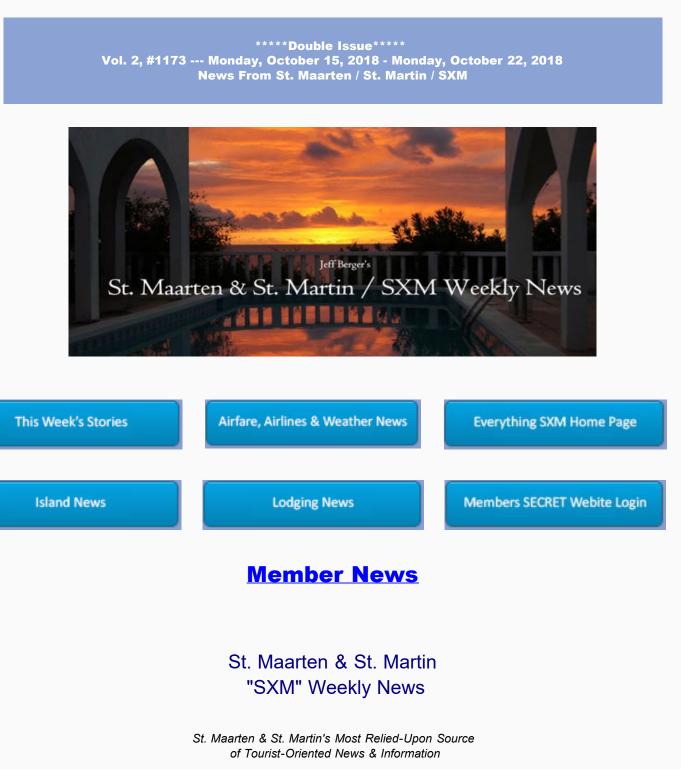
From JMB / SXM Weekly News 10/15/18 - 10/22/18 Double Issue: Jet Blue Dazzles w/ Low Fares, New US Departure City; United & AA Screwups; Two Invitations; Royal Islander; Towers; La Vista; Rum & Peas; Piazza Pascal; Sarafina; Pelican Bistro; Thanksgiving; [38 News Stories]

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file:///Cl/Users/jmbcomms.000/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/\_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V2\_1173Oct152018.html[9/7/2019 3:12:39 PM]

Add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book 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 308,000 people around the world...* 

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



Protect your vacation and business travel with SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation Membership



Download PDFs of Recent Editions ---- Attention iPad, iPhone, Note, and Android Users

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

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

<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.

### Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

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

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

#### **TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:**

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

## Top Stories in Today's <u>SXM Weekly News</u>:

## Weather; Getting Here:

-- Heavy Rain Briefly Diverts Planes, Shuts Airport. -- Rob Lightbown Nails Forecast for Hurricane Michael

- -- Quiet in the Tropics, But 6 Weeks To Go
- -- Jet Blue Dazzling Travelers With Lower "Basic Economy" Fares
- -- Low-Priced Lauderdale SXM Daily Nonstops Launched by Jet Blue
- -- New SXM Connections for California, Phoenix
- -- United Cancels SXM Nonstops To/From Dulles
- -- AA Restricts Rebooking for Everyone But AA Elite Travelers

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- -- Sarafina Close to Reopening, Bigger Quarters
- -- Pelican Bistro Opens; Deli, Coffee Shop
- -- A Tale of <u>Two Thanksgiving Week JMB Parties</u>
- -- Make Reservations Early for Thanksgiving Dinner...

## #######

-- Traveling Next Winter? <u>Why It's Critical To Get SkyMed Now</u> ########

-- Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate

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-- \*\*\*\*\*FALL MEMBERSHIP SALE NOW UNDERWAY\*\*\*\* JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Fall Membership Sale Delivers 300+ SXM Discounts & Other Benefits

- -- SXM Vacation Giveaway Drawing Coming Next Month
- -- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors
- -- Got SXM Questions? Here's Where The Answers Are
- -- SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic

Please see our complete Table of Contents below.

**38** 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** 11/17/2018 11/24/2018 46 **La Vista Beach Resort** Beachfront 2-Bedroom, 2-Bath, 2nd floor end unit sleeps six with full kitchen, stainless steel appliances, microwave, master bedroom with king size bed & full bath, 2nd bedroom with 2-twins & access to 2nd full bath, dining/living room combo with queen size sofa bed. There is a room safe, WiFi and three flat screen TVs. From your porch you'll see the pool, the beach and one of the most beautiful views found on SXM. Ocean view restaurant on site with restaurants, grocery stores, casinos and other beaches within walking distance. There is daily maid service (towels, trash) and a great resort staff. So enjoy this Thanksgiving Week eating lobster and viewing breathtaking sunsets. \$1,100 Polly 239-691-8496 dragonflynursery@gmail.com

## SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

**SALE** 2/16/2019 2/23/2019 Week 7 **Belair Beach Resort Dutch side condo on Little Bay Beach 3rd floor directly on the Beach**. Quiet location. Two BR, 2 BA with king size bed in master, double in 2nd BR w/access to private bath. Private Balcony overlooking Beach, Caribbean Sea and St. Barths. AC, fully equipped kitchen, dining room, living room has sleeper sofa. Sleeps 6 total. TVs in living room and master BR. In-room wifi. Reserve your own Free Beach Chair w/Umbrella for the week plus daily Free Beach Towels. Newly renovated since Hurricane Irma. Best Snorkeling on the Island in Little Bay. See www.belairbeach.com for great details. Why Rent this February when you can Buy and Own until 2091? \$13,000 David 19788867611 davidfarzan@gmail.com

## Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare\_rent\_sale/index.shtml</a>

## 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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f Find us on Facebook

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

# **1. Jet Blue Dazzling Travelers With Lower "Basic Economy" Fares**

JetBlue recently introduced its new, lower tier of basic economy fares, focused on the needs of travelers seeking basic transportation without frills. The fares are getting great play in social media. Since the airline just recently introduced nonstop service from Fort Lauderdale to SXM, those low fares, in particular, are getting a lot of attention.

More, in the original announcement about basic economy fares, is here.

# 2. Low-Priced Lauderdale-SXM Nonstops Launched by Jet Blue

*SXM Weekly News* previously published that new service to SXM from Fort Lauderdale was in the offing — now, it's here. Here are <u>details</u>.

Lauderdale also introduces all kinds of new, more convenient connections from the rest of the country to SXM. Rather than have to go through New York, where winter weather can interfere with flights during peak travel periods, Lauderdale offers alternatives far less likely to be impacted by weather.Since Lauderdale is also a JetBlue focus city, the number of flights the airline is offering there continues to increase. In fact, it is becoming a focal point for JB flights from points and South America to the US. Consequently, JetBlue will be enabling people from South America to get to SXM via Lauderdale.

Please see next story.

# **3. New SXM Connections for California, Phoenix**

If you're in southern or central California or the greater Phoenix area, take heart: your desire to get to SXM conveniently on a low-fare airline has just become a reality.

JetBlue either already has or will soon be introducing flights from both Long Beach, its Southern California focus city, and Phoenix to Ft. Lauderdale, where you can soon connect with daily SXM nonstops. JetBlue's facilities in Phoenix have recently been upgraded to include more gates. Information about the coming nonstops from Phoenix to

Lauderdale came from an industry source.

# 4. United Cancels SXM Nonstops To/From Dulles

A couple of recent emails tipped us off to something United Airlines is doing that is angering passengers from the DC/Baltimore area — it's canceling nonstops between Dulles and SXM.

What this means is that people already ticketed to fly from Dulles to SXM will not be able to return home on a number of dates with nonstop service from United. Instead, the airline will fly them to Chicago, where they can connect with another flight back to the DC area. That's about as logical as going from New York to Miami by way of Chicago — it doesn't make sense... but it's exactly what UA is doing.

# 5. AA Restricts Rebooking for Everyone But AA Elite Travelers

In an astonishingly anti-consumer move, American Airlines has said it is restricting rebooking for AA passengers affected by canceled flights to its platinum Elite members.

Previously, the airline would willingly rebook passengers on its own flights or flights of other airlines when AA canceled flights. It will now rebook on flights by other airlines only for its platinum Elite passengers. As far as AA is concerned, others can punt. It's an anticonsumer move which could easily come back to haunt the airline, also roundly criticized for uncomfortable seating densities in coach.

More on this policy is here, though we think this move is more onerous than the link suggests.

# \*\*\*\*\*\*FALL MEMBERSHIP SALE BEGINS\*\*\*\*\*\*

# <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>

New JMB memberships: 1 yr. \$44; 3 yrs. \$79; <u>BUT GET OUR BEST OFFER</u>: 6 yrs. just \$139. http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

<u>Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships</u>: 1 yr. \$35; 3 yrs. \$73; <u>BUT GET</u> <u>OUR BEST OFFER</u>: 6 yrs. \$129 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

# 6. WestJet OK With Emotional Support Pigs, Monkeys, & Horses

WestJet recently redefined its policy regarding emotional support animals on its flights and in doing so, made itself and its policies look downright bizarre.

The airline says, according to published reports, that it has no problem with passengers bringing emotional support pigs, monkeys, and horses on its flights. We don't know what size monkeys may be involved, but we assume that the pigs are those relatively little ones that some people have as pets and the horses are miniatures.

Here's more on the policy.

# 7. Rob Lightbown Nails Forecast for Hurricane Michael

Roughly a couple of days before hurricane Michael came ashore in the Florida panhandle, most forecasters were saying that the storm would bring winds of 100 to 115 miles per our to the area. At the same time, Meteorologist Rob Lightbown was forecasting that Michael could rapidly intensify before landfall, arriving with winds up to about 140 mph. Its winds upon landfall were as high as 155 mph sustained, and the storm caused massive devastation. It was also just shy of category five strength.

You can see why SXM was hammered so hard by hurricane Irma, whose sustained winds were the highest ever for any Atlantic hurricane at 185 mph sustained with gusts to 240 mph. That was not the case for hurricane Michael which, though very strong, was substantially less powerful than Irma but still caused incredible destruction in the panhandle.

# 8. Quiet in the Tropics, But 6 Weeks To Go

On Wednesday morning as we wrote this double edition of *SXM Weekly News* (covering both the week of October 15 and the week of October 22), we saw the kind of National Hurricane Center forecast that we like, basically *tropical storm formation is not expected during the next five days*.

Travelers who have visited SXM in the past know that hurricane season doesn't end until November 30, and sizable storms can hit throughout the entire month of November. Currently, conditions in the central Atlantic are unfriendly toward potential tropical systems — but sometimes, things happen.

See our Weather Center at everythingsxm.com for more info.

# 9. Heavy Rain Briefly Diverts Planes, Shuts Airport

A heavy rainstorm **un**associated with any hurricane or tropical storm doused the island a week ago, causing a fair amount of street flooding, closing some schools early, and shuttering flights at SXM Airport for a brief time due to poor visibility. Incoming flights were diverted temporarily to San Juan airport, but resumed fairly quickly.

## 10. 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.

# **11. 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.

# **12. Your Invitation To Our Seminar on Relocating To SXM**

# On November 20 in St. Maarten, we will hold an important, well-detailed seminar designed to help people who are interested in relocating to SXM; buying a vacation home there; buying a retirement home; acquiring an income property on SXM; or even starting a business there.

The seminar will be led by Arun Jagtiani, head of Island Real Estate Team and widely regarded as SXM's top realtor, and it will also feature other subject matter experts. The Seminar will be opened by Jeff Berger.

Although it is expected to last only about two hours, the seminar will be packed with information that applies to both sides of the island. Subject matter experts are creating this event in such a way that it will answer all your questions — even many you may not have thought of. Nonetheless, there will be a substantial audience question and answer period as well following the presentations.

In the past, our audiences for special events like this have always been JMB Website Supporters members, in most cases exclusively. **We have decided this event, however, will be different: we are opening it up from** the get-go to both JMB Website Supporters members, who can register now at no cost, and to others interested in possible relocation or property investment on SXM. Nonmembers will be allowed to preregister now as well, and they will be approved on a space-available basis at a cost of \$35 per person assessed by the venue and collected by the venue upon check-in on the day of the seminar. We expect to publish the complete seminar agenda very soon on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>, following which it will also be published here in SXM Weekly News.

**Preregister Now. Attendance will be strictly limited to 100 people**. To preregister, send an email to <u>susan@jmbcommunications.com</u> with the subject Relocation Seminar. We will need your JMB Website Supporters membership number if you are a member, plus the full names of all attendees and their email addresses and telephone numbers. <u>JMB Website Supporters will be allowed to bring two guests to the seminar</u> — two people who are also interested in relocating to SXM or buying property there. Children are not invited to and are not welcome at this event. <u>The nonmember guests must pay the fee noted above (though they can of course join JMB and avoid it)</u>. We will acknowledge attendance for JMB Website Supporters members and we will add nonmembers to a wait list. They will be contacted in the order in which they registered, at which time we hope to accommodate everyone to the maximum of 100 total attendees.<u>Acknowledgements will start next week</u>.

If you are serious about possibly relocating to SXM, you may want to become a JMB Website Supporters member; once you become a JMB member, you will not only get our 300 discounts and other benefits across SXM, but you will have priority access to the seminar and will not have to pay to attend it.

A couple of people have asked us if this is some kind of timeshare sales gimmick. It absolutely is not. It is exactly what we say it is, a seminar to help people who are seriously considering relocating to, buying a vacation home on, or acquiring income property on SXM. As noted, we also expect also have info for people who may be interested in coming to SXM to open a business. *There is lots to cover here and we look forward to delivering a very useful seminar to our members and to many others*.

# 13. Getting SXM Resorts Back in Operation <u>Was</u> a Huge Waiting Game

Some resorts have proven themselves more adept at getting back in operation than others. Simpson Bay Resort, Baker's Suites, Azure Hotel, Atrium Resort, Belair Resort, Divi Little Bay Resort, and Oyster Bay Beach Resort in particular have proven themselves able to pull rabbits out of hats and get their resorts open surprisingly quickly.

It's rather an amazing feat. Consider the fact that a Irma, Maria, and Harvey all arrived within weeks of each other in different places, all had many similar parts and repair materials needs, and that their demands quickly emptied virtually every warehouse in the hemisphere and beyond.

Exacerbating the parts supply situation was the fact that on SXM and elsewhere, employees by the thousands lost their homes or suffered other huge personal losses in the storm.

It is now more than 13 months since Irma hit and during that period, SXM has made an astonishing recovery — far better than anyone could have hoped. Talented negotiators used their skills at getting to the right people first to get their orders filled -- that's the real story behind quick recoveries, sometimes executed before slow-to-respond insurance companies did their jobs. Local businesses working hard made the difference for the resorts noted above.

Also, of course, construction quality plays a huge role — but there again, talented craftsmen were needed to build or rebuild hurricane-proof structures.

When you get here, you'll see the quality of the new construction and understand why the newest buildings have taken so long to be completed. In very large measure the result is now here, waiting for you to enjoy.

## 14. Update on Royal Islander From Richard March, RI Owners Grp.

Sunday October 7th 2018. 11.15am

There have been no further official updates from the Resort since May 4th 2018. The Resort advised me verbally Sept 11 2018 they expect to announce a reopening very soon (?) but nothing yet . Emails received from the Resort sent have suggested various "projected" dates. On Sept 21st 2018 for example a Resort email advised "The resort will be reopened in 2018 projected the 1st week in November"

Many owners, particularly those whom have vacations over the next 90 days, remain in a state of "limbo". Not wishing to make flight arrangements and unsure of what is happening. Also on social media "speculation" and "opinions" are being offered about the status of the resort and when it will reopen etc. Many visitors to the Island have done a walk by and or have taken pictures.

I, like all of you, anxiously await the decision from The Resort as to when they will be able to reopen and receive guests. I hope it will occur very soon but at this moment I do not know . When Resorts management makes that announcement I will immediately update my Web Page and Facebook.

Richard March, Royal Islander Owners Group

# **15. Update on Mullet Bay Towers From The Source**

Within the last few days, we were able to contact those handling public affairs for the Towers at Mullet Bay Resort, held up by a variety of factors during its renovation process. Their answer:

We have no news as yet. Still hoping to have everything resolved as soon as possible.

We also asked if the resort was accepting reservations for a more distant time in the future, but they didn't bite: "Not as yet but will start as soon we have a reopening date, which will be published as soon we get word."

Please see also story 13.

## 16. Looking at New / Improved La Vista & La Vista Beach

If you own and love La Vista or are thinking of renting or buying units there, this video will be of real interest.

## **17. Nothing Yet from Westin**

The Westin St. Maarten Dawn Beach Resort and Casino had said it had expected to have more information about its future status in September. We've still heard nothing and within the last few days sent an additional note to senior executives of Columbia Sussex, the hotel operating company that's in charge of the resort.

As soon as we hear from them, we'll publish their information.

## **18. Places to Stay: Many Available, Take Your Pick**

With several timeshare resorts back online — Belair, Sea Palace, Divi, Atrium Resort, Simpson Bay Resort, and Oyster Bay Beach now open too -- timeshare owners continue to post 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. Note: ads on those pages are from JMB Website Supporters members exclusively.

**SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits** 

## **19. 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

# \*\*\*\*\*\*FALL MEMBERSHIP SALE BEGINS\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **Get 300+ SXM Discounts Many Other Island Benefits,**

file:///C|/Users/jmbcomms.000/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/\_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V2\_1173Oct152018.html[9/7/2019 3:12:39 PM]

# & (P. S.) Invitations to Members-Only Island Parties:

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

New JMB memberships: 1 yr. \$44; 3 yrs. \$79; <u>BUT GET OUR BEST OFFER</u>: 6 yrs. just \$139. http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships: 1 yr. \$35; 3 yrs. \$73; <u>BUT GET</u> <u>OUR BEST OFFER</u>: 6 yrs. \$129 <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml</u>

# 20. Pelican Bistro Opens; Deli, Coffee Shop

Pelican Bistro has opened on Billy Folly road on the ground floor of the same building that houses the So French restaurant. It is owned by Nikhil Gurnani who also owns the Melange Restaurant at Princess Port de Plaisance off the Union Road. You'll be seeing more about both of these places on our <u>Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>.

Pelican Bistro is very convenient to Simpson Bay Resort, Baker's Suites, the Atrium Royal Palm, La Vista, Flamingo, and others. It features breakfast and lunch and is open until 6 PM. Many Deli and other coffee shop specials; more to come.

# **21. "Rum and Peas" Restaurant For Sale or Lease**

Sherman Marten's Rum and Peas restaurant in Simpson Bay is now up for sale or lease. It's a fully equipped restaurant.

Sherman, you may remember, was also owner of the Canoa Restaurant on oyster pond, which was completely destroyed by hurricane Irma. Rum and Peas, built from sturdy former shipping containers, weathered the storm rather well. For more information, dial 721-586-3388.

# 22. A Sharing Idea on SXM

From Janice & Jerome Patterson, as posted on our <u>Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Site</u>:

"Want to help the people on the island we all love in a small easy way? Here is an idea. I found a luggage store [at home in the US -Ed] that had a trade-in event where they gave dollars off a new one if you traded in your old luggage. I wondered what they did with the traded in pieces and found out that they just get rid of them. So I asked if I could have a couple to pack donations in. They were delighted to do so. I picked up two pieces of luggage for free, then jam-packed them full of donated and new kids and women's clothes, books, a few toys, and toothbrushes (donated from my dentist) and brought them with us to SXM. We were in business class and they were our second bags so they were free too. Even if you need to pay for a second bag, it would likely still be less than if you wanted to mail them. All you have to do is pack it and check it at the airport and then pick it up when you arrive. Once on the island, there are people like Jeff Jhangiani who will help get the donations to those who need them.

"Today, we had breakfast with Jeff Jhangiani, who is, in my opinion, an unsung hero of the less fortunate (although

he would likely object to that title), who accepted our 2 pieces of luggage full of donations. He has already distributed one of them to a battered women's shelter called Safe Haven. Tomorrow, he will distribute the other one to the ICAN Orphanage. The need is still great and will be for a long time. We plan to do this every year we come, only next time with a bigger suitcases. Think of the potential impact if lots of us did this."

## 23. A Tale of Two Thanksgiving Week JMB Parties

JMB Communications / JMB Website Supporters / Everything SXM are actually putting on two parties during Thanksgiving week.

The first, our widely heralded November 20 late-day seminar on Relocating to SXM, buying income property there, or setting up a business on the island — covering both the French and Dutch sides — is described in detail in story number 12. Registration is now open to all — not just JMB Website Supporters members, but also readers of SXM Weekly News and members of our everything SXM Facebook site. Please see all the details in story number 12.

Our second party is the next day, November 21 late in the day. Invitations were just sent out to all JMB Website Supporters members, who are already registering for this event. It's actually a JMB Website Supporters members meet and greet and also a holiday toy drive for island children. Here are the details:

You're invited to a JMB Website Supporters **MEMBERS MEET AND GREET & HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE** for SXM island children **Preregistration Required:** 

**When:** Wednesday, 11/21/18 6PM to ? *That's Thanksgiving Eve*.

**Where:** Snoopy's Bar next to the main entrance of Isle de Sol Yacht Club / Snoopy Island (next to SkipJack's). Address: 80 Welfare Road, Simpson Bay, Dutch Side.

### Who: JMB Website Supporters Members Only (see "Guests" below).

No one under the age of 21 admitted. <u>You **MUST** have your current</u>, valid JMB Website Supporters Membership <u>Card with you</u>. **Preregistration Required.** Nonmembers will be able to attend; see "Guests" below.

**Features**: 2 for 1 well drinks and free (delicious!) finger food. SNOOPY'S BAR is now home to SXM's only recognized "Singing Bartender" Horsford Shillingford, who many of you know. KARAOKE too.

**Toys:** *This is a Toy Drive for holiday gifts for island kids. You must bring new, unwrapped toys for kids from 1-12 years of age.* Bruce Spring and Vikki Whitley who work on our <u>Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook</u> <u>Site</u> will work with *All About a Smile* to deliver them before the Holidays. We're grateful for their & your help at making this a success.

<u>Guests</u>: JMB member couples may bring up to two guests to this event but they also \*MUST\* be preregistered. Again <u>ABSOLUTELY NO CHILDREN</u>. If you're not a JMB member and would like to go, see "How To Register," below.

**Relocation Seminar:** This event is separate from the Relocation Seminar we're sponsoring on the island the prior

evening at Emilio's. You also must preregister for that as outlined in story 12.

## How To Register for the Party / Toy Drive at Snoopy's:

-- JMB Website Supporters Members: Email <u>SNOOPYPARTY11212018@GMAIL.COM</u> with your JMB Website Supporters membership number and expiration date and your name and your spouse / partner's name. <u>Your</u> <u>attendance is confirmed when we respond in writing after membership verification</u>. Remember, if you plan on bringing guests, they \*MUST\* be preregistered by you NOW. Maximum two guests. <u>When you receive our</u> response, please print it out and bring it with you to the party: it will serve as your admission. You cannot register for

this party by writing to Membership Services or any other JMB address.

-- **<u>NON</u> JMB Website Supporters Members**: Register as noted in the previous paragraph but specify that you are not a JMB member. By midweek next week, if space remains available, we will start confirming nonmembers.

<u>Deadline</u>: Most of you will get this on October 18, 2018. <u>JMB Members, Register \*NOW</u>.\* We will open this to readers of *SXM Weekly News* and to members of our <u>Jeff Berger's Everything SXM</u> <u>Facebook Site</u> next week if space remains available. <u>JMB members get first dibs but we want</u> to admit as many as we can, both to give you a look at Snoopy's and to gather toys for island <u>kids.</u>

Questions? Use ONLY the email shown above.

## 24. Make Reservations Early for Thanksgiving Dinner...

If you're going to be on SXM during Thanksgiving week, remember that Irma notwithstanding, it will be one of the busiest weeks of the year on SXM and that advance reservations are a must. Many restaurants, particularly on the Dutch side, offer of full-bore Thanksgiving dinners with all the trimmings and lots of delicious desserts. If you visit island restaurants ahead of Thanksgiving, be sure to make reservations once you select which restaurant you'd like to visit.

The holidays are one of the most festive and memorable parts of life on the island. Don't miss Thanksgiving on SXM.

**Hint:** Toppers is usually the single busiest SXM restaurant on Thanksgiving. We'll list all that we hear are serving Thanksgiving Dinners on our **Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Site**.

## 25. Paul Allen, Familiar to SXM, Passes Away

Microsoft cofounder Paul Allen recently passed away after a long battle with cancer. He was just 65.

For many, many years, his supermegayacht, the Octopus, has been a familiar sight either off Kimsha beach or sometimes off Philipsburg, since it can't fit into Simpson Bay lagoon with many other yachts (too big).

Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates credits Paul Allen with originating the PC, saying that without Mr. Allen, there never would've been a PC.

The late Steve Jobs superyacht, Venus, which he designed but which wasn't launched until after he passed a few years ago, is also still often seen in Winter in SXM waters.

Paul Allen, and of course Steve Jobs, are both missed as two of America's greatest high-tech Entrepreneurs.

## 26. Piazza Pascal Reopens

Piazza Pascal in Grand Case reopened October 11. Check their website here.

## 27. Sarafina Close to Reopening, Bigger Quarters

Sarafina, arguably SXM's busiest and most well-known bakery/sandwich emporium, will soon reopen at Marina Royale in downtown Marigot.

Here is some of their talk about their new place, computer-translated from French:

Homemade manufacture.... you know our demand. And faithful to our miller "the mills of cherisy" Wheat of Normandy and beauce exclusively

New address... on the docks of the royal marina

A little coffee or orange juice on the terrace.

For the next year.... April or May possibly opening next to Sarafina's "la pastry and the tea / snack lounge" also on the docks of the Marina La Royale.

We will have tasty surprises in a new frame and abundance of a window to corrupt your relative wisdom of gluttony.

Thank you for your messages of courage and resilience during this complicated year.

# 28. Outdated / False "News" Hurting SXM

Businesswise, September and October in SXM have been rather quiet across the island. Of course, September and October are the peak of hurricane season — and no one has forgotten last year's epochal events. And some businesses are also on vacation, reopening very soon.

There is still a lot of grossly outdated and outright false information about St. Maarten on the web, in magazines, allegedly being communicated by some cruise ship companies, etc. Although scars of Irma's wrath remain — and will remain for some time to come, nonetheless both the French side and the Dutch side have made spectacular progress -- and the island is more than ready to accommodate visitors who are returning. At this point, there is no reason whatsoever not to return.

Before the end of this year, probably before the end of next month, both arrivals and departures will move back into SXM Airport's main terminal building, temporarily being housed on its first floor. All the beaches are open and serving customers. They're clean, they're welcoming, and the water is warm and crystal-clear. Many, many restaurants on both sides of the island are open (some of them just reopening now from their seasonal closings) and the staff's there have new examples of their creative genius ready for your immediate return. The weather will be the same kind of warm welcoming **winter tropical weather** you've grown to love in prior visits.

Most island timeshares and a number of hotels have reopened, plus many timeshares are available for rent from their owners on our main website, <u>everythingSXM.com</u> and from our sponsors, <u>Jennifer's vacation villas</u> and Arun Jagtiani's <u>IRE vacations</u>: mention to both that you've been referred to them by *SXM Weekly News*.

If you haven't made plans, realize that airfares are dropping to their best level in years and new island gateways are opening with new flights to your favorite island. Come soon.

## 29. Wedding Expo Set Oct. 20, Belair Community Ctr.

You'll find details about the wedding Expo — tickets for which are on sale at €10 — on our **Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Site**; just search wedding Expo for details.

# **30. Traveling Next Winter? Why It's Critical To Get SkyMed Now**

Traveling Next Winter? Beat SkyMed's 90-day exclusion for pre-existing conditions by joining SkyMed now.

On its guaranteed renewable annual and multiyear memberships, SkyMed has a 90-day waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions -- everything else is covered in full as soon as your SkyMed membership has been approved, per SkyMed's member services agreement.

If you're traveling in January or later, you can beat that one-time 90-day pre-existing conditions exclusion by joining today. That way the 90-day exclusion period will be over by the time you travel -- so you're covered in full, including pre-existing conditions, at that time.

SkyMed Takes You Home® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. There is no age limit to apply, and once you're enrolled you can renew without further medical checks regardless of your attained age or your health at the time of renewal. Without SkyMed, if you need an Emergency Medical Evacuation, you must pay for it in

cash, in advance. No cash, no evacuation. And the cost without SkyMed can be astronomical. Why risk that?

By contrast, if you're a SkyMed member, you call SkyMed directly and they make all the arrangements for all the services they provide. SkyMed Takes You Home -- what else matters?

And there is *no age limit to apply*. Call us at 508-747-8281 and ask for Jeff; he'll answer your questions and can take your application by phone, usually in under 10 minutes.

It's available to Americans, Canadians, and ExPats from both countries. Short-term and annual coverage includes the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage is available on annual memberships for a \$99 additional yearly fee, but global coverage is standard on multiyear SkyMed Ultimate memberships, which are both SkyMed's best and its least expensive medevac memberships.

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

Got questions? Call us daytimes (EDT) at 508-747-8281. Again, we can answer your questions and take your application by phone in about 10 minutes. We can set up evening phone appointments too. It's like fire insurance -- get it before you need it.

#### More Info on SkyMed:

#### **Huge Differences Between Short-Term & Annual SkyMed Plans** Key Differences You Need To Know Between Short-Term & Annual or Longer SkyMed Memberships

**Cost:** Short-term SkyMed family memberships are \$15/day total. <u>Guaranteed renewable</u> annual and Ultimate family memberships are only about \$1.35 a day, a big difference. And short term plans are <u>NOT</u> guaranteed renewable. Once they're over, they're over, and you must reapply for coverage when you next want it -- a risky business.

**Coverage Area:** Short-term SkyMed memberships cover Americans and Canadians traveling in the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba (and SXM, of course). Coverage in the rest of the world is *not* available <u>on short-term memberships</u>; it's a \$99 yearly extra on annual

memberships; and *it is included* in SkyMed's least expensive, most feature-rich Ultimate multiyear memberships, which can have a price guarantee of up to 10 years.

**Future Price Guarantees**: There are none for annual and short-term memberships. Currently, if you buy a new three- or five-year Ultimate SkyMed membership and check the "automatically renew" box on the application, you get the same price when you renew. That's up to a 10-year price guarantee, something that's unheard-of. As a result, the Ultimate delivers the best medevac product at the lowest cost.

**Traveling soon?** No worries: short term SkyMed coverage includes all your pre-existing conditions. You get short term coverage for your trip (including an extra day at the end in case of weather issues), and contact SkyMed just before the end of your trip to convert to an annual or multiyear membership immediately before your short-term expires. That way you get covered by short term for pre-existing conditions for the current trip, but then switch to a longer membership that's guaranteed renewable regardless of attained age or health change.

*SkyMed Takes You Home*® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. There is no age limit to apply, and once you're enrolled you can renew without further medical checks regardless of your attained age or your health at the time of renewal.

Without SkyMed, if you need an Emergency Medical Evacuation, you must pay for it in cash, in advance. No cash, no evacuation. And the cost without SkyMed can be astronomical -- \$35,000 to \$50,000 or more, sometimes far more. Why risk that?

By contrast, if you're a SkyMed member, you call SkyMed directly and they make all the arrangements for all the services they provide. SkyMed *Takes You Home* -- what else matters?

# Again, no age limit to apply. Call us at 508-747-8281. and ask for Jeff; he'll answer your questions and can take your application by phone, usually in under 10 minutes. Please call during office hours, Eastern time. We can set up evening phone appointments too. It's like fire insurance -- <u>get it before you need it</u>.

SkyMed membership is available to Americans, Canadians, and ExPats from both countries. Short-term and annual coverage includes the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the

Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage is available on annual memberships for a \$99 additional yearly fee, but global coverage is <u>standard</u> on multiyear SkyMed Ultimate memberships, which are both SkyMed's best and its least expensive medevac memberships.

# 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

## **31. 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.

# FALL JMB MEMBERSHIP SALE NOW UNDERWAY

# <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>

**New JMB memberships: 1 yr. \$44; 3 yrs. \$79;** <u>BUT GET OUR BEST OFFER</u>: 6 yrs. just \$139.

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

<u>Renewal / Reinstatement JMB memberships</u>: 1 yr. \$35; 3 yrs. \$73; <u>BUT GET</u> <u>OUR BEST OFFER</u>: 6 yrs. \$129 http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

## 32. Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate (Repeat)

# 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>.

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

Entries are now locked. We'll very soon set a giveaway date, expected to be in the next few weeks:

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....

## **34. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated)**

### **CAR RENTALS:**

## **Leisure Car Rental**

## **Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental**

#### Starlite Car Rental (Belair Resort; just joined)

Sax Car Rental

### **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** 

Art of Time (new)

**Artistic Jewelers (new)** 

**Alpha Jewels** 

### **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** 

**Azure Hotel & Art Studio** 

## **RESTAURANTS:**

<u>IZI</u>

<u>SPIGA</u>

### **VESNA TAVERNA**

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

Pelican Bistro, Billy Folly Road, Breakfast & Lunch / Coffee Shop (New)

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*.

Heavily Updated 10/18/18

## 35. Use Our Weekly News Archives

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

Check it out here.

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

Check out our Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Site and our main SXM website, everythingsxm.com.

## **37. Restaurant of the Week:**

Returning soon; Coming Attractions: Pineapple Pete, Domino's.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Mario Bistro** <u>www.mariobistrot.com/en/</u> 8/26/18 Mario's Bistro reopened a few weeks after Irma hit and looks forward to your return. Phenomenal dining.

**IZI Ristorante Italiano,** <u>www.iziristoranteitaliano.com</u> (featured 8/20/18, see story 20) 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 <u>www.avantikasxm.com</u> (featured 5/14/18) Avantika is open. SXM's best Thai.

**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 has now entered service. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

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

Melange International Grill (featured 2/20/17) Reopened.

Le Pressoir, http://www.lepressoir-sxm.com (featured 7/6/15) Reopening in September.

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

**St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge** Reopene **Jimbo's, <u>www.iimboscafe.com</u> (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; dinner reopens in October (annual closing for Dinner).

**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.

The following restaurants are all closed permanently thanks to Irma.

**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 and probably a new menu / name.

**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.

**The Boathouse**, <u>https://www.facebook.com/CDayDay777</u> 10/3/16 Just got insurance settlement, not yet reopened. **Stone Restaurant**, <u>www.thestonerestaurant.com</u> (featured 9/2/14) Stone is permanently closed.

**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. Sold by Lal to new owners, but same kitchen staff and menu.

**Mr. Busby's Beach Bar** <u>http://www.dawnbeachsxm.com</u> (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.

FIG, Maho complex at Le Terasse Had closed permanently before Irma hit. 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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## **38. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web** 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.

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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</u> on HGTV.

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

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

### Want to rent or buy a week?

\*2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale\* are posted at <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: www.everythingsxm.com/secret

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 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@imbcommunications.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)

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