

#944 Monday, May 19, 2014 -- News From St. Maarten / St. Martin

Jeff Berger's St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News

[This
Week's
Stories](#)

[Airlines
& Weather
News](#)

[Lodging
News](#)

[Island
News](#)

[Everything
SXM
Home
Page](#)

[Members
SECRET
Website
Login](#)

[SXM Condo
Rentals &
Sales](#)

[Something
New Is Coming](#)

[Find us on
Facebook](#)

May
19,
2014

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

#944

Weekly SXM News and Comments

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Attention iPad and Smart Phone Users

This new format is easily readable on most mobile devices; scroll down for this week's news. A very small number of older Android phones may have issues; if so, download a pdf of the latest edition here:

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

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

Or see a mostly text version of the latest edition:

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

TOP STORIES

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

This is issue #944 of 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:

- Black Friday & 1/2 / Memorial Day Membership Sale Begins Sunday Night; Members Get Ten Times The Chances To Win in Our Nine SXM Vacation Giveaway, "Thanks Four Million"**
- Tsunami Watch After Caribbean Earthquakes Wasn't Necessary, Officials Say**
- Last Week's Area Earthquakes Did Not Affect SXM**
- Dry Season Ends With Six Inches of Rain**

- *Ocean Point, New Five-Star Luxury All-Inclusive Resort, Poised for October Opening*
- *Radisson Blu, Anse Marcel, Almost Gone; To Become Riu Palace Hotel*
- *Climate Change Report Says Beaches, Philipsburg, & More Will Disappear As Sea Level Rises*
- *Stark Video on St. Maarten Past, Present, and Future*
- *Hear Jeff Live Every Monday on Island 92 and Island92.com*
- *Do You Have a Prescription for Marijuana? Leave Your Pot at Home*

21 new stories this week

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

Timeshare Rentals and Sale 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 200+ St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits, and your subscription also helps keep these weekly newsletters coming.

SXM Timeshare Rentals of The Week (Two):

RENTAL: Now Through 10/31/14 Summit Resort Hotel - Exceptional cliff-top water-view unit at Summit Resort Hotel offers breathtaking views of the northern lagoon, lowlands, Marigot, even Creole Rock and Anguilla from a central convenient location in Cupecoy. Breezy recently renovated unit has a king size bed, stove, toaster-oven, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, new HD cable TV, free wired and wireless internet, sofa-bed, privacy and serenity. Gated resort has a restaurant and friendly bar on the pool deck with phenomenal lagoon views and beautifully landscaped grounds. Many beaches (Cupecoy [clothing optional], Mullet Bay, Baie Longue, Rouge, Maho, Simpson Bay) and restaurants are nearby including Temptation, FIG, La Gondola, and many others. Only \$850 for any week through 10/31. [Unit 4B is also offered for sale for both weeks 4 and 5, prime winter weeks.] Photos available. Susan, 508-747-8281 or susan@jmbcommunications.com.

RENTAL 10/26/2014 11/9/2014 Flamingo Beach Resort Studio unit sleeps up to 4 people, complete with full kitchen, bath, gorgeous ocean and property views, large infinity pool (including am water aerobics and afternoon poolside entertainment), cabana bar, bbq pit, dining and 2 beaches. Convenient to everything - grocery store, many dining options, nightlife, casinos and outdoor bars with live entertainment even a complimentary fitness facility at Flamingo's sister resort all within walking distance. Renter pays timeshare taxes. \$1,000.00 Joy 774-261-0258 joylanders@comcast.net

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week (Now Two):

SALE: 2/1/2014 - 2/8/2014 (week 5) Simpson Bay Resort Marina 207, prime winter week -- sleep-four studio overlooking both the Marina pool and

quiet Pelican beach, just steps away. Resort offers several pools, many restaurants including the Stone, tennis courts, a convenience store, water sports, casino, and The Red Piano piano bar. Unit features a/c, stove, refrigerator, microwave, cable TV, sleeps four, very convenient. Reduced to only \$2200. Will turn back to the resort if this is not sold by Fall 2014. Please contact Susan or Jeff at (508) 747-8281 or susan@jmbcommunications.com

SALE 2/14/2015 2/21/2015 Week 7 Divi little bay 2bdrm lock off 3baths 2 kitchens washer dryer 3 balconies overlooking the water 22,500.00 Rocky. 8022544222 Rlarock@myfairpoint.net

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

This Week's Stories

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest. This week's Table of Contents follows these links:

"Like" Our Facebook "Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin" Page:



<https://www.facebook.com/EverythingStMaarten>

"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://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Current Archives (old format):

<http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?f=archive&list=2014SXM>

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

<http://everythingsxm.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 200+ Money-Saving SXM-focused travel discount benefits through JMB Website Supporters:

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

Section One: Getting There: Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather [Go To This Section](#)

1. Dry Season Ends With a Sploosh After Six Inches of Rain; Residents Reminded About Mosquito Prevention
2. Tsunami Watch After Caribbean Earthquakes Wasn't Necessary, Dutch Side Officials Say
3. Last Week's Area Earthquakes Did Not Affect SXM

Section Two: Accommodations (*Hotels, Inns, Timeshares*) [Go To This Section](#)

4. Ocean Point, New Five-Star Luxury All-Inclusive Resort, Poised to Open This October
5. Radisson Blu, Anse Marcel, Almost Gone; To Become Riu Palace Hotel
6. Repeating: All-New Baker's Suites Offering Special Rates As Low As \$79/Night

Section Three: Island [Go To This Section](#)

7. Climate Change Report Says Beaches, Philipsburg, & More Will Disappear As Sea Level Rises
8. Dutch Side Prime Minister's Reaction to Climate Change Report: "Wow"
9. Stark Video on St. Maarten Past, Present, and Future
10. Chikungunya Moves Into Florida
11. Hear Jeff Live Every Monday on Island 92 and Island92.com
12. Do You Have a Prescription for Marijuana? Leave Your Pot at Home
13. You May Want to Avoid "Link One, Phase Two" When It's Wet
14. How To Get \$300 or \$400 From Jeff / JMB Communications
15. Third Water Plant Opens; Dependable Water More Likely
16. Restaurant of the Week
17. Caribbean Recipe of the Week
18. Steel Pan Music Of The Week
19. Thank You for Re-Subscribing...
20. Reserve Your Free Sunset Lagoon Cruise Now
21. Got a Spare \$50,000 in Cash? You May Need it on This Trip to SXM

Scroll down for indexes to sections IV and V, and scroll further to get a growing list of 200+ St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel discounts.

Rent Out or Sell Your SXM Timeshare

Meet Our Sponsors (Updated 9/7/13)

Section Four: For Members Only (Revised 12/17/13)

- A. About Low Airfares We Post On The *Secret Site*
- B. All the Answers for JWS members: Just Click the Link
- C. Members: Why Check Airfares Daily?
- D. Members: Password Recovery Info
- E. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads

Section Five: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) (Revised 12/17/13)

How To Get a GROWING LIST of 200+ 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 12/17/13]

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.

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

1. Dry Season Ends With a Sploosh After Six Inches of Rain; Residents Reminded About Mosquito Prevention

When we published last week's edition of *St. Maarten Weekly News* early on Friday, May 9, it warned that stormy weather was likely from Friday through Monday.

By the time it was over, that weekend storm had dumped six inches of rain on the island and had caused a fair amount of street flooding, requiring some streets to be temporarily closed off. There was no significant damage anywhere and no injuries.

However, after the recent dry season, the rains provided breeding space for mosquitoes. St. Maarteners know very well about mosquitoes, but the island governments didn't miss a beat in warning everyone to remove standing water, which is where mosquitoes breed. Based upon last winter's experience with the Chikungunya virus, there was no hesitation on the part of residents to get rid of standing water. As we move into summer, the populace looks forward to a slight increase in the number of showers and their duration, plus the need to remain vigilant over standing water.

2. Tsunami Watch After Caribbean Earthquakes Wasn't Necessary, Dutch Side Officials Say

Last week saw several earthquakes in the northern Caribbean region mostly South of St. Maarten. There was some concern initially that a tidal wave could result. In fact, word spread on social media that a tidal wave watch had been issued by French authorities and by Dutch side authorities.

It's possible, some people are saying, that a gadfly website entitled SXMgovernment.com helped spread the word about a possible tsunami watch. The government later said it had never issued such a watch, and that a tsunami had never been expected. At this writing it's unclear where the rumor started and it doesn't particularly matter – after an earthquake, it's always wise to be alert for possible tsunami activity. (See next story.)

For your own reference, SXMgovernment.com is not owned or operated or associated with the SXM government of the island in any way. As we noted, it's a gadfly website that has a history of being critical of people in government.

3. Last Week's Area Earthquakes Did Not Affect SXM

Most of the four earthquakes that occurred last week in the northern Caribbean were South of St. Maarten. Although one of them was a 6.0 on the open-ended Richter scale, there was no damage in St. Maarten and many people had no idea that an earthquake had even occurred.

SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares

4. Ocean Point, New Five-Star Luxury All-Inclusive Resort, Poised to Open This October

When landing in St. Maarten, you've probably noticed the derelict remains of an old hotel at the end of the peninsula just east of the Sonesta Maho beach resort. That was the old Concord Hotel, the first hotel property in Maho, which has long been unused.

Now that property is being completely renovated into a new five-star luxury all-inclusive resort owned and operated by the same folks who are behind both the Sonesta Maho and Sonesta Great Bay resorts. Millions of dollars are being spent on the renovation, owners say. The hotel, to be called Ocean Point (not to be confused with the Ocean Club timeshare about a mile away in Cupecoy), should have a soft opening this October.

Details concerning Ocean Point are here: <http://tinyurl.com/n6vdqww>

On an island which has hundreds of fine restaurants, our view is that you are cheating yourself if you go to an all-inclusive resort. Obviously that decision is totally yours and not anyone else's -- and knowing the Spadaro family, we're sure this resort will have its share of fine dining restaurants. Nonetheless, we always recommend people go to restaurants that they choose -- not restaurants they are required to go to because they are co-located with their resort.

Another concern we have with this property and neighboring Caravanserai regards hurricanes. This area can be hammered in severe storms. Hopefully the new resort is being fortified against that harsh reality.

We'll keep you posted about Ocean Point.

5. Radisson Blu, Anse Marcel, Almost Gone; It's Almost Riu Palace Hotel

As we previously reported, the Riu chain of hotels is taking over the Radisson Blu in Anse Marcel. As of Sunday afternoon when we phoned the resort, that takeover had not yet taken place; the phones were still being answered Radisson.

Riu's website mentions that the new Riu Palace Hotel will open in May of this year. Time is running out and we know nothing that has stopped the takeover; this week is most likely launch week.

If you have made reservations at Radisson Blu in SXM, we suggest you phone to reconfirm them. Radisson has not returned our phone calls. If you have any question about Radisson points, we suggest you call Radisson directly.

6. Repeating: All-New Baker's Suites Offering Special Rates As Low As \$79/Night

Baker's Suites is SXM's newest all-suites boutique hotel, offering lots of advantages as the calendar slides into low season. It's minutes from the airport...has free high-speed internet...on-site car rental ... it's surrounded by excellent restaurants ... grocery stores are nearby ... plenty of nightlife ... nearby casinos ... beach bars. Low off-season rates are as low as \$79/night plus taxes.

Come, relax, and unwind.

See www.bakerssuites.com and/or email reservations@bakerssuites.com. You can also phone 721-544-0095. Tell them Jeff Berger sent you. Jeff's JMB Website Supporters members always get the lowest rates; have your JMB Membership Card handy when you call. Learn more about membership here: http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml ; remember our Memorial Day Sale begins Monday (today). Discounts may not be available below the \$79/night rate.

SECTION 3: Island

Black Friday & 1/2 / Memorial Day Sale Begins: Get 200 Discounts & Travel Benefits at Extraordinary Pricing Now. Ends Monday, March 26, Memorial Day.

What you get:

- 1. Low Airfares.***
- 2. Free ads to rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere.***
- 3. Meaningful discounts at dozens of restaurants across the island.***
- 4. Discounts on all kinds of shopping and on dozens and dozens of activities across the island.***
- 5. Jewelry gift cards you can use like cash.***
- 6. 200+ total discounts and other benefits and still more are coming in June, before the busy Summer travel season.***

These prices all go live Monday morning May 19 at 9 a.m. Eastern time.

Black Friday & 1/2 / Memorial Day New Memberships are only one year for \$49 (reg. \$59); three years, \$79 (re. \$89); and five years, \$99. Join here: http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml Sale Ends March 26.

Low Rates for Reinstating former memberships -- one year, \$39; four years, \$79; seven years, only \$99: See <http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

Black Friday and 1/2 / Memorial Day Membership Renewals are four years for \$69 or eight years for \$99: See the Membership Renewal Center in the Secret Website: <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret>

(Members: direct questions to support@jmbcommunications.com)

Again: these prices all go live Monday morning May 19 at 9 a.m. Eastern time.

7. Climate Change Report Says Beaches, Philipsburg, & More Will Disappear As Sea Level Rises

For years, there has been talk about the global effects of climate change and rising ocean levels worldwide.

Rapidly melting ice on Greenland, in Alaska, the North Pole, and now in Antarctica is causing sea levels to rise. (Perhaps it's time to use a massive amount of desalinization in the United States to get abundant water from the Pacific Ocean to irrigate California and the Southwest/Midwest. Makes more sense than doing nothing about a dust bowl.)

In St. Maarten, the Nature Foundation has created an action plan which talks about the effects of global warming on our favorite island. The report, among other things, says that Philipsburg, the airport, all beaches, and large parts of low-lying properties will disappear underwater within 20 to 50 years if the sea level keeps rising at its current pace. More on this is in the subsequent several articles.

8. Dutch Side Prime Minister's Reaction to Climate Change Report: "Wow"

It's not like this is revolutionary news – it has been in global media for years. So why Dutch Prime Minister Sarah Wescot-Williams simply said "Wow" to it is odd. But the fact is, faced with the same information, each of us ought to be saying "Wow" – then getting past this so the problem can be mitigated and solved. There's much more to this and we'll be writing about it going forward this year.

See more on the Prime Minister's comments here: <http://tinyurl.com/olwyoj9>

9. Stark Video on St. Maarten Past, Present, and Future

This was produced by SXM Private Eye in 2007, more than seven years ago. It has far more meaning now than ever....

Look: <http://vimeo.com/4943920> Be sure your speakers are on.

10. Chikungunya Moves Into Florida

From Florida, it could spread anywhere the aedes aegypti mosquito goes, which is mostly in the south. For now. Details: <http://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/florida-officials-warn-about-painful-new-virus-n107606>

11. Hear Jeff Live Every Monday on Island 92 and Island92.com

Every Monday Jeff is live on Island 92 radio in SXM at 91.9 FM or on the web at www.island92.com at about 9:45am EDT for five minutes plus. Check it out.

12. Do You Have a Prescription for Marijuana? Leave Your Pot at Home

Don't bring it to SXM, and don't fly with it either. It's not legal in SXM and there are still Federal laws about it. So... leave it home.

It's also unwise to buy it illegally in SXM or elsewhere. You never know what you'll get yourself into....

13. You May Want to Avoid "Link One, Phase Two" When It's Wet

It's the relatively new link toward Bel Air from Cay Bay / Kokomo, which goes by Learning Unlimited toward the St. Maarten Medical Center and Philipsburg. Many accidents in wet weather, as we told you before; we'd suggest at this point that in wet weather, you simply stay off that relatively new Link.

Officials are working to enhance the road's safety.

14. How To Get \$300 or \$400 From Jeff / JMB Communications

JMB Communications, the 24 year-old marketing company that does Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin, owns "Websites That Work." Its uniqueness is that it is a marketing company doing marketing-centric websites for all kinds of companies worldwide. See many samples at

www.websitesthatworkusa.com. (Our everythingsxm.com site is getting a design upgrade this summer).

You can get at least \$300 for referring web design prospects to us. You get \$400 if you're a JMB Website Supporters member (a membership sale is underway; see the beginning of this section). To get the referral bonus, just refer business people you know to us. After they start a new website development project with us, we'll pay you a finder's fee for the business. You can even refer yourself. Limit: one discount and/or finder's fee per project/referral. Just tell them about us and let us know how to contact them. We'll take it from there. Email jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com with your referral and please use the subject "Website Referral." We'll need their name, email address, and daytime phone number. There is no limit to the number of referral fees we'll pay. Fees are paid only if / when a new website development project results and is launched and paid for.

15. Third Water Plant Opens; Dependable Water More Likely

A new reverse osmosis plant has opened at Point Blanche, the Dutch Side's third water plant. Its existence "should" prevent future outages since it will help meet demand even when another unit is down for maintenance. That means no more running to the pool at midnight to fill a big pot with water to flush the toilet.

Of course, the plant is run by GEBE so there are no guarantees. On the other hand there's plenty of bottled water available on SXM at good prices -- and this is very positive news and a huge step in the right direction. (GEBE's electrical service last winter seemed far more reliable too.)

16. Restaurant of the Week

Toppers and Toppers by the Sea, both in Simpson Bay, are among the island's most popular restaurants at breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and are probably the busiest location every Thanksgiving,

A long-time favorite of renowned TV Chef "Kitchen Guy" Jim Gray, Topper's serves a broad array of delightful food at reasonable prices. Great portions as well. See www.sxmtoppers.com.

Lunch is served from 11:am until 5:pm and it includes daily specials such as Mango Chicken Salad, Meatloaf with Mac & Cheese, Drunken Shrimp Salad, Hanging Kebabs, Spaghetti & Meatballs, homemade soups and their award winning Burgers.

Dinner is served from 5:pm until 10:pm. Don't miss the incredible 14oz Filet Mignon, Alaskan King Crab Legs, Prime Rib, Fresh Local Lobster, Brisket, Osso buco, Sea Scallops, Rack of Lamb and more. Great place -- tell Topper we sent you. And don't miss the Revues in season at Toppers by the Sea at Flamingo Resort.

Check this space for another featured restaurant next week.

Previous Restaurants of the Week:

SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 4/21/14)

Trattoria Pizza Pasta, Maho Plaza near Casino Royale (featured 3/10/14)

Daniel's By The Sea, www.dawnbeachsxm.com (featured 3/21/14)

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 1/20/14)

Fusion, www.fusionrestaurant-sxm.com (featured 4/7/14)

The Hideaway, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 4/28/14)

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 1/13/14)

Stone Restaurant, www.thestonerestaurant.com (featured 3/3/14)

Le Pressoir, <http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com> (featured 2/24/14)

Temptation, <http://www.rareandtemptation.com/EN/temptation/>

Lal's Curry In A Hurry Indian Restaurant, Airport Road, Simpson Bay (featured 1/6/14)

Mr. Busby's Beach Bar <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 3/17/14)

Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 5/12/14)

Pineapple Pete, www.pineapplepete.com (featured 2/3/14)

Papagayo, <http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php> (featured 5/5/14)

SPN Cafe, <http://www.pineapplepete.com/sport.html>

Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path from the far side of Ocean Club to get there).

FIG, Cupecoy opposite Rainbow Beach Club

St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com

Canoa, www.canoasxm.com (featured 3/31/14)

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 2/10/14)

Topper's <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 5/19/14)

Taloula Mango <http://www.taloulamango.com/>

Soprano's Restaurant, Maho Plaza, <http://www.sopranospianobar.com/stmaarten/restaurant/> (featured 3/3/14)

Bylbos, Simpson Bay

Sushiito Japanese Restaurant, Port de Plaisance 3/17/14

We'll write about another SXM restaurant here next week.

17. Caribbean Recipe of the Week

Our newest recipe appears first in the Entree section. We grow this list every week, so ultimately you'll see tons of prior recipes here in one convenient place. The newest recipes will be dated; that started 5/19/14.

Entrees:

Caribbean Chicken Wings <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/sunny-anderson/sunny-andersons-caribbean-chicken-wings-recipe.html> 5/19/14

Caribbean Fish with Mango Salsa: <http://allrecipes.com/recipe/caribbean-fish-with-mango-salsa/>

Sugarcane shrimp: <http://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/Sugarcane-Shrimp-358593>

Tropical coconut bread: <http://www.food.com/recipe/tropical-coconut-bread-29185>

Rock Lobster Thermidor (from Cuba): http://www.caribexseafoods.com/recipes-cuban_rock_lobster_thermidor.html

Almond crusted fresh fish (from the Bahamas): https://www.bahamabreeze.com/recipes/main_dishes/almond_crusted_fresh_fish.asp

Side Dishes:

Caribbean Rice and Beans: <http://tinyurl.com/mutk2n4>

Desserts:

Caribbean banana Mango Smoothies: <http://www.food.com/recipe/caribbean-banana-mango-smoothie-230184>

18. Steel Pan Music of the Week

This feature brings you steel band / steel orchestra selections every week. Only great stuff will be here.

The most recent post is on top; prior weeks are below:

5/19/14: "Over the Rainbow" CSULB proves even white guys can play (shot April, 2014): <http://vimeo.com/93111978>

5/12/14: Rhythm Trail Steel Pan Music (brief; Hot, Hot, Hot): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5Cg3J8q9i8>

5/5/14: Banana Wind by Jimmy Buffett: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oY4MSnK5MD0> (Not Jimmy, but this may inspire you)

4/28/14: Exodus Steel Orchestra, one of the biggest you will ever see: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4I9UUFoU9EU>

4/21/14: From the Steel Band de Cuba, Hotel California as you've never, ever heard it before: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDeynJzc7ds>

4/7/14: The Lion Sleeps Tonight by the Dover Steel Band. Wait for it: surprising, really cool stuff: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBZME7sN3E>

3/31/14: Elite Steel Orchestra, Billie Jean by Michael Jackson: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qxamhMRZrc> (We heard this performed live in Tobago a number of years ago... beautiful stuff.)

19 Thank You For Re-Subscribing

Thank you for re-subscribing to *SXM Weekly News* -- resubscribing is what enabled you to see this week's edition and all our future editions.

Resubscribing was dictated by our ISP -- it wasn't our idea. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Important: Although we now have contacted everyone who had been receiving *SXM Weekly News* before, you can help us ensure that everyone who should receive *SXM Weekly News* does receive it. Please share this issue with all your SXM friends and suggest they visit <http://www.everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?> then enter their email in the first section of the page under the "2014 ST. MAARTEN" newsletter, which is our new list and which has been preselected for them. Then, they click the button that reads "submit your information." They'll receive a confirming email just as you did. They click the "confirm" link and they are on the list. They will receive the most recent issue when they sign up. (Easy to just send this article to them.)

Please be sure to add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book / white list so our newsletters aren't snagged by any anti-spam program.

Your SXM friends can get simple signup instructions by emailing jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com. The autoreply contains full signup info.

Thanks again.

We have *two hundred* reasons for people to join JMB and renew by the thousands. Some have renewed their memberships past the year 2030. 200 reasons? We offer you about 200 discounts plus low airfares plus free ads to rent out or sell your timeshares not only in SXM, but worldwide. A one-year membership is just \$59. Join, reinstate, or renew today. Then you can write your own reason.... See www.everythingsxm.com

Get a [Website That Works](http://www.websitesthatworkusa.com) for your business or professional practice from JMB, a *seasoned 24 year-old marketing company*:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

20. Reserve Your Free Sunset Lagoon Cruise Now

A relaxing, informative lagoon sunset sail is one of our long-time JMB Website Supporters member benefits. Sunset sails fill up fast -- we have nearly 20,000 members -- so go to the Secret Website, check out this benefit in the Discounts Master Index, and sign up now. The Secret Site is at www.everythingsxm.com/secret. Your username and password are required.

Sunset sails are now offered on Tuesdays.

Still not a member? What are you waiting for? Check out membership here: http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

21. Got a Spare \$50,000 in Cash? You May Need it on This Trip to SXM

Travel anywhere without medical evacuation protection, and you must pay upwards of \$50,000 (could be \$35,000 to \$70,000 or more) in cash in advance to get an ICU-equivalent, clinically staffed medical evacuation jet home when you become critically ill or injured.

When you become critically ill or injured while traveling, SkyMed® takes you home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust. One call and they do everything -- you pay nothing. No claim forms since you pay nothing that needs reimbursement; SkyMed pays it all. For information on SkyMed's offerings, see www.skymed.com/jmbxm. JMB members, see the Secret Site since you get big discounts.

SkyMed offers short-term plans (just reduced to less than \$9/day per person, maximum \$18/day per family), annual plans (a better buy), and the SkyMed Ultimate which protects you for three or five full years -- the best plan of all. The Ultimate is what we own and it's what hundreds of JMB members have chosen. And again, there are big discounts for JMB Website Supporters members, too.

The **SkyMed Ultimate** protects you with SkyMed "takes you home" in 34 countries -- the U. S., Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba if you are there with State Department approval, plus Costa Rica and Belize. The Ultimate includes GETS protection (Global Emergency Transport Services) in the rest of the world. Other plans do not include GETS.

For more info, call SkyMed at 1-800-475-9633 weekdays mountain time (Scottsdale, Arizona) and ask for Nan or Jim. If you are a JMB member, tell them you are a JMB Website Supporters member. If you're not a JMB Website Supporters member, get about 200 SXM discounts by joining today (see article above re: our anniversary sale). More on JMB Website Supporters: http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml **JMB members buying the five year Ultimate through us get a five-year extension of their JMB Website Supporters membership as part of the bargain. Just tell us you bought SkyMed as directed here (through us), and we'll extend your membership once we verify your SkyMed Ultimate purchase through us. Those buying the three-year Ultimate from us now get a three-year extension of their JMB membership, which is new.**

If you're a JMB member, you can also go to www.skymed.com/jmbspecial. Please have your JMB membership card handy.

Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide) -- Page Updated Every Other Weekday

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?

2014 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 other weekday. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.

Meet Our Sponsors (updated 9/27/13)

Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection:

SkyMed Takes You Home® if you become critically ill or injured while traveling more than 100 miles from home in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, the Caribbean, plus Belize and Costa Rica. Learn more at www.skymed.com/jmbsexm . Highest recommendation by JMB.

Travel Arrangements & Accommodations:

For The Best Prices On Individual and Group Tours to St. Maarten & St. Martin, as well as stays at B&Bs, condos, hotels, and villas, visit our sponsor: **Sandy Molloy at SXM Travel Specialists** --- <http://www.stmartin-stmaartentravelsspecialists.com> 704-567-6661

Rent **St. Maarten Villas** is the website of Villalady Bobby Valins, showcasing her villas in Burgeaux Bay and in Grand Case. See her site at www.rentstmaartenvillas.com.

Villas in Paradise is your one-stop source for great St. Maarten Villa Accommodations.
See many choices at www.villasinparadise.com or call Marilyn Pulito directly at 508-533-1388.

Emerald Cove Villas provides a one-of-a-kind vacation experience in Oyster Pond. See their website at www.emeraldcovevillas.com . Learn why *Emerald Cove* is the name.

Caribbean Days provides luxury villa accommodations throughout the Caribbean. See www.caribbeandays.com .

Villa Journeys offers JMB readers villa accommodations (and much more) not only throughout the Caribbean, but across the USA and in Europe. See www.villajourneys.com

Oyster Bay View Villa, overlooking Oyster Pond and Captain Oliver's Marina, delivers great accommodations near Dawn Beach, a quick ride to Orient Beach and the dozens of fine restaurants at Grand Case. See their site at www.oysterbayview.com

Club Fantastico, www.clubfantastico.net, overlooking Orient Beach, gives you fine villa-like accommodations in a totally clothing optional ambiance, inside and out. It's the perfect place for a *no tan lines* vacation.

Summit Resort Hotel, atop a cliff in Cupecoy, is a favorite. See why; check out www.thesummitresort.com

Shopping: (Updated 9/7/2013)

DK Gems on Front Street (*opposite and not far west of the historic Court House*) offers extraordinary eye-popping gems in a rainbow of exquisite settings. Not to be missed on your next trip. See www.dkgemsint.com .

Zhaveri Jewelers on Front Street opposite Little Switzerland (near the historic Courthouse) offers an incredible inventory of the finest gems in the Caribbean. Offering the island's largest selection of elegant jewelry for men, women, and kids. Visit www.zhaveri.com .

Fine Food, Pastries, Wines/Liquors, Yacht Provisioning:

Le Grand Marche has several Dutch Side locations to conveniently serve you -- at the roundabout near the Bush road, next to Port de Plaisance off the Union Road near the French border, or their *Gourmet Marche* store in Simpson Bay. For all the details see www.legrandmarche.net .

SECTION 4: For Members Only (Updated 12/17/13)

A. About Low Airfares We Post On The "Secret Site" (New)

Other travel sites post the lowest fares airlines offer. We only post the lowest fares that are readily available for purchase at the time of posting. That's a huge difference.

Our fares come from many, many sources, including our direct contacts at the airlines, wholesalers, consolidators, some specialized travel agencies, charter operators, certain other sites, and more. Whenever we find good fares, we try to buy tickets for a number of travel dates to ensure the fares are real. If fares can't be bought, we don't list them.

Check the "Low Fare Grid" on our members-only secret site for the lowest currently available fares to SXM from about our list of about 100 cities in the USA and Canada plus London and Paris. When you see an emailed "low airfare bulletin" that alerts you to especially low fares, act quickly since those fares sell out fast.

We constantly revise low fare listings on our members-only "secret" site, so check the Grid often.

B. All the Answers for JMB Website Supporters: Just Click the Link

Atop every page on <http://www.everythingsxm.com> is a JMB Website Supporters link in an orange box. If you have any questions, click it; it takes you to our "secret site" where all our benefits are explained so you can take advantage of everything available to you as a JMB Website Supporters member.

Our Member Benefits "Welcome" letter on the secret site shows you all **a growing list of 200+** of our SXM-focused benefits.

C. Members: Why Check Airfares Daily?

Always check the Low Fare Grid on the Secret Site to see the latest low fares. Fares change often. Since most airlines have discontinued voucher-based credits when fares decline, it's critical that you get the lowest fares early: it's best to start looking 330 days ahead of flight time.

D. Members: Password Recovery Info

Members, please print this and save it:

If ever you need to recover a username or password, change your email address in our JMB Website Supporters member database, place an ad on our

If ever you need to recover a username or password, change your email address in our JMB Website Supporters member database, place an ad on our SXM condominiums for rent or sale page, or have any other membership-related question, please click the JMB Website Supporters orange login / change password medallion under the masthead at <http://www.everythingsxm.com>. Everything is there including our automated system for replacing forgotten passwords.

If you have any issue accessing the Secret Site, go here:

http://everythingxm.com/sxm/low_fares/secret-site-access-information.shtml

E. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads

Go to the home page of the Secret Site, <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> (if you forgot your password, see previous story). Click the links on any page of the Secret Site to submit a new or revised ad or cancel an ad. Beyond that, for answers to many questions, you should also see our FAQ at <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret/rentalsqanda.htm>.

You can place up to 10 rental or sale ads within any 12-month period for timeshare condos you own in SXM or worldwide. Instructions are in the Discounts Master Index on the Secret Site. Ads are free for members and there is no commission. Ads are updated about every two weeks. Submissions are (usually) automatically acknowledged on receipt. To learn about when yours will be published, check the date of the most recent update at http://everythingxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml.

Ads are submitted to us online *only*. Full instructions are here: <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret>. Please follow them to the letter for best results. If you want to modify an existing ad, you must submit a full replacement ad, since to prevent errors, JMB *never* updates existing ads.

Not a member? Look:

More on JMB Website Supporters memberships:

Visit this site to check our membership benefits -- there are now about 200+ discounts with more coming:
http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

To Reinstate a Former JMB Membership:

Reinstate your former membership to enjoy all 200+ benefits. See our Reinstatement Center at:
<http://everythingxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

To Renew your current JMB membership:

See the Secret Site to renew your JMB membership at low multi-year rates. Just click the orange medallion below the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com to sign in to the Secret Site, where you'll find the Membership Renewal Center. Also check the Member Benefits List / Welcome Letter ... many new benefits have been posted and still more are coming.

Please log in to the Secret Site for more; use the orange login medallion below the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com.

SECTION 5: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 12/17/13

Car Rentals:

Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental: www.tropical-tropicana.com -- reserve at reservations@tropical-tropicana.com

Unique Car Rental: www.uniquecarrentalsxm.com

JMB Website Supporters members get discounts at both Tropical and Unique. See the Secret Site for details.

On-Island Activities:

JMB Website Supporters get discounts at [Aqua Mania](#) through a special website for our members only. See the Secret Site for details.

Low Airfares:

Save hundreds on airfares and get many more travel benefits thru JMB Website Supporters. See

http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml to learn more.

Restaurants:

Detailed descriptions of many restaurants are at <http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/restaurants/index.shtml>

Emergency Medical Evacuation Jet Protection:

In case of critical illness or injury while traveling, emergency medical evacuation can cost you upwards of \$50,000 or more payable in cash in advance. "SkyMed" takes you home from the US, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, or the Caribbean. See www.skymed.com/jmbsexm . The cost is only \$59/month for the Ultimate plan (minimum service, two years); short term plans also available. We never travel without this life-saving protection.

Bookmark our SXM site and visit us often: 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. 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 assuming your membership is in good standing.

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 *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.

Get Your Own Free Copy Of St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News:

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

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