Marigot Contact Immobarth Agency Benoît Loriou: 06 90 465 833

Vitet: Breathtaking view above Toiny and Petit Cul de Sac, facing the ocean, uphill. For this charming villa with 3 bedrooms, 4 bath, pool, deck, large piece of land sqm 2 200. Contact: Immobarth Agency /Benoît Loriou: 06 90 465 833

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SAINT JEAN

Gustavia Harbor, Saint-Barthélemy 05 90 29 75 05

www.sothebysrealty-stbarth.com sales.stbarth@sothebysrealty.com

Dream location for this lovely three-bedroom villa just steps from the beach in Saint Jean. Contemporary furniture, finely appointed, with views of Saint Jean Bay, this villa has a lot to offer! Must be seen.

Asking price: 1,690,000 euros



For additional information: Tel 05 90 2 9 22 98 - Cell 06 90 39 85 86 immo-business@orange.fr











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