

Double Issue - #945 Tuesday, May 27, 2014 and Monday, June 2, 2014 -- News From St. Maarten / St. Martin

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

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May 27,
2014
and
June 2,
2014

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

#945

Weekly SXM News and Comments

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Important Note:

You are receiving St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten all year

long. We now have over 200,000 readers around the world...

Get Important SXM News as it Happens & Lots of Pictures Too from our Facebook and Twitter Pages:



Protect your vacation and business travel with SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation Membership



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

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TOP STORIES

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

This is issue #945 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:

- *Memorial Day Membership Sale Ends Monday June 2*
- *Vice Prime Minister Theo Heyliger's Eldest Son Passes Away in Horrific Car Accident*
- *For \$49/month, Permanent SkyMed Medical Evacuation Memberships Are Now Yours (It's Time You Bought)*
- *The Caveat in Selecting Inexpensive Short-Term Medical Evacuation Protection*
- *Why What Jet Blue is Doing in Lauderdale Matters to SXM*

- *Summit, Oyster Bay Resort Get High Honors from TripAdvisor*
- *The Latest from Simpson Bay Resort*
- *What Not To Bring: Travelers Checks (and Why)*
- *How To Get \$300 or \$400 From Jeff / JMB Communications*

22 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://everythingsexm.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://everythingsexm.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 3/14/2015 3/21/2015 Week 11 Princess Port de Plaisance Second floor (Elevator access) Two-Bedrooms (king-sized Bed & queen-sized bed + Sleeper Sofa (Unit sleeps 6), 2-Bathrooms, fully-equipped Kitchen with Microwave, TV units in Living Room and Master Bedroom, well-decorated, spacious Unit # E-14204, large Balcony housing Chaises and beautiful scenic view of Simpson Bay Lagoon, magnificent Sunsets and direct view of mega-Yachts entering and leaving the Lagoon. Casino, Car Rental, Salon, state of the art Spa and Health Club, lighted Tennis Courts, and three Restaurants on site. Large new well-stocked, Food Super Market (Grand Marche) is located immediately outside the Facility grounds. \$1,300.00 Harold (732-255-1790) orthodoc1@optonline.net

RENTAL: Any Week 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.

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week (Now Two):

SALE 2/6/2015 2/13/2015 week 6 Diamond Royal Palm Two Bedroom Two bath sleeps 6 Livingroom, Dining room Kitchen One of the Island's best

resorts. Spectacular sunset views from Living room and Master Bedroom 5th floor, Resort full of amenities, such as Restaurant, Pool with swim up bar, exercise facility, shopping, beach and more \$2,500 richard 6095042718 rful@comcast.net

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

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingxsm.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://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 200+ Money-Saving SXM-focused travel discount benefits through JMB Website Supporters:

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

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18. Steel Pan Music Of The Week
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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. Jet Blue to Increase Total Ft. Lauderdale Flights to 100 Daily: Why It Matters for SXM

We remain convinced that JetBlue will, at some point, inaugurate nonstop flights from Fort Lauderdale to St. Maarten.

So what?

The airline announced this week that it expects to have upwards of 100 flights a day at its South Florida focus city, Fort Lauderdale. Lauderdale will become to Jet Blue what other airlines call a hub, with flights from many major cities across the country. That will enable connections to major destinations in the Caribbean. Lesser destinations will be served through the airline's Caribbean hub in San Juan.

We'll keep you posted as JetBlue expands service from Fort Lauderdale into the Caribbean.

2. Rainy Season Is Usually Not "Rainy"

The events of a couple of weeks ago, during which about 6 inches of rain fell over a few days, were unusual for this time of year in that the rainy season is just beginning and that no tropical storms or hurricanes were involved.

The difference between dry winter weather and less dry summer weather is usually rather simple. In addition to the summer being a bit hotter, there are occasional tropical waves, tropical storms, or hurricanes in the area that can cause occasional rainy days.

In addition, tropical showers during the rainy season tend to be a bit more frequent and longer in duration.

The bottom line is that the rainy season is *not* continuously rainy. There's a lot of sun — and extended rainy periods are unusual.

3. Hurricane Season Begins June 1; 2014 Hurricane Names

The 2014 Atlantic hurricane season begins on Sunday, June 1. Because of an expected El Niño, forecasters say this season will have fewer storms than usual but some caution that land falls on the US Gulf coast and along the US southeast coast may be more likely this year. Of course, it only takes one storm to cause a lot of damage.

As always, we'll keep you posted should any storms threaten St. Maarten. For current radar and other tropical weather data, just click [Weather on everythingSXM.com](http://Weather.everythingSXM.com).

2014 Atlantic season names:

Arthur
Bertha
Cristobal
Dolly
Edouard
Fay
Gonzalo
Hanna
Isaias
Josephine
Kyle
Laura
Marco
Nana
Omar
Paulette
Rene
Sally
Teddy
Vicky
Wilfred

4. Remember to Reconfirm, Especially Now

We've mentioned several times in recent months here in *SXM Weekly News* that airlines sometimes change their schedules but are not always able to notify all passengers. Especially because of routine summer flight changes, we urge you to reconfirm any flights to or from St. Maarten any time during the summer just to be sure you're not surprised when you get to the airport.

SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares

5. Summit Resort, Oyster Bay Beach Resort Get Honors from Trip Advisor

Fans of both Summit Resort and Oyster Bay Beach Resort, located respectfully in Cupecoy beach and Dawn beach, have bestowed high accolades

on the resorts through the TripAdvisor website.

For the third consecutive year, Oyster Bay Beach Resort (OBBR) has received a "TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence" award. The accolade, which honors hospitality excellence, is given only to establishments that consistently achieve outstanding traveller reviews on TripAdvisor, and is extended to qualifying businesses worldwide. Establishments awarded the Certificate of Excellence represent the upper echelon of businesses listed on the website.

"Winning the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for three straight years is a true source of pride for the entire team at Oyster Bay Beach Resort. We would like to thank all of our owners and guests who took the time to complete a review on TripAdvisor," said OBBR General Manager Ricardo Perez. "There is no greater seal of approval than being recognized by our customers. With the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence based on customer reviews, the accolade is a remarkable vote of confidence in our resort and our continued commitment to excellence."

In the case of Summit Resort, owner Bruce Jakubovitz personally received this from TripAdvisor: "TripAdvisor is delighted to award The Summit Hotel with a 2014 Certificate of Excellence. This prestigious award recognizes businesses that consistently earn top ratings from TripAdvisor travelers. Showcase it to guests and staff with pride." For Summit, it was also their third consecutive year. Quite an honor for both Summit and Oyster Bay.

Our congratulations to both properties.

6. Simpson Bay Resort Updates Timeshare Owners

Simpson Bay Resort wrote timeshare owners the following this week (edited for space):

Three years ago, we promised to make Simpson Bay Resort one of the top resort destinations in the Caribbean -- a resort you would be happy to return to year after year, and a resort you would be proud to share with your family and friends.

Though there is still work to be done, we are closer than ever to our goal. We continue to renovate units in the original section of the resort, receiving industry-wide acclaim for the quality and character of the newly renovated units. The resort's management and staff work hard each day to deliver top-notch service to our members and guests. Finally, we have implemented new and exciting membership programs that provide flexibility and unparalleled exchange value.

With respect to the multi-million dollar renovation project, we are happy to report that the Bougainvillea building renovation was completed on schedule late in 2013. We have now moved on to the Beaumontia building, and expect to complete that renovation by November 2014. Renovations to the Marina and Flamboyant buildings are preliminarily planned for 2015. Members, guests, and industry experts have praised the quality of the renovation, and we are proud that, as a result of our work, the renovated units have been substantially upgraded to "Premier" status -- Interval International's highest exchange rating. You can follow the current renovations of the Beaumontia building and see the dramatic results for yourself at www.simpsonbayresortnews.com.

We have also worked to implement new systems and practices to make your vacation experience even smoother. For example, we now accept Discover and Diner's Club credit cards, in addition to Visa and MasterCard, for payment of annual resort fees and payments made at the resort. Additionally, we are exploring ways to streamline check-in and resort operations in order to make sure that you spend the maximum amount of time possible enjoying your vacation....

The steady improvement at the resort has not gone unnoticed. In addition to the industry kudos described above, occupancy at the resort has steadily increased thanks to the positive reports from our members and guests. Simpson Bay Resort has never been better, and we look forward to seeing you here in St. Maarten.

From Jeff: JMB Website Supporters members who have comments on the resort's current status are welcome to write us at [jmbweb\(at\)jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jmbweb(at)jmbcommunications.com) with the subject Timesharing. Keep emails short and factual; we hope to publish them in future editions. We will use only your first name and last initial, but you must supply your full name in your email. Do not make any unsubstantiated accusations; they will not be published.

7. 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\(at\)bakerssuites.com](mailto:reservations(at)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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml ; remember our Memorial Day Sale on memberships ends Monday, June 2. Discounts may not be available below the \$79/night rate.

SECTION 3: Island

It all Ends June 2:

**Our Memorial Day Sale Gives You
200 Discounts & Travel Benefits at Extraordinary Pricing Right Now.
Ends Monday, June 2.**

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.***

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

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

**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)**

8. Now You Can Get Permanent SkyMed MedEvac Protection for Only \$59, \$49, or \$35/month

Getting the peace-of-mind of SkyMed medical evacuation protection just got a whole lot easier and more convenient.

What SkyMed Is: SkyMed is a medical evacuation membership program that takes you home when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. SkyMed offers several major advantages:

- **Medically Qualify Only Once:** First, you need only medically qualify once for SkyMed Ultimate protection. As long as you continue to pay your small membership fee on time, your membership will continue regardless of what happens to your health.
- **No Disqualification As You Get Older:** Second, once you qualify for SkyMed, you can't be disqualified for age, nor can you be assessed a higher membership fee simply because you are older. All members with equivalent memberships pay the same membership fee regardless of age.
- **Broad Family Coverage:** Third, family coverage enables you to protect you, your spouse / partner, and minor children living with you.
- **SkyMed Takes You Home:** Fourth, when you become critically ill anywhere in the "SkyMed universe," SkyMed takes you home on an ICU equivalent, medically staffed, specially outfitted medical evacuation jet to doctors and hospitals you know and trust near home. The SkyMed universe is the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba, Belize, and Costa Rica. Outside the SkyMed universe, when you buy the SkyMed Ultimate plan, SkyMed gets you to the nearest appropriate facility for recuperation or, where medically necessary, SkyMed repatriates you in a private, medically equipped, professionally staffed section of a passenger jet outfitted with a hospital bed.

- **Extended Global Protection Through The SkyMed Ultimate:** Fifth, the \$59 per month plan is a family Ultimate plan which protects you worldwide. The \$49 plan is for people who travel in the SkyMed universe only; it provides a discount since worldwide coverage is not needed. The \$35 per month plan is for singles who also travel only within the SkyMed universe. Should those singles require worldwide coverage, it's available for an additional \$10 per month starting at membership inception.
- **Membership Payment Period:** Sixth, all monthly plans have a set duration of five years after which you can renew them at then-current pricing. You must pay the monthly membership fee for at least two years after inception.
- **Prepayment Discount:** Should you wish to prepay the five-year membership price for your family Ultimate SkyMed membership, you can do so and receive a discount. Although payments can be made by credit card or check, check payments delay the effective date until the check has cleared. Credit card payments are deducted upon the approval of your application, which generally takes only one business day unless additional medical information is required.
- **Pre-existing Conditions:** There is a 90 day waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions, after which they're covered in full.
- **An Extraordinary Suite of Benefits:** The SkyMed suite of benefits goes well beyond anything anyone else offers. The SkyMed Ultimate includes helicopter protection from the scene of an accident as well as medically necessary hospital to hospital helicopter transportation. The Ultimate also includes friend or relative visitation. If you are too ill to be moved, SkyMed will fly a loved one to your bedside. There are literally dozens of other benefits that you can see at www.skymed.com/jmbsexm.
- If you're thinking about purchasing short-term protection, please see the next article.

To obtain SkyMed medical evacuation protection, you can either call Jeff Berger directly at 508-830-3456 any time from 9 to 5 Eastern. He will be able to answer your questions and take your application over the phone. You can also phone SkyMed directly at 1-800-475-9633. Ask for Nan or Jim. Call anytime from 9 to 4 weekdays Pacific time. You must mention you are a JMB Website Supporters member; have your Membership Card handy.

Discounts apply to JMB Website Supporters members only. We welcome non JMB members to SkyMed, of course, but JMB Website Supporters members pay the discounted rate, while others pay retail.

8a. The Caveat in Selecting Inexpensive Short-Term Medical Evacuation Protection

Short-term medical evacuation protection from SkyMed gives you an inexpensive way to get a medical evacuation jet home from within "the SkyMed universe" should you become critically ill or injured while traveling. (See the previous article for description of the SkyMed universe.)

If you travel every year and purchase short-term protection for each trip, at some point you will cross what insurance agents describe as the line of uninsurability -- a point after which you can't buy insurance. SkyMed, of course, is not insurance -- it's a membership plan that provides medical evacuation to its members when they become critically ill or injured while traveling. Nonetheless, SkyMed protection does require medical prequalification. If you choose to get short-term memberships for a few days every year, *you must medically requalify with each different purchase*, and eventually you will cross the "line of uninsurability" and you will not medically qualify for SkyMed membership. That's the pitfall of short-term memberships -- you may not qualify to buy one when you may need it the most. That's why we urge you to check out the extremely low monthly pricing now available for SkyMed ultimate memberships.

9. Curtis Heyliger, Vice Prime Minister Theo Heyliger's Oldest Child, Killed in Car Accident

For nearly 20 years, we've written about the political career of vice Prime Minister Theo Heyliger, a young man who has spent most of his life in politics.

Early Wednesday morning, May 28, Curtis Heyliger, Theo's oldest son who was only about 20 years old, lost control of his vehicle near the Dollar store on L B Scott Road north of Le Grande Marche near Philipsburg. His vehicle hit both a wall and a home before flipping over. Young Mr. Heyliger passed away before rescue workers could cut him out of the wreckage.

The island is stunned. We will publish more in future newsletters. Our deepest sympathies go to Theo, his family, and their many friends.

10. Reminder: Don't Bring Travelers Checks

Invented in the 1800s, travelers checks have had a long and colorful history. But in an age of ATMs and electronic payments through smart phones, the days of travelers checks appear to be numbered.

Multiple banks in the Caribbean have discontinued accepting travelers checks from their merchant partners, forcing those merchants to stop accepting travelers checks themselves. When this first happened last winter, we reported it, and we have repeated it several times since. The number of banks involved is increasing and now even some casinos are no longer accepting travelers checks.

Our advice: leave the travelers checks at home, or bring only a few with the realization that you may not be able to use them. Bring your ATM cards.

There have been skimmer scams on some ATMs in St. Maarten. To our knowledge, however, these have not included Bank of Nova Scotia (Scotia Bank) ATMs, and it is Scotia Bank that has wide-ranging reciprocal agreements with other banks for acceptance of their ATM cards without bank fees. Before coming to St. Maarten, check with your bank to see if it is involved in this reciprocity – and get the details. Bank of America participates with Scotia Bank in this reciprocal program.

11. Author Tim Stelma's SXM Trilogy Concludes with "Sandy Ground" Novel

Ilene may be the most avid reader you might ever hope to meet. She devours 300-page books in a day. When we asked her some time ago to be our official reader of author Tim Stelma's trilogy of St. Maarten-related books, she quickly agreed.

After reading the climactic third book in the series, titled *Sandy Ground*, Ilene said she loved it and looks forward to his next books.

"I couldn't put it down," she said. "It's a follow-up to his second book, *Cole Bay*, incorporating the same characters. It's a mystery loaded with twists and turns that you will never expect, making it riveting. Any reader will love it."

You can find it available on Amazon.

12. Are You Into Hats?

If so, there's a lady we want you to meet. Her name is Patty Meotti, and artist living on St. Maarten who has a penchant for drawing hats.

But these are not just pictures of hats — far from it.

They are scenes from across the island, places you know and love (including the airport approach on the Dutch side) featuring people in hats. See an interesting cross-section of her work here: <https://www.facebook.com/MeottiPatty> Tell her you heard about her from us.

13. Capture the Light Show from the Simpson Bay Causeway

If you have had the good fortune to visit St. Maarten since December 23, 2013, then you've probably driven on the Simpson Bay Lagoon Causeway. Not only does it save a great deal of time in traveling around the island and reducing traffic tie-ups in Simpson Bay, but at night it also is a show unto itself.

Although you can't see them while driving across the Causeway, from almost anywhere in Simpson Bay you can see the kaleidoscopic color changes of the LED lighting system along the outside of the bridge, covering its entire length. Bring your video camera and prepare to use it, it has become a major tourist attraction.

14. Beaches with Shade

How do you define shade?

If it's palm trees, get yourself to Mullet Bay Beach or Happy Bay, because you'll find palm trees at both. If it's beach umbrellas you're after, try Club Orient -- where you can get shade as well as an all-over tan. If you'd like to choose from palm trees or umbrellas — or get both at the same time -- go to Mr. Busby's Beach Bar on Dawn beach, where you'll find both plus great food.

No matter where you go, the tropical sun is very powerful. Regardless of how dark your skin may be, or how oily, it will dry out in the hot tropical sun unless you protect yourself with both sunscreen and moisturizers. Most likely you already know that and protect yourself -- we're just trying to help in case you don't.

15. Where to Get Maine Lobster

There are only one or two places on the island where you can get Maine lobster, which some people prefer over the spiny Caribbean version.

You can get both versions of lobster, and lots more, at Skip Jack's, consistently voted the best seafood restaurant on the island in the *Daily Herald*

survey. We've mentioned Skip Jack's a number of times in the past. Conveniently located on Simpson Bay lagoon with great views of nearby yachts, the restaurant has lots to choose from for all appetites and, of course, it offers discounts to JMB Website Supporters members. See the secret website for details on their current offer as well as offers from dozens of other restaurants and many other tourist-oriented businesses across the island.

16. 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, also 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.

17. Caribbean Recipe of the Week

Our newest recipe appears first in the Side Dishes section. We grow this list every week, so ultimately you'll see tons of prior recipes here in one convenient place. The newest recipes are 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.caribxseafoods.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:

Roasted and Fried Breadfruit <http://cooklikeajamaican.com/roasted-and-fried-breadfruit/> 5/27/14

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:

5/28/14: Shake Shake Shake Sonora (you will love it): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7VeaMEiWo-4>

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=woBZME7sN3E>

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](#) 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 over 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 and depart from Boca Marina near Princess Juliana Airport.

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/jmbsxm. 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://everythingsexm.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/jmbsxm . 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-stmaartentravelspecialists.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 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/rentalsganda.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://everythingsexm.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://everythingsexm.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://everythingsexm.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/jmbxsm . 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://everythingxsm.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://everythingxsm.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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Our email headers also contain subscribe / unsubscribe / address change links.

To see the JMB Communications privacy policy, visit http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml

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