

From JMB/SXM Weekly News 7/2/18: Airport Actions post-WestJet Incident; Evacuees' Luggage; OBBR Assessment; Diamond Writes to T/S Owners; La Samanna Reopening; Westin Status; Many Restaurant & Island Updates; Carrefour News (40 stories)

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Happy Birthday, America!

Vol. 2, #1158 --- Monday, July 2, 2018
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

Island News

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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: www.jmbcommunications.com

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

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IMPORTANT: "Jeff1620" is an unmonitored send-only email address. For Contact info, see [#Contact Us](#) 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 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 306,000 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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Download PDFs of Recent Editions ---- Attention iPad, iPhone, Note, and Android Users

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://everythingxm.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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-- ***Airlines Could Add More Flights to Winter Schedules***

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-- ***Last Call for Evacuees To Reclaim Left-Behind Luggage, But...***

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-- ***Diamond Resorts Letter to Timeshare Owners***
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-- ***SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic***

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40 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://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 12/29/2018 1/5/2019 Week 52 **Simpson Bay Resort and Marina** Newly renovated and fully equipped Studio, sleeps 2 (King bed, full kitchen, safe in room, AC, Cable TV, internet, Beaumontia Building/Lower B.) Next to large pool, tennis courts, parking. On premises: 5 pools, great beach, water sports and marina (tours depart daily), grocery store, ATM, fitness center, Spa, tennis courts, nightclub, casino, restaurants, sports bar, sports bar, rental car, shops, security, children's playgrounds (land and water), activity program for adults and children, guest laundry, concierge. Walking distances to some of St. Maarten's best restaurants. \$1200 + SXM Resort Tax (\$50)
mariebowman@pacbell.net

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 11/17/2018 11/24/2018 46 **Divi Little Bay** Studio Luxury (one bedroom, bath, kitchen, lounge, patio), sleeps 4. Building 10E, first floor. Breath taking views overlooking Philipsburg, Great Bay. Contract requires maintenance to be paid only when you use the week. \$5,500 Andy 1-289-723-1450 gough_andy@yahoo.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](#)

This Week's Stories

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

"Like" Our ["Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM" 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.everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

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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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- 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://everythingxm.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. Huge News From SXM Airport: Terminal Reopening Plans, More US Flights, New Airlines, New Gates

After an extensive interview with top SXM Airport officials, we issued a rare *SXM Weekly News Special Edition* late last week focused almost entirely on critically important airport news.

Among its topics: exactly when and how SXM Airport will reopen, which gave us several surprises; what additional US airlines are expected to start service in SXM; what airlines not already announced will be increasing or adding new departure cities for flights to SXM; and details about the forthcoming preclearance program and about the expansion of SXM Airport to include additional gates.

If you missed that major news, visit our online [SXM Weekly News PDF Archives](#). There you'll find all *SXM Weekly News* issues for about the last four years, most recent first, including that SXM Airport Special Edition. It's news you can use.

If you have friends who should be sharing what we publish here in *SXM Weekly News*, tell them they can subscribe free at sxmweeklynews.com.

2. Airport: Actions Underway So "WestJet" Like-Incident Can "Never, Ever Happen Again"

One of the topics covered in depth in our *SXM Weekly News Special Edition* concerning SXM Airport was the fallout from the incident involving a WestJet 737 that occurred at SXM Airport in the spring of 2017.

The incident was covered immediately after it happened in *SXM Weekly News* and on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). Only after a video of the plane's very low approach appeared online did Canadian officials become aware of the incident, about which they recently issued a report calling it reportable.

Information about their report and a link to it were in past issues of *SXM Weekly News*, which you can find in [our archives](#), here. You'll find the airport's response to our question about this incident in the *SXM Weekly News Special Edition* which we distributed on June 28, 2018 — along with information about the steps the airport is taking to make sure an incident like this cannot happen again.

Ultimately, the WestJet aircraft landed safely. No one on the plane or on the ground was injured — but it was clearly a close call.

3. Airlines Could Add More Flights to Winter Schedules

The acting CEO of SXM Airport said in our interview that he believes airlines may increase winter flight frequencies beyond their currently scheduled levels.

You'll find the context of his comments and the comments themselves among the questions and answers in our SXM Airport Special Edition of *SXM Weekly News* posted in our PDF archives for *SXM Weekly News*, which are [here](#).



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

Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships: One yr. \$33; THREE yrs \$73; *BEST* 6 years \$123

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

4. 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 SXM 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.

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.*

Download your own NHC Hurricane Chart:

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

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

The exact charts used by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) are available for download from the NHC [here](#).

Select "Atlantic" and you're good to go. You can print out the chart and use it repeatedly, or simply print a bunch of them and use one for each storm that may approach an area of interest -- like, SXM. Bear in mind that this hurricane season may well be frontloaded — so you might want to print a few of these now and *not* save doing that for later.

5. Get The 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.

6. Oyster Bay Beach Resort Levies Hurricane Assessment

To the best of our knowledge, virtually all SXM timeshares don't fully ensure their facilities. Doing so would be cost prohibitive — which means that basically, every year, the resorts would have to fund their huge hurricane insurance

investments with an equally huge increase in annual maintenance fees.

Storms like Irma, thankfully, are pretty rare birds -- or at least they have been historically. So it makes sense to timeshare owners and to the resorts to buy as much hurricane insurance as they could reasonably afford and use special assessments to cover damages not covered by that insurance.

That's why many resorts wind up charging special assessments after major hurricane damage — we believe that in the long run, the cost to timeshare owners actually tends to be less than were the resorts fully insured.

The Oyster Bay Beach Resort special assessment letter is in the Files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) as a downloadable PDF.

7. Diamond Resorts Letter to Timeshare Owners

The following letter was sent late last week by Diamond Resorts to timeshare owners at both Royal Palm Beach resort and Flamingo Beach Resort, its two properties on SXM:

Though the process may seem slow so far, work is well underway. When Hurricane Irma made direct landfall on St. Maarten last September, the powerful Category 5 storm battered the island for more than six hours. Professional assessment teams determined we need to demolish the entire interior of every unit at both resorts. Royal Palm Beach Resort and Flamingo Beach Resort also sustained significant exterior damage to the windows, sliding doors, entry doors and roofs.

We want to thank all of the members, owners and guests who showed concern and compassion for our team members during the crisis. We are pleased to note that all of our team members are safe and many have found other employment on the island while the resorts are under construction. We also are thrilled to announce that Mervin LeBlanc, Area General Manager for the resorts, was recently recognized by the American Resort Development Association (ARDA) for his selfless actions before, during and after the storm.

Below are updates and photos of each resort. In an effort to keep you informed, we will continue to send you these quarterly updates and will be posting significant progress reports on Twitter and Facebook, @DiamondResorts. You can also find monthly updates on [DiamondResorts.com](#) under the specific resort pages.

At this time, we do not have an exact date for when the resorts will reopen, but current estimates reflect the construction process to last until the end of March 2020. We are hopeful that construction will be completed sooner, but are setting realistic timelines based on many unknown factors, including weather and limited resources, which could impact the schedule. Our goal is to welcome you back to Royal Palm Beach Resort and Flamingo Beach Resort as soon as possible, so you can enjoy all that the charming island has to offer.

We thank you for your patience and understanding throughout the process.

8. "Chic, New" La Samanna To Reopen This Fall

Belmond has posted:

We are excited to announce our sparkling beach retreat, [Belmond La Samanna](#), is back on the scene in [#StMartin](#). Following a chic restyle, the resort will be ready to welcome guests from 10th December 2018. Book your next escape at [this site](#).

We do not know what Belmond's concept of "chic" is but we will find out and share with you what we find. We believe there will be significant differences between what La Samanna was and what it will become....

9. Westin St. Maarten Resort Status

Although nothing official has yet been announced concerning the status and future of the Westin St. Maarten Resort and Casino, we believe that this resort — like a number of other resorts on the island and elsewhere in the Caribbean affected by hurricanes Irma and Maria — is simply waiting for final settlement of its very large insurance claims. Our sense is that they know what they will do, lacking only insurance financing — and that they will announce everything as soon as their claims have been settled, which we expect should be quite soon.

It has been a long wait for everyone, particularly the resort owners. As always, we'll keep you posted as soon as we hear anything.

10. Don't Forget Those Atrium "Release" Fees

If you missed our article last week concerning Atrium Resort timeshare "Release Fees" — and if you are an Atrium timeshare owner, look at your contract and see if it says anything about your liability to pay so-called release fees if you decide to return your timeshare week or weeks to the resort.

People returning their weeks now are being charged up to about \$2400 per week by the resort as a release fee. We were contacted by a couple of these people who looked at their contracts closely and found no mention of a release fee. We're not lawyers, but it seems to us and to others that if such fees are not built into your timeshare contract, you may not be liable to pay them. \$2400 is not a small number.

If you are being told that you need to pay release fees and you don't see any mention of them in your contract, we suggest you contact an attorney in SXM experienced in timeshare law. The cost of 1/2 hour consultation with an attorney should be a fraction of the cost of paying a release fee that you probably don't even owe.

11. Re-check Your Check-In, Check-Out Times

It may well pay you to check, recheck, and check again your check-in and checkout times at your resort — especially if it's a timeshare.

Some timeshares specify check-in and checkout times in their contracts but over time, they may well change those check-in and checkout times without notifying timeshare owners. So it's a wise idea to recheck your check-in and checkout times to make sure your check-in and checkout actually do check out properly.

12. Hundreds of SXM Timeshare & Villa Rentals Available

With several timeshare resorts back online — Belair, Sea Palace, Divi, Atrium Resort, Simpson Bay Resort, with Oyster Bay Beach following quickly -- 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: they were heavily revised during each of the last two weeks and will be updated again this week.

13. Timeshare Calendar Updated

Our [everythingSXM.com](#) website includes hundreds of 2018 and 2019 condo rentals at timeshares across the island, timeshare weeks for sale, and villa rentals.

We last week updated the Timesharing Calendar on the rentals page of our site to cover all years through 2024; for those of you who wish to plan well in advance.

We thank Simpson Bay Resort for supplying this calendar, which we believe applies to most resorts. Do check with your resort to verify that these dates apply to you. The link to the calendar is in the first several paragraphs on our

timeshare rentals page.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

14. JMB 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 continue to roll out a number of entirely new discounts and benefits.

We recently started adding new discounts and benefits. Please stay tuned; special messages will be sent to all JMB Website Supporters members as more new benefits are rolled out.

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

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

Major Airport Special Edition: Where To Download It
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Last week, we published a major special edition of *SXM Weekly News* concerning *SXM Airport*. It contained huge news regarding the latest terminal reopening plans; the addition of more flights between US points of embarkation and *SXM*, including new airlines; information about new gates coming to the airport; and information about preclearance for US customs and immigration which, the airport formally announced in our interview will be coming — and when.

If you missed our Special Edition, it has now been posted in our *SXM Weekly News* PDF archives, [here](#).

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SUMMER MEMBERSHIP SALE

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Get Hundreds of SXM Discounts,
Many other Benefits,
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Get, Renew, or Reinstate a JMB Membership Today:

New JMB memberships: One year \$44, THREE years \$79 and SIX years \$139
http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships: One yr., \$33; THREE yrs., \$73; 6 yrs., \$123
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

LEAD STORY: Last Call for Evacuees To Reclaim Left-Behind Luggage, But...

Shortly after hurricane Irma ravaged SXM almost 10 months ago, transport planes from US Air National Guard bases brought thousands of Americans from the otherwise then-unusable SXM Airport to San Juan, from which they were able to make connections home. The problem was that virtually all of the passengers' luggage could not be evacuated, so it just stayed there.

Although we later ran several stories telling people how they could reclaim their luggage, not everyone subscribes to *SXM Weekly News* — so hundreds of suitcases sat in the terminal — many of them wet from the effects of Irma and Maria.

There they have sat, ever since, although the owners of a number of suitcases had been identified and the owners paid for the return of the suitcases. *Now the airport is saying that owners must reclaim any remaining suitcases or they will be disposed of.*

Please feel free to pass along this story... The specific language is:

"The Princess Juliana International Airport hereby requests the persons who were evacuated between September 8 and October 8, 2017 and have not yet claimed their bags to come forward. Person should contact the marketing and customer service department via email at mcd@sxmairport.com with a description of the contents and bag i.e. color, size, hard or soft case, brand, etc. if possible to send along a picture of the bag. The deadline to reclaim bags is Friday, July 13, 2018. Bags not claimed by the mentioned date will be disposed of by the airport."

The bad news: since the suitcases have been sitting in the airport for many months, after being in a very wet environment where mold existed, your suitcases may not be worth reclaiming. It's up to you to decide whether you want to go ahead; we just wanted to ensure that you have the information to enable you to decide.

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**or call Jeff for answers to questions
during normal office hours, Eastern time:
508-747-8281**

See the [rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits.](#)

15. Mario's Bistro Introduces Creative, Delicious Sunday Lunch

Mario Tardif, whose Mario's Bistro in Porto Cupecoy Is one of the very best restaurants of any kind on the island, is venturing into the world of Sunday lunches — not to be confused with Sunday brunches.

Mario's dining experience is always nothing less than spectacular, and we're sure his Sunday lunches will be equally so. They run from noon to 3pm.

When you're on the island, forget the beach midday on Sunday and head to Mario's — but definitely make advance reservations as we expect that even under current circumstances, this restaurant will be busy. To get to Mario's, park in the main lot at Porto Cupecoy, walk inside to the main plaza, and you'll find Mario's near the end of the Plaza on the right-hand side. If you go late any day, you will find staff in the restaurant preparing for the day's service. Or call for reservations: 1 721 523 2760.

16. Spiga Summer Break Starts July 21 to October

Cafe Spiga is doing its annual closing a bit earlier than usual this year and taking a well deserved break. They will be closing on July 21, which gives you three weeks to enjoy this restaurant's exquisite food before they close until some time in October. For more information see their website, spiga-sxm.com.

**[Get The Current Low Price
on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership](#)**

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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. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

17. Sale & Pepe Closes July 1 to July 22

The popular Sale and Pepe Italian restaurant will be closed for vacation from July 1 until July 22.

18. July Weather "Best of The Year"

If you're sweltering in the US right now, you should come down to SXM and cool off.

July weather in SXM is way better than what you're going through at home. Yes the temperature is in the 80s and sometimes hotter, but humidity is low, showers are rare, thunderstorms are usually unheard of, and sea breezes are soothing.

Besides which, the temperature of the ocean water is usually in the 80s — far preferable to the frigid ocean temperatures near the most populous coastal cities in the US. In fact, most of the people who have been to SXM in July declare that it is the best weather of the year on the island — and it is never crowded, unlike Cape Cod, the Jersey shore, and Long Island. And the restaurants aren't particularly crowded either. That's why last year we began our Summertime vacation giveaway, which is now about to end; see next story.

+++++

SUMMER MEMBERSHIP SALE

NOW UNDERWAY

+++++

Get Hundreds of SXM Discounts
and Many Other Benefits,
& Invitations to all our Island Parties,
exclusively for JMB Website Supporters members:
Get, Renew, or Reinstate a JMB Membership Today:

New JMB memberships: One year \$44, THREE years \$79 and SIX years \$139

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

Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships: One yr., \$33; THREE yrs., \$73; 6 yrs., \$123

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

19. Vacation Giveaway Ending Friday July 13th: Enter Today

Almost over -- you must enter by Friday July 13.

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 will change. All vacations are subject to availability. Drawing is expected to be held later this Summer.

-- 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....

20. Has Lee's Found a New Home?

As many readers will recall, Lee's Roadside Grill in Simpson Bay opposite Royal Palm Resort closed a few months ago after a long and bitter battle between Lee and his landlord.

The landlord has since demolished the restaurant.

Word on the street was that Lee had another location picked out, but that agreement didn't materialize. We don't usually post rumors in *SXM Weekly News*, but we are hearing widespread reports that Lee has found another location for his iconic restaurant. It has always been clear that he had no intention of disappearing into the sunset. Now it appears the restaurant may reappear on the horizon of hungry tourists sooner, rather than later. As soon as we are able to confirm anything, we'll pass it along.

21. How To Find What You Missed

If you don't know what you don't know about SXM, how can you find it out?

There are three ways.

First, practically everything about SXM that's news is covered in *SXM Weekly News* every week. Our online [SXM Weekly News PDF Archives](#) deliver downloadable versions of our newsletters quickly and conveniently. Plus, our PDF archives page lets you easily search top stories and find what you want quickly and easily.

Second, our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) contains tens of thousands of posts, thousands of pictures, and dozens of Files, all of them containing an enormous amount of island information.

Third, seen and used by more than 5.5 million people, our [everythingSXM.com](#) website is a huge source of detailed island information — literally everything you could possibly be looking for.

22. "French Side or Dutch" Poll Results

Our very popular [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#), which now has over 21,000 members, sometimes runs polls on various topics.

In the last several days, we ran a poll simply titled French Side versus Dutch Side. There were many hundreds of votes and dozens of comments, but the Dutch side came out on top.

Do visit our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) to check out that and other polls and for a wide range of additional island information.

23. Want to Start or Buy an SXM Business?

Commercially, times are very fluid in SXM. Although many businesses have come back and are welcoming tourists and locals, some others have closed, as we list on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). And others are for sale, either openly or via real estate agents.

If you have ever thought of relocating to SXM to buy or open a business, realize of course that it is not as simple as simply moving to another state in the US — SXM is a foreign country (two, actually). We post some information about business origination on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). We have many members there who are US and Canadian ex-pats — so if you are seriously interested in making this kind of major move, we strongly suggest you seek their advice on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). Ask questions and you'll get the answers you're looking for.

24. Sargasso Seaweed Situation

Sargassum seaweed from the Sargasso Sea, well north and east of the northeastern Caribbean, has been intermittently plaguing much of the US Gulf Coast and most of the Caribbean since 2011.

For a number of months after hurricane Irma struck, after the cleanup, beaches were quite pristine and free of this nuisance seaweed.

As we have reported over the last couple of months here in *SXM Weekly News* and on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#), where we also have shown many pictures, the Sargassum seaweed has returned even though it is removed on most beaches every day by beach attendants. The situation is fluid; to check on particular beaches, just ask about their status on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) and you will get quick replies, often with new pictures.

25. Sarafina Bakery / Restaurant Moving to Marina Royale

Sarafina, for many years the most popular bakery on the island, was destroyed by Irma's 18 foot storm surge and its wailing 185 mile-per-hour sustained winds.

We're now hearing that it is moving to Marina Royale, which will give that somewhat beleaguered erstwhile culinary center a good shot in the arm. Not only is the bakery coming back, but a sitdown restaurant is supposed to be in the

offing as well, coming this fall.

As soon as we hear more about the timing of Sarafina's return, we'll publish it here in *SXM Weekly News*.

26. Bikini Watersports Reopens on Orient Beach

In a sign of the beginning of Orient beach's reawakening as a commercial beach, Bikini Watersports has now reopened and is available during normal daytime hours.

27. Casino Royale "Reopening Soon"

A video from casino Royale shows intense rebuilding of that centerpiece of the entire Maho district. You can check it out [here](#).

The video says that the casino will reopen "soon" — but it does not define "soon." Our guess is October or November, but that's only a guess. We'll keep you posted. See next story.

28. Chinese Workers Arrive for Maho Construction

People on the island and elsewhere have been wondering to themselves how the Maho group is going to accomplish its announced intent to reopen Sonesta Ocean Point and Sonesta Maho — certainly one of the largest hotels on the island — quickly, during the upcoming winter season. It appears that they may have hired many hundreds of construction workers from China to expedite the rebuilding. Social media posts including pictures suggest that up to 1600 Chinese workers will be involved in the projects, though we have no idea where they may be staying. The report has not yet been confirmed by the Maho group, but has been reported by knowledgeable people on the island.

29. Update on Animal Travel in Airplanes

For years, as we've been reporting here, individuals dressed up their house pets as support animals and brought them on airplanes, much to the consternation of most other passengers. Often the pets sat on the floor, making it impossible for people who had paid for premium seats to use them since there was no place for their feet.

Complaints by the thousands rained down on airlines, which have finally reacted especially in recent weeks. Airlines have tightened rules to prevent the cabins of aircraft from being taken over by sometimes unruly pets.

Airports aren't particularly happy either, since dogs are causing problems inside Terminals. [This story](#) from *USA Today* covers that angle very effectively.

30. Vet on ATV Critically Hurt in Road Accident

Last week, a veteran and his girlfriend vacationing in the Caribbean decided to do some exploring in a "quad," or open all-wheel-drive all-terrain vehicle (ATV). There was an accident during which the veteran sustained critical head injuries. ATVs have a high center of gravity and can become unstable in off the road use, causing a large number of accidents often regardless of whether the drivers have ATV experience.

A friend of the couple called us asking what she could do beyond the calls that she was making to the Veterans Administration, to members of Congress, and to anyone else she could think of to try to get her friends evacuated and admitted into US hospitals on an urgent basis.

There were two huge problems.

First, an emergency helicopter or medevac jet evacuation routinely costs tens of thousands of dollars payable in cash in advance and the couple simply did not have that kind of money, their friend told us. As far as we know, the Veterans Administration also typically doesn't provide any kind of emergency medical evacuation to veterans or anyone else who are outside the US.

We made some suggestions, but the reality is that without money there was literally nothing the couple could do except pray that he pulls through and try to raise money from friends or on gofundme to get him home, though doing that on a super urgent basis seldom works.

We have not heard anything further since last week.

This is another reason we keep repeating how critical it is for you to protect yourself in advance against some kind of calamity — a critical illness or injury that means you suddenly have to get home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust and who can take care of you where your insurance works.

Please don't delay protecting yourself; nothing is more important than your health. See getSKYMED.com or call Jeff any weekday Eastern time at 508-747-8281.

31. Grandparents w/ Grandkids? They're Covered

During summer, many grandparents travel with their grandchildren to a spectrum of destinations, not just SXM. Are kids traveling with you covered by your SkyMed membership? Yes they are, assuming they're under age 18 and are traveling exclusively with you, not their parents. And on your SkyMed family plan, you need not pay extra for this coverage.

Get yourself covered: getSkyMed.com, or call us with your questions at 508-747-8281 any weekday during normal business hours Eastern time. We can also expedite your application over the phone — apps take roughly 10 minutes, after which we secure them and send them to SkyMed electronically. Turnaround is often only two business days, but if you have pre-existing conditions allow a little extra time. Don't put it off.

32. A Short Story Answering Your Question, "Why?"

My wife and I were returning from dinner with friends in Grand Case several years back, when my wife suddenly felt hot and had breathing difficulty.

It got worse, when she nearly passed out as we approached Sapphire Beach Club and I immediately asked for an ambulance to be called. She was hot one minute, cold the next.

I thought it might be a stroke because she had trouble talking. The ambulance arrived quickly, walked through what we had for dinner, and after a tortuous hour trying to figure out what had happened, she started feeling better and declined a visit to the hospital.

Only some time later, back home, did we find out she has a severe allergy to a certain cheese -- and that had triggered the entire episode.

Although it was a relief, it was also the first time that I realized *talking* about medical evacuation wasn't enough -- it was about 14 years ago and that scare is what made me buy what I had recommended for the prior two years to others, but had never bought myself. It scared me into realizing that anything can happen to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

A number of readers have asked me over the years why, exactly, do I talk about SkyMed medical evacuation protection. An emergency trip home on a medevac jet today could easily cost upwards of \$50,000 payable in cash in advance -- *without* SkyMed. No money, no medevac jet home. From overseas, the cost can easily be twice that. Now you know why I've been a bit evangelical about it: it really is a remarkably big deal.

Please allow me a few very quick facts:

First, there is **no age limit** to buy SkyMed; you can apply at any age. Pre-existing conditions are covered at once on short-term memberships, and after a short 90-day waiting period on annual and longer memberships.

Second, annual and multi-year SkyMed memberships are **guaranteed renewable** as long as you like, regardless of advancing age or declining health. You just pay your renewals on time.

Third, **SkyMed memberships don't get more expensive as you get older or have illness issues**; everyone pays the same reasonable rates. SkyMed won't cancel your membership or increase its cost just because you've reached a certain age, either. Keep it until you're 109 if you like.

Fourth, basic coverage "Takes You Home" when you travel in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Available global coverage includes the rest of the world except places on the State Department "watch list" (North Korea, for example.)

Fifth, SkyMed delivers far more than just medical evacuations. Its entire list of all key Features & Benefits is here: <http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkyMedServices.pdf>

Sixth, JMB Website Supporters members get **substantial discounts** on all multiyear SkyMed memberships. If you're not a JMB member when you call, we'll sign you up on the spot, if you like, giving you instant access to discounts available only to our JMB Website Supporters members. (More on JMB membership is on our site, everythingxm.com; JMB has over 300 SXM discounts and many other benefits.)

For still more info, please see our SkyMed site, getskymed.com.

We can answer all your questions; call us any day or evening up to 8 pm EDT at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only please). If you're ready to protect yourself and your family, we can take your application by phone -- usually in under 10 minutes.

Please do it now. Everything can change in a heartbeat.

Here are examples of SkyMed in action:

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

An MD from Florida who always visits SXM was on a cruise vacation to the Greek Islands with his wife when he broke his femur aboard the ship. He was rushed to the hospital in Corfu but called SkyMed *which arranged and paid for* an emergency medevac flight to Athens for urgent surgery. A few days later SkyMed evacuated him again, with an excellent male nurse, all the way home to Florida, where an ambulance took him home for recovery. Required flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: huge.

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

A woman from Virginia shopped at an island grocer and headed back to her car carrying two bags of groceries. She tripped and fell on a curb and knew at once she had fractured her hip. After being stabilized locally, she was flown home on a medical evacuation jet from SkyMed where she had the surgery she needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

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

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

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

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

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

Anything can happen anywhere. Call Jeff at 508-747-8281.

To Sum Up - Many Special Features:

- a) **SkyMed Takes You Home®.** Others in their fine print say they take you home or to the nearest appropriate facility, at their option; that could be thousands of miles from home.
- b) **No age limit to apply.** No age limit for services.
- c) **Pre-existing conditions covered in full** after only 90 days for one-year and longer memberships, and immediately for short-term memberships.
- d) **Guaranteed renewable regardless of advancing age or health changes** (applies to annual and multiyear memberships).
- e) **No membership price increases due solely to advancing age or declining health.** You pay what everyone pays.
- f) **Ten-year price guarantee for five-year Ultimate SkyMed memberships:** When you apply for a five-year SkyMed Ultimate membership and indicate "renew automatically" on your application, you are guaranteed the same price upon renewal that you paid when joining. The SkyMed Ultimate, which is prepaid for five years at inception, currently offers more features and benefits than SkyMed's annual memberships (see details in our [list of benefits](#)) at a highly advantageous annual cost. SkyMed Annual memberships have no price guarantee (though their price has been unchanged for several years). Jet fuel price spikes can affect the cost of Annual memberships. But with the Ultimate's 10-year price guarantee, you're solid no matter what.

Where to Get Answers To Your Questions: Call SkyMed Ambassador Jeff Berger any weekday or evening (EDT) at 508-747-8281. He can answer all your questions and even complete an application with you in about 10 minutes. Often, you'll have SkyMed's reply in one or two business days. You can also email Jeff at jeff.berger@skymed.com or jeff@jmbcommunications.com (with the subject SkyMed); please include your phone number and area code.

SkyMed Takes You Home®: What else matters?

33. Preexisting Conditions? No Worries With SkyMed

Pre-existing conditions are covered in full, at once, on SkyMed short-term memberships. Those memberships cover you for travel in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, and the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba.

To make sure you're covered for pre-existing conditions on SkyMed annual and Ultimate memberships, just buy those memberships at least three months before your travel date — that way, the 90 day exclusion for pre-existing conditions will have ended before your travel actually begins.

We always recommend annual or multiyear memberships over short-term memberships for two key reasons: 1) cost, and 2) permanent protection.

Short-term memberships are \$15 per day per family, but Annual and five year Ultimate memberships are only a bit above \$1.30 per day — a huge difference in cost. And ultimate memberships have much more coverage and can give you a 10 year price guarantee (ask us for details). *Far more important, annual and Ultimate memberships are guaranteed renewable regardless of attained age or declining health — and the cost of your membership will never increase simply because of advancing age.* SkyMed also takes you home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust and where your insurance actually works. If you're on vacation now, call us anyway and let us get you protected for the rest of your trip.

34. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated)

CAR RENTALS:

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental](#)

Next Level Car Rental (just joined)

CIGARS HAND-MANUFACTURED ON SXM:

[Das Cigars](#)

CUBAN CIGARS:

[Cigar Mack](#)

[SXM Cigars](#) (New)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS::

[SkyMed International](#) (Scottsdale, Az.)

JEWELERS:

[Zhaveri Jewelers](#) in Philipsburg.

[Little Europe Jewelers](#) in Philipsburg.

Caribbean Gems

Oro Diamante

[Ray's Jewelers](#)

REAL ESTATE COMPANIES:

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

RESORTS:

Simpson Bay Resort

Baker's Suites

RESTAURANTS:

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

[VESNA TAVERNA](#)

LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)

MARIO'S BISTRO (Porto Cupecoy)

VILLA RENTAL COMPANIES:

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

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

6/17/18

35. Our Just-Updated Weekly News Archives: Years of Past Issues

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

Check it out [here](#).

36. Restaurant of the Week: SkipJacks

Until Irma came along, Skipjacks had an enormous back deck where hundreds of dinners were sold nightly with a very scenic lagoon view backdrop.

Neither the view nor the deck were why people came to Skipjacks, however. The food was terrific, the service exemplary, and the prices very reasonable.

Unfortunately, surging waters from hurricane Irma knocked the back deck off of Skipjacks, knocking the restaurant out of business for some time.

The good news is that SkipJacks is working hard to make its open air "Dining Room" just as comfortable and welcoming and beautiful as it ever was. When we last spoke with owner George Shetter, he told us the restaurant will likely be open some time late this year. It had become a real favorite of ours and we're looking forward to returning, as we know are thousands of our readers.

Coming soon: **Domino's**

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 7/2/18) Skipjack's main dining deck overlooking the lagoon was wrecked by Irma and is being rebuilt. They should be open late 2018.

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 6/25/17; added 1/17) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended.

Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto) (6/18/18) is the new name of Sushiitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

Rum & Peas (featured 6/11/18) is the newly iconic island hotspot for island flavors and lots more. It's the creation of Sherman Marten (Canoa) and one of his top managers is Laurel Victor (Lulu from Mr. Busbys). Come soon, you will not be disappointed.

Emilio's at Emilio Wilson Estate (featured June 4 2018) is the new property run by renowned chef Dino Jagtiani,

whose Temptation Restaurant was wrecked by Irma.

Isola Ristorante Italiano (featured 5/28/18) 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.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 5/21/18) David is back and the restaurant has reopened. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too. Now open for lunch and dinner.

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 5/14/18) Avantika is open. SXM's best Thai.

Mario Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ 4/30/18 Mario's Bistro reopened a few weeks after Irma hit and looks forward to your return. Phenomenal dining.

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 4/9/18) Reopened as Cafe Spiga, new menu; redesigned. New bar, new bar snacks, same great staff, service, and wonderful food.

Celine 3 luxury Catamaran, www.sailstmaarten.com (featured 8/7/17). Neil's new boat is as big as Celine Too was and it enters 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.

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

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.

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 permanently. 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. Closed permanently and for sale.

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

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) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

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, closed permanently, for sale.

Island Pizza, <http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com> (featured 6/19/17) Wrecked by Irma. Closed permanently and for sale.

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 Terrasse 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) Recently reopened.

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 1/22/18). Reopened. Now open Wed through Sunday 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.

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.

**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.

37. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic

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

Our Sponsorships enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email susan@jmbcommunications.com with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". We'll get complete information to you quickly. Summer is here and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases throughout this year and into 2019. Contact us today for more information.

38. A Message from Carrefour Market

From Carrefour:

The Staff and Management of Carrefour Market would like to thank the Fire and Police departments for preventing excess damage during our recent fire as well as safeguarding our property.

We would also like to extend a thank you to Nagico Insurance for helping us in streamlining our return to business.

To our Valued Customers, We apologize for the interruption to your shopping experience. We will do our very best to ensure a speedy reparation process so as to provide you with the best shopping experience.

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.

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Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)

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

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

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

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