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September 2, 2014

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

#957

### *Weekly SXM News and Comments*

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### **Important Note:**

*You are receiving St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News because you  
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### Attention iPad, iPhone, and Android Users

This format is easily readable on most mobile devices; scroll down for this week's news.

You can also download a pdf of recent editions here:

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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 #957 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:**

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**22 new stories this week**

**Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents**

## Timeshare Rentals and Sales of the Week

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](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](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 SXM newsletters coming.

### SXM Timeshare Rentals of The Week (Two):

**RENTAL** 12/13/2014 12/20/2014 week 50 Divi Little Bay Beach and Racquet Club On the beach balcony walk out 400 square foot deluxe studio, king size bed and queen pull out couch. Kitchen with micro convection oven, stove top and apartment sized fridge. Large bathroom with jacuzzi. Fixed week on points for flexibility. Can walk to Philipsburg. On site; 3 pools, sandy beach, 3 restaurants, fitness center, tennis courts, 3 outside jacuzzis and water sports. Snorkel off the beach. rent for \$700.00 a week or sell for \$1500.00 Rosemary 613 352-5752 [rosemarywebsterw@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemarywebsterw@hotmail.com)

**RENTAL** 1/31/15 to 2/7/15 (week 5) Simpson Bay Resort Marina 207, a sleep-four studio overlooking both the Marina pool and Pelican beach (a short walk to Marina Residences, next door). Many beaches, great restaurants, piano bar (The Red Piano), more nightlife, casinos, a Deli, and other shops and nearby. A clothing optional beach is about two miles away. Unit features stove, microwave, cable TV, WiFi is on site, sleeps four, very convenient. \$1099. This unit is also for sale at just \$2499! Timeshare tax (\$50) is renter's responsibility. Please contact Jeff at (508) 747-8281 or email [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com)

### SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week (Now Two):

**SALE** 01/10/2015 01/17/2015 Week 2 Simpson Bay Resort One bedroom beach front unit with full kitchen in the Flamboyant Building (F4). Sleeps four (4) with king bed and sleeper sofa. Spacious patio overlooking Caribbean Sea. \$13,000.00 Ken 409-781-3820 (cell) 409-866-8435 (home) [kseholm@gt.rr.com](mailto:kseholm@gt.rr.com)

**SALE:** January 17 to January 24, 2015 (week 3) Sapphire Beach Club on Cupecoy Beach, sleep-four unit faces Cupecoy Beach and the Caribbean sea. Includes a Jacuzzi whirlpool hot tub on the balcony, king size bed, full a/c, cable TV, DVD player, refrigerator with ice maker, marble bath, beautiful furnishings throughout. Resort has shops, restaurants, min-mart, plus a large pool, whirlpool, and bar -- all on the ocean. Close to Atlantis Casino, many great restaurants including Temptation, plus Mullet Bay Beach, the Cupecoy clothing-optional beach, Baie Longue, and Baie Rouge on the French Side, and did I say incredible restaurants? Asking only \$4499 to buy (negotiable) or \$1050 to rent. We also have weeks four and five available to rent or buy at nearby resorts; will discount if you buy or rent two weeks or more. Photos available. Phone Jeff at (508) 747-8281 or email [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com)

### ***Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:***

See them all at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml)

### **This Week's Stories**

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**"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](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](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](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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***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.***

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## Rent Out or Sell Your SXM Timeshare

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- B. All the Answers for JWS members: Just Click the Link
- C. Members: Why Check Airfares Daily?
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### 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](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\*\*](mailto:support@jmbcommunications.com).

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to [jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com](mailto: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](http://www.everythingsxm.com) .

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## All JMB Newsletters Read \*From JMB\*

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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. Peak of Hurricane Season is Right Now**

The statistical peak of the Atlantic hurricane season is this week. The good news, though, is that no storms are expected in the next few days.

There is increased weather activity across Africa, however. Storms crossing Africa East to West exit the coast and can develop into Cape Verde tropical storms or hurricanes that can threaten the Caribbean or the US. Sandy, dry Saharan air can inhibit tropical storm formation -- and its effect on the rest of this hurricane season is still not clear.

A couple of tropical waves are currently situated in the far Eastern tropical Atlantic, slowly heading westward. Meteorologist Rob Lightbown of [Crown Weather](http://Crown Weather) says those tropical waves bear watching, since they can further develop as they move westward.

As always, you can click weather on [www.everythingStMaarten.com](http://www.everythingStMaarten.com) for satellite images and radar loops of the tropical Atlantic. As we've noted before, we will post news immediately on our Facebook page and send an e-mail to our JMB Website Supporters members should any weather systems threaten St. Maarten.

If you live or work in any area that can be threatened by tropical weather, we urge you to sign up for [Crown Weather](http://Crown Weather) bulletins and updates. They are the best early warnings you can get and will cost you next to nothing.

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#### **2. Got AA or US Airways Reservations? Check Your Flights**

If you have reservations either on American Airlines or US Airways, you should know that their in-process merger is resulting in a number of

flight changes. Those changes involve flight times, days, equipment, routes, etc.

For whatever reason, the changes seem to be affecting American Airlines more than legacy US Airways flights.

Also be aware that some previously nonstop flights to St. Maarten on American Airlines are being eliminated in favor of connections in Miami, the big American Airlines hub. When confronted with this change, a number of passengers are opting for nonstops from JFK to SXM aboard JetBlue, which still offers them.

Regardless of what airline you're flying, it's now the lowest end of low season — at least until mid-November — so check carefully to avoid surprises regarding your flights.

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### 3. Air Canada to Fly Rouge 767s From Toronto Twice Weekly

We reported a couple of weeks ago that Air Canada was increasing service to St. Maarten. What we didn't know at the time was of they are also using wide-body aircraft — specifically, Boeing 767s for their twice-weekly flights to SXM from Toronto.

Air Canada will also be using branded "Rouge" aircraft, intended for leisure travel. Here's more: <http://bit.ly/1x1q0Or>

When we checked the Rouge website on Monday, the new SXM service was not yet posted there; it doesn't begin until December 20.

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### 4. Get *Global Entry* To Ease Your Return to the USA

Global Entry, a fairly new program from the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), enables trusted travelers to get through US Customs much more quickly and easily than is otherwise possible.

To become part of the program, you complete an exhaustive application, pay a fee, and go to an interview at a location determined by CBP. The process can take several weeks, but at the end of the day, departures from US airports and arrivals back in the US from overseas are expedited significantly.

The program is being expanded to many new airports.

In addition to overseas flights, Global Entry includes the domestic pre-check program, which lets you speed through security check-in lines when taking US domestic flights from many airports. Depending upon the airport, you may be able to leave your shoes on and leave your computer in its case.

For more information, go here: <http://www.cbp.gov/global-entry/about> , where you can also find an online application. Do it soon, however, since



it often takes several weeks to get your credentials.

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## 5. New "FBO" Private Jet Facility Update

If you've visited St. Maarten in recent years, you know that Princess Juliana airport can become rather cluttered with dozens of private jets during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and much of the winter.

The jets are scattered about the airport, some of them near the lagoon end of the runway.

We reported a few months ago that construction would soon begin on an FBO facility — fixed base operations, which is industry jargon for private jets. Construction of the facility either is already underway or is about to get underway, and should be finished in roughly a year. We'll get pictures and post them on our Facebook page once construction gets to the stage where it's appropriate — by year's end.

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## 6. Demolition Along Airport Road: About The Parallel Taxiway Coming to Princess Juliana Airport

As we've been reporting for quite some time, Princess Juliana International Airport is expanding. Recent visitors to the island over the last two or three years have seen an increasing number of buildings along Airport Road sold to the airport and marked as airport property — no trespassing. The most famous of these properties was the Turtle Pier restaurant, renowned for its lobster night and its beautiful over-water location.

Several changes are coming. Here are three of them, not necessarily in chronological order.

First, a new Fixed Base Operations facility is being built to accommodate private jets (see related story).

Second, a new taxiway parallel to the existing east-west runway will be built, which means that after landing, aircraft will get off the runway to enable other arrivals and departures. Without the taxiway, arrivals and departures must wait while landing aircraft plod back up the main runway to the terminal. The new taxiway will enable the airport to accommodate significantly increased traffic. Airport Road itself will relocate north as the taxiway is built near the current site of Airport Road. Once the taxiway is open, you'll understand why the western terminus of the new Causeway is where it is.

Most important to passengers, perhaps, is that the main terminal building will be enlarged within a few years. Shaped something like a nearly complete half oval, the current terminal will be expanded to a complete half oval. The employee parking area on the east side of the current terminal is actually tarmac; the terminal will be expanded over part of this area, with the addition of a couple of gates to accommodate increased air traffic.

As these changes unfold over the next few years, we'll keep you posted and we expect to run pictures both on Facebook and here in our newsletter.

## **SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares**

### **7. Timeshare News Updates -- Caravanserai and Simpson Bay / Pelican Resort**

We know many readers are anxiously looking for updates on the status of both Simpson Bay Resort and Caravanserai.

So far, there is nothing to report.

We did tell you a few weeks ago that the sale at auction of Pelican Resort by Royal Resorts in 2010 was nullified by St. Maarten courts. We still don't know exactly who brought the suit that resulted in the court action. We also believe that there are negotiations going on between the parties or their representatives, but we have no substantive corroborated data on the contents of those negotiations. When we do, we'll post it here in *SXM Weekly News*.

We also told you that Caravanserai Resort was sold at auction for \$14 million. The name of the buyer has not been released and the sale has not yet closed, though the provisions of the auction require the closing within the next couple of weeks.

Timeshare owners are particularly concerned about what these sales mean to them. We wrote about that subject in a previous issue but the fact is, nothing has been announced and no one really knows. We do not have any reason to expect, however, that either resort will be required to close temporarily as a result of the events we just described.

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### **8. Pack Light: Clothing Optional Vacationing in SXM**

Crave to vacation without heavy luggage? Want to return home with no tan lines?

SXM has two solutions. The first is the well-known Club Orient, now nearing 35 years of age, the island's first naturist resort. It's located on the southern end of Orient Beach on the French Side and is "nood" throughout.

"CO" is closed until October 6 and is busy preparing for the season. Tennis courts are being completely resurfaced, the Welcome Center is getting a new look, and many villas are undergoing renovations.

Club Orient suggests booking promptly since February is already 80% sold out -- and the Euro has been dropping in value and is now at about \$1.30.

Club Fantastico, on the hill overlooking Orient Bay, is based in a large home and is also clothing optional with a "nood" pool as well. It has off-season specials, too.

### **SECTION 3: Island**

## **Extended Through September 30:**

# **Get Five Years of JMB Membership Free When You Get a Five-Year "SkyMed Ultimate" Medical Evacuation Membership from us -- and It's Only \$59 a month!**

**Having your own medical evacuation membership enables you to get home in a hurry when you or your spouse / partner become critically ill or injured away from home. Without membership, you must pay for the evacuation in cash, in advance -- if you can set it up -- and the cost can easily be \$45,000 or more, sometimes lots more.**

**Only SkyMed guarantees to take you home** should you become critically ill or injured throughout the SkyMed universe, which consists of the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba, plus Belize and Costa Rica. Should you need protection anywhere in the world, you can get that, too. But the point is simply this: don't travel anywhere without making sure you have medical evacuation protection from SkyMed.

**There are a number of SkyMed plans available.** Short-term plans are the least expensive in terms of initial outlay, but you must be medically requalified every time you want a new short-term plan. By contrast, both SkyMed annual and Ultimate plans require only one medical qualification when you first apply. When you renew SkyMed, your membership continues uninterrupted and is renewable indefinitely without further medical requalification *regardless of your age or health*.

The cost of SkyMed never increases because of your advancing age, nor is SkyMed ever canceled strictly because of advancing age, which is in sharp contrast to other plans. SkyMed Takes You Home -- what else matters?

**Get yourself protected against the high cost of medical evacuation and you will simultaneously find yourself with great peace of mind.**

Call SkyMed any weekday Pacific time at 1-800-475-9633 and ask for Nan or Jim. Tell them you are a JMB Website Supporters member to get the best rates. If you're not a member, join; it's just \$99 for four years or \$59 for one year. Sign up for JMB here:

[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) . The cost of SkyMed is as little as \$59 monthly or \$49 monthly if you do not require global coverage (beyond the "SkyMed universe" we described above).

**You can also get complete information about SkyMed directly from Jeff Berger, SkyMed rep for the past 12+ years; phone him at the JMB office any weekday at 508-830-3456. He can answer any questions and even sign you up over the phone.**

Once you've joined SkyMed through us, email [support@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:support@jmbcommunications.com) and tell them you've bought a new SkyMed Ultimate five-year membership. Upon verification, we'll extend your current JMB Website Supporters membership for five full years. Offer open to U. S. and Canadian citizens only. You must join JMB first to be eligible for this JMB membership extension. And you must join SkyMed only as described above and not by any other means to qualify for the JMB membership extension. Offer ends September 30, 2014. The five-year JMB membership extension will be terminated if you cancel your SkyMed membership before its five-year term expires.

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## ***JMB Membership Prices Change October 1: Join, Renew, or Reinstate Now***

### ***For The Most Discounts & The Lowest Prices***

As with everything else, the cost of JMB Website Supporters new, renewal, and reinstated memberships will be increasing effective October 1. Even our lowest-priced memberships, those with the longest terms, will be increasing to catch up to rising costs.

**Beat the price increase** by joining JMB Website Supporters today. You'll receive about 200 discounts across the island including sizable jewelry gift cards, lagoon sunset cruises, discounts at dozens of restaurants, plus many activities, art, shopping, and other discounts on both sides of the island.

Learn more here: [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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## ***New Military Discount Offered on JMB Renewals Starting September 3***

JMB has long offered military discounts on new memberships, but we've resisted doing so for renewals because they are already so inexpensive. But we've decided to do it anyway, and it's a big deal: \$10 off any renewal, even sale renewals. Applies only to renewals initiated on or after September 3. Although it's not retroactive, if you've renewed recently there's no reason you can't renew again. That will get you the \$10 military discount on renewals plus you'll beat the 10/1 price increase on renewals, new memberships, and reinstatements.

Military Discounts take effect for all renewals bought 9/3/14 and after. Details will be posted on the Secret Site later this week.

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There are *two hundred* reasons to renew your JMB membership. Some members have renewed their memberships past the year 2030. 200 reasons? We offer 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 but it's much less per year if you join for several years. Join, reinstate, or renew today. Then you can write your own reason.... See [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com)

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### ***Help Support The "Be The Change" Endowment in SXM***

Doing good deeds for others is a long-time tradition in the Cannegieter household in St. Maarten. Matriarch Barbara Cannegieter has long worked for the St. Maarten Zoo / Park, which has a rare collection of tropical animals for the enjoyment and education of St. Maarteners and visitors alike.

Barbara and her husband Diederick have a beautiful and gifted daughter, Erika Cannegieter-Smith, who passed away at age 36 last month. She was the founder, president, and CEO of the Be The Change foundation, which is all about "joining forces and making things happen for our island's true community initiatives." See much more at <http://www.bethechangesxm.com/>

An effort is underway now in Erika's memory to raise \$25,000 as an endowment to keep the community efforts of Be The Change going. Any amount will be greatly appreciated. Donate here: <https://www.gofundme.com/EndowBetheChangeSXM/donate>.

## **9. In The Dutch St Maarten Election, Theo Heyliger Comes Out on Top -- Sort Of**

Since somewhere in the 1990s, Theo Heyliger has been the most popular political figure on the Dutch side of the island.

He was behind all of the major infrastructure projects undertaken since that time — the vast upgrading of the Dutch side cruise and cargo facilities; the Philipsburg boardwalk; the redesign of both Front Street and Back Street; the new airport terminal and other major airport changes to come; the Simpson Bay Lagoon Causeway; and other projects.

That's why it was no surprise late last week when Mr. Heyliger won the Dutch side parliamentary elections.

You would have thought that this victory would propel Mr. Heyliger forward as the country's new prime minister, but you would be wrong. In St. Maarten, the government has a parliamentary system and there are somewhere around a dozen political parties. Although Mr. Heyliger's "up" party garnered more votes than any other party, after the election three other parties signed up for coalition. Their combined votes controlled

eight seats in parliament, whereas Mr. Heyliger's party's votes controlled only seven — so there will be another coalition government and Mr. Heyliger, who won the election, will be the loyal opposition. (Go figure.)

What's particularly interesting about this is the individual personalities of some of the key members of Parliament. Heyliger is in the opposition because of the alliance of three other parties. The real difference is one member of Parliament — so, were one of the eight controlling coalition politicians to change his or her allegiance from the new coalition to Mr. Heyliger's UP party, the new government now forming could fall and yet another new government would be established under Mr. Heyliger.

Far stranger things have happened. If you're a political junkie, the next year or two in St. Maarten will likely be fascinating to you.

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## 10. New Government Coming, But What's It Mean to Timeshare Owners / Tourists?

Tourism is St. Martin's bread-and-butter, by far its single dominant economic force. In fact, Rotary on the island currently is promoting the theme that tourism is everybody's business. The attitude of people in every business is noted by tourists: when they feel welcomed everywhere, they feel good and would like to return.

But what about the new coalition government now forming, what does that government mean to tourists?

The answer, of course, is we don't know, but there is one thing for certain: the orientation toward keeping tourists the vital economic engine they are isn't about to change. The island has no readily available alternative.

The Simpson Bay Causeway has cut traffic congestion; airport expansion projects will cut congestion there; and further traffic projects are designed to further cut traffic congestion. And there is always consideration of other things the government can do to attract and hold tourists' interest and keep them safe and happy.

As always, we'll watch this closely for you and keep you informed here and on our Facebook page.

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## 11. Chikungunya Seems Well Under Control

Although it isn't all that rainy, the rainy season is coming, and with it, somewhat more frequent and longer-lasting showers. It is in wet conditions that mosquitoes can thrive.

But after its experience last December, the island has been educating the public about how to prevent mosquito breeding and it has taken on mosquito fogging as a major national priority. Consequently, it's rare that you even read about Chikungunya now in the local papers.

As we've mentioned before, late last year Chikungunya was increasing even as dengue fever was declining — and dengue fever can be lethal for

healthy people at times. Chikungunya is not fatal, though it can be quite dangerous to people who are already ill. The island is doing everything it can and everything it should to overcome Chikungunya and it has done quite a remarkable job.

As you'll see in the next article, most tourists have paid attention to what the island has done and are reacting by booking tickets back to St. Maarten. That doesn't mean there is no Chikungunya in SXM; it hasn't disappeared. But it is apparently well controlled now and smart tourists know how to use mosquito repellent to protect themselves.

Please see the next article.

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## 12. Outlook for the 2014-2015 High Season -- Big

For a lot of reasons, the outlook for the 2014-2015 high season in St. Maarten is quite excellent.

Last winter, which was severe across much of North America, made many people want to go to St. Maarten — but thousands canceled their trips because of fear of Chikungunya.

With an improving economy, a largely successful fight against Chikungunya, and a potentially even more severe winter ahead, anecdotal evidence suggests that this may be a record year for St. Maarten tourism, last year's issues notwithstanding.

One strong piece of anecdotal evidence is simply how early many timeshares offered for rent are being rented or sold at the asking price. In some cases there is even competition for weeks.

Airlines apparently agree, since a number of them are increasing the size of aircraft used on routes to St. Maarten and/or are increasing flight frequencies.

Don't forget your JMB Website Supporters membership card: it entitles you to more than 200 discounts across the island for things you do everyday. Also don't forget to check our low-fare grid on the secret website; it gives you outstanding guidelines so you know what to look for to get the best airfares to the island. Info on joining JMB is elsewhere in this edition. If you're a JMB member and have any membership questions, see the Secret Website. You can log in to it using the orange login box below the masthead at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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## 13. New Format for SXM Weekly News On The Way

Our new format for *St. Maarten Weekly News* debuts formally soon. It had been scheduled for this week but we scratched it just to make sure it does everything we need it to do from the first time we use it.

Using an adaptive format, the new SXMWN should sense the the type of device on which you view it, which will enable it to be seen easily on

practically any device, from smart phones to iPads and of course computers.

In the meantime, we changed the width of *Weekly News* this week to help smart phone readers.

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## 14. Discount Coming On The Best Road Maps of SXM -- Suitable for Wall Hanging

We mentioned last week that Michal Kasproski makes them as he has for years. They're updated frequently and show every road on the island. They're oversized, printed on long-lasting, heavy paper, and make outstanding wall hangings. Here are details from Michal's website: <http://www.midok.com/MapFiles/14stmartin.html> They include every road on the island.

After writing that article, we asked Michal if he would be willing to give our JMB members a discount on his maps and he has agreed to do precisely that. So, JMB Website Supporters members -- watch your email within the next week to 10 days as we give you the details of how to order and get your discount. It will be set up so only JMB members can take advantage of this JMB discount, as usual. We get them every year... they are quite beyond your expectations.

Note: These are the same maps we sold directly to members for several years. Processing and mailing costs became prohibitive for us. This new arrangement gives you the latest maps at the lowest possible price.

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## 15. Think SXM Souvenirs for Holiday Presents -- But Do The Shopping Now

If you like useful St. Maarten souvenirs -- for next Christmas / Chanukah or for anything else -- this is for you.

We have a collection of most sizes of St. Maarten/St. Martin tank tops, T-shirts, sweatshirts, coozies, notepads, insulated drink carriers, hats, and more, and we're making it available to our readers at extremely good preholiday-type pricing. Even 2XL.

All you have to do is go to the link below, specify a man or woman and size or sizes in the PayPal Memo section, and we'll send you a selection of these exclusive St. Maarten items in a midsize priority mail box. We'll stuff as much into the box as we possibly can. We can't promise specific items or specific colors which is why the price is so low, but we want to clear out the warehouse so this is quite a deal.

The cost is still just \$39.99, well below the retail value of the merchandise you will receive, and that pricing includes shipping inside the United States. Sorry, no orders shipped outside the US.

You can order one grab bag per transaction, but you can place as many orders as you want. Quantities limited. Please allow a good three weeks for handling and shipping despite the fact that we're using Priority Mail. Again, we will ship to USA addresses (50 states) only. All orders



received by last week will be shipping this week.

Note: 2XL is not listed in the size selection (we found them late); if you want 2XL, tell us in the PayPal order "Notes/Comments" area. Order here: [http://everythingxml.com/sxm/low\\_fares/st-maarten-st-martin-sxm-grab-bags.shtml](http://everythingxml.com/sxm/low_fares/st-maarten-st-martin-sxm-grab-bags.shtml)

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## 16. Restaurant of the Week: The Stone Restaurant

From The Stone Restaurant's website, [www.thestonerestaurant.com](http://www.thestonerestaurant.com):

"Stone" cooking is entirely, enticingly new. Whether you crave St. Maarten's freshest fish, the most tender, mouth-watering beef filet, or one of our vegetarian selections, you'll find "stone" cooking imparts a uniquely enjoyable natural flavoring to your meal.

Pair dinner with a selection from our growing wine list or our fully stocked bar, and top it off with some of the most decadent, indulgent desserts you'll find anywhere.

You'll find "Stone Cooking" only here at The Stone Restaurant in Simpson Bay, Billy Folly Road #37 on the Marina Plaza at Simpson Bay Resort and Villas, formerly Pelican Resort / Pelican Marina Residences.

Park conveniently across the street at Hollywood Casino, or in the Pelican Marina Building parking structure; just tell the attendant you're going to The Stone Restaurant. Dinner is served 5:30-11pm, every day.

We've recommended The Stone for years. Beautiful, romantic location and great food.

Recently featured 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](http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com) (featured 8/4/14)

**Domino's Pizza** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 8/11/14)

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 7/14/14)

**Fusion**, [www.fusionrestaurant-sxm.com](http://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](http://www.iziristoranteitaliano.com) (featured 6/23/14)

**Stone Restaurant**, [www.thestonerestaurant.com](http://www.thestonerestaurant.com) (featured 9/2/14)

**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 6/28/14)

Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 6/28/14)

Pineapple Pete, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://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> (featured 8/18/14)

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

FIG, Cupecoy opposite Rainbow Beach Club

St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge

Jimbo's, [www.jimboscafe.com](http://www.jimboscafe.com)

Canoa, [www.canoasxm.com](http://www.canoasxm.com) (featured 3/31/14)

Vesna Taverna, [www.vesnataverna.com](http://www.vesnataverna.com) (featured 7/28/14)

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 (featured 3/17/14)

We'll write about another SXM restaurant here next week as we continue our year-round SXM restaurant coverage.

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## 17. Caribbean Recipe of the Week

See "Vegetarian Entrees," our new section below for this week's recipe. .

We will be adding this list to our SXM site in a permanent location shortly. For now, see it here:

<http://www.everythingsxm.com/stmaartenrecipeoftheweek.htm>

## Drinks

Almond Colada [http://www.guavaberry.com/recipes\\_almond.php#almond-colada](http://www.guavaberry.com/recipes_almond.php#almond-colada) 7/28/14

## Appetizers:

Caribbean Plantain Chips <http://www.yummly.com/recipe/Caribbean-spiced-Crispy-Baked-Plantain-Chips-560168?columns=5&position=5%2F67> (7/7/14)

## Entrees:

Jamaican Jerk Chicken <http://kitchenguarchive.com/jamaican-jerk-chicken/> (8/26/14)

Grilled Marlin with Tropical Fruit Salsa <http://www.food.com/recipe/grilled-marlin-with-tropical-fruit-salsa-237972> (8/18/14)

Caribbean Curry Goat <http://www.instructables.com/id/Curried-Goat/> 8/11/14

Caribbean Sushi rolls <http://caribbeanvegan.wordpress.com/2010/09/19/caribbean-sushi-and-a-first-timers-experience-rolling-sushi/> 6/21/14

Caribbean Chicken with Jalapeno Mango Sauce <http://www.poweroffamilymeals.com/recipes/5032> 6/9/14

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](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](https://www.bahamabreeze.com/recipes/main_dishes/almond_crusted_fresh_fish.asp)

## Vegetarian Entrees:

Zesty Garlic Flavored Avocado Yogurt Dip <http://caribbeanpot.com/zesty-garlic-flavored-avocado-yogurt-dip/> 9/2/14

## 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:

Mango Lime Sorbet <http://www.yummly.com/recipe/Mango-Lime-Sorbet-607662?columns=6&position=3%2F55> 8/4/14

Caribbean Christmas Pudding w/ Brandy Butter <http://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/Caribbean-Christmas-Pudding-with-Brandy-Butter-932> 7/14/14

Caribbean Rum soaked cake: <http://latinfood.about.com/od/desserts/r/Bacardi-Rum-Soaked-Bacardi-Cake.htm> 6/30/14

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

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## 18. Reserve Your JMB Members-Only 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 thousands of 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](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret). Your username and password are required.

Effective January 1, 2015, Sunset Lagoon Cruises for members will be \$15/person (versus their regular retail of \$35) so they can cover their increasing costs for fuel, refreshments, and staff. (A \$40 savings on a trip for two). Sunset sails are now offered on Tuesdays and they depart from Boca Marina near Princess Juliana Airport.

Still not a member? What are you waiting for? Check out membership here: [http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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### 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](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](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](http://www.skymed.com/jmbsexm) . Highest recommendation by JMB.

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#### 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

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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](http://www.rentstmaartenvillas.com).

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**Villas in Paradise** is your one-stop source for great St. Maarten Villa Accommodations. See many choices at [www.villasinparadise.com](http://www.villasinparadise.com) or call Marilyn Pulito directly at 508-533-1388.

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**Emerald Cove Villas** provides a one-of-a-kind vacation experience in Oyster Pond. See their website at [www.emeraldcovevillas.com](http://www.emeraldcovevillas.com) . Learn why \*Emerald Cove\* is the name.

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**Caribbean Days** provides luxury villa accommodations throughout the Caribbean. See [www.caribbeandays.com](http://www.caribbeandays.com) .

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**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](http://www.villajourneys.com)

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**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](http://www.oysterbayview.com)

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**Club Fantastico**, [www.clubfantastico.net](http://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.

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**Summit Resort Hotel**, atop a cliff in Cupecoy, is a favorite. See why; check out [www.thesummitresort.com](http://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](http://www.dkgemsint.com) .

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**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](http://www.zhaveri.com) .

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### 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](http://www.legrandmarche.net) .

### **SECTION 4: For Members Only (Constantly Updated)**

Please see [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret) .

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

Returns soon.

## CONTACT US

JMB Website Supporters members wishing to contact us should visit the secret site, [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com) assuming your membership is in good standing.

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

To unsubscribe, click the Unsubscribe link here: <http://everythingxm.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://everythingxm.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.

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

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