

#1007 --- August 24, 2015 -- News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

Island News

Lodging News

Members SECRET Website Login

St. Maarten and St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News

*St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source
for Tourist-Oriented News & Information*

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Part of www.everythingsxm.com

Add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book to be sure you receive this newsletter every week. "Jeff1620" is a send-only email address. For Contact info, see Contact Us at the end of this newsletter.

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This format has been further narrowed so it is now easily readable on all mobile devices. Scroll down for this week's news.

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http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

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Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' *St. Maarten and St. Martin (SXM) Weekly News*, published every Monday all year long (Tuesdays during some holiday weeks). You're receiving this because you subscribed or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

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Timeshare Rentals and Sales of the Week

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml and features them here.

To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else, worldwide, at no charge, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of 237+ St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits, and your subscription also helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

SXM Timeshare Rentals of The Week:

SXM Timeshare Sales of The Week:

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml

St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW): [Click to access our recommended real estate agents.](#)

This Week's Stories

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/>

"Like" Our Facebook SXM Timesharing Group People for Timeshare Owner Consumer Protection in St. Maarten

http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_205834172765083

Search the **SXM Weekly News** Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format (New):

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

<http://everythingxsm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?flavor=archive:list=sxmweeklynews>

Check Out Our Linked-In "St. Maarten and St. Martin Travelers" Group (Free; Timeshare Focus):

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing list of 210+ Money-Saving SXM-focused travel discount benefits through JMB Website Supporters:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

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C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads: Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

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(Revised 12/31/14)

How To Get a ***GROWING LIST of 230+*** Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

Visit <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> , the *secret* site for JMB Website Supporters members only, for low fares to SXM from cities across the USA, Canada, and Western Europe, plus a total of a growing list of 200+ additional major travel benefits, including reduced-cost access to

Not a member yet? See http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml . Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for five full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

Now a growing list of 200+ benefits... and more coming soon.

Contact Us:

[Revised 2/24/15]

All member discounts and benefits are explained in detail on the members-only *secret* website,

<http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> . If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered there, please contact us at support@jmbcommunications.com

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com with the subject *Free Newsletter Recipient,* but due to the huge volume of mail received, we may not be able to respond individually.

Our main St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com .

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members (including *Low Airfare Bulletins*) read *From JMB* in the subject area so you won't misinterpret them as spam.

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

This issue was originally scheduled for mailing next Tuesday. We are pulling it ahead because of the approaching hurricane.

SECTION 1: Getting There: Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather

1. Hurricane Danny Approaches SXM; Serious Weakening Expected Before Arrival

Still many hundreds of miles to the East Southeast of SXM, Hurricane Danny on Friday afternoon intensified to "major" cat 3 hurricane status with steady 115 mph winds and higher gusts. That's the end of the scary part.

The good news is that the storm was about to enter a hostile environment with dry air and wind shear. It's also a tiny storm, one of the tiniest on record, another factor which forecasters claim will make it a sitting duck in that hostile environment.

If the storm does come toward SXM -- and as of late Friday when we wrote this that was a big "if" -- it is expected that it will have lost much of its intensity, and its major impact Sunday night and Monday is likely to be copious rain, which is needed because of the long-term area drought.

With the storm approaching, here are key sources of weather info: We've mentioned [Crown Weather](#) and our own Weather page on www.everythingsxm.com.

Public NHC advisories on Danny are here: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/refresh/MIATCPAT4+shtml/211437.shtml?>

Public NHC track projections are here:
http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics_at4+shtml/144006.shtml?5-daynl?large#contents

Note that the track posted Friday shows the storm diminishing from H (hurricane) to S (tropical storm). If you are on the island, listen to local broadcasts (particularly Island92, 91.9 FM) and heed what authorities say. Never rely on any website for decision-making in any threatening weather situation.

2. More Storms May Be On The Horizon

Danny isn't the only game in town. Near the Cape Verde islands off the west coast of Africa, another storm may be taking shape. If it "winds up" as some expect, it could be near the Leeward islands by midweek, around August 26. We will keep you posted.

Much more on storms is posted on our own site, everythingxsm.com, and on our Everything SXM Facebook site, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/>. Crown weather is an outstanding source as well: www.crownweather.com. Please be sure to read story #1.

3. First Class? Jet Blue's Version Will Become More Visible in SXM

Airbus A321 aircraft are increasingly seen on heavy routes. These aircraft are larger than the standard A320 used by JetBlue, American Airlines (US Airways), and other carriers. It is the principal competition to the Boeing 737.

Unlike other aircraft in the JetBlue fleet, the A321 is larger and contains a separate section with sleeper seats, which is about as close as one can expect JetBlue to come to first-class seating. Some of these aircraft are already in use on flights between JFK and SXM, and more will be in use as JetBlue increases service to St. Maarten. It is highly likely that they will also be used on some of the airline's nonstop flights between Boston and St. Maarten, where the airline also is increasing service. We do not currently expect this new, larger aircraft to be put into service if and when nonstops begin on JetBlue between Washington National Airport and St. Maarten or Ft. Lauderdale. But eventually, if demand is there....

4. Norwegian Air From the US to SXM? It's Possible -- As Is British Airways from The UK

Low-cost European carrier Norwegian Air, a very fast-growing airline, has flights to Norway from both New York and Boston. This newsletter couldn't care less about Norway (no offense) but an announcement from the airline this week caught our ears.

The announcement was that by the end of this year, Norwegian Air will fly nonstops from Boston to both Martinique and Guadeloupe. When we saw that, our reaction was why not SXM? So we broached that question to the airline's main PR office in the UK and we are waiting to hear back. We also broached this to the managing director of SXM airport, Regina Labega, who appeared to be interested in the news. Who knows; some day soon you may be on a nonstop from Boston or New York while you enjoy Norwegian smoked salmon on your way to St. Maarten.

Meanwhile, as we've mentioned before, British Airways flies a lot of airplanes to points throughout the Western Hemisphere including to the Caribbean. To get to St. Maarten now, people from the UK must either go to Paris or to Amsterdam, neither of which is exactly convenient. British Airways is looking into direct service from the UK to St. Maarten and it would not surprise us if it happens within the next 18 months, or sooner.

As always, we'll keep you posted.

5. Going to Europe or on Another Long Trip? Another Source For Airfares & More

JMB Website Supporters now gives you access to a private, "members only" travel wholesale club that offers incredible prices not only on airfares but on packages not just to the Caribbean, but worldwide.

Retail travel sites — the ones whose names you know very well — are heavily regulated. But private travel clubs like this, which normally charge members prices for membership/admission, are regulated differently and consequently, can offer much better pricing.

The organization providing these travel benefits has been traveling under the radar for 25 years and is only now making its travel reservations prowess publicly known. It's SkyMed Travel Club and it is entirely separate from the SkyMed "takes you home" medical evacuation service we've been recommending to you since shortly after the millennium.

The SkyMed Travel Club offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's

pricing. We have been testing it for the past few weeks and have found the pricing to be extraordinary — even on the wildly popular river cruises that are a tourism phenomenon throughout Europe and are quickly gaining popularity here in the US.

And normally, this organization charges you \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members, and during a brief introductory period for everyone else, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Exclusively through us, you get access to a world-class global ticketing mechanism without paying one cent to get in the door.

This is a new benefit for JMB members. During this introduction, everyone can join by going to www.SkyMedtravelclub.com, clicking the sign up link on the top right corner of the homepage, and providing the requested information. It's very important to complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — entering that code is what ensures that you pay nothing to be a member of the SkyMed Travel Club. If you fail to enter that code, you will not gain free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing.

Do join — you will not be disappointed once you've booked through them.

SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares

6. D-Day For 1st Court Decision Between Alegria and Caravanserai Timeshare Owners

Originally today's newsletter was scheduled to be issued on Tuesday, August 25. The only reason we're sending it early is the approach of hurricane Danny.

The reason it was scheduled for Tuesday is that last Friday, August 21, was the day when a St. Maarten court was to rule on the initial case by Caravanserai timeshare owners against the owners of Alegria resort.

As soon as we hear what was decided — and have it in English — we'll pass along the information, either as a bulletin to our JMB Website Supporters members as a posting on our everything St. Maarten Facebook Site, or both.

This is not the main case, which has yet to be brought.

7. French Side Oyster Pond Residents Want Timeshare OPC Sales Reps Gone

If you cross the border from the Dutch side to the French side in oyster pond, especially during high season, you have encountered OPCs — so-called off premises consultants, whose job is to get you into a timeshare where you can sit through a presentation and get some kind of prize.

These particular OPCs disrupt traffic and irritate residents of the residential neighborhood where they are located. Complaints have been brought against them by angry neighbors so there's a possibility they may just disappear, one way or the other (meaning willingly or by being taken away by gendarmes).

We'll keep you posted. More: <http://tinyurl.com/o2cbk57>

8. SXM Timeshare Resort of the Week: Ninth In a Series

Despite heavy adverse publicity about several SXM timeshare resorts, there are many on the island that are quite well-run, responsive to their timeshare owners, and reasonable in cost. In this series we've been talking about several of them. Each one we list will be added below, most recent first.

Atrium is a Resort that has made the news, but not for a number of years. When Festiva took it over, timeshare owners were displeased with some of their antics -- and we reported it here in *SXM Weekly News*. Rowie Percoco put a group together and they went to court, but timeshare owners were having a rough time in those days and it

went nowhere.

Atrium windows leak in hurricanes, or they have in the past; hopefully that has been fixed and things will stay dry in Danny. Nonetheless if you're in SXM, keep electronics off the floor and away from windows even if those windows are closed.

Atrium has a great location in Simpson Bay, near lots of restaurants and several beaches. Its owners seem happy - - very few complaints in recent years.

You can sometimes find Atrium timeshare condo units for rent or sale on the timeshare rentals page on www.everythingStMaarten.com as well as weeks at most of the other hotels noted below.

Timeshare resorts covered so far in this series:

Atrium Resort <http://www.festiva-atrrium.com/> (8/24/15)

Flamingo Beach Resort <https://www.diamondresorts.com/Flamingo-Beach-Resort> (8/17/15)

Bel Air Beach Hotel www.belairbeach.com (8/10/15)

Royal Palm Beach Hotel <https://www.diamondresorts.com/Rentals/royal-palm-beach-resort> (8/3/15)

Summit Resort Hotel www.thesummitresort.com (7/27/15)

Divi Little Bay Resort <http://www.diviresorts.com/divi-little-bay-beach-resort-st-maarten.htm> (7/20/15)

Simpson Bay Resort <http://www.simpsonbayresort.com/> (7/13/15)

Oyster Bay Beach Resort <http://www.oysterbaybeachresort.com/> (7/6/15)

La Vista: <http://www.lavistaresort.com> (6/29/15)

Royal Islander: <http://www.royalislander.com/> (6/22/15)

Watch for more next week.

SECTION 3: Island

9. Lead Story -- SkyMed On Sale: Lots of Benefits for Short Money -- And Much More

If you've been thinking about buying SkyMed but just haven't gotten around to it, this is the time.

SkyMed takes you home when you become critically ill or injured while traveling — home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust. We're not going to criticize the St. Maarten Medical Center. But we will say that with rare exceptions, your medical insurance from the US or from Canada isn't valid in St. Maarten. There is also no trauma center in St. Maarten, and the sophisticated medical treatments available at leading US hospitals have no equivalent offer in St. Maarten. So if you become critically ill or injured, you really do need to get home to the US or Canada and get your issue taken care of.

Thanks to this sale, that has now become a whole lot easier. There are two key reasons.

First, for every year of SkyMed medical evacuation protection you buy from us during the sale, you get an equivalent year of JMB Website Supporters membership, which brings you an increasing spectrum of benefits and discounts, soon to number close to 250. If you are already a JMB member, we will extend your membership on us for a number of years equal to your new or upgraded SkyMed membership. If you are not a JMB member and buy SkyMed through us, we will establish a JMB Website Supporters membership for you equal to your new or upgraded SkyMed membership's duration of one year or more.

SkyMed costs next to nothing when you buy it for a few days, or it costs \$499 for a family plan covering an entire year. *The critically important advantage of buying yearly coverage is that you are covered for as long as you continue to renew your membership regardless of your age or health at the time of the renewal.* Buy a "short term" plan for a week or so, and you must qualify medically every time you apply.

That same crucial benefit also applies if you get a SkyMed three-year or five-year ultimate membership, the best they offer. (It's also what Jeff has had for a number of years).

The SkyMed Ultimate normally sells for a three-year or a five-year term. One critical advantage of the Ultimate — besides the fact that it covers you around virtually the entire world — is that you are covered in case the price of crude oil makes a U-turn and starts skyrocketing again, as it no doubt will just as we get comfortable with low gas prices. Since medical evacuation jets use expensive jet fuel, current pricing for SkyMed annual memberships will increase with the cost of jet fuel. A five-year Ultimate membership will cost you either \$59 per month per family, or much less if you prepay it and are a JMB Website Supporters member.

The price is considerably less when you prepay. Nonmembers pay \$3495 in advance for five full years for the five-year Ultimate; JMB members pay only \$2495 — and remember, because of the bonus we mentioned above, when you sign up we will also sign you up for JMB membership enabling you to save \$1000 on a five year Ultimate membership that is not available for the same discounted price to nonmembers.

For answers to questions about SkyMed, or to sign up, regardless of whether you are a current JMB member, and to get these JMB membership bonuses and discounts, call JMB Communications weekdays during normal business hours at area code 508-747-8281 and ask for Jeff. This offer can be withdrawn at any time, so please do it soon. That's \$1000 off a five-year Ultimate plus a free JMB membership or membership extension -- available only by calling our office. You can learn more about SkyMed at www.skymed.com/jmbxsm but these JMB discounts are not available online. JMB members only, see www.skymed.com/jmbspecial .

10. GoFundMe Campaign Raises Over \$15,000 for Officer Benjamin's Children; Campaign Continues Toward Goal

As we reported previously, a gofundme campaign was set up by Jeffrey Sochrin of island92 radio to enable Americans and Canadians to give to the Gamali Benjamin foundation which has been set up to benefit the children of police officers from the Dutch side who pass away in the line of duty. Bicycle officer Gamali Benjamin was the first such officer to pass away and he does have a small child.

Originally, the campaign was supposed to have ended last Monday night, with a check for the proceeds being given by Mr. Sochrin to the foundation. In fact, some \$14,000 was turned over by check last Tuesday. But the objective of the foundation was to raise a total of \$25,000, so now the gofundme campaign has been extended until it makes that goal.

You can donate to the foundation here: <http://www.gofundme.com/bh2ftrts>

11. Lots of Changes Coming To The SXM Restaurant Scene

In a market where high season lasts only a few months, restaurants must be quite special to last a significant number of years.

For *St. Maarten Weekly News*, restaurants are one of our favorite topics and "restaurant comings and goings" is a frequently seen article here.

But this week, there are more than usual number of pieces of news about restaurants, so here we go:

As we mentioned previously, the near legendary Mario's Bistro is moving from its location next to the French side drawbridge to new digs at Porto Cupecoy on the Dutch side, underscoring the flight of better restaurants out of Marigot.

We've since found out that Mario's, headed by Mario Tardif, will locate next to Ernest and Fidel's Cuban Cafe on the right side of the court overlooking the yacht basin. We think that view surpasses the view in the old Mario's, especially when there's a full moon. We still don't know when the move will be made, but we're sure it will be completed during low season and the new restaurant will be ready when most tourists return later this year. We'll find out and let you know, and will also update you with menu information.

Also at Porto Cupecoy, we're told from a great source that New York Brasserie will disappear and be replaced by a Thai restaurant. We're also told that upstairs from the new Thai restaurant there will be a new Bamboo Bernie's, but we have not yet confirmed that.

We're also told that a new chicken restaurant has opened in Simpson Bay near the lagoon end of the runway, at the end of the road there. At this point we know nothing more about that restaurant.

That is not the end of the story. There is at least one other new restaurant now being constructed in Simpson Bay. We know a lot about it, and we can tell you that you may well know the person behind it, who is a well-known and outstanding restaurateur on the island. But we've been sworn to secrecy and won't tell anybody anything more until they are ready — not even the type of restaurant. (It isn't Italian.) Stay tuned.

12. Orient Bar / Restaurant Construction Well Underway; Photos are Now Online

Over the last few weeks, we reported that site preparation was underway on Orient beach between Pedro's and KonTiki, where all existing bars/restaurants had been demolished a couple of months ago by the French side.

The intent was and is to build new facilities much farther back from the water, providing more safety in the event of storms, a larger beach for tourists, and much higher quality facilities. The new facilities will be rented out to bars, restaurants, and other businesses and are supposed to reopen in November.

The latest pictures now posted on our Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site show that foundations for some of the new structures are being constructed, and more will undoubtedly be built soon. Buildout will follow.

If you're visiting St. Martin and pass by Orient Beach, take pictures for us and post them on the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/>.

As always, we'll keep you posted.

13. "Rima" Souvenir Emporium Is Back, Offering Huge Discounts to JMB Members

Remember the huge "Rima" store on the pondfill, Philipsburg, where you could buy tons of souvenirs at great prices? Until now Rima-style beachwear, loungewear, hats, dolls, kidswear, and boatloads of souvenirs were available only from kiosks on the island... no retail stores. And those kiosks only carried a fraction of the former store's wares.

Now the Rima website -- which brings everything "Rima" online -- will sell to JMB members at a huge 36% discount, the biggest discount they've ever offered to anyone. Shipping is free for all orders of \$40 or more to the USA, Canada, and the UK. The discount will apply regardless of how much or how little JMB members buy.

And lastly, the discount will be posted on the Secret Site during this week, the week of August 24. Discounts are for JMB members only. Don't expect to order at discount until you have the necessary info from the Secret Site.

The Rima site is www.rimasxm.com. We'll post on the Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site when the new Rima benefit goes live.

14. Please "Like" Miss India St. Maarten

About eight days from now, Miss India St. Maarten, Dipti Budhrani, goes for the title of Miss India Worldwide at a huge pageant in India. Daughter of Henna and Deepu Budhrani of SXM and part of the same extended family that owns Zhaveri Jewelers, Caribbean Gems, and Oro Diamonte, Dipti has a quick favor to ask of you: help her become "Miss Media."

All you need to do is go to her special pageant page on Facebook and "like" the page. Here it is:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dipti-Budhrani-Miss-India-St-Maarten-2015/1588239891446227> Thanks and wish her luck as she goes for it all...

More stories are below.

**Advertising, Sales Promotion, PR, Publicity, and
Complete Website Strategy, Copy, & Design**

(Traditional or WordPress).

It's what else we do.

See www.jmbcommunications.com for more.

15. Alleged Robbery Perp Still in Intensive Care at SMMC

Several people have been arrested in connection with the attempted robbery at Oro Diamonte at which St. Maarten bicycle police officer Gamali Benjamin interceded, preventing something worse from happening. There was an exchange of gunfire between the police and the alleged perpetrators, one of whom was shot and who remains in intensive care in St. Maarten Medical Center. We'll keep you posted about what charges are eventually filed and about prosecution.

16. Details of Stiff Anticrime Measures

We mentioned in connection with the attempted jewelry robbery in Philipsburg a couple of weeks ago that the Dutch side had undertaken some major new anti-crime initiatives. Here are some details: <http://tinyurl.com/nmjuxmt>

17. Netherlands Considers Sending Police

The kingdom of the Netherlands is considering sending a number of Dutch police to St. Maarten to assist the Dutch side police. There are a number of people on the Dutch side who are convinced the community policing with police from the island who know its culture would be more effective in the long run, and from an economics perspective. They say the that Dutch police would cost far more and be temporary, and that it would be preferable to have locally trained permanent police who would become familiar in the community and could be far more effective. (We agree.)

18. 25,000th Member JMB Membership Sale Offers 237+ SXM Discounts & Benefits

Just as we are on the doorstep of reaching 25,000 JMB Website Supporters members, we're starting our 25,000th Member Sale to bring in our 25,000 member, hopefully **this week**: that member will get a vacation in St. Maarten and at this writing we are only a very small number of memberships away. Join us today; you may well be number 25,000.

Here are the *new membership sale prices* during this event:

One year: \$49 (Reg. \$59)

Three years: \$89 (Reg. \$95)

Five years: \$109 (Our reg. \$125)

To join or get more info: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml ; see next story.

19. A SXM Vacation is Ready for Our 25,000th JMB Website Supporters Member

Elsewhere in this issue, you will see news about our seven vacation giveaway, which we formally announced last week in this newsletter.

If you are our 25,000th JMB Website Supporters member, you will get a St. Maarten vacation when we give them away during the first half of next year. We'll remind you to listen to island 92 during the giveaway on the air, at which time we will call you by telephone to find out which week you want to take. That's all there is to it — other than being our 25,000th member which you can do right now by joining us. See the prior article.

20. Was Tintamarre Involved in World War II?

On a number of occasions we've written about Tintamarre island, a few miles away from Orient beach on the French side and a frequent destination for off-island cruises.

We've also told you quite a bit about the history of the island. Thanks to a post on the Travel Talk website, we came across this, which is probably the single best article we've ever seen about Tintamarre's history including its rumored involvement in World War II: <http://thesabaislander.com/2013/07/04/tintamarre/>

21. Captain Neil's "Friday Fun Sail" Cruise to Tintamarre

The single best way you can have a close-up look at Tintamarre is to take Capt. Neil Roebert's Friday Fun Sail aboard the motoryacht Celine Too. This all day cruise includes great food by the Capt., a stop on the island with plenty of beach time, a gourmet lunch, a stop at happy Bay, and a stop at Creole rock, an excellent snorkeling place at the Northwest side of the island. Definitely do it. The trip is clothing optional. More information can be found at www.sailstmaarten.com. There are discounts for JMB Website Supporters members on this trip; see the Secret Site for details. Still not a member? Join by clicking the page curl on our home page, www.everythingsxm.com. Memberships are just \$49 for one year or much less per year if you buy a multiyear membership.

22. Tech Talk: Replacing "Uninterruptable" Power Supplies (UPS)

In recent weeks, this newly returned series of articles has talked about defragmentation; Windows 10; and now Uninterruptable Power Supplies (UPS). Starting next week, we'll list the subjects of all previous articles below; in case you missed any, you'll be able to check past issues in our *SXM Weekly News* PDF archives (link above).

If the power suddenly goes out when you're working on your desktop computer, or any other computer without a battery, the system will suddenly lose power — not a good thing for any non-battery-operated computer.

That's why most of us have both surge suppressors and UPS. Plug your computer into a UPS, and when power goes off, the computer stays on for a while so you can power it down normally and safely. In the overall scheme of things, is far more worthwhile to pay the small price for a UPS than the potentially larger price of a system that could be damaged by losing power.

Unfortunately, UPS systems eventually die, usually after several years of loyal use. Most people shove them into a corner and buy new ones — but you needn't do that. There is a much simpler, less costly solution.

There are now chains of stores across the country that carry replacement UPS batteries and some computer batteries. In many cases, the batteries are not mongrel brands but proven brands that work and work well. You may take your chance buying replacement computer batteries and UPS batteries from sources on the web. But for UPS, the stores provide quality replacements — think Duracell. And the cost is often only 25 to 35% of what you'd pay

for a new UPS.

Check it out.

23. Restaurant of the Week

This series returns next week after a one-week hiatus. See past Restaurant of the Week businesses below. Most of the listed restaurants offer discounts to JMB Website Supporters members; see the Secret Site for details. We'll cover another restaurant here soon.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 4/6/15)
Canoa, www.canoasxm.com (featured 3/23/15)
SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 6/15/15)
Cugini (featured 12/8/14)
Trattoria Pizza Pasta, Maho Plaza near Casino Royale (featured 5/11/15)
Daniel's By The Sea, www.dawnbeachsxm.com (featured 7/13/15)
Domino's Pizza <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 8/10/15)
Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 2/23/15)
Fusion, www.fusionrestaurant-sxm.com (featured 1/26/15)
The Hideaway, <http://www.lavistaesort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 4/28/14)
Stone Restaurant, www.thestonerestaurant.com (featured 9/2/14)
Le Pressoir, <http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com> (featured 7/6/15)
Temptation, <http://www.rareandtemptation.com/EN/temptation/>
Lal's Curry In A Hurry Indian Restaurant, Airport Road, Simpson Bay (featured 1/19/15)
Mr. Busby's Beach Bar <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 2/23/15)
Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 5/18/15)
Pineapple Pete, www.pineapplepete.com (featured 2/2/15)
Papagayo, <http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php> (featured 5/4/15)
Coconut Grove (formerly SPN Cafe), <http://www.pineapplepete.com/sport.html> (featured 8/18/14)
Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path from the far side of Ocean Club to get there). (featured 4/27/2015)
FIG, Cupecoy opposite Rainbow Beach Club
St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge
Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 4/13/15)
Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 11/10/14)
Topper's / Topper's By The Sea <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 6/29/15)
Taloula Mango <http://www.taloulamango.com/> (featured 4/20/15)
Bylbos, Simpson Bay
Sushiitto Japanese Restaurant, Port de Plaisance <https://www.facebook.com/sushiitto.sxm> (featured 1/12/15)
Mario's Bistro, moving to Porto Cupecoy, Dutch Side www.mariosbistro.com (featured 8/17/15)

24. How To Get Your SXM Euro-Ovals

We are continuing to accept orders for our very popular copyrighted SXM Euro Oval stickers -- green lettering on a white vinyl background with twin palm trees in the background. They measure 5 3/4" x 3 3/4". You've likely seen them across SXM.

You can now order your own... We're currently offering them to our *SXM Weekly News* readers at economical pricing. They are one for \$5 or three for \$10. We use them on our cars and on smooth hard-sided luggage, which makes the luggage very easy to spot on carousels. They're printed on durable vinyl to last long. And they have a varnish coating to help protect against fading.

You can pay us through PayPal (have the payment go to jeff@jmbcommunications.com) but please specify what you're ordering and where they're to be shipped. Include your phone number. Buy some for friends too... If you want more than three, just place multiple orders.

Or pay by check payable to JMB Communications but again please specify what you're ordering and where they're to be shipped (all must go to the same address). Include your phone number. Buy some for friends too... Mail your check to SXM Weekly News Ovals, c/o JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812.

N. B.: Orders are shipped only to the USA and Canada. Allow six weeks for delivery. Questions about the ovals? Address them to jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SXM Ovals. JMB members, please see our recent emails to you about SXM Euro Ovals for important info.

This offer will expire for the winter in October. Order now.

25. Interact With Fellow SXM Visitors on Our Everything SXM Facebook Page

Our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#), which has been around for several years, covers SXM happenings in words and pictures from its thousands of users, and enables people to ask questions, get answers, post trip reports, etc. We also post things there between issues of *SXM Weekly News*.

Besides that ... the 5000th person to "like" that page will be among the "Final 50" people we call when we give away seven vacations early next year; see story # .

26. Our Seven Vacation Giveaway Begins: Where & How To Enter

We expect to surpass 4.5-million visits to www.everythingsxm.com during the first half of 2016 -- or conceivably earlier -- depending literally on how often you visit the site. (Do it often and we'll give away these vacations sooner.)

Here's where you could be going:

- Mary's Boon Beach Resort;
- Oyster Bay Beach Resort;
- La Vista or La Vista Beach
- Summit Resort
- Baker's Suites
- Club Fantastico
- *Hotel L'Esplanade OR Le Petit Hotel OR Blue Pelican*

It is highly likely that we will be adding more vacations, and it is quite certain that we'll be adding dinners for two and much more. Watch next Monday's *SXM Weekly News* (and tell your friends to subscribe free to Weekly News at www.everythingsxm.com); next week we'll post a link to the online entry form right here. No envelopes, no printing, and no stamps necessary to enter -- it's all online.

The form goes live today, Monday, August 17, 2015, at noon EDT. You will find it here:
http://everythingxm.com/sxm/getting_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml

Full rules are on the page.

27. Domino's SXM Goes For a World Record on Multi-Country Pizza Deliveries

John Caputo's Domino's Pizza appears to have broken a world record on Friday by delivering fresh, hot pizzas from SXM to eight foreign countries within 45 minutes (he had hoped to do it in under an hour). The attempt was Friday between 4 and 7 p.m. SXM time (same as EDT.) Congratulations to Mr. Caputo and the entire Domino's Caribbean organization.

**Advertising, Sales Promotion, PR, Publicity, and
Complete Website Strategy, Copy, & Design
(Traditional or WordPress).**

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See www.jmbcommunications.com for more.

Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide) -- Frequently Updated

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml .

Want to rent or buy a week?

2015 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml Listings are now updated every few weekdays. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.

Meet Our Sponsors (updated 9/27/13) Returns Next Issue

SECTION 4: For Members Only (Constantly Updated)

- A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. Password Recovery Info: Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com. To change your password, click that same link.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad: See www.everythingsxm.com/secret .

SECTION 5: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 12/31/14

Please see our site, www.everythingsxm.com.

CONTACT US

JMB Website Supporters members wishing to contact us should visit the secret site, www.everythingsxm.com/secret , for detailed JMB Website Supporters information. JMB members can email us at [support\[at\]jmbcommunications.com](mailto:support[at]jmbcommunications.com). If you have misplaced your password, you can get a new one by clicking the orange "forgot password" link below the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com.

About Email Address Changes / How To Unsubscribe (Updated 9/7/13)

To unsubscribe, click the Unsubscribe link here: <http://everythingsexm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi> You CAN NOT unsubscribe either by replying to this email or, if you are an AOL user, by clicking the *spam* button on AOL.

To change your email address, visit <http://everythingsexm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi> , select *2014 St. Maarten Weekly News* list, and follow the unsubscribe instructions. Then, subscribe your new email address. JMB Website Supporters members no longer need to notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access and to receive Low Airfare Bulletins. We'll be notified automatically.

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<http://www.everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?>

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