



Zina Edwards will represent Guyana in the pageant.



Micaela Daniel will represent St. Maarten in the pageant.

Daniel, Brooks represent St. Maarten, St. Martin at PJD2 Caribbean pageant

PHILIPSBURG—Eighteen beauties from throughout the Caribbean have confirmed their participation in the 16th annual PJD2 Caribbean Queen Pageant, which will be held at Carnival Village on Thursday, April 29, from 9:00pm.

Seventeen-year-old Milton Peters College (MPC) student Micaela Daniel will represent Dutch St. Maarten, while Simona Brooks will represent the French St. Martin. Other

participating countries include Guyana, represented by Zina Edwards, Curaçao, Haiti (which will be represented after several years), Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Barbados, St. Vincent, Antigua, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, the British Virgin Islands (BVI) and Venezuela.

The pageant will follow the same pattern as previous years and will see contestants parading on stage

in five segments and an introductory dance. Contestants will be judged on their intelligence, swimwear, eveningwear, national costume and talent.

A panel of seven judges from several sectors will determine the winners.

Unlike last year, the contestants will not be part of the Carnival parade, due to their busy schedules, said pageant coordinator Sharyn Winston.

Carnival show on Pa-Ben on radio

PHILIPSBURG—The tenth annual instalment of the Pa-Ben Carnival Happy Hour radio show on The Voice of St. Maarten PJD2 102.7FM started yesterday, April 1, and continues until May 4.

The show is hosted by Pa-Ben, the island's "oldest citizen at age 118," from Monday to Friday, 3:00pm to 4:00pm. He said the show

was a cornerstone for the promotion of Carnival as a noted island cultural event.

Featured items on the programme include Carnival news and views, interviews with contestants and performers and updated Carnival information. There will be live interviews with the local and international Carnival queen contestants and

the local and international calypsonians.

Pa-Ben invites all Calypso lovers and enthusiasts to tune in to PJD2 and listen to the Pa-Ben Carnival Happy Hour. "Let's celebrate the 35th anniversary of the island's cultural festival."



About 90 students at Learning Unlimited (LU) Preparatory School, from pre-school to third grade levels, dressed as various Dr. Seuss (a children's writer) characters and paraded around the school on Thursday, March 25, as they celebrated the culmination of the institution's annual Dr. Seuss Week. During the preceding week students were reading Dr. Seuss' books, going through different material related to Dr. Seuss and incorporating into school activities such as arts and crafts. The activities were done to stimulate student reading.

Animal Welfare raises its sterilisation, adoption fees

PHILIPSBURG—The fees for spay/neuter certificates and the adoption programme of St. Maarten Animal Welfare Foundation has been increased as of April 1, the foundation

stated in a release.

Animal Welfare Foundation secretary Susan Armitage said that due to increased cost, the organisation is charging US \$25 for a spay/neuter certificate

and US \$60 for adoption.

"The US \$25 for a spay/neuter certificate is still only a small portion of the cost. Animal Welfare pays the remainder," Armitage said.

The US \$10 increase in the adoption fee is to cover new services with the adoption, which always included veterinary services and now vaccination has been added.

"This addition allows the new family to consult with the veterinarian for questions they may have about care for their new pet and/or recommended follow-up," said Armitage.

Pets may be adopted at either St. Maarten Veterinary Clinic or Animal Hospital of the Netherlands Antilles.

The Foundation has been active over the past 12 years in sterilising nearly 4,000 cats and dogs and the adoption of hundreds of animals from the centres the Foundation supports in each veterinary clinic.

Indian ambassador visits



Ambassador of India to Venezuela and Consul General to the Netherlands Antilles Deepak Bhajwani (left) visited St. Maarten on Wednesday and, as is customary, he made a courtesy call to Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards. Richards presented Bhajwani with cufflinks in the shape of St. Maarten's Coat of Arms, which the Lt. Governor helped put on. Board members of the Indian Merchant's Association (IMA), including President Alwani, accompanied the Ambassador on the courtesy visit.

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