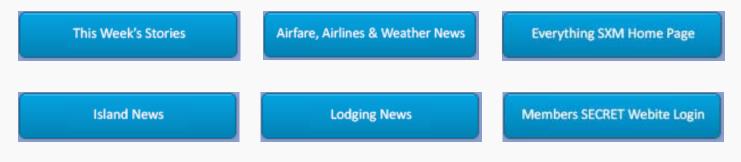
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Vol. 2, #1141 --- February 26, 2018 News From St. Maarten / St. Martin





Member News

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

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to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

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

Important Note:

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

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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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- -- Hotel Mercure on S/B Lagoon Reopening & Expanding
- -- Grand Case Beach Club Reopening 10/1
- -- L'Esplanade Hotel / Le Petit Hotel Updates

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32 news stories this week

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week

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

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

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 11/24/2018 12/1/2018 Week 47 **Atrium** 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom ocean view 7th floor w/ wrap around balcony-sleeps 4. Has very comfortable sofa sleeper in living room. Full kitchen. Laundry facilities available. Free parking and security. Great view of Simpson Bay and sunsets. Restaurants, large supermarket and Hollywood casino within walking distance. Renter will be responsible for \$50 timeshare tax and utility/environmental fee upon check out. We also have a floater that can be used weeks15-50 for rent that could be used as week 46 or 48 to have 2 weeks @ resort (probable unit change) \$995 Jeff-920-205-1597 Suzi-920-450-5114 <u>sperlewitz@new.rr.com</u>

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 3/10/2018 3/24/2018 Week 10 & 11 **Flamingo Beach Resort** Beach front resort overlooks Simpson Bay, 3rd floor. Sleeps 4 with divider for privacy, king bed & queen sleeper sofa. Full kitchen, 2 TVs, a great balcony with excellent views. Close to elevator. Short walk to restaurants, markets, shops & casino. Great for 2 consecutive weeks vacation. Prefers to sell both weeks at same time. \$3500.00 per week Stella. 603-772-3062 sdscamman@comcast.net

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

This Week's Stories

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

"Like" Our <u>"Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin" Facebook Site:</u>

Find us on Facebook

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://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing group of about 300 SXM-focused island discounts and other SXM-related benefits through JMB Website Supporters membership:

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

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- 5. SXM Timeshare Condo & Villa Rentals

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

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

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 <u>GROWING LIST of 300+</u> Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

Visit <u>http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u>, 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 <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>. 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. Hurricane Season 90 Days Away...

Hurricane season is only about 90 days away — it begins June 1 and ends November 30.

Initial forecasts for the season, issued late last year, called for activity either equal to or greater than that which occurred in 2017, which was a very busy year. But conditions change and forecasts evolve over time, so it's possible the revised seasonal hurricane forecasts, expected in March, could differ. Even if forecasts remain the same, that would not indicate that SXM could again be a hurricane target: the tracks of hurricanes depend on constantly changing conditions which can't be precisely predicted months in advance.

As always, be prepared. For much more information on hurricanes, go to our everythingSXM.com site and click Weather for our weather center.

If you live in an area where you are ever in the path of tropical cyclones, see crownweather.com and subscribe to their inexpensive service; it's a huge advantage to your business and your family to know with high accuracy exactly what's going to happen. We've used them for years and recommend them highly.

2. Current SXM Weather Info

file:///C|/Users/jmbcomms/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V2_1141Feb262018.html[5/6/2018 1:19:05 PM]

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

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

<u>Crown Weather Services</u> whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
Our "Weather" page at <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u> -- it has current satellite images and radar loops and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.

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

4) On or off the island, listen to Island 92 -- 91.9FM or see <u>www.island92.com</u>. They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming. They were knocked off the air by Irma but are now back.

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

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

3. <u>Guaranteed</u> <u>Lowest Rates</u> for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals <u>Around The World</u>

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

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

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

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

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <u>https://www.skymedtravel.com/register</u>, 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: <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u> SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas Etc.

4. Heads Up on Resort News

Most of the major news we are publishing here this week regards developments at island resorts — both hotels and timeshare resorts. Since it is major news, it is all in our main island section, below. This is a heads up to those stories.

4a. New Heads Up To Simpson Bay Caladium, Croton, and Dieffenbachia Timeshare Owners

Late last week we spoke with Richard Sutton, Royal Resorts Group CEO, who mentioned that the transition to a point system for timeshare owners at Simpson Bay's Caladium, Croton, and Dieffenbachia buildings was going very smoothly and had wide support from timeshare owners.

It had just been announced that those three buildings would not be repaired/rebuilt because of the enormous costs involved. Some timeshare owners in social media have been suggesting that timeshare owners who convert to points will never be able to get the weeks they want. That's not true, Mr. Sutton told us. The secret to getting exactly the weeks you want is simply to request them early — like right now. He says there is plenty of winter inventory for 2018-2019. Don't wait until a few months before the dates to ask for them since Winter dates are, of course, the most popular. Convert to points and then ask for those dates <u>now</u>.

5. SXM Timeshare Condo & Villa Rentals

With several timeshare resorts coming back online — Sea Palace and Atrium Resort, with others to follow soon -timeshare owners are now posting units available for rent on our <u>timeshare rental site</u> on everythingSXM.com and on our new companion Villas for Rent page, also on everythingsxm.com. Check them out.

Our timeshare rentals page was heavily updated last Friday.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

6. "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

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Huge Sale on Five-Year SkyMed Ultimate Medical Evacuation Memberships! SkyMed's <u>best coverage</u> and <u>lowest daily cost</u>!

Buy or Upgrade to a new Five-Year SkyMed Ultimate Membership Through Us (their Best Membership at their Lowest Price) & Get 10 Years of membership in JMB Website Supporters w/ About 300 SXM Discounts as our Huge Winter Bonus!

Plus you can get a 10-year price guarantee on SkyMed!

Applies only to new or upgraded **Five-Year Ultimate memberships** bought directly through us (including the original SkyMed purchase). New purchases or upgrades must be purchased from 2/5/18 through 3/10/18 (just extended). Not combinable with any other offer. Available exclusively through us. Offer ends 3/10/18. For details, contact Jeff Berger at 508-747-8281 or email Jeff.Berger@skymed.com with the Subject "SkyMed." Do it now... this offer will disappear soon.

7. Belair Beach Resort Opens March 17

Belair Beach Resort reopens March 17, featuring 54 of its 70 rooms. Its bottom floor will reopen sometime in the next two months, hopefully sooner rather than later, with the remainder of its 70 rooms. The restaurant and pool will also both open March 17 as will all activities and the shop. The resort suggests that guests bring beach shoes since the beach is occasionally rocky, thanks to mother nature.

The resort will be close to full capacity from the time it opens in March through the end of April; if you are seeking accommodations, contact reservations@belairbeach.com.

8. Oyster Bay Beach Resort Set To Reopen

February 2018 Progress Report Posted on February 21, 2018 by Oyster Bay Beach Resort

To Oyster Bay Property Owners, Guests, and Fans:

We are pleased to inform everyone that we are making very good progress in the restoration and reconstruction of Oyster Bay Beach Resort. We are on schedule for the Grand Re-opening of Phase 1 of the Resort. We recently returned from a trip to the Resort and were very excited to see the progress in rebuilding the Resort to its prehurricane condition. Our reconstruction team is being led by Joe Sistler, the Resort's architect, who is also acting as the construction manager. Joe is being assisted by Ricardo Perez, Mientje Brown, Lorenzo Bryan, Mitch Madenbourough. We can proudly report the following:

Phase I Reconstruction We are on schedule for Phase I opening on June 1, 2018. As previously stated in our earlier progress reports, Phase I consists of:

Infinity Pool and Hot Tub Infinity Restaurant and Bar The Lobby and Courtyard 40 beautifully restored units in Mainsail 24 units in Marina Front buildings 15-18 9 units in Pool/Ocean front buildings 30-32 12 units in Lobby/Reception building, most with spectacular ocean front views Total: 85 units in Phase I restoration

The reopening of the Mainsail Building will also include the penthouses on the fourth floor and their outdoor terrace experience. As part of Phase I, we also plan to re-open:

The Fitness Room Guest Laundry Shipwreck Shop Bodega by the Bay Indulgence by the Sea Spa

Reservations

We will commence taking reservations for Phase 1 occupancy on February 22. If interested, please call our reservations department at the resort who will take reservations for stays starting on June 1, 2018. In order to determine the number of units available for occupancy, we are in the process of contacting fixed week owners with usage in the Phase 1 units as well as flex week owners with existing reservations after June 1, 2018. If you have a reservation or fixed week in Phase I units from and after June 1, 2018, and have not been contacted, please check with OBBR reservations staff at 888-784-6688.

9. Divi Little Bay Targets Reopening

2/21 Email Update:

Dear Owner,

We hope your New Year is off to a great start and you are getting as excited as we are for the reopening of Divi Little Bay Beach Resort.

We've been working diligently, not just cleaning up and restoring your "home away from home," but planning, designing and implementing some amazing new facilities and amenities. As the President and COO of Divi Resorts, Marco Galaverna said back in November, "we are committed to rebuilding Divi Little Bay Beach Resort not just as good as it was before, but even better," and we plan to deliver on that promise!

Firstly, we'd like to announce that there will be a new General Manager of Little Bay Beach Resort, Anne-Marie Brooks. We're thrilled to welcome Anne-Marie back to the team nearly 28 years after her first internship at Little Bay in 1990. Most recently, she spent 21 years working for Oyster Bay Beach Resort. Anne-Marie replaces Celine Van Meer, who recently moved to Bonaire with her family to take over the General Manager position at Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino.

Secondly, we know that you are anxious to return to St. Maarten as soon as possible, so we are happy to confirm that the resort will partially reopen on May 1st, and we anticipate completing renovations by early fall. While we'd love to have the entire resort restored by May, it's just not possible given the changes we are making, safety and logistical reasons and the damage to the resort. As a result, please keep in mind that there may be ongoing construction during your stay. Rest assured, if your unit is not completed by your arrival, we will provide you with alternate accommodations based on unit type availability.

Here's what is scheduled to be completed by May 1st:

Accommodations:

Buildings 1-4, Buildings A & B, Hotel Rooms and Beachfront Villas will be completely renovated with some, if not all of the following: all new lighting, furniture, window treatments, water-saving toilets, interior paint, shower doors, faucets, crown molding, baseboards, 49" LED TVs, laptop safes, bluetooth alarm/clock/radio, interior doors and hardware, patio doors, appliances, HVAC, in-room Wi-Fi, electrical devices and panels, solar water heaters, exterior lighting, porcelain-tiled corridors, signage, exterior paint, signage lighting, landscaping and repaired roofs.

Food & Beverage:

We are updating the Seabreeze Restaurant, which will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner and completely redesigning the newly named Fort Amsterdam Cafe (formerly Bayview Cafe), which will serve coffee, breakfast sandwiches, pastries and ice cream. In addition, we are refreshing menus for both eateries.

Pool:

The Seabreeze pool and its restrooms will be updated, and new pool furniture will be added.

Beach:

We've purchased a beach cleaner to groom and restore our beautiful Little Bay beach, and the sea and sand will be ready for guests.

Lobby:

New furniture will be added to the lobby, the restrooms in the building will be renovated and we're adding new bellman carts.

Public Spaces:

Public spaces throughout the resort will be rebuilt and improved, including a new roof for the main building as well as new exterior paint and lighting and porcelain-tiled corridors. All retail buildings will receive new roofs, exterior paint and lighting. In addition, the parking area in front of the retail shops will be renovated, and will get new lighting. There will be a new parking area (where the tennis court once was) and new thatch roofs will be added to the taxi, car rental and bird cage areas.

Resort Activities/Shops:

All on-site shops, the gym, the Aqua Mania water sports center and the dock will be open. The Indulgence By The Sea Spa was rebuilt and reopened in December, and continues to serve locals and tourists alike.

Construction on the remaining renovations will be completed by early fall and include the following:

Units & Public Spaces:

Buildings 5-12, Buildings D, E, F & G, Casitas and Public Spaces will be completely renovated.

Pools:

We will be completely transforming what was our "casitas pool" into the new Pureocean Pool & Bar. In addition to this expansive, modern pool area, our popular Infinity Pool will also undergo a complete renovation and will receive new, modern furniture.

Food & Beverage:

Pureocean Restaurant and terrace will be completely renovated with a new, modern look. In addition to the newly named Fort Amsterdam Cafe, and a new Pureocean Pool Bar, the resort will be adding a fun new eatery called The Shack. The Shack will have delicious roti, jerk, BBQ and many island favorites. Gizmo's Bar & Grill will also reopen with a larger deck and a fresh look.

Thirdly, we know many of you have questions and concerns about the island. The good news is much of our friendly island is coming back slowly and we'd like to share some good news:

• Both airports (Princess Juliana & Grand Case International Airport) are operational and running about 60 flights a week from 12 different airlines.

• Princess Juliana Airport has opened a temporary departure pavilion to improve passenger comfort.

• Airlines have returned including: American (who is expected to add to the daily flight from Miami), Jet Blue (operating daily from JFK and resuming flights from Minneapolis through Boston), Delta (daily from Atlanta), West Jet (resumes April 28), KLM and Air France (from Paris).

• Cruise ships have returned including Royal Caribbean, Celebrity, Carnival, Princess, Holland America, Disney, MSC, Viking Sea, Seadream and Marella.

• Many restaurants and shops are back in business including: Toppers, Beirut, Lee's Roadside, Bombay Bites, Sale and Pepe, Little Jerusulem, Holland House and Green House. Plus, fine dining restaurants like Spiga and Chef Dino Jagtiani at the Rockland Estate are also open.

• Land-based activities including rain forest tours, ATV tours and Jeep safaris are 80% back in business.

• Loterie Farm has reopened and is once again offering zipline tours.

• Water-based activities including snorkeling trips and charters are running.

- 90% of the shops along Front and Back Streets in downtown Phillipsburg have reopened.
- St. Maarten's Heineken Regatta, a popular island event, takes place March 1-4.
- In April, the Island will celebrate Easter with the 5th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt.

• Carnival season also kicks off in April on the Dutch side of the island, with thrilling parades, colorful festivals, parties, pageants and more.

• In May, locals and tourists alike can enjoy Fish Day; a quirky event that celebrates all things fish.

• In June, one of the largest deep sea fishing tournaments in the Caribbean, the Billfish Tournament, returns to St. Maarten.

Lastly, as we hope you can imagine, the reconstruction of Little Bay has been a massive undertaking and we appreciate your support and patience throughout this process. For all of us at Divi Little Bay it's a labor of love, and we can't wait to welcome you and your family back to our beautiful resort!

As always, if your travel plans have changed, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via email at littlebayupdate@diviresorts.com. We ask for your patience as we work to accommodate everyone's requests and answer everyone's questions.

Thank you, Divi Little Bay Beach Resort Management

10. Hotel Mercure on S/B Lagoon Reopening & Expanding

Baki Arbia, Mercure GM, has done an incredible job getting this major property up and running. And he has bought Layla's and Ma Ti Beach across the street -- major acquisitions. See all the details <u>here.</u>

11. Grand Case Beach Club Reopening 10/1

Grand Case Beach Club says: "We have been BUSY - repairing and improving GCBC from top to bottom... for YOU! We are pleased to announce our intention to re-open on October 1, 2018."

They have been working tirelessly to open quickly. "Intention to re-open" doesn't promise a 10/1 reopening, but with this dedicated crew that's a pretty good bet.

We'll keep you posted.

12. L'Esplanade Hotel / Le Petit Hotel Updates

GM Kristin Petreluzzi tells us that Le Petit Hotel in Grand Case will reopen right on schedule June 1. L'Esplanade Hotel, on the hill behind Grand Case village, will be getting some improvements over the next several months, something that's not possible when the resort is loaded with guests. Its scheduled reopening is November 1.

13. Westin - Further Update

Columbia Sussex, the folks who own and are responsible for the Westin St. Maarten Resort and Casino, are choosing not to comment at this time about the future of the resort.

We had made some observations about its future in our last issue, suggesting that it will be rebuilt much stronger and perhaps even in a different position on the property to withstand future severe storms. We also offered the observation / opinion that it might very well be rebranded, perhaps to a Marriott. The executive with whom we made contact declined to offer any further comments on the resort's future, and he chose not to confirm or deny our observations.

We'll all find out together what's going to happen at the Westin, hopefully in the next couple of months. As always, we'll keep you posted.

The Dawn Beach Club situation was updated in last week's issue of SXM Weekly News.

14. La Samanna - Further Update

We don't normally report rumors on SXM, since facts and rumors constantly intermingle in conversations across the island.But two rampant rumors hit us last week and we decided, this time, to tell you about both of them.

There is ample reason to take seriously the rumor that Belmond La Samanna resort is being sold or has already been sold. Communications we made to the resort drew no response.

However, in recent weeks, as we reported here in *SXM Weekly News*, the resort has dismissed virtually its entire staff, with only a small skeleton crew remaining. It has said publicly that it is focusing on restoring and reopening its ultraluxury resort on Anguilla in priority over St. Martin.If it regarded reopening its French Side property promptly, it would seem to us that La Samanna would have kept its people on to clear debris, fix vegetation, clean, and start the rebuilding process as soon as insurance settlements allow. However, it has done the opposite.

We don't know what the future holds for this resort, but we will do our best to find out for you -- and we'll keep you posted.

15. Riu Palace Sold?

The RIU Palace Hotel in Anse Marcel, French Side -- formerly Radisson Blu and L'Habitation, both of which spent millions trying to upgrade it -- may again be on the chopping block, or already sold. Folks we reached there refused to comment on widespread reports about a possible sale of the resort.

It was with much fanfare several years back — right around the beginning of the Great Recession — that Radisson had bought the property, and wound up spending reportedly in excess of \$100 million to upgrade the facility.

Clearly unable to recoup that investment, Radisson re-sold the resort to RIU, a large multinational chain based in Spain. RIU spent more money but still didn't do very well at the property, industry sources tell us. So now, supposedly, it is ready to be resold again -- or it has already been sold.

The Euro, still the currency of the French side, has been growing stronger against the dollar to the point where almost all French Side restaurants now are charging a premium for dollar-denominated sales. One Euro on Saturday night cost \$1.23.

French Side residents are going to the new Carrefour market near Philipsburg since pricing there is better for them. Most island tourists come with dollars, so any chain taking over any large resort on the French Side has a challenge ahead of them.

We'll keep an eye on this and we will keep you posted.

16. Oyster Bay Beach Resort Update

Oyster Bay Beach Resort (OBBR) is slated to reopen 68 units and many other resort amenities on June 1, right on schedule, and plans to reopen the rest of its Dawn Beach facility early in December of this year. More -- as we reported here last week -- is <u>here</u>.

See next story.

17. Dawn Beach Update

Structures on most SXM beaches on both sides of the island were hammered by hurricane Irma last September.

Oddly enough, the beaches themselves are in surprisingly good shape — some with seemingly tons more beach sand than before. But bars and restaurants that dotted many beaches have been all but erased. There are a few new small structures at Club Orient, the naturist resort at the southern end of Orient beach, but not much else has as yet been restored there. Two reasons — slow insurance payments and French government reluctance to permit similar building which could result in similar devastation in another category five storm sometime in the future.

We've reported recently about Orient beach and Kim Sha beach; here's a brief update on Dawn beach:

Oyster Bay Beach Resort (OBBR), Coral Beach Club, Dawn Beach Club, Mr. Busby's Beach Bar, and Daniel's by the Sea restaurant all were prominent features on Dawn beach until Irma hit. All are now closed and except for Oyster Bay they'll stay that way for some months to come. OBBR is scheduled for reopening soon; see the preceding articles, and Dawn Beach Club is moving toward reopening as well.

Since there is virtually nothing open on it, virtually no one is currently attracted to Dawn beach. That will change soon when OBBR reopens and as more tourists return to the island.

Right now, beach access is problematic since the Westin is closed (which was a primary route), King Beau Beau's at OBBR is closed for now, which was another route; and the beach access behind Mr. Busby's Beach Bar, largely destroyed by Irma, is temporarily blocked by debris removed from the Busby site. Busby's and Daniel's by the Sea, and related properties, are in limbo right now still awaiting final insurance settlements.

We're sure Oyster Bay Beach Resort will ensure beach access before they reopen. But until then, you're probably better off going to some of the island's other beaches; complete information about them is on the beaches page of our main SXM site, everythingSXM.com. Other beaches are open; despite the fact that our beaches page was written before Irma, it is accurate other than for its mentions of amenities at various beaches.

You can also pick up extensive information on our Everything SXM Facebook Site.

18. Heads Up To JMB Members Re: Timeshare Ads

If you currently have a timeshare rental ad posted on our everythingsxm.com site, it's imperative that you verify with the resort that your weeks are available for use. If not, it is your responsibility to use the "cancel ads" feature on the Secret Site to instruct us to remove the ads.

As always, access the Secret Site through the orange login box below the masthead on everythingsxm.com. Your

username is the email address to which we sent this message. If you don't recall your password, click "Forgot / Change Password" in the login box to change it; the process is automated and quick

By the way... virtually every issue of *SXM Weekly News* (especially this one and last week's) updates the status of timeshare resorts that had been knocked offline by Irma. Plus, resorts are keeping timeshare owners aware of status by email. If you don't have current info about the status of your resort, contact them to be sure your weeks are available for use.

We want to be absolutely certain that all ads on our site are for weeks that are 100% available.

19. Update on Villa Onyi

Last Spring and Summer, we told you about Villa Onyi, a gorgeous spot in Point Blanch that has been featured on HGTV. Located on a hilltop, it's gorgeous, serene, beautifully equipped, and astoundingly scenic.

The great news is that it survived hurricane Irma in fantastic shape, barely any issues, The bad news is that its owners live there for now since their home was destroyed by Irma. The plan though is for them to reside there, fixing what needs fixing during their stay, and then move off the property late this year or early in 2019. We love the place and you will too -- so we'll keep you posted on its status.

More news follows this message:

*******Final Days!******

Mid Winter JMB Membership Sale Ends Soon!

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

Join, Renew, or Reinstate Today: Ends Soon!

<u>New JMB memberships</u>: One year \$39; Two, \$59; Our Best Offer: Four Years just <u>\$99</u> http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

<u>Renewal JMB memberships</u>: One year, \$35; Our Best Offer: Five Years just <u>\$99</u> www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

JMB Membership Reinstatements: One year, \$35; Our Best Offer: Five Years just \$99 http://everythingsxm.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!

20. Demolition Underway at Summit Resort Hotel

Destroyed by hurricane Irma, Summit Resort Hotel will not be rebuilt, as we've previously reported. Owner Bruce Jakubovitz writes, "We started demolition a couple of weeks ago. I remember what happened at Mullet Bay after Luis and the way their partially destroyed buildings became hangouts for rather unsavory types and I didn't want that to happen to the Summit. I'm exploring ideas for what to do next, if anything, but would also be content to let the land sit and 'rest' for a year or two while the island recovers. Still too early to say what we'll do."

21. Club Orient Launches Rebuilding Program

The long anticipated rebuilding program at the Club Orient naturist resort at the southern end of Orient beach on the French side is now underway.

The Resort's owners comment: "Finally, our long-awaited clean-up has begun. We have a crew on-site 6 days per week with heavy equipment removing all the debris and refuse from the storm. We all would have liked to be able to start sooner, but it has been a logistical nightmare for the Copro (HOA) who is responsible for the vast majority of Club Orient grounds.

"It is estimated it will take 4 to 6 weeks to completion and we can then look forward to beginning the repair on the units not completely destroyed by Irma. It is still our goal to have units to rent by years end.

"We look forward to welcoming you back as soon as [we] can. All of this would not have been possible without your much appreciated support and the kind notes which you continue to send, never fail to remind us that without you we would have no reason to rebuild."

22. Perfection: Summer '18 Vacation in SXM

When you go away for your summer vacation, does it sometimes seem to you that half the planet goes with you? Are you tired of all that congestion?SXM is the answer to huge crowds, mammoth traffic jams, over-the-top pricing, and sweltering humidity. If you want the exact opposite of all those things — plus beautiful quiet beaches, warm

tropical waters, and fantastic restaurants, your summer vacation -- this year especially -- should be in SXM.

For more information, see everythingSXM.com and also our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>. To reserve your own Villa or timeshare condominium, please see our everythingSXM.com site, where hundreds are listed.

23. SkyMed Bonuses Greatly Simplified & Updated

We've published a few SkyMed bonuses in recent months and SkyMed published its own bonus recently. We decided to simplify things so your "bonus" process is much faster and easier. Here are the details:

From SkyMed, about the new SkyMed Loyalty Program: If you're a SkyMed member with an annual or longer SkyMed medevac membership, you can recommend SkyMed to a friend (and tell us their name and phone number

if that's OK with them). When they join SkyMed through us with an annual or longer new SkyMed membership, you get an extension of a month of your current, unexpired SkyMed membership. No limit -- recommend 10 people who join through us and you get 10 extensions to your own SkyMed membership. It's a neat program -- do plan to take advantage of it soon.

From JMB, **SkyMed Bonuses (New)**: When you upgrade your annual SkyMed membership (bought through us) to a 3- or 5-year SkyMed Ultimate, or when you get a new Ultimate through us, we'll give you a JMB Website Supporters membership extension equal to the duration of your SkyMed purchase. <u>All you need do</u> is forward your SkyMed "welcome" email to us, and ask for the JMB extension.

When upgrading to or purchasing a new 5-year SkyMed Ultimate membership (their best and *least expensive* product), if you opt for automatic renewals (which gives you their 10-year price guarantee), we will give you a 10-year extension of your JMB Website Supporters membership. All you need do here as well is forward your SkyMed "welcome" email to us, and ask for the JMB extension.

Note: if you are renewing your existing five-year Ultimate purchased through us, we'll give you a five year extension of your JMB Website Supporters membership. Again, you must forward us your "Welcome" email to get this, and request it.

<u>All bonus years are for JMB Website Supporters memberships only</u>. This offer may expire at any time. It's a great way to get SkyMed peace-of-mind and add to your JMB Website Supporters membership simultaneously -- and without it costing you anything out-of-pocket.

To qualify for any of our SkyMed bonuses, you must purchase / upgrade a SkyMed membership through us at getskymed.com, via phone at 508-747-8281, or directly with SkyMed International *if and only if* you tell them when joining that you were referred by Everything SXM / Jeff Berger. The bonuses do not apply to any memberships not purchased through us and are not combinable with any other offers.

For answers to SkyMed questions or to sign up, call us at 508-747-8281 or email us at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Please use the subject "SkyMed."

Key Advantages of SkyMed Annual & Multiyear Memberships Versus Short-Term SkyMed Memberships:

<u>SkyMed short-term memberships</u> "Take You Home" to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. But when they expire, you must apply for new protection when you next travel - and serious changes in your health could make it impossible to qualify. Plus, family short-term coverage costs about \$15/day and that's a lot of money.

By contrast, <u>SkyMed Annual and multivear Ultimate family memberships</u> currently cost only about \$1.30/day, and they give you family coverage*. What's more, SkyMed Ultimate multivear memberships offer even more protection -- including global coverage through our Global ETS program. And all annual or longer SkyMed memberships are guaranteed renewable at the current membership fee applicable to all members regardless of your age or health at the time of renewal. You could be 109 years old and still be protected by your SkyMed membership.

There is also <u>no age limit</u> to apply for SkyMed memberships -- and <u>all pre-existing conditions are covered after a</u> <u>brief</u>

90-day waiting period after your annual or multiyear membership begins. (They're covered in full immediately in

short-term memberships.)

SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. Why risk waiting? For answers to SkyMed questions or to sign up, call us at 508-747-8281 or email us at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Please use the subject "SkyMed."

24. 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@imbcommunications.com and he'll be happy to answer all your questions.

New Bonuses now in effect; see preceding story.

25. Restaurant of the Week

Returns soon.

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, <u>www.sailstmaarten.com</u> (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, <u>www.canoasxm.com</u> (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, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u> (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, <u>https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777</u> 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, <u>www.pineapplepete.com</u> (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 <u>Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Site</u>. Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

26. Our Thanks <u>To You</u>...

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 <u>Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Site</u> (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 <u>free</u>. <u>Quite frankly, we need your help -- now more than</u> ever, thanks to Irma -- to be able to continue to research, write, and <u>distribute Weekly News every week</u>. 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:

- <u>Contribute</u>. Any contribution amount is very much appreciated. If you want to use PayPal, send it to jeff@jmbcommunications.com</u>. 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 everythingsxm.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.

- <u>Check Out Our Extensive Website Design / Content Creation / Website Hosting Services</u>. 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.

27. 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 **SkyMed bonus** -- just extended and expanded -- is simple. See previous stories, above.

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 <u>upfront in cash</u> — 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 <u>www.getskymed.com</u> or contact Jeff any business day (including this week) Eastern time at 508-747-8281 (fastest) or email him at <u>jeff.berger@skymed.com</u>. Include your return telephone number and time zone. He'll be happy to answer your questions and can even take an application by phone.

28. 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 <u>www.getskymed.com</u>. Got questions? Phone SkyMed Ambassador Jeff Berger at 508-747-8281 weekdays during regular office hours, Eastern time. Email Jeff at <u>jeff.berger@skymed.com</u> or <u>jeff@jmbcommunications.com</u>.

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

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.

29. 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 <u>JMB Website Supporters</u> members exclusively. When you apply, you can get a <u>10 year price guarantee</u> as well simply by noting on the application that you want an automatic renewal. <u>That's the equivalent of paying \$499 per year for 10 years</u>— an extraordinary price guarantee in times that are tumultuous politically worldwide. You get many features and benefits, too; <u>here they are</u>. 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.

You must join through us at our site or by phone to get all these benefits. Learn more at <u>www.getskymed.com</u> or call our SkyMed Northeast Sales Office at 508-747-8281. You can also apply by phone, easily, in about 10 minutes.

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

That's what we do:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

In business since the web began --

a unit of JMB Communications.

30. 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: <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/getting_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml</u>

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

31. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

Look here for our PDF archives: <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml</u>. 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: <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>.

Want to rent or buy a week?

2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingsxm.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 <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>. To change your password, click that same link.

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

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

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

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

To unsubscribe, go here: <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>. You **CAN** <u>NOT</u> unsubscribe either by replying to this email or, if you are an AOL user, by clicking the *spam* button on AOL.

To change your email address, visit <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. *JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access*.

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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, <u>http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u>. 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 .

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