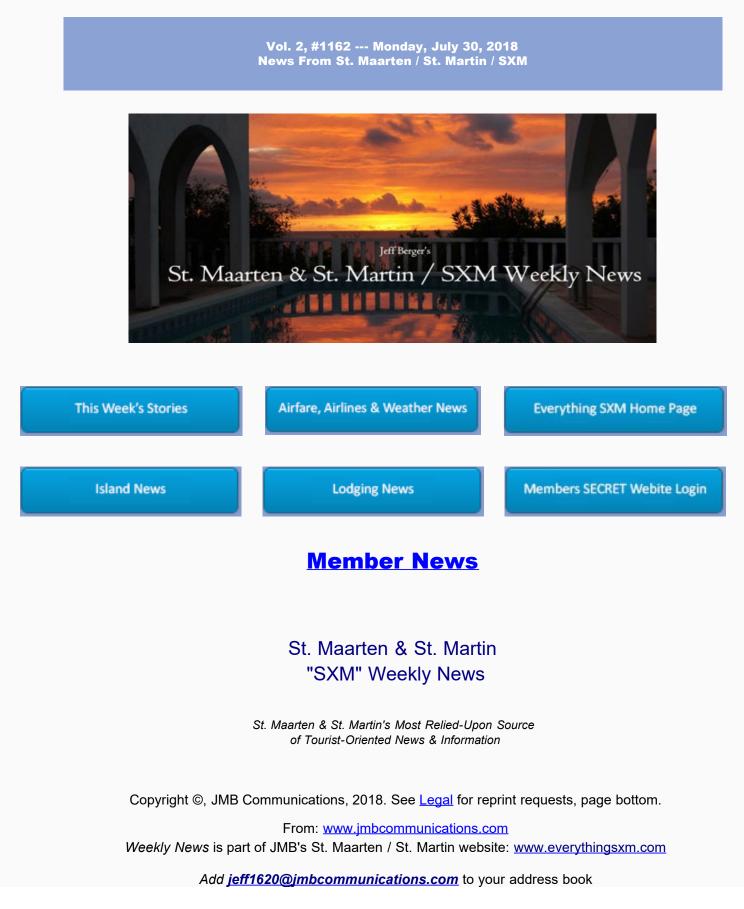
From JMB / SXM Weekly News 7/30/18: JetBlue Flights; Tropical Activity; Why OBBR Is Upset; Dolphins; Caravanserai; Airport/NAGICO; BigFish; Your Party Invite; Orient Beach (32 stories)

Can't see this newsletter? Go here for our SXM Weekly News PDF Archives.



to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

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

#### **Important Note:**

**This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications'** *St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News*, **published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks).** You are receiving <u>St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News</u> because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. *Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by more than 306,000 people around the world...* 

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You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

<u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml</u> On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

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

#### TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

### In This Week's SXM Weekly News:

#### -- JetBlue Expands Boston-SXM Service Bigtime

####### -- Tropical Activity Could Pick Up Later This Week ######## -- STA Statutes - And Why Oyster Bay is Upset About Them -- Dolphinarium Proposal Expected From Alegria -- Caravanserai Court Decision Postponed Again -- Work Progressing At Closed Resorts -- Hundreds of SXM Timeshare & Villa Rentals Available ####### -- SXM Airport, NAGICO at Impasse; Judge Decides Today ####### -- New Craziness at Maho Beach -- Big Fish Preparing To Reopen -- Enigma C3 Starts Serving Neil Roebert's Legions -- You're Invited to Our Aug. 16 SXM Island Party -- At Le Galion, Nothing, Not Even Tropical Wave -- Latest Update from the Orient Bay Nature Reserve -- Got a SXM News Tip? -- Are You Military? -- No Age Limit To Join SkyMed; About Pre-Existing Conditions -- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors -- Use Our SXM Weekly News Archives -- Got SXM Questions? Here's Where The Answers Are ####### -- "WHY?" You Asked; Here's the Answer #######

####### -- SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic ########

Please see our complete Table of Contents below.

### **32** News Stories This Week

#### Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

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

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

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

#### SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

**RENTAL** 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

#### 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 <u>andgeo89@gmail.com</u>

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

See them all at http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml

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

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

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Find us on Facebook

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

#### "Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group

https://www.facebook.com/StMaartenTimesharing/

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format: http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format): http://everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?flavor=archive;list=sxmweeklynews

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

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing group of about 300 SXM-focused island discounts and other SXM-related benefits through JMB Website Supporters membership: http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

# **1. AA Ending "Basic Economy" Carry-on Ban**

When American Airlines introduced its basic economy service, its intent was to compete with pricing tiers offered by low fare carriers.

Unfortunately for American Airlines, its competitors offered better products. Although Southwest air does not currently serve SXM, it will — and Southwest currently allows passengers to bring one carry-on aboard and to check some baggage for free. Other airlines have more liberal policies than AA and consequently, AA's basic economy product had little competitive appeal and was a bust in the market. That's why American Airlines has updated its policy and

will now allow passengers to bring one piece of luggage into the cabin for overhead storage. It's not exactly champagne-meritorious, but it's progress; here are <u>details</u>.

### 2. JetBlue Expands BOS-SXM Service Bigtime

JetBlue was the first airline to reintroduce daily nonstops from New York to SXM. Very recently, it announced the return of weekend nonstops from Boston to SXM — the only airline with nonstop service to the island from Boston. The bad news at the time was that the flights begin in March, though we observed at the time that we expected additional flights to be added to the schedule earlier if the current hurricane season treats SXM nicely.

JetBlue has now expanded its weekend nonstops from Boston to SXM into February, and we would not be surprised at all to see them offered as soon as late November if the market appears ready to fill those airplanes. So far, demand appears to be higher than most airlines seem to have expected.

Now, JetBlue has announced the addition of its upper-class Mint service on its newer, larger Airbus A321 aircraft flying on Saturdays from Boston. Here are <u>details</u> on that and other recent JetBlue service introductions.

### **3. Get Current Airfare Updates From People Booking** Now

Airlines don't always publicize all of the fare changes they are making or offering. In fact, some airfare postings are mistakes, pure and simple. Within the last couple of weeks, for example, readers on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook</u> <u>Site</u> were treated to knowledge about ultra low fares posted on Google at google.com/flights, which total not much more than \$100 for a round trip from the US. A number of people saw and booked those ridiculously low fares.

If you go on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u> and ask people what they're currently paying for round trips from certain parts of the US, chances are you'll get an answer — most likely pretty quickly. The site currently has substantially over 21,000 people watching it, many of them interacting frequently. Definitely check it out.

### 4. Airline Crew: Share SkyMed Info With Co-workers

Because airline crewmembers are frequently far from home, they need to protect themselves against the catastrophic out-of-pocket cost of an emergency medical evacuation. That's why we're hearing from airline crewmembers increasingly often who have been told by other flight crew members about SkyMed medical evacuation protection. You can read more about SkyMed in story number 27, but the bottom line is that SkyMed *Takes You Home*® when you become critically ill or injured while traveling — home where your support network is, where your health insurance actually works, and where you have doctors and hospitals you know and trust.

SkyMed is a big deal.

# LAST DAY IS TOMORROW, TUESDAY, JULY 31:

### **OUR SUMMER**

# JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE IS ALMOST OVER

# OUR SALE <u>MUST END</u> ON <u>TUESDAY 7/31,</u> <u>TOMORROW: DON'T MISS IT!</u>

# <u>Get 300+ SXM Discounts,</u> <u>Many Other Island Benefits,</u> <u>& (P. S.) Invitations to Members-Only Island Parties:</u>

# <u>Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership</u> <u>Today:</u>

<u>New JMB memberships</u>: One year \$44, THREE yrs \$79 and \*<u>BEST</u>\* SIX years \$139 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

<u>Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships</u>: One yr. \$33; THREE yrs \$73; \*BEST\* 6 years \$123 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

# **5. Tropical Activity Could Start Picking Up Later This Week**

We can't tell you exactly what the Madden Julian oscillation is, but we can tell you that some Meteorologists are saying that its shift from the Pacific to the Atlantic is about to change the environment in which tropical activity gets started.

Recently, conditions in the tropical Atlantic were hostile to the formation of long-track hurricanes, the kind that most usually affect St. Maarten. The change in the Madden Julian oscillation could mean that upcoming conditions may be more conducive to storm formation.

As usual, we and our partner, <u>Crown Weather</u>, are watching all of this very closely. As we said here before, if you may ever be in the gunsights of approaching tropical cyclones, we strongly suggest you pay the very low price of a membership in Crown Weather's private forecasting service. We've subscribed for years and in our opinion, it is the best service out there to keep you on top of significant weather news that could impact your family and your business. Check it out now at crownweather.com.

See more weather information in the next story.

# 6. The Best Places for Tropical Updates; Hurricane

### **Tracking Chart**

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

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

# 1) <u>Crown Weather Services</u> whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.

2) Our "Weather" page at <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u> -- it has current satellite images and radar loops and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.

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

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

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

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

#### **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 <u>here</u>. 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.

# **7. Get The** *Lowest Rates* **for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals** *Around The World*

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

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

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

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

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <u>https://www.skymedtravel.com/register</u>, sign up, and provide the requested information. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing. If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number here to get the absolute greatest possible discounts. You won't be disappointed.

# **Changing Your Email Address?**

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

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

# 8. STA Statutes - And Why Oyster Bay is Upset About Them

Established not long ago, the basic objectives of the St. Maarten tourist authority, STA, are laudable. It is intended that the authority be able to respond quickly to opportunities for tourism promotion.

But recently, it appears the STA may deviate from that simple mission and be able to tax hotels and timeshare properties to help fund its promotions.

If such a tax were to be levied, it could be a death blow to the tourism industry on the island, tourism people are saying. With nothing remotely resembling speedy response from insurance companies, both hotels and timeshare businesses have been reeling from the combined blows of hurricane Irma and irretrievably lost business, and -- in the now nearly 11 months since Irma struck -- the island has clearly lost hundreds of millions of dollars in income to its businesses as well as tax collections on that income by the government.

Tourism-focused businesses are unlikely to make huge future investments on SXM if any onerous additional taxes may be levied upon them by the STA. That's why Josh Gold, the owner of Oyster Bay Beach Resort, and other owners of major SXM businesses are howling. Fortunately, they have support from the Minister in charge of Tourism on the Dutch side.Here is the <u>complete story</u>.

### 9. Dolphinarium Proposal Expected From Alegria

Usually reliable sources are telling *SXM Weekly News* that a proposal for a Dolphinarium at Alegria Resort is in the works.

If that's the case, the island is likely to meet the proposal with hostility. A number of years ago, a similar proposal was broached on SXM. Opponents don't have anything against dolphins — in fact, the opposite is true. They have great respect for these extremely smart mammals who are very much like us in many ways and have repeatedly shown just how intelligent they really are.

Putting them in dolphinariums to entertain tourists causes great stress to the animals and shortens their lives; there is ample evidence of that.

In the face of such evidence, why anyone would want to enslave these creatures for human entertainment is unfathomable. We know that government officials are not enamored by the idea.

The head of Alegria is Ray Sidhom, the same guy who sent a cryptic email to the timeshare owners of Caravanserai

Resort several years ago after he took it over in a bankruptcy auction. The letter told them that their timeshare ownerships were null and void, sparking unparalleled tourism outrage. Sidhom also allegedly has a history of antagonistic attacks upon his tenants at Maho beach and has taken them to court on numerous occasions, so far losing every court case.

We will keep you posted about whether this proposal actually winds up going before the government. For the sake of the animals, we hope the idea is abandoned in a hurry.

Please see story 11.

### **10. Anguilla's Cuisinart Resort Making a Comeback**

The Cuisinart Resort on Anguilla was seriously damaged by hurricane Irma. The good news is that this prestigious resort on SXM's closest island neighbor is about to make a comeback. Here are the <u>details</u>.

### **11. Caravanserai Court Decision Postponed Again**

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Word reached us late on Saturday that this **court decision has been postponed again**, this time until early September. The information below will apply to that decision, when it is rendered; the below was written when the decision had been expected on July 30, today. -- Ed.

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Litigating timeshare owners of the former Caravanserai Resort filed suit in St. Maarten against Ray Sidhom, who had taken over the resort in bankruptcy a few years ago and unilaterally notified timeshare owners that their rights to ownership of their timeshare weeks in the resort were null and void and worthless and their property access was canceled.

Some timeshare owners obtained legal counsel and took Sidhom to court — *and they won*. However, the case has been tied up in court because Mr. Sidhom decided to appeal the judgment.

The results of that appeal are supposed to be heard in court today, Monday, July 30. We will publish those results in the next edition of *SXM Weekly News* and we also plan to publish them on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>, so litigating timeshare owners will have the results quickly.

Unfortunately, there is no such thing as class-action on St. Maarten, so whatever decision is reached will apply only to the litigants and not to all former Caravanserai timeshare owners. Nonetheless, if the verdict is in favor of timeshare owners, it will set a precedent that could well prove to be a useful avenue for future litigating groups to use to go after Mr. Sidhom for compensation for the property he took from timeshare owners.

We'll report the news as soon as we have it.

### **12. Work Progressing At Closed Resorts**

Work continues to progress at several large closed SXM resorts to complete renovations and reopen. We reported on much of this here in *SXM Weekly News* and we have also reported on it extensively on our <u>Everything SXM</u> <u>Facebook Site</u>, where you'll find specific resort information in our Files area.

Some resorts remaining closed have heavy renovation/construction work underway, including Flamingo Beach Resort; Royal Palm Beach; Sonesta Great Bay Beach, which has been mostly demolished and will be the site of a Planet Hollywood Resort Hotel (a story we first broke here), though timeshare services will remain; the Riu Palace, which has changed ownership and will become a Secrets resort; and Alegria Resort, where it still remains unclear what's going on.

At Royal Palm, someone called the fire department to report seeing <u>sparks fly</u> from the roof — but it was actually welders at work, reportedly installing new air-conditioning. That resort and the others mentioned here have been

closed since Irma struck.

Much more on resorts that are open and on other properties available for occupancy is on our <u>Everything SXM</u> <u>Facebook Site</u>. We also have a tremendous amount of information and many rentals available on the timeshare/villa rentals pages of our everythingSXM.com main website.

# We Need Your Help To Keep SXM Weekly News

# Coming to You Every Week.

# PLEASE JOIN JMB WEBSITE SUPPORTERS NOW. You'll get 300+ SXM discounts & other benefits AND help keep our lights on.

### Please click the page curl NOW at everythingsxm.com to join!

# THANK YOU.

### **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 now open too -- 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 everythingsxm.com. Check them out: they have just been heavily revised. Get your rental weeks now. (Ads on those pages are from JMB Website Supporters members exclusively.)

#### 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

### LAST DAY IS TOMORROW, TUESDAY, JULY 31:

### OUR SUMMER JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE IS ALMOST OVER

### OUR SALE <u>MUST END</u> ON <u>TUESDAY 7/31,</u> <u>TOMORROW: DON'T MISS IT!</u>

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

<u>New JMB memberships</u>: One year \$44, THREE years \$79 and SIX years \$139 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

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

### 15. SXM Airport, NAGICO at Impasse; Judge Decides Today

SXM Airport and Nagico, the large Dutch Side-based insurance company which has faced huge criticism across the

island for the slowness of its response to insurance claims since hurricane Irma, are scheduled to meet in court today to see what a St. Maarten judge decides about the unresolved claims the airport has filed with relation to its insurance for the nearly destroyed airport terminal building. The total claim is over USD\$100-million.

The insurance company says that the airport has to file quotes for every specific item of loss and hasn't done so, while the airport has said it has fulfilled all its obligations under its policies. Several weeks ago, the judge had told both parties to meet and hash it out, without result.

We'll keep you posted on what the judge decides.

### **16. New Craziness at Maho Beach**

For years, tourists by the thousands have hung out next to the fence at the western end of the SXM airport runway for the "thrill" of possibly getting blown into oblivion as airplanes rev up prior to taking off. Numerous tourists have been injured doing this, some seriously, and one woman was killed by the dangerous jet blast as we reported here about a year ago.Now, new craziness is going on as you'll see in <u>this video</u>.

We don't recommend you try this at home -- or, for that matter, in SXM.

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or call Jeff for answers to questions

during office hours, EDT:

508-747-8281

# See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits.

### **17. "Big Fish" Preparing To Reopen**

The owner of the building in which the popular Big Fish restaurant was located until Irma struck the island early last September is readying the restaurant for an upcoming reopening. Although repeated questions sent to the owner have not been answered, nonetheless we are aware that work on the building is progressing and we have heard that a new chef has been hired. Unfortunately, it is not believed that Mike and Teresa Wilson, who owned and managed the restaurant, will be returning, nor is it known whether the new owners will keep the restaurant's name or its menu.

We expect it will be something entirely new.

As soon as we get more information, we'll let you know.

Big Fish is the third major restaurant in this small area to go out of existence as a result of Irma, which also destroyed Mr. Busby's Beach Bar and Daniel's by the Sea, two of the most popular restaurants on the entire island.

The property formerly occupied by Mr. Busby's and Daniel's by the Sea as well as the now demolished Greathouse is currently for sale for \$7.6- million; if you want information on this developable beachfront property, contact jeff [at] jmbcommunications.com and we will forward your inquiry to the property owner.

### **18. Enigma C3 Starts Serving Neil Roebert's Legions**

Neil Roebert's newest boat is about to begin formal service.

Neil, of Celine fame, built his original catamaran by hand in his native South Africa, then sailed across the South Atlantic and tropical Atlantic to St. Maarten, where he arrived not very many months after hurricane Luis had hit.

The Celine served him well until a few years ago, when a much larger boat tore loose from its moorings during hurricane Gonzalo — then rammed and sank the Celine.

At the time, Neil was working on a bigger boat, a motoryacht ultimately named Celine Too, which he completed several months later and launched — just a few years ago.

Celine Too was securely moored in Simpson Bay lagoon when Irma struck, but Irma's sustained 185 mph winds and 18 foot storm surge laid waste to hundreds of boats in SXM, and Irma ripped the large motoryacht in half, sending one side of it to the bottom of the lagoon and the other onto the shore as if they were cardboard toys.

It took Neil several weeks to regroup, but regroup he did, not long ago launching C3 – Enigma, the name of his newest boat. "C3" is a nod to the Celine Moniker he has used for all of his previous boats. It's a gorgeous sailing catamaran as big as the Celine Too, as you'll see when you return to SXM — and, equally important, he's about to start scheduled runs. We'll keep you posted. In the meantime, see Neil's site, sailStMaarten.com.

### **19. You're Invited To Our Aug. 16 Island Party**

A couple of weeks ago, we announced our first-ever summer island party in August at a superb venue — Toppers Rhum Distillery in Simpson Bay. If you are or if you are not a member of JMB Website Supporters but will be visiting the island in mid August, hang in — this article has news of interest for you.

First, here are some details about the party:

Not only will this party feature rhum 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. Present at the party will be three other well-known SXM artists — Stephy Tihanyi, Ruby Butte,

and Patty Meotti. The only charge is a \$12 fee being assessed by the Distillery when you enter the building; it's intended to help underwrite the cost of the open bar.

**Here is our newest wrinkle**....So far, we have only invited JMB Website Supporters members and some of their chosen guests — which has been the case for all of the parties we've thrown in the past. If you are on the island in mid-August and would like to attend our party but are not a JMB Website Supporters member, take heart. We would like you to email us why we should invite you to attend the party along with your spouse/partner and a couple of guests you select. We are interested in doing this because we want to show nonmembers one aspect of what exactly we do for our JMB Website Supporters members often throughout the year (in addition to supplying them with 300+ discounts and other benefits through JMB Website Supporters membership). **Bear in mind that Preregistration is required for everyone.** 

If you are a JMB member, you must preregister by emailing susan@jmbcommunications.com with the subject Party. We need the names and email addresses of everyone who will attend including your guests.

<u>If you're not a JMB Website Supporters member but would like to attend</u>, send an email to susan@jmbcommunications.com with the subject Possible Party Attendee and tell us, in 200 words or less, why you think you should be selected along with your spouse/partner to join us at this memorable event. You must send your email to us this week; we will pick winners a week from now, approximately.

You will not want to miss this event. The other way to join us is to join JMB Website Supporters now, during our membership sale which ends tomorrow, Tuesday, July 31. As soon as you join, you can contact Susan to register for the party. Join by clicking the page curl on our site, everythingsxm.com.

#### **Party Summary:**

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED; Contact Susan as noted above to Register.

#### **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

### **20. At LeGalion: Nothing, Not Even "Tropical Wave"**

We've seen a few questions recently on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u> asking about the status of LeGalion beach, formerly the home of much kite surfing and other watersports activity and, years ago, the LeGalion Beach Hotel, destroyed by hurricane Luis in 1995. It was the first gathering place for SXM naturists, who stayed at LeGalion and walked the well-worn path in the 1980s to the southern end of Orient beach, the island's only official naturist beach at that time when there was no development at all except for the beginnings of Club Orient and the original Pedro's drink cart.

Everything on LeGalion beach was destroyed by hurricane Irma. Everything. Nothing is left. That includes the Tropical Wave restaurant, which for decades served excellent food to many local people and to many tourists as well thanks to the long term dedication of **Patrick Turner**, restaurant owner. A thread on our <u>Everything SXM</u> <u>Facebook Site</u> concerning LeGalion brought this heartfelt response from Patrick of Tropical Wave:

"To all of you customers of Tropical Wave at Galion Beach. The devastation from hurricane Irma totally destroyed my business and removed forty years of love and work. Now there are absolutely no facilities and the majority of trees I planted are gone. If you do go for a lovely walk down to the end of the mile long beach, leave no valuables in the car. I miss the place and all the friends I made during my rein as "The Big Kahuna". Peace and love."

### **21. 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 Website www.ireteam.com

Tell him you saw this in Jeff Berger's SXM Weekly News.

# 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 <u>getskymed.com</u>. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

# See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

### **22. Latest Update from the Orient Bay Nature Reserve**

The Nature Reserve pulls the strings on most beaches on the Northeastern part of the island. In its current French / English report, it tells us all what's going on at the beach from their perspective. Note: there is not much here about rebuilding.

Here is the report, an Adobe Acrobat PDF.

### 24. 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 everythingsxm.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.

### 25. 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 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 DAY IS TOMORROW, TUESDAY, JULY 31:

# OUR SUMMER JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE IS ALMOST OVER

# OUR SALE <u>MUST END</u> ON <u>TUESDAY 7/31,</u> <u>TOMORROW: DON'T MISS IT!</u>

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

# <u>Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership</u> <u>Today:</u>

# 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:

<u>New JMB memberships: One year \$44, THREE years \$79 and SIX years \$139 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>

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

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

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

### 27. "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: <u>http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkyMedServices.pdf</u>

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, everythingsxm.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, at any time. Call Jeff at 508-747-8281 during business hours EDT.

#### **To Sum Up - Many Special Features:**

a) **<u>SkyMed Takes You Home</u>**<sup>®</sup>. 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) **<u>Pre-existing conditions covered in full</u>** after only 90 days for one-year and longer memberships, and immediately for short-term memberships.

d) **<u>Guaranteed renewable regardless of advancing age or health changes</u> (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 fiveyear 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 <u>list of</u> <u>benefits</u>) 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?

### 28. 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:** 

<u>IZI</u>

**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

### 29. Use Our 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.

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

Check out our Everything SXM Facebook Site and our main SXM website, everythingsxm.com.

### **31. Restaurant of the Week: Returns Soon**

Coming soon: Domino's; Pineapple Pete.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**IZI Ristorante Italiano,** <u>www.iziristoranteitaliano.com</u> (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**, <u>http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/</u> (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). Limited hours this time of year.

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

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

**Spiga**, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u> (featured 4/9/18) Reopened as Cafe Spiga, new menu; redesigned. New bar, new bar snacks, same great staff, service, and wonderful food. **Closed for the season until October.** 

**Celine 3 luxury Catamaran**, <u>www.sailstmaarten.com</u> (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** <u>www.bigfishsxm.com/</u> (featured 5/1/17). Big Fish has closed but will reopen later this year; different ownership expected.

**Busby's Chicken Rotisserie** (featured 6/5/17) Wrecked by Irma. The owners are awaiting insurance resolution. **Canoa**, <u>www.canoasxm.com</u> (featured 4/10/17) Canoa has established a gofundme campaign to help it rebuild. We have no information on timing, but our guess is probably 2019 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**, <u>www.dawnbeachsxm.com</u> (featured 8/14/17) Wrecked by Irma. Closed permanently and for sale.

**Domino's Pizza** <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338</u> (featured 9/16) Open. **The Boathouse**, <u>https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777</u> 10/3/16 Just got insurance settlement, not yet reopened. **The Hideaway**, <u>http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html</u> (featured 10/31/16) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

**Stone Restaurant**, <u>www.thestonerestaurant.com</u> (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) Reopening in September.

**Temptation**, <u>http://www.temptation-sxm.com/</u> (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, <u>http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com</u> (featured 6/19/17) Wrecked by Irma. Closed permanently and for sale.

Pineapple Pete, <u>www.pineapplepete.com</u> (featured 7/31/17) Reopened.

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

**Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path the turn near Shore Pointe to get there). (featured 4/17/2017) Reopened. Their sign blew away in Irma -- to Virgin Gorda's airport 192 miles away. **FIG, Maho complex at Le Terasse** Had closed permanently before Irma hit.

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

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) Recently reopened.

**Vesna Taverna,** <u>www.vesnataverna.com</u> (featured 1/22/18). Reopened. Now open Wed through Sunday B/L/D. **Topper's** <u>http://www.sxmtoppers.com/</u> (featured 2/27/17) Reopened quickly.

Taloula Mango http://www.taloulamango.com/ (featured 4/20/15) Reopened.

Bylbos, Simpson Bay Not known.

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

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

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In business since the web began --

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

*SXM Weekly News*, our <u>everythingSXM.com</u> 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 <u>susan@jmbcommunications.com</u> 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.

# 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 <u>getskymed.com</u>.

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

<u>Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.</u>

Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide) -- Frequently Updated

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>.

#### Want to rent or buy a week?

\*2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale\* are posted at <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml</u> 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: <u>www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Get Your Own Free Copy Of St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News:

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

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Our email headers also contain subscribe / unsubscribe / address change links.

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

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

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

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

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

07/30/18 #V2-1162 6:00 a.m. EDT 7/29/18 10.7

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