

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 1/14/19: Westin; Surging SXM Tourism; Airport To Get \$100-Mil.; 2/13 Island Party; "Replay" Expanding; Club Fantastico; Weddings; Cruise Ship Tours; Below Deck; SkyMed [37 Stories]

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Vol. 2, #1185 --- Monday, January 14, 2019
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



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Member News

St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News

*St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source
of Tourist-Oriented News & Information*

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From: www.jmbcommunications.com

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

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to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

IMPORTANT: "Jeff1620" is an unmonitored send-only email address. For Contact info, see [#Contact Us](#) at the end of this newsletter.

Important Note:

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). You are receiving St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by about 315,000 people around the world...

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



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

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

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TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

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

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- ***Snowstorm Snarls Sun-Seeking Vacationers' Plans***

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- *Fast Response to Jellyfish Bite at Divi*
- *Restaurant of the Week: Pineapple Pete*

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- *SkyMed Holiday Sale Continues*

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- *Protect Against Emergency Medical Evacuation w/ SkyMed: Customer Stories*

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

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- ******HOLIDAY MEMBERSHIP SALE MUST END TUES. 1/15******

*JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Membership Sale
Delivers 300+ SXM Discounts & Other Benefits*

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- *Please Patronize JMB Sponsors*

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- *Got SXM Questions? Here's Where The Answers Are*
- *SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic*

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37 News Stories This Week

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Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml and features them here.

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

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 2/9/2019 2/16/2019 Week 6 **Simpson Bay Resort and Marina** Beachfront two bedroom, two bath unit. Directly on water. Pool, swim up bar, full kitchen, dining room, living room, two king beds, also features two Murphy beds in living room. Sleeps 6 comfortably. Patio overlooking water on both levels. Second bedroom offers upstairs privacy, with private deck . Spa, casino, restaurants on property. \$2,500.00 Karen 774-264-1267
Rinkydyl51@aol.com

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/9/2019 2/16/2019 6 **Simpson Bay Resort and Marina One bedroom 4th floor end unit** in the lower B building with awesome view of Simpson Bay. King bed with Murphy beds in living room. \$10,500 Tom 920-450-3954 tom@tomharke.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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<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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

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- A. **Where to Get Member Info:** www.everythingsxm.com/secret
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- C. **How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads:** Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

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

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

Not a member yet? See http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml . 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. New Airline, Code-Named Moxy, May Radically Change Air Travel

Chances are you've never heard of it, but a new airline, currently code-named Moxy, is expected to be entering domestic service in the US in the next few years — and our bet is that it may well be serving SXM from smaller US markets within the next five years.

What's this all about? Founder David Neeleman, who also founded WestJet; developed and sold Morris Air to Southwest; founded Azul air in South America; resurrected TAP Air Portugal, and who also founded one of the nation's most popular young airlines, JetBlue.

Moxy has already ordered 60 Airbus A220 aircraft, equal to the number recently ordered by JetBlue to replace its Embraer E190 aircraft. The A220 aircraft are much more efficient, can fly farther, and can also use short runways in many smaller airports across the country.

We strongly suggest you read [this article](#). Moxy may not be the final name of the airline, but whatever it's called — it has a bright future and you will hear much more about it.

We 100% expect A220 aircraft, with "Moxy" or other carriers, to be landing in SXM within the next few years.

More on the A220 -- and other future aircraft coming to skies near you -- is [here](#).

2. Knops Knocks SXM's Slow Movement on Airport Grants...

Not many days ago, Kingdom of the Netherlands State Secretary of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Raymond Knops criticized the government of St. Maarten for not moving faster to get SXM Airport the funding it needs to move ahead vigorously with post-Irma terminal repairs.

As we had reported last week following an interview with Ravi Daryanani, airport CFO and at the time it's acting CEO, the airport had not yet settled its claim with its insurance company for damages suffered during Irma and was using its own reserves to completely repair and reopen the first floor of the terminal, which it did recently. Mr. Knops was criticizing the government, not the airport, for moving too slowly to get this critical infrastructure back in full operation sooner rather than later.

Please see the next article.

3. ...Then, Gov't Accepts \$100-mil. for Airport Reconstruction

Whether it was an immediate response or curious coincidence doesn't particularly matter — scarcely more than a day after Raymond Knops had criticized the Dutch side government for moving too slowly on securing funding for airport repairs, the government announced it was agreeing with the Dutch government's offer for \$100 million in airport funding, half of it a grant and the other half a World Bank loan with conditions set by the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Knops immediately lauded the move.

Brian Mingo has now been named the new CEO at SXM Airport. We have sent him questions asking whether this funding will simply confirm what Mr. Daryanani told us recently about reopening plans, or whether it may impact in a positive way the move toward construction which will enable near-term launching of preclearance at SXM Airport.

As always, we will publish what we hear.

=====LAST CALL=====

HOLIDAY MEMBERSHIP SALE

*******MUST END WED. 1/16/19*******

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New JMB memberships: 6 yrs only \$139 (our best offer); 3 yrs. \$79; one year \$33

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Renewal JMB memberships: 7 yrs. \$139 (our best offer); 3 yrs. \$69; one year \$33

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

Reinstatement JMB memberships: 6 yrs. \$129 (our best offer); 3 yrs. \$73; one year \$35

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

4. Many Planes Reverse Course Heading Out of SXM

The weather in SXM has been Summery, as usual — but sometimes at night it seems a bit chillier than usual, and the water temperature seems a bit less warm than usual. All these are personal observations and they may be wrong, but others seem to be seeing the same thing.

Variations in weather here in SXM also reflect variations in wind direction, which is usually from the Southeast but in some recent cases has been more Northeasterly.

Normally, outbound aircraft take off facing East toward the mountains, quickly turning south, then either West or North. But recently, what seems to us to be an unusual number of planes have taken off over the water, heading westward.. It saves fuel for most departing planes and perhaps a little time.

Of course, thrill seekers on Maho beach, expecting to be blown into the water by jet blast from departing aircraft, are disappointed when the aircraft take off in the opposite direction — but at least they're safer.

5. Snowstorm Snarls Sun-Seeking Vacationers' Plans

In the US Midwest and Mid-Atlantic area, air traffic was snarled starting late last week as a major winter storm took shape and belted much of the country. Many flights were canceled, some of them affecting travelers seeking sun and soothing saltwater, among other things, here in SXM.

For much more information on St. Maarten weather, see the Weather Center on our main site, everythingxsm.com.

6. Current SXM Weather / Weather (Updated)

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

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

1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.

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

3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#), which publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.

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

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

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

Download your own NHC Hurricane Chart:

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

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

The exact charts used by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) are available for download from the NHC [here](#). Select "Atlantic" and you're good to go. You can print out the chart and use it repeatedly, or simply print a bunch of them and use one for each storm that may approach an area of interest -- like, SXM. Bear in mind that this hurricane season may well be frontloaded — so you might want to print a few of these now and *not* save doing that

for later.

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

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

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

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

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

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <https://www.skymedtravel.com/register>, sign up, and provide the requested information. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing. If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number here to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.

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

7a. Westin Work Likely To Start When DBC Completed

Although the management of the Westin St. Maarten Resort and Casino remains mum concerning specifics of the resort's future, people at Dawn Beach Club are telling guests there that work on rebuilding the hotel will begin once all of the Dawn Beach Club rooms have been completely renovated, guests are telling us. We have not seen a timetable concerning DBC renovations, but we are being told by timeshare owners there that they expect work on the Westin to begin before the end of this year. There is no information about completion or reopening.

The Dawn beach area was one of the hardest hit parts of the island when Irma visited in September, 2017. The

major bright spot is Oyster Bay Beach Resort which has made an outstanding recovery and which is expected to have the last of its rooms reopened in the next few months.

8. Surprise Mystery Guests at Belair and Simpson Bay...

Normally there's a barbecue at Belair resort late every Monday and at Simpson Bay there's a similar event on most Tuesdays. If you're a guest at either property, go -- from now through the end of March.

If you see someone there that you know; introduce yourself

9. Places to Stay: Many Available, Take Your Pick

With most 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 [everythingxsm.com](#). Check them out.

Get your rental weeks now. Note: ads on those pages are from JMB Website Supporters members exclusively.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

10. JMB Member Discounts / Benefits -- New Update

We're updating the site right now to reflect new discounts and recently reopened properties. The Secret Site update should be complete in the next week.

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

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

=====LAST CALL=====

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Reinstatement JMB memberships: 6 yrs. \$129 (our best offer); 3 yrs. \$73; one year \$35

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

11. Dutch Side Power Failure Hits During NFL Playoffs

Early on Sunday afternoon, the island experienced widespread teeth grinding and a large assortment of carefully chosen epithets as GEBE, the Dutch side's excuse for a power and water company, suddenly experienced a power failure affecting virtually all of the Dutch side.

Of course, the problems aren't unique to GEBE. A week ago, there was also a power issue in Grand Case, temporarily throwing dining plans of many tourists into a bit of chaos in two separate incidents over two days.

The Dutch side outage had been publicized in advance, *localized to the Welfare Road area*, the main drag through Simpson Bay. When it actually happened, though, the outage seemed to affect the entire Dutch side not long before NFL Sunday playoff games were scheduled to begin. Fortunately for GEBE, it apparently managed to get its power system working again in about two hours.

Hopefully they won't schedule any temporary outages next Sunday.

12. You're Invited To Our Feb. 13 Island Party

If you are a JMB Website Supporters member, you're invited to attend our Feb. 13, 2019 JMB Members SXM Island Party to be held at Toppers Rhum Distillery, Jobco Complex #3, Well Road #9, Colebay St. Maarten. Time: 6-8 pm.

Preregistration is required; see How To Register, below.

Island Party Features:

- Appetizers
- Welcome Drink
- Open Bar
- Rhum Tasting
- Mini distillery tour

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

Learn much more about Toppers Rhum at toppersrhum.com.

At this party, it's all about the rum (French spelling of "rum"); and you'll be invited to sample some of Toppers' flavors. There will be mini-tours of the distillery, and you may decide you want the full scale tour also presented by the

distillery during daily operations. If so, the Toppers Rhum folks will give you a discount certificate toward a reduced-cost full-scale Distillery Tour you can take during your trip to SXM.

How To Register...

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

1. **Membership:** You must be a JMB member in good standing to attend. **If your membership has expired, please renew now at the Membership Renewal Center on the Secret Site, or by calling Membership Services at 508-830-3456 daytimes during regular office hours EDT. Memberships are now at special reduced prices but that ends this Wednesday, January 16,** so renew / extend your membership now.

2. **Who Can Attend:** Member and spouse / partner; single members may bring a guest, but everyone must be preregistered. Sorry, no children under the age of 18 and NO EXCEPTIONS. We have space for up to 125 people. It is possible that as we get closer to the date of the Party, we will have space enough so our members can take two friends with them. If that is of interest to you, tell us when registering and give us the names and email addresses of your guests (max two.) *If we have space available as we get closer to the event, we will notify you about your guests' attendance.*

3. **What We Need / How To Register:** Email susan@jmbcommunications.com and in your email give us the names of who will be attending, your email address, and your JMB Website Supporters membership number. For security please also tell us your street address. We will acknowledge your email and confirm your attendance. *If you have guests, give us their information as well but we cannot confirm them until much closer to the event, since JMB members must get top priority. We'll confirm guests, we expect, during the first week in Feb.* Members will be confirmed starting on about 1/15.

4. **The Last Word:** Again, no children under 18, and cash is needed for the \$12 p/p registration. *Register early.* This big high season event has a chance to sell out early, so don't delay your registration.

Jeff Berger may be on hand to welcome you.

13. SBR's Replay Sports Bar To Double Size, Expand Menu

Although Simpson Bay Resort's award-winning La Patrona authentic Mexican restaurant offers palate pleasing selections even to people who don't like Mexican food, some people want more traditional American fare.

Consequently, Simpson Bay Resort is now finalizing plans to expand its replay sports bar, doubling its size and significantly increasing the selection of menu items. Among other things, Replay will be offering a new selection of steaks and seafood. It will continue to stay open late at night for major sporting events.

Replay is expected to remain open as the expansion take shape. When it's ready to formally unveil its finished expansion, we'll publish details. The expanded restaurant will be located on the Marina Plaza where the current restaurant is located. We expect to be able to publish a copy of the expanded menu and some photographs of the property before it opens.

14. Naturist Club Fantastico's Business is Booming

Thanks to the hopefully temporary closure of Club Orient at the southern end of Orient beach due to Irma, naturist Club Fantastico, less than a mile away in the hills not far from Orient, is enjoying a banner season. For now, it's the only naturist resort on the island.

General Managers Chloe and Thierry say that many former users of the Club Orient resort, now closed and largely destroyed thanks to Irma, have decided to try Club Fantastico and are enjoying it beyond their expectations. In fact, a number have already visited Club Fantastico for multiple vacations.

The resort has only six rooms, each with a slightly different design. Their clothing optional pool bar offers a commanding view of Orient Bay. Their resident bird, a member of the parrot family, will greet you, and may even

remember your name. Learn more at www.clubfantastico.net.

15. Caribbean Wedding Site Features Zhaveri & iZi

Melanie Reffes recently wrote a substantial article about Caribbean weddings focused on St. Maarten.

In the article, she mentioned a number of accommodations and two of our favorite places commonly mentioned in *SXM Weekly News* and on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) because of their close connection with weddings and other special occasion celebrations.

Those locations were [Zhaveri Luxury](#) in downtown Philipsburg (#68 Front Street) and iZi Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay, opposite Pineapple Pete.

With its new location, Zhaveri Luxury has four times the space of its previous store and now carries a much wider line of luxury items for everyone — not only brides and grooms.

For more than 20 years, David Foini's restaurants, currently personified by iZi Ristorante Italiano, have offered great dining to thousands of people. But David take great pride in handling special occasion dining related to weddings, as Ms. Reffes' article points out.

If you're planning a wedding or any other special occasion, iZi Ristorante Italiano and Zhaveri Luxury should be at the head of your list.

Here is the article from [Marry Caribbean](#).

If you are contemplating a wedding or other special family occasion, add Tijon Parfumerie to the equation; bachelor and bachelorette parties should go there to create colognes and perfumes that can be permanent mementos of the occasion. See www.tijon.com.

16. 2018-19 Winter Season Well Ahead of Expectations

Anecdotal information from a number of SXM restaurateurs suggests that — as we had predicted starting a few months ago — the 2018-2019 season may well prove to be significantly busier than was expected by most prognostications.

Restaurateurs are expressing delight at the volume of business they have been doing since mid-December, which is higher than any time in the last few years, well before Irma hit the island.

In fact, many are already calling this season the best in years, and most are saying they are often sold out and turning people away.

As we've been saying here and on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) for many weeks, if there is a specific restaurant where you want to dine on a specific night, you must make reservations. Without reservations, you should expect to be disappointed.

Some people walk into restaurants and, seeing empty tables, assume they can be served dinner there, not taking into account the fact that *most restaurants today work by reservations and give seating priority to couples and groups who have made advance reservations*.

One manager, faced with a constant stream of people coming in without reservations who could not be seated and had to be turned away, gave us an impassioned plea to pass along to people who still don't make reservations: please see that in the next story.

17. Top Restaurateur Begg Customers: Make Reservations

A very well known SXM restaurateur who serves thousands of customers every year asked us to pass along this comment in response to people who go to restaurants without reservations:

"I'd much rather not feed them than disappoint them... People show up without a reservation, they see an empty table and they assume we can handle their party too... I've said I'm sorry until exhaustion these last few weeks turning away parties of all sizes, friends of friends, but once again, I'd rather concentrate on what I can handle and not overdo it seating excessive guests, put an extra layer of strain on my kitchen and disappoint my customers even more. *People have to realize that in high season, they simply must have reservations.*"

Another restaurateur who routinely must turn people away for whom there is no space, is known to have said in all honesty, "Where would you like me to seat you, on the ceiling?"

18. Florida/Caribbean Cruise Assn. To Meet at Sonesta Maho

PORT ST. MAARTEN—Sonesta Maho Beach Resort, Casino & Spa will be the venue of the 2019 Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) Platinum Associate Membership Advisory Council (PAMAC) meeting that will take place from June 12-15. The 2018 PAMAC was held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Traffic & Telecommunication (TEATT), the Honourable Stuart Johnson said Thursday that he is "very proud of the St. Maarten resilience." Hosting the PAMAC conference on the island solidifies the destination's continued role as a leader in the tourism industry. Johnson said hosting the meeting in St. Maarten also provides additional tourism receipts to the island.

"Taxi Drivers, restaurateurs {SIC}, vendors at the market place, entertainers and others will potentially benefit from having these platinum cruise members come to the island. The destination also benefits as they will leave with a positive impression of our recovery efforts and spread the word even further that we are ready for business," said Johnson.

The PAMAC conferences give FCCA Executives and destination leaders the opportunity to dialogue directly with each other. While traditional conventions are "fast-paced", the Platinum events create an atmosphere for closer networking and give the Cruise executives the opportunity to explore the new offerings from the host destinations.

Minister Johnson said, "This unique opportunity to showcase SXM rebuilding progress along with the new tours/shops /restaurants and attractions is one that has to be done to give the cruise executives the real-life Friendly Island experience as we continue to push our overall tourism product to regain and develop the cruise industry to maintain our complete edge."

Sonesta Maho Beach Resort, Casino & Spa was selected as the official conference hotel due to the amenities and facilities that the property has to offer.

PAMAC brings together Platinum Members of the FCCA who meet with high-ranking FCCA Member Line cruise executives and top Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) as part of a relationship and business building process.

The PAMAC 2019 Conference is expected to attract 150-200 delegates, all platinum members, and 10-15 cruise executives and top Chief Executive Officers.

PAMAC 2019 is an opportunity for all stakeholders to showcase the recovery efforts thus far since September 2017, and to give a taste of what cruise guests enjoy while making memorable experiences on the island.

Port St. Maarten will be organising many meetings, tours and night events catering to the delegates who will be attending the conference. At the same time, Port St. Maarten will also be celebrating 55-years Cruise in 2019.

Port St. Maarten will be working closely with the St. Maarten Tourist Bureau and other key industry stakeholders and partners to make the conference a success and a memorable experience for attendees.

The PAMAC event is one of many that the FCCA coordinates for its Platinum Members and Member Lines to stay at the forefront of information about both the industry and destinations while finding ways to maximise the benefits for all.

The FCCA is a not-for-profit trade organisation composed of 19 Member Lines operating over 100 vessels in Floridian, the Caribbean and Latin American waters.

Created in 1972, the FCCA's mandate is to provide a forum for discussion on tourism development, ports, safety, security, and other cruise industry issue and to develop bilateral relationships with destinations' private and public sectors. By fostering an understanding of the cruise industry and its operating practices, the FCCA works with governments, ports and private sector representatives to maximise cruise passenger, crew and cruise line spending, as well as enhance the destination experience and increase the number of cruise passengers returning as stay-over visitors.

(The above was a news release printed verbatim.)

19. Cruise Ship Tours May Plunder Passengers, Hurt Destinations

As we've previously reported here in *SXM Weekly News*, many first time visitors to SXM come here on cruise ships, deciding to return as stayover visitors based upon what they see from the ships.

That's the good news. But there is bad news as well.

In a number of cases, cruise ships provide extremely expensive tours at the ports they visit. In St. Maarten, they charge their passengers enormous fees simply to get to certain beaches. Those fees, in fact, are multiples of what cruise ship passengers would pay to make a more informative and more comfortable tour in one of the island's many Taxis.

Worse, a number of cruise ship lines siphon off people who would be excellent customers of Front Street merchants, instead taking them to shops at the port and then on vastly overpriced tours.

Stores recommended by and approved by cruise ship lines pay high fees to get those recommendations/approvals, and as part of the process they must pay large kickbacks (commissions) to the cruise lines. That means that their prices may well be inflated beyond the prices of non-participating businesses, most of which are on Front Street.

In SXM, the best tours are given by taxi owners, who know the country and can take you to the most interesting places. But if you are a cruise ship passenger, we strongly recommend you not waste your time and money going on a ship-sold tour for which you pay a small fortune. It's a big profit for them and in our opinion, a huge ripoff for you. Explore Philipsburg yourself for many great bargains — especially Front Street, the real heart of business on the island.

If you have any questions at all about the island, by all means go to our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) created by tourists for tourists. It has no affiliation with any island government or any cruise line and will give you honest answers and accurate information about SXM.

20. Car Rental Insurance: What You Need to Know

When you rent cars on SXM, you have to make a decision about whether you want to accept insurance offered by the car rental company.

Before considering that decision, ask your own automobile insurance carrier what coverage they offer for vehicles you rent in SXM. And, ask the same question of your credit card company.

In some cases, insurance companies offer coverage dependent on the length of the rental. Some limit that coverage to two weeks or four weeks, which is why some car rental agencies doing business in SXM only charge you for those relatively short periods rather than charge for an entire rental at once — it's simply a better deal for you. Do check before you make a decision on what to do about car rental insurance.

21. Millennials Highly Interested in Traveling to SXM

Three facts should provide great reassurance to anyone involved in the hospitality/tourism business in St. Maarten, and any others who follow that industry in the Caribbean.

First, [recently published information](#) indicates that Millennials are highly interested in traveling to SXM. That may have been unknown to people, assuming that only somewhat older tourists are interested in visiting SXM.

Second, bear in mind new hotels and new facilities that will be of substantial interest to millennials are coming to SXM. Among them are the **Planet Hollywood Resort** on which construction will start soon where Sonesta Great Bay hotel, destroyed by Irma, formerly stood. The second is the **Secrets Resort** being built where the Riu Plaza had been located in Anse Marcel. Third, witness the **Rainforest Adventures** facility at the top of Sentry Hill, providing incremental ecotourism opportunities for millennials and others.

The island is quietly repositioning itself to be able to attract and handle younger generations of tourists and cater to their interests. In our opinion, that's why the twin towers condo project is now under construction in the Cupecoy area, and it's also why the Residences at the Blue Mall — which are quite independent from the blue mall itself — have been such a successful focus of tourists relocating to the island. Services are also provided by private companies to help tourists relocating to SXM to smooth the process — another example of growing interest in SXM.

22. More About Dutch Side Service Charges

We made a comment last week about service charges which drew some interesting information from some Dutch side restaurateurs.

It turns out that Dutch side law does not allow restaurateurs to itemize the 5% restaurant tax that the island requires restaurant owners to pay for every dollar spent in restaurants.

In many cases, restaurant owners add a service charge to their bills, enabling them to collect something resembling a gratuity to be distributed among all employees and collect the 5% government tax. Some unscrupulous restaurateurs have been known in the past to pocket service charges beyond the 5% for themselves and not pass them on to their employees. But to our knowledge, the restaurants we recommend all distribute the service charges among all their employees, after paying the 5% taxes. So if you wish to provide some additional recognition to your waitperson beyond what they would receive from part of the service charge, by all means do so; they will very much appreciate it.

-- Finally, Salsa Classes For Adults, from Experts

If you thought that the Soggy Dollar Bar (behind Vesna Taverna in Simpson Bay) was only for kids, you'd be wrong — adults also love it.

One of the reasons is that on Latin night, they have salsa dancing lessons from 7 to 9 PM for a cost of only \$10 per person — wicked cheap, as they say in Boston. **Every Tuesday Soggy Dollar celebrates Latin Night with a Live Band in addition to the 2 for 1 drink specials on Brugal and El Jimador with FREE entrance and Margarita for everyone!** Come that night to Vesna's for dinner at 5pm, then walk back next door to Soggy at 6:45 for the Salsa Lessons. No need to register in advance.

It's [every Tuesday night](#)... stay tuned.

23. Cupecoy Goat Sold; "Billy's" Boisterous Behavior Blamed

Over the last year or so, a handsome brown-fur goat has been hanging out on Cupecoy beach along with his owner, Dany, who operates the beach bar there.

Billy, as he was known, is now gone — sold. It seems that his behavior became a bit unbecoming: he had developed

something of an attitude. It happens. So, Billy has gone on to greener pastures....

24. The Early Bird Catches The...

There are multiple types of mourning doves on SXM. We're not going to get into ornithology here, but we are going to report on one unusual freelancer in a Dutch Side restaurant.

He wanders in the open door early every morning and picks up what few crumbs remain after the night crew has cleaned up this particular restaurant. After a few minutes inside before restaurant patrons arrive, he heads out, relaxing for a while on a nearby rock.

Before the noontime rush, he briefly returns to once again help clean up the restaurant floor for afternoon patrons. After that, he takes off (literally) for the day.

Perhaps man's best friend is actually a mourning dove.

25. Grand Case Power Failure Affects Thursday, Friday Diners

A power failure in Grand Case late last week affected a number of restaurants, closing Rainbow and making life a bit inconvenient for a number of others.

Since most restaurants cook with gas, cooking wasn't the issue. The lack of electricity for restaurants without generators is inconvenient, of course. The electricity system on the French side has proven to be far more reliable than that on the Dutch, with power outages on the French side happening only rarely — though a bit more often since Irma.

26. Below Deck to Film in "Remote Asian Destination"

Contrary to some rumors we've heard in recent weeks, Below Deck will not be returning to SXM this winter to film the antics of Capt. Lee and his crew on Bravo.

A cast member we've known for years showed us the casting call which is looking for a female bosun for the program, which will start filming early next month and continue through much of March in "remote Asian destinations," not SXM. The dynamic of a female bosun should be interesting with male deckhands.

The long-running BRAVO program, which usually airs late in the summer or fall, was last filmed in St. Maarten during the winter of 2017, and it was aired after hurricane Irma had struck the island. Capt. Lee expressed heartfelt regards and sympathies for the island "where we had lived and worked" for most of the time the show has been aired since it started.

At this point, it is not known whether the program will ultimately return to SXM, but we do know that much of the filming is likely to be in Southeast Asia, probably Thailand.

More to come.

27. Fast Response to Jellyfish Bite at Divi

We're not medical people here, and we never give medical advice. We would always suggest if you have a medical issue, serious or otherwise, that you get yourself to the St. Maarten Medical Center or the French side hospital for

immediate treatment.

That said, some of the folk remedies used on this island have been handed down for hundreds of years and they have a history of working quite well.

Jellyfish bites are rare; they can happen not only in the tropics, but in temperate oceans around much of the world. Here is a story from a reader who was stung by a jellyfish recently in SXM, and what she did to solve the issue:

"Stung by jellyfish today snorkeling by the Divi. So FYI, if it happens to you... don't wash off with fresh water. Vinegar/lemon juice compress for 30". Remove any tentacles you can see first. Take Benedryl, Tylenol. No baking soda for compress after, so use toothpaste for next 45 min. Then hydrocortisone cream x 2 so far. They say jellies here are not harmful, just annoying. Expect maybe dizziness, slight nausea, slight fever. Happened at 2. Nausea and dizziness gone already. Redness down from 3" in all 3 areas to just small spots where actually stung- total size about a quarter in each area. Still hurts but not as bad. Never saw the jelly. Bartender diagnosed problem immediately and sent me to front desk who agreed with diagnosis at first look and went for vinegar and lemons. Fast treatment is key to decreasing symptoms."

28. Restaurant of the Week: Pineapple Pete

Pierre Ferland -- the "Pete" of Pineapple Pete -- has been running his landmark restaurant, one of the island's busiest, for years, and the legend continues for its simple, reasonably priced cooking and for its lobsters.

He also operates Wasabi Charlie next to Pete's and it is fabulous.

The kitchen here is small but amazing in how many great meals it pumps out. On any given night, you may well see a conga line of waitstaff members coming out of the kitchen with Pete's signature Lobster Thermidor. If that's your thing -- this is the place. The menu is big and there's always something to tempt everyone -- plus an all-new game room that will satisfy people of all ages.

Pineapple Pete's continues to be one of SXM's busiest restaurants. Give it a try next time you visit SXM.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushitto) (1/7/18) is the new name of Sushitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 12/30/18) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 12/24/18) SkipJack's main dining deck overlooking the lagoon was wrecked by Irma and is being rebuilt. They should be open early in 2019.

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 12/17/18) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 12/10/18) Reopened as Cafe Spiga, new menu; redesigned. New bar, new bar snacks, same great staff, service, and wonderful food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world.

Mario Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ 12/3/18 Mario's Bistro reopened a few weeks after Irma hit and looks forward to your return. Phenomenal dining.

Isola next to Hollywood Casino in Simpson Bay Resort, **11/19/18**. 100% redesigned, inside and out, floor to ceiling and everything inside. Just go.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 11/12/18, 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.

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.

Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran, www.sailstmaarten.com (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 <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 9/16) Open.

The Hideaway, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (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 some time in 2019.

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

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

Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar (on Cupecoy beach; follow the car path the turn near Shore Pointe to get

there). (featured 4/17/2017) Reopened. Their sign blew away in Irma -- to Virgin Gorda's airport 192 miles away.
St. Maarten Yacht Club, at the Dutch Side Drawbridge Reopened.
Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) Reopened.
Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 1/22/18). Reopened. Now open Wed through Sunday B/L; dinner reopens in October (annual closing for Dinner).
Topper's <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 2/27/17) Reopened quickly.
Taloula Mango <http://www.taloulamango.com/> (featured 4/20/15) Reopened.

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

29. SkyMed Now on Sale

SkyMed Takes You Home® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. Without it, an emergency medical evacuation by air ambulance will cost you from \$35,000 to \$50,000 or more, sometimes much more, payable in cash in advance. Worse, you must get it before you need it - just like fire insurance.

Buy a new SkyMed multiyear five-year membership from us from now through January 15, 2019, at getskymed.com or by phoning us at 508-747-8281 (at about \$1.35/day price guaranteed for 10 years when we take your application by phone) and we'll give you a 10 year new or renewal JMB Website Supporters membership on us.

Of course we'll be happy to answer your questions and we'll tell you about everything SkyMed offers. Totally up to you what type of coverage you select. Much more info about SkyMed is in the next story.

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits [here](#).

See next story for much more on SkyMed. Offer ends soon.

30. Protect Against Emergency Medical Evacuation w/ SkyMed: Customer Stories

Emergency medical evacuations are payable in cash in advance and often cost upwards of \$45,000 -- unless you have a SkyMed membership. SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, and where your health insurance actually works. It's available to Americans and Canadians and to Expats of both countries, taking them home from throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage is available covering every country around the world except those on the U. S. State Department watch list. SkyMed makes all medical evacuation arrangements and pays for them directly...you just pay for your SkyMed membership.

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.

All this is why we always recommend SkyMed. Call Jeff Berger weekdays at 508-747-8281 and leave your name, phone number, and time zone. Jeff will call back at a mutually convenient time and answer all your questions. He can also sign you up by phone in about 10 minutes. You're eligible to apply regardless of your age or health if you are a U.S. or Canadian citizen or an American or Canadian ExPat living in SXM or certain other countries.

Nobody is immune: anything can happen anywhere. Do it today. To learn more, visit www.getskymed.com. JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's regular pricing: see the story about JMB Website Supporters in this section.

More Info on SkyMed...

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.

Get The Current Low Price
on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership
and keep the current low price on your first 5-yr. renewal.
That's a 10-year price guarantee.
More benefits... same price.

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See getskymed.com. 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 everythingsexm.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.

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

Get The Current Low Price
on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership
and keep the current low price on your first 5-yr. renewal.
That's a 10-year price guarantee.
More benefits... same price.

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See getskymed.com.

33. 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:

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

VESNA TAVERNA

Melange (new; Port de Plaisance)

LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)

MARIO'S BISTRO (Porto Cupecoy)

VILLA RENTAL COMPANIES:

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

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

Heavily Updated 10/1/18

34. 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](#).

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

Check out our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) and our main SXM website, everythingsxm.com.

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

That's what we do:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

In business since the web began --

a unit of JMB Communications.

36. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic

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

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

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

[Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.](#)

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

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

Want to rent or buy a week?

***2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale* are posted at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml Listings are now updated every few weekdays. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.**

SECTION 5: For Members Only

- A. **Where to Get Member Info:** www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com. To change your password, click that same link.
- C. **How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad:** See www.everythingsxm.com/secret. Your username and password are required.

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

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

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

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

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

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