

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 7/23/18: Airport Terminal Annct.; Casino Royale Reopening; Le Cottage Reopens; Breakfast & Lunch at Vesna's; RIU To Be "Secrets"; Westin Not Bankrupt; Paint on Plum Beach; Mary's Boon; Maho beach Cam; (33 News Stories)

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**Vol. 2, #1161 --- Monday, July 23, 2018**  
**News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM**



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[Airfare, Airlines & Weather 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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Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: [www.everythingsxm.com](http://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...**

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- ***Le Cottage Reopens***
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-- **No Age Limit To Join SkyMed; About Pre-Existing Conditions**

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## **33 News Stories This Week**

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### **Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week**

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](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](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** 12/8/2018 1/5/2019 Week 49-52 **Simpson Bay Resort** 2 Bedroom lockoff, can be rented as studio, 1 br or 2 br \$700-\$1800 Joe 647-227-3434 [jgarro55@gmail.com](mailto:jgarro55@gmail.com)

#### **SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:**

**SALE** 1/13/2018 1/27/2018 weeks 2,3, **The Atrium** Two weeks in a one bedroom corner unit facing ocean. \$5500. per week. Also have another room, a one bedroom for next two weeks in the opposite corner . That is a month at The Atrium! Weeks 2,3,4,& 5 \$5,500.00 Robert 508-380-9826 [andgeo89@gmail.com](mailto:andgeo89@gmail.com)

#### **Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:**

See them all at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml)

### **Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:**

**St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW): [Click to access our recommended real estate agents](#)**

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<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](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](http://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](http://www.everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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- A. **Where to Get Member Info:** [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://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 password" in the orange login box near the masthead at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).
- C. **How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads:** Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

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

**How To Get a GROWING LIST of 300+ Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits**

Visit <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> , the \*secret\* site for JMB Website Supporters members only, for low fares to SXM from cities across the USA, Canada, and Western Europe, plus a growing list of 300+ additional major travel benefits.

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

\*\*\*\*\*  
**All JMB Newsletters Read \*From JMB\***  
\*\*\*\*\*

This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members read \*From JMB\* in the subject area so you won't misinterpret them as spam.

**THIS WEEK'S STORIES:**

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

**1. SXM Airport Departure Pavilion Evacuated 3X; Faulty Smoke Detectors Blamed**

There was good news and bad news one day last week from SXM Airport.

The good news is that everything's fine including the smoke detectors in the airport's departure pavilion. The bad news is that smoke detectors in the pavilion malfunctioned three times one day last week, necessitating that the airport — out of an abundance of caution — evacuate the building and make sure everything was fine, which it was.

Technicians familiar with the smoke detectors quickly arrived on the scene to fix what was wrong so things could get back to normal....

**2. TSA Agents Immune to Lawsuits, Court Says**

Every week, there seems to be news that is bound to irritate people who use America's air travel system.

Last week, that news was that airlines are making aircraft bathrooms smaller, and aircraft seats thinner so they can squeeze in more seats and more passengers with the apparent approval of the FAA. Then, last week, the FAA agreed to re-examine its decision regarding airplane seat density vis-à-vis the ability of aircraft to be evacuated within 90 seconds in an emergency. We and other media had reported that aircraft manufacturer tests of such evacuations flew in the face of reality since the people in the tests were young and healthy — not a true reflection of the population of average flights. Everyone on board must be able to evacuate in 90 seconds and right now we think that's impossible. At least the FAA re-thinking this is a start.

Late last week, an appeals court ruled that TSA agents — sometimes accused of overstepping their bounds when examining passengers in security lines — are immune to lawsuits.

More information on this unfathomably arrogant and absurd court decision is [here](#). People should be held accountable for what they do, irrespective of who their employer is.

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### 3. Airport Formally Announces Move Back to Main Terminal

This information was first released in the SXM Airport Special Edition of *SXM Weekly News* almost a month ago. Now it has been formally announced by the Airport:

"It is quite a giant step forward into the long anticipated terminal building," declared SXM Airport's Chief of Operations (COO), Michel Hyman. The Managing Board which also includes the CFO and Acting CEO, Ravi Daryanani, officially announced this week that the Airport's Departure and Arrival Operations will be temporarily transferred to the ground floor of the terminal building in November 2018.

Currently the operations are being run from Arrival and Departure Pavilions on the airside of the Princess Juliana International Airport. The Departure Pavilion went live February 9, 2018, and the Arrival Pavilion opened March 23, 2018.

SXM Airport also said that the total long-haul airline flight frequency from the U.S., Canada, Europe and Latin America to SXM is increasing in the peak Winter season of 2018/2019, consistent with the St. Maarten room recovery inventory after the hurricanes of 2017.

The number of flights from tourist market origins in January 2019 will be at 69% of what it was in January 2017, while St. Maarten's room inventory will be at 54% of what it was in January 2017. Although the 2019 flight frequency level exceeds that of the St. Maarten room inventory compared to January 2017, 35% of passengers arriving on long-haul flights are making hub connections to St. Barths or Anguilla.

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### 4. Google Is In The Flights/Travel Business

It shouldn't surprise anyone that Google — the Amazon of online — is in the Flights business. It also shouldn't surprise anyone that sometimes, the Flights they offer are at very reasonable pricing. See more at [google.com/Flights](http://google.com/Flights).

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===LAST CALL===

**SUMMER JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE**

## **EXTENDED ONE LAST AND FINAL WEEK**

**BUT IT MUST END ON  
TUESDAY 7/31,  
ONE WEEK FROM TOMORROW**

**#####**

**Get 300+ SXM Discounts,  
Many Other Island Benefits,  
& (P. S.) Invitations to Members-Only Island Parties:**

**Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership  
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**New JMB memberships: One year \$44, THREE yrs \$79 and \*BEST\* SIX years \$139**

**[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](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>**

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## **5. Anguilla / St. Maarten Ferry Terminal Reopens**

(Press Release)

The Anguilla Tourist Board (ATB) is pleased to announce that on Monday, July 16th, 2018, the Anguilla-St. Maarten Ferry Terminal opened for operation. The port of entry is housed on St. Maarten and is located in close proximity to the Princess Juliana International Airport.

Passengers traveling through this facility are reminded of the US\$5.00 Passenger Levy that is charged to every guest who departs from the Blowing Point Ferry Terminal destined for the Anguilla St. Maarten Ferry Terminal.

The ATB wishes to thank the Ministry of Tourism, Charter Boat Owners, the Government of St. Maarten and other Dutch authorities for the diligence, cooperation, time and energy dedicated to getting the facility ready for operation. They also express their appreciation to all private sector partners for their patience and understanding as both the Dutch and Anguillian authorities worked to re-open the Anguilla St. Maarten Ferry Terminal.

For more information on Anguilla please visit the official website of the Anguilla Tourist Board: [www.lvisitanguilla.com](http://www.lvisitanguilla.com); follow us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/Anguilla](https://www.facebook.com/Anguilla) Instagram: @Anguilla\_Tourism; Twitter: @Anguilla\_Trsm, Hashtag: #MyAnguilla.

The above is published verbatim; if you have any questions, ask the folks noted above. -Ed.

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## **6. Saharan Dust Helpful to SXM -- So Far**

An unsung hero of this year's hurricane season, so far, has been Saharan dust.

Sometimes during hurricane season, prevailing tradewinds can ramp up a bit and send dust from the Sahara desert across the tropical Atlantic and into the Caribbean Sea — the same route that can be traveled by tropical waves developing into hurricanes. When there is dust in the way, it can help inhibit the development of hurricanes. This is an oversimplification, but that is what has happened so far during this 2018 hurricane season.

**As we have previously reported, conditions are expected to change toward the middle of August. See subsequent articles in this section to keep abreast of the latest developments during this hurricane season.**

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## 7. Current SXM Weather Info

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://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](http://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](http://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.

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## 8. 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.

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## **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](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com)***

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

## **9. Further Update on RIU Palace: "Secrets" Is Coming**

Shortly after last week's edition of *SXM Weekly News* had been published, more news about the acquisition of the former Riu Palace property in Anse Marcel, French St. Martin, was released.

The hotel is going to receive USD\$20-million in enhancements, and it will be focused on attracting high-end, affluent clientele. Its name: "Secrets."

Here are [details](#).

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## **10. Westin Bankruptcy Rumor is False**

As we have mentioned here before, SXM has long been rumor central. Rumors seem to start on the island and take on a life of their own.

One false rumor recently circulating on the island suggested that the Westin Resort and Casino on Dawn beach was bankrupt and wouldn't reopen. That rumor is false.

Even now, the Westin like a number of other properties on the island is waiting for its insurance claims to be settled fairly, so it can move forward with next steps for the resort.. The insurance claim has not yet been settled -- nearly 11 months after the hurricane hit.

We will continue to post updates as we obtain them.

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## 11. Is a Private Villa Dumping Paint on Plum Bay Beach?

Over the weekend, we saw two very interesting videos.

In the first, it appeared that a sea turtle nest had yielded a number of hatchlings on Plum Bay beach, and that the hatchlings had made their way into the water to start their lives.

We had not been previously aware of the existence of sea turtle nests on Plum Bay, though now we know there have been several this season. The video showing the nesting site is [here](#).

As you'll see in the video, what appears to be leftover paint residue or related materials seems to have been dumped near the fence behind a luxury villa on Plum Bay.

Although in the video the villa from which the paint appears to have been discarded was not identified, to us it looks identical to the villa shown in another video, [here](#). We asked the people who produced and posted the turtle nest/paint waste video, Linda and Mario Molinari, whether they believed the villa in their video was what we thought it was, and they said this: *"We are not familiar with who the owner is, but from the pictures on that website it definitely looks like that villa. The owner may be unaware of what the contractors are doing as well...."*

Although the villa in the second video is owned by Ray Sidhom, who took over Caravanserai Resort a few years ago and renamed it Alegria, no one knows who dumped the apparent paint residue and other waste on the beach next to the turtle nesting site behind his villa. We do know that the Nature Foundation and other environmental protection organizations on the island are aware of this incident and as always, we will watch what happens for you and report on any further news related to this.

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## 12. Sonesta Offering Big Reopening Discounts

(Press Release, edited and condensed -Ed.)

The limitless, all-inclusive, adults-only Sonesta Ocean Point Resort and the family-friendly Sonesta Maho Beach Resort, Casino & Spa are undergoing complete renovations post Hurricane Irma and will come back "Stronger and Brand New" with projected opening dates of November 15, 2018 and February 1, 2019, respectively.

To celebrate the re-launch, Sonesta St. Maarten Resorts is offering up to 45% off rates for bookings made from June 1 through September 30, 2018 for travel through December 20, 2019. To make a vacation to the beautiful island of St. Maarten even more enticing, guests who book in this period will automatically be entered to win a five-night all-inclusive stay for two, valid at either resort within a year of the original stay. In order to be eligible, guests must book through September 2018 and complete their booked stay to then be able to redeem the free five nights. The drawing will take place in October 2018 choosing one lucky winner.

*In this time of rebuilding, Sonesta St. Maarten Resorts has taken every measure to implement the latest architectural innovations and storm resistant materials in the renovation, ensuring the future security and well being of its properties and guests.*

Sonesta Maho Beach Resort, Casino & Spa will return with its signature family-friendly charms, array of restaurants and bars, Kids Club and Teen Zone, fun daily activities and personalized services. The resort will be updated with a new look reflecting a contemporary, clean and airy aesthetic throughout the public spaces, restaurants and guestrooms, while maintaining a fun, friendly and approachable Caribbean vibe that the resort is known for.

The lobby at Sonesta Ocean Point Resort will get a total revamp with an updated contemporary style, and the new Casa Blue, a Spanish-style tapas restaurant, will debut on the rooftop terrace above Azul restaurant.

To book the pre-opening 45% discount promotion and for more information, please visit [www.sonesta.com/stmaarten](http://www.sonesta.com/stmaarten) or call 1-800-SONESTA (766.3782) and use promo code: PREOPENING.

Follow Sonesta St. Maarten Resorts on social media. Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SonestaStMaarten](http://www.facebook.com/SonestaStMaarten) or [www.facebook.com/OceanPointResortSXM](http://www.facebook.com/OceanPointResortSXM) Instagram: [@mahobeachresort](#) or [@oceanpointresort](#) for updates and current progress.

## 13. 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.

### 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

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**===LAST CALL===**

**SUMMER JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE  
EXTENDED ONE LAST AND FINAL WEEK**

**BUT IT MUST END ON  
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ONE WEEK FROM TOMORROW**

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[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](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>

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## **15. Tourism Promotion MOU Signed by French & Dutch Sides**

Over the years, it has been suggested on many occasions that the Dutch and French sides of the island should cooperatively promote it as a single destination. It has one major international Airport and one major seaport, both on the Dutch side, although much smaller aircraft and far smaller passenger ships are capable of being handled at the French side airport and in the French harbor at Marigot.

Within the last couple of weeks, Stuart Johnson, Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Traffic & Telecommunication (TEATT) in the Dutch Side government, has spearheaded a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the French Side to once again look into cooperative marketing.

*SXM Weekly News* contacted him about the MOU and mentioned that there had been others before it that never amounted to anything. Mr. Johnson wanted this MOU above all other considerations to be achievable. He said it's a start and that over time it could prove highly beneficial to the entire island. On that point there is very wide agreement in many quarters.

We'll be staying in touch so we can update our readers concerning future changes in tourism promotion by both sides of the island.

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## **16. Causeway Turntable Briefly Stuck Open**

The Simpson Bay Lagoon Causeway includes a turntable mechanism at its center which enables it to accommodate marine vessels moving from the French to the Dutch side and vice-versa simultaneously.

Once the vessels have passed through the bridge openings at their scheduled times, the bridge center span swivels back into its normal position and traffic resumes.

Usually.

Unfortunately, for an extended period of time the other day, the center turntable span of the bridge was stuck in its open position, making it impossible for motorists to traverse the bridge.

Ultimately, technicians got it fixed and everything was back to normal. Hopefully, in analyzing what went wrong, they not only fixed it, but also made it highly unlikely it will get stuck again.

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## **Protect All Your Summer Travel**

**with SkyMed, the**

**Medical Evacuation Membership Program**

**that TAKES YOU HOME®**

**to doctors and hospitals you know & trust**

**when you become critically ill or injured**

**when traveling. Get it BEFORE you need it --**

**just like fire insurance.**

**See [www.getskymed.com](http://www.getskymed.com)**

**or call Jeff for answers to questions**

**during office hours, EDT:**

**508-747-8281**

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

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## **17. Casino Royale Expects To Reopen This Week**

Although it was widely known that a lot of heavy construction has been underway at Casino Royale in the Maho district, it wasn't widely known that rebuilding the interior of the Casino was progressing at a breakneck pace.

So, it was a shock last week when word slipped out that Casino Royale not only is close to reopening, but that its reopening could take place as early as later this week. That's quite an amazing accomplishment.

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## **18. Our Summer Island Party Expands; Are You Coming?**

In mid-August, JMB members visiting SXM will be treated to our first-ever members party at the Toppers Rhum Distillery in Simpson Bay.

Not only will this party feature rum tastings, an open bar, and plenty of appetizers for the 125 people expected to attend, it will also feature renowned art by globally honored plein air impressionist painter Sir Roland Richardson, who resides on SXM. Also present at the party will be three other well-known SXM artists — Stephy Tihanyi, Ruby Butte, and Patty Meotti. If you're a JMB member and will be on the island in mid-August, you've already received an

email from us inviting you to the party. You can also bring two guests, although all attendees must preregister.

**[See the formal invitation to attend in story #24, below.](#)**

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## 19. Breathtaking Villa Seawatch For Sale

Villa Seawatch in Dawn Beach estates, which we've had the good fortune to visit on many occasions, is now for sale. Here are details, pricing info, and contact info.

Villa, 3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths plus patio shower (Sleeps 6)

*ALIVE AND WELL AND FULLY RESTORED VILLA SEA WATCH SURVIVED IRMA'S WRATH. TOTAL REMODELING WAS COMPLETED JANUARY 2018. VSW STANDS SENTINEL OVER THE OCEAN WITH COMMANDING VIEW OF ST. BARTS.*

Welcome to Villa Sea Watch, an elegant Mediterranean villa with Caribbean décor. Nearly 3000 square feet of Caribbean open views with a private pool and patio sitting above the ocean, giving amazing views of St. Barts, St. Kitts and St. Eustatius. Villa Sea Watch has three bedrooms, three and a half baths, an outdoor, pool-side shower, and is newly remodeled, inside and out. Private, private, private! Caribbean splendor describes Villa Sea Watch, enveloped by lush tropical gardens, plenty of private parking, and every room enjoys ocean views. Every bedroom is en suite and has its own private balcony overlooking the sea.

The beautiful island of St. Maarten/St. Martin is busy rebuilding after Irma. As of early April 2018, more than 100 restaurants on the French side and 85% of the restaurants on the Dutch side are open providing their world-famous cuisine. Many businesses are open to greet you with their island friendliness and excellent deals. Search the internet for more information on how strong SXM is in its recovery. There you will find recent videos and photos of how much progress is complete. Contact me for more information on these web sites and a list of currently open restaurants.

A trip to St. Maarten/St. Martin during 2018 will not be the same as earlier times. The beaches in 2018 will be far less crowded, and you may have to pack beach towels (provided at Villa Sea Watch) to enjoy the sun, sand, and crystal clear water. Some lolos are open on the most popular beaches and others are busy rebuilding. It will truly be a trip of fun and discovery and you will have your run of the island. Now is a rare opportunity to experience St. Maarten/St. Martin beaches as they were in earlier times, before they became crowded. Remember your first trip to the island? You didn't have a favorite beach or a favorite restaurant, but you discovered it. A trip in 2018 may take you to your old favorites or you might very well find new ones. Pack your camera and post your photos to share with others curious about how the island is recovering.

After a day's exploration, return to your personal luxury accommodations to enjoy the best the Caribbean offers. The peace and serenity of Sea Watch are so very welcome. Party or relax and refresh yourself in the pool perched on the cliff's edge. The full service wet bar is right next to the patio! Make yourself a frozen drink, turn on the stereo, sit on a lounge and relax with the awesome ocean views. Enjoy outdoor dining with unbeatable ambiance. This is THE location for a cheeseburger in paradise. Al fresco dining is easy, too, with our fully equipped gourmet kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances and gas stove. Or enjoy grilling fresh seafood or steaks on the patio with the spectacular views all around you, the sound of the surf and a wonderfully warm breeze. If al fresco dining is not your preference, the large formal dining room and sunny casual dining area both overlook the sea. All dining areas enjoy breathtaking views. Afterwards, relax and enjoy the peace and thrill of stargazing. Shooting stars are common from Sea Watch's patio. And for those who love the night sky, you can see hundreds of constellations. My personal favorite is the Southern Cross found close to the horizon in the southern sky from late November (in the early morning) to the early June (in the early evening). If you enjoy star gazing, consider installing an app such as StarMap 3D on your smart phone. That will help you locate all the sky's objects, including satellites. The sky is awe inspiring!

PRIVACY is created by your own tropical gardens of palm trees, fig trees and bougainvillea that envelop one side of the patio and wrap around the rest of the villa. Tropical gardens and the turquoise sea will mesmerize you! Privacy is also afforded by the cul-de-sac from which VSW is accessed. Your unparalleled views are the Caribbean blue ocean, St. Barts and the tropical paradise. The ambient sounds are the lull of the surf and the sugarbirds in the morning. Morning and evening walks are lovely as well in our friendly neighborhood.

There are large flat screen televisions in the Living Room and Master Bedroom; but there's no entertainment quite like star gazing over the ocean, watching shooting stars or the full moon over the water or counting the many constellations you can see. There's free cable TV, Wi-Fi, high speed internet, cell phone, high quality linens, beach towels, coolers for the beach, airport/car rental meeting with our local agent who will escort you to Villa Sea Watch, and will give you keys and show you how everything works. You will be greeted on arrival with a wine/beer and imported cheese-and-crackers basket to show how welcome you are. There's a large full service wet bar in the living

room right off the patio... how convenient! And guests often leave liquors in the bar, as well as beer in the bar refrigerator (I never understand how this can possibly happen!) Make a drink and sit by, or in, the pool and watch St. Barts or the occasional dolphins. Our ocean-front pool patio is a blast... or you could just relax with a book and listen to the surf. Or enjoy the constant breeze and nap. The possibilities are endless.

Villa Sea Watch is THE location for those who want to get away from it all. But a short drive to the French side or the Dutch side of the island puts you in the middle of almost anything you might imagine.

USD \$999,000.

Call Island Real Estate, Andrew Ewing- [Tenontour@hotmail.com](mailto:Tenontour@hotmail.com) Website [www.ireteam.com](http://www.ireteam.com)

Dr. Cherie Santasiero, Owner/Manager  
Caribbean Luxury Villas, LLC  
9631 Sandrock Rd  
Eden, NY 14057  
716.870.0891

HomeAway.com #270250

VRBO.com #269820

[drcherie@caribbeanoceanvillas.com](mailto:drcherie@caribbeanoceanvillas.com)

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## 20. Le Cottage Reopens

Le Cottage, the immensely popular French restaurant in the heart of Grand Case, has now reopened. It sent this message to its many fans:

*The whole team of Le Cottage is finally announcing its return to Grand Case boulevard. Reopen July 18. 10 months after intense efforts and patience we are back with a fully refurbished Cottage. Tania, Stephane, David and Julien are proud to receive you and share good times.*

Think about booking your table at [www.lecottagesxm.com](http://www.lecottagesxm.com) or at 0690622686.

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## 21. Mary's Boon's Cool Video

Mary's Boon Beach Plantation is one of the coolest, most storied smaller hotels on the island thanks to its near legendary namesake, Mary Pomeroy. When you visit Mary's Boon, by all means ask about her. (She long gone, but the stories are there for the telling.)

This new [video](#) shows the current tempo of the resort.

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**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](http://getskymed.com). SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

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

### 22. Maho Beach Cam Is Your Eye on SXM Airport

If you love watching planes at SXM Airport, now you can do it from anywhere -- while listening to Air Traffic Control frequencies live, simultaneously. [Check it out.](#)

### 23. Breakfast, Lunch Stay Open During Vesna's Seasonal Closing

Vesna and Yannick of Vesna Taverna head out on their annual vacation in about three weeks — but the restaurant will stay open for breakfast and lunch as always while they are gone. The restaurant will be closed only for dinner.

Located in Simpson Bay, the restaurant that bears Vesna's name is easily one of the most popular places on the island, earning rave reviews from locals as well as many thousands of tourists. If you haven't visited, by all means check it out at [vesnataverna.com](http://vesnataverna.com).

Two items. First, Sally, who has long been one of the most popular servers on the island, is day manager at the restaurant. One of their newest employees who formerly worked at Mr. Busby's Beach Bar and at Daniel's by the Sea is Lulu. Definitely say hello to the staff when you visit. It's one of our favorites and a multi-time winner of our Everything SXM Award of Excellence.

### 24. Register Now for Our August Island Party

*This Is Your Invitation  
To Our JMB Website Supporters  
Summer '18 SXM Island Party at  
Toppers Rhum Distillery*

If you're a JMB Website Supporters member, you're invited to attend our August 16, 2018 JMB Members SXM Island Party to be held on International Rum Day at Toppers Rhum Distillery, Jobco Complex, #3, Well Road #9, Colebay St. Maarten. (We'll post a map on our Everything SXM Facebook Site before the party.) Time: 5-7 pm.

**PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED;** see How To Register, below.

#### **Island Party Features:**

Appetizers  
Welcome Drink  
Open Bar  
Roland Richardson art  
Artists Ruby Bute, Patty Meotti, & Stephy Tihanyi in attendance  
Rhum Tasting  
Mini distillery tour

To cover the cost of the open bar, the Toppers Rhum Distillery will charge just \$12 per person to all attendees (cash) upon entry. There are no other costs unless you (wisely) decide to buy some of Toppers delicious rhums.

Learn much more about Toppers Rhum at [toppersrhum.com](http://toppersrhum.com).

Art by Sir Roland Richardson will be on display at this JMB Website Supporters Summer Island Party. As you most likely know, he is the world-acclaimed, widely awarded plein air Caribbean impressionist painter who resides on the island. You will have a chance to see some of his work at this party.



Of course at this party, it's all about the rum (French spelling of "rum"); and you'll be invited to sample some of Toppers' flavors. There will be mini-tours of the distillery, and you may decide you want the full scale tour also presented by the distillery during daily operations. If so, the Toppers Rhum folks will give you a discount certificate toward a reduced-cost full-scale Distillery Tour you can take during your trip to SXM.

### How To Register...

This promises to be one of our biggest parties of the year, so please register early:

- 1. Membership:** You must be a JMB member in good standing to attend. If your membership has expired, please renew now at the Membership Renewal Center on the Secret Site, or by calling Membership Services at 508-830-3456 daytimes during regular office hours EDT. Memberships are now at special reduced prices but that ends Tuesday, July 31 (only a week from tomorrow); so renew / extend your membership soon.
- 2. Who Can Attend:** Member and spouse / partner; single members may bring a guest, but everyone must be preregistered. Sorry, no children. We have space for up to 125 people. Members can now take up to four friends with them. If that is of interest to you, tell us when registering and give us the names and email addresses of your guests We will be able to confirm them quickly.
- 3. What We Need / How To Register:** Email [susan@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susan@jmbcommunications.com) and in your email give us the names of who will be attending, your email address, and your JMB Website Supporters membership number. For security please also tell us your street address. We will acknowledge your email and confirm your attendance. If you have guests, give us their information as well.
- 4. The Last Word:** Again, no children, and cash is needed upon entry for the \$12 p/p registration. Register early. This big Summer event will most likely sell out, so don't delay your registration.

Our Everything SXM Facebook Site Moderator Yvonne Mendenhall will be on hand to welcome you.

JMB Website Supporters Membership Services  
c/o JMB Communications  
P. O. Box 1812  
Plymouth, MA 02362-1812

### Registration Email:

[susan@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susan@jmbcommunications.com)

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## 25. Are You Military?

If you're U. S. Military with a DD214, you're able to get a Platinum-Status Military JMB Membership for \$16.99/year, the lowest we ever charge anyone. You get instant Platinum Status which is permanent as long as you're a JMB member plus 300+ SXM discounts and other benefits. All you do is pay for four years to start and renew in four-year increments (\$67.96). Nobody else pays so little -- our small way of expressing how grateful we all are for your service.

Visit [everythingxsm.com](http://everythingxsm.com) and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership. We'll also need a DD214 with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you.

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## 26. No Age Limit To Join SkyMed

Many people have wrongly assumed that SkyMed medical evacuation memberships are limited to people who are of a certain age, and that older people shouldn't apply. That information is wrong: *there is not and there has never been an age limit to join SkyMed*. And applying costs you nothing unless you are accepted, as most people are.

We can answer your questions and help complete an application by phone for you in less than 10 minutes. The questions we ask are brief and straightforward, including birth date, medical conditions, recent hospitalizations, and your prescriptions. It's not complicated and it's not time-consuming — but *it's also something you do not want to put off. Like fire insurance, when you need it you need it — so get it before you need it.*

Contact our office at 508-747-8281 during normal office hours Eastern time and we'll be happy to return your call. Or, just email us at [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com) with your phone number and time zone and we'll still be happy to

call you back at a mutually convenient time. We've helped more than 4500 people get SKYMED; we can help you get protected against the enormous cost of an emergency medical evacuation quickly and easily and at a very reasonable cost. Call us and we'll show you how.

#####

**===LAST CALL===**

**SUMMER JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE  
EXTENDED ONE LAST AND FINAL WEEK**

**BUT IT MUST END ON  
TUESDAY 7/31,  
ONE WEEK FROM TOMORROW**

#####

**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](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>

## **27. About Our SXM Summertime Vacation Giveaway**

Entries are now locked. We'll soon set a giveaway date, expected to be mid August:

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.

-- 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.)

*Dates for all vacations will change thanks to Irma....*

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## 28. "WHY?" You Asked; Here's the Answer

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](http://www.everythingsxm.com); JMB has over 300 SXM discounts and many other benefits.)

For still more info, please see our SkyMed site, [getskymed.com](http://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, at any time.** Call Jeff at 508-747-8281 during business hours EDT.

### **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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) or [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com) (with the subject SkyMed); please include your phone number and area code.

SkyMed Takes You Home®: What else matters?

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## 29. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated)

### CAR RENTALS:

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental](#)

**Next Level Car Rental (just joined)**

**Starlite Car Rental (Belair Resort; 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](#)

**Melange (new; Port de Plaisance)**

**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*.

Updated 7/15/18

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## 30. Use Our Just-Updated Weekly News Archives

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](#).

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## 31. Got SXM Questions? Here's Where The Answers Are

Check out our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) and our main SXM website, [everythingxsm.com](http://everythingxsm.com).

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## 32. Restaurant of the Week: Returns Next Week

Coming soon: **Domino's**; **Pineapple Pete**.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.iziristoranteitaliano.com](http://www.iziristoranteitaliano.com) (featured 7/16/18) 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.

**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 Sushitto)** (6/18/18) is the new name of Sushitto, 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.

**Avantika Thai** [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (featured 5/14/18) Avantika is open. SXM's best Thai.

**Mario Bistro** [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://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](http://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](http://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/](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 7/31/17) Reopened.

**Papagayo**, <http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php> (featured 10/17/16) Club Orient was wrecked by Irma; rebuilding is planned. ETA not yet known.

**Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path the turn near Shore Pointe to get there). (featured 4/17/2017) Reopened. Their sign blew away in Irma -- to Virgin Gorda's airport 192 miles away.

**FIG, Maho complex at Le Terasse** Had closed permanently before Irma hit.

**St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge** Reopened.

**Jimbo's**, [www.jimboscafe.com](http://www.jimboscafe.com) (featured 6/12/17) Recently reopened.

**Vesna Taverna**, [www.vesnataverna.com](http://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.

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### **33. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic**

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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](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](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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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

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## Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)

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

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to [jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com](mailto: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](http://www.everythingsxm.com) .

**Privacy Policy** [http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy\\_policy/index.shtml](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml) (Updated 5/25/18)

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