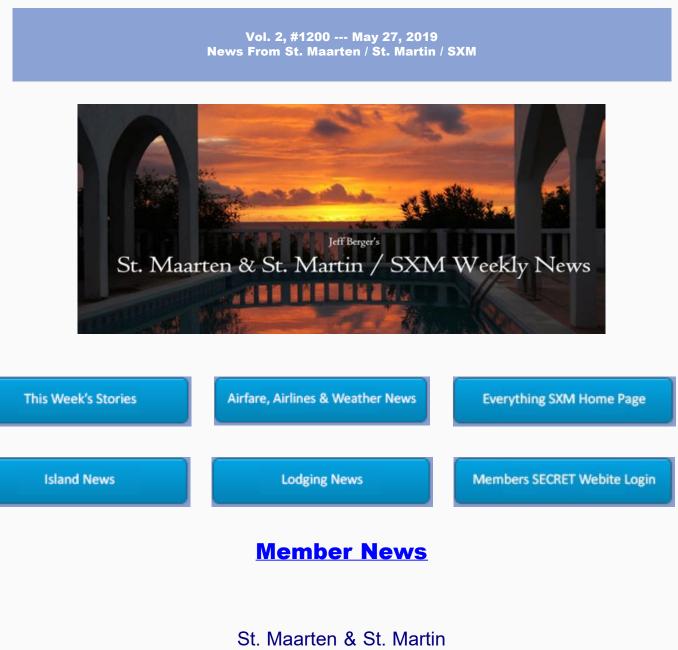
From JMB / SXM Weekly News 5/27/19: New Hurricane Season Heads-Up; Flying in Canada; Orient Beach Hotel; Heyliger III; Very Dry Weather; Carrefour Reopening; IZI; Carol & Ron; SkyMed [30 news stories]

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"SXM" Weekly News

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

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file:///Cl/Users/jmbcomms.000/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V2_1200May272019.html[9/7/2019 3:13:29 PM]

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to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

<u>IMPORTANT:</u> "Jeff1620" is an unmonitored <u>send-only</u> email address. For Contact info, see <u>#Contact Us</u> at the end of this newsletter.

Important Note:

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). You are receiving <u>St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News</u> because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member.

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This narrow format is easily readable on all mobile devices. Scroll down for this week's news.

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<u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml</u> On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

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TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

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

Top Stories in Today's <u>SXM Weekly News</u>:

Weather; Getting Here:

-- Hurricane Season Forecast Changes; Eyes East (Lead Story) -- Canada Introduces Airline Passenger Bill of Rights

file:///Cl/Users/jmbcomms.000/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V2_1200May272019.html[9/7/2019 3:13:29 PM]

SXM Accommodations:

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- -- Ensure Best SkyMed Deal Jeff Berger / GetSkyMed.com
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#######

---- ******<u>Customer Stories</u>****** Protect Yourself With Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection from SkyMed #######

-- Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate

-- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors ####### -- SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic

Please see our complete Table of Contents below.

30 News Stories This Week

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

Timeshare Rental 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://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml and features them here.

<u>To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else</u> worldwide, for no ad charge or commission, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u> for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of about 300 St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits -- and your membership subscription helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 11/9/2019 11/16/2019 Week #45<u>Simpson Bay Resort and Marina Sleeps 6! Oceanfront</u> <u>Penthouse with 2 king Bedrooms and 2 full baths</u>. Large living room with 2 murphy beds, large dining area and full kitchen. Huge balcony that includes a private hot tub! 3 swimming pools on property with a beautiful fully equipped private beach. Walking distance to supermarket and lots of great restaurants! \$2,200 Tammy . 917-929-7783 <u>Tammyl143@aol.com</u>

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 3/9/2019 3/23/2019 Week 10, Week 11 **The Villas at Simpson Bay & Resort Master and Junior Suites:** together accommodate 6 people. Master consists of a full kitchen with dining space, king size bed/master bedroom, 2 Murphy beds in the living room with flat screen TV, spacious bathroom with separate double vanity area. A beautiful deck overlooks Simpson Bay. Junior lockout suite (use or rent separately) has 2 full beds, a small kitchen, dorm size refrigerator, microwave, toaster, coffee maker. The bathroom is spacious with a separate double vanity area. All boat excursions are located onsite. \$13,000.00 per week Rosanne 609-613-0728 mess113@yahoo.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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https://www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm

"Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group

https://www.facebook.com/StMaartenTimesharing/

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format: http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format): http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?flavor=archive;list=sxmweeklynews

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

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing group of about 300 SXM-focused island discounts and other SXM-related benefits through JMB Website Supporters membership: http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

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All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members 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: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather

1. Hurricane Season Forecast Changes; Eyes East

When the National Hurricane Center, the University of Colorado, and Crown Weather Services — our go-to source for tropical weather information in detail — all predicted a near or slightly below normal 2019 hurricane season, we all breathed something of a sigh of relief -- despite the fact that only takes one storm to wreak havoc.

At that time, meteorologists believed an El Niño condition was developing, which would help inhibit hurricane formation.

Now, that does not appear to be happening. Climatic changes which were expected to yield an El Niño by later this year appear to have stalled, leading to either a neutral situation between El Niño and La Niña or a very slight El Niño...

What all this means is that conditions this coming hurricane season are now expected to be more conducive to the development of storms than had been expected earlier.

Crown Weather chief meteorologist Rob Lightbown noted last week in his report that the Atlantic Ocean was warmer now than expected; that conditions in the tropical Atlantic are expected to be favorable for the formation of tropical systems, not unfavorable as had previously been expected; and there is now an expectation that monsoonal conditions across North Africa will likely be more rich in moisture than usual, which could lead to the development of more robust storms exiting the West African coast and heading into the tropical Atlantic.

None of this means that SXM is going to get hit by a hurricane this season. It just means that everyone should do the wise customary thing this year as in all previous years: keep our eyes open whether we live in the Caribbean, the Gulf of Mexico, or anywhere along the US East Coast from South Florida through to the Canadian border.

With permission, we are reprinting this report from Crown Weather's Rob Lightbown, plus some additional comments he published on Saturday about the forthcoming season. We reiterate that if you live anywhere near the prospective path of any future hurricane it would be a wise move for you to subscribe to the private weather forecasting service that Crown Weather provides. It is very inexpensive and can be extremely valuable to you from both the business and personal perspective as the coming season unwinds. See crownweather.com for much more.

Here is Rob's current forecast for the 2019 hurricane season:

Back on March 24th, we released our hurricane season forecast for the Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. Since then, it appears that the hurricane season may be busier than previously thought. So, here is an updated forecast with our latest thoughts:

The Numbers: 14 Named Storms, 7 of those storms becoming Hurricanes and 3 of those hurricanes becoming Major Hurricanes (Category 3 or higher on the Saffir-Simpson scale).

Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) Index Forecast: I am forecasting an ACE index this year of 110. This number basically says that I expect that overall activity in the Atlantic may be slightly above average.

ENSO Conditions: The current weak El Nino conditions appear to be at a steady-state and in fact the ENSO state may be trending towards neutral conditions. Once again, the early ENSO models vastly over forecast the El Nino conditions and we may end up with either neutral ENSO conditions or a borderline weak El Nino during the peak of the 2019 Hurricane Season.

What this potentially means is that environmental conditions may be much less hostile for tropical development, especially across the Caribbean and the central and eastern Atlantic.

Sea Surface Temperatures: The overall look of the ocean temperatures across the Atlantic is warmer now than at this time last year. In particular, the ocean water temperatures near the Bahamas, Bermuda, the western Atlantic and the central and eastern Atlantic between the coast of Africa and the Lesser Antilles are above average.

This type of ocean temperature look is not a good one as it could mean that we may be looking a more active hurricane season than what was thought back in late March.

Wind Shear Forecast: A majority of the seasonal model guidance are forecasting near average to below average wind shear values across the western Atlantic, the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, a majority of the seasonal model guidance are forecasting slightly above average wind shear values across the far eastern Atlantic (east of 40 West Longitude).

What this potentially means is that environmental conditions may be most favorable in close to the Bahamas, the United States and Bermuda and conditions may actually be favorable for tropical cyclones this year across the Caribbean and also favorable for tropical cyclones entering the Caribbean from the east.

Landfall Threat Forecast: The trends in the model guidance for the overall weather pattern this summer into the fall are troubling in terms of landfall risk. An upper level high pressure system may set up shop from the far western Atlantic into the Canadian Maritimes. *This could lead to tropical systems being pushed quite far west putting much of the US East Coast at threat this season, especially from the Florida Peninsula to the Carolinas as well as the Bahamas and Bermuda. For this reason, we have placed this region in our highest risk area for a tropical storm or hurricane impact.*

Given the position and orientation of the western Atlantic ridge of high pressure combined with the potential for near average to below average wind shear values, I think the region from the western Caribbean to the central and eastern Gulf of Mexico needs to be watched extremely closely for potential tropical storm and hurricane impacts. Based on this, we have placed this region in a high risk area for a tropical storm or hurricane impact, however, I think the US East Coast is a higher risk area.

There continues to be signals in the data that suggest the Leeward Islands, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Hispaniola may need to be watched closely for a tropical storm or hurricane impact. Most of the seasonal models are showing an above average rainfall signal. In addition, the rainfall across the Sahel of western Africa has been above average this year and this can be strong signal for robust tropical disturbance activity from the coast of Africa. All of this combined with the position of the upper level high pressure ridge means that I'm going with a medium-high risk for a tropical storm or hurricane impact across the Leeward Islands, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the north coast of the Dominican Republic.

For areas that have been "left out", including the western Gulf coast, Mexico and the Bay of Campeche, this does not mean there will definitely not be a threat or impact this season. It just means that based on the latest data, the highest risk for a tropical storm or hurricane impact may end up being along the US East Coast.

And here are the additional comments he published on Saturday, May 25:

More Thoughts Regarding The 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season: I have some additional thoughts regarding the 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season that weren't included in our updated seasonal forecast.

The more that I look at the data, the more concerned I become regarding how potentially active this season could be. As I mentioned in my update, the ocean water temperatures in the Main Development Region between the coast of Africa and the Lesser Antilles are warmer right now than they were at this time last year.

In addition, the forecast of El Nino conditions lasting through this summer and autumn is dubious. Many of the ENSO models now show El Nino conditions fading into a neutral ENSO by August, September and October.

Also, the real eye opener for me has been persistent deep thunderstorm activity occurring over the African continent throughout the last 4 to 6 months or so. In addition, rainfall over the Sahel region of Africa has been well above average so far this year. This likely means that we will see a strong western African monsoon this season leading to stronger than average tropical waves and slower than average easterly trade winds. What this means is that the slower than average trade winds will allow the ocean water temperatures to continue to warm to above average levels. In addition, weaker trade winds will tend to not only cut down on the amount of African dust, but also create a potentially low wind shear environment across the eastern and central Atlantic.

This all means that this hurricane season will likely be much more active than I initially thought back in late March and in fact, the season may end up being a little more active still as compared to what I currently think.

The rest of my updated hurricane season forecast that I posted on Wednesday remains the same.

FINALLY – I wanted to let everyone know that you can follow us on some of the various Social Media platforms.

You can follow us on **Facebook** at <u>https://www.facebook.com/crownweatherservices</u> You can follow us on **Twitter** at <u>https://twitter.com/crownweather</u> And finally, you can now follow us on **Instagram** at <u>https://www.instagram.com/crownweather/</u> **About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:**

ENDS JUNE 1st

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Reinstatement JMB memberships: 6 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$69; 1 yr., \$29 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

2. Canada Introduces Airline Passenger Bill of Rights

Canada has introduced an airline passenger Bill of Rights entitling passengers flying into and out of Canada to compensation by airlines for a number of airline problems. <u>Here</u> is that story.

3. See Current SXM Weather / Tracking Serious Weather

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>, and clicking either of the weather observations at the top of the page.

The four sources of current weather info, beyond the two above, are:

1) <u>Crown Weather Services</u> whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.

2) Our "Weather" page at <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u> -- it has current satellite images and radar loops and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.

3) Our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>, which publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.

4) On or off the island, listen to Island 92 -- 91.9FM or see <u>www.island92.com</u>. They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.
5) For a quick look at weather radar exactly where you are or where you're going, try the My Radar phone app or My Radar for Windows -- excellent programs.

Get a quick, current satellite look at the Atlantic basin anytime: <u>http://www.goes.noaa.gov/GIFS/ATWV.JPG</u> .

N. B.: Again...Never rely on any website if you're in the path of a storm; always heed warnings from local authorities.

Download your own NHC Hurricane Chart:

Years ago, before we were all saturated with weather information from cable TV to local (redundant and repetitive) news and forecasts plus weather updates and bulletins on our smart phones, gas stations and television stations offered printed hurricane tracking charts so people at home could try to figure out for themselves whether they were about to get slammed by the latest hurricane.

We haven't seen hurricane tracking chart handouts for years, but if you want one they are easy to get.

The exact charts used by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) are available for download from the NHC <u>here</u>. Select "Atlantic" and you're good to go. You can print out the chart and use it repeatedly, or simply print a bunch of them and use one for each storm that may approach an area of interest -- like, SXM. Bear in mind that this hurricane season may well be frontloaded — so you might want to print a few of these now and *not* save doing that for later.

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SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas Etc.

4. Orient Beach Hotel is Coming

The former Blue Bay beach hotel behind the former Waikiki restaurant on Orient beach is being reborn as Orient Beach Hotel. We don't yet have complete information on its date of arrival, amenities, etc. but when we do we'll pass it along here in *SXM Weekly News*.

5. Get That Condo on the Beach You've Been Dreaming Of

Spacious New Townhouses on Simpson Bay Beach:

If you've been thinking about moving to SXM but are turned off by large condo developments and have an urge to be on the beach in a place that is state-of-the-art strong, gorgeous, functional, and reasonably priced, we may just have found it for you on Simpson Bay beach, near its quiet northern end.

Drake Residences is built using quad-lock® insulating concrete forms construction which delivers rugged durability as well as great soundproofing.

There beachfront location consists of a four-story beachfront tower and five spacious townhouses, all offering beachfront access.

Construction is state-of-the-art using strong, steel reinforced concrete which is fire resistant, ultra-energy-efficient, with high wind resistance, impact resistance, seismic resistance, and flood resistance as well.

Drake Residences also offers true luxury, with modern design; an Italian kitchen; a waterfall island; floating staircases; all in a spacious, private, turnkey location.Preconstruction prices begin at just \$850,000; construction is about to begin. This is the last buildable lot on Simpson Bay beach and at these prices, you can expect Drake Residences to be sold out quickly.

If you'd like detailed information directly from the developer (whom you may well already know), email Jeff at <u>imbweb@jmbcommunications.com</u>. Include your email and phone number with the subject **Drake Residences**. We'll put you in direct contact with the developer himself so he can tell you all the details. This is the most attractive, incredibly durable beachfront property we've seen in SXM in many years, and it is brand-new construction. Photos have been posted on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>.

6. SXM Relocation Seminar Now Available Online

Just before last Thanksgiving, working with Arun Jagtiani of Island Real Estate Team, we put together and conducted an SXM Relocation Seminar for dozens of attentive attendees at Emilio's Restaurant at the Emilio Wilson estate near Philipsburg.

Many of you have asked whether it would be possible for you to see video we made of our relocation seminar.

Although we do intend to put on future relocation seminars, the video of our November seminar is now available online to anyone interested in buying on SXM, whether for a vacation home, retirement home, income property, or anything else.

See the video here.

7. Get Lowest Rates for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals Worldwide

<u>SkyMed Travel offers you a **110% Lowest Rate Guarantee** for both hotel and car rental reservations worldwide.</u> You can't lose with this, so read this article, sign up free and make your travel reservations directly through *SkyMed Travel.*

What it Is - How to Join (free for Our Readers & JMB Members):

We're now giving JMB Website Supporters members and *SXM Weekly News* readers access to a private, "members only" travel wholesale club that offers incredible prices not only on airfares but on travel reservations and packages worldwide.

The SkyMed Travel Club offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent across the board and their 110% low rate guarantee on hotels and car rentals is real news.

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to https://www.skymedtravel.com/register, sign up, and provide the requested information. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing. If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number here to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.

You won't be disappointed.

8. Places to Stay: Many Available, Take Your Pick

With most timeshare resorts back online — Belair, Sea Palace, Divi, Atrium Resort, La Vista, Simpson Bay Resort, Port de Plaisance, and Oyster Bay Beach now open too -- timeshare owners continue to post units available for rent on our <u>timeshare rental site</u> on <u>everythingSXM.com</u> and on our new companion Villas for Rent page, also on everythingsxm.com. Check them out.

Get your rental weeks now. Note: ads on those pages are from JMB Website Supporters members exclusively.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

9. JMB Member Discounts / Benefits -- Updated

We've recently updated the site to reflect ongoing changes on the island.

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, go here.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:

PROMOTION ENDS JUNE 1

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10. Did You See "Hurricane Forecast Changes" in Sec. One?

It's a major story... don't miss it.

11. Heyliger Reportedly Now Has Kidney Tumor

The biggest vote-getter in all recent Dutch side SXM elections — and arguably the Dutch side politician who has accomplished the most in the last 20 years, as we said here last week, Theo Heyliger has been in pretrial detention first in Bonaire and more recently in SXM where he had been suffering with gout and, his relatives charge, inadequate medication to treat it.

He was moved a couple of weeks ago to the St. Maarten Medical Center to be given some much-needed medical care for gout. Press reports indicate that he also had surgery and is recovering at the St. Maarten Medical Center.

Reports published in St. Maarten media are also saying that Mr. Heyliger now has a kidney tumor. At the time of the publication, it was not known whether the tumor was cancerous. Our hope, and that of his many fans throughout SXM, is for his robust health of the past to return quickly. He has always been the driving force behind most of the productive changes in SXM over the last few decades.

12. Very Dry Weather Has SXM Hoping for Relief

Exceptionally dry weather over the last few months in SXM and on other nearby islands has caused a number of fires, most recently a hillside fire near the Saba airport and more recently another hillside fire near Happy Bay beach on the French side of SXM.

Most people on SXM are hoping for some kind of relief from the dryness. A brief light nighttime shower last week did little to solve the problem, which has caused at least one small French side pond to dry up completely. Since SXM gets its drinking water by desalinating seawater, the island has no shortages. But hillsides and pastures are parched and the danger of an accidental fire is high.

Be careful out there.

13. Eclipse Owner Abramovich Building New Superyacht, Solaris

One of the largest super megayachts in the world is the Eclipse, for the last several years a familiar sight in SXM since it is normally moored off the Simpson Bay coast much of each winter.

Eclipse owner Roman Abramovich has owned a number of supermegayachts over the years and has sold some of his previous ones, including Luna and Le Grand Bleu, both of which have also been seen in St. Maarten waters.

Now we hear confirmed reports that Mr. Abramovich is building yet another supermegayacht, this one termed an expedition yacht, to be called Solaris. Based upon the appearance of many past Abramovich yachts in SXM waters, and the fact that he owns a large estate in St. Barth, it's highly likely that Solaris will be seen in the not-too-distant future in the waters off SXM and St. Barth.

Here is more on this.

14. Tech Talk: You May Not Need That New Computer...

Tech Talk is an infrequently published column about consumer technology published here in *SXM Weekly News*. The last iteration of it was published several years ago. Here is our latest, and the info in it could be quite useful to you:

If you're not satisfied with the speed of your computer, the issue may not be inadequate memory, too many programs, or the fact that you want Jaguar performance out of a Honda.

The answer may be easier than you think, and it may not involve buying a new computer.Despite the fact that computers are cheap you may want to opt for a less pricey alternative to vastly upgrade the performance of your laptop.

We suggest you update your system from a traditional magnetic-based mechanical hard disk drive to a solid-state drive. Such SSDs used to be enormously expensive, but those days are over. 1 TB solid-state drives — which will accommodate most systems — can now be purchased for a bit over \$100, and 2 TB solid-state drives can now be purchased for roughly \$299 and they are well worth the purchase price, which is far less than the price of a good new computer.

<u>The difference in performance is astonishing.</u> You will notice it when you start your system, when you access programs, when you start complex programs, or when you simply interact with multiple programs simultaneously. Everything is infinitely faster, even backups.You can have a computer tech clone your current hard drive to a new solid-state drive and replace it in your system, but you can also do it yourself.

Using free Macrium Reflect disk cloning and backup software, you can clone your current Hard Drive to your new 2.5 inch solid state drive using a cheap (\$8) Orico disk enclosure you can buy from Amazon. The cloning should take a maximum of a couple of hours. Once it is completed, you can carefully follow instructions you find on YouTube for replacing your Hard Drive with the newly cloned solid-state drive. If you don't feel secure in doing this yourself, you can have a tech savvy friend do it or a nearby tech shop that you trust.

Again, we've done it and it works wonders. Our recommendation is the Samsung EVO 860 solid-state drive, which offers long life, great speed, and outstanding quality.

15. Leisurely Lunches are IZI

IZi Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay, long one of our favorites and easily one of the very best Italian restaurants on the island (the very best on the Dutch side) is also open for lunch Tuesday through Saturday. The portions are generous, the food is delicious, and there are usually no crowds for lunch. If you have not tried iZi for lunch, make a point of it on your next visit. It's also a fantastic venue for dinners.

<u>If you're looking for something elegant and uncommon, make a reservation for the iZi tasting menu</u>, something that owner David Foini has done for years but has just recently introduced at his flagship SXM restaurant. Tell him we sent you — you will love it.

16. State-of-the-Art New Carrefour in Cole Bay Opens in July

The large Carrefour supermarket in Cole Bay, destroyed completely by hurricane Irma in September 2017, will be reopening in July, just a few weeks away, in a completely rebuilt new state-of-the-art facility.

We expect to have the full story in a future edition of *SXM Weekly News* and photographs on our <u>Everything SXM</u> <u>Facebook site</u>. Keep your eyes here for all the news of importance from SXM

17. Carol & Ron Zenaro's Thanks for Buying \$100K in

Cancer Bracelets

Ever since their son Scott passed away from cancer a number of years back, Carol and Ron Zenaro have been selling beautiful handmade bracelets in an effort to raise \$100,000 for the <u>Lazarex Cancer Foundation</u>, which works to help patients fighting cancer achieve better outcomes.

Carol and Ron asked us to pass along their thanks to you for your many purchases that have helped push their sales over \$100,000 a major help in the fight against this disease.

18. Where to Get The Best SXM Map

Michal Kasprowski developed it, and today Rafal Kasprowski carries on the tradition. The map they produce is oversized and printed on durable, heavy paper to last for years. It is fit to be used as an attention-getting wall hanging, which we do in our office, or in everyday use as you move around the island. It is constantly updated, with the latest versions distributed as they are produced. It is the most detailed, most reliable, and most authoritative map of SXM. If you're looking for maps of other islands in the Caribbean, midok.com, their company, also produces equally detailed and accurate maps of many other countries of the Caribbean. You can contact them through midok.com and tell them you read about them in Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News*.

19. Big JMB Membership Sale Ends June 1

Our big Spring JMB Website Supporters membership sale ends June 1, later this week. Don't miss it — it offers you the best pricing of the year on our membership, pricing you are unlikely to see again. Multiyear memberships are available at Unheard-of low price points:

GOOD: One year new memberships, \$33 (our reg. \$59) BETTER: Three-year new memberships, \$79 (our reg. \$99) BEST: Six-year new memberships \$139 (not normally offered, but by far our best buy)

Great renewal & reinstatement prices are offered too. To take advantage of these offers, click the page curl at everythingsxm.com to join or renew/reinstate your JMB membership now.

20. Major SkyMed Promo Now Underway

A major promo has begun on SkyMed memberships. Not only are all multiyear SkyMed memberships heavily discounted for JMB members, but when you buy a new multiyear SkyMed membership through us or upgrade your annual SkyMed membership bought from us to a multiyear membership, we will extend your JMB membership on us for the number of years you buy SkyMed.

Example: Upgrade to or buy a new five-year SkyMed membership through us, and <u>we give you a free five-year</u> <u>extension of your existing JMB Website Supporters membership</u>. All you need to do is forward us a copy of the acknowledgement you receive from SkyMed after you buy new or upgrade through us. For info, see skymed.com/jmb (that new website goes live soon), but to <u>qualify for these bonuses</u>, you must buy by phoning us at (508) 747-8281 <u>or email Jeff at jeff@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SkyMed</u>. Give us your phone number and time zone and we'll return your call as quickly as we can. Available exclusively to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats.

21. Restaurant of the Week:

This series resumes next week, when you'll learn about Mandarin Pan Asian at Port de Plaisance. Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Vesna Taverna, <u>www.vesnataverna.com</u> (featured 4/29/19). Now open every day for through B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Sunday.

Emilio's at Emilio Wilson Estate (featured 4/21/19) is the new property run by renowned chef Dino Jagtiani, whose Temptation Restaurant was wrecked by Irma.

Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant, <u>www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant</u> 4/15/19. Just go....

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 4/8/19) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, <u>www.iziristoranteitaliano.com</u> (featured 3/11/19). Open for lunch and dinner except Monday, when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

Spiga, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u> (featured 3/4/19) New menu; redesigned. New bar, great staff, service, and wonderful food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Not to be missed.

Mario Bistro <u>www.mariobistrot.com/en/</u> 2/25/19 Mario's Bistro is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have. Go. Phenomenal dining.

Mama Pizza & Pasta, featured 2/11/19, Porto Cupecoy.

Topper's <u>http://www.sxmtoppers.com/</u> (featured 1/28/19) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late dining. Open morning until late night. Sports on TV. Karaoke some nights.

Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar (on Cupecoy beach); follow the road toward Shore Pointe and turn near Shore Pointe to get there. (Featured 1/20/2019) Parking, drinks, chairs and umbrellas, lolo-type food, and an all-over tan. What could possibly be better?

Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto) (1/7/19) is the new name of Sushiitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 12/30/18) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

SkipJack's SXM, <u>http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/</u> (featured 12/24/18) SkipJack's triumphantly reopened with an entirely new dining deck late in January, 2019. Great place - go!

Isola next to Hollywood Casino in Simpson Bay Resort, 11/19/18. 100% redesigned, inside and out, floor to ceiling and everything inside. Just go.

Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran, <u>www.sailstmaarten.com</u> (featured 8/7/17). Neil's new boat is as big as Celine Too was and it has now entered service. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

Domino's Pizza <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338</u> (featured 9/16) Open. **The Hideaway**, <u>http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html</u> (featured 10/31/16) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

Melange International Grill (featured 2/20/17) Reopened.

Pineapple Pete, www.pineapplepete.com (featured 7/31/17) Reopened.

Papagayo, <u>http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php</u> (featured 10/17/16) Club Orient was wrecked by Irma; rebuilding is planned. ETA not yet known.

St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge Reopened.

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) Reopened.

Taloula Mango http://www.taloulamango.com/ (featured 4/20/15) Reopened.

You will find hundreds more restaurants from both the Dutch Side and French Side listed in the Files area of our <u>Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Site</u>. Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

22. Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / GetSkyMed.com

Our new SkyMed website is www.skymed.com/imb, going live soon; please bookmark that and not any other site.

<u>When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone; that</u> <u>way we get credit</u>. It takes about 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently; that way we do get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you.

SkyMed inquiries only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time. Thank you. Customer stories are below.

23. Going Somewhere 9/1 or Later? Beat SkyMed's 90-

day Exclusion on Pre-Existing Conditions Coverage by Buying Now

SkyMed Takes You Home® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. Without it, an emergency medical evacuation by air ambulance will cost you from \$35,000 to \$50,000 or more, sometimes much more, payable in cash in advance. Worse, you must get it before you need it - just like fire insurance.

Buy a new SkyMed multiyear five-year membership from us now by phoning us at 508-747-8281 (at about \$1.35/day price guaranteed for 10 years when we take your application by phone) and we'll give you a 10 year new or renewal JMB Website Supporters membership on us. All you need to do is email us a copy of your welcome letter from SkyMed after approval to jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SkyMed.

Of course we'll be happy to answer your questions and we can tell you about everything SkyMed offers. Totally up to you what type of coverage you select. Much more info about SkyMed is in the next story.

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits here.

By buying annual protection now at only about \$1.35/day, pre-existing conditions will be covered in full after a brief 90-day waiting period. SkyMed covers you in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global coverage is available as well. For answers to your questions, call us today at 508-747-8281.

See next story for much more on SkyMed. Offer ends soon.

Again, our new SkyMed website is <u>www.skymed.com/jmb</u>: please be sure you bookmark that and not any other site. Thank you.

Customer stories are below.

24. ******SkyMed Customer Stories****** Protect Against Pricey Emergency Medical Evacuations by Getting SkyMed:

Emergency medical evacuations are <u>payable in cash in advance</u> and often cost upwards of \$45,000 -- <u>unless</u> <u>you have a SkyMed membership</u>. SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, and where your health insurance actually works. It's available to Americans and Canadians and to X-Pats of both countries, taking them home from throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage is available covering every country around the world except those on the U. S. State Department watch list. SkyMed makes all medical evacuation arrangements and pays for them directly...you just pay for your SkyMed membership.

Here are examples of <u>SkyMed in action</u>:

On a recent Thursday at Mullet Bay Beach, a woman at the edge of the water fell and accidentally knocked down her friend, standing close by. The friend felt pain in her leg as she got up, went to a hospital, and was told she had a "soft tissue injury" and should relax in the sun. Pain continued. Next day she went to the Maho Clinic for another opinion since she couldn't put any weight on the leg without pain. The doctor there sent her to the French Side for a new x-ray. That diagnosis came back - broken leg and she had to be medically evacuated back to the US for surgery. A few days before, the woman had bought short-term SkyMed medevac protection for her short trip to SXM. Cost, under \$100. She was sent home by jet by SkyMed. The charge for the jet: \$0. Without SkyMed, had she needed a medevac jet, the \$26,000 (approx.) price of that jet home would have had to be paid in cash in advance; with SkyMed she was home and in the hospital of her choice the next day for \$0 out-of-pocket.

<u>Mary Beth and her partner Don</u> were vacationing in SXM when Don fell and broke his hip -- only about a month after they had bought SkyMed. SkyMed flew them home on a medevac jet for the hospital care he needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: over \$35,000.

<u>An MD from Florida</u> who always visits SXM was on a cruise vacation to the Greek Islands with his wife when he broke his femur aboard the ship. He was rushed to the hospital in Corfu but called SkyMed *which arranged and paid*

for an emergency medevac flight to Athens for urgent surgery. A few days later SkyMed evacuated him again, with an excellent male nurse, all the way home to Florida, where an ambulance took him home for recovery. Required flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: huge.

<u>A Summer trip ended in disaster when a child visiting her grandmother</u> in Grand Case was bitten in the head by the grandmother's bulldog, imperiling the girl's eyesight. She was flown to Miami in a medical evacuation jet for emergency eye surgery that saved her sight. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

<u>A woman from Virginia</u> shopped at an island grocer and headed back to her car carrying two bags of groceries. She

tripped and fell on a curb and knew at once she had fractured her hip. After being stabilized locally, she was flown home on a medical evacuation jet from SkyMed where she had the surgery she needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

Two men were riding their horses on a hill in Cay Bay when a car backfiring spooked one of the horses, which threw its rider. The other rider got off his horse to check his companion when the car again backfired, spooking the horse again which led it to kick its dismounted driver in the head, luckily causing "only" a severely dislocated jaw. The local hospital had no ability to solve that problem so the victim was airlifted by SkyMed back to Pennsylvania for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

<u>A member of the clergy</u> fell down cement stairs and broke her leg. She too was airlifted home by SkyMed for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

Not all trips end well: anything can happen when you travel. Being a member of SkyMed was the

common thread in all these cases. SkyMed takes its members home, usually in a private, ICU-equivalent medical

evacuation jet -- home to doctors and hospitals the patient knows and trusts -- and home where their health insurance works. That's just one of up to 18 benefits received by SkyMed members for not much more than \$1.30/day for annual or multiyear memberships.

<u>All this is why we always recommend SkyMed</u>. Call Jeff Berger weekdays at 508-747-8281 and leave your name, phone number, and time zone. Jeff will call back at a mutually convenient time and answer all your questions. He can also sign you up by phone <u>in about 10 minutes</u>. You're eligible to apply regardless of your age or health if you are a U.S. or Canadian citizen or an American or Canadian ExPat living in SXM or certain other countries.

Nobody is immune: anything can happen anywhere. Do it today. To learn more, visit <u>www.skymed.com/jmb</u>, our new SkyMed site, going live shortly.. JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's regular pricing: see the story about JMB Website Supporters in this section.

More Info on SkyMed...

On its guaranteed renewable annual and multiyear memberships, SkyMed has a 90-day waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions -- everything else is covered in full as soon as your SkyMed membership has been approved, per SkyMed's member services agreement.

If you're traveling more than three months into the future, you can beat that one-time 90-day pre-existing conditions exclusion by joining today. That way the 90-day exclusion period will be over by the time you travel -- so you're covered in full, including pre-existing conditions, at that time.

SkyMed Takes You Home® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. There is no age limit to apply, and once you're enrolled you can renew without further medical checks regardless of your attained age or your health at the time of renewal. Without SkyMed, if you need an Emergency Medical Evacuation, you must pay for it in cash, in advance. No cash, no evacuation. And the cost without SkyMed can be astronomical. Why risk that?

By contrast, if you're a SkyMed member, you call SkyMed directly and they make all the arrangements for all the services they provide. SkyMed Takes You Home -- what else matters?

And there is *no age limit to apply*. Call us at 508-747-8281 and ask for Jeff; he'll answer your questions and can take your application by phone, usually in under 10 minutes.

It's available to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats from both countries. Short-term and annual coverage includes the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage is available on annual memberships for a \$99 additional yearly fee, but global coverage is standard on multiyear SkyMed Ultimate memberships, which are both SkyMed's best and its least expensive medevac memberships.

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits here:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweekly.../SkyMedServices.pdf

Got questions? Call us daytimes (EDT) at 508-747-8281. Again, we can answer your questions and take your application by phone in about 10 minutes. We can set up evening phone appointments too. It's like fire insurance -- get it before you need it.

When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone. It takes under 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently; that way we also get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you. SkyMed calls only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time.. Thank you.

Get The Current Low Price on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership and keep the current low price on your first 5-yr. renewal. That's a 10-year price guarantee. More benefits... same price.

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See <u>getskymed.com</u>. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

25. Are You Military?

If you're U. S. Military with a DD214, you're able to get a Platinum-Status Military JMB Membership for \$16.99/year, the lowest we ever charge anyone. You get instant Platinum Status which is permanent as long as you're a JMB member plus 300+ SXM discounts and other benefits. All you do is pay for four years to start and renew in four-year increments (\$67.96). Nobody else pays so little -- our small way of expressing how grateful we all are for your service.

Visit everythingsxm.com and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership. We'll also need a DD214 with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you.

26. Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate

Get The Current Low Price on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership and keep the current low price on your first 5-yr. renewal. That's a 10-year price guarantee.

More benefits... same price.

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See www.skymed.com/jmb, our new site, going live shortly.

27. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated)

CAR RENTALS:

Leisure Car Rental

Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental

Starlite Car Rental (Belair Resort)

Sax Car Rental

CIGARS HAND-MANUFACTURED ON SXM:

Das Cigars

CUBAN CIGARS:

Cigar Mack

SXM Cigars

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS:

SkyMed International (Scottsdale, Az.)

JEWELERS:

Zhaveri Jewelers in Philipsburg.

Caribbean Gems

Majesty Jewelers

Oro Diamante

Ray's Jewelers

Art of Time

Artistic Jewelers

Alpha Jewels

REAL ESTATE COMPANIES:

Island Real Estate Team is widely regarded as SXM's top real estate organization. A JMB Sponsor, they offer both residential and commercial real estate in every price range. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles what you seek: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Site*.

RESORTS:

Simpson Bay Resort

Baker's Suites

Azure Hotel & Art Studio

RESTAURANTS:

<u>IZI</u>

<u>SPIGA</u>

VESNA TAVERNA

Melange (new; Port de Plaisance)

Pelican Bistro

Sale and Pepe (new)

LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)

MARIO'S BISTRO (Porto Cupecoy)

VILLA RENTAL COMPANIES:

If you're interested in making a villa reservation (doing it with close friends can be fun and more economical than you'd imagine), contact our top recommended Villa rental/sale partners at **Island Real Estate Team**. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles villa rentals: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you're interested in a rental and you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Site*. Hundreds of villas are now online.

Jennifer's Vacation Villas has also joined us as a villa rental partner. *Jennifer's Vacation Villas* is a licensed management, real estate and villa rental company specializing in the rental of private villas and condos on both French and Dutch St. Maarten. Its proprietor, Jennifer, is a New Yorker who has been residing in St. Maarten for 40 years and whose goal is to provide guests with personal attention and to ensure that their vacations are memorable. Jennifer's Vacation Villas also does Weddings, Private Events, and any additional services including massages, boat trips, and private catering. Their aim is to make your vacation stay as comfortable, accommodating, and easy going as possible. Call 1 (721) 544-3107 | +1 (631) 546-7345. When you contact them, please tell them you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Site*.

Candie Billant does condo and villa rentals and sales. You will find her at <u>blueparadiserealty.com</u>.

Relocation / "Papers" Consulting Companies

Bright Path is already posting on our Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Site

Updated 4/29/19

28. Use Our Weekly News Archives

Our SXM Weekly News PDF archives enable you to download any issue of Weekly News published in the last four years, including our amazing 2018 April Fools' Day parody and our SXM Airport Special Edition, which has a great deal of useful future information on what's going to happen at the airport.

Check it out here. Updating soon.

29. Got SXM Questions? Here's Where The Answers Are

Check out our Everything SXM Facebook Site and our main SXM website, everythingsxm.com.

Your Business Deserves a Marketing-Centric, Customer-Focused Website That Works.

That's what we do:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

In business since the web began --

a unit of JMB Communications.

30. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic

SXM Weekly News, our <u>everythingSXM.com</u> website and its Hurricane Center, and our <u>Everything SXM Facebook</u> <u>Site</u> — along with our many Vacation Giveaways and hundreds of benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership — <u>are all made possible through our partnerships with our JMB Website Supporters members and our Sponsors</u>.

Our Sponsorships enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email <u>susank@jmbcommunications.com</u> with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". We'll get complete information to you quickly.Winter is here and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases throughout this year and into 2020. Contact us today for more information.

St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW):

<u>Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.</u>

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

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

Want to rent or buy a week?

2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml</u> Listings are now updated every few weekdays. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.

SECTION 5: For Members Only

A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret

B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>. To change your password, click that same link.

C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad: See <u>www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u>. Your username and password are required.

SECTION 6: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 7/2017

See <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>.

About Email Address Changes / How To Unsubscribe (Updated 4/17/17)

To unsubscribe, go here: <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>. You **CAN** <u>NOT</u> 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 <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. *JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access*.

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.

Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)

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, contact *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 respond individually.

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

Privacy Policy http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml (Updated 5/25/18)

5/27/19 #V2-1200 5/26/19 8pm EDT

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