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Vol. 2, #1137 ---January 29, 2018
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



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

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

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From: www.jmbcommunications.com

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com

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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 St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" 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. Now read by more than 300,000 people around the world...**

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



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

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

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

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

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

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

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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://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, for no ad charge or commission, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml 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 2/24/2018 3/3/2018 Week 8 Atrium Resort Beautiful one bedroom that sleeps 4 with pull-out sofa in living room (a really comfy pull-out, too!) Corner unit on 7th floor with wrap-around veranda that faces Simpson Bay. You'll watch the glorious St. Maarten sunsets from this balcony! Beach chairs and towels provided. Many restaurant within walking distance. \$1,750.00 Jeannie 610-888-6106 jdisante@gmail.com

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/11/2019 2/23/2019 Week 7 Diamond Flamingo Beach Resort Ocean front extra large 1st floor end studio with great view, King size bed and queen pull out couch, 2 TV's, Full kitchen, dining table and patio that overlooks beach. There is a partition that separates sleeping area for privacy. Resort has midweek maid service, 2 beaches, large infinity pool and is an easy walk to Hollywood Casino, several restaurants, Peli Deli mini-mart, & gift shops. Free Parking on premises. \$8,000.00 M.J. 978-369-9305 maryjtn@gmail.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingxsm.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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"Like" Our ["Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin" Facebook Site](#):



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/>

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

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing 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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- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads: Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

Section Six: Where To Find Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers)
(Revised 8/2017)

How To Get a GROWING LIST of 300+ 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 growing list of 300+ additional major travel benefits.

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

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. Crown Weather Updates 2018 Hurricane Forecast

Crown Weather Services, our go to source for both tropical and domestic weather information, on Sunday updated its forecast for the 2018 hurricane season which begins June 1 and ends November 30.

Although a lot can happen between now and June 1, [Crown Weather's](#) Rob Lightbown, their chief meteorologist, continues to believe that the 2018 season has the capability to be as bad as or worse than the 2017 season. If you are in an area that is ever a target for hurricanes — whether on the US East Coast as the Gulf Coast, or in the Caribbean — it could benefit you greatly to subscribe to Crown Weather's paid service, which is very inexpensive, incredibly robust, and extraordinarily useful for planning both personally and for any business you're involved in.

Here's an excerpt from his comments: "I think that we could see the following for the 2018 Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Hurricane Season: 17 Named Storms, 8 of those storms becoming Hurricanes and 3 of those of hurricanes becoming Major Hurricanes.

"The reason why I'm not forecasting a busier season is due to the significant uncertainty with the ENSO models and a currently less than favorable sea surface temperature profile setup over the eastern Atlantic. If we do end up seeing very favorable conditions materialize, then we could see higher numbers than what I am currently forecasting.

"As for possible storm tracks during the 2018 Hurricane Season – An active phase of the Multi-Decadal Oscillation, neutral ENSO conditions, above average sea surface temperatures over the western Atlantic would all potentially do the following: First is cause the ridge of high pressure near Newfoundland to extend further southwest. Second is produce a weaker trough of low pressure over the central Atlantic. Third is shift the subtropical ridge of high pressure further to the northeast.

"This all would lead to lower than average surface barometric pressures over the deep tropics and delay any storms from curving to the north and northeast. This would mean an increased threat to the Florida Peninsula as well as along the entire US East Coast. This type of pattern would also cause a increased landfall threat to the western Caribbean, the northeastern Gulf of Mexico and eastern Mexico.

"Finally, I could also envision a scenario that features two track clusters. The first track cluster would be a Caribbean

cruiser that moves from east to west from the Lesser Antilles through the entire Caribbean into Central America or the Yucatan Peninsula. The second track cluster would include systems that move just north of the Caribbean and then gradually turn northward and eventually northeast. This second track cluster would lead to a threat to the Bahamas, Florida and the US East Coast." For more see their website.

2. Fares from JFK to SXM Under \$400 in Jet Blue Sale

Last week, we sent a Low Airfare Bulletin to members of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program telling them about a two-day fare sale by jetBlue Airways for flights to SXM from JFK, among other routes.

As we reported a week ago here in *SXM Weekly News*, JetBlue has increased its service from JFK to SXM to daily from twice-weekly. It needs to be sure those aircraft are full -- and running the recent sale is one way to do that. The cost of JetBlue's round trips during the sale was under \$400, significantly lower than fares we've seen in recent weeks.

Reserve JB's daily flights at jetblue.com.

3. New, Bigger, A/C'd Arrival/Departure Tents Opening

This week, the big top opens at SXM Airport.

Two large new air-conditioned tents are expected to open this week to give arriving and departing passengers more room, better quarters, better service, and more comfort. We expect pictures to be posted on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) later this week.

Passengers going through the smaller tents that have been in use since October have expressed happiness with them. Their use was made necessary because of heavy damage to the roof of the SXM Airport terminal by hurricane Irma and further damage caused by rain from hurricane Maria. Demolition is underway inside the main terminal. Airport authorities hope to have the terminal reopen during the fourth quarter of this year.

We'll continue to keep you posted on the status of the airport and on the progress of reopening the terminal.

4. AA About To Create Chaos in Coach

American Airlines, which has done a lot of stumbling lately in the nation's press, is about to embark on a program likely to anger many of its upper-level coach passengers who pay extra for some upscale services.

At American, there's regular coach and lower class coach, which pays less and gets practically no amenities.

Under the new program, the regular or upper-class coach passengers, who will get free booze (another not so swift idea), board first, as always. Then the lower class coach passengers board. The rub is that the lower class passengers who are able to run faster can grab any unoccupied seats in upper-level coach without being stopped by flight attendants: they will be allowed to stay there get all the amenities the upper-class people have paid for without paying one red cent for those amenities.

To us, it's a remarkably thoughtless idea. Here's [more information](#).

5. NCL Screws Passengers Out of a Cruise

An elderly couple flew from Boston to Los Angeles to set off on a cruise of a lifetime to coastal Mexican cities in celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary.

Everything was neatly packed in their suitcases including their passports, which were readily accessible in a compartment on the outside of one of the bags. Quickly after they arrived at the departure terminal, the couple was a bit surprised when Norwegian Cruise line employees grabbed the suitcases, quickly threw them onto a large dolly, and whisked them away. That's the way they do things, they reasoned, and they politely waited in line to check in.

That's when things started to get ugly since Norwegian wouldn't let them aboard without their passports. Norwegian agreed to find their suitcases but didn't... and the boat sailed away with their suitcases, their dreams of having a beautiful 62nd anniversary cruise, and their medications, which were also neatly packed in the suitcases.

Local Norwegian cruise people were of no help and acted in a demeaning fashion toward the passengers, telling them to call customer service which, of course, was closed.

You can read all the details about this in the *Boston Globe* [article published yesterday](#), Sunday, January 28. Since the *Boston Globe* is a member of the Associated Press, we're certain the article was also published in many other newspapers and will also be on TV news broadcasts.

When the family that was victimized by this incompetence asked for their money back, Norwegian Caribbean arrogantly refused.

At the end of his *Globe* article, Sean Murphy said: "All companies have a culture. Apparently, Norwegian's is stingy, unfeeling, and inflexible. Is this the kind of company you want to book a vacation with? Just asking."

After we decided this article had to be published in *SXM Weekly News* — which is read by more than 300,000 tourists, many of whom sometimes take cruises -- we wrote to Sean Murphy to congratulate him on the article. He replied a short time later that somehow, miraculously, when Norwegian became aware of the dung storm it had created by refusing to be human to its want-to-be 62nd anniversary cruise celebrants -- it somehow saw in its heart that it could not only refund the more than \$2000 the couple had paid for the abortive cruise, but that it would also give them a free cruise as an apology.

Although we were happy to hear that — and are hopeful that the cruise line will see fit also to pay their airfare to get to the replacement cruise — that doesn't mean that Norwegian has done anything to change its apparent non-consumer oriented culture. That's a bad thing, and it's why we have no intention of ever sailing on NCL. The refund and free cruise were PR/CYA gestures, not reflecting any change in culture. Norwegian has a lot of work to do to regain public confidence in its ability to do the right thing for its customers.

P. S. On Sunday night, Norwegian gave us this statement: "Thank you for reaching out and for your concern. It always [is -Ed.] our sincerest hope to provide our guests with the highest level of customer service and the best vacation experience possible. It is clear that in the case of the Waxess we did not deliver as we should have, and their needs were not handled appropriately. As a result, we will be providing them with a full refund and we have invited them to experience their dream vacation with a complimentary cruise." We responded that since the Waxess already had paid for airfare to LA for the trip that was denied, they should be provided full airfare as well. At "presstime" Norwegian had not responded.

6. Some Cruise Ship Tours Ignoring French Side

In the days before Irma, buses and taxis from the big Dutch Side cruise ship terminal routinely chugged their way to Orient beach, leaving hundreds of passengers off to enjoy some time in the sun, have some food on the beach, and in some cases gawk at the "nudies."

Now, since all of the buildings that were on Orient beach disappeared thanks to Irma, there are no taxis and no buses — well, few anyway, and the French side government isn't happy about that.

Instead of taking people to Orient beach, buses and taxis are taking them to Kimsha beach between Atrium and Royal Palm on Simpson Bay. Here is [the rest of the story](#), which includes substantial additional French side information from the head of government there.

7. JMB Weather Center / Hurricane Center Ready for 2018 Season

On our main SXM website, everythingSXM.com, we have a fairly robust weather center/hurricane center which,

during hurricane season, provides forecasts, watches, warnings, many satellite images, and radar and satellite image loops. The site was enormously helpful during 2017 for people tracking storms during hurricane season.

Last week, we upgraded our Weather Center with a number of new images. We expect to add even more images as the season draws closer.

In addition, the home page of our everythingSXM.com site features current observations of weather on the island in clickable boxes, enabling you to get detailed current weather observations from SXM plus detailed forecast information.

Please see also story 9.

8. AA, UA, JB Getting Tough on Support Animal Scams

For years, some airline passengers have been taking advantage of overly liberal support animal policies on domestic US airlines. Plundering those policies has become a way of life for some people, who brought on board pet pigs, rabbits, and other animals, including at least one snake, in addition to many pet dogs and cats that were dressed up to look like support animals.

Now, American Airlines, United Airlines, and JetBlue are all re-examining their policies with an eye toward tightening regulations which had been predictably plundered by personal pets.

For us, it's personal. I like but am highly allergic to cats and the woman next to me took her cat out of her handbag to pet it during a red eye flight. I quickly had to reach for antihistamine to avoid a serious reaction. In another case, also on JetBlue, two passengers had to be relocated from extra legroom bulkhead seats to less legroom seats in the back of the cabin because a young lady with a Doberman "support animal" took up all the space on the floor, leaving room for no one's feet other than hers which rested on the dog's back. "I do this all the time," she bragged to someone on the other side of the plane. "I can get the whole row for myself."

Enough is enough. Service animals are one thing, but the abuse of that program has been going on far too long. It's time the abuse ended.

9. Current SXM Weather Info

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, www.everythingsxm.com, 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) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- 2) Our "Weather" page at www.everythingsxm.com -- 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 [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#), 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 www.island92.com. They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming. They were knocked off the air by Irma but are now back.

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

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

10. ***Guaranteed Lowest Rates*** for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals ***Around The World***

SkyMed Travel offers you a 110% Lowest Rate Guarantee for both hotel and car rental reservations worldwide. 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.

[Changing Your Email Address?](#)

Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email and Sign Up Your New One for your SXM Weekly News subscription Quickly and Easily at our Site: www.sxmweeklynews.com

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

11. No 2018 Maintenance Fees for Flamingo Resort, But...

Timeshare owners at Flamingo resort last week were happy to hear that the resort was not going to be charging them any annual maintenance fees for 2018. Cue the drop of shoe number one.

Unfortunately, Flamingo suffered major damage from hurricane Irma which won't be fixed this year — the resort is saying sometime next year, perhaps.

The letter that is being sent to Diamond Flamingo timeshare owners is here:

Dear Flamingo Beach Owner,

My name is Chanel and I am a Diamond Resorts Owner Services team member. I tried to reach you via telephone regarding your ownership at Flamingo Beach Resort in St. Maarten but was not successful.

We are reaching out to inform you that due to damages caused by Hurricane Irma, Flamingo Beach Resort will remain closed for repairs through 2018, and owners will not be assessed a maintenance fee for 2018. Complete

details from your HOA were recently mailed to you; if you have not received it yet, you should be receiving it shortly.

We are anxious to speak with you regarding alternative travel options for your 2018 week. As reservations at the resort are not available due to the resort closure, we are offering you a free deposit credit in Destination Xchange, our exchange program exclusively for deeded week owners. If you decide to participate, Destination Xchange will provide you the option to exchange your week into a wide variety of resorts worldwide. While membership and exchange fees apply (similar to other exchange programs), Destination Xchange offers other distinct benefits including:

- The ability to confirm exchange availability prior to purchasing a membership*
- A simple method for booking larger unit types or different seasons (upgrade fees may apply)*
- No booking window restrictions on late deposits*
- Deposit shelf life of 3 years*

If you are not yet familiar with Destination Xchange, please visit www.DestinationXchange.com where you can download a copy of the Member Guide, or contact our Owner Services team for assistance. If you don't see a destination or resort you're interested in traveling to among the Destination Xchange resorts listed in the Member Guide or online, give us an opportunity to fulfill your exchange request to anywhere in the world. Through our relationships with trading partners, resorts and hotels beyond those already affiliated with Destination Xchange, we will attempt to fulfill any exchange request to your dream destination, anywhere in the world, including any specific resorts or hotels you may have in mind.

Please contact Owner Services at 1.800.463.7256 (toll free) or 1.407.226.9500 (international) at your earliest convenience. Our offices are open daily from 3:00am until 11:00pm Eastern time, and any member of our team can assist you.

Sincerely,

The question is, of course, what comes next. Will there be a supplemental maintenance fee or some other cleverly named fee to help the resort pay for the repairs that it is now undertaking? Cue shoe number two. That thump you heard is the next letter from Diamond International to Flamingo timeshare owners. We don't know for sure when it's going to come, but something tells us it will and that it might well have a rather large bill in it. If that happens — and we hope it doesn't -- we'll report it.

12. Royal Palm Owners Get 2018 Bill W/ Reduction, But...

Meanwhile, regarding the other Diamond Resort nearby, Royal Palm owners were being told that they would have a major reduction in their annual maintenance fee — but that they would be assessed other fees as well.

You can download the letter sent out late last week to Royal Palm timeshare owners [here](#). Note that this is a Facebook download location which will be accessible only if you have a Facebook account; they are free.

Depending on who you talk to at Diamond Resorts, some people are saying that Royal Palm was more seriously damaged and must charge more. Others say that Flamingo was more seriously damaged. Either way, regardless of which Diamond Resort you're involved with, watch your mailbox; you may be in for a costly surprise as the year goes on.

13. Repeat: Ocean Club Timeshare Owners' New Online Group

Ocean Club Timeshare Owners Form Online Group (Repeat)

The Ocean Club timeshare resort in Cupecoy was severely damaged by hurricane Irma. The resort's website has said ever since that the resort is closed until further notice. With pictures of huge damage widely seen by timeshare owners, they have been asking owner Eric Loor for definitive information on whether ocean club will be rebuilt, but Mr. Loor has not responded. The owner of multiple Caribbean resorts, his properties were affected by hurricanes this season and no doubt he has been dealing with insurance adjusters and a myriad of other issues.

Nonetheless, timeshare owners want to know what's going on and after four months, they purred practically nothing.

They've now formed a timeshare owners group on Facebook. If you own timesharing at ocean club, it could be quite beneficial to you to join [this group](#).

14. SXM Timeshare Condo & Villa Rentals

With several timeshare resorts coming back online — Sea Palace, Sapphire Beach Resort, and Atrium Resort, with others to follow -- timeshare owners are now posting units available for rent on our [timeshare rental site](#) on everythingSXM.com and on our new companion Villas for Rent page, also on everythingxsm.com. Check them out.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

15. "Section Three" -- Member Discounts / Benefits News & Updates

This section of *SXM Weekly News*, which appears weekly, will provide detailed information about current JMB Website Supporters discounts and benefits both for current members and for people thinking about joining JMB.

We now offer about 300 discounts (including some now being rolled out). We think you'll find many surprises here that will be of great interest and value. Please check this section in the coming months as we restart rolling out a number of entirely new discounts and benefits.

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, [go here](#).

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

Mid Winter Membership Sale Begins!

**Get About 300 SXM Discounts
& Many Other Benefits Through Our Exclusive
JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program**

**Join, Renew, or Reinstate:
Sale Begins Tonight (Monday) 6:00 p.m. EST**

New JMB memberships: One year \$39; Two, \$59; Our Best Offer: Four Years just \$99

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

Renewal JMB memberships: One year, \$35; Our Best Offer: Five Years just \$99

www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the **Membership Renewal Center**

JMB Membership Reinstatements:
One year, \$35; Our Best Offer: Five Years just \$99
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

In Addition To Those 300 Discounts
& Other Benefits,
Your JMB Membership
helps keep

SXM Weekly News
Publishing for You,

Every Week!
Please Join Today!

16. Shaggy Headlines Heineken Regatta "Serious Fun"

The 38th edition of the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta will take place from March 1-4, 2018 and promises a "Legendary Night" to close off the final evening. Organizers are proud to announce the return of Mr. Boombastic – International recording superstar: Shaggy – who will be the headline act for the evening of March 4th at Port de Plaisance. Shaggy is a Multi Grammy Award winning artist from Jamaica, and is the only certified diamond-selling Dancehall Reggae Artist.

Since exploding on the music scene, Shaggy's several gold and multi-platinum selling albums have won him a Grammy Award in 1996 for Best Reggae Album, 5 Grammy nominations, and topped an impressive chart list that included the Top 40 Rhythmic charts, Hot 100, Billboard 200, among others. Shaggy's illustrious career has seen the international superstar perform alongside some of the biggest names in all genres of music, notably he recently collaborated with his longtime friend and producer Costi, as Shaggy joined Afro Pop artist Mohombi and Australian singer Faydee on the recently released vibrant and catchy single, "I Need Your Love."

John Leone of International Liquor & Tobacco Trading Ltd. states "We are extremely excited to bring Shaggy back to the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta. Shaggy has been a great supporter of the island and has offered to perform for a highly reduced fee this year to support fundraising efforts for hurricane relief. We are extremely excited about having him back on stage again for this truly unique edition of the Regatta. It's time for some Serious Fun!"

Entrance to the performance on Sunday night will have a \$25 admission fee for the general public, with at least \$5 of each ticket going to the Charity fund. Tickets will soon be available for purchase at multiple locations on the island and online, with some great deals and discounts to be followed. Tickets can already be reserved at the Regatta Office, by sending an email to regatta@heinekenregatta.com. More information about performers for the remaining evenings will be announced in the coming weeks.

The Concert Venue will also have a VIP area and a Sailors Lounge. VIP tickets for the Sunday night concert will be sold at \$100 a ticket. A Sailors Lounge will be opened for all nights of the event, with sailors being able to buy a \$75 Entertainment Package that allows them access to the Concert Venue and the Sailors Lounge. With the purchase of both a VIP ticket and a Sailors Entertainment Package you support the Island, with \$10 of each ticket going towards

the Fundraising Partners of the Event. Limited tickets are available, so it's advised to secure your tickets soon.

To keep up to date with the Regatta news and for more information on the bands, make sure to like the Regatta Facebook page and check the website regularly. There are less than 40 days to go until the first horn sounds so stay tuned for more news in the coming weeks.

For VIP tickets, ticketing and information about the show please contact the Regatta Office at regatta@heinekenregatta.com.

17. About French Side Rebuilding

American ExPat Albert MacDonald, living on the French Side, comments: "People are constantly posting that the Dutch side is SO MUCH better off than the French side. Simply not true. We left SXM 10 days after Irma and stayed with family in USA till just after Christmas. After 2 weeks back on the island we see that the area around the cruise ship port is indeed well cleaned up. However, as soon as you drive a few minutes away from the boardwalk the damage from Irma is about the same on both sides.

"The French side is recovering - more stores and restaurants are opening every day = yes, progress is slow but the widespread damage will take time. Please don't post what you hear but only what you've seen with your own eyes. Misinformation will only serve to keep tourists away from the wonderful restaurants and stores that are open on the French side and they all need every dollar they can get."

18. For Some Locals, Still No Roof -- and No Money

Although the many thousands of you who are members of our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) have seen numerous recent pictures of beautiful SXM beaches, restaurants back in full swing, and smiling faces, those images don't tell the full story of what's going on on the island.

In some cases, nearly 5 months after Irma hit, insurance payments still have not been received. There are still people living in houses without roofs and without money to fix the roof. In one case, one major insurance company, Nagico, failed to transfer sufficient funds to cover checks it had written to pay off some claims, resulting in short-term bounced checks. In a number of instances, Nagico and other companies have been accused of taking forever to get adjusters on scene and get claims resolved and paid. SXM still needs your help.

Please go to our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) and look in the Files area for charities — please do all you can to help.

19. Many Tourists Bringing Supplies for Locals

For many tourists, it's a matter of doing the right thing. The most commonly asked question from new members of our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) is what should I bring to SXM; how should I ship it; and how do I distribute it.

On the site, you will find many people who have been donating many things to the people of the island. Posters on our site are willing and ready to answer those questions with practical solutions. Please join our Facebook site by clicking the link above -- and see what you can do to help.

When asking to join, please answer the questions -- it's important (they're brief).

20. Tourist Numbers Increasing

Within the last several weeks, tourists have seen two key problems concerning visiting SXM being mitigated: a lack of sufficient airlift and high airfares; and few places to stay.

Thanks in part to the current Timeshare and Villa rental listings we offer on our main SXM website, everythingSXM.com, and thanks to JetBlue for increasing the frequency of its flights out of JFK to SXM to daily, the airfare issue is less serious and so is the accommodations issue. The weather, of course, couldn't be better — it is as you always remember it, way more comfortable than the snow, sleet, freezing rain, and frigid temperatures you're encountering back home.

It's time for SXM.

21. The Easter Bunny & SXM

Late last year, we were trying to develop a program enabling us to bring a bit of Christmas to the children of SXM. Thanks to TSA issues in bringing "shoebboxes" to the island aboard passenger aircraft, it was impossible for us to make it happen.

Now, a benefactor who we will soon name who has a number of private jets, is stepping in to help us pull off our new SXM Easter Bunny program. We expect soon to be able to tell you how the program will work and how you can help make it happen. Delivering with the Easter Bunny on the island will be our friend Jeff Jhangiani of DK Gems.

More to come as soon as we have this program nailed down.

22. Two Ambulances Donated by Chabad

Rabbi Moishe Chanowitz of SXM Chabad announced last week that benefactors from Chabad had donated two ambulances to the island, one to the Dutch Side hospital and the other to the French Side. He offered "a very special thank you" to Mr. Michael Vatch of Senior Care EMS, Mr. Lev Rivkin, Pharmacist, and UJA - Federation. The badly needed ambulances should be a huge help to SXM.

23. Cruise Passengers Clean Guana Bay Beach

Guana Bay beach on the east side of SXM near Philipsburg is a critical habitat for nesting sea turtles and was badly hit by hurricane Irma. This is the [story](#) of how cruise ship passengers working with the SXM Nature Foundation and others helped clean it up.

24. No Sign of Sargassum Seaweed

There are only about two positive after-effects from hurricane Irma — if you can call them positive. The first is that Orient beach and some other beaches appear to be much wider than before the storm. In the case of Orient, some people say it's because the buildings were all washed away, but many others believe the beaches are actually significantly wider than they were pre-Irma. The second after-effect is that Sargassum seaweed from the Sargasso Sea is nowhere to be found on the island. It's the same stuff that in recent years has repeatedly plagued much of the Caribbean and parts of the US Gulf Coast, sometimes dumping feet of unwelcome smelly seaweed onto beaches. It's gone, at least for now; the pictures you been seeing on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) of beautiful pristine beaches on the island are new pictures, not old — a welcome sight.

25. At Orient, Chairs, Services -- and Signs

Right now, the only place on Orient beach that has chairs and services — including food and drink and restroom facilities — is Club Orient, the naturist resort at the southern end of the island. The resort itself was largely destroyed by Irma and will rebuild. But as it moves in that direction, for now the nude beach is open and it's the only game in

town with good beach services. Signs warn newbies that "beyond this point you may encounter nude sunbathers."

26. Chez Leandra, Daleo's Threatened With Destruction

The folks at Chez Leandra on Orient beach and Daleo's on Mullet Bay beach apparently believed that they had the authority to rebuild their businesses on their respective beaches. But in the case of Chez Leandra, the Collectivite has a different idea and has told Chez Leandra to tear down what Chez Leandra thought it had authority to build. And on Mullet, Daleo has been threatened with demolition and told that it needs to get out.

We'll keep an eye on both situations and let you know what happens. Can't we all just get along?

27. SkyMed "Double Bonus" Both Expanded & Extended

Under the SkyMed Double Bonus, we've been giving people who buy new SkyMed memberships through us -- duration one year or longer — and people who upgrade their current SkyMed memberships bought through us to longer memberships — a double bonus: we give them JMB Website Supporters membership extensions equal in length to what they had bought through us from SkyMed. In December, we also started giving \$25 gift certificates to these folks, good toward the purchase of a future JMB Website Supporters membership extension. That was our Double Bonus.

We originally were intending to end this promotion December 31 but instead we have expanded and extended it.

Under the expansion, we now offer a triple bonus — including a new extra year of JMB membership in addition to what we already offered — again, for people who buy new SkyMed memberships through us with a duration of a year or more or who upgrade their current SkyMed memberships bought through us.

Bottom line, there has never been a better time to acquire SkyMed medical evacuation coverage through us. If you purchased a new SkyMed membership through us or upgraded your SkyMed membership through us in December, no worries: just send an email to Membership Services at support@JMBCommunications.com using the Subject "Triple Bonus" and ask them to give you an extra week (you must forward your December confirmation letter from SkyMed with your email).

Please contact Jeff to apply for SkyMed protection: 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only). Or email him at jeff.berger@skymed.com or jeff@jmbcommunications.com. Do it now..... There is no age limit to apply for SkyMed.

28. This Is The Time To Get SkyMed Peace-of-Mind

SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. Exclusively for Americans and Canadians, basic SkyMed coverage protects you throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage (via Global Emergency Transport Services, or GETS) is standard on all "Ultimate" memberships and an inexpensive option on basic memberships.

Without SkyMed, you will have to pay upwards of \$35,000 to \$50,000 or possibly much more **in cash, in advance**, to set up an emergency medical evacuation home if you know who to call and what to ask in a huge emergency. But with SkyMed, you make one toll-free call to SkyMed 24/7/365 and SkyMed makes all the arrangements related to the medical evacuation and pays for all its services. No deductibles, no claim forms, no reimbursements necessary.

It's like fire insurance -- get it before you need it. Call Jeff at his office (Eastern Time, regular office hours) 508-747-8281 or email him at jeff@jmbcommunications.com and he'll be happy to answer all your questions.

New Triple Bonus Now in Effect but it could end soon, so do get SkyMed while the bonus lasts. Here's more:

Buying a new annual or multiyear SkyMed medical evacuation membership from us, or upgrading an annual membership to a multiyear Ultimate through us?

An all new SkyMed **triple** bonus is available through www.getskymed.com or by calling Jeff when you buy a new SkyMed annual or longer membership from us -- or upgrade to a multiyear SkyMed membership from an annual membership you bought from us.

The new Triple SkyMed bonus is simple. Once you've bought or upgraded your SkyMed membership through us, you forward to us by email your SkyMed acceptance email. (Use the subject "SkyMed Bonus".) Once we verify it, we extend your JMB Website Supporters membership by the same number of years as you purchased coverage from SkyMed.

With the second part of the SkyMed bonus, we will also give you a certificate good for a \$25 discount on a future JMB Website Supporters membership renewal. The certificate is valid for two years from the date of issue. That's in addition to the years extension: That's quite a double bonus. (JMB renewals are always consecutive, never concurrent.)

The "Triple" Bonus? Yet another year of JMB membership on top of (in addition to) what you just read about.

See the other SkyMed stories in this issue for much more on SkyMed. Join now... this will not last very long.

29. Restaurant of the Week

When Mario's Bistro left its original location near the French side drawbridge in Marigot, owner Mario Tardif knew he had to make a move and picked a place that was beautiful and functional — and prayed that his customers would follow him to Porto Cupecoy on the Dutch side.

They did, and during high season the last couple of years his new location has actually done great.

What can we say about Mario's that has not already been said? It's one of the most spectacular restaurants on the island, with exceptional creativity from one end of your meal to the other. There is no way to adequately describe the touches that Mario and his staff apply to their creations — you just have to come in and see and taste for yourself, and you should make a point of doing that early during your next visit. It's a truly amazing restaurant.

Here is a rundown of the status of all restaurants featured in the last year or so in our *Weekly News* restaurant column. Dates below are when each restaurant was last covered.

Celine Too Motor Yacht, www.sailstmaarten.com (featured 8/7/17). Sunk by Irma. Neil has bought a new sailing yacht as big as Celine Too was and is readying it to enter service soon. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

Big Fish Restaurant www.bigfishsxm.com/ (featured 5/1/17). Big Fish has closed. We do not have any word on whether Mike and Teresa will be reopening.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 1/15/18) David is back and the restaurant has reopened. Now open for lunch as well.

Busby's Chicken Rotisserie (featured 6/5/17) Wrecked by Irma. The owners are awaiting insurance resolution.

Isola Ristorante Italiano (featured 5/29/17) Marco Ferrante's Isola Ristorante Italiano next to Hollywood casino in the middle of Simpson Bay Resort was one of the first restaurants to reopen soon after Irma struck, and it has been open ever since. It is now also fully enclosed and fully air conditioned - no street noise. Neat place.

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 2/6/17) Avantika is open. SXM's best Thai.

Canoa, www.canoasxm.com (featured 4/10/17) Canoa has established a gofundme campaign to help it rebuild. We have no information on timing, but our guess is probably late 2018, or later.

Mario Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ 1/29/18 Mario's Bistro reopened a few weeks after Irma hit and looks forward to your return. Phenomenal dining.

SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 7/17/17) Skipjack's main dining deck overlooking the lagoon was wrecked by Irma and is being rebuilt. They should be open late 2018.

Trattoria Pizza Pasta, Maho Plaza near Casino Royale (featured 9/12/16). The Maho area was hit very badly by Irma and Pizza Pasta has closed and is not expected to reopen, not at that location anyway. Selena has moved to St. Kitts where her mom, Ilde, and dad, Dario, operate their Ciao restaurant.

Daniel's By The Sea, www.dawnbeachsxm.com (featured 8/14/17) Wrecked by Irma. The owners are awaiting insurance resolution.

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 1/30/17; added 1/17) La Patrona is open and has been for quite some time.

Domino's Pizza <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 9/16) Open.

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 5/21/17) Recently reopened; new menu; redesigned; also now serving lunch. New name too: Cafe Spiga. New bar, new bar snacks, same great staff, service, and wonderful food.

The Boathouse, <https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777> 10/3/16 Just got insurance settlement, not yet reopened.

The Hideaway, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 10/31/16) Opening in progress; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 1/15/18.

Stone Restaurant, www.thestonerestaurant.com (featured 9/2/14) Stone is permanently closed.
Melange International Grill (featured 2/20/17) Reopened.
Le Pressoir, <http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com> (featured 7/6/15) Believed permanently closed and likely for sale. We'll post quickly if we hear anything else.
Temptation, <http://www.temptation-sxm.com/> (featured 7/5/17) Permanently closed. Dino has now relocated to Emilio's at the Emilio Wilson Estate, which will be featured here soon.
Lal's Curry In A Hurry Indian Restaurant, Airport Road, Simpson Bay (featured 7/10/17) Open now for lunch and dinner.
Mr. Busby's Beach Bar <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 6/26/17) Wrecked by Irma. The owners are awaiting insurance resolution.
Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 6/19/17) Wrecked by Irma. The owners are awaiting insurance resolution.
Pineapple Pete, www.pineapplepete.com (featured 7/31/17) Reopened.
Papagayo, <http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php> (featured 10/17/16) Club Orient was wrecked by Irma; rebuilding is planned. ETA not yet known.
Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path the turn near Shore Pointe to get there). (featured 4/17/2017) Reopened. Their sign blew away in Irma -- to Virgin Gorda's airport 192 miles away.
FIG, Maho complex at Le Terasse Had closed permanently before Irma hit.
St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge Reopened.
Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) Rebuilding, hopes to reopen soon.
Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 1/22/18). Reopened. Now open seven days / nights, B/L/D.
Topper's <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 2/27/17) Reopened quickly.
Taloula Mango <http://www.taloulamango.com/> (featured 4/20/15) Reopened.
Bylbos, Simpson Bay Not yet known.
Sushiitto Japanese Restaurant, Port de Plaisance <https://www.facebook.com/sushiitto.sxm> (featured 2/13/17)
Closed permanently; see next item. Pierre ("Pete") Ferland has opened a new Japanese Restaurant next to Pineapple Pete...
Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto) is the new name of Sushiitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great service.
Emilio's at Emilio Wilson Estate will be featured soon. It's the new property run by renowned chef Dino Jagtiani, whose Temptation Restaurant was wrecked by Irma.

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

30. Our Thanks To You...

Many hundreds of you in November and December have written to us online and in letters to thank us for our extensive coverage of Irma here, on our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Site](#) (where we had more than 50,000 interactions with you following the storm), and for our help in answering thousands of phone calls from JMB members in the six weeks immediately after Irma struck.

From Jeff: *I've been a journalist / marketing writer since finishing college, working in radio, TV, newspapers, and magazines. **But your "thanks" messages mean far more to me than the cardboard box of awards we keep somewhere in the cellar.** It's great to know how you rely on us to keep you connected, and that you like what we're doing for you. We truly love doing it as much as you enjoy reading it.*

How You Can Help Us Make SXM Weekly News Even More Useful to Its Readers.

As seasoned journalists, we take great pride in *Weekly News*. We keep our eyes and ears open all week long and on every Friday, decide what's going into *Weekly News*. We write on Friday and Saturday morning, then send *Weekly News* on its way.

Here's how can you help us make **SXM Weekly News** even better -- three key ways:

1) When on the island, keep your eyes and ears open and let us know what you see that's of significant interest to our tourist audience. We might already have it ... then again we might not. (In some cases, what you give us will already have been covered in *Weekly News* -- but when you have a story idea, email it to jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com with the subject "Weekly News Idea." We welcome every idea.)

2) Spread the word about *Weekly News*. Let others know they can subscribe "free" anytime on our site, sxmweeklynews.com.

3) The crucial word is **free**. Quite frankly, we need your help -- now more than ever, thanks to Irma -- to be able to continue to research, write, and distribute **Weekly News** every week. It takes a lot of time to research and write **Weekly News**, and "bandwidth costs" for emailing 300,000+ copies weekly (and sometimes more often) does not come cheap.

There are several ways you can help; we'd be grateful no matter which you do:

- Contribute. Any contribution amount is very much appreciated. If you want to use PayPal, send it to jeff@jmbcommunications.com . Or send a check (payable to JMB Communications) to us at JMB, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812.
- Join, renew, or reinstate your membership in JMB Website Supporters. This is the best option since it gives you over 300 benefits and island discounts that are good as long as your membership is active. (See the story at the end of this email please.) Many businesses have already reopened on SXM, and more open every week. Boat owners whose tour boats sank have bought new boats and are readying them right now. SXM is welcoming more tourists every single day. To re-join just click the page curl on everythingxsm.com -- all the info is there. You can also call the office and leave the info there; our numbers are 508-830-3456 (main) or 508-747-8281.
- Join SkyMed. It's the best medevac protection you can buy, in our view; you've likely read about in *Weekly News* and you know you should have it; it covers traveling Americans and Canadians in the USA, Canada, Mexico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and in every nation of the Caribbean including Cuba. If you want global protection, that's available too. (It won't cover you in places like North Korea, Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia....) See getskymed.com for much more, or call Jeff directly at 508-747-8281. He can answer all your questions and get you going.
- Even get some of our exclusive copyrighted SXM Euro Oval stickers. They're two for \$10 or five for \$15. You can order them via PayPal (include your shipping address) or by check (US checks only drawn on US banks). Our address is below. The PayPal pay-to email address is jeff@jmbcommunications.com as you saw above. We will resume shipping these on March 10 ... so order now.
- Check Out Our Extensive Website Design / Content Creation / Website Hosting Services. See websitesthatworkusa.com or our broader jmbcommunications.com, with even more services. Hosting info is at jmbwebhosting.com.
- Thank you, as always, for your support.

31. US/Canadian ExPats Living on SXM Can Get SkyMed Coverage Too

SkyMed coverage is incredibly important for US and Canadian ex-pats living on St. Maarten, other Caribbean islands, or even Mexico. Your US or Canadian health insurance does not work in any of those places. So, in case of a critical illness or injury, you must get back to your province in Canada or to the US for treatment to be covered by your health insurance.

SkyMed Takes You Home®. Here are details:

First, what is SkyMed? Scottsdale Arizona based SkyMed International takes its members home when they become critically ill or injured while traveling. Basic "Takes You Home" memberships cover you in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global memberships (provided by SkyMed affiliate GETS) cover you in the rest of the world with a few exceptions — like Syria, Somalia, Afghanistan, North Korea and possibly a few others. As you understand, that list may change as world events unfold.

The Double SkyMed bonus -- just extended and expanded -- is simple. Once you've bought or upgraded your SkyMed membership through us, you forward to us by email your SkyMed acceptance email. Once we verify it, we extend your JMB Website Supporters membership by the same number of years as you purchased coverage from SkyMed. Now, with the double SkyMed bonus, we will *also* give you a certificate good for a \$25 discount on a future JMB Website Supporters membership renewal. The certificate is valid for two years from the date of issue. That's in addition to the years extension: That's quite a double bonus. And it has now been expanded and extended: see story

in this issue.

The double bonus offer comes only with SkyMed memberships purchased from us now...

How Does SkyMed Work?

SkyMed medical evacuations take you home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust — where your health insurance works. You call SkyMed, and SkyMed makes all the arrangements. There are no deductibles, no claim forms, and no reimbursements since SkyMed pays for all the arrangements it makes.

Without SkyMed, if you or a covered loved one needs a medical evacuation, you must make the arrangements yourself in the middle of an emergency and you must pay for everything upfront in cash — ambulances, aircraft, flight crew, jet fuel, medical personnel, etc. With SkyMed, by contrast, SkyMed makes all the arrangements and you pay \$0 for the evacuation. SkyMed *Takes You Home*® — what else matters?

Attention ExPats: As a US/Canadian ex-pat living on SXM at least six months per year, you understand the need to get home where your US or Canadian health insurance works if you become critically ill or injured while living on SXM. That's exactly what SkyMed ex-pat coverage does; it covers the ambulance from the local hospital to the airport, the medical evacuation flight home, and the ambulance at the arrival airport that takes you to the hospital, to which SkyMed has transferred your record; waiting there is a bed for you; and a team that has your medical records and is prepared to start working with you.

For more information, see www.getskymed.com or contact Jeff any business day (including this week) Eastern time at 508-747-8281 (fastest) or email him at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Include your return telephone number and time zone. He'll be happy to answer your questions and can even take an application by phone.

32. Traveling Anywhere Soon? SkyMed Takes You Home®

More Info: No matter where you go, take SkyMed medical evacuation protection with you: SkyMed Takes You Home(R) to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. Without SkyMed, that medevac trip home could easily cost you upwards of \$45,000 payable in cash, in advance. Why risk that?

Get SkyMed protection now, before you need it. See www.getskymed.com. Got questions? Phone SkyMed Ambassador Jeff Berger at 508-747-8281 weekdays during regular office hours, Eastern time. Email Jeff at jeff.berger@skymed.com or jeff@jmbcommunications.com.

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits here:
<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkyMedServices.pdf>

And you'll find Frequently Asked Questions here:
<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/2015SkyMedFAQ.pdf>

SkyMed Bonus: See info on the all-new SkyMed Triple Bonus in another story in this issue.

SkyMed Takes You Home® when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. What else matters? Global coverage is available. Call Jeff for details & answers to questions. .

33. Now: Ten-Year Price Guarantee for SkyMed's Most Cost-Effective Medevac Protection

SkyMed medical evacuation programs protect your pocketbook and your health when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. That's because SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill while traveling. They protect your pocketbook by making it unnecessary for you to pay for a medical evacuation in cash in advance which is the only way to get this level of protection if you're not a SkyMed member.

Those out-of-pocket costs are huge: upwards of \$45,000 in many cases, and often far more.

Prepay for five years at the sharply reduced rate of \$2495 for [JMB Website Supporters](#) members exclusively. When you apply, you can get a 10 year price guarantee as well simply by noting on the application that you want an automatic renewal. That's the equivalent of paying \$499 per year for 10 years— an extraordinary price guarantee in times that are tumultuous politically worldwide. You get many features and benefits, too; [here they are](#).

If it's more convenient, you can also pay \$59 a month for a month or two then convert to the prepaid Ultimate membership to grab those prepayment savings. For info, call Jeff Berger at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only). He can answer all your questions and even help you get signed up.

Learn more at www.getskymed.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.

34. Still Time: Enter Our SXM Summertime Vacation Giveaway

Our Summertime SXM vacation giveaway is underway and you can now enter. *SXM Weekly News* readers (NOT pass-along readers) can enter up to 10 times per subscribed email address. The drawing has been deferred now until at least May, 2018.

Here is our current prize list. Since this giveaway promotes non high-season visits to SXM, most of these vacations are yours from mid April to mid December, 2018, though for obvious reasons those dates are subject to change. All vacations are subject to availability.

- an 8-day, 7-night vacation at La Vista Resort, May through December 2018.
- a 5 night stay (based upon availability April 10-Dec 18, 2018) in an ocean front room at the Westin St Maarten Dawn Beach Resort, Spa, and Casino.
- a 4-day, 3-night stay at the beautiful Oyster Bay Beach Resort.
- Dinner for Two at Davide Foini's legendary IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay (One winner)
- Dinner for Two at Marco Ferrante's Isola Ristorante Italiano next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort. (One winner)
- Dinner for Two at Spiga, the highly acclaimed Italian Restaurant in Grand Case. (One winner.)

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

Dates for all vacations subject to change thanks to Irma....

35. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

Look here for our PDF archives: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml. Most issues for the past few years are now online.

[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 getskymed.com.

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

[Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.](#)

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

Want to rent or buy a week?

2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml 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 www.everythingsxm.com. To change your password, click that same link.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad: See www.everythingsxm.com/secret .Your username and password are required.

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

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

To unsubscribe, go here: www.sxmweeklynews.com. 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 www.sxmweeklynews.com; 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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Contact Us (Revised 8/21/17)

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

1/29/18 #V2-1137 1/28/18 0600 PES 10.97

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