

SXM Weekly News In-Brief
Special Edition - May 23, 2016
Issue #1047

Just a few brief stories this week following big issues the last couple of weeks.

Here are our stories:

- 1 - Low Season brings more troubles to GEBE**
- 2 - Timeshare Rental Weeks Scam Means Changes in Future Ads**
- 3 - Where to Find Back Issues of SXM Weekly News**
- 4 - JMB Membership Sale Underway - Low Prices for Tons of Island Discounts**
- 5 - The Stark Difference Between Short-Term and Annual SkyMed Memberships**
- 6 - How Emergency Helicopter Evacuations Can Bankrupt You**
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1. Low Season brings more troubles to GEBE

GEBE, SXM's electric company, seems to have lots of breakdowns particularly in low season. It controls both electricity and water. Sometimes it warns people (usually with water outages, all of which should be entirely preventable) but many times it doesn't.

GEBE had more trouble again this past weekend. Here is what they wrote to customers (word for word -- grammatical errors are all theirs):

Dear Customers,
We hereby inform you that minutes after 5pm one of our biggest engine (sic!) tripped and cause (sic!) us to loose (sic!) power in severals (sic!) districts. Our engineers are working on starting up a smaller generator to assit (sic!) with load while working on the engine.

Current areas out are:

1. Towers Black Cable feeding -- The Towers, Atlantis Casino (sic!), Cupe Coy (sic!), and surrounding area
2. PDP cable feeding -- Parts of Union Road and Port de Plaisance
3. Parts of Sucker Garden and parts of Guana Bay
4. Cole Bay
5. Pelican area
6. Saunders including Cay Hill and parts of Bush Road
7. Belvedere including Dutch Quater (sic!) and Oyster

Pond and Dawn Beach
8. Madame Estate

End of quoted announcement. Perhaps they should simply have said "almost everywhere."

2 - Timeshare Rental Weeks Scam Means Changes in Future Ads

Seeing an online ad for a timeshare rental, a scammer entered the Royal Islander Resort recently, told the front desk a specific room was empty and available, and offered to pay them \$400 for it for a week, about half the weekly rental the timeshare owner had wanted. The resort refused since the timeshare owner was actually in the unit, having decided against renting it.

Such tactics, if successful, would cheat the timeshare owner of the rental price and create the possibility of overbooking by the resort. Although scammers can get specific room info from renters in advance when calling about advertised units, listing unit numbers online facilitates that and could allow this scam to take off.

That's why we will change our online rental form to warn advertisers not to list specific unit numbers in their ads -- only the *type* of unit.

Effective immediately, we will strip unit info from all incoming ads but *not* on ads already posted.

Of course, you can replace current ads on our site anytime through the "Submit an Ad" link on our Members-Only Secret Website, if you are a JMB Website Supporters member. Free ads (up to 10 per 12-month period) are a benefit of JMB membership.

3 - Where to Find Back Issues of *SXM Weekly News*

They're here:
http://everythingxsm.com/xsm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

It's being updated in the next few days, after which all current issues will be there including this one. All posted issues are in Adobe Acrobat format.

4 - JMB Membership Sale Underway - Low Prices for Tons of Island Discounts

260+ SXM discounts good on virtually everything you do in SXM are yours for \$49 for one year or \$109 total for five full years in our current JMB Birthday Sale (JMB Communications was founded June 2, 1990). Reinstatements are renewals also are on sale at equally attractive reduced pricing.

More: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

5 - The Stark Difference Between Short-Term and Annual SkyMed Memberships

SkyMed medical evacuation membership is available in a variety of flavors. SkyMed takes its members home for \$0 when they become critically ill or injured when traveling.

Short term memberships cover you while you're on short trips, usually a week or less. The cost per day per person is roughly \$9, with a maximum of about \$18 per family per day.

Although the cost is low, it's far higher than the per-day cost for an annual membership: that cost is only about \$1.25 per day per family. Short-term memberships also expire when the term ends which means you must requalify medically when you want to buy another short-term membership. At some point, your health could deteriorate to the point that you don't qualify for medical evacuation protection from anyone. That's the key reason we always recommend annual memberships over short-term memberships.

Annual memberships are like permanent insurance. To continue your coverage, all you need do is pay the annual fee. *Regardless of your age or health, you're covered, which means you could renew easily until age 109 and be in poor health and it doesn't matter* — you pay the same membership fee as everyone else pays at that time and your coverage remains in place, assuming you've paid on time. And SkyMed applications have no age limit...

What's more, if you stay on the island for a couple of weeks as many people do, the cost of an annual plan is pretty close to that of a short-term plan but you get the key advantage of permanent coverage. No need to medically requalify as long as you continue to pay your membership fee on time.

Got questions? Ask Jeff: 508-747-8281 or jeff@getskymed.com.

6 - How Emergency Helicopter Evacuations Can Bankrupt You

From ABC News. It is beyond astonishing how much these trips can cost in emergencies when you don't have coverage through SkyMed:

<https://vimeo.com/167497502>

7 - How To Access The Secret Site

Your username is the complete email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you don't recall your password, click "forgot / change password" in the login box which is below the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com which is also where you can log in.

8 - Best, Fastest Way to Contact Us

Unless you're phoning us to order a JMB Website Supporters membership or renewal, the best and fastest way to contact JMB Membership Services is always by email, support@jmbcommunications.com.

9 - Next Regular issue of SXM Weekly News is Monday May 30

(Those are the details).

10. Enter Our New Vacation Giveaway Now

About the Giveaway: We're putting the finishing touches on our biggest giveaway ever, to celebrate us surpassing five million visits to our site, www.everythingsxm.com, next year. It should happen somewhere between March and May of 2017 but entries are now open.

The only requirements to become a finalist this time are:
1) you subscribe (free) to *SXM Weekly News*; and 2) you enter the giveaway. But -- we're also going to pick two people from among those who buy new, renewal, or reinstatement memberships in our birthday sale, going on now; those two people will be among our 70 finalists. Click the link in story 4 above for JMB membership. Once the sale ends, we'll pick two names from among all sale membership buyers and those two names will become finalists. Details were in last week's *SXM Weekly News*.

Enter here:
http://everythingxm.com/sxm/getting_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml

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