

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

[This
Week's
Stories](#)

[Airlines
& Weather
News](#)

[Lodging
News](#)

[Island
News](#)

[Everything
SXM
Home
Page](#)

[Members
SECRET
Website
Login](#)

[SXM Condo
Rentals &
Sales](#)

[Something
New Is Coming](#)

[Find us on
Facebook](#)

June
16,
2014

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

#947

Weekly SXM News and Comments

Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2014. See [Legal](#) for reprint requests, page bottom.

Part of www.everythingsxm.com

Add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book
to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

Important Note:

You are receiving St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. We now have over 200,000 readers around the world...

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



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



Attention iPad and Smart Phone Users

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

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

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

Get Your Own Free Copy of SXM Weekly News:

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

Just enter your email address at the top, and click SUBMIT. When you receive the confirming email, just click the confirming link and you're in.

TOP STORIES

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

This is issue #947 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:

- ***"Jeff's Birthday" Membership Sale Ends Sunday Night 6/15; Exceptional Prices Will Not Likely Be Repeated***
- ***Scotia Bank, Simpson Bay, Robbed; Nobody Hurt; Robbers Sought***
- ***Changes at Cupecoy Beach***
- ***Bliss Nightclub Is No More; Here's What Happened***
- ***Radisson Blu Goes Bye-Bye***
- ***Kansas City Smokehouse at Satara Won't Happen***
- ***Panlaan Changes Ownership***

- Caravanserai
- **Be Really, Really Careful Driving on the French Side: Here's Why**
- **Flights From Orlando on Jet Blue?**
- **How To Get \$300 or \$400 From Jeff / JMB Communications**

27 new stories this week

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

Timeshare Rentals and Sale of the Week

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

To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else, worldwide, at no charge, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of 200+ St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits, and your subscription also helps keep these weekly newsletters coming.

SXM Timeshare Rentals of The Week (Two):

RENTAL: Any Week Now Through 10/31/14 Summit Resort Hotel - Exceptional cliff-top water-view unit at Summit Resort Hotel offers breathtaking views of the northern lagoon, lowlands, Marigot, even Creole Rock and Anguilla from a central convenient location in Cupecoy. Breezy recently renovated unit has a king size bed, stove, toaster-oven, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, new HD cable TV, free wired and wireless internet, sofa-bed, privacy and serenity. Gated resort has a restaurant and friendly bar on the pool deck with phenomenal lagoon views and beautifully landscaped grounds. Many beaches (Cupecoy [clothing optional], Mullet Bay, Baie Longue, Rouge, Maho, Simpson Bay) and restaurants are nearby including Temptation, FIG, La Gondola, and many others. Reduced to only \$750 for any week through 10/31. [Unit 4B is also offered for sale for both weeks 4 and 5, prime winter weeks.] Photos available. Susan, 508-830-3456 or susan@jmbcommunications.com.

RENTAL 01/31/2015 02/14/2015 Week 5,6 Villas at Simpson Bay 5th floor unit 510 B. Sleep 2 guests in this ultra deluxe studio with 2 standard double beds, full bath with double sinks and hair dryer, in-room safe, kitchenette with refrigerator and microwave, high speed internet access, private balcony and a superb ocean view (On the Water), Full featured resort. \$950 to \$1050 per week Tavie @ (716) 310-4504 tavie@sxm-time.com

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week (Now Two):

SALE: 2/1/2014 - 2/8/2014 (week 5) Simpson Bay Resort Marina 207, prime winter week -- sleep-four studio overlooking both the Marina pool and quiet Pelican beach, just steps away. Resort offers several pools, many restaurants including the Stone, tennis courts, a convenience store, water sports, casino, and The Red Piano piano bar. Unit features a/c, stove, refrigerator, microwave, cable TV, sleeps four, very convenient. Reduced to only \$2000 or best reasonable offer. Please contact Susan or Jeff at (508) 830-3456 or susan@jmbcommunications.com

SALE 2/28/2015-3/07/2015 week 9 Oyster Bay Beach Resort. Current owners and previous visitors will recognize this unique value. Heineken Regatta

week, fixed week, unit 1206 Mainsail Pavillion, main floor, 1bedroom suite overlooks the Caribbean Ocean and St. Barthes. This resort enjoys the highest loyalty of any Interval affiliated resort with over 90% of owners returning annually. We have owned for 16 years and upgraded 3 years ago but now health issues bar our return. Selling for half of current offering. Sale includes one extra banked week. Visit OBBR.com for more information. 25,000. Contact Dewey or Marilyn 952-887-5093 cedarblad@comcast.net

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

This Week's Stories

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

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



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

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

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

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

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

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

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing list of 200+ Money-Saving SXM-focused travel discount benefits through JMB Website Supporters:

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

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

1. United Airlines Adopts New Frequent Flyer Rules Based Less on Miles & More on What You Spend
2. Jet Blue Extends Its Schedule To February 11
3. Orlando Now Gets Convenient Connections to SXM Via Jet Blue
4. About The Quick Connection To SXM from BOS via SJU

5. *CBP's Global Entry Highly Recommended for Your Return to the USA*
6. *Summer Weather In SXM*

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

7. *What's New at Caravanserai?*
8. *Reminder: Radisson Blu Is No More; Now It Is a "Riu Plaza"*

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

9. *Scotia Bank, Simpson Bay, Robbed; Nobody Hurt; Thieves Still Sought*
10. *Cupecoy Beach Access Changes Again*
11. *Porto Cupecoy Allegedly Behind Boulders Placed at Cupecoy Beach to Block Parking*
12. *One More Reason to Love Cupecoy...*
13. *Bliss Nightclub Assets Auctioned Off, Closed*
14. *Cautions To Remember When Driving on French St. Martin*
15. *Why Not To Run Out of Prescription Drugs in SXM*
16. *Wise To Watch Your Credit Card Statements*
17. *Road Work in Marigot Set To Snarl Traffic Again There This Summer*
18. *Chikungunya Comes to the USA*
19. *Using Your Kindle or Nook or...*
20. *Hotel Lending Library Locations on SXM (There are Lots)*
21. *Hawksbill Sea Turtle Nest Protected on Simpson Bay Beach*
22. *Want The Best Map of SXM? Check Cartographer Michal Kasproski's Website*
23. *Now You Can Get Permanent SkyMed MedEvac Protection for Only \$59, \$49, or \$35/month*
24. *Smokehouse Won't Open On Former Site of Satara Restaurant*
25. *Panlaan Under New Ownership*
26. *How To Get \$300 or \$400 From Jeff / JMB Communications*
27. *Reserve Your Free Sunset Lagoon Cruise Now*

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

Rent Out or Sell Your SXM Timeshare

Meet Our Sponsors (Updated 9/7/13)

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

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

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

How To Get a GROWING LIST of 200+ Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

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

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

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

Contact Us:

[Revised 12/17/13]

All member discounts and benefits are explained in detail on the members-only *secret* website, <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> . If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered there, please contact us at support@jmbcommunications.com .

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

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

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

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

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

1. United Airlines Adopts New Frequent Flyer Rules Based Less on Miles & More on What You Spend

Following the lead of its rival Delta Air Lines, United Airlines last week adopted new frequent-flier rules which reward high-paying business customers at the expense of leisure travelers. United's frequent-flier awards will be based on what fliers spend rather than how far they fly.

More: <http://trib.in/1lhfyfG>

2. Jet Blue Extends Its Schedule To February 11

The big legacy airlines change their flight offerings daily, always offering seats about 350 days ahead.

JetBlue, on the other hand, updates its schedule every several weeks on an irregular basis, generally offering seats about eight months ahead. It just expanded its schedule to include flights as late as February 11, 2015.

JetBlue also does something else that's unusual but that is of great importance to SXM passengers. In most cases, both outgoing and incoming flights to the same destination are sold on a one-way basis at equal pricing, which means a \$200 one-way fare to St. Maarten from city X is the same price as a flight back taking the same route on the same day of the week.

What this means to JetBlue passengers is that if you plan to depart for SXM before February 11 but return after, you can buy the outgoing one-way trip now and the return when the schedule opens up later dates.

If we had to guess when the schedule is going to be extended beyond 2/11 — it would be that the announcement would come in early August and include flights to late March or early April. But it could well happen sooner.

3. Orlando Now Gets Convenient Connections to SXM Via Jet Blue

JetBlue continues to expand its service to Florida, particularly in both Orlando and Fort Lauderdale.

The airline is adding service to St. Maarten by way of San Juan through convenient connections with Seaborne Airlines in San Juan. Seaborne gates — all of them, we believe — are adjacent to the JetBlue section of the San Juan airport, making possible quick connections and early arrivals.

You can check the schedule on the JetBlue website, www.JetBlue.com.

4. About The Quick Connection To SXM from BOS via SJU

During each of the last two years, we have chosen to fly JetBlue to St. Maarten from Boston via San Juan.

One thing that concerned us was the speed of the connection and whether JetBlue could, in fact, do it. The connection was only a bit more than half an hour.

Both times we have made this connection without a problem — and so has our luggage.

On our most recent St. Maarten visit, we got off the plane, visited the rest room briefly and while we were still in the rest room, boarding was announced at an adjacent gate for the flight to St. Maarten. Yes it is quick, but our experience is that these outgoing connections (outgoing from the USA) are being very efficiently handled. Don't hesitate to book it.

5. CBP's Global Entry Highly Recommended for Your Return to the USA

Returning to the United States from any international destination can be a royal pain without the assistance of Global Entry, the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol program which includes a thorough background check on passengers and gives them credentials that enable them to get priority service. Global entry also includes the Pre-Check domestic security service which expedites security processing at selected airports across the country.

Although the program costs \$100 per person and gives you credentials that last for five years, the cost is well worth it in terms of time saved and convenience. Beyond that, the program is being rolled out to more and more airports, benefiting travelers both domestically and internationally.

St. Maarten is talking about instituting preclearance for US bound passengers. Even there, we expect that Global Entry will significantly expedite your return processing to the US.

6. Summer Weather In SXM

Although the calendar may not yet reflect it, summer has come to St. Maarten and with it, hotter temperatures and longer-lasting showers.

The 2014 hurricane season only began a couple of weeks ago and has begun quietly, as is usually the case this time of year. Some possible activity in the Bay of Campeche fizzled. The season for St. Maarten tends to get going in August and its peak is in early September, though both later

September and October can be busy from a storm perspective.

As we've mentioned before, forecasters say this year will be quieter than many, but it only takes one storm to mess things up. And unfortunately, even relatively quiet years in the past have had their share of big storms.

For more, click weather at www.everythingSXM.com.

SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares

7. What's New at Caravanserai?

The Caravanserai situation is complicated. Caravanserai is the sprawling resort on the ocean just south of Princess Juliana Airport, Dutch Side.

Allegedly, resort owner Manek owes Scotia bank about \$15 million and he doesn't have the money. We know he was asking some rich friends to help bail him out, to no avail.

Apparently in response to this, Scotia bank has tried a couple of times to auction the property off but there were no takers. Nobody wanted to pay that much money for what is an essentially unfinished resort requiring millions for completion located in a place that historically has been a bull's-eye for hurricane attacks.

We've heard a few unconfirmed reports this week that Manek has fired the resort's management team. We were surprised to hear that he was even still involved with the management of the resort, since Scotia bank owns it and Manek is the debtor.

There have been negotiations with some suitors, but so far nobody has bought anything. Caravanserai shut down Bliss because of alleged nonpayment of rentals, but that is unrelated to the potential sale of the resort. (See separate story).

We'll continue to keep you posted.

8. Reminder: Radisson Blu Is No More; Now It Is a "Riu Plaza"

As we've mentioned before, the Radisson Blu hotel in Anse Marcel on the French side was bought by Riu hotels and is now a Riu Plaza Hotel, unaffiliated with Radisson.

If you had reservations at the Radisson some time over the next few months, we suggest you contact the Riu Plaza directly to be sure your reservations will be honored and to check on the status of any deposit you may have made. Again, Riu and Radisson have no connection.

SECTION 3: Island

Jeff's Birthday Sale Ends Sunday night June 15:

(He's 39. Again.)

Only \$39 for a new membership for one full year.*
Only \$105 for five full years.
Great prices on renewals and reinstatements, too.

Get 200 Discounts & Travel Benefits at Extraordinary Pricing Right Now. Ends Sunday night June 15.

What you get:

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

Jeff's Birthday Sale New Memberships are only one year for \$39 (reg. \$59); three years, \$79 (re. \$89); and five years, \$105. Join here: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml Sale Ends Sunday June 15.*

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

Jeff's Birthday Sale Membership Renewals are four years for \$69 or eight years for \$99: See the Membership Renewal Center in the Secret Website: <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret>

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

**If you purchased a new one-year \$49 membership from us since 5/26 during our recent Memorial Day sale, we will refund the \$10 difference to you upon request. You must email support(at)jmbcommunications.com with the subject New Membership Refund and give us the details and you must email us from the email address you have registered with your JMB membership. All refunds will be made by PayPal, no exceptions. Applies only to \$49 purchases between May 26, 2014, and June 9, 2014. Not applicable to any other purchases.*

9. Scotia Bank, Simpson Bay, Robbed; Nobody Hurt; Thieves Still Sought

Last Wednesday, a small number of armed thieves walked into the Scotia bank in Simpson Bay during the day, shot their guns toward the ceiling and made off with an as yet unclear amount of cash.

Their getaway vehicle was found not far away in Cay Bay. Police blocked off a church in the area but nothing was found.

The police have asked for help from the public in conducting a very active investigation.

We talked about the police chief last the week in highly complementary terms. He had been with the Rotterdam police in Holland before becoming police chief in Aruba for several years prior to moving to St. Maarten a few years ago. Under his leadership, and thanks to community policing activities, crime has gone down in the last few years on the Dutch Side and the department is run with a great deal of professionalism.

We'll let you know when these hoodlums are caught.

10. Cupecoy Beach Access Changes Again

You'll read some details about this in the next story, but the bottom line is you can no longer park along the street to get to Cupecoy beach on the Dutch side near the French border.

Enter the lot through the curb cut just west of Ocean Club and park in that lot. From the lot, walk the relatively short distance to baby beach or to the main beach in front of the Shore Pointe condominiums.

11. Porto Cupecoy May Be Behind Boulders Placed at Cupecoy Beach to Block Parking

It has been alleged by persons close to the situation that Porto Cupecoy may be behind the placement of boulders along the road near the Shore Pointe condominiums, blocking access to tourists and locals alike wishing to go to Cupecoy beach, one of the most beautiful beaches on the island and a key reason many tourists visit year-round.

Attempts to contact Porto Cupecoy so far have proved fruitless. Nonetheless, we're doing some things behind the scenes to try to get these boulders

removed.

If you like Cupecoy beach and want to be able to visit it during your next trip to St. Maarten, it's very important that you speak up about this situation. The boulders are impossible for individuals to move. They require beachgoers to park a significant distance away, making beach access very difficult or impossible for some of the older people who are absolutely crucial visitors and contributors to the island economy.

Here are two key contacts for letters to the editor: The Daily Herald editorial@thedailyherald.com; and SXM Today Newspaper Editor editor@saintmartintoday.com.

12. One More Reason to Love Cupecoy...

Besides its sheer beauty, its long-standing status as a clothing optional beach, and the attentive service of Dany and John, there is yet another reason to head for Cupecoy beach. That's the fact that its natural sandstone cliffs, in some places, contain the kind of sand that is perfect for a mud bath.

Go down the stairs to Baby Beach, and to your right you'll find a sandstone cliff facing the walkway. In the crevices of the hill, look for dried mud, or sand. Put a small amount of it in a cup, wet it slightly, and you're in business with sand for a mud bath. It's great stuff.

Leave it on for good 15 or 20 min. for maximum effectiveness.

13. Bliss Nightclub Assets Auctioned Off, Closed

Arguably one of the island's most popular, successful nightclubs is no more.

Located at Caravanserai, the Bliss nightclub allegedly failed to pay both its electric bill and also allegedly owed \$55,000 in back rentals to Caravanserai, which led the resort recently to close the place down. This past week, all of Bliss's assets were sold off at auction.

Given the current situation at Caravanserai, the future use of the nightclub property is uncertain. There is lots of empty space available on the Dutch Side for new restaurants and nightclubs.

14. Cautions To Remember When Driving on French St. Martin

Driving laws on French St. Maarten are tough and are rigidly enforced by the Gendarmerie. There are severe penalties for the use of cell phones by drivers; for failure to use seat belts; and for drinking/driving.

Gendarmes regularly are at the side of various roads on the island in marked or unmarked vehicles watching passing cars, and they will have no

hesitation to stop you for any violation. They also have been seen at various places where people are known to drink, such as exit roads from Orient beach and near restaurants both in Grand Case and Marigot.

The laws on the Dutch side are not as tough, as we understand it, but we expect enforcement there to pick up as the police force on the Dutch side gets closer to its designed size.

15. Why Not To Run Out of Prescription Drugs in SXM

If you intend to spend a significant amount of time in St. Maarten, it is very wise to bring all of the prescription drugs you expect to need during your entire stay with you, instead of relying on filling prescriptions on the island.

There are no major US drug chains on the island — no CVS, no Walgreen, just small local pharmacies.

Beyond that, pharmacies on this island are either French or Dutch, which means they carry drugs made in France or Holland which often contain directions that aren't in English.

If you have to see a doctor when you're on the island, you will likely receive a prescription for one of those drugs. Always contact your doctor at home to be sure there are no unexpected drug interactions. It's never wise to take chances on this.

16. Wise To Watch Your Credit Card Statements

We've mentioned before that there have been incidences of credit card skimming at ATMs on the island. There have also been incidences of unexpected charges. They are not frequent or widespread, but they have happened.

Therefore it is wise to patronize establishments with which you are quite familiar and in which you have confidence. When you do charge, it's always sensible to check your credit card statements and verify their accuracy.

17. Road Work in Marigot Set To Snarl Traffic Again There This Summer

As was the case last summer, there is road work again this summer in Marigot which may result in significant traffic delays there. There is also summer roadwork on both Front and Back street in Philipsburg, though that work is not expected to last more than a couple of days.

18. Chikungunya Comes to the USA

The Chikungunya virus has made it into the United States, as you probably heard last week in news broadcasts.

In the Caribbean, Chikungunya is transmitted by the aedes aegypti mosquito, which is called a vector for transmission.

That type of mosquito, which is black with white spots, may appear in some states in the deep South, but as far as we know it is not present across much of the United States.

It is not known whether any other type of mosquito in the United States could become a vector for Chikungunya.

Although it is interesting to see that Chikungunya has entered the US, the situation should not be regarded as threatening. There is no person-to-person transmission of the disease; it is spread only by the vector mosquito.

In the US, some mosquitoes can transmit Eastern equine encephalitis and the West Nile virus. They're serious enough without having to worry about Chikungunya. Relax, take sensible precautions, and enjoy your summer, regardless of where you are.

19. Using Your Kindle or Nook or...

If you bring your E-reader to St. Maarten, you will be with a lot of company.

Last winter, we saw more people using Kindles or Nooks or related devices across the island than are actually reading paperback books.

Free Wi-Fi is widely available in many hotels and nightspots making the use of these devices convenient and easy.

20. Hotel Lending Library Locations on SXM (There are Lots)

If you bring paperback reading material with you to St. Maarten, you'll find there are many places on the island where you can trade your books for others.

If such lending libraries are not obvious, ask at the front desk. Some lending libraries are hidden from view, but front desk or other personnel will be happy to show you where they are.

The most unusual lending library on the island is probably at Summit Resort in Cupecoy. That resort is next door to the medical school of American University of the Caribbean and consequently, medical students staying at the resort may sometimes leave used medical books among paperbacks in the lending library in the resort's front office.

21. Hawksbill Sea Turtle Nest Protected on Simpson Bay Beach

This is the time of year when mammoth sea turtles, some of them weighing hundreds of pounds, come ashore on various island beaches to lay their eggs. Their nesting sites are protected by law since the turtles are endangered. If you see any turtles, contact the front desk of your resort and let them know so the area can be marked off and protected.

Sea turtles have been around for tens of millions of years, and they predated the dinosaurs.

More: <http://bit.ly/1xW3qVm>

22. Want The Best Map of SXM? Check Cartographer Michal Kasproski's Website

A number of years ago, before mailing costs made the project untenable, we mailed discounted island maps to members as one of our member benefits.

The maps were unusual in that they were printed on heavy, long-lasting paper; they were large enough to be used as wall hangings; and they were heavily detailed, including every street on the island.

When the Rima souvenir store was open, we directed people there to buy the maps, which were available at a discount.

Cartographer Michal Kasproski is still creating many Caribbean maps, the most important of which to our readers is about St. Maarten. Every reader should have at least one of these maps, which are updated yearly. To get yours, go to Michal's site, www.midok.com. Do mention Jeff Berger.

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

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

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

- **Medically Qualify Only Once:** *First, you need only medically qualify once for SkyMed Ultimate protection. As long as you continue to pay your small membership fee on time, your SkyMed Ultimate membership will continue regardless of what happens to your health. This also applies to SkyMed annual memberships, but not to short-term memberships which require medical requalification.*
- **No Disqualification As You Get Older:** *Second, once you qualify for any continuous SkyMed membership (not short-term memberships) and become a member, you can't be disqualified for age, nor can you be assessed a higher membership fee simply because you are older. All members with equivalent memberships pay the same membership fee regardless of age. As long as you pay your renewal membership fee on time, coverage continues and is unaffected by your age.*
- **Broad Family Coverage:** *Third, family coverage enables you to protect you, your spouse / partner, and minor children living with you.*

- **SkyMed Takes You Home:** Fourth, when you become critically ill or injured anywhere in the "SkyMed universe," SkyMed takes you home on an ICU equivalent, medically staffed, specially outfitted medical evacuation jet to doctors and hospitals you know and trust near home. The SkyMed universe is the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba*, Belize, and Costa Rica. Outside the SkyMed universe, when you buy the SkyMed Ultimate plan, SkyMed gets you to the nearest appropriate facility for recuperation or, where medically necessary, SkyMed repatriates you in a private, medically equipped, professionally staffed section of a passenger jet outfitted with a hospital bed. *Cuba effective for Canadian citizens now and for Americans shortly.
- **Extended Global Protection Through The SkyMed Ultimate:** Fifth, the \$59 per month plan is a family Ultimate plan which protects you worldwide. The \$49 plan is for people who travel in the SkyMed universe only; it provides a discount since worldwide coverage is not needed. The \$35 per month plan is for singles who also travel only within the SkyMed universe. Should those singles require worldwide coverage, it's available for an additional \$10 per month starting at membership inception.
- **Membership Payment Period:** Sixth, all monthly plans have a set duration of five years after which you can renew them at then-current pricing. You must pay the monthly membership fee for at least two years after inception.
- **Prepayment Discount:** Should you wish to prepay the five-year membership price for your family Ultimate SkyMed membership, you can do so and receive a discount. Although payments can be made by credit card or check, check payments delay the effective date until the check has cleared. Credit card payments are deducted upon the approval of your application, which generally takes only one business day unless additional medical information is required.
- **Pre-existing Conditions:** There is a 90 day waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions, after which they're covered in full.
- **An Extraordinary Suite of Benefits:** The SkyMed suite of benefits goes well beyond anything anyone else offers. The SkyMed Ultimate includes helicopter protection from the scene of an accident as well as medically necessary hospital to hospital helicopter transportation. The Ultimate also includes friend or relative visitation. If you are too ill to be moved, SkyMed will fly a loved one to your bedside. There are literally dozens of other benefits that you can see at www.skymed.com/jmbsexm.
- All benefits are fully explained in the Master Service Agreement which governs all memberships and is mailed to all members after joining SkyMed.

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

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

24. Satara, Still Closed, Won't Reopen

Satara owner Brian Allen had been planning for months to reopen his restaurant next door to Paradise Plaza as an authentic St. Maarten smokehouse, using recipes straight out of Kansas City.

But just before presstime he told us he is shelving the project and for now has moved back to the US. We expect to talk with him in the next week and will let you know what we learn. If you've seen workers in the restaurant in recent months, they were preparing the smokehouse in the front of the property.

25. Panlaan Under New Ownership

A couple from Arizona opened Panlaan on the Simpson Bay lagoon waterfront a couple of years ago. They are returning to the US soon and new owners have now taken over. We'll be talking with them next week and we'll let you know what we learn. The general manager there was previously at Pineapple Pete so many readers will recognize him.

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

JMB Communications, the 24 year-old marketing company that does Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin, also owns "Websites That Work." Its uniqueness is that it is a marketing company doing marketing-centric websites for all kinds of companies worldwide. See many samples at www.websitesthatworkusa.com. (Our everythingsxm.com site is getting a design upgrade this summer).

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

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

Get a [Website That Works](#) for your business or professional practice from JMB, a seasoned 24 year-old marketing company:

27. Reserve Your Free Sunset Lagoon Cruise Now

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

Sunset sails are now offered on Tuesdays and depart from Boca Marina near Princess Juliana Airport.

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

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://everythingxm.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://everythingxm.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/jmbxm. Highest recommendation by JMB.

Travel Arrangements & Accommodations:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shopping: (Updated 9/7/2013)

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

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

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

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

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

Returns soon.

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

Car Rentals:

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

Unique Car Rental: www.uniquecarrentalsxm.com

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

On-Island Activities:

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

Low Airfares:

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

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

Restaurants:

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

Emergency Medical Evacuation Jet Protection:

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

Bookmark our SXM site and visit us often: www.everythingsxm.com

CONTACT US

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

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

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

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

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

LEGAL:

Entire contents copyright (c), JMB Communications, 2014. World rights reserved. Excerpting, quotation, and republication, in any form, print, electronic, or archival, is expressly prohibited without written advance permission. You can forward this newsletter in its entirety only to your friends. For reprint permission, email us. JMB vigorously defends its copyrights. *Everything St. Maarten* and *Everything St. Martin* are service marks of JMB Communications. *JMB Communications* is a trademark of JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02362-1812 USA. Join our free St. Maarten / St. Martin newsletter mailing list at <http://www.everythingsxm.com> . You cannot join by emailing us.

Our email headers also contain subscribe / unsubscribe / address change links.

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

6/16/14 #947 6/14/14 600A_EDT 7.1

| [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of use](#) |



