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St-Barth WEEKLY



Local News
in English

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05 90 27 65 19 - stbarthweekly@wanadoo.fr

FREE



A VALENTINE FROM KATE KOVA

Opening Reception : Saturday, February 14, 6pm to 10pm @Ortega Art Gallery

SAINT BARTH DEPENDENT ON TOURISM

It is a real mystery what Saint Barth would have become if a certain American clientele hadn't made it one of its favorite vacation destinations. A study published the IEDOM (French Overseas Central Bank) on Wednesday, January 28, reveals what these American visitors and friends bring to the economy of the island. The Guadeloupe office of the IEDOM is responsible for overseeing the stability of the banking system and produces regular reports on our economic health.

This new report centers exclusively on tourism in Saint Barthélemy. "The main office in Paris is equally interested in tourism in the other overseas territories," explains Bérangère Callamand, of IEDOM. The fact that our island's economy exists thanks to tourism isn't a scoop, but the IEDOM study points out that our level of dependence on tourists breaks all records, with 37% of employees directly involved in tourism—from hotels to restaurants—or tourist-related services, not to mention additional indirect

employment generated by tourism. This compares to a 6% average in France's overseas departments such as Martinique (less than 5%) and Guadeloupe, or 30% in Saint Martin.

Local politicians are aware that our island depends almost on a mono-industry, while commerce and construction also generate economic activity. But, as the IEDOM points out, tourism exerts "significant effects" on these other activities, especially real estate and building. In fact, the building trades count for almost 15% of the businesses on the island. And the fact that tourism in Saint Barth is destined for a high-end clientele did not escape the IEDOM. This clientele has the means to fill the rather unusual range of accommodations on the island, composed of 70% villas and only 30% hotels. A few years ago, the tourism committee (CTTSB) did an inventory of 635 seasonal rental villas with a capacity of 1,700 bed-

rooms. This type of lodging requires numerous high-end services, car rentals, maintenance, etc. The hotel capacity, or 544 rooms in 2013, has not evolved much according to the IEDOM. But these are almost all luxury establishments, or four- and five-star hotels, which are more expensive and lucrative, accounting for close to two-thirds of the total rooms.

According to figures from the CTTSB as reported by the IEDOM, the average prices for a hotel room in Saint Barth is 682 euros, while the revenue per room is 355 euros, or four to five times higher than the rest of the Caribbean. The clientele of Saint Barth remains at least 60% American, notes the IEDOM, whose data once again comes from the CTTSB, while the European clientele, Russians included, is less than 30%. The South Americans, targeted by the tourism committee and travel agents, are less numerous at just over 10%.



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SAINT-BARTH ESSENTIEL INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GEOTREF PROGRAM

To evaluate the potential of geothermal energy in the West Indies, a joint program called GEOTREF has been set up. At the end of last year, the program started with an exploratory phase intended to last for two years. The goal is to identify faults in the marine sub-strata as potential sources of geothermal energy. What happens is that water penetrates these faults and is heated by

active volcanoes. This hot water or its steam is capable of turning turbines that then produce electricity. An example of this is already operational in Bouillante, Guadeloupe.

The goal of this program is the development of new technology and innovative tools for the production of this kind of energy close to potential new markets in the Caribbean and Latin America. This will allow

businesses, such as Tera-nov, Kinova, and Magnitudes, to position themselves as leaders in the field. To lead the explorations in the waters around Guadeloupe in the first phase of the project, the catamaran Antea will set sail in the next few days.

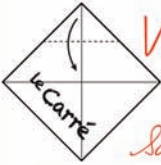
The scientists aboard include Yves Mazabraud, a geologist from the Antilles Guyana University (UAG) who is responsible for the GEOTREF program. He has invited Michel Chevaly from Saint-Barth Essentiel to help collect data and make precise measurements of the depth of the water, as well as record the magnetism, whose variations confirm the presence of the faults.

“The association, Saint-Barth Essentiel, is especially concerned by the production of renewable energy since on our island has at least 95% of its electricity produced by fossil fuel,” explains Chevaly. “Admittedly, the GEOTREF program, which represents sustainable energy from geothermal reservoirs, is not directly applicable on our island as we are not close




Michel Chevaly, secretary of the association, will collect data in the waters around Guadeloupe.

enough to an active volcano. Thus the potential heat given off under the water is lower,” notes the secretary of the association. “But we are nonetheless very interested in this program. And technological advances or new discoveries could change the situation in the future.” Mazabraud is expected to once again visit the island as part of his research project, and Saint-Barth Essentiel has already asked him to make a report on his work to date.







Valentine's day
at Le Carré
Saturday February 14th




Suggestions for two

- Roasted Chateaubriant, Périgieux sauce and Truffle Potatoes - 65 € for 2
- Pesto rack of Lamb, Provencal Vegetables and Sicilian Olive Oil mashed Potatoes 65 € for 2
- Tuna Steak for two like a Ribeye, Parmesan rice Cake and Roasted Asparagus, Béarnaise Sauce - 55 € for 2
- Chilled heart with lime and yuzu, orange/almond tuile - 10 € per person
- Special Valentine's Day cocktail 9 € par personne

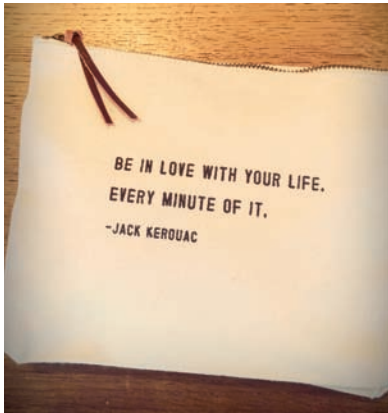
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BUSINESS: A HANDICAP IS NOT A PROBLEM TO WORK AT THE CHRISTOPHER HOTEL



Honored with its fifth star, the Christopher Hotel is determined to maintain its status. For general manager, Olivier Leroy, this Pointe Milou hotel must be impeccable. Both “for what is visible to the client—the service, the setting—and what is not,” he explains. “And internally the issue is that

of human resource management.” With this in mind, the Christopher hopes to open its staff options to those with handicaps, as this is an obligation for all businesses with more than 20 employees. In fact six of these jobs should go to those with disabilities. “This is also an opportunity to bring out “the best in

people,” assures Leroy. “Fulfilled by their jobs, they are just as efficient as people without handicaps.” To take advantage of this opportunity, the hotel has opened its recruitment to people in a handicapped situation, as is spelled out in their job offers. They have also engaged someone to identify

employees who might have a handicap by talking with them, “as all handicaps are not visible,” explains Laurent Robillard, the director of LB Développement Outre-mer, a human resources consulting firm whose goal is to help those with handicaps find suitable work. “Barely 3% of handicapped persons are in a wheel chair,” adds Robillard.

The Christopher Hotel called upon the services of the firm, LB DOM, to get its message across and to change people’s opinion about handicaps. To this end, the employees of the Christopher were invited to take a quiz on



Tuesday, February 3. One of the ideas that have to be overcome is

that “most people with handicaps are born that way. But that’s not true,” sighs Robillard. “Most frequently handicaps develop after the age of 16,” he adds, pointing out that there is still a lot to do on the island to get all businesses to take this responsibility. And improve the relationship between employers and candidates with a handicap. To help facilitate those relationships, LB DOM has opened a website called Handi’-Dom (www.handidom.com). Additional information about jobs for people with handicaps is available in the site www.agefiph.fr.

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A VALENTINE FROM KATE KOVA

On Saturday, February 14, painter Kate Kova will host a cocktail reception from 6pm-10pm at the Ortega Art Gallery in Gustavia (rue Samuel Fahlberg). While the gallery shows only Kova's work, there are a lot of new paintings to see, with medium and small format canvases. Her work not only includes the luscious green and red apples that are her trademark, but also views of the Port of Gustavia. "The ambiance will be festive and a love-



ly occasion to meet friends and have a drink," says Kova, who offers her valentine to lovers as well as bachelors. She is also working on a mural along the rue du Bord de Mer, and hopes to have it completed and ready to inaugurate before the event on Saturday.

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CARNIVAL ON TUESDAY : TIME TO PARTY !

Everybody take to the streets on Tuesday, February 17, for Mardi Gras! The parade starts at 3pm when the big floats—eight are expected this year—leave from the commercial port. Their itinerary through the streets of Gustavia has seven stations: near the pharmacy, the Cour Vendôme, Le Select, La Cantina, the Anglican Church, the post office, and l'Escale d'Avriette. With a pause at each of the stations, staying in each spot a little longer than last year. There will also be music by the Youngz, in association with United Band, with a Carnival "jump up" and a concert after the parade on the Quai du Général de Gaulle, where there will be a bar.



of any accidents or heat stroke along the parade route.

There will also be a free shuttle service so that revelers do not have to drive into town where parking is limited, and the road is closed as of Public. The shuttle pickups are near the cemetery in Saint Jean and near Marché U, from 1pm to 9pm.

On Monday, February 16, La Pointe en Mouvement will honor the tradition of opening the Carnival celebration with a Pajama Parade in Gustavia starting at 6pm. Be sure to wear your jammies and a night cap!

Carnival concludes on Ash Wednesday, when an effigy of Vaval is burned on Shell Beach, following a final parade through the streets of Gustavia. The dress code for this is black and white.

A new initiative this year by the Carnival organization committee, run by Dora Louis, is a temporary village—open during the parade—on the Retrocession Esplanade (between Gustav Burger and Bagatelle), with about a dozen stands offering goods for sale by artisans and merchants. There will also be a medical station manned by the firemen in the garden of the Anglican Church in case

ART AT LES ARTISANS

A combination art gallery and jewelry store, Les Artisans is located in the heart of Gustavia (rue du General de Gaulle) and has a year-round collection of art featuring painting and sculpture. A peek around the shop reveals the colorful paintings of French artist Alain Le Chatelier, who often paints as if from a bird's-eye view above his subject, with a wonderful sense of color and humor woven into his work. His paintings are always worth a second, if not a third look, as every time you are guaranteed to see something you missed before. In contrast are the softer colors found in the paintings of a second French artist, Gery Langlais, who works in



pastels as he finds they capture the light nicely, giving his work the luminosity he likes as he interprets

the landscapes of the island (Langlais will open his annual winter show at Les Artisans on Friday, February 20). American sculptor Dave Stevenson is also represented here, with a series of abstract pieces in bronze as well as stainless steel. The sculptor likes the cool, austere character of steel for the futuristic look of his more mysterious pieces. He recently completed a monumental, eight-foot-high commissioned bronze version of his original 22" "Nautilus" for a private garden setting in the United States. Collections at Les Artisans also include custom jewelry by owners Jo-Anne Questel and Albert Yaphet, and Cape Cod-based goldsmith Ross Copleman, among others.

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Carnival

The Carnival group, La

- Saturday, February 14 at 7pm: Pre-Carnival parade organized by La Pointe en Mouvement. Meet on Rue de la Paix in Gustavia (behind the Treasury).

- Monday, February 16 at 7pm: Parade In Pajamas: Meet La Pointe En Movement at their atelier above the Treasury in Gustavia.

- Tuesday, February 17 at 3pm: Mardi Gras Parade in Gustavia. The big parade starts at the commercial dock in Gustavia, and winds along the waterfront to the far side of the harbor and back to the main dock.

- Wednesday, February 18 at 7pm: Evening Parade in Black and White: A parade through Gustavia with an effigy of Vaval, the Carnival king, to be burned in a big bonfire on Shell Beach. A dramatic close to the Carnival celebrations.

Live Music

- Thouugh February 14 Live music with Tabitha Fair from 9pm to midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes

- February 16-28 - Lipbone Redding Trio from 9pm to midnight, Baz Bar

- Every Day - Lunch with DJ Rudy Mendes @ La Plage

- Thursday, February 12 - DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth
- Robb in live from 6pm to 8pm @ Christopher hotel

- Friday February 13 - Live Music with Soley at

- Boca Loca, Lorient
- I Love Friday, Dinner & Party @ La Plage Restaurant
- DJ Laurent Perrier from 8:30pm at Bonito
- Crazy Week-end @Ti St Barth
- Pierre Nesta & Papaguyo in live from 5to 7pm @ Do Brazil

- Ladies Night @Bagatelle
- Lunch with the Tremendous Johnson Blues Band @ Grain de Sel.

- Saturday, February 14 - Bikini Brunch, Live Music @ La Plage

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

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

- Live Music with Bianca & Pierre Nesta from 8pm @ Manapany hotel

- Crazy Week-end @Ti St Barth

- Live Music with Soley at Boca Loca, Lorient

- "Love is in the air" @ Bagatelle

- Live Music by Meltin'Pop from 6pm @Sand Bar Night, Eden Rock

- Sunday, February 15

- Amazing Sunday "Carnival" @ Nikki Beach

- Sunday c'est Chic ! Music by DJ Rudy, @ La Plage

- Live music for the Brunch with Robb from 11am @ Toiny Hotel.

- Funky brunch from 1pm to 3pm @ Manapany
- Live Music Pierre Nesta & Papaguyo 5 to 7 pm @ Zen bar, Do Brazil

- Monday February 16 - DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

- Tuesday February 17 - DJ Yo One Sutter from 8:30pm at Bonito

- Live Music with Pierre Nesta 5 to 7 pm @ Do Brazil
- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

- Pierre Nesta in live from 5to 7pm @ Do Brazil

- Live Jazz music with Soley and Christian from 8pm to 10pm @ Christopher hotel

- Wednesday February 18

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

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

Fashion Show

- Daily Fashion Shows

- Fashion Show: every lunch & dinner, La Plage

- Fashion Show, every lunch, Nikki Beach

Exhibitions

- Through Easter

- Exhibition Of Exceptional Cashmere; Hand Made In The Himalayas

A Valentine From Kate Kova

Kate Kova at the Ortega Gallery in Gustavia (rue Samuel Fahlberg). Cocktail opening Saturday February 14 from 6pm to 10pm

@ Galerie Asie

- February 12-24

Nicole Etienne, Solo Show - 'Menagerie'. Opening cocktail in presence of the artist Friday 13th February 6-8pm, Space Gallery

- Through March 23

- Jasper Johns at Wall House Museum

- Bronze Sculptures by Bjorn Olkholm Skaarup, @ The Collectivity & Space Gallery

- Kate Kova @ Ortega Art Gallery, Gustavia



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For sale, this lovely, well-constructed three bedroom villa located in Petit Cul-de-Sac features a tranquil, tropical flower garden and a view of the sea. A

recently renovated swimming pool is the focal point of an expansive terrace which includes a covered din-



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